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(54) SOFT CURRENT SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY

(57) Embodiments of the present invention provide improved techniques and devices for reducing transformer commutation distortion caused by large load currents. Traditional power supplies which have two or more phases typically commutate a transformer during the end of each phase. When the load current is large, energy stored in the transformer's leakage inductance can cause undesirable effects during commutation. Embodiments of the present invention reduce these effects by lowering the voltage across the primary side of the transformer prior to commutation. In one embodiment, a capacitor is added to the primary side of the transformer. A switch directs current through the capacitor prior to commutation, allowing the capacitor to absorb the transformer's leakage inductance energy and lower the primary side voltage. Other suitable components, such as resistors, diodes, transistors, or additional transformer windings, may also be used to reduce the primary-side voltage prior to commutation.



Figure 4

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