

**SUPPLEMENTARY
EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number
EP 13 88 9551

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Y A	WO 03/078065 A1 (MICRONICS INC [US]; WEIGL BERNHARD H [US]; BARDELL RONALD L [US]; HAYE) 25 September 2003 (2003-09-25) * the whole document *	1,5,11, 20,21,23 2-4, 6-10, 12-19	INV. G01N21/00 G01N15/10 G01N15/14 B01L3/00
Y A	----- US 2005/037471 A1 (LIU JIAN [US] ET AL) 17 February 2005 (2005-02-17) * the whole document *	1,5,11, 20,21,23 2-4, 6-10, 12-19	
A	----- US 2009/032449 A1 (MUETH DANIEL [US] ET AL) 5 February 2009 (2009-02-05) * the whole document *	1-21,23	
X	----- US 2012/225475 A1 (WAGNER MATTHIAS [US] ET AL) 6 September 2012 (2012-09-06) * figures 25A, 25B,27,34 *	22	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G01N B01L
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 12 May 2017	Examiner Michel, Alain
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-21, 23

Claim 1 relates to a micro-fluidic chip comprising a plurality of layers. Claims 2-21 depend on claim 1 whereas independent method claim 23 corresponds to apparatus claim 1.

The underlying problem to be solved is how to narrow the stream of the sample fluid-mixture bounded by the sheath fluids.

The special features are the layers in the chip, layers in which are disposed a plurality of channels, namely a sample input-channel (into which a sample fluid-mixture of components to be isolated is input), a first and a second plurality of sheath-fluid channels intersecting said sample input-channel.

2. claim: 22

Claim 22 relates to a micro-fluidic chip-system loaded on a cassette mounted on a holder.

The underlying problem to be solved is how to route fluids into the sample input of the micro-fluidic chip.

The special feature is the pumping mechanism that pumps sample fluid from a reservoir into a sample input.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 13 88 9551

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

12-05-2017

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