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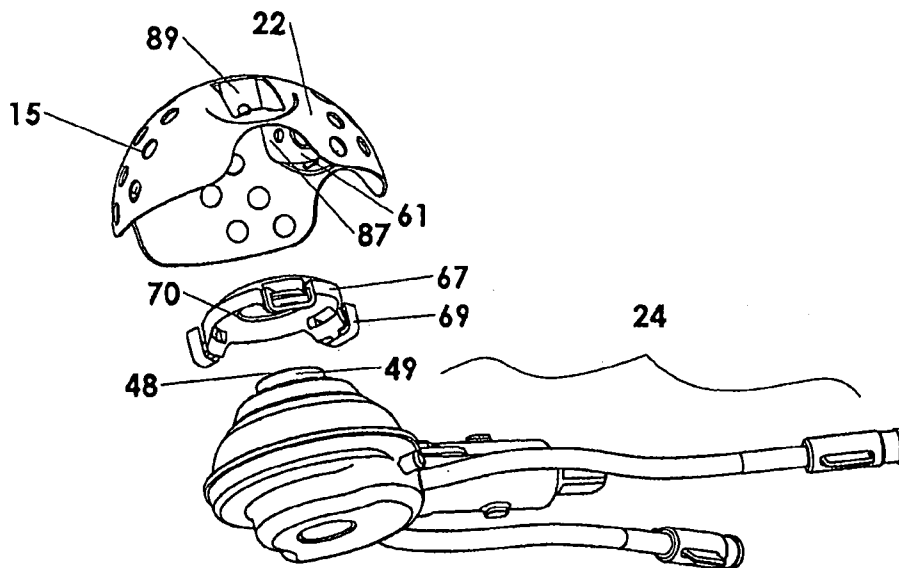
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE TOTAL JOINT REPLACEMENT



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for minimally invasive total joint replacement is disclosed. The method involves sculpting the articular surface of a second bone that normally articulates with a first bone by attaching or supporting a bone sculpting tool directly or indirectly to the first bone with the tool in sculpting engagement with the articular surface of the second bone, and then sculpting the articular surface of the second bone with the joint reduced. The reamer system includes a reamer drive, a grater, a handle and a femoral broach.

WO 2008/039926 A3



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))*
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - A61B 17/56 (2008.01) USPC - 606/80 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) MicroPatent, DialogPro, Google Scholar, Google Patents		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/0236523 A1 (JOHNSON et al) 25 December 2003 (25.12.2003) entire document	1, 4-13, 15-17, 20-22
-		
Y		2-3, 14, 18-19, 23-29
Y	US 4,306,550 A (FORTE) 22 December 1981 (22.12.1981) entire document	14, 18-19, 23-29
Y	US 2004/0172036 A1 (DYE) 02 September 2004 (02.09.2004) entire document	2-3
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