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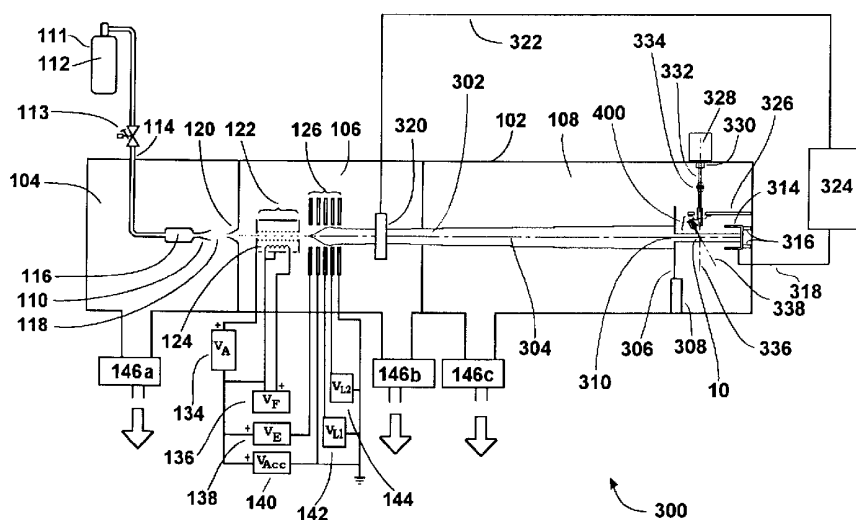
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDICAL STENTS BY GCIB



(57) Abstract: Effectiveness of medical stents can be improved by processing with a GCIB (302) processor (300) that comprises a coronary stent (10); lens voltage (V_{L1} , V_{L2}) power supplies (142, 144); axis (304, 336, 338); beam aperture plate (306) with defining aperture (310); collecting device (314); plate support (308); electrically insulating supports (316); current conducting lead (318); dose processor (324); beam gate (320); electrical control cable (322); manipulator (400); motor shaft (332); flexible shaft coupler (334); rotary motor (328); vacuum feedthrough (330); vacuum pumping systems (146a-c); gas source (112); metering valve (113); gas feed tube (114); stagnation chamber (116); nozzle (11); supersonic gas jet (118); cylinder (111); gas skimmer aperture (120); ionizer (122); incandescent filaments (124); chambers (104, 106, 108); vacuum vessel (102); voltage electrodes (126); anode voltage (V_A) power supply (134); filament voltage (V_F) power supply (136); extraction voltage (V_E) power supply (138); and accelerator voltage (V_{ACC}) power supply (140).



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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/21564

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C23C 14/28, 14/34, 16/00; C23F 1/02; B05D 3/00
 US CL : 204/192.11, 192.34, 298.04, 298.15, 298.23, 298.27, 298.28, 298.36; 118/723CB, 730, 500, 66; 156/345.1;
 427/2.24, 2.28, 595

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

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)


C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y, P	US 6,231,598 B1 (BERRY et al) 15 May 2001 (15.05.2001), column 1, lines 10-33; column 24, lines 47-49	1-12, 14-16, and 18-25
Y	US 5,980,974 A (ARMINI et al) 09 November 1999 (09.11.1999), Figure 4A, column 6, line 64 - column 7, line 24	1-12, 14-16, and 18-25
Y	US 5,814,194 A (DEGUCHI et al) 29 September 1998 (29.09.1998), Figure 1, column 1, lines 5-7, column 3, lines 37-39, abstract	1-12, 14-16, and 18-25

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"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		

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

204/192.11, 192.34, 298.04, 298.15, 298.23, 298.27, 298.28, 298.36; 118/723CB, 730, 500, 66; 156/345.1; 427/2.24, 2.28, 595