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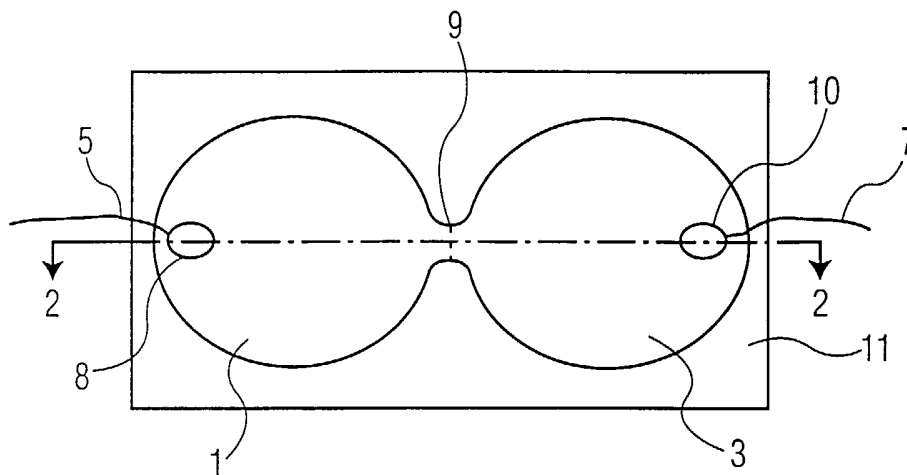
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— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for the following designation CN*
- Published:**
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:
4 December 2003
- 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: SINGLE SEPARABLE ELECTRODE AND SELF-CONTAINED PAD VIABILITY TESTER



(57) Abstract: A single separable electrode that includes a plurality of separable electrically connected electrode sections. The system enables verification of functionality of subsections of the electrode sealed within a package without unsealing the package. The invention also relates to a method for determining functionality of components sealed within a package without unsealing the package.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 02/04569

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61N1/04 A61B5/0408		
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 7 A61N A61B		
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		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category ^o	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 5 817 151 A (STOLTE JOHN F ET AL) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) column 3, line 66 - column 5, line 53; figures	1,15,17 2,4,5, 7-13,37
A	----- WO 98 02088 A (LOUTIS NIKOLAUS ;WRIGHT DEREK (DE); WEIDENHAUPT PAUL (DE); MINNESO) 22 January 1998 (1998-01-22) page 4, line 27 - page 8, line 21; figures	1-5,9,10
A	----- US 5 327 888 A (IMRAN MIR A) 12 July 1994 (1994-07-12) column 2, line 6 - column 5, line 21; figures	1-5,9,10
A	----- US 4 233 987 A (FEINGOLD ALFRED) 18 November 1980 (1980-11-18) column 1, line 56 - column 2, line 54; figures	1-5,9,10
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
^o Special categories of cited documents :		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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	
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"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	
"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"G" document member of the same patent family	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 7 July 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report - 8. 10. 2003	
Name and mailing address of the ISA 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	Authorized officer Rakotondrajaona, C.	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB 02/04569

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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.:
1-15, 17, 18, 37

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: 1-15, 17, 18, 37

A single separable electrode, comprising :
a plurality of separable electrically connected electrode sections.

2. claims: 16, 27-36, 38, 39

A sealed package for housing an electrical component, the package comprising :
at least one package portion,

self-contained circuitry within the sealed package for determining at least one parameter comprising at least one electrical parameter of the component, and an indicator operatively connected to the determining means to indicate the functionality of the component within the sealed package.

3. claims: 19-26

A skin contacting electrode, comprising :

a single separable electrode comprising a plurality of separable electrically connected electrode sections, all electrode sections being adhered to one side of a common release liner.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PC B 02/04569

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