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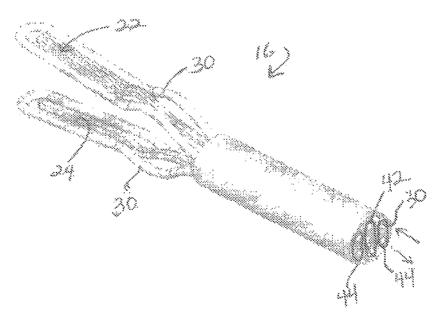
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(54) Title: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR USE THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A surgical instrument for treating a tissue includes a handpiece and a tissue engaging portion arranged to be received by the handpiece. The tissue engaging portion includes first and second opposed jaw members having an open position and a closed position for engaging the tissue therebetween, where the first and second jaw members are arranged to receive surgical energy from a surgical generator. The tissue engaging portion further includes at least one cooling member spaced from at least one of the first and second jaw members, where the cooling member has an open position and a closed position for engaging the tissue. Positioning the jaw members in their closed position and applying surgical energy to the tissue allows for treatment of the tissue, and positioning the cooling member in its closed position provides at least one of a pressure gradient or a thermal gradient between the jaw members and the cooling member.



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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - A61B 18/18 (2007.01) USPC - 606/41 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both nat B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by cl IPC(8) - A61B 18/18, A61B 19/00 (2007.01) USPC - 606/41, 128/898 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extension of the content of t	lassification symbols) ent that such documents are included in the field	
MicroPatent, IP.com, Google Patents		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category* Citation of document, with indication, where app	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X US 6,849,075 B2 (BERTOLERO et al) 01 February 200	\	4, 6-9, 12-13, 15-19, 22 10-11, 14, 20-21
Y US 6,971,395 B2 (EDWARDS et al) 06 December 2005	5 (06.12.2005) entire document 5,	10-11, 14, 20-21
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		
* 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 Date of the actual completion of the international search 22 August 2007	"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	
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