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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
- (72) Inventor: LE, Dinh Ba; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
- (74) Agents: HARTS, Dean, M. et al.; 3M Center, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
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#### **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))

#### 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: 27 December 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: SILICON-CONTAINING ALLOYS USEFUL AS ELECTRODES FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

(57) Abstract: An electrode composition for a lithium ion battery having the formula  $Si_xSn_qM_yC_z$  where q, x, y, and z represent atomic percent values and (a) (q + x) > 2y + z; (b)  $q \ge 0$ , (c)  $z \ge 0$ ; and (d) M is one or more metals selected from manganese, molybdenum, niobium, tungsten, tantalum, iron, copper, titanium, vanadium, chromium, nickel, cobalt, zirconium, yttrium, or a combination thereof. The Si, Sn, M, and C elements are arranged in the form of a multi-phase microstructure comprising: (a) an amorphous phase comprising silicon; (b) a nanocrystalline phase comprising a metal suicide; and (c) a phase comprising silicon carbide phase when z > 0; and (d) an amorphous phase comprising Sn when q > 0.



International application No. **PCT/US2006/062305** 

### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

#### H01M 4/58(2006.01)i, H01M 4/50(2006.01)i

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 4/58

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Korean Utility Models and Applications for Utility Models: IPC as above Japanese Utility Models and Applications for Utility Models: IPC as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) e-KIPASS (KIPO internal) "silicon", "alloy", "electrode", "Sn", "lithium ion battery"

#### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6528208 B1 (The University of Chicago) 4 Mar 2003 See claims 1-15 and abstract.	1-28
A	US 05587256 A (Moli Energy Ltd) 24 Dec 1996 See claims 1-4 and abstract.	1-28
A	KR 1020040111470 A (Valence Technology, Inc., et al) 31 Dec 2004 See claims 1-12 and abstract.	1-28

	Further documents are	listed in the continuation of Box C.
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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 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 citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
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- "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

30 OCTOBER 2007 (30.10.2007)

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Korean Intellectual Property Office 920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer

PARK, Hyung Dal

Telephone No. 82-42-481-5581



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

Information on patent family members			PCT/US2006/062305	
Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
US6528208B1	04.03.2003	NONE		
US05587256A	24. 12. 1996	CA2127621AA CA2127621C DE69523995T2 EP0692833B1 EP0692833A1 JP8040716A2 US5587256A	09.01.1996 07.12.1999 27.06.2002 21.11.2001 17.01.1996 13.02.1996 24.12.1996	
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