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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

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(54) Title: **NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND CLOSURE DEVICE**

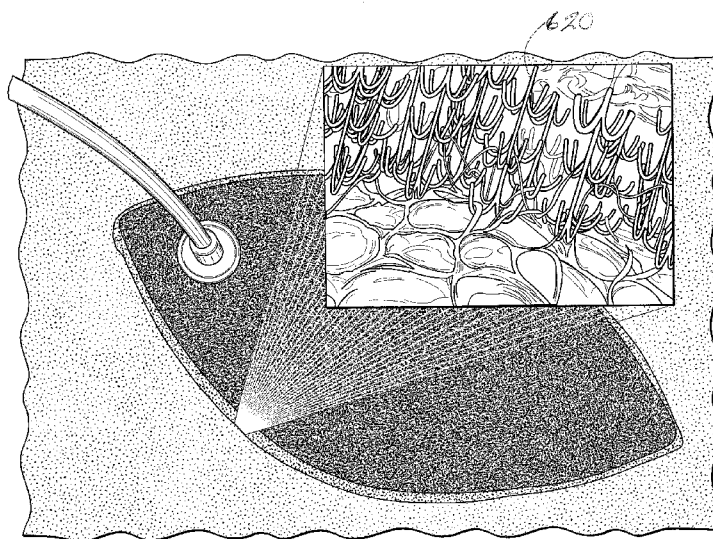


FIG. 8C

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a negative pressure wound closure system and methods for using such a system. Preferred embodiments of the invention facilitate closure of the wound by preferentially contracting to provide for movement of the tissue. Preferred embodiments can utilize tissue grasping elements to apply a wound closing force to the tissue.



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 12/23754

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(8) - A61B 17/03 (2012.01) USPC - 606/213 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC8 : A61B 17/03 (2012.01) USPC : 606/213 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched IPC8 : A61F 13/00; A61M 1/00, 27/00; A61B 17/00 (2012.01) USPC : 602/41, 42, 43, 46; 604/289, 290, 304, 307, 308, 313, 315, 540, 543; 606/215, 216, 151 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PubWEST(PGPB,USPT,EPAB,JPAB), Google: tissue, anchor, suture, hook, scaffold, lattice, truss, skeleton, foam, sponge, filler, packing, closure, traction, approximation, reapproximation, contract, collapse, shrink, direction, anisotropic, preferential, negative, reduced, pressure, suction, vacuum, wound, dressing, therapy		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 2005/0209574 A1 (BOEHRINGER et al) 22 September 2005 (22.09.2005) see especially para [0041]-[0045], [0050], [0051], [0054], fig 7	1, 3, 4, 23, 27, 28, 30 ----- 2, 5-22, 24-26, 29, 31-75
Y	US 2005/0182445 A1 (ZAMIEROWSKI) 18 August 2005 (18.08.2005) see especially para [0008], [0012], [0061], [0063], [0067], [0072], [0080], [0097]-[0099], [0102], [0103], [0106]	2, 5-9, 21, 31-75
Y	US 2010/0160876 A1 (ROBINSON et al) 24 June 2010 (24.06.2010) see especially para [0023], [0032], [0036], [0046], [0049], [0050], [0054], [0057] fig 4A,B	10-20, 22, 29, 51-63
Y	US 2009/0299303 A1 (SEEGERT) 3 December 2009 (03.12.2009) see especially para [0035], [0037]	24-26, 65-67
Y	US 2008/0177253 A1 (BOEHRINGER et al) 24 July 2008 (24.07.2008) see especially para [0062], fig 5A,B	6, 47
A,P	US 2011/0066096 A1 (SVEDMAN et al) 17 March 2011 (17.03.2011) see whole document	1-75
A,P	US 2011/0054283 A1 (SHULER) 3 March 2011 (03.03.2011) see whole document	1-75
A	US 2010/0106184 A1 (COWARD et al) 29 April 2010 (29.04.2010) see whole document	1-75
A	WO 2009/112848 A1 (GREENER) 17 September 2009 (17.09.2009) see whole document	1-75
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774	