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[Continued on next page]

(57) Abstract: A valve gate assembly for regulating a flow of molten material into a mold (14). The valve gate assembly includes a movable valve (32) that can move between a fully closed position and a fully open position. The valve gate assembly further includes an actuating system (36) operatively cooperating with the valve to move the valve and infinitely position the valve between the fully closed position and the fully open position.
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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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 425/145,564,566,562,563,565

Documentation searched 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 6,464,909 A (KAZMER et al.) 15 October 2002 (15.10.2002), column 15, lines 46-58, column 16, lines 24-36.</td>
<td>1-6,8-10,15-17,19,23,26 and 27</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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