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(54) **MACRO/MICRO CRANE**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A composite crane is disclosed which may be used to enable cargo handling at sea to move cargo from one ship to another ship. The composite crane may comprise a micro crane assembly, adapted to control motion of a lifting device; a macro crane assembly adapted to be in communication with and control motion of the micro crane; and a controller, operatively in communication with at least one of (i) the micro crane assembly or (ii) the macro crane assembly, the controller adapted to maintain a predetermined portion of the composite crane in a substantially steady state relative to inertial space. Using a control algorithm accessible to the controller, the controller may maintain a support platform for the micro crane assembly in a substantially steady state relative to inertial space or moving to compensate for some of the movement of the target platform. It is emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract which will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope of meaning of the claims.

