



US00RE39933E

(19) **United States**
(12) **Reissued Patent**
Hall et al.

(10) **Patent Number: US RE39,933 E**
(45) **Date of Reissued Patent: Dec. 4, 2007**

(54) **POWER CONVERSION INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR
PROGRAMMING**
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(21) Appl. No.: **09/709,893**
(22) Filed: **Nov. 13, 2000**

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Reissue of:

(64) Patent No.: **5,859,768**
Issued: **Jan. 12, 1999**
Appl. No.: **08/869,297**
Filed: **Jun. 4, 1997**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H02M 3/335 (2006.01)
H02M 3/24 (2006.01)
H02M 3/20 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **363/21.13; 363/97; 363/131;**
363/21.16; 363/21.18; 361/90

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **363/21.13,**
363/21.14, 21.16, 21.18, 97, 131, 89, 90,
363/91; 361/90, 91, 92

See application file for complete search history.

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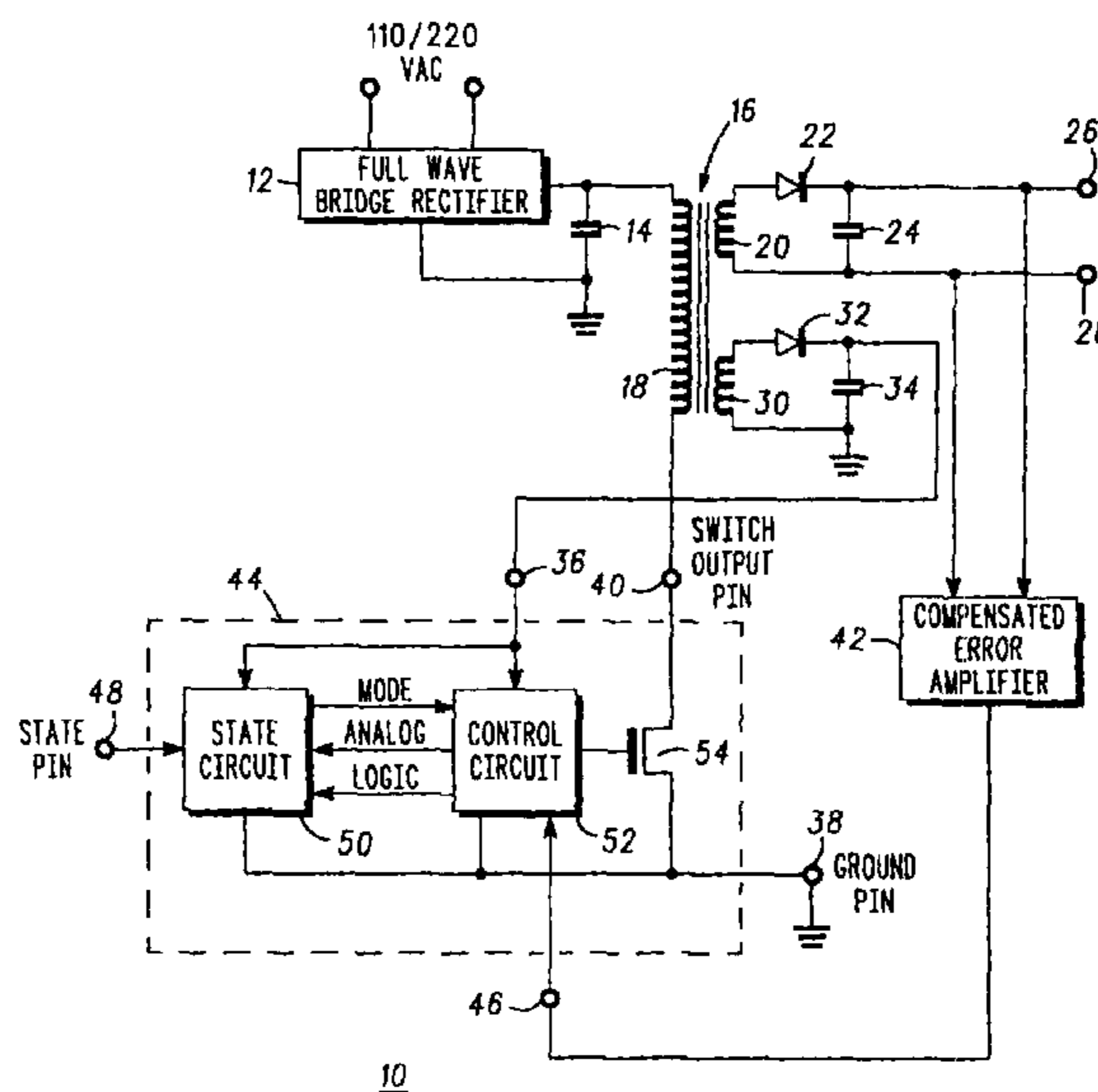
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A single input pin (48) provides multi-functional features for programming a power supply (10). By connecting the appropriate interface circuit (92, 100, or 112) to the single input pin (48), the power supply (10) is programmed for specific behaviors during power up and toggling of an on/off switch (96, 108). In one mode of operation a light emitting diode (106) in the interface circuit (100) is optically coupled to a microprocessor for signaling the closure of the on/off switch (108), allowing the microprocessor to control the power supply (10) through an opto-coupler (102). In another mode of operation, the single on/off switch (96) controls the power supply (10). In yet another mode of operation, Zener diode (118) in the interface circuit (112) controls the power supply (10) during brown-out and black-out conditions.

46 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



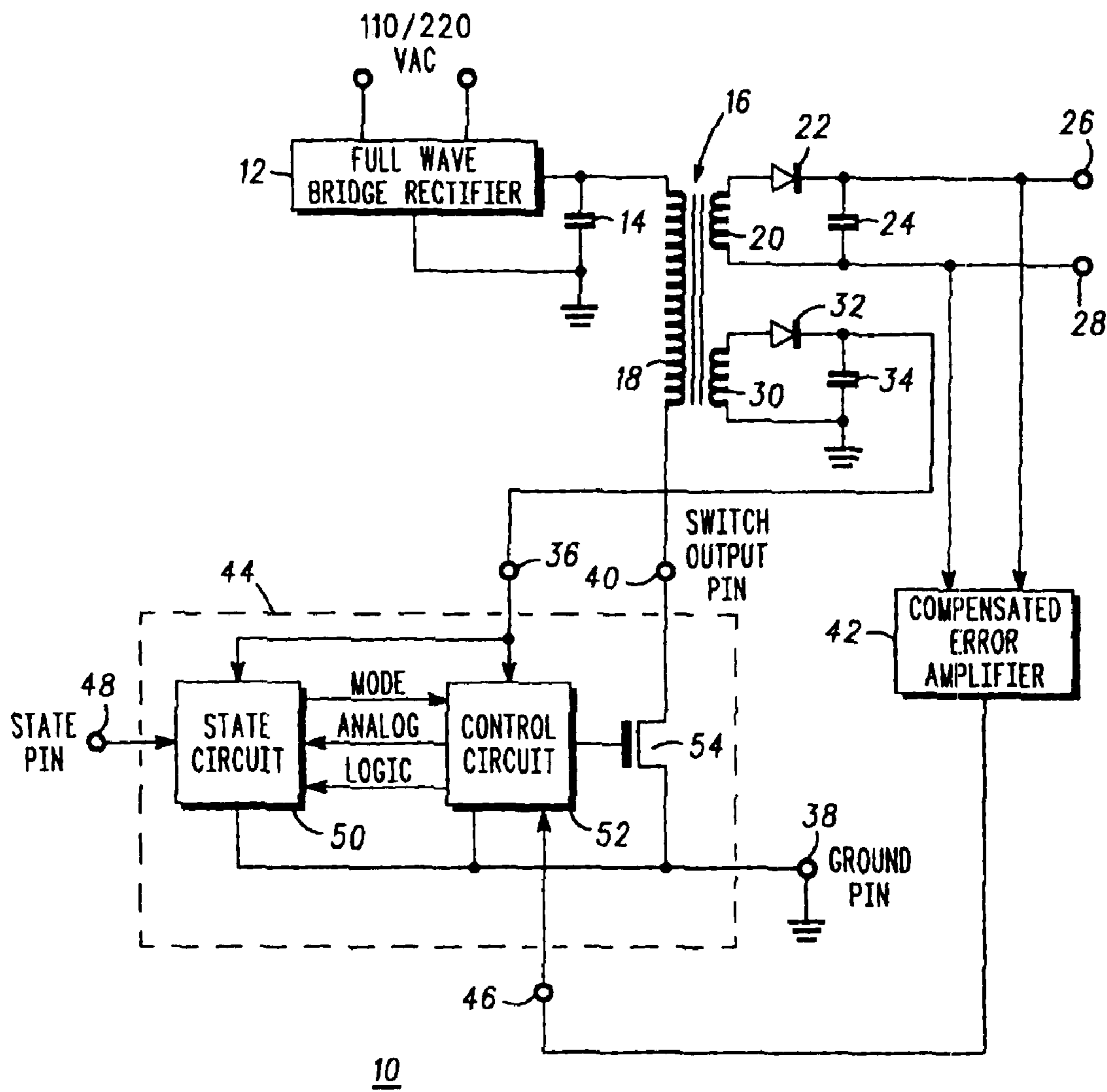


FIG. 1

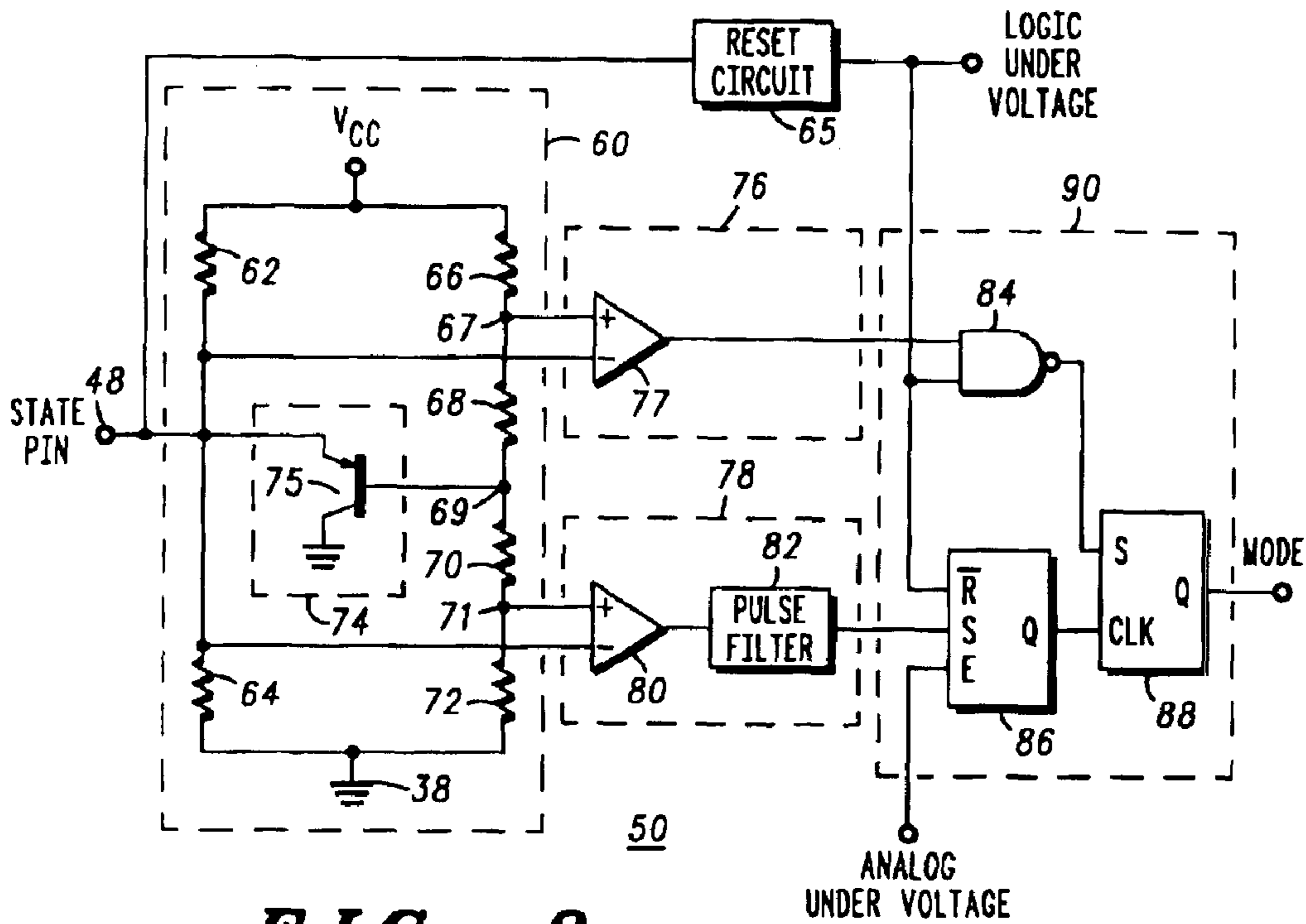


FIG. 2

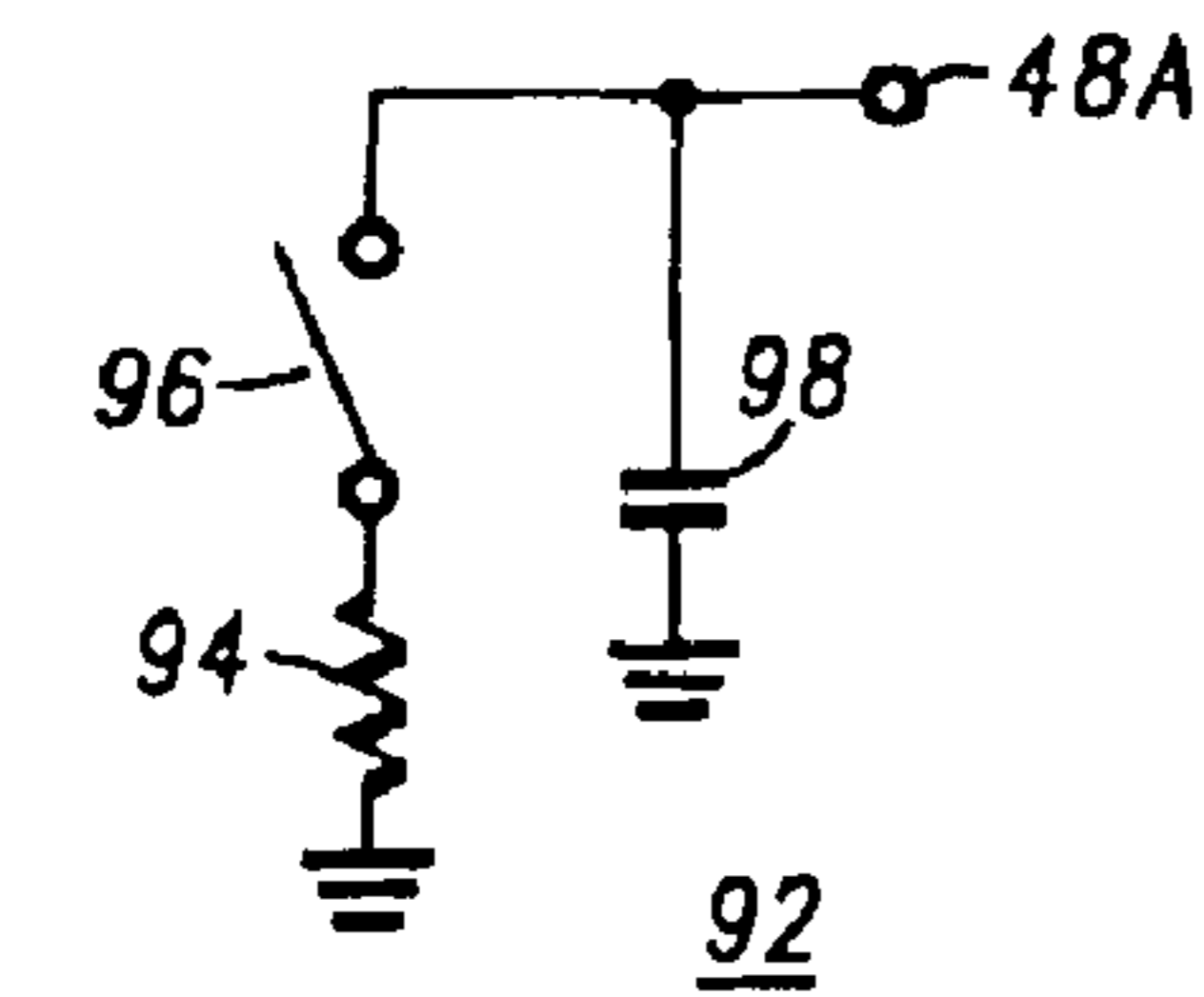


FIG. 3

FIG. 4

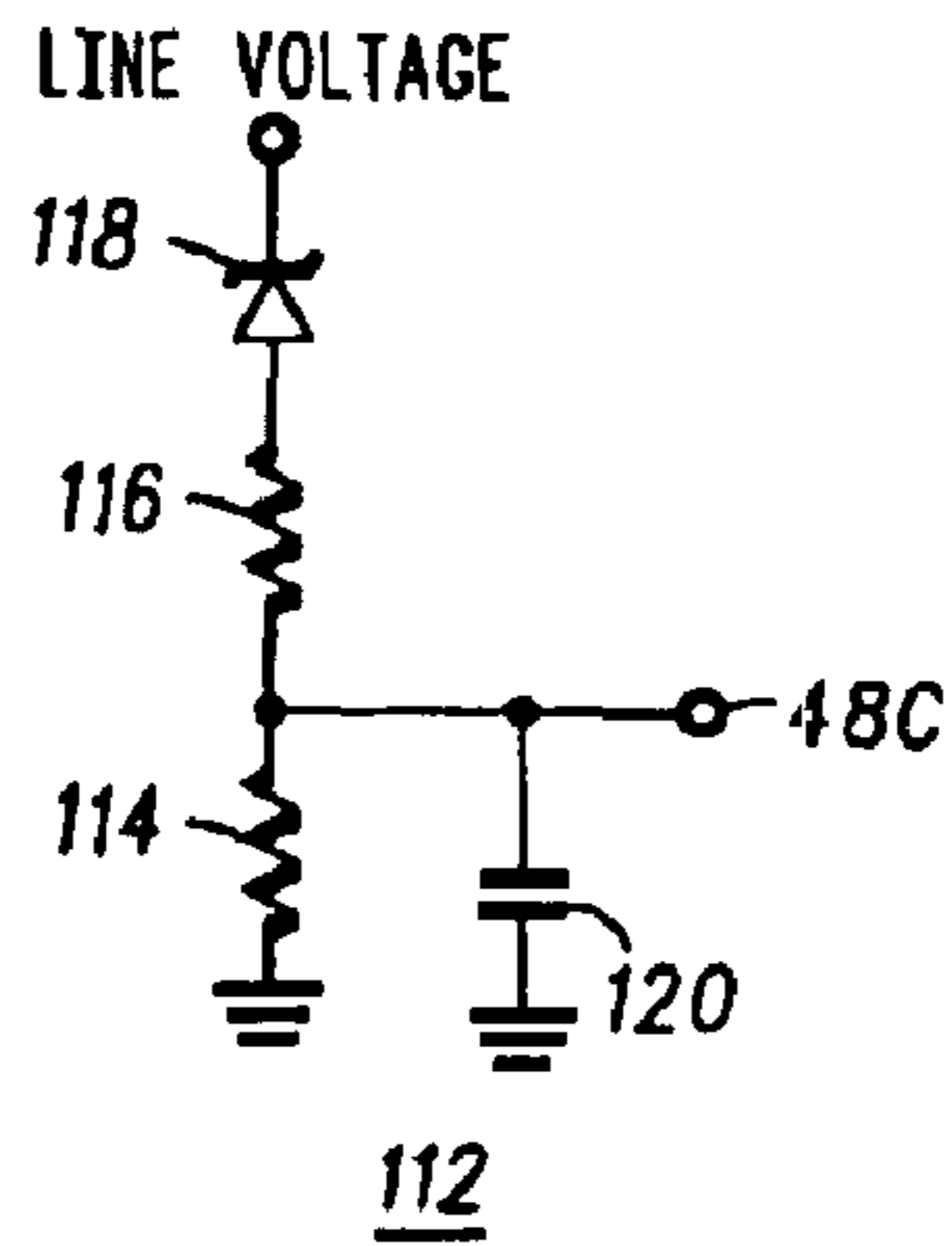
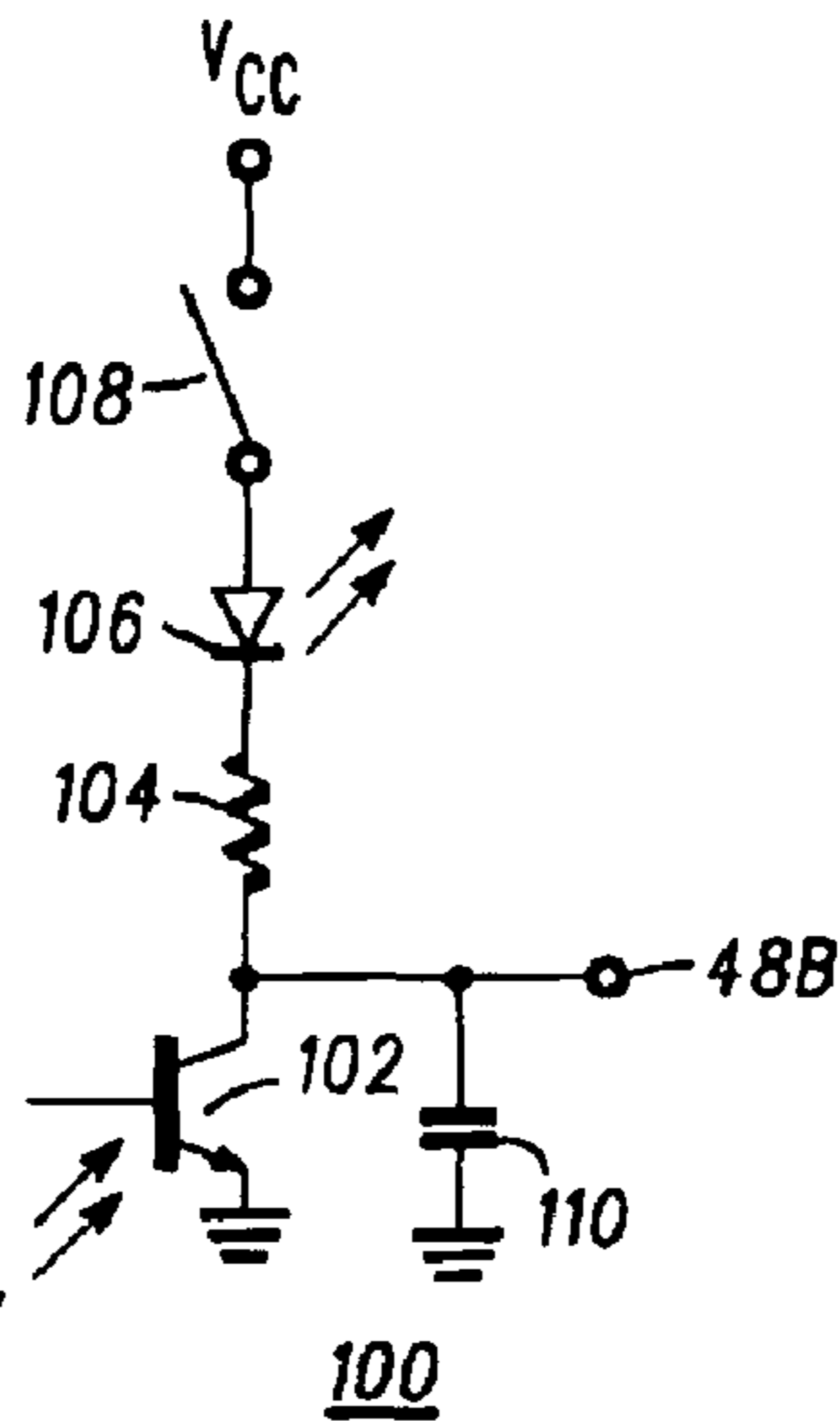


FIG. 5

**POWER CONVERSION INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR
PROGRAMMING**

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

Notice: More than one reissue application has been filed for the reissue of U.S. Pat. No. 5,859,768. The reissue applications are application Ser. No. 09/709,893 (the present application), filed on Nov. 13, 2000 and 10/946,611, filed on Sep. 20, 2004, which is a continuation reissue of U.S. Pat. No. 5,859,768.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates, in general, to integrated circuits and, more particularly, to a power conversion integrated circuit.

A power supply is controlled to be either on or off by a mechanical switch or a relay. Typically, additional discrete components that are external to the integrated circuit adapt the power supply for use in applications such as cable converters for television sets, computer monitors, video cassette recorders (VCRs), battery chargers for portable communications devices, computer printers, and other electronic systems.

Depending on the particular application, the on/off circuitry of a power supply control circuit includes components such as opto-couplers, latches, resistors, and capacitors. Monolithic circuit integration minimizes the number of components external to the integrated circuit and reduces the cost of power supplies. The number and types of external components along with the cost of the integrated circuit package provide functionality that differentiates among different power supplies. Typically, a switching regulator without on/off circuitry is manufactured in a three pin package. A drawback of these three pin package configurations is that they offer limited functionality within the package.

Accordingly, it would be advantageous to have an inexpensive integrated power supply controller that is capable of operating with many different power supplies. It would be of further advantage for the power supply controller to have a minimal number of discrete external components for controlling the power supply on/off switch circuitry.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a power supply in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram of a state circuit for use in the power supply of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram of an interface switch circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. 1 in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram of a microprocessor interface switch circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. 1 in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram of a brown-out interface circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. 1 in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Generally, the present invention provides a circuit with at least four modes of operation for controlling the on/off

features of a power supply. By connecting an appropriate interface circuit to a state input pin, the power supply is programmed for specific behaviors when power is applied or when the interface circuitry is activated. Thus, the multifunctionality provided by a state circuit that is integrated with a control circuit is a cost effective solution for controlling the power supply.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a power supply 10 in accordance with the present invention. Power supply 10 includes a full-wave bridge rectifier 12, capacitors 14, 24, and 34, diodes 22 and 32, a transformer 16, a compensated error amplifier 42, and a power converter circuit 44. In particular, full-wave bridge rectifier 12 has a ground connection, a pair of inputs for receiving a line voltage, e.g., 110 volts alternating current (VAC), 220 volts VAC, etc. An output of full-wave bridge rectifier 12 supplies a rectified output signal that is filtered by filter capacitor 14. Filter capacitor 14 has a terminal connected to the output of full-wave bridge rectifier 12 and a terminal connected to a power supply potential such as, for example, ground.

Transformer 16 has a primary side or winding 18 having two terminals, a secondary winding 20 having two terminals, and a secondary winding 30 having two terminals. In particular, one terminal of primary winding 18 is connected to the output of full-wave bridge rectifier 12, and the other terminal of primary winding 18 is connected to a switch output pin 40 of power converter circuit 44.

Secondary winding 20 has a first terminal connected to an anode of a diode 22. A cathode of diode 22 is commonly connected to a first terminal of capacitor 24 and to a terminal 26. The second terminal of capacitor 24 is commonly connected to the second terminal of secondary winding 20 and to a terminal 28. Compensated error amplifier 42 has an input connected to terminal 26, an input connected to terminal 28, and an output connected to feedback pin 46.

Secondary winding 30 has a first terminal connected to an anode of diode 32. A cathode of diode 32 is commonly connected to a first terminal of capacitor 34 and to a bias pin 36 of power converter circuit 44. The second terminal of capacitor 34 is commonly connected to the second terminal of secondary winding 30 and to a potential such as, for example, ground.

Power converter circuit 44 is a switched mode power supply integrated circuit or a power conversion integrated circuit having five electrical connection terminals: (1) a bias pin 36, (2) a ground pin 38, (3) a feedback pin 46, (4) a state pin 48, and (5) a switch output pin 40. Power converter circuit 44 is a semiconductor chip that includes a state circuit 50, a control circuit 52 having an internal regulator, and a transistor 54. State circuit 50 has an input connected to bias pin 36 and another input coupled to state pin 48 of power converter circuit 44. Another input of state circuit 50 is connected to an output of control circuit 52 and receives a logic under-voltage control signal (LOGIC). Another input of state circuit 50 receives an analog under-voltage control signal (ANALOG) and is connected to a second output of control circuit 52. An output of state circuit 50 provides a signal MODE and is connected to a control input of control circuit 52. Control circuit 52 has an input connected to bias pin 36 and another input connected to feedback pin 46 of power converter circuit 44. An output of control circuit 52 is connected to a gate of transistor 54. Both state circuit 50 and control circuit 52 are connected to ground pin 38. A drain of transistor 54 is connected to switch output pin 40 and a source is connected to ground pin 38. As those skilled in the art are aware, a gate of a transistor serves as a control

terminal and the drain and source of a transistor serve as current conduction terminals. It should be noted that transistor **54** can be an insulated gate bipolar transistor (IGBT), a bipolar transistor, etc.

In operation, the line voltage, e.g., 110 VAC, is rectified by full-wave bridge rectifier **12** and filtered by capacitor **14**. Secondary winding **20** provides a signal that is used to supply the operating power to electronic systems such as cable converters, computer monitors, video cassette recorders (VCRs), battery chargers, computer printers, etc. Compensated error amplifier **42** provides a feedback signal to power converter circuit **44** that is proportional to the DC output signal. The output of compensated error amplifier **42** may be optically, electrically, magnetically, mechanically, or other means coupled to feedback pin **46** of power converter circuit **44**.

The feedback signal is used by control circuit **52** for altering the pulse width of the signal that is supplied to the control terminal of transistor **54**. Thus, compensated error amplifier **42** alters the pulse width of the output signal at switch output pin **40** in accordance with the voltage developed across terminals **26** and **28**. The variable pulse width modifies the current in transformer **16**, thereby regulating the voltage of the DC output signal. In addition, the bias voltage developed at bias pin **36** from secondary winding **30** can be used as the operating supply voltage of state circuit **50** and control circuit **52**. The bias voltage developed at bias pin **36** can alternately be derived from secondary winding **20**. It should be noted that compensated error amplifier **42** can be replaced with a high gain comparator, or the like.

FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram of state circuit **50** in accordance with the present invention. State circuit **50** includes a reference generator **60**, a reset circuit **65**, a positive detector circuit **76**, a negative detector circuit **78**, and a mode memory circuit **90**. Positive detector circuit **76** and negative detector circuit **78** are referred to as a comparator circuit. In particular, reference generator **60** includes resistors **62**, **64**, **66**, **68**, **70**, and **72**, and a voltage clamp circuit **74**. The first terminals of resistors **62** and **64** are commonly connected to state pin **48** which is connected to an input of state circuit **50**. The second terminal of resistor **62** is connected to a power supply conductor which is coupled for receiving a voltage such as, for example, V_{cc} , and the second terminal of resistor **64** is connected to a power supply conductor which is coupled for receiving a reference voltage of, for example, ground. The first terminals of resistors **66** and **68** are commonly connected and form a node **67**. The second terminal of resistor **66** is connected to the power supply conductor which is coupled for receiving the reference voltage of, for example, V_{cc} . The second terminal of resistor **68** and the first terminal of resistor **70** are commonly connected and form a node **69**. The second terminal of resistor **70** and the first terminal of resistor **72** are commonly connected and form a node **71**. The second terminal of resistor **72** is connected to a power supply conductor which is coupled for receiving a reference voltage of, for example, ground. It should be noted that the power supply conductor connected to ground is also connected to the external ground reference or ground pin **38** of power converter circuit **44** (FIG. 1). Voltage clamp circuit **74** has an input connected to node **69** and an output connected to state pin **48**. By way of example, voltage clamp circuit **74** is a PNP transistor **75** having a base terminal connected to the input of voltage clamp **74**, an emitter terminal connected to the output of voltage clamp circuit **74**, and a collector terminal connected to a potential of, for example, ground.

The resistors **62**, **64**, **66**, **68**, **70**, and **72** of reference generator **60** (FIG. 2) set reference voltages that determine

the logic values of the signals at the outputs of comparators **77** and **80**. By way of example, resistor **62** has a value of about 160 kilohms (K Ω s), resistor **64** has a value of about 115 K Ω s, resistor **66** has a value of about 150 K Ω s, resistor **68** has a value of about 19 K Ω s, resistor **70** has a value of about 58 K Ω s, and resistor **72** has a value of about 55 K Ω s. Resistors **62** and **64** form a resistor divider network that provides a voltage of about 2.4 volts at state pin **48** when external components are not connected at that pin. It should be further noted that resistors **66**, **68**, **70**, and **72** form another resistor divider network that provides voltages at nodes **67** and **71** of about 2.9 volts and about 1.1 volts, respectively. The reference voltages described are for a V_{cc} of approximately 5.8 volts. It should be noted that reference generator **60** can be configured with other combinations of resistors or alternately configured with combinations of resistors and semiconductor devices.

Positive detector circuit **76** includes a comparator **77** having a non-inverting input connected to an input of positive detector circuit **76**, and thus to node **67** of reference generator **60**. An inverting input of comparator **77** is connected to an input of positive detector circuit **76** and thus to state pin **48** of reference generator **60**. An output of comparator **77** is connected to an output of positive detector circuit **76**. Negative detector circuit **78** includes a comparator **80** connected to a pulse filter **82**. Comparator **80** has a non-inverting input connected to an input of negative detector circuit **78** and thus to node **71** of reference generator **60**. An inverting input of comparator **80** is connected to an input of negative detector circuit **78** and thus to state pin **48** of reference generator **60**. An output of comparator **80** is coupled to an output of negative detector circuit **78** through pulse filter **82**.

Reset circuit **65** receives an input signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE and has an output connected to state pin **48**.

Mode memory circuit **90** includes a two-input NAND gate **84**, a logic circuit **86**, and a positive edge triggered toggle flip-flop **88**. In particular, two-input NAND gate **84** has an input connected to the output of positive detector circuit **76**, the other input is coupled for receiving the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE. When the voltage V_{cc} begins to ramp from a starting voltage of zero volts, the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE has an initial logic zero value that is switched to a logic one value at a predetermined voltage. By way of example, the predetermined voltage is a voltage potential that is sufficiently high to allow logic circuitry to properly operate. In other words, the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE has a logic one value when the voltage V_{cc} is sufficiently above the predetermined voltage and a logic zero value when below the predetermined voltage.

Logic circuit **86** has an input \bar{R} coupled for receiving the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE, an input S connected to the output of negative detector circuit **78**, and an enable input E coupled for receiving the signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE. The signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE has a logic one value when the voltage V_{cc} is sufficiently high for transistors (not shown) such as, for example, the transistors in comparators **77** and **80**, to operate in an analog mode. When the voltage V_{cc} is not high enough for transistors to operate in the analog mode the signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE has a logic zero value.

It should be noted that when a signal having a logic zero value is received at the input \bar{R} of logic circuit **86**, the output signal at output Q of logic circuit **86** has a logic zero value. It should be further noted that when a signal having a logic

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one value is received at the input S of logic circuit **86**, the output signal at output Q of logic circuit **86** has a logic one value. Should logic circuit **86** receive both a signal having a logic zero value at the input \bar{R} and a signal having a logic one value at the input S, the circuit responds to the signal received at the input \bar{R} . In other words, when both a set and a reset occur together, the reset function has precedence. It should be noted that the output Q can only transition from a logic zero value to a logic one value when the enable input, i.e., the signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE, is a logic one.

Toggle flip-flop **88** has an input S connected to the output of NAND gate **84**, an input CLK connected to the output of logic circuit **86**, and an output that also serves as the output of state circuit **50**. It should be noted that the output signal of toggle flip-flop **88** can be set to a logic one value when the input S receives a logic one signal. Otherwise, the stored value of the output signal changes output state in response to logic transitions at input CLK, i.e., the stored value is toggled when the input CLK transitions from a logic zero value to a logic one value. It should be noted that if the signal at the input CLK transitions while the signal at input S is a logic one, then flip-flop **88** responds to a logic one signal at input S and ignores the signal at the input CLK.

In operation, the power supply conductor V_{cc} initially starts at a voltage of about zero volts and ramps to a higher voltage value, increasing in voltage to a voltage greater than 5.8 volts. As the voltage V_{cc} begins to ramp from zero volts, the signals LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE and ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE initially have logic zero values. The signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE is set to a logic one when the voltage V_{cc} exceeds about 3.5 volts. The signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE is set to a logic one value when the voltage V_{cc} exceeds about 4.8 volts.

In a first operating mode, no external components are connected to state pin **48**. With the application of the line voltage, the voltage for V_{cc} increases from zero volts. The signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE has a logic zero value when the voltage V_{cc} is in the range of about 0 volts to about 3.5 volts. The logic zero value for the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE causes both the output of logic circuit **86** to have a logic zero value and the output of toggle flip-flop **88** to have a logic one value. When the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE is at a logic zero value, input state pin **48** is pulled to ground through reset circuit **65**. When the voltage V_{cc} increases above a voltage of about 3.5 volts the output of reset circuit **65** becomes a high impedance output. With no external components, the voltage at state pin **48** is determined by the values of resistors **62** and **64**. In this first mode of operation the voltage on state pin **48** is between the reference voltages at nodes **67** and **71**, the signal at the output of comparator **77** has a logic one value, and the output of comparator **80** has a logic zero value. Thus, the signal MODE is a logic one and power supply **10** (FIG. 1) is on.

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram of an interface switch circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. 1 in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention. In a second operating mode, switch interface circuit **92** is connected to state circuit **50** for controlling the operation of power supply **10** (FIG. 1). Briefly referring to FIG. 3, switch interface circuit **92** includes a resistor **94**, a push-button or mechanical switch **96**, and a capacitor **98**. In particular, a first terminal of resistor **94** is connected to a first terminal of switch **96**. The second terminal of resistor **94** is connected to a power supply conductor that is coupled for receiving a voltage such as, for example, ground, and the second ter-

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minal of switch **96** is connected to a first terminal of capacitor **98**, forming node **48A**. Node **48A** is connected to state pin **48** in this mode of operation. The second terminal of capacitor **98** is connected to a power supply conductor such as, for example, ground.

The reference voltage or reference signal at node **67** is transmitted to the non-inverting input of comparator **77** and the voltage at state pin **48** is transmitted to the inverting input of comparator **77**. If the voltage at state pin **48** is less than the reference voltage at node **67**, the output of comparator **77** is a logic one value. On the other hand, if the voltage at state pin **48** is greater than the reference voltage at node **67**, the output of comparator **77** is a logic zero value. The reference voltage or reference signal at node **71** is transmitted to the non-inverting input of comparator **80** and the voltage at state pin **48** is transmitted to the inverting input of comparator **80**. If the voltage at state pin **48** is greater than the reference voltage at node **71**, the output of comparator **80** is a logic zero value. On the other hand, if the voltage at state pin **48** is less than the reference voltage at node **71**, the output of comparator **80** is a logic one value. Together, comparators **77** and **80** determine whether the voltage at state pin **48** is between the reference voltages at nodes **67** and **71**.

In the second mode of operation, switch **96** allows for manually controlling whether power supply **10** (FIG. 1) is in an on-operating state or an off-operating state. Initially, the signals LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE and ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE have logic zero values. The signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE causes the output of logic circuit **86** to have a logic one value, and for state pin **48** to be grounded by reset circuit **65** and discharge capacitor **98**. The output of NAND gate **84** is a logic one value that sets the output of toggle flip-flop **88** to a logic one value.

With the application of the line voltage to full-wave bridge rectifier **12**, the voltage V_{cc} (see FIG. 2) is increased from the starting voltage of zero volts. As the voltage for V_{cc} increases above about 3.5 volts the signal LOGIC UNDER-VOLTAGE changes to a logic one value. In addition, the output of reset circuit **65** becomes high impedance allowing capacitor **98** to charge. A further increase in the voltage V_{cc} above about 4.8 volts causes the signal ANALOG UNDER-VOLTAGE to be set to a logic one value which enables logic circuit **86**. The output of comparator **80** being at a logic one value signifies that capacitor **98** is at a value that is less than the voltage at node **71**. The logic one value at the output of comparator **80** causes the output of logic circuit **86** to transition from a logic zero value to a logic one value. When the logic zero value at the CLK input transitions to a logic one value the previously stored value of toggle flip-flop **88** is toggled. Thus, the output signal MODE has a logic zero value and power supply **10** is in an off state.

When switch **96** is closed, capacitor **98** is discharged through switch **96** and resistor **94**. The voltage at state pin **48** drops below the reference voltage at node **71** causing comparator **80** to provide a logic one to input S of logic circuit **86**. The output of logic circuit **86** transitions to a logic one value causing toggle flip-flop **88** to change states such that the signal MODE is a logic one value and power supply **10** is in an on state. With each closure of switch **96** the output of logic circuit **86** transitions from a logic zero to a logic one causing the stored data on toggle flip-flop **88** to change state, provided that capacitor **98** was charged above the reference voltage at node **71**.

FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram of a microprocessor interface switch circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. 1 in

accordance with another embodiment of the present invention. In a third operating mode, a microprocessor interface switch circuit **100** (FIG. **4**) is connected to state circuit **50** (FIG. **2**) for controlling the operation of power supply **10** (FIG. **1**). A first terminal of capacitor **110** and the collector terminal of opto-coupler **102** are commonly connected, forming node **48B**. Node **48B** is connected to state pin **48** of state circuit **50**. The second terminal of capacitor **110** and the emitter terminal of opto-coupler **102** are connected to a power supply conductor at a potential of, for example, ground. The base terminal is coupled for receiving a coded light signal. Resistor **104** has a terminal connected to state pin **48** and the other terminal connected to a cathode of LED **106**. An anode of LED **106** is connected to a first terminal of switch **108**. A second terminal of switch **108** is connected to a power supply conductor coupled for receiving a voltage such as, for example, V_{cc} . It should be noted that switch **108** may be a push-button switch that is closed while the button is depressed, i.e., a momentary closure.

In the third mode of operation, state circuit **50** is powered on such that the signal MODE has a logic zero value. Capacitor **110** delays the charging of state pin **48** so that the output of comparator **80** has a logic one value, which turns off power supply **10**. The momentary closure of switch **108** causes LED **106** to emit light and transmit a signal to, for example, a microprocessor (not shown). When switch **108** is closed, state pin **48** is pulled high through switch **108**, LED **106**, and resistor **104**. The voltage at state pin **48** is clamped by voltage clamp circuit **74** such that LED **106** is always forward biased and emitting light when switch **108** is closed. When switch **108** is closed the output of comparator **77** becomes a logic zero value signifying that the voltage on state pin **48** is above the reference voltage established at node **67** by the resistor divider network. The logic zero value sets the signal MODE to a logic one value for turning on power supply **10** (FIG. **1**).

When the signal MODE is a logic one and power supply **10** is on, another momentary closure of switch **108** signals the microprocessor through light emitted by LED **106** of a request to shut down power supply **10**. The microprocessor can signal through opto-coupler **102** a confirmation to shut down power supply **10**. If signaled by the microprocessor, opto-coupler **102** pulls state pin **48** to ground and the output of comparator **80** becomes a logic one signifying that the voltage on state pin **48** is below the reference voltage at node **71** of reference generator **60**. The output of logic circuit **86** transitions to a logic one value causing toggle flip-flop **88** to change states such that the signal MODE is a logic zero value and power supply **10** is off. The microprocessor "reads" each momentary closure of switch **108** by the light emitted from LED **106**. The state of toggle flip-flop **88** is changed in accordance with the signal received by opto-coupler **102**. Thus, the momentary closure of switch **108** allows the microprocessor to control when power supply **10** is turned on or turned off.

FIG. **5** is a schematic diagram of a brown-out interface circuit for use with the state circuit of FIG. **1** in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present invention. This fourth operating mode includes using brown-out interface circuit **112** (FIG. **5**) with state circuit **50** (FIG. **2**) for controlling the operation of power supply **10** (FIG. **1**). Briefly referring to FIG. **5**, resistor **114** has a first terminal commonly connected to a first terminal of resistor **116** and to a terminal of capacitor **120**, forming node **48C**. Node **48C** is connected to state pin **48** of state circuit **50**. A second terminal of resistor **114** is connected to a power supply conductor such as, for example, ground. The other terminal

of capacitor **120** is connected to a power supply conductor which is operating at a potential of, for example, ground. The second terminal of resistor **116** is connected to an anode of Zener diode **118**. A cathode of Zener diode **118** is connected to a voltage such as, for example, a rectified line voltage.

In the fourth mode of operation, state circuit **50** is powered on and the signal MODE is at a logic one value. The output of comparator **77** has a logic zero value indicating that the voltage on state pin **48** has a value above the reference voltage at node **67**. The logic zero value at the input of NAND gate **84** causes the signal MODE to have a logic one value and power supply **10** (FIG. **1**) to be on. Brown-out interface circuit **112** (FIG. **5**) detects either a brown-out or a black-out condition on the line voltage received by full-wave bridge rectifier **12** (FIG. **1**). A brown-out occurs when the line voltage is below the predetermined rectified voltage as set by Zener diode **118**. A black-out occurs when the line voltage is substantially zero volts. By way of example, Zener diode **118** has a reverse bias voltage of about 80 volts. During either a brown-out or a black-out, about 80 volts is dropped across Zener diode **118**. The resistor values for resistors **114** and **116** are selected to cause the voltage on state pin **48** to drop below the reference voltage at node **71** of reference generator **60** during either a brown-out or a black-out condition. The output of comparator **80** transitions to a logic one value during either a brown-out or black-out. The output of logic circuit **86** transitions to a logic one value, causing toggle flip-flop **88** to change states from a logic one value to a logic zero value, thereby turning off power supply **10**. When neither the brown-out nor the black-out condition is present, pin **48** is pulled high. The output of comparator **77** is a logic zero value when the voltage at state pin **48** is above the reference voltage at node **67**. A logic one value at the input S of toggle flip-flop **88** causes the signal MODE to be a logic one value, thereby turning off power supply **10**.

State circuit **50**, interface circuits **92** and **100** have been described with references with respect to ground. It should be noted that logic in state circuit **50** and interface circuits **92** and **100** can be reconfigured to function with respect to the reference voltage V_{cc} . It should be further noted that state circuit **50** can also be reconfigured to function with opposite polarity logic at state pin **48**.

It should be noted that capacitors **98**, **110**, and **120** as described in FIGS. **3**, **4**, and **5** can be selected to assure that power supply **10** is initially programmed in the off state when the line voltage is applied. On the other hand, power supply **10** can be programmed in the on state when the line voltage is applied by removing capacitors **98**, **110**, and **120**. It should be further noted that capacitors **98**, **110**, and **120** can be selected to provide noise immunity without affecting the initially programmed on/off state.

By now it should be appreciated that a structure and method have been provided for controlling the on/off status of a programmable power supply. The integrated power supply controller is inexpensive and provides a cost effective system solution for switching power supplies by reducing the number of external components. It has further been shown that additional functionality has been provided through a multi-functional input for controlling the on/off switching function of a power supply.

We claim:

1. A power conversion integrated circuit, comprising:
 - a state circuit having an output that supplies a mode signal, wherein the state circuit includes

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- a comparator having a first input coupled for receiving a control signal and a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and
 a memory circuit having a first input coupled to an output of the comparator for setting an output state of the memory circuit according to a value of the control signal; and
 a control circuit coupled for receiving the mode signal that sets a mode of operation, where the control circuit is responsive to a feedback signal for providing a pulse-width modulated control signal.
2. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the comparator includes:
- a first comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving the first reference signal, and an output coupled to the first input of the memory circuit; and
 a second comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a second reference signal, and an output coupled to a second input of the memory circuit.
3. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 2, further including a resistor divider network for generating the first reference signal at a first output and the second reference signal at a second output.
4. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 3, wherein the resistor divider network includes:
- a first resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the first resistor coupled to a first power supply conductor;
 a second resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the second resistor coupled to the second terminal of the first resistor and serving as the first output of the resistor divider network; and
 a third resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the third resistor coupled to the second terminal of the second resistor and serving as the second output of the resistor divider network, and the second terminal of the third resistor coupled to a second power supply conductor.
5. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 4, further including a pulse filter having an input coupled to the output of the second comparator and an output coupled to the second input of the memory circuit.
6. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the memory circuit has at least one storage element for storing an operating mode of the power conversion integrated circuit.
7. The power conversion integrated circuit of claim 1, further including a reset circuit having an input coupled to a logic under voltage signal and an output coupled to the control signal.
8. A semiconductor chip having at least four external electrical connections, comprising:
- an internal regulator; a state circuit having an output coupled to a control input of the internal regulator;
 a first electrical connection terminal for coupling an external ground reference to an internal ground reference of the internal regulator;
 a second electrical connection terminal for providing a pulse-width modulated output signal from an output of the internal regulator;
 a third electrical connection terminal coupled for receiving a feedback signal at an input of the internal regulator to control the pulse-width modulated output signal; and

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- a fourth electrical connection terminal coupled for receiving a control signal which is applied to the state circuit to set a mode of operation of the internal regulator.
9. The semiconductor chip of claim 8, further comprising a fifth electrical connection terminal coupled for receiving a bias voltage which is applied to the state circuit and to the internal regulator.
10. A programmable power supply, comprising:
- a transformer receiving a rectified signal at a primary side of the transformer;
 a state circuit having an input and an output for setting a mode of operation of the programmable power supply, wherein the state circuit includes,
 a comparator circuit having a first input coupled to the input of the state circuit for receiving a control signal and a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and
 a memory circuit having a first input coupled to an output of the comparator for setting an output state of the memory circuit according to a value of the control signal where the output state of the memory circuit controls the mode of operation;
 a control circuit coupled for receiving the output state of the memory circuit and wherein the control circuit is responsive to a feedback signal for providing a pulse-width modulated control signal; and
 a transistor having a control terminal for receiving the pulse-width modulated control signal, a first conduction terminal coupled to the primary side of the transformer, and a second conduction terminal coupled to ground.
11. The programmable power supply of claim 10, wherein the comparator circuit includes:
- a first comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving the first reference signal, and an output coupled to the first input of the memory circuit; and
 a second comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a second reference signal, and an output coupled to a second input of the memory circuit.
12. The programmable power supply of claim 10, further including a resistor divider network for generating a first reference signal at a first output and a second reference signal at a second output.
13. The programmable power supply of claim 12, wherein the resistor divider network includes:
- a first resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the first resistor coupled to a first power supply conductor;
 a second resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the second resistor coupled to the second terminal of the first resistor and serving as the first output of the resistor divider network; and
 a third resistor having first and second terminals, the first terminal of the third resistor coupled to the second terminal of the second resistor and serving as the second output of the resistor divider network, and the second terminal of the third resistor coupled to a second power supply conductor.
14. A method for controlling a mode of operation of a power converter, comprising the steps of:
- controlling a pulse-width modulated output signal of the power converter in response to a feedback signal; and
 setting a memory state according to a comparison between a control signal and a first reference signal

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where the memory state controls the mode of operation of the power converter.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

monitoring a signal at an input pin; and

maintaining a same operating state when the input pin receives a voltage about midway between an operating potential and a ground reference.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of requesting an on-operating state when a power supply is off and an input pin receives a voltage greater than a first reference voltage.

17. The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of requesting a toggle condition when a power supply is on and an input pin receives a voltage greater than a first reference voltage.

18. The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of requesting that an output state be toggled when a power supply is on and an input pin receives a voltage less than a second reference voltage.

19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of operating in an off-operating state when a brown-out occurs that includes receiving a signal that is proportional to a line voltage that is less than a second reference voltage.

20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of operating in an off-operating state when a black-out occurs that includes receiving a signal that is proportional to a line voltage that is less than a second reference voltage.

21. *A method of controlling an integrated regulator circuit in a power converter, comprising:*

controlling a switching signal of the integrated regulator circuit in response to a feedback signal received externally to the integrated regulator circuit;

providing a control signal to the integrated regulator circuit which alters the switching signal of the integrated regulator circuit over multiple cycles of the switching signal wherein the control signal is received externally to the integrated regulator circuit; and

storing a mode of operation of the integrated regulator circuit in a memory circuit.

22. *The method of claim 21 wherein providing the control signal includes altering the switching signal of the integrated regulator circuit to disable the power converter.*

23. *The method of claim 21 wherein providing the control signal includes altering the switching signal of the integrated regulator circuit to reduce power conversion of the power converter.*

24. *The method of claim 21 further including:*

comparing the control signal to a reference signal and generating a first signal; and

setting the mode of operation of the integrated regulator circuit according to the first signal to alter the switching signal of the integrated regulator circuit.

25. *The method of claim 24 further including storing a state of the first signal in the memory circuit to set the mode of operation of the integrated regulator circuit.*

26. *An integrated circuit containing a regulator circuit, the regulator circuit comprising:*

a state circuit having an input coupled for receiving a control signal from external to the regulator circuit and an output for providing a mode signal in response to the control signal;

a switching regulator circuit having a first input coupled for receiving a feedback signal, an output for providing a switching signal of the regulator circuit, and a control input coupled for receiving the mode signal; and

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a memory circuit coupled to receive a state of the control signal and responsively store a mode of operation of the regulator circuit.

27. *The regulator circuit of claim 26, wherein the state circuit includes a comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and an output.*

28. *The regulator circuit of claim 27, wherein the memory circuit includes a first input coupled to an output of the comparator for setting an output state of the memory circuit as the mode signal according to the state of the control signal.*

29. *The regulator circuit of claim 26, wherein the memory circuit has at least one storage element for storing the mode of operation of the regulator circuit.*

30. *The regulator circuit of claim 27, wherein the state circuit further includes a resistor divider network for generating the first reference signal at a first output and a second reference signal at a second output.*

31. *The regulator circuit of claim 27, wherein the comparator includes:*

a first comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving the first reference signal, and an output coupled to a first input of the memory circuit; and

a second comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a second reference signal, and an output coupled to a second input of the memory circuit.

32. *In a power conversion system, an integrated switching regulator circuit operating in response to a feedback signal from the power conversion system for providing a switching signal to the power conversion system, the integrated switching regulator circuit comprising:*

a control input coupled for receiving an operating mode control signal from external to the integrated switching regulator circuit which sets a mode of operation of the integrated switching regulator circuit; and

a memory circuit having a first input coupled to receive a state of the operating mode control signal from an output of a comparator and responsively set an output state of the memory circuit to set the mode of operation.

33. *The integrated switching regulator circuit of claim 32 further including a state circuit having an input coupled for receiving the operating mode control signal and an output for setting the output state of the memory circuit.*

34. *The integrated switching regulator circuit of claim 33, wherein the comparator includes a first input coupled for receiving the operating mode control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and an output coupled to the first input of the memory circuit.*

35. *A semiconductor chip having a regulator circuit formed to provide a drive signal used to regulate power transfer of a power supply in response to a feedback signal and formed to receive an external control signal used to suspend power transfer of the power supply, the regulator circuit comprising:*

a state circuit having an input coupled for receiving the external control signal and an output for providing a mode signal in response to the external control signal wherein the state circuit includes a memory circuit having a first input coupled to an output of a comparator for setting an output state of the memory circuit as the mode signal according to a value of the external control signal; and

a switching regulator circuit having a first input coupled for receiving the feedback signal, a control input

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coupled for receiving the mode signal, and an output for providing the drive signal in response to the feedback signal and the mode signal.

36. *The semiconductor chip of claim 35, further including the comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the external control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and the output coupled to the first input of the memory circuit.*

37. *The semiconductor chip of claim 35, wherein the memory circuit has at least one storage element for storing a mode of operation of the regulator circuit.*

38. *The semiconductor chip of claim 36, wherein the state circuit further includes a resistor divider network for generating the first reference signal at a first output and a second reference signal at a second output.*

39. *The semiconductor chip of claim 36, wherein the comparator includes:*

a first comparator having the first input coupled for receiving the external control signal, a second input coupled for receiving the first reference signal, and the output coupled to the first input of the memory circuit; and

a second comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the external control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a second reference signal, and an output coupled to a second input of the memory circuit.

40. *In a power supply, an integrated circuit having a switching regulator responsive to a feedback signal from the power supply for providing a switching signal to the power supply, the switching regulator comprising a control input coupled for receiving a mode control signal from external to the integrated circuit which suspends the switching signal to the power supply; and*

the integrated circuit further including a state circuit external to the switching regulator, the state circuit

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having a memory circuit coupled to set an output state of the memory circuit responsively to a state of the mode control signal.

41. *The integrated circuit of claim 40 further including the state circuit having an input coupled for receiving the mode control signal and an output for providing a mode signal in response to the mode control signal to set a mode of operation of the switching regulator.*

42. *The integrated circuit of claim 41, wherein the state circuit includes a comparator having a first input coupled for receiving the mode control signal, a second input coupled for receiving a first reference signal, and an output coupled to an input of the memory circuit.*

43. *The semiconductor chip of claim 8 further including a memory circuit coupled to receive a state of the control signal and responsively store an operating state of the internal regulator.*

44. *The semiconductor chip of claim 8 further including a memory circuit having an input coupled to receive a first state of the control signal and responsively store a first operating state of the internal regulator and to receive a second state of the control signal and responsively store a second operating state of the internal regulator.*

45. *The semiconductor chip of claim 8 further including a comparator coupled to receive the control signal from external to the semiconductor chip and responsively set a state of the control signal in a memory circuit.*

46. *The semiconductor chip of claim 45 wherein the comparator includes a first comparator having a first input coupled to a first reference signal and an output coupled to a first input of the memory and a second comparator having a first input coupled to a second reference signal and an output coupled to a second input of the memory.*

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : RE39,933 E
APPLICATION NO. : 09/709893
DATED : December 4, 2007
INVENTOR(S) : Jefferson W. Hall et al.

Page 1 of 1

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 1, line 14, after “5,859,768” and before “.” insert --, and 12/914,133 filed on Oct. 28, 2010 which is a continuation of reissue 10/946,611--.

Signed and Sealed this
Eighth Day of May, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J. Kappos". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "K".

David J. Kappos
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office