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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

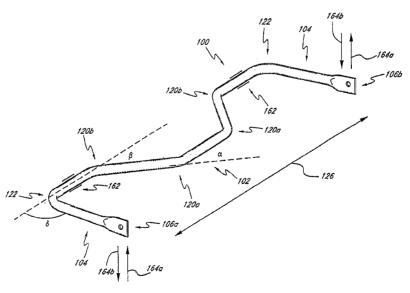
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF PRODUCING HIGH- STRENGTH METAL TUBULAR BAR FOR VEHICLE STABILIZER POS-SESSING IMPROVED COLD FORMABILITY



(57) Abstract: A method for producing a high strength tubular bar 114, more particularly a stabilizer bar 100, is provided. The method comprises providing a tubular bar 114 of desired size heating the bar 114 to an elevated temperature, quenching the bar 114 by application of a cooling fluid to the surfaces 112a, 112b of the bar 114, and cold bending the tube to a desired shape without annealing. The bar has preferably a composition of 0.13-0.35% C, 0.8-2.0% Mn, 0.1-0.7% Si, 0.01-0.07% Al, and optionally up to 0.50% Cr, up to 0.25% Mo, up to 0.30% V. The bar as quenched has an ultimate strength of more than 1400 MPa, a yield strength to ultimate tensile strength ratio of between 0.65 and 0.90 and an elongation of more than 12%. The bar as bent has a fatigue life of more than 300000 cycles when a region of at least one of the bends is subjected to cyclic stresses above 450 MPa.



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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, COMPENDEX

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X	EP 0 753 595 A (BENTELER WERKE AG [DE]) 15 January 1997 (1997-01-15) column 2, lines 38-42 column 4, lines 31-37 claims 1-10; figure 2	1-36
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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family annex.
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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
13 December 2007	21/12/2007
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NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Rischard, Marc

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