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- (71) Applicants (*for all designated States except US*): **CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE** [FR/FR]; 3 rue Michel Ange, F-75794 Paris Cedex 16 (FR). **COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE** [FR/FR]; 31/33, rue de la Fédération, F-75752 Paris 15ème (FR). **Published:**
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- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **BERGEL, Alain** [FR/FR]; 42 rue Pigni, F-31500 Toulouse (FR). **FERON, Damien** [FR/FR]; 45 avenue Jean Moulin, F-92260 Fontenay Aux Roses (FR). *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: FUEL CELL USING BIOFILMS AS CATALYST FOR THE CATHODE REACTION AND/OR THE ANODE REACTION

(57) Abstract: A process for the treatment of at least one of the electrodes (cathode and/or anode) of a fuel cell, before the said cell is operated, and before or after the said electrode is placed in the said cell, comprises the step consisting in forming a biofilm on at least part of the surface of the said electrode, by immersing the said electrode in a medium capable of causing the growth of biofilms. The said biofilm being intended to catalyse the reaction at the electrode, and the step consisting simultaneously in subjecting the said electrode to a polarization potential.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01M8/16 H01M4/88 H01M4/90

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 H01M

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, PAJ, COMPENDEX, INSPEC, WPI Data, CHEM ABS Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 827 229 A (KOREA INST SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY) 4 March 1998 (1998-03-04) page 3, line 40 - line 42 page 4, line 24 - line 28 page 4, line 43 - line 56 example 1	1-18
A	WO 01/04061 A (KOREA INST SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ;KIM BYUNGHONG (KR); PARK HYUNGSOO () 18 January 2001 (2001-01-18) page 4, line 20 - line 26 page 6, line 11 - line 21 claim 4	1-18
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Métais, S

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 278 335 A (HITZMAN DONALD O) 11 October 1966 (1966-10-11) column 1, line 28 - line 35 column 1, line 49 - line 63 claim 1 -----	1-18
A	US 6 294 281 B1 (HELLER ADAM) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) column 13, line 5 - line 20 claim 1 -----	1-18

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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