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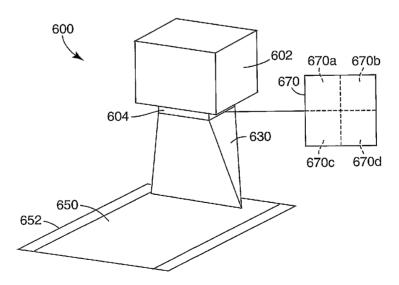
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IRRADIATION APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An irradiation apparatus (100) comprises a plurality of solid state radiation sources (104) to generate radiation that modifies a first material such as by- curing or creating alignment through polarization. The solid state radiation sources (104) can be disposed in an array pattern. Optical concentrators (120), arranged in a corresponding array pattern, receive radiation from corresponding solid state radiation sources (104). The concentrated radiation is received by a plurality of optical waveguides (130), also arranged in a corresponding array pattern. Each optical waveguide includes a first end (132) to receive the radiation and a second end (133) to output the radiation. The radiation modifying apparatus (100) can be utilized for continuous substrate, sheet, piece part, spot curing, and/or 3D radiation-cure processes.



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SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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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.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. F21L2/00 F21V8/00 F21V13/00 F21V17/00 G02B6/00 F21K7/00 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) GO3F G02B 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, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Cilation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ US 5 580 471 A (FUKUMOTO ET AL) 1-7 3 December 1996 (1996-12-03) A column 1, line 7 - line 21; figures 1,2 11,20, 28,33,40 χ US 2002/171047 A1 (CHAN KIN FOENG ET AL) 1-7, 21 November 2002 (2002-11-21) 28-32 paragraphs [0002], [0034], [0109], Α 11,20, [0110]; figures 30,33 33,40 X WO 95/20811 A (SDL, INC) 1 - 193 August 1995 (1995-08-03) Α page 6, line 7 - page 7, line 16; figures 20,28, 1,2 33,40 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international "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 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) "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 docu-*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 5 October 2006 26/10/2006 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 Zuccatti, Stefano

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International Application No
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C (Consti	CHOCK DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	PC1/US2004/039962		
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Х	US 5 886 313 A (KRAUSE ET AL) 23 March 1999 (1999-03-23) column 11, line 14 - line 39; figure 16 column 10, line 1 - line 46; figure 8	1-3		
X	US 2003/068113 A1 (JANZ SIEGFRIED ET AL) 10 April 2003 (2003-04-10) abstract; figures 1,2	1,2,4,5		
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А	paragraphs [0002], [0086], [0095], [0168]; figures 4,5,9a,11,29 paragraph [0086]	20-27, 38,40-43		
Χ	US 6 224 216 B1 (PARKER FRED ET AL) 1 May 2001 (2001-05-01)	1,2,4, 8-19		
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A	EP 0 468 319 A (SONY CORPORATION) 29 January 1992 (1992-01-29) abstract	1,11,33		
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Α	US 2003/185508 A1 (FUKUYAMA MASASHI ET AL) 2 October 2003 (2003-10-02) the whole document	1,20,40		
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International application No. PCT/US2004/039962

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:
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. X 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.:
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: 1-10,13-17,25,28-29,31,35

Irradiation apparatus with a bundle of waveguides and an optical element placed in the path of the radiation emitted by the waveguides which alters the path of the radiation

2. claims: 11-19, 8-10, 26-27, 30, 32, 33-39, 41

Irradiation apparatus with a bundle of waveguides and a with a polariser placed in the path of the radiation emitted by the waveguides

3. claims: 20-27,40-43

Irradiation apparatus with a bundle of waveguides with a refractive optical element formed by the ends of the waveguides which alters the path of the emitted radiation

Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/US2004/039962

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