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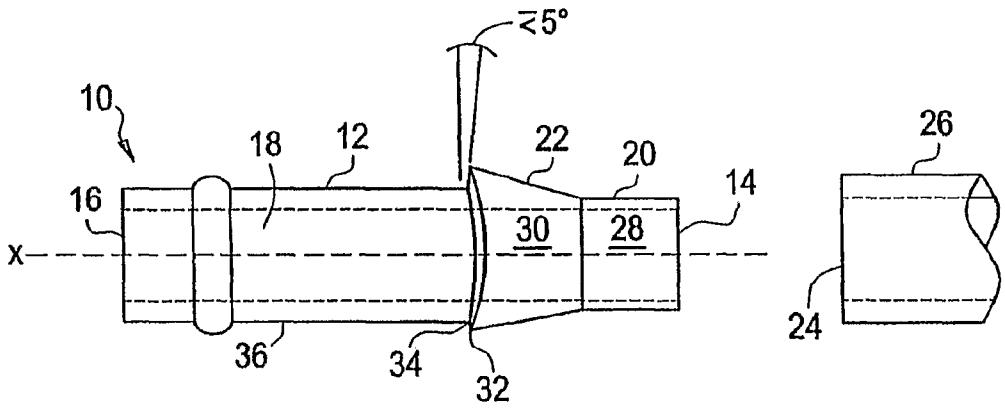
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13 November 2008

(54) Title: HOSE COUPLING ENDFORM FOR FLUID TRANSFER ASSEMBLIES



(57) Abstract: An endform connector having an axial bore through which a fluid Is conveyed, comprising: a rigid tubular member (12) having a first end (14), a second end (16), an annular channel (18) having an inner diameter extending from the first end (14) to the second end (16) and through which a fluid is transported, a stem portion (20) extending a fixed distance from the first end (14), and at least one sealing member (22) extending outwardly from the stem portion (20) and forming a surface (30) having a tapered profile terminating In an outwardly extending rim (32), which exhibits an ellipsoidal perimeter adapted to be inserted into an inner channel (24) of a fluid transport hose (26), wherein the endform connector (10) is sealed to a fluid transport hose (26).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/013385

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(8) - F16L 33/22 (2008.04)
USPC - 285/239
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) - F16L 21/00, 33/16, 33/30, 33/22, 37/00, 37/02, 37/04, 37/08 (2008.04)
USPC - 285/2, 33, 239, 345, 382.7

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 practicable, search terms used)
PatBase

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/0006643 A1 (SCHULTZ) 12 January 2006 (12.01.2006) entire document	1
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Y		2-3, 9-10
Y	US 5,687,997 A (BEACOM) 18 November 1997 (18.11.1997) entire document	2-3, 10
Y	US 4,653,779 A (FOSTER) 31 March 1987 (31.03.1987) entire document	9-10
A	US 2003/0230894 A1 (CLEVELAND et al) 18 December 2003 (18.12.2003) entire document	1-3, 9-10
A	US 2006/0082149 A1 (GUNDERSON) 20 April 2006 (20.04.2006) entire document	1-3, 9-10

☐ 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
"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"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	Date of mailing of the international search report
12 September 2008	17 SEP 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	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/013385

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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.: 4-8
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

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.:

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.