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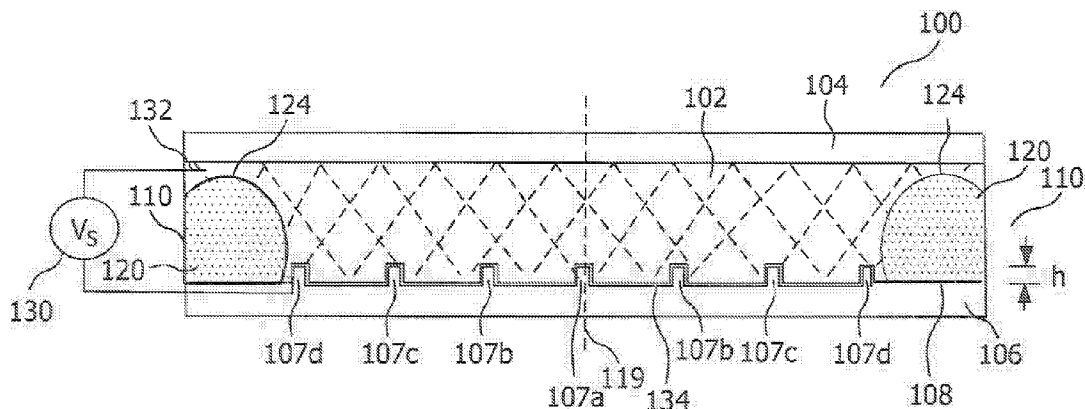
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(54) Title: SWITCHABLE OPTICAL ELEMENT



(57) Abstract: A switchable optical element has an optical axis. The element includes a chamber, a wave front modifier having a face defining an interior surface of the chamber (the face extending transverse the optical axis), a first fluid and a second fluid. The fluids are immiscible and in contact over an interface. The optical element is switchable between a first discrete state in which the first fluid substantially covers the face of the wave front modifier, and a second discrete state in which the second fluid substantially covers the face of the wave front modifier, wherein the chamber encloses both fluids in both discrete states, and the interface extends transverse the optical axis in the first discrete state.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2006/051811

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. G02B6/26

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)

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

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2004/027489 A (KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV [NL]; FEENSTRA BOKKE J [NL]; HAYES ROBE) 1 April 2004 (2004-04-01)	1-5, 17-19
A	the whole document	6-16
X	US 2003/012483 A1 (TICKNOR ANTHONY J [US] ET AL) 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) paragraphs [0131], [0132]	1
X	WO 2004/104671 A (KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV [NL]; FEENSTRA BOKKE [NL]; HAYES ROBERT) 2 December 2004 (2004-12-02)	1-5, 17-19
A	page 1, line 10 - line 25; claim 1; figure 1	6-16

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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