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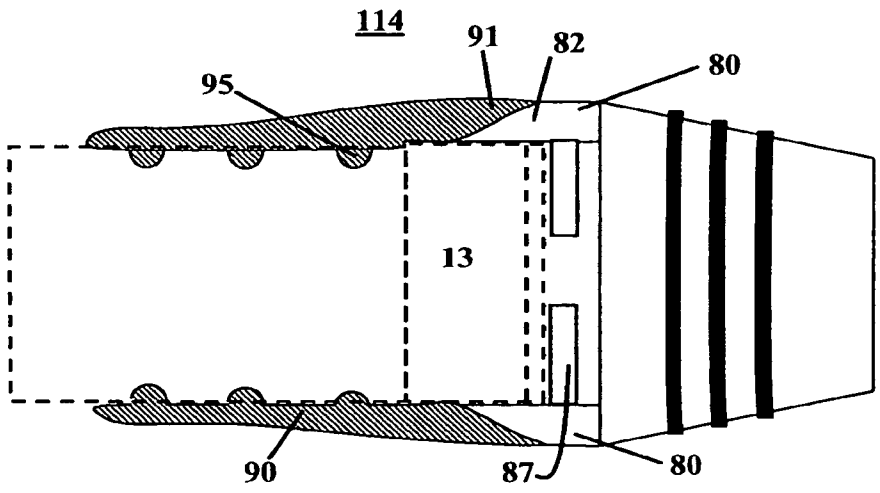
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ENDOSCOPIC TREATMENT OF TISSUE



(57) Abstract: An improved ligating system with a ligating barrel having an adjustable diameter for use with endoscopes of varying sizes is disclosed. The adjustable diameter may be provided by a collet, a flexible helical band, a plurality of screws, or a tapered elastomeric section.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/12

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)
A61B

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.
A	US 2004/006256 A1 (SUZUKI TAKAYUKI [JP] ET AL) 8 January 2004 (2004-01-08) paragraph [0120] - paragraph [0124]; figures 2A,2B	1-24
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A	EP 0 679 368 A (TOP KK [JP]) 2 November 1995 (1995-11-02) column 5, line 34 - column 7, line 2; figures 1,2	1-24

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

☒ See patent family annex.

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"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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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