

Lamp and lighting fixture

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a lamp, for example a flat replacement bulb comprising light emitting diodes. The present invention also relates to a lighting fixture comprising at least one such lamp.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

CN202546362 discloses an LED (light emitting diode) lamp which i.a. comprises a lamp holder which is arranged at the bottom of a bulb; an LED circuit board arranged in the lamp holder; a vertically fixed LED lamp panel, wherein the LED lamp panel is electrically connected with the LED circuit board in the lamp holder through a rotating member; and a light guide sheet which is overlapped on the luminous surface of the LED lamp panel.

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However, the light guide sheet in CN202546362 may reflect part the light emitted by the LED lamp panel back to the LED lamp panel, thus reducing the efficiency of the lamp. Especially if the optical function of the light guide sheet is strong, the associated back reflection is increased. This lowers the efficiency of the lamp, which increases the cost of the lamp. Also, the light absorbed by the LED lamp panel increases the temperature of the LED lamp panel, which may reduce the life time of the lamp.

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20 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to overcome at least some of the drawbacks mentioned above, and to provide an improved lamp.

According to a first aspect of the invention, this and other objects are achieved by a lamp, comprising: a carrier; a series of solid state light sources mounted on the carrier; and a cover member covering the series of solid state light sources, wherein openings are provided in the carrier between the solid state light sources of said series of solid state light sources, such that light emitted from the series of solid state light sources and reflected back towards the carrier by the cover member is allowed to pass the carrier through the openings.

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The openings in the carrier increases the optical efficiency of the lamp, since light reflected back from the cover member otherwise may be absorbed in the carrier. Especially if the optical function of the cover member is strong (meaning strong light manipulation such as beam shaping or scattering), the associated back reflection is increased.

5 Furthermore, since less or no light is absorbed in the carrier, the temperature of the carrier and the light sources may be lowered, which in turn may extend the life time of the lamp.

The lamp may further comprise a base for connection to a lamp socket, wherein the carrier is flat and arranged parallel to a longitudinal axis of the lamp. In this embodiment, the reflected light that is not absorbed directly by the carrier beneficially adds
10 to the light output of the lamp in the correct direction. The carrier may have a perimeter including a base portion and a curved portion, wherein the series of solid state light sources and the openings are arranged along and follow the curved portion of the perimeter of the carrier. The cover member may have a flat central area surrounded by a hollow ridge extending along the curved portion of the perimeter of the carrier, which hollow ridge defines
15 an optical chamber for the series of solid state light sources. The cover member may be translucent.

Said series of solid state light sources may be located on one side of the carrier, wherein another series of solid state light sources is mounted (and correspondingly located) on the opposite side of the carrier. In this embodiment, light generated on one side
20 can mix with the light on the opposite side, thus improving the mixing behavior of the lamp. The openings can facilitate color or flux mixing, reducing the requirements on the optical function of the cover member, which in turn may reduce the cost of the lamp. The lamp may further comprise another cover member covering said another series of solid state light sources, wherein the carrier is positioned between the two cover members.

25 A single opening may be provided between each two successive solid state light sources. Alternatively, several smaller openings could be provided between each two successive light sources.

The width of the openings may substantially correspond to the width of the solid state light sources. The width of the openings may for example be between 80% and
30 120% of the width of the solid state light sources. The length of the openings substantially may correspond to the distance between successive solid state light sources of said series of solid state light sources. The length of the openings may for example be between 80% and 100% of the distance between successive solid state light sources of said series of solid state light sources. Furthermore, the width and/or the length of the openings may be at least two

times the thickness of the carrier. A purpose of the openings is to decrease the surface area of the carrier. However, the side walls of the openings increases the surface area, whereby the width and/or the length of the openings has/have to be large enough so that the overall surface area is decreased.

5 The carrier may be a single, separate, and self-supported carrier. In this way, the solid state light sources may easily be mounted on the carrier, preferably using conventional techniques, like surface-mount technology (SMT). The carrier may comprise electrical connections for the solid state light sources. The carrier may for example be a printed circuit board (PCB).

10 The solid state light sources of said (first) series may be arranged to emit light in directions towards said (first) cover member. Likewise, the solid state light sources of said another (second) series may be arranged to emit light in directions towards said another (second) cover member. The solid state light sources may be light emitting diodes.

 According to a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a lighting
15 fixture comprising at least one lamp according to the first aspect. This aspect may exhibit the same or similar features and technical effects as the first aspect of the invention.

 It is noted that the invention relates to all possible combinations of features recited in the claims.

20 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

 These and other aspects of the present invention will now be described in more detail, with reference to the appended drawings showing embodiment(s) of the invention.

 Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a lamp according to an embodiment of the present invention.

25 Fig. 2 is an exploded view of the lamp of fig. 1.

 Fig. 3 is a partial cross-sectional side view of the lamp of figs. 1 and 2.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

30 The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which currently preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided for thoroughness and completeness, and fully convey the scope of the invention to the skilled person. Like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout.

Figs. 1-2 show a lamp 10 according to an embodiment of the present invention. The lamp 10 comprises a carrier 12. The carrier 12 is preferably a single, separate, and self-supported carrier, though other configurations are possible as well. The carrier 12 is preferably flat, with a first side 14a and a second, opposite side 14b, as well as a thickness between the first side 14a and the second side 14b. The carrier 12 may be a printed circuit board (PCB), with electrically conductive tracks. The electrically conductive tracks may be on one or both sides 14a, 14b of the carrier 12, or they may be embedded in the carrier 12. Instead of being flat, the carrier may be twisted (not shown).

The lamp 10 may further comprise a base 16, for electrical and mechanical connection to a lamp socket (not shown). The base 16 may also be referred to as a fitting or end cap. Here, the base 16 is a single base. The base 16 may for example be a screw base with an external thread. However, the present lamp could have a different lamp base, such as bayonet, bi-pin, etc.

The carrier 12 is arranged substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis 18 of the lamp 10. Furthermore, the carrier 12 is preferably arranged in a fixed relationship relative to the base 16. The carrier 12 may have an edge or perimeter. The perimeter includes a base portion 19 facing the base 16. The perimeter further includes a curved portion 20. The curved portion 20 extends from 20' to 20'' as indicated in fig. 1. The curved portion 20 preferably mimics the silhouette of the glass of a traditional incandescent light bulb. The portion 20 may for example be curved like part of a circle, though other profiles are possible as well.

The lamp 10 may further comprise driver circuitry 22. The driver circuitry 22 may be arranged on a separate circuit board 24 connected to the carrier 12 via wires 26.

The lamp 10 further comprises a first series 28a of light sources 30 mounted on the first side 14a of the carrier 12. In fig. 1, the first series 28a comprises eleven light sources 30, but the number of light sources of the series could be more or less. The light sources 30 of the first series 28a are arranged to mainly emit light in directions away from the first side 14a of the carrier 12. The light sources 30 may be solid state light sources (SSL), such as light emitting diodes (LED), OLEDs, PLEDs or the like. In figs. 1-2, the light sources 30 of the first series 28a are mounted along the curved perimeter portion 20 of the carrier 12. Thus, the first series 28a of light sources 30 is also arranged in a curved or arched manner. The light sources 30 of the first series 28a are connected to the electrically conductive tracks of the carrier 12, preferably in series.

The lamp 10 further comprises a first cover member 32a covering the first series 28a of light sources 30. In fig. 1, a portion of the first cover member 32a is cut away

just to more clearly show the underlying structure, but in the actual lamp 10 that portion is of course not cut away, see fig. 2. Specifically, the first cover member 32a has a flat central area 34a surrounded by a hollow ridge 36a. The hollow ridge 36a has U-shaped cross-section. The hollow ridge 36a follows the curved perimeter portion 20 of the carrier 12, and defines an optical chamber 38a for the first series 28a of light sources 30. The first cover member 32a may be transparent or translucent, to allow to allow light from the light sources 30 to pass through. The first cover member 32a may also have an optical function, such as beam shaping or scattering, for example.

Furthermore, openings 40 are provided in the carrier 12 between successive light sources 30 of the first series 28a. The openings 40 are arranged along and follow the curved portion 20 of the perimeter of the carrier 12. The openings 40 further extend from the first side 14a of the carrier 12 to the second side 14b of the carrier 12. The openings 40 may therefore also be referred to as through-holes. The side walls of the openings 40 are preferably white/high reflective. Preferably, one opening 40 is provided between each two light sources 30, like opening 40' between light sources 30' and 30''. In other words, the light sources 30 and the openings 40 are arranged in an alternated manner. Alternatively, several smaller openings could be provided between two successive light sources. The openings 40 are preferably open/empty spaces, but the openings 40 could alternatively be filled with a transparent material.

The width W1 of the openings 40 may substantially correspond to the width W2 of the light sources 30. The width W1 of the each opening 40 may for example be between 80% and 120% of the width W2 of a light source 30. Hence, the width W1 of the openings 40 may be somewhat smaller or larger than, or equal to (100%), the width W2 of the light sources 30. Likewise, the length L of the openings 40 may substantially correspond to the distance D between successive light sources 30 of the first series 28a. The length L of each opening 40 may for example be between 80% and 100% of the distance D. Hence, the length L of the openings 40 may be somewhat smaller than, or equal to, the distance D between subsequent light sources 30. In figs. 1-2, the openings 40 have an overall rectangular shape. They may also have rounded corners, and be slight curved in their longitudinal direction, to individually conform to the curved perimeter portion 20 of the carrier 12. However, other shapes of the openings 40 are possible.

The lamp 10 may further comprise a second series 28b of light sources 30 mounted on the second side 14b of the carrier 12. The light sources 30 of the second series 28b are arranged to mainly emit light in directions away from the second side 14b of the

carrier 12. The light sources 30 of the second series 28b are connected to the electrically conductive tracks of the carrier 12. Furthermore, the light sources 30 of the second series 28b may be located in the same positions on the second side 14b of the carrier 12 as the light sources 30 of the first series 28a are located on the first side 14a. In other words, the light sources 30 of the two series 28a and 28b are arranged “back-to-back”, albeit with the carrier 12 in between, see further fig. 3. In this way, the openings 40 are also present between successive light sources 30 of the second series 28b. The lamp 10 may further comprise a second cover member 32b covering the second series 28b of light sources 30, whereby the carrier 12 is sandwiched or positioned between the two cover members 32a and 32b. Like the first cover member 32a, the second cover member 32b has a flat central area 34b surrounded by a hollow ridge 36b. The hollow ridge 36b follows the curved perimeter portion 20 of the carrier 12, and defines an optical chamber 38b for the second series 28b of light sources 30. The second cover member 32b may be transparent or translucent, and it may also have an optical function. The two cover members 32a and 32b give the lamp 10 an overall flat shape.

In operation of the lamp 10, power is supplied from the lamp socket via base 16, driver circuitry 22, wires 26 and electrically conductive tracks of carrier 12 to the light sources 30, which thereby emit light. Light emitted from light sources 30 of the first series 28a is emitted into the optical chamber 28a. Most of the emitted light will pass through the first cover member 32a as indicated by arrow 42 in fig. 3, to provide illumination, whereas some of the emitted light from the light sources 30 of the first series 28a will be reflected back towards the carrier 12 by the first cover member 32a, as indicated by arrow 44. The amount of light that is reflected back depends among other things on the optical function of the cover member 32a. For example, strong light manipulation such as beam shaping or scattering increases the back reflection. However, due to the openings 40, almost all light reflected from the first cover member 32a is transmitted to the other side of the lamp 10 where it gets “another chance” of escaping the lamp 10, through the second cover member 32b, as indicated by arrow 46. Likewise, some of the light emitted from light sources 30 of the second series 28b will be reflected back towards the carrier 12 by the second cover member 32b, but most of the reflected light is allowed to pass the carrier 12 through the openings 40 so that it can escape the lamp 10 through the first cover member 32a.

By means of the openings 40, the optical efficiency of the lamp 10 is improved. Furthermore, since less or no light is absorbed in the carrier 12, the temperature of the carrier 12 and the light sources 30 may be lowered, which in turn may extend the life time of the lamp 10. Furthermore, the light 46 beneficially adds to the light output of the lamp 10

in the correct direction. Furthermore, light generated on one side of the lamp 10 can mix with light generated on the other side of the lamp 10, thus improving the mixing behavior of the lamp. The openings 40 can facilitate color or flux mixing, reducing the requirements on the optical function of the cover member(s), which in turn may reduce the cost of the lamp 10.

5 The lamp 10 may for example be used in lighting fixtures or luminaires for illumination purposes. The lamp 10 may be used as a replacement or retrofit bulb in conventional lighting fixtures or luminaires.

 The person skilled in the art realizes that the present invention by no means is limited to the preferred embodiments described above. On the contrary, many modifications
10 and variations are possible within the scope of the appended claims. Additionally, variations to the disclosed embodiments can be understood and effected by the skilled person in practicing the claimed invention, from a study of the drawings, the disclosure, and the appended claims. In the claims, the word "comprising" does not exclude other elements or steps, and the indefinite article "a" or "an" does not exclude a plurality. The mere fact that
15 certain measures are recited in mutually different dependent claims does not indicate that a combination of these measures cannot be used to advantage.

CLAIMS:

1. A lamp (10), comprising:

a carrier (12);

a series (28a) of solid state light sources (30) mounted on the carrier; and

a cover member (32a) covering the series of solid state light sources,

5 wherein openings (40) are provided in the carrier between the solid state light sources of said series of solid state light sources, such that light emitted from the series of solid state light sources and reflected back towards the carrier by the cover member is allowed to pass the carrier through the openings,

said lamp further comprising a base (16) for connection to a lamp socket,

10 wherein the carrier is flat and arranged parallel to a longitudinal axis (18) of the lamp.

2. The lamp of claim 1, wherein the carrier has a perimeter including a base portion (19) and a curved portion (20), and wherein the series of solid state light sources and the openings are arranged along and follow the curved portion of the perimeter of the carrier.

3. The lamp of claim 2, wherein the cover member has a flat central area (34a) surrounded by a hollow ridge (36a) extending along the curved portion of the perimeter of the carrier, which hollow ridge defines an optical chamber (38a) for the series of solid state light sources.

4. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein said series of solid state light sources is located on one side (14a) of the carrier, and wherein another series (28b) of solid state light sources is mounted on the opposite side (14b) of the carrier.

5. The lamp of claim 4, further comprising another cover member (32b) covering said another series of solid state light sources, wherein the carrier is positioned between the two cover members.

6. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein a single opening is provided between each two successive solid state light sources.

7. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the width of the openings substantially corresponds to the width of the solid state light sources.

8. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the length of the openings substantially corresponds to the distance between successive solid state light sources of said series of solid state light sources.

9. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the width and/or the length of the openings is at least two times the thickness of the carrier.

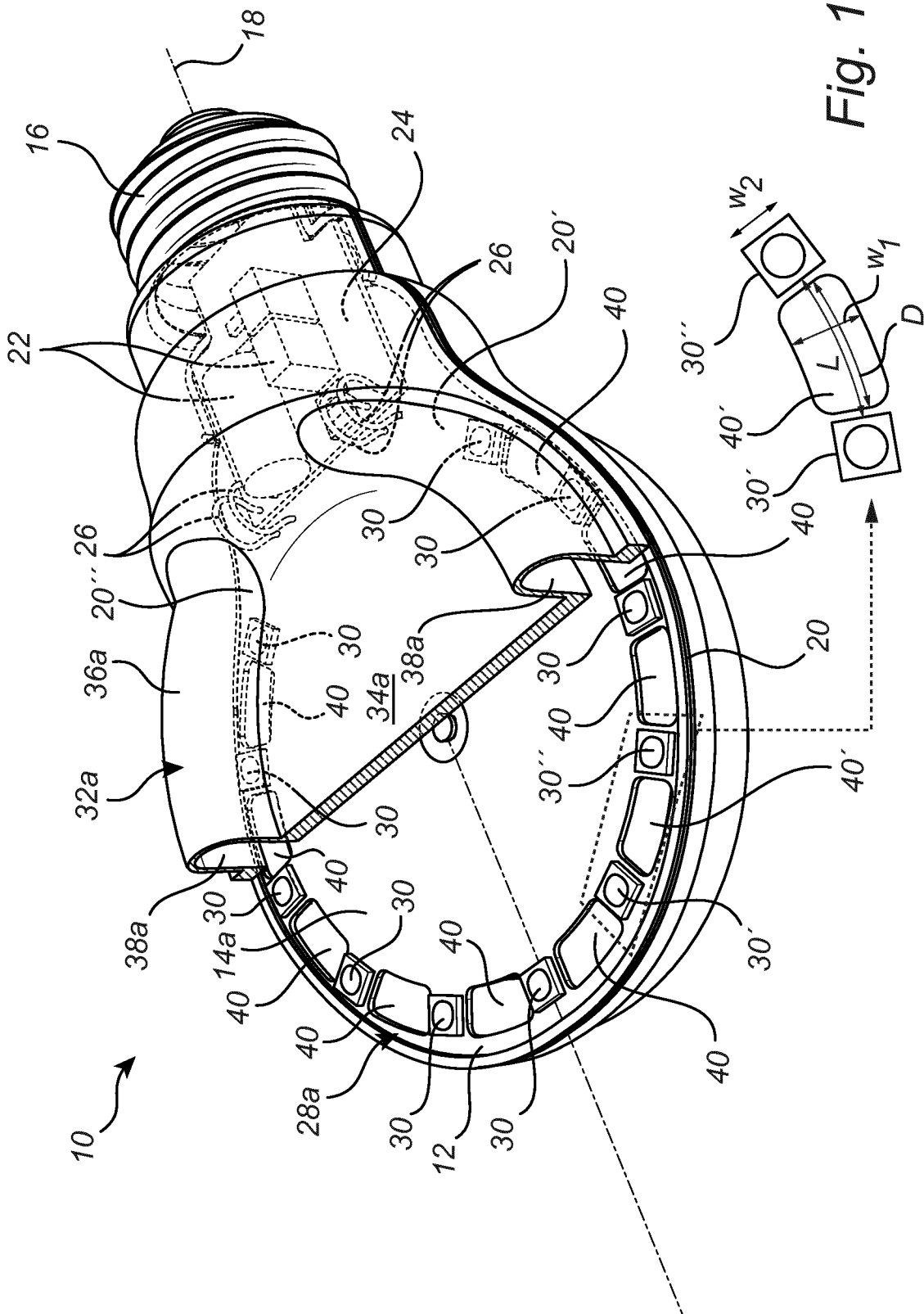
10. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the carrier is a single, separate, and self-supported carrier.

11. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the carrier comprises electrical connections for the solid state light sources.

12. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the solid state light sources of said series (28a) are arranged to emit light in directions towards said cover member (32a).

13. The lamp of any preceding claim, wherein the solid state light sources are light emitting diodes.

14. A lighting fixture comprising at least one lamp (10) according to any preceding claim.



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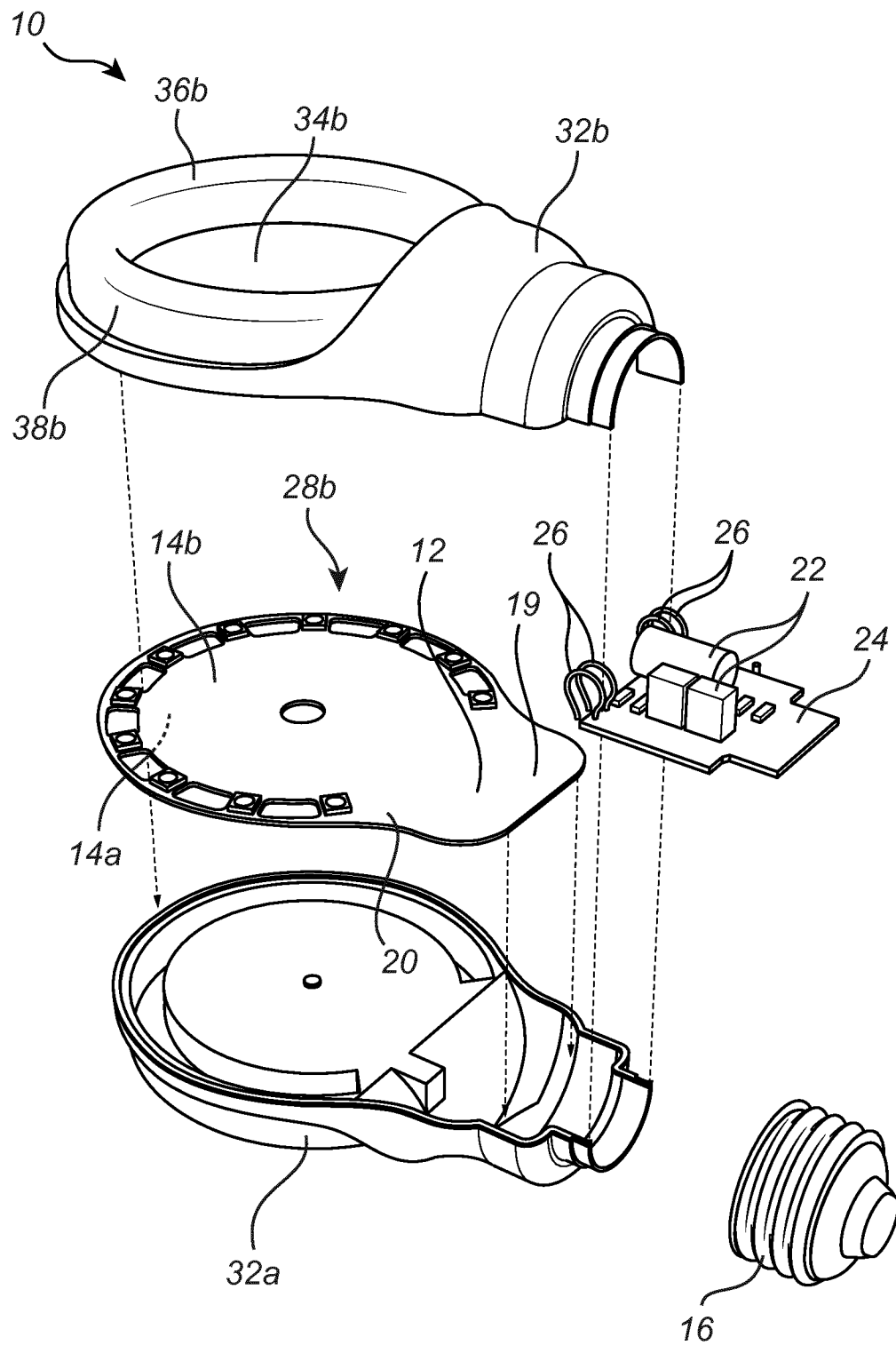


Fig. 2

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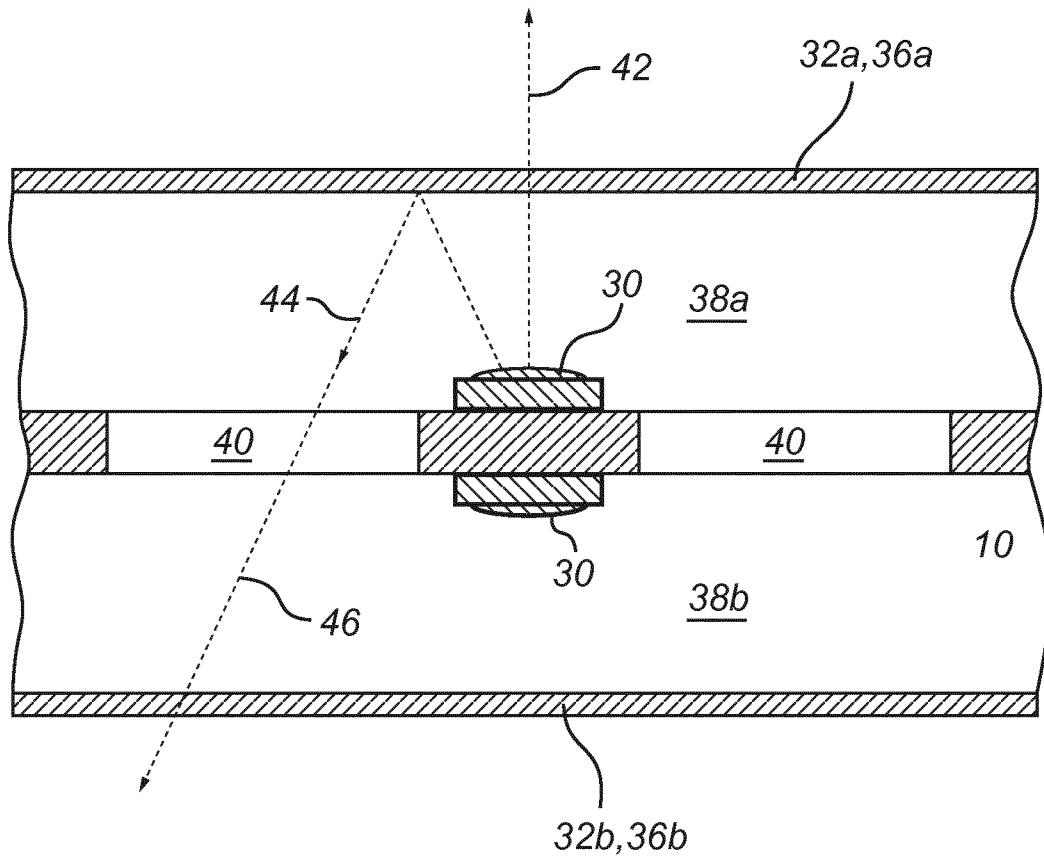


Fig. 3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2015/066062

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. F21K99/00 F21V3/02 F21V7/00
ADD. F21V19/00 F21V23/00 F21Y101/02 F21Y105/00

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)

F21K F21V F21Y

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.
A	WO 2014/087357 A1 (KONINKL PHILIPS NV [NL]) 12 June 2014 (2014-06-12) page 22, line 25 - page 24, line 13; figures 19-21 -----	1-14



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 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

14 September 2015

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/11/2015

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2015/066062

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2014087357 A1	12-06-2014	CN 104838205 A	12-08-2015
		EP 2929238 A1	14-10-2015
		EP 2929239 A1	14-10-2015
		EP 2929240 A1	14-10-2015
		WO 2014087357 A1	12-06-2014
		WO 2014087363 A1	12-06-2014
		WO 2014087366 A1	12-06-2014
