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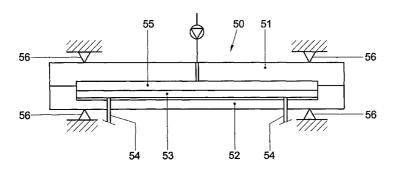
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING VEHICLE PARTS



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a method for manufacturing at least partly plastic vehicle parts in a mold (50) with at least one mold cavity (55), comprising the steps of: at least partly closing the mold, wherein the at least one mold cavity is brought in a first position by means of at least one movable wall part (53) of the at least one mold cavity; introducing plastic into the at least one mold cavity; upon complete closure of the mold and/or movement of the at least one movable wall part, bringing the at least one mold cavity in a second position, the at least one mold cavity in the second position having a different volume than in the first position; all this in such a manner that by bringing the at least one mold cavity from the first into the second position, the plastic fills the respective mold cavity completely.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/NL2004/000310 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 D04H1/00 B29C45/56 B29C45/14 B29C45/16 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) IPC 7 B29C 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category 6 Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Χ EP 0 999 023 A (IDEMITSU PETROCHEMICAL CO) 1,6,7, 13,14,20 10 May 2000 (2000-05-10) figures 17a-c γ 2-5,8-10 paragraphs [0116] - [0118] figures 18a-c paragraph [0119] - paragraph [0121] WO 02/00413 A (OKAMOTO AKIO ;UBE MACHINERY CORP LTD (JP)) 3 January 2002 (2002-01-03) Y 2-5,10 claim 1 page 1, line 14 NL 1 019 320 C (NOVEM INTERNAT B V) 28 April 2003 (2003-04-28) page 10, line 5 - line 17 page 11, line 3 - line 19 Α 1 -/--Х Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cfied to understand the principle or theory underlying the investiga "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "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 "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) "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. "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 "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 18. 11. 2004 31 August 2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/NL2004/000310

		PCT/NL2004/000310	
C.(Continua	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
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Х	EP 0 692 362 A (SUMITOMO CHEMICAL CO) 17 January 1996 (1996-01-17) page 2, column 1, line 5 - line 10 column 14, line 41 - line 49	15-18	
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A	US 6 524 511 B1 (MATSUKI MASAMITSU ET AL) 25 February 2003 (2003-02-25) the whole document	1	
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International application No. PCT/NL2004/000310

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)							
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:							
1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:							
2. X Claims Nos.: 11, 12, 21 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210							
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).							
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)							
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:							
see additional sheet							
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.							
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.							
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:							
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-10,13-18,20							
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.							

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 11, 12, 21

The feature of claim 12 "flow paths are provided with match the melt-flow index of the respective plastic" is not clear in the sense of Article 6 PCT. The concept "match the melt-flow index" can be interpreted in various ways. The scope of the subject matter of claim 12 is therefore unclear and a meaningful search cannot be carried out.

Claim 21 searches protection for a mould. The feature of claim 21 however refers to the material properties of the plastic which is being used in combination with said mold (cf. "thereby generating adiabatic heat development in the plastic"). The plastic is however not a part of said mold and can therefore never be used to characterize said mold. It is for the skilled man therefore not clear what kind of mold features are required to achieve said effect. A meaningful search can therefore not be carried out. This objection also applies to claim 11 whereby the as such unclear mold is being applied in a method claim.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-10, 13-18, 20

Method for manufacturing a plastic part whereby a movable mould wall part is brought from a first position into a second position

2. claim: 19

Textile provided with a plastic backing

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/NL2004/000310

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