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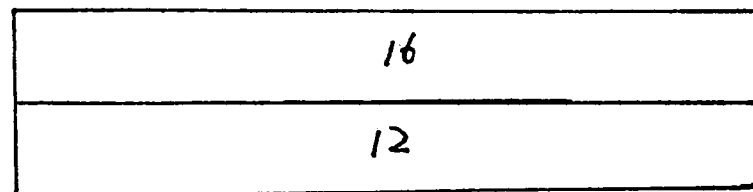
- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
2 September 2010

(54) Title: MULTI-PHASE FILTER MEDIUM

Fig. 1

$\frac{10}{5}$



(57) Abstract: Multi-phase filter media, as well as related articles, components, filter elements, and methods, are disclosed.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2009/005963

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. B01D39/16

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)
B01D

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 6 183 536 B1 (SCHULTINK BAS [BE] ET AL) 6 February 2001 (2001-02-06) abstract; figures 3,5,7c column 2, line 56 - column 3, line 3 column 5, line 4 - line 14 column 13, line 34 - line 50 column 14, line 21 - line 29	1,7-8, 21-23, 31-32, 35,37, 41,49
X	US 2008/069991 A1 (KOHLI ANIL [US] ET AL) 20 March 2008 (2008-03-20) abstract paragraph [0017] paragraph [0022]	1,6-8, 22,33, 35,36, 39,41-51

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 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 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.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2009/005963

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 2008/245037 A1 (ROGERS ROBERT [US] ET AL) 9 October 2008 (2008-10-09) abstract paragraphs [0203] - [0204] paragraphs [0209] - [0212] -----	1, 22, 27, 28, 33, 35, 41-51

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2009/005963

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.:

see additional sheet(s)

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: 1-51, 60, 62, 65

The claims refer to a two-phase article wherein each phase comprises two different types of fibers which is characterized by a difference in air permeability between the different fibers forming each phase, to a resulting filter element and to a corresponding manufacturing method.

1.1. claim: 67

The claim refers to a two-phase article wherein each phase comprises two different types of fibers which is characterized by a difference in air permeability between the different phases.

2. claims: 52-56, 61, 63, 66

The claims refer to a two-phase article wherein each phase comprises two different types of fibers which is characterized by a difference in pressure drop between the different fibers forming each phase and to a corresponding manufacturing method.

3. claims: 57-59, 64

The claims refer to a two-phase article wherein the first phase comprises softwood fibers and wherein the second phase comprises hardwood fibers.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2009/005963

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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