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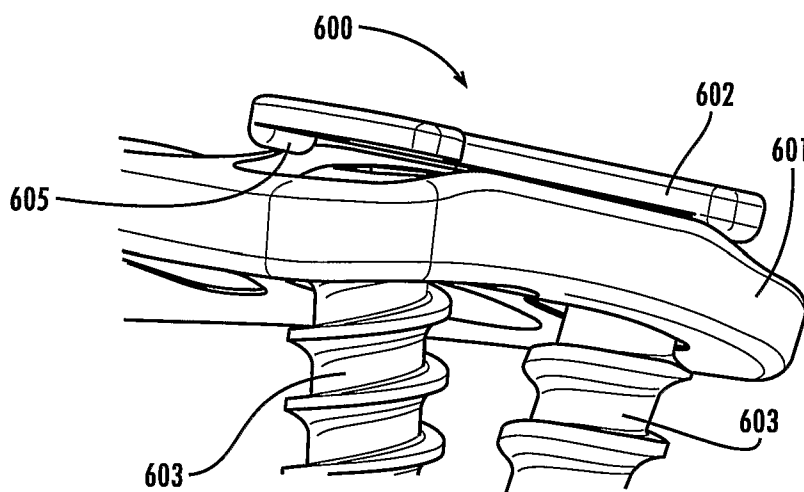
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(54) Title: SURGICAL STABILIZATION SYSTEM



strengthened fusion.

(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a device and method to establish and maintain bone stabilization and enhance post-operative healing in a surgical site, such as the cervical spine of a patient, with reduced risk of erosion or other injury to adjacent anatomic structures from extrusion of surgical fasteners, such as bone screws. The surgical stabilization system according to the present invention provides for the secure plating of structures such as adjacent vertebral bodies with allowance for selective postoperative motion of the surgical fasteners used to secure the plate. Such motion imparts benefit from increased translational response and remodeling in the course of bone healing, thus resulting in

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - (2006.01) A61B 17/56

USPC - 606/71

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) A61B 17/56 (2006.01)

USPC - 606/ 61, 69, 71

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 practicable, search terms used)

USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT), MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro, Delphion, Google Scholar

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,957,497 A (HOOGLAND et al) 18 September 1990 (18.09.1990) entire document	1, 6-12, 16
A	US 2004/0239127 A1 (LODWICK JR.) 02 December 2004 (02.12.2004) entire document	1-20
A	US 4,957,496 A (SCHMIDT) 18 September 1990 (18.09.1990) entire document	1-20
A	US 6,736,820 B2 (BIEDERMANN et al) 18 May 2004 (18.05.2004) entire document	1-20
A	US 6,312,431 B1 (ASFORA) 06 November 2001 (06.11.2001) entire document	1-20

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

02 November 2006

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