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**Rembach et al.**

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(54) **METHOD FOR OPERATING A VESSEL**

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**B63H 21/17** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **440/6; 320/116**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **440/3, 6, 440/7; 320/116, 118, 131, 134, 164; 701/21**  
See application file for complete search history.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for operating a vessel is provided. The method can include determining the most efficient power source from a plurality of power sources for operating the vessel. The power sources can include a battery bank and an AC power source. The method can also include drawing power from the most efficient power source to operate the vessel; harvesting energy from electrical rotating sources; monitoring the battery bank; and charging the battery bank when a state of charge of the battery bank drops below a predetermined state of charge, wherein the charging is performed using the harvested energy, the AC power source, an external power source, or a combination thereof.

**18 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets**

