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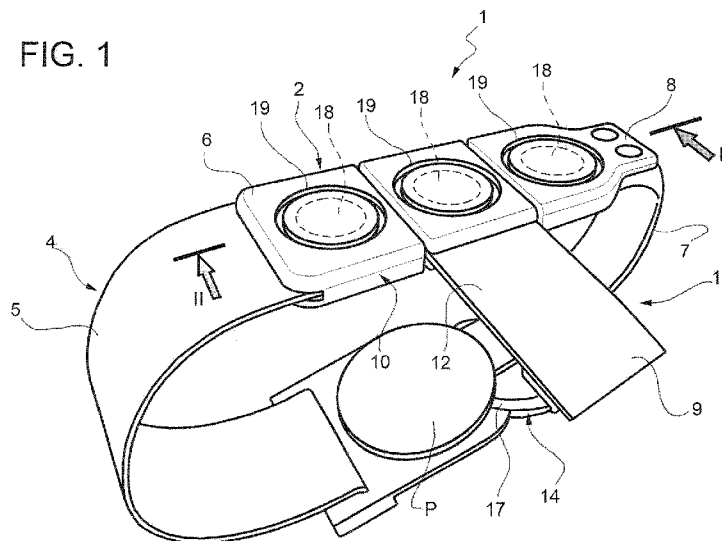
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- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:

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- (54) Title: GRIPPING AID FOR AN INDIVIDUAL HAVING A GRIPPING DEFICIENCY

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: A gripping aid for a hand having a motor deficiency, comprises a wearable portion (1) with a magnetic connection member (2), a magnetic unit (3) for a hand tool or instrument connectable in a releasable manner to the magnetic connection member (2) and a first and a second shaped connection portion (19, 32) engaging each other when the magnetic connection member (2) and the magnetic unit (3) are maintained in contact by a magnetic attraction force, said first and said second shape connection portion (19, 32) defining, when reciprocally engaged, an abutment which delimits the maximum relative movement between the magnetic connection member (2) and the magnetic unit (3) to a value lower than 4 millimeters along at least a relative direction of motion.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2014/063046

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61F4/00 ADD. A61F5/01		
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) A61F A47G B43K		
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 practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 2 476 968 A (EDWARDS GARETH [GB]) 20 July 2011 (2011-07-20) page 5, line 4 - page 6, line 11 -----	1-9
A	US 2012/285289 A1 (WALKER JEFF [US] ET AL) 15 November 2012 (2012-11-15) the whole document -----	1-9
A	US 2010/289282 A1 (AVERY JR RONALD [US] ET AL) 18 November 2010 (2010-11-18) the whole document -----	1-9
X	US 1 217 905 A (BOICE WILLIAM T [US]) 6 March 1917 (1917-03-06) the whole document -----	13,14,20
	-/--	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search  17 December 2014		Date of mailing of the international search report  09/01/2015
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer  Lickel, Andreas

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2014/063046

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 542 588 A (SISON JOHN P C [US]) 6 August 1996 (1996-08-06) the whole document -----	13-22
A	US 4 606 484 A (WINTER SYBIL B A [US] ET AL) 19 August 1986 (1986-08-19) the whole document -----	13-22
A	US 4 447 912 A (MORROW ROSEMARY K [US]) 15 May 1984 (1984-05-15) the whole document -----	13-22
A	US 5 853 210 A (ROBINSON GALE [US]) 29 December 1998 (1998-12-29) the whole document -----	13-22

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2014/063046

## 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 all searchable 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 report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:  
  
1-9, 13-22
  
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.:

### 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: 1-9

A gripping aid comprising a wearable portion with a magnetic connection member, a magnetic unit connectable in releasable manner to the magnetic connection member, said magnetic unit embedding a magnetisable compound, and a first and second shaped connection portion engaging each other such that said shaped portions define an abutment which delimits the maximum relative movement between the magnetic connection member and the magnetic unit to a value lower than 4mm along a relative direction of motion.

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## 2. claims: 10-12

A magnetic unit for a gripping aid for a hand having a motor deficiency, comprising a first shaped connection portion engageable in a second shaped portion of a wearable portion of said gripping aid, and a multiuse connection to withhold an object or tool aboard said magnetic unit in interchangeable manner.

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## 3. claims: 13-22

A wearable portion of a gripping aid for a hand having a motor deficiency, comprising a releasable connection member for a disconnectable unit carrying an object or tool, a first elongated member connected to a first end portion of said connection member, a second elongated member connected to a second end portion of said connection member, a releasable connection between the first and second elongated member to close said connection member on the hand, and a third elongated member arranged between a side of the connection member arranged between the first and the second end portion and one of said first and second elongated members to define with the latter a passage which can be worn on at least one finger of the hand, the connection member being in contact with the palm of the hand in use; and  
a gripping aid comprising such a wearable portion.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2014/063046

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
GB 2476968	A	20-07-2011	GB 2476968 A	20-07-2011
			US 2011177874 A1	21-07-2011
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US 2012285289	A1	15-11-2012	NONE	
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US 1217905	A	06-03-1917	NONE	
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US 5853210	A	29-12-1998	NONE	
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