Title: FUEL SUPPLY WITH IMPROVED CONNECTING VALVE

Abstract: Disclosed herein are connecting valves (12, 14) with an interchangeability feature (18, 20) to ensure that the fuel cell fuel matches the fuel cell. Also disclosed are retainer mechanisms (28, 30, 32, 36) capable of releaseably connecting the fuel supply to the fuel cell or to the electronic device equipped with a fuel cell. An improvement to the connecting valves to decrease the amount of residual fuel left in the fuel supply is also provided.
Declarations under Rule 4.17:
— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(H))
— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(Uii))
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:
— with international search report
— 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: 21 June 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.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US06/27317

A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - H01M 02/02 (2007.01)
USPC - 429/34

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) - H01M 02/00, 02/02, 08/02 (2007.01)
USPC - 429/34, 137/614, 614 01-06, 614 11-19, 614 2, 614 21

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 database and, where practicable, search terms used)

USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT)

C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No</th>
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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
  "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
22 February 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report
24 APR 2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (Apri 2005)
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<th>Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)</th>
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| 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). |

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<td>As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.☐</td>
<td>As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.</td>
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<td>3.☐</td>
<td>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.:</td>
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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.