(19) World Intellectual Property **Organization**

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 28 July 2005 (28.07.2005)

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/067473 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: F41F 5/00

B64D 1/04,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/038437

(22) International Filing Date:

16 November 2004 (16.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

10/719,131

21 November 2003 (21.11.2003)

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, $GB,\,GD,\,GE,\,GH,\,GM,\,HR,\,HU,\,ID,\,IL,\,IN,\,IS,\,JP,\,KE,$ KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 29 December 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE WEAPONS

(57) Abstract: A cartridge for propelling a pair of wire-tethered contact darts for disabling a remote target with an electrical discharge. The cartridge comprises two bores each having one wire-tethered dart in front of an electrically activated pyrotechnic. In order to avoid creating short arcing gaps after ignition of the pyrotechnics, the pyrotechnics are connected in electrical parallel with the wire-tethered darts so that current passing through the target does not have to arc across gaps left by the pyrotechnics. Two embodiments are presented, one in which the pyrotechnics are in series with the other and one in which they are in parallel relation to each other.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/38437

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER			
IPC(7) : B64D 01/04; F41F 05/00 US CL : 89/1.11			
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) U.S.: 89/1.11			
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)			
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a	Relevant to claim No.	
X	US 3,803,463 (COVER) 09 April 1974 (09.04.1974), Figs. 1, 2, 5, 15; col. 4, line 54 to col. 1,2,3,5,7,8,9		
Х	5, line 26; col. 7, lines 3-15. US 2002/0170418 A1 (MCNULTY) 21 November 2002 (21.11.2002), Figs. 7 and 8; [0012], [0034], [0037].		1-9
	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex. "T" later document published after the intern	estional filing data or princity
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		"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	
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,		Date of mailing of the international search report 27 OCT 2005 Authorized officer Troy Chambers	
03 October 2005 (03.10.2005) Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Authorized officer			,
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US		Troy Chambers	
Commissioner for Patents		V	
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)