US 20160378108A1

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication

(10) Pub. No.: US 2016/0378108 A1

(43) Pub. Date: Dec. 29, 2016

Paczan et al.

(54) COLLECTIVE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE CONFIGURATIONS

(71) Applicant: **Amazon Technologies, Inc.**, Seattle, WA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Nathan Michael Paczan**, Seattle, WA (US); **Michael John Elzinga**, Woodinville, WA (US); **Raphael Hsieh**, Seattle, WA (US); **Luan Khai Nguyen**, Seattle, WA (US)

(21) Appl. No.: **14/626,376**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 19, 2015**

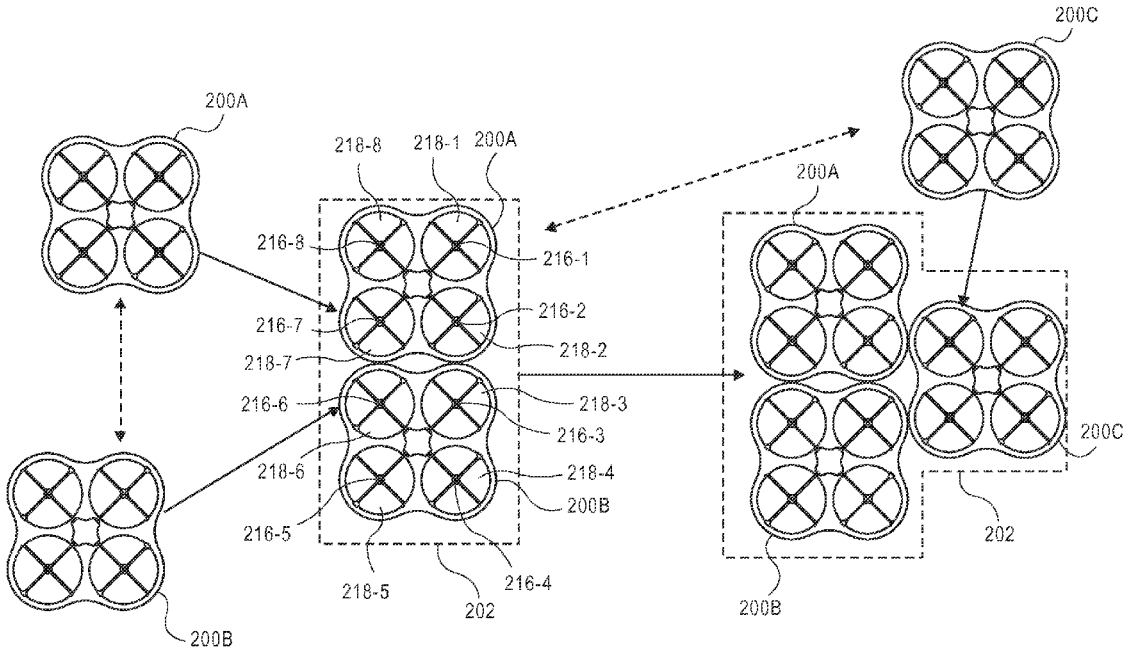
Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G05D 1/00	(2006.01)
G06Q 10/08	(2006.01)
B64C 37/02	(2006.01)
B64C 39/02	(2006.01)
B64D 31/06	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***G05D 1/0027*** (2013.01); ***B64C 39/024*** (2013.01); ***B64D 31/06*** (2013.01); ***B64C 37/02*** (2013.01); ***G06Q 10/083*** (2013.01); *B64C 2201/128* (2013.01); *B64C 2201/108* (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

This disclosure describes a collective UAV in which multiple UAVs may be coupled together to form the collective UAV. A collective UAV may be used to aerially transport virtually any size, weight or quantity of items, travel longer distances, etc. For example, rather than using one large UAV to carry a larger or heavier item, multiple smaller UAVs may couple together to form a collective UAV that is used to carry the larger or heavier item.