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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):**
BIOMEDFLEX LLC [US/US]; 771 Crosspoint Drive,
Denver, 28037 (US).
- (72) **Inventors; and**
- (75) **Inventors/ Applicants (for US only):** **KELLAR, Franz W.** [US/US]; 3757 Kennedy Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28056 (US). **CROWDER, Harold Lloyd** [US/US]; 1005 Chadbourne Avenue, SW, Concord, North Carolina 28027 (US).

- (74) **Agents:** **HINES, Jonathan M.** et al; 9300 Harris Corners Parkway, Suite 210, Charlotte, North Carolina 28269 (US).
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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** PROSTHETIC BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT

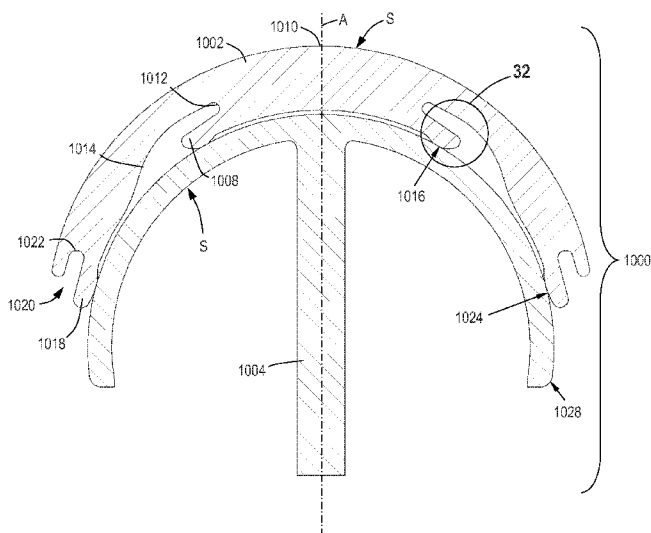


FIG. 31

(57) **Abstract:** A prosthetic joint includes: a first member comprising rigid material including a wear-resistant, concave cup surface and a second member comprising rigid material with a wear-resistant, convex contact surface. One of the surfaces includes: (a) an annular first flange defining a protruding wear-resistant first contact rim at or near an apex of the member; and (b) an annular second flange defining a protruding wear-resistant second contact rim, at or near an outer periphery of the member. The first and second contact rims bear directly against the contact surface, so as to transfer loads between the first and second members, while allowing pivoting motion therebetween. The flanges are shaped and sized so as to deform elastically and permit the contact rims to conform in an irregular shape to the surface of the opposite member, when the joint is placed under a predetermined load.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: prosthetic, joint, rim, falnge

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2010-0161064 A1 (KELLAR et al.) 24 June 2010 See abstract , paragraphs [0039] -[0073] , figures 9-14 , and claims 1-11 .	1-9
A	See the whole document .	10-11
A	US 05824107 A (TSCHIRREN) 20 October 1998 See the whole document .	1-11
A	US 2007-0219638 A1 (JONES et al.) 20 September 2007 See the whole document .	1-11
A	US 03916451 A (BUECHEL et al.) 04 November 1975 See the whole document .	1-11

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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Authorized officer

HAN, SANG SOO

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