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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **MICROLIN, LLC** [US/US]; 2425 S. 900 W., Salt Lake City, UT 84119 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **JOSHI, Ashok** [US/US]; 4552 Thousand Oaks Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84124 (US). **GORDON, John** [US/US]; 958 North Terrace Hills Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84103 (US).

(74) Agent: **FONDA, David**; 2425 S. 900 W., Salt Lake City, UT 84119 (US).

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(54) Title: LIQUID ATOMIZATION DEVICE AND METHOD

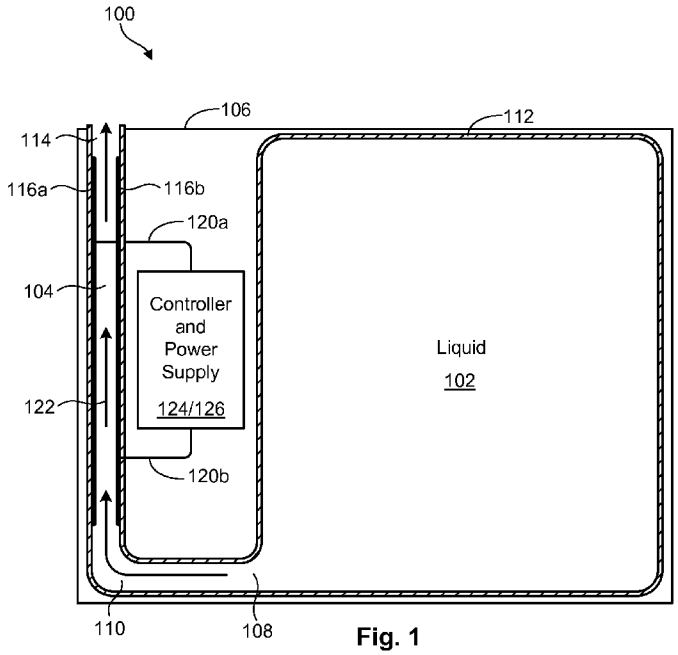

Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A device and method for atomizing a liquid for delivery to a target zone are presented. The liquid atomization device (100) may include a liquid reservoir (102) to contain a liquid, and a liquid pathway to receive at least a portion of the liquid from the liquid reservoir (102). The liquid pathway may include one end (110) communicating with the liquid reservoir (102), and another end communicating with a target zone. Two electrodes (116a, 116b) may be placed in the liquid pathway (104) to accommodate the liquid there between. An AC power source (126) may be connected to each of the electrodes (116a, 116b) to generate an alternating current through the liquid, thereby atomizing at least a portion of the liquid for delivery to the target zone.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A61M 9/00(2006.01)i, A61L 9/12(2006.01)i

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 : A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean Utility Models and applications for Utility Models

Japanese Utility Models and applications for Utility Models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) "atomizing device", "liquid reservoir", "liquid pathway", "target zone", "electrode", "AC power", and similar terms

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2003-0140919 A1 (HEINONEN, E.) See abstract, claims(1-21), and figures (1-6)	31 Jul. 2003	1-20
A	US 07337993 B2 (PIRRIE, A. B.) See abstract, claims (1-62), and figures (1-8)	04 Mar. 2008	1-20
A	US 2003-0146300 A1 (DENYER, J. S. H., et al.) See abstract, claims (1-21), and figures (1-9)	07 Aug. 2003	1-20
A	US 2003-0230303 A1 (NICHOLS, W. A., et al.) See abstract, claims (1-37), and figures (1-6)	18 Dec. 2003	1-20

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

☒ See patent family annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Authorized officer

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Telephone No. 82-42-481-8401

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Information on patent family members

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