Title: LOW PROFILE HEAT AND MOISTURE EXCHANGE DEVICE FOR TRACHEOTOMY AND SPEAKING VALVE

Abstract: A heat moisture exchange device received on a speaking valve mounted on an end of a tracheotomy tube. The heat moisture exchange device has a housing in which the air moves in a turbulent manner and passes through a heat moisture exchange filter to humidify/warm and purify the air that a tracheotomy patient breathes. The heat moisture exchange device can function in combination with a speaking valve, that permits the patient to select a mode of use for ease of breathing and for speech with "biased open" or "biased closed" valve dynamic functionality (functioning as), hence allowing the valve to be combined with an HME for the sake of speech and humidification, warming, and filtration of air.

Fig. 2
Date of publication of the international search report:
9 August 2012
A. **CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(8) - A62B 18/08 (2012.01)
USPC - 128/201 .13

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) - A61M 16/00, 16/04; A62B 18/08, 19/00 (2012.01)
USPC - 128/201 .13, 202.26, 203.16, 206.17, 207.14

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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

PatBase, Google Scholar

C. **DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,022,394 A (CHMIELINSKI) 11 June 1991 (11.06.1991) entire document</td>
<td>1-29</td>
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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
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
26 March 2012

Date of mailing of the international search report
05 APR 2012

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