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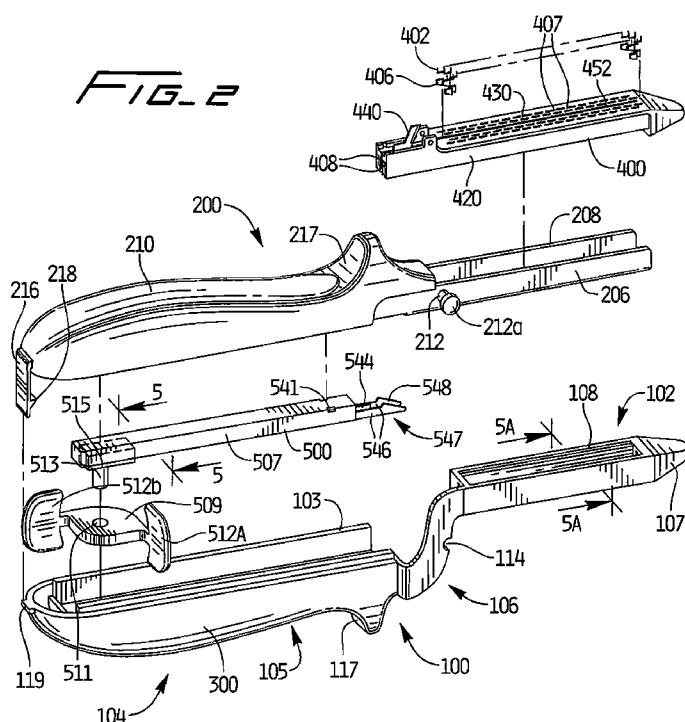
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[Continued on next page]

- (54) Title: SURGICAL FASTENER APPLYING APPARATUS



- (57) Abstract: A surgical fastener applying apparatus (10) including a cartridge supporting section (200) and an anvil supporting section (100). The cartridge supporting section includes a distal section (206) and a proximal section (210) and the anvil supporting section and cartridge supporting section are configured to clamp tissue therebetween. The anvil supporting section has a distal fastener receiving region (102), a proximal clamping region (104) and an intermediate region (106) between the fastener receiving region and the clamping region. The proximal clamping region is positioned on a first side of the cartridge supporting section and the fastener receiving region is positioned on a second opposing side of the cartridge supporting section.



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

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19 September 2013

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61B17/072 A61B17/28
ADD.

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)

A61B

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 practicable, 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 2 853 074 A (OLSON EDWARD A) 23 September 1958 (1958-09-23) column 2, line 58 - column 3, line 59; figures 1-11 -----	1-7, 9-16, 18-20
X	US 3 873 016 A (FISHBEIN MEYER) 25 March 1975 (1975-03-25) column 3, line 7 - column 4, line 4 column 4, line 63 - column 6, line 14 figures 1,2,4,6,9,11 ----- -/--	1-6, 10-13, 15,16, 19,20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ 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 application or patent 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 citation 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

"T" 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, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 July 2013

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 501 689 A (GREEN DAVID T [US] ET AL) 26 March 1996 (1996-03-26) column 2, line 50 - column 3, line 18; figures 1-4 -----	1-4,6,7, 9,11,12, 14
X	US 3 604 561 A (MALLINA RUDOLPH F ET AL) 14 September 1971 (1971-09-14) column 4, line 44 - column 5, line 18; figures 20-23 -----	1-4,7,9, 11,12,14
X,P	EP 2 532 312 A2 (TYCO HEALTHCARE [US]) 12 December 2012 (2012-12-12) paragraphs [0020], [0026], [0027], [0034], [0035], [0042], [0043]; figures 1,2,2A,2B,3A,12 -----	1,3-7, 9-16,18, 19
X	WO 03/094743 A1 (TYCO HEALTHCARE [US]; VIOLA FRANK J [US]) 20 November 2003 (2003-11-20) page 12, lines 6-19 page 18, lines 13-19 figure 2A -----	16,19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2013/020838

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-15

A surgical fastener applying apparatus comprising a cartridge supporting section and an anvil supporting section having a distal anvil portion and a proximal handle portion, the proximal handle portion being positioned on a first side of the cartridge supporting section and the distal anvil portion being positioned on a second opposing side of the cartridge supporting section, so that the anvil supporting section can be manufactured as a single piece to reduce the number of components of the surgical apparatus.

2. claims: 16-21

A surgical fastener applying apparatus comprising a cartridge supporting section and an anvil supporting section having a distal anvil portion and a proximal handle portion, the proximal handle portion including a locking member to engage the cartridge supporting section, and a firing assembly including a firing knob, so that clamping of tissue and applying fasteners to it is facilitated.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2013/020838

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2853074	A	23-09-1958	NONE
US 3873016	A	25-03-1975	NONE
US 5501689	A	26-03-1996	NONE
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