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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **BOSTON SCIENTIFIC SCIMED, INC.** [US/US]; One Scimed Place, Maple Grove, Minnesota 55311-1566 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **TURNER, Karen** [US/US]; 7959 Highland Drive, Lino Lakes, Minnesota 55014 (US). **PEDERSON, Gary** [US/US]; 10450 64th Way N.E., Albertville, Minnesota 55301 (US).

(74) Agents: **GAGEL, John J.** et al.; FISH & RICHARDSON P.C., P.o. Box 1022, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440-1022 (US).

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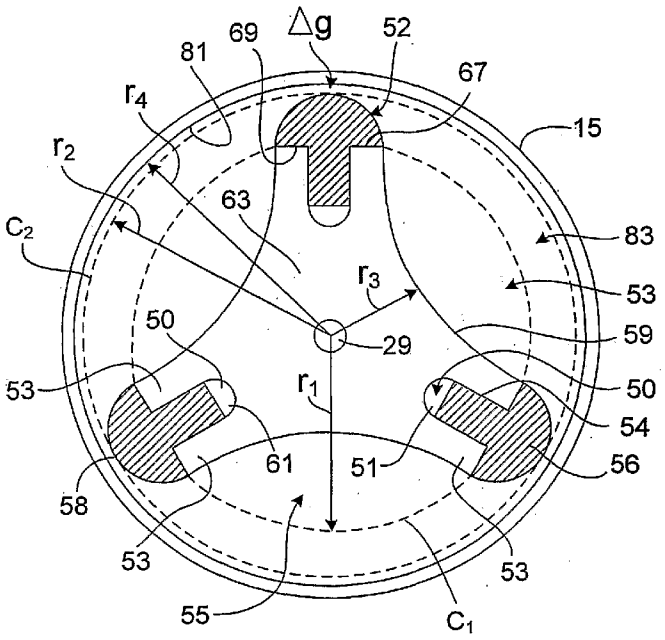
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Published:
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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
8 March 2007

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: CATHETER



(57) Abstract: Catheters, as well as related systems and methods are disclosed.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2006/012369

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61F2/06

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)
A61F A61M

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2003/023298 A1 (JERVIS JAMES E) 30 January 2003 (2003-01-30) paragraph [0032] figure 6 -----	1,2,6, 10, 25-28, 31,35 3-5,7-9, 11,12, 19,23,30
A	US 6 579 221 B1 (PETERSON ERIC D) 17 June 2003 (2003-06-17) column 3, line 37 - line 40 column 3, line 57 - line 60 column 4, line 14 - line 21 figures 1-3 ----- -/--	1,35

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

[X] See patent family annex.

* 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 document 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
7 September 2006	16. 01. 2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
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	Amaro, Henrique

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2006/012369

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 28 20 239 A1 (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO.,LTD; OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO., LTD., TOKYO, JP) 16 November 1978 (1978-11-16) page 7, paragraph THIRD figure 4 -----	1,35

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2006/012369

Box 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.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box 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:

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.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-31,35

An endoprsothesis delivery system comprising an inner member having an outer surface, the outer surface having a socket; an insert operatively associated with the socket

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2. claims: 32-34

An endoprsothesis delivery system comprising an inner member having an outer surface, the outer surface having a socket; a lubricious coating supported by an outer surface of the inner member

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003023298 A1	30-01-2003	NONE	
US 6579221 B1	17-06-2003	NONE	
DE 2820239 A1	16-11-1978	JP 53139390 A	05-12-1978