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[54] TEMPERATURE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR MOTORS AND POWER COMPONENTS OF A MATERIAL HANDLING VEHICLE

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[57] ABSTRACT

The present invention features a system and method for preventing overheating of a motor and/or power amplifier of a material handling vehicle by controlling the performance of the vehicle as a function of motor and/or power amplifier temperature. Temperature sensors are connected to the motor and power amplifier for determining their operating temperatures. A controller is connected to each temperature sensor and to the motor for controlling acceleration of the motor as a function of either or both temperatures, so that both the motor and the power amplifier will not overheat. In controlling acceleration of the motor, the invention provides a mechanism for changing acceleration by discrete steps or continuously according to a performance curve which may be linear or otherwise.

25 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

