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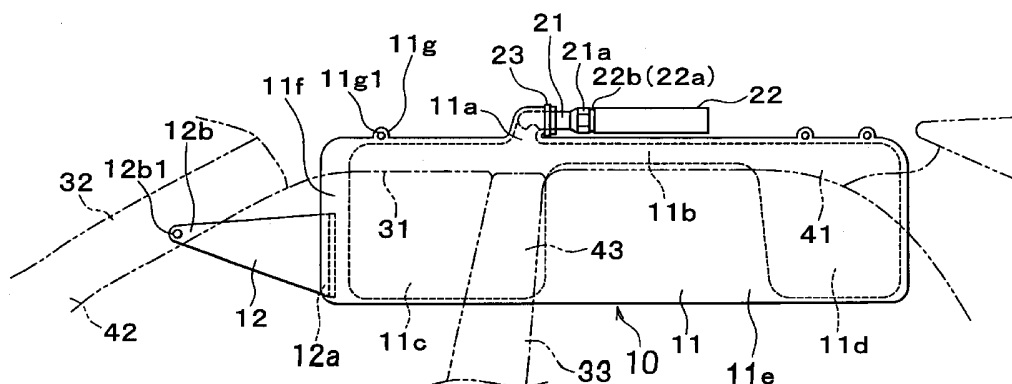
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27 May 2004

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.

(54) Title: AIR BAG SYSTEM HAVING DIFFUSER STRUCTURE



(57) Abstract: An air bag system is provided in which an air bag (10) stored in a folded state in a vehicle is adapted to be inflated by a gas supplied from an inflator (22) through a diffuser (21) so as to protect an occupant of the vehicle. In the air bag system, the diffuser (21) is disposed on one side of the inflator (22) such that the diffuser (21) and the inflator (22) are substantially aligned with each other, and the diffuser (21) includes a gas feed portion that is exposed to a gas inlet (11a) formed in a generally middle portion of the air bag (10) as viewed in a longitudinal direction thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 02/02854

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B60R21/20 B60R21/26 B60R21/16

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)
IPC 7 B60R

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)

EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 234 516 B1 (BOXEY KEVIN J) 22 May 2001 (2001-05-22)	1-8
Y	column 1, line 55 -column 3, line 15; figures	9
Y	US 6 164 688 A (KLAIBER UWE ET AL) 26 December 2000 (2000-12-26) column 1, line 66 -column 2, line 30; figures 1-4	9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"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

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB 02/02854

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:

1-9

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ 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: 1-9
2. Claims: 10,11
3. Claims: 12-16,18
4. Claims: 17,24
5. Claims: 19-22
6. Claim : 23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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			EP	0945313 A2	29-09-1999
			JP	11314555 A	16-11-1999
