

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 April 2008 (17.04.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/045495 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
F16K 1/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/021698

(22) International Filing Date: 11 October 2007 (11.10.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/546,761 12 October 2006 (12.10.2006) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG,

ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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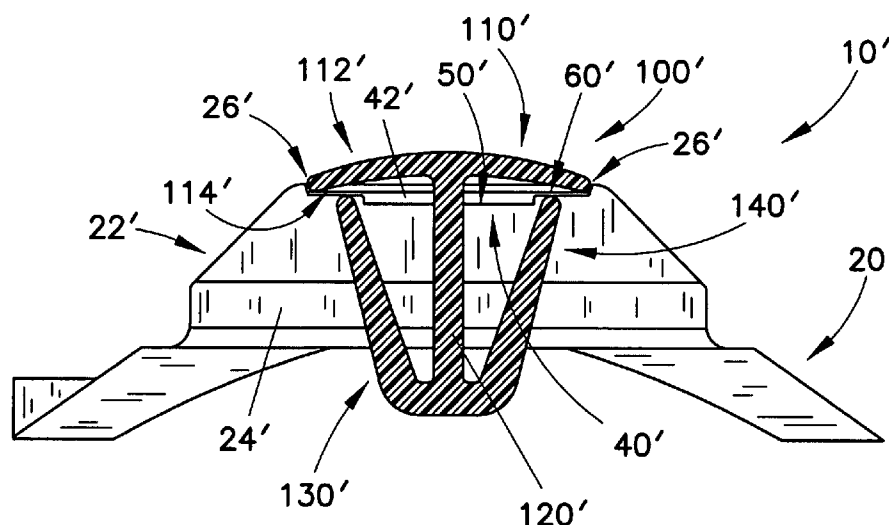
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

- with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
31 July 2008

(54) Title: INTEGRATED FLUID VALVE ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: An integrated fluid valve assembly comprising a valve having a flexible head, a stem, and at least one leg. In at least one embodiment of the present invention, a fluid valve assembly comprises a retainer and a valve. The valve may be made of a single integrated part that interacts with the retainer to control fluid flow through a fluid system, such as to maintain fluid flow through an automotive oil filter when the filter itself becomes clogged. The valve automatically permits fluid flow through an aperture when the fluid pressure rises to a predetermined set point. In another embodiment of the present invention, a cartridge fluid filter comprises a center tube, a filter media, and a valve that reversibly closes a bypass aperture. In another embodiment of the present invention, a fluid filter includes a center tube, a filter media, a valve that reversibly closes a bypass aperture, and a canister enclosing the center tube, filter media, and valve.

WO 2008/045495 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 07/21698

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - F16K 1/00 (2008.01)

USPC - 251/356

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)

IPC(8): F16K 1/00 (2008.01)

USPC: 251/356

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC: 251/282,366,368,369; 137/556.3,551,832; Classes 210,251,137 and text

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PubWEST(USPT,PGPB,EPAB,JPAB); Google

Search Terms Used: filter, bypass, relief, valve, stem, leg, retainer, concave

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 3,529,721 A (Papp) 22 September 1970 (22.09.1970) entire document especially Fig 1-6 and col 2, ln 68 - col 5, ln 47	1-30
Y	US 6,056,270 A (Zimmerly) 02 May 2000 (02.05.2000) Fig. 1, 6	1-30
Y	US 5,830,371 A (Smith et al.) 03 November 1998 (03.11.1998) abstract	19-22
A	US 4,990,247 A (Vandenberk) 05 February 1991 (05.02.1991) Fig. 1, 2	1-30
A	US 3,822,787 A (Shaltis et al.) 09 July 1974 (09.07.1974) Fig. 1	1-30
A	US 3,339,738 A (Wilhelm et al.) 05 September 1967 (05.09.1967) Fig. 1	1-30
A	US 4,028,243 A (Offer et al.) 07 June 1977 (07.06.1977) Fig. 1	1-30



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 January 2008 (28.01.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

21 APR 2008

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

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774