

[54] **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR READING MARKS ON A DOCUMENT**

[75] Inventors: **M. Charles Fogg**, Hermosa Beach; **Charles F. Krieger**, Villa Park; **John R. Veale**, Manhattan Beach, all of Calif.

[73] Assignee: **Computer Election Systems**, Berkeley, Calif.

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[58] Field of Search ... **364/200 MS File, 900 MS File; 340/825.33, 825.34; 235/454, 455, 463, 466, 454 F, 386**

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Primary Examiner—Harvey E. Springborn
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Flehr, Hohbach, Test, Albritton & Herbert

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A microprocessor based mark-sense ballot card reading system has automatic mark detection threshold adjustment, automatic skew and card speed correction, and provision for simultaneous, accurate reading of both sides of a ballot card regardless of card input orientation. A multidispatch, multipage real time control program is utilized to enable multiple event detection on each card side and asynchronous processing of such multiple events on a two-sided card. Positive document sensing and control are monitored by the microprocessor control system. A folded card path card transport mechanism with diverter stations operates under microprocessor control to determine card destination.

58 Claims, 70 Drawing Figures

