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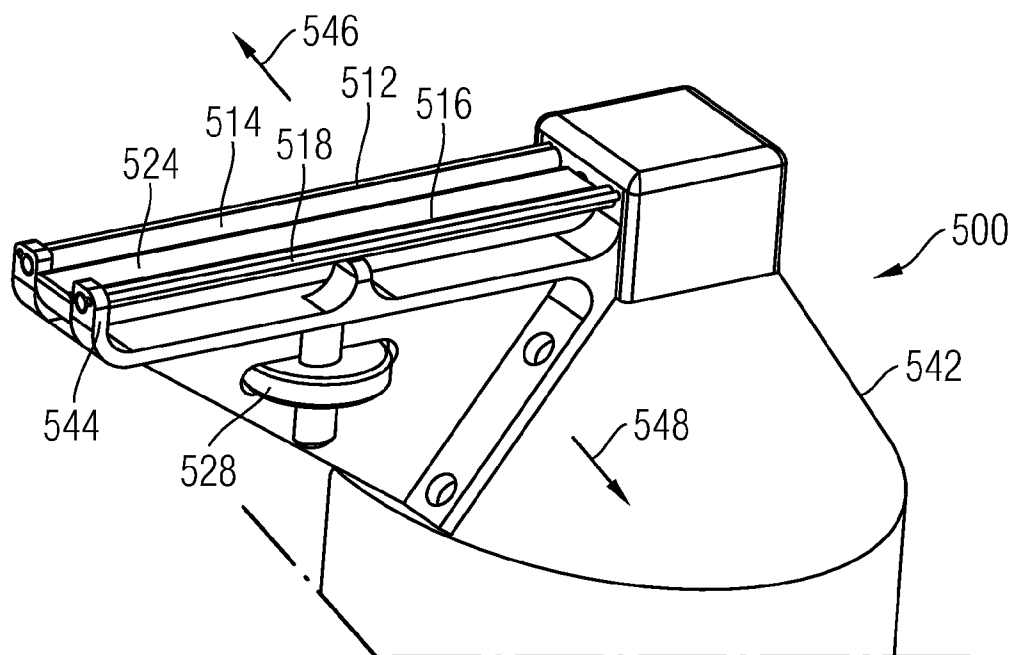
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ELECTRICAL HAIR-CUTTING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: The invention is related to an electrical hair-cutting device (500) comprising: an external hair-cutting element (502) with hair entry openings and an internal hair-cutting element that is movable relative to the external hair-cutting element (502) a preferred direction of movement (546) over skin; - a hair guiding or hair manipulating member that is arranged in front of the external hair-cutting element (502), seen in the preferred direction of movement (546) over the skin; and an adjustable skin support member (524) that is arranged behind the external hair-cutting element (502), seen in the preferred direction of movement (546) over the skin.

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

Published:

- *with international search report*
- (88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2007/054030

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B26B19/04 B26B19/42 B26B19/10 B26B19/38

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)

B26B

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	US 5 943 777 A (HOSOKAWA SHIN [JP] ET AL) 31 August 1999 (1999-08-31) column 5, line 4 - column 7, line 17; figures 1-6	1,2,10, 11
X	EP 1 366 870 A (IZUMI PROD CO [JP]) 3 December 2003 (2003-12-03) column 3, line 5 - column 9, line 38; figures 1-12	1,3,10, 11



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 March 2008

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17/09/2008

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2007/054030

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-3, 10,11

An electrical hair-cutting device (500) comprising:
 - an external hair-cutting element (2; 52; 102; 152; 202; 252; 302; 352; 402;
 452; 502) with hair entry openings (6; 56; 406) and an internal hair-cutting element (7; 57; 407; 457) that is movable relative to the external hair-cutting element (2; 52; 102; 152; 202; 252; 302; 352; 402; 452; 502);
 - a preferred direction of movement (546) over skin;
 - a hair guiding or hair manipulating member (68; 368; 568) that is arranged in front of the external hair-cutting element (2; 52; 102; 152; 202; 252; 302; 352; 402; 452; 502), seen in the preferred direction of movement (546) over the skin; and
 - an adjustable skin support member (520; 522; 524; 526) that is arranged behind the external hair-cutting element (2; 52; 102; 152; 202; 252; 302; 352; 402; 452; 502), seen in the preferred direction of movement (546) over the skin.

1.1. claim: 2

2. An electrical hair-cutting device (500) according to claim 1, wherein the adjustable skin support member (522) is spring-loaded and as such freely movable perpendicular to the preferred direction of movement (546).

1.2. claim: 3

3. An electrical hair-cutting device (500) according to claim 1, wherein the adjustable skin support member (524) is adjustable to at least one fixed position and as such movable perpendicular to the preferred direction of movement (546).

1.3. claim: 10

A further embodiment of the skin support member.

1.4. claim: 11

A further embodiment having a driven inner cutter.

2. claims: 4, 5-9, 12-17

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

4. An electrical hair-cutting device (500) according to claim 1, wherein the adjustable skin support member (526) is removable at least in part.

5. An electrical hair-cutting device (500) according to claim 1, wherein the adjustable skin support member (xxx) has at least two skin support surfaces (xxx) which have mutually different shapes, and wherein each skin support surface (xxx) is positionable in an operational position relative to the external hair-cutting element by moving the adjustable skin support member (xxx) relative to the external hair-cutting element.

Dependent claims 6-9 and 12-17 are directed to further embodiments.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2007/054030

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