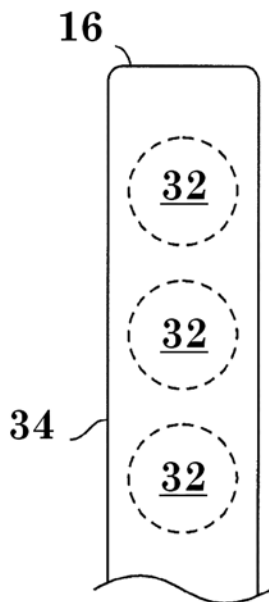


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Figure 6: Schematic of another exemplary elevator system.

be a drive sheave. A drive sheave is driven by a machine (not shown). Movement of the drive sheave by the machine drives, moves and/or propels (through traction) the one or more belts 16 that are routed around the drive sheave.

At least one of the sheaves 18 could be a diverter, deflector or idler sheave. Diverter, deflector or idler sheaves are not driven by a machine, but help guide the one or more belts 16 around the various components of the elevator system 10. Further, one or more of the sheaves 18, such as the diverter, deflector or idler sheaves, may have a convex shape or crown along its axis of rotation to assist in keeping the one or more



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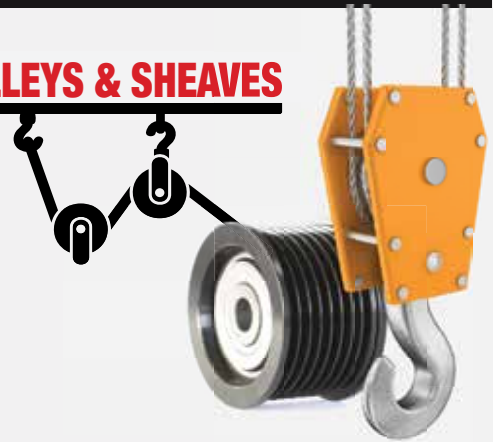
Figure 7: Cross-sectional view of an embodiment of an elevator belt.

belts 16 centered, or in a desired position, along the sheaves 18. In some embodiments, the elevator system 10 could use two or more belts 16 for suspending and/or driving the elevator car 12. In addition, the elevator system 10 could have various configurations such that either both sides of the one or more belts 16 engage the one or more sheaves 18 (such as shown in the exemplary elevator systems in figures 5 and 6) or only one side of the one or more belts 16 engages the one or more sheaves 18.

continued on next page

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