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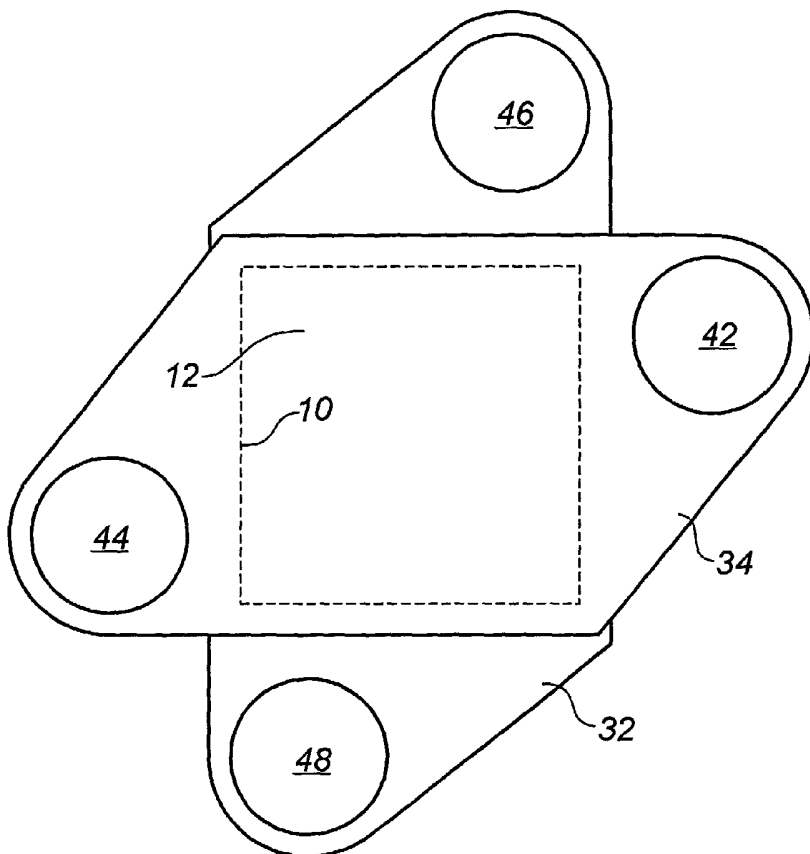
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLAT PLATE FUEL CELL STACK



(57) Abstract: A fuel cell unit includes a cassette holder for a ceramic fuel cell element sandwiched between interconnects of a novel design. The cassette holder isolates the cell from the surrounding interconnect by means of a pliant seal within a rigid frame, thereby reducing the possibility of breakage of the brittle cells. The cassettes are assembled between an upper and lower interconnect to isolate the upper face of the cell from the lower face of the cell. A fuel cell unit includes an upper and lower interconnect containing a cassette. A fuel cell stack is formed from a plurality of fuel cell units.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
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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, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 99 54131 A (ALSTOM UK LTD ;PYKE STEPHEN (GB); WOOD ANTHONY (GB); THOMPSON CHRI) 28 October 1999 (1999-10-28) figures 1,4C,4D page 11, line 5-19	1-11
X	DE 43 24 181 A (SIEMENS AG) 3 March 1994 (1994-03-03)	1,3,5,7, 10,11
Y	column 3, line 36-58 column 4, line 39 -column 5, line 52	1-11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 March 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 23/03/2004
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Haering, C
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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