



Topic 7: Interpreting and using search and examination reports

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Head, Patent Information Section
Global IP Infrastructure Sector

Harare
10-12 July 2012

Agenda

- Utilization of intermediary reports
- Reading enriched search reports
- Reviewing search strategies
- Issues

Types of intermediary results

- Search reports
 - Basic, i.e. just citations of prior art
 - Enriched, i.e.
 - categories of citations (cited by applicant, examiner, 3rd parties)
 - relevance for particular claims
 - references to pages, drawings,...
 - (search strategies)
- Written opinions, examination reports
- Communications between applicant and examiner

Issues with intermediary results

- Implies some but smaller delay than waiting for final results
- Searches are based on claims; the foreign search results may be incomplete/inappropriate if claims are different
- Requires checking if same priorities
- Different priorities and priority dates can lead to different claims or prior art
- Usually no problems if simple family
- Using results for members of extended family may be problematic

Sources for search reports & citations of prior art

- Publications (PDF) of applications (A1, A3,.. kind codes)
- Publications of granted patents, or re-examined patents, ie maintained after opposition
- Separate records in databases

EP - B1

EP 0 282 251 B1

References cited:
GB-A- 2 131 952

THE MARCONI REVIEW, vol. XLIII, no. 218, 1980, pages 156-175, Rugby, GB; R.M. LANGDON: "Vibratory process control transducers"

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT, vol. IM-32, no. 3, September 1983, pages 434-437, IEEE, New York, US; E. STEMME et al.: "Measuring liquid density with a tuning-fork transducer"

I.S.A. TRANSACTIONS, vol. 20, no. 3, 1981, pages 67-75, Research Triangle Park, NC, US; B.W. BALLS: "A new on-line density meter for viscous liquids and slurries"

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid (Art. 99(1) European patent convention).

Farnham Surrey(GB)

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Farnborough Hampshire GU14 7PW (GB)

EP 0 282 251 B1

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Publication number: **0 282 251 B1**

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

Date of publication of patent specification: 17.02.83 In: Cl. G01N 9/00, G01N 11/16
Application number: 8301957.2
Date of filing: 07.05.83

Field transducer.

Priority: 11.03.87 GB 8705757
Date of publication of application: 14.05.88 Bulletin: 8827
Publication of the grant of the patent: 17.02.83 Bulletin: 8307
Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH DE FR IT LI NL SE
References cited: GB-A-2 131 952

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THE MARCONI REVIEW, vol. XLIII, no. 218, 1980, pages 156-175, Rugby, GB, R.M. LANGDON: "Vibratory process control transducers"

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT, vol. IM-32, no. 3, September 1983, pages 434-437, IEEE, New York, US, E. STEMME et al.: "Measuring liquid density with a tuning-fork transducer"

I.S.A. TRANSACTIONS, vol. 20, no. 3, 1981, pages 67-75, Research Triangle Park, NC, US; B.W. BALLS: "A new on-line density meter for viscous liquids and slurries"

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid (Art. 99(1) European patent convention).

Bank for Social Services
© 1983/83/3



US005137548A

United States Patent [19]

Grenier et al.

[11] Patent Number: **5,137,548**

[45] Date of Patent: **Aug. 11, 1992**

[54] **PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR PURIFYING AIR TO BE DISTILLED BY ADSORPTION**

[75] Inventors: **Maurice Grenier, Paris; Sophie Gastinne, Notre Dame de Gravenchon; Pierre Petit, Chatenay Malabry; François Venet, Paris, all of France**

[73] Assignee: **L'Air Liquide, Societe Anonyme pour l'Etude et l'Exploitation des Procèdes Georges Claude, Paris, France**

[21] Appl. No.: **695,927**

[22] Filed: **May 6, 1991**

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

May 9, 1990 [FR] France 90 05779

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ **B01D 53/04**

[52] U.S. Cl. **55/23; 55/26; 55/28; 55/31; 55/33; 55/62; 55/74; 55/75**

[58] Field of Search **55/23, 25, 26, 31, 33, 55/62, 74, 75, 179, 267-269, 387, 389; 62/13, 17, 18, 31**

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,224,227	12/1940	Keith, Jr. et al.	55/33 X
2,588,296	3/1952	Russell, Jr.	55/33 X
2,968,160	1/1961	Schilling et al.	62/18 X
3,140,931	7/1964	McRobbie	55/31 X
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3,594,984	7/1971	Toyama et al.	55/33
3,722,226	3/1973	McDermott et al.	62/18 X
3,967,464	7/1976	Cormier et al.	62/18 X

4,092,131	5/1978	Rohde	55/33
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4,329,158	5/1982	Sircar	55/33 X
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4,557,735	12/1985	Pike	55/26
4,711,645	12/1987	Kumar	55/33 X
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4,957,523	9/1990	Zarate et al.	62/18 X

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

44679	1/1982	European Pat. Off. .	
53-037583	4/1978	Japan	55/25
53-037585	4/1978	Japan	55/25
54-152667	12/1979	Japan	55/31
1450164	9/1976	United Kingdom .	
1586961	3/1981	United Kingdom .	

Primary Examiner—Robert Spitzer
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Curtis, Morris & Safford

[57] **ABSTRACT**

According to this process, compressed air is cooled and purified by adsorption by passing same in a first direction through a mass of adsorbent material (8), then a residual gas from the distillation apparatus passes in opposite direction through this mass to regenerate same. During the entire regeneration, the residual gas is at a constant regeneration temperature which is between the temperature of the air entering into the mass of adsorbent material and at a temperature which is about 50° C. above this temperature.

10 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT



European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 12 3554

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 5 754 386 A (BARBOUR ERSKINE [US] ET AL) 19 May 1998 (1998-05-19) * column 11, line 55 - line 67 * * column 13, line 12 - column 14, line 38 * * figures * -----	1	INV. H01H71/24 H01H71/12 H01F7/18
X	DE 199 57 260 A1 (SIEMENS AG [DE]) 23 May 2001 (2001-05-23) * the whole document * -----	1	
A	EP 1 009 003 A1 (SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC IND SA [FR] SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC IND SAS [FR]) 14 June 2000 (2000-06-14) * the whole document * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			H01H H01F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
Munich	1 July 2008	Ramírez Fueyo, M	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons A: member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2008/053885

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G02B26/10 G12B21/20 ADD. G02B7/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) G02B G12B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 696 566 A (SEKIMOTO YOSHIHIRO [JP] ET AL) 29 September 1987 (1987-09-29) abstract; figures 3,5,9,10 column 2, line 24 - column 3, line 5 column 4, lines 14-66 -----	1,6,8,9
X	US 2002/018291 A1 (FUKUYAMA HIROYA [JP]) 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) cited in the application paragraph [0068]; figure 4 paragraphs [0053], [0054] paragraph [0119]; claims 1,5 -----	1,6,8,9
X	JP 62 054843 A (BROTHER IND LTD) 10 March 1987 (1987-03-10) abstract; figures ----- -/-	1,5,6,8,9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another claim or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed ** Later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone **Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, each combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art *S* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
3 February 2009		09/02/2009
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.O. Box 5818 Palaststrasse 2 NL - 2000 PH The Hague Tel. (+31-70) 340-0040 Fax (+31-70) 340-0016		Authorized officer Hylla, Winfried

Search reports as part of publications

Various policies for publishing prior art

- WO-A1, EP-A1: 18 month publication with enriched SR
- WO-A3, EP-A3: publication of delayed enriched search report (after A2)
- US-A (- 11/2000): citations only
- US-A1: never (available then in US-PAIR)
- US-B1: citations only
- DE-A1: 18 month publication, with citations (only) if available; no A3 (available then in DPMA register)
- DE-B1: citations only
-

Common Citation Document CCD

Trilateral - CCD Search ? Help

Number: EP1612402

EP20040425480

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CCD Viewer [also published as]

Citations only view Compact view Sort by country Filter ▼

Claims searched

Full document: US 4501246 (A)

Enriched Citations for EPO

#	CC	Cat.	Citation details	Claims
1	EP		Application N° EP20040425480 (EP04425480) - 30 June 2004 National Search Report	
	X		DE10345154 A1 (DENSO CORP [JP]) - 22 April 2004 Page 3, paragraph 19 Figure 1	1-3
	X		US4501246 A (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT [DE]) - 26 February 1985 Column 2, line 22 - column 2, line 23 Figure 1	1-5
	X		EP0270720 A1 (RENAULT [FR]) - 15 June 1988 Page 5, line 12 - page 6, line 5 Figure 1, 6	1,4-8
	A		EP0299337 A2 (IVECO FIAT [IT], et al) - 18 January 1989 Figure 1	1-8
	A		DE19714489 C1 (SIEMENS AG [DE]) - 1 October 1998 Figure 1	1-8
2	AT		Application N° AT20040425480T (AT04425480) - 30 June 2004	
3	DE		Application N° DE200460002105T (DE602004002105) - 30 June 2004	
4	ES		Application N° ES20040425480T (ES04425480) - 30 June 2004	
5	JP		Application N° JP20050120087 (JP2005120087) - 18 April 2005	
6	JP		Application N° JP20090214944 (JP2009214944) - 16 September 2009 National Examination	
			JP2004011448 A (NIPPON SOKEN, et al) - 15 January 2004	
			JP2004124727 A (DENSO CORP) - 22 April 2004	
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			JP11230005 A (NIPPON SOKEN, et al) - 24 August 1999	
			JP10299611 A (NIPPON SOKEN) - 10 November 1998	
			JP2001107776 A (NISSAN MOTOR) - 17 April 2001	

Simple family of citation

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Leblanc

[54] FUEL INJECTION PUMP

[75] Inventor: Jean Leblanc, Lyons, France

[73] Assignee: Robert Bosch GmbH, Stuttgart, Fed. Rep. of Germany

[21] Appl. No.: 397,712

[22] Filed: Jul. 13, 1982

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

Jul. 22, 1981 [DE] Fed. Rep. of Germany 3128975

[51] Int. Cl.³ F02M 39/00

[52] U.S. Cl. 123/449; 123/458; 417/487; 417/519

[58] Field of Search 417/487, 519, 221, 244, 417/253, 462, 505; 123/449, 450, 458, 502, 500, 506

[56] References Cited

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2,077,259 4/1937 Planiol 123/451

2,356,627 8/1944 Skaredoff 123/450

3,404,668 10/1968 Eheim et al. 123/449

3,598,507 8/1971 Voit et al. 417/505

4,073,275 2/1978 Hofer et al. 123/449

4,378,775 4/1983 Straubel et al. 123/458

4,382,751 5/1983 Potter 123/458 X

4,385,610 5/1983 Leblanc 123/449

53-80803 7/1978 Japan

Primary Examiner—William L. Fr

Assistant Examiner—Paul F. Neils

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Edwin I

ABSTRACT

A fuel injection pump is propose metering during the intake stroke of the fuel injection pump is effected through the cross section of which is electrically controlled switching means of the control of a fuel supply pressure conduit by means of a control valve which communicates with the pump through a part of a distributor shaft, is guided through a groove and rotates at a predetermined rpm. By means of the oblique disposition of the groove and the possibility of an angular displacement of the distributor shaft, the angular position at which injection is effected is embodied in an arbitrary manner in a switching valve.

5 Claims, 2 Drawing

20.99 x 29.70 cm

Page 1/5 - ABSTRACT

1/5 - ABSTRACT
2/5 - DRAWINGS
3/5
4/5 - DESCRIPTION
5/5 - CLAIMS

Simple families: 1 Total family members: 7

Enriched prior art search reports



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 16 8955

Application number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	EP 0 813 338 A2 (ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL CORP [US]) 17 December 1997 (1997-12-17) * column 6, line 12 - column 8, line 26 * * column 8, line 52 - column 9, line 4; figure 1 *	1-13	INV. G01T1/17
Y	US 6 128 039 A (CHEN DATONG [US] ET AL) 3 October 2000 (2000-10-03) * column 3, line 57 - column 4, line 28; figure 2 *	1,3-7	
Y	US 6 163 029 A (YAMADA SHINICHI [JP] ET AL) 19 December 2000 (2000-12-19) * column 15, line 30 - column 16, line 45; figures 2,15,16 *	1,3-7	
A	FR 2 864 628 A1 (COMMISSARIAT ENERGIE ATOMIQUE [FR]) 1 July 2005 (2005-07-01) * page 4, line 18 - page 6, line 15; figure 3 *	1-13	
A,D	WO 2004/064168 A1 (SCHERRER INST PAUL [CH]; BROENNIMANN CHRISTIAN [CH]; SCHMITT BERND [CH]) 29 July 2004 (2004-07-29) * the whole document *	1-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) G01T
E	WO 2009/131151 A1 (HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS KK [JP]; MORI HARUMICHI [JP]; KYUSHIMA RYUJI [JP];) 29 October 2009 (2009-10-29) * figure 12 *	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 23 March 2010	Examiner Wulverycck, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

International Patent Classification

Category X, Y, A, etc.

Relevant to Claim ...

Cited documents

Technical Fields Searched

Searching Authority

Date of Completion of the Search

Examiner

Categories of Citations

- **X** - particularly relevant if taken alone
 - Objection: Lack of novelty or lack of inventive step with one document
- **Y** - particularly relevant if combined with another Y-document
 - Objection: Lack of inventive step by combination of two (or more) documents, always in pairs
- **A** - technological background, no objection of lack of novelty or inv. step
- **O** - non-written (e.g. oral) disclosure
- **P** - intermediate document, published after priority date but before filing date of the application; used in combination with X, Y, A (e.g. XP)
- **T** - theory or principle underlying the invention
- **E** - earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
- **D** - cited in the application
- **L** - cited for other reasons

SR in EP Register

Renewal fee	
22.01.2010	Renewal fee patent year 03
Search	[] See references of WO 2008095040A2
International search	[Y] ↗ EP1568704
	[Y] P. POIJÄRVI ET AL: "2,2-Bis(ethoxycarbonyl)- and 2-(alkylaminocarbonyl)-2-cyano-Substituted 3-(pivaloyloxy)propyl Groups as Biodegradable Protecting Groups for Internucleosidic Phosphorothioate Linkages" BIOCONJUGATE CHEMISTRY, vol. 16, 2005, pages 1564-1571, XP002519413
	DOI: ↗ http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/BC050147
	[Y] P. POIJÄRVI ET AL: "Towards Oligonucleotide Pro-Drugs: 2,2-Bis(ethoxycarbonyl) and 2-(Alkylaminocarbonyl)-2-cyano Substituted 3-(Pivaloyloxy)Propyl Groups as Biodegradable Protecting Groups for Internucleosidic Phosphorothioate Linkages" LETTERS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, vol. 1, 2004, pages 183-188, XP009113722
	DOI: ↗ http://dx.doi.org/10.2174/1570178043488536

Link to publisher websites for non-patent literature



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Journal of Virology

Generation of an Influenza A Virus Vector Expressing Biologically Active Human Interleukin-2 from the NS Gene Segment

Christian Kittel, Boris Ferko, Martina Kurz, Regina Voglauer, Sabine Sereinig, Julia Romanova, Gabriela Stiegler, Hermann Katinger and Andrej Egorov
J. Virol. 2005, 79(16):10672. DOI: 10.1128/JVI.79.16.10672-10677.2005.

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://jvi.asm.org/content/79/16/10672

These include:

REFERENCES

This article cites 34 articles, 11 of which can be accessed free at: http://jvi.asm.org/content/79/16/10672#ref-list-1

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doi: 10.1128/JVI.79.16.10672-10677.2005
J. Virol. August 2005 vol. 79 no. 16 10672-10677

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Current Issue

July 2012, Volume 86, Issue 13



Spotlights in the Current Issue

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Flavivirus NS1 Binding Partner Identified

One Step Closer To Understanding Influenza A Virus Genome Packaging

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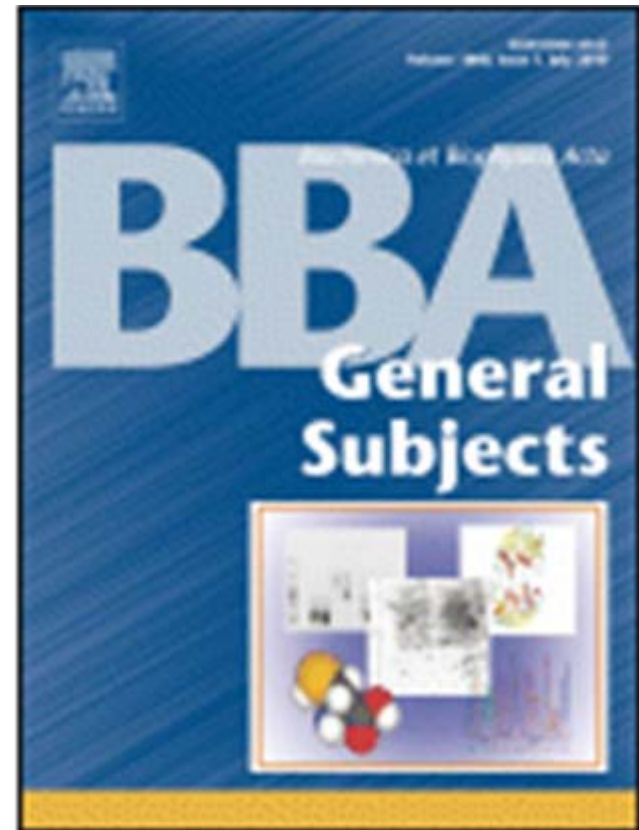
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→ ScienceDirect
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- [aRDi launched](#) (Jul 23, 2009)

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OARE: Online Access to Research in the Environment

ARDI: Research4Life Programs

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WIPO



World Intellectual Property Organization

HINARI
Research in Health



World Health Organization

AGORA
Research in Agriculture



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

OARE

Research in the Environment



United Nations Environment Programme

WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

Sources for examination reports

- Examination reports are never published like search reports
- Examination reports are only part of the file wrapper (i.e. the set of all communications between applicant and patent office, e.g. examiner)
- Access depends on policy of individual IPO
- Examination reports are only accessible through
 - public online file inspection (EPO Register, US PAIR, Patentscope)
 - if submitted by applicant (upon request)
 - Non-publicly shared between IPOs (e.g. AIPN)

Examination reports

Most of the communications in examination usually follows a structure:

- Clarity issues, Insufficiency of Disclosure (if any)
- Unallowable Amendments (if any)
- Prior Art (mandatory)
- Assessment of Novelty and Inventive Step (mandatory)
- Formal Comments: reference signs, acknowledgement of prior art

A Communication shall contain **all the grounds** hindering the grant of a Patent (Rule 71(2) EPC)

Grounds may be supported by references to the **Case Law**


The Search Opinion

- **Rule 62 EPC** :Extended European Search Report (EESR)
 - (1) The European search report shall be accompanied by an **opinion** on whether the application and the invention to which it relates seem to meet the **requirements of this Convention** [...].

- **Rule 43bis.1 PCT** : Written Opinion (WO-ISA)
 - (a) [...] the International Searching Authority shall [...] establish a **written opinion** as to:
 - (i) whether the claimed invention appears to be **novel**, to involve an **inventive step**, [...] and to be **industrially applicable**;
 - (ii) whether the international application complies with the **requirements of the Treaty and these Regulations** [...].

A reasoned statement provides better insight than a citation

European Search Opinion- Example

Bescheid/Protokoll (Anlage)	Communication/Minutes (Annex)	Notification/Procès-verbal (Annexe)
 Datum Date cf Form 1507	Blatt Sheet Feuille 1	Anmelde-Nr. Application No.: Demande n°: 06 388 001.7

The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents**:

Description, Pages

1-15 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-15 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/7-7/7 as originally filed

1. The following documents, cited in the European search report, are referred to in this communication:
D1: US-A-5 544 269 (HATTORI ET AL) 6 August 1996 (1996-08-06)
D2: ANONYMOUS: "Fiber Optic Switch. April 1979." IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, vol. 21, no. 11, 1 April 1979 (1979-04-01), page 4686, XP002379775 New York, US

2. The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 52(1) EPC, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 2, 5-12 is not new in the sense of Article 54(1) and (2) EPC.

2.1 D1 discloses a package (Figs. 24-26 and corresponding text passages) comprising a substrate (1b) with a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction perpendicular thereto, said substrate having a recess (4) formed in a first surface and extending in the longitudinal direction of the substrate (Fig. 24b), said recess having an inner

Application Number

Application documents version

Cited documents
i.e. prior art

Objections

PCT – WO

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	<u>3, 19</u>
	No: Claims	<u>1, 2, 4-18, 20</u>
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	<u>1-20</u>
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-20</u>
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 US 2002/186921 A1 (SCHUMACHER LYNN C [CA] ET AL) 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12)

D2 WO 2007/136816 A2 (MASSACHUSETTS INST TECHNOLOGY [US]; BULOVIC VLADIMIR [YU]; KYMISSIS IO) 29 November 2007 (2007-11-29)

2 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 4-15, 17-18, 20 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

2.1 D1 discloses

an optical fiber capable of being diagnosed non-invasively comprising an optical fiber (12) for conveying a light beam; said optical fiber comprising a first end for receiving said light beam and a second end opposed thereto, a core (14) comprising an inner wall, and a cladding (16) surrounding said core, said optical fiber further comprising at least one uncladded portion comprising a plurality of quantum dots (26) dispersed in a medium, wherein said quantum dots become activated by evanescent wave coupling resulting from total internal reflection of said light beam contacting said inner wall of said optical fiber core and wherein said activation results in emittance of light from said quantum dots (Fig. 2c; paragraphs [0033], [0045]).

Therefore, the subject-matter of present claim 1 is not novel over the teachings of D1.

2.2 D1 also discloses

Strategy

- Check if results are available for more than one family member
- Compare:
 - Your claims are similar to claims examined by other IPO ?
 - Additional citations in other SRs?
 - Similar wording of granted claims?

National sovereignty

Paris Convention:

- **No** obligation to use results of others, or to follow their conclusions
- IPO has obligation to observe national legislation
- IPO has responsibility/liability for quality patents