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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SEAL FOR TUBE

(57) Abstract: A seal for sealing against the interior of a tube includes upper and lower rigid plates with flexible plates between them, which are compressed to form a seal.

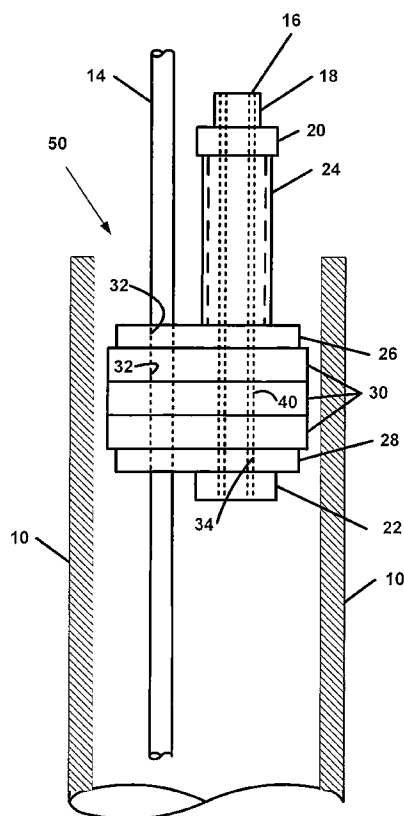


Fig. 6

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
INV. B01J8/00	F16J15/02	F16J1E/06 G01M3/02 F16J15/00
F16J15/32		
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) B01J F16J G01M		
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		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
X	DE 298 03 091 U1 (DOYMA GMBH & CO [DE]) 30 April 1998 (1998-04-30)	1-3, 5, 6
Y	page 7 ; figures 1-8 -----	4-6
X	DE 19 00 716 A1 (MASCHB HAFENHUETTE PETER LANCI) 13 August 1970 (1970-08-13)	1-4
Y	the whole document -----	5, 6
A	US 6 694 802 B1 (COMARDO MATHIS P [US]) 24 February 2004 (2004-02-24)	1-3, 5, 6
Y	the whole document -----	4
A	US 2002/129642 A1 (JOHNS CLIFFORD L [US] ET AL) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19)	1-3, 5, 6
Y	cited in the application the whole document -----	4
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex		
* Special categories of cited documents 'A*' documents 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' documents 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 17 June 2008		Date of mailing of the international search report 09/10/2008
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office P B 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel (+31-70) 340-2040 T 31 651 epo nl. Fax (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Bindreiff, Romain

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/052392

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 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

- ☐ If 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: 1-6

directed to a seal for a tube

2. claims: 7-10

directed to a method for testing a tube

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/US2003/052392

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DL 29803091	U1	30-04-1998	NONE
DE 1900716	A1	13-08-1970	NONE
US 6694802	B1	24-02-2004	NONE
US 2002129642	A1	19-09-2002	US 2004173008 A1 09-09-2004