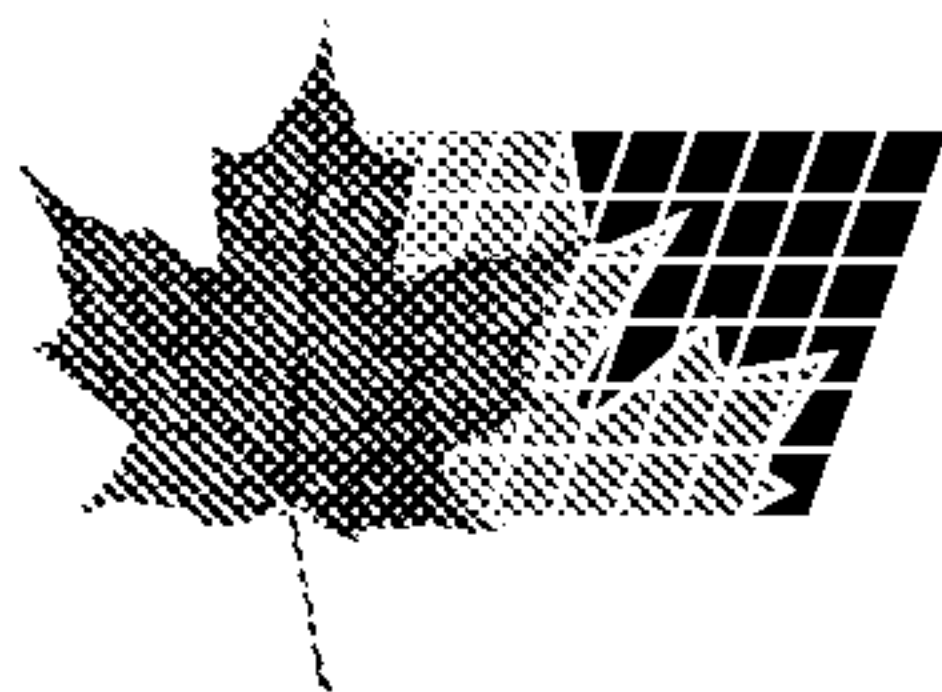




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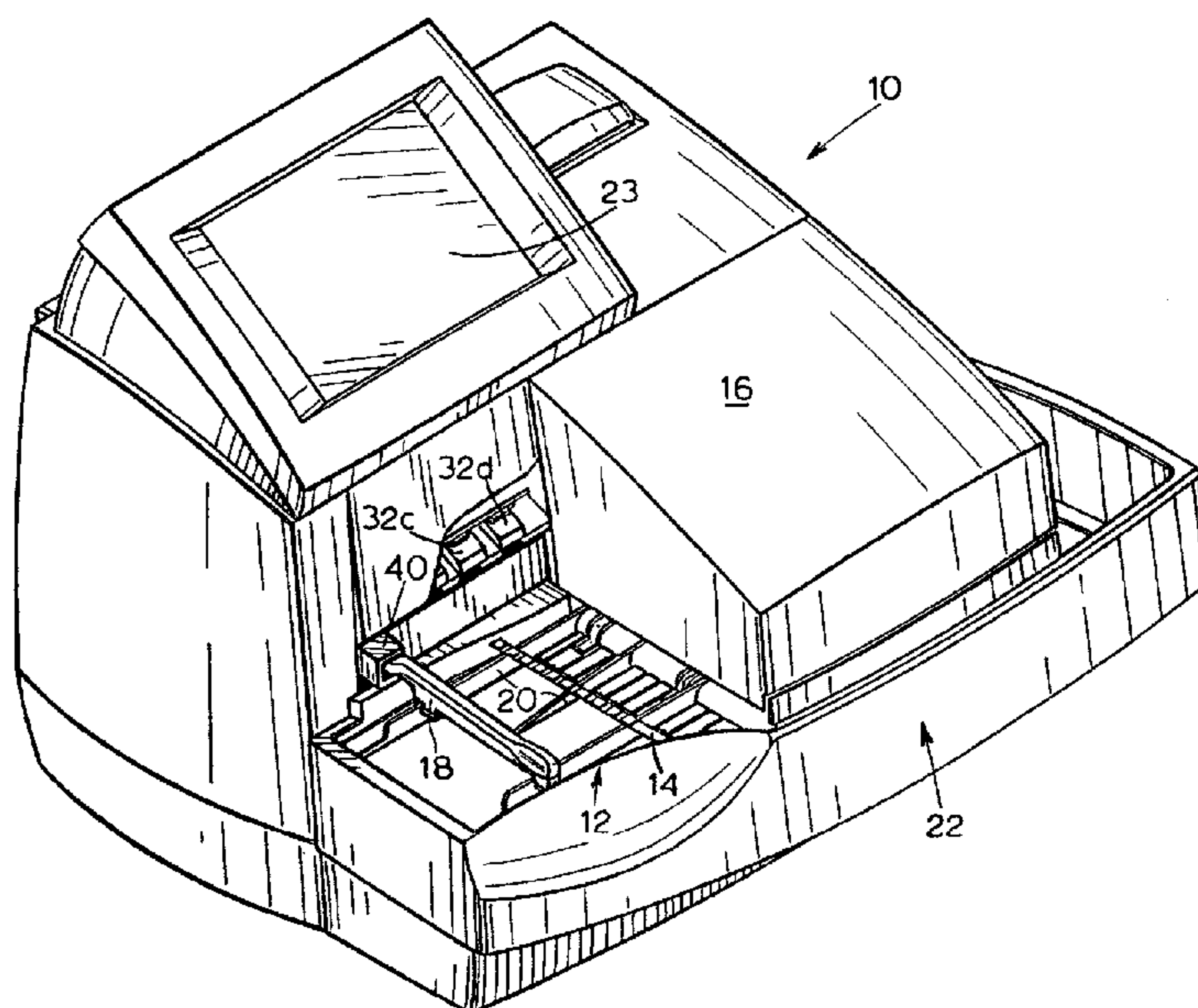
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(30) 1998/10/30 (09/182,313) US

(54) **APPAREIL SPECTROPHOTOMETRIQUE POUR REDUIRE
L'ENTRAINEMENT DE FLUIDES**

(54) **SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC APPARATUS FOR REDUCING
FLUID CARRYOVER**



(57) An apparatus adapted to inspect reagent strips having fluid samples, such as urine samples, disposed thereon and to reduce the likelihood of contamination of one of the fluid samples with another of the fluid samples is provided with a reagent strip support (22) adapted to support a reagent strip (14) having a plurality of reagent pads (26) disposed in a longitudinal direction along the reagent strip (26), including reagent pad which has a reagent sensitive to contamination. The apparatus also includes a reagent strip mover (18 and/or 80) adapted to cause the reagent strip (14) to be moved in a direction generally transverse to the longitudinal direction from an initial reagent strip location to an inspection location (120 or 122), a light emitter (64 or 68) adapted to illuminate the reagent strip (14) when the reagent strip (14) is supported by the reagent strip support (18 and/or 80) at the inspection location (120 or 122), and a detector (66 or 70) adapted to receive light from the reagent strip (14) when the reagent strip (14) is being illuminated by the light emitter (64 or 68).

SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC APPARATUS FOR REDUCING FLUID CARRYOVERAbstract of the Disclosure

An apparatus adapted to inspect reagent strips having fluid samples, such as urine samples, disposed thereon and to reduce the likelihood of contamination of one of the fluid samples with another of the fluid samples is provided with a reagent strip support (22) adapted to support a reagent strip (14) having a plurality of reagent pads (26) disposed in a longitudinal direction along the reagent strip (26), including reagent pad which has a reagent sensitive to contamination. The apparatus also includes a reagent strip mover (18 and/or 80) adapted to cause the reagent strip (14) to be moved in a direction generally transverse to the longitudinal direction from an initial reagent strip location to an inspection location (120 or 122), a light emitter (64 or 68) adapted to illuminate the reagent strip (14) when the reagent strip (14) is supported by the reagent strip support (18 and/or 80) at the inspection location (120 or 122), and a detector (66 or 70) adapted to receive light from the reagent strip (14) when the reagent strip (14) is being illuminated by the light emitter (64 or 68).

