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(54) **LED BULB**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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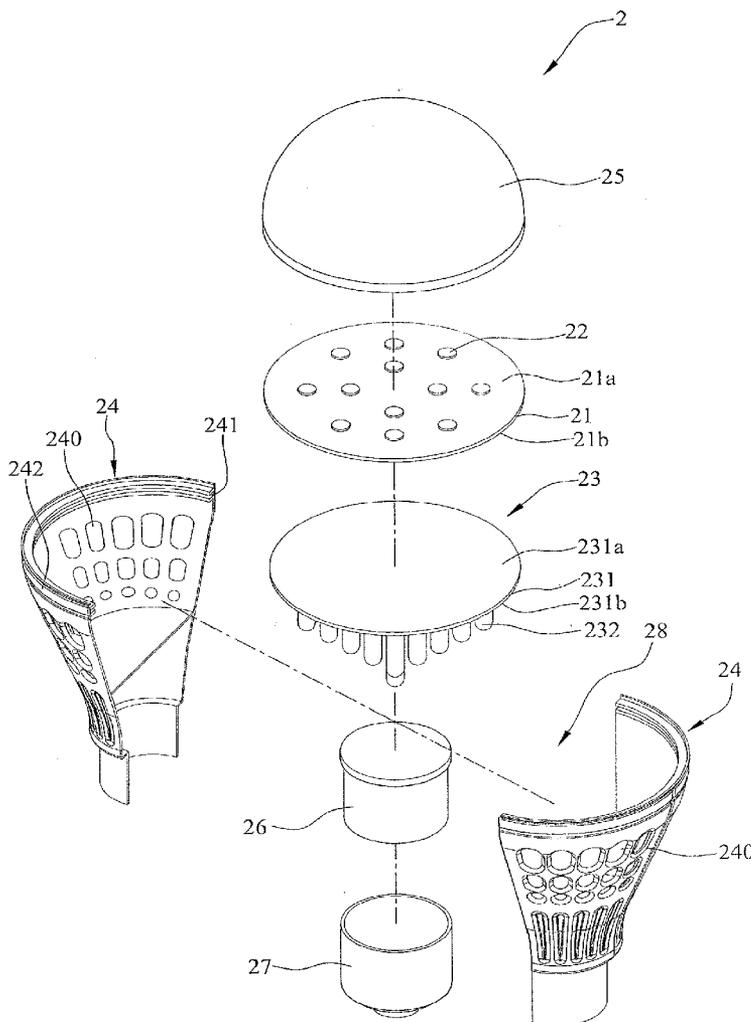
Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 13/010,746, filed on Jan. 20, 2011, now Pat. No. 8,317,372.

Foreign Application Priority Data

Oct. 21, 2010 (TW) 099135907

An LED bulb includes: a circuit board having opposite first and second surfaces; a plurality of LEDs disposed on the first surface; and a heat dissipating structure having a heat dissipating board, wherein the heat dissipating board has opposite third and fourth surfaces, the third surface is attached to the second surface of the circuit board, and a plurality of heat dissipating bumps is disposed on the fourth surface and gradually decreases in length from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface to thereby facilitate air convection around the heat dissipating bumps, thus improving the overall heat dissipating efficiency so as to increase the light emitting efficiency and lifetime of the LED bulb.



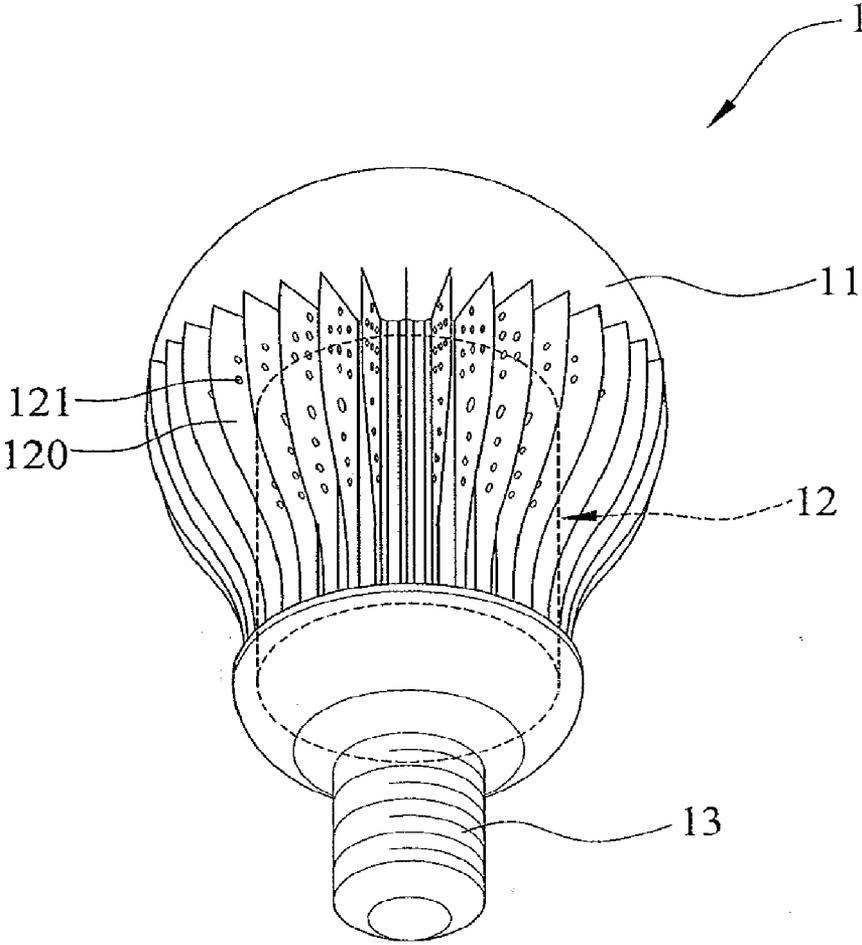


FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

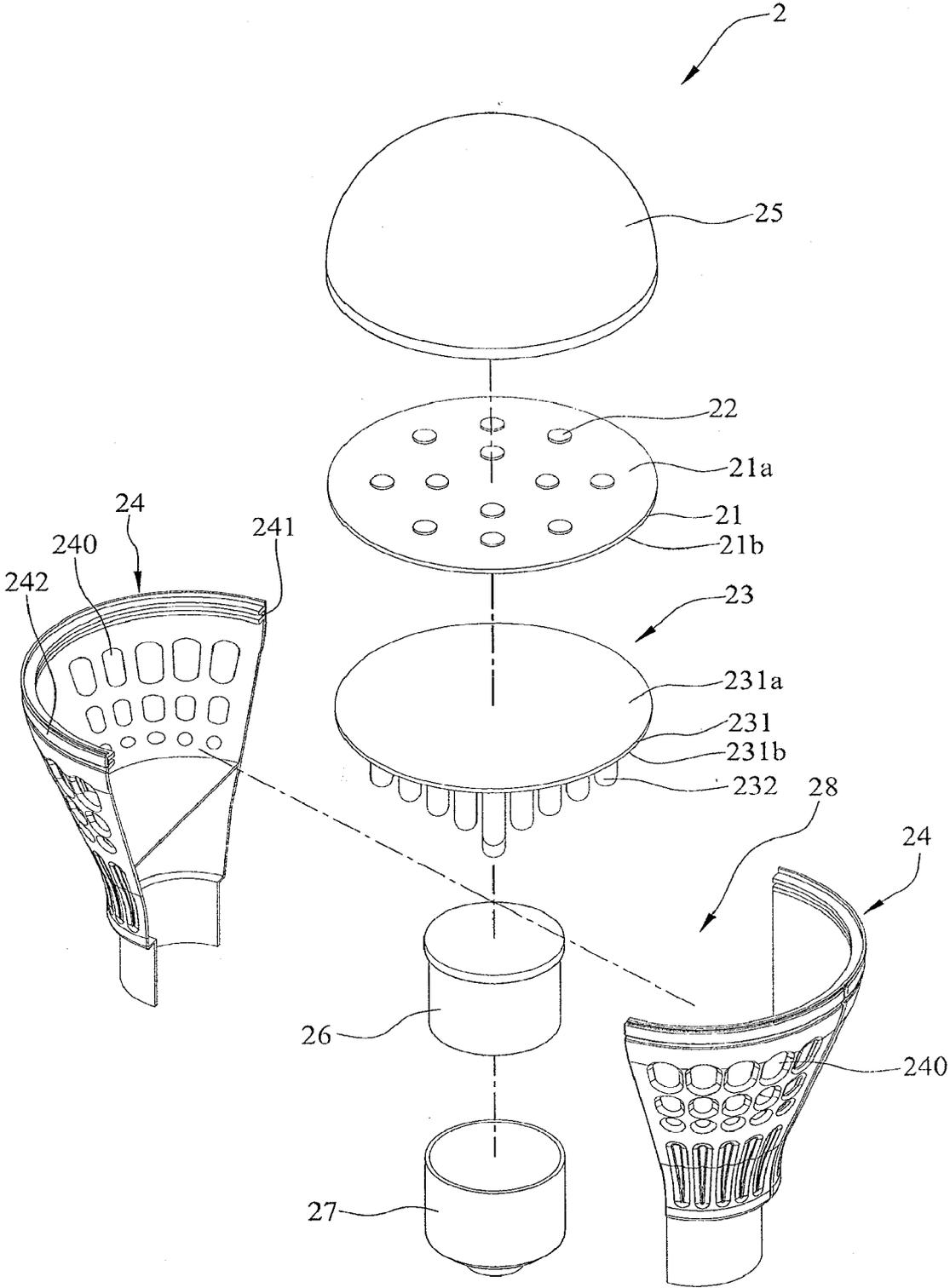


FIG. 2A

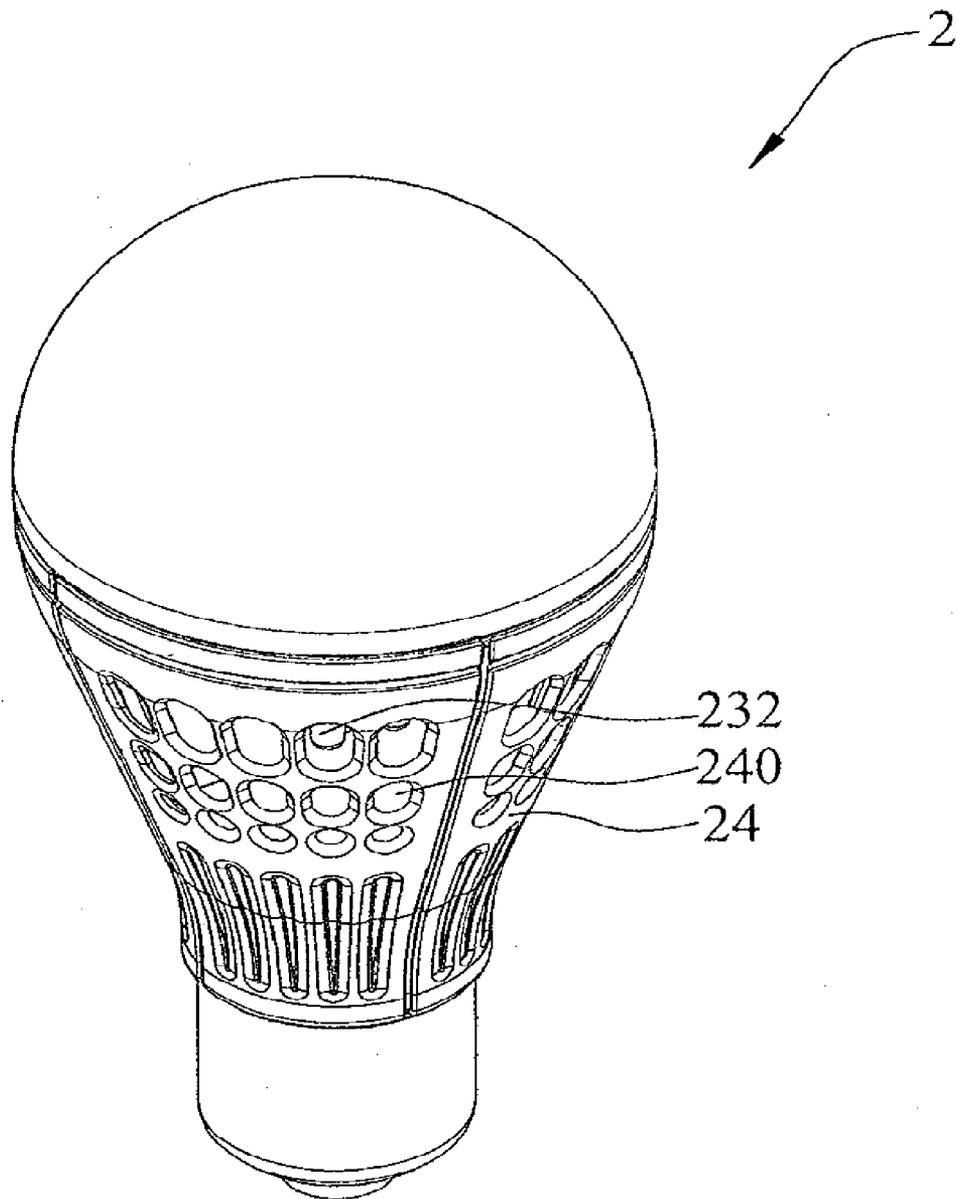


FIG. 2B

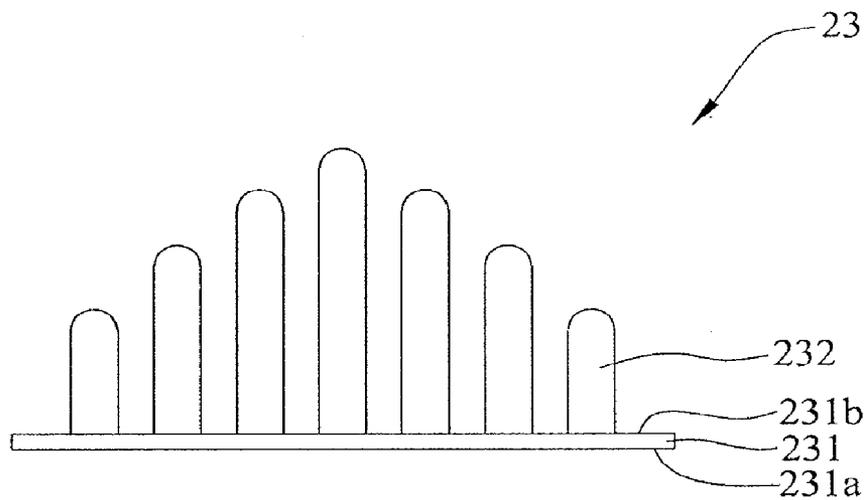


FIG. 3

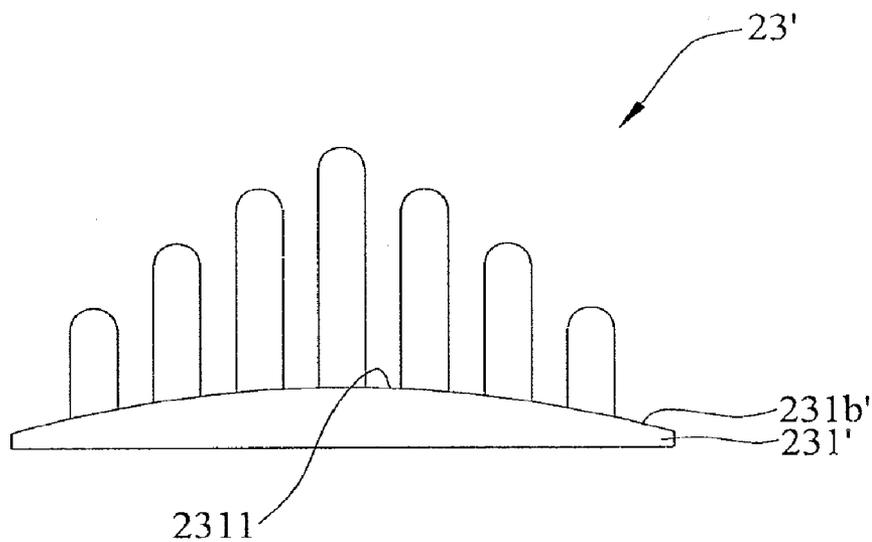


FIG. 4

LED BULB

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 13/010,746 filed Jan. 20, 2011, which application claims the benefit of foreign priority of TW 099135907 filed Oct. 21, 2010.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] 1. Field of the Invention

[0003] The present invention relates to light emitting diode (LED) bulbs, and more particularly, to an LED bulb having a heat dissipating structure disposed therein.

[0004] 2. Description of Related Art

[0005] Since LEDs have advantages of long lifetime, low power consumption and short response time and do not have idling time, the application of the LEDs is increasingly expanded. Particularly, white LEDs are being widely adopted in lighting applications, and conventional halogen or incandescent bulbs are being replaced by the LEDs so as to meet the energy saving and carbon reducing trend.

[0006] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an LED bulb disclosed by Taiwan Utility Model Patent No. M389826. Referring to FIG. 1, the LED bulb 1 comprises a light-transmittable cover 11 with a globe shape, a base 12, and an electrical contact 13. A plurality of light source circuit components, such as LEDs, a circuit board and a transformer (not shown), is disposed inside the base 12 and the cover 11. A heat dissipating structure comprising a plurality of fins 120 each having a plurality of heat dissipating holes 121 is disposed around the periphery of the base 12 such that heat generated by the light source circuit components can be dissipated to the outside through the fins 120. The heat dissipating effect can further be improved by convection through the heat dissipating holes 121.

[0007] However, since heat is generated inside the bulb while the heat dissipating structure of the bulb is disposed around the periphery of the base 12 and thermal convection through the heat dissipating holes 121 only reaches the surface of the base 12, the heat cannot be effectively and rapidly dissipated by the heat dissipating structure, thus resulting in high temperature of the bulb. Further, the high temperature of the bulb can adversely affect the light emitting efficiency of the LEDs, cause rapid deterioration of the circuit board, and shorten the lifetime of the bulb.

[0008] Therefore, it is imperative to provide an LED bulb with improved heat dissipating efficiency so as to increase the light emitting efficiency and lifetime of the LED bulb.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] Accordingly, the present invention provides an LED bulb, which comprises: a circuit board having a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface; a plurality of LEDs disposed on the first surface of the circuit board; and a heat dissipating structure having a heat dissipating board, wherein the heat dissipating board has a third surface and a fourth surface opposite to the third surface, the third surface is attached to the second surface of the circuit board, and a plurality of heat dissipating bumps is disposed on the fourth surface and gradually decreases in length from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface.

[0010] In an embodiment of the present invention, the LED bulb can further comprise a housing disposed around the circuit board and the heat dissipating structure and having a plurality of openings disposed therein and positioned around the heat dissipating bumps.

[0011] In an embodiment of the present invention, the housing can have a heat dissipating space formed near the LEDs that generate heat, the heat dissipating structure being disposed in the heat dissipating space.

[0012] In an embodiment of the present invention, the fourth surface of the heat dissipating board can have a protruding portion with a height gradually decreasing from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface.

[0013] In an embodiment of the present invention, the heat dissipating structure can be made of metal.

[0014] In an embodiment of the present invention, the heat dissipating structure can be formed by die casting.

[0015] In an embodiment of the present invention, the heat dissipating bumps can have a triangular pyramid shape, a square pyramid shape, a polygonal pyramid shape, a triangular tapered column shape, a square tapered column shape, a polygonal tapered column shape, a round column shape, a square column shape or a polygonal column shape.

[0016] In an embodiment of the present invention, the LED bulb can further comprise a nano-scaled radiation coating disposed on the heat dissipating bumps.

[0017] According to the present invention, the heat dissipating bumps that gradually decrease in length from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface facilitate rapid dissipation of hot air in the center and the openings disposed around the heat dissipating structure also help to dissipate heat, thereby maintaining the LED bulb at a normal temperature so as to increase the light emitting efficiency and lifetime of the LED bulb.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0018] FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART) is perspective view of a conventional LED bulb;

[0019] FIGS. 2A and 2B are an exploded view and an assembly view, respectively, of an LED bulb according to the present invention;

[0020] FIG. 3 is a side view showing an embodiment of a heat dissipating structure of the LED bulb according to the present invention; and

[0021] FIG. 4 is a side view showing another embodiment of the heat dissipating structure of the LED bulb according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0022] The following embodiments are provided to illustrate the present invention. Those skilled in the art will readily understand other advantages and functions of the present invention in accordance with the contents disclosed in this specification.

[0023] FIGS. 2A and 2B are an exploded view and an assembly view, respectively, of an LED bulb 2 according to the present invention.

[0024] Referring to FIGS. 2A and 2B, the LED bulb 2 comprises: a circuit board 21 having a first surface 21a and a second surface 21b opposite to the first surface 21a; a plurality of LEDs 22 disposed on the first surface 21a; and a heat dissipating structure 23 comprising a heat dissipating board

231, wherein the heat dissipating board **231** has a third surface **231a** and a fourth surface **231b** opposite to the third surface **231a**, the third surface **231a** of the heat dissipating board **231** is attached to the second surface **21b** of the circuit board **21**, and the fourth surface **231b** of the heat dissipating board **231** has a plurality of heat dissipating bumps **232** disposed thereon. Further, as shown in FIG. 3, which is a side view of the heat dissipating structure **23**, the heat dissipating bumps **232** gradually decrease in length from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface **231b**.

[0025] In an embodiment of the present invention, the above-described heat dissipating structure **23** can be formed by die casting.

[0026] In an embodiment of the present invention, the above-described LED bulb further comprises a housing **24** disposed around the circuit board **21** and the heat dissipating structure **23**, and a plurality of openings **240** is disposed in the housing **24** and positioned around the heat dissipating bumps **232**. In particular, a heat dissipating space **28** is formed near the LEDs **22** that generate heat, and the heat dissipating structure **23** is received in the heat dissipating space **28**. In an embodiment of the present invention, the heat dissipating structure **23** is preferably made of metal, and the third surface **231a** of the heat dissipating board **231** is attached to the second surface **21b** of the circuit board **21** preferably through a thermal paste so as to improve the heat conducting efficiency.

[0027] Referring to FIG. 2A, the edges of the circuit board **21** and the heat dissipating structure **23** engage with a groove **241** inside the housing **24**, and another groove **242** disposed on the outside of the housing **24** engages with the edge of a cover **25**, thereby facilitating the assembly of the LED bulb and saving cost. The cover **25**, a power driver **26** and an electrical contact **27** shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B can be provided as known in the prior art, and accordingly detailed description thereof is omitted herein.

[0028] According to the above-described structure, heat generated by the circuit board **21** and the LEDs **22** is conducted to the heat dissipating bumps **232** of the heat dissipating structure **23**. Since the heat dissipating bumps **232** located in the center of the heat dissipating structure **23** are longer than the heat dissipating bumps **232** located around the periphery of the heat dissipating structure **23**, the heat dissipating bumps **232** located in the center of the heat dissipating structure **23** have a larger heat dissipating area for effectively dissipating heat in the center of the circuit board **21**, and the shorter heat dissipating bumps **232** located around the periphery of the heat dissipating structure **23** will not block the flow of air in the center. As such, heat in the center can be rapidly dissipated by the heat dissipating bumps **232** through air convection. Furthermore, the openings **240** disposed in the housing **24** cause hot air to be rapidly dissipated out of the LED bulb **2** in all directions (360 degrees), thereby increasing the heat dissipating efficiency.

[0029] FIG. 4 shows another embodiment of the heat dissipating structure according to the present invention. For purpose of simplification, only the difference of the present embodiment from the previous embodiment of FIG. 3 is described herein. Referring to FIG. 4, the heat dissipating board **231'** of the heat dissipating structure **23'** has a protruding portion **2311** with a height gradually decreasing from the center toward the periphery of the fourth surface **231b'** so as to increase the heat dissipating area.

[0030] In the LED bulb of the present invention, the heat dissipating bumps **232** can have, but not limited to, a triangular pyramid shape, a square pyramid shape, a polygonal pyramid shape, a triangular tapered column shape, a square tapered column shape, a polygonal tapered column shape, a round column shape, a square column shape or a polygonal column shape.

[0031] In addition, the present invention can comprise a nano-scaled radiation coating that is disposed on heat dissipating bumps **232** through spray coating, for example, so as to further improve the heat dissipating efficiency.

[0032] Therefore, the housing of the LED bulb of the present invention has a heat dissipating space formed near the LEDs that generate heat for receiving a heat dissipating structure, wherein the heat dissipating structure comprises a heat dissipating board having one surface attached to the circuit board having the LEDs and the other surface having a plurality of heat dissipating bumps disposed thereon and gradually decreasing in length from the center toward the periphery of the heat dissipating board. The heat dissipating bumps that gradually decrease in length from the center toward the periphery of the heat dissipating board facilitate rapid dissipation of hot air in the center and the openings disposed around the heat dissipating structure also help to dissipate heat. Further, the heat dissipating space, the heat dissipating bumps and the openings disposed in the housing facilitate thermal convection. As such, the overall heat dissipating effect is improved so as to maintain the LED bulb at a normal temperature, thereby increasing the light emitting efficiency and lifetime of the LED bulb.

[0033] The above-described descriptions of the detailed embodiments are intended to illustrate the preferred implementation according to the present invention but are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention. Accordingly, all modifications and variations completed by those with ordinary skill in the art should fall within the scope of present invention defined by the appended claims.

- 1. An LED bulb, comprising:
 - a circuit board having a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface;
 - a plurality of LEDs disposed on the first surface of the circuit board; and
 - a heat dissipating structure having a heat dissipating board, wherein the heat dissipating board has a third surface and a fourth surface opposite to the third surface, the third surface is attached to the second surface of the circuit board, and a plurality of heat dissipating bumps are disposed on the fourth surface;
 - a cover engaged on top of a housing to form the closed LED bulb, wherein the cover has no opening on the top, wherein the LEDs are positioned upwards and covered by the cover; and
 - said housing disposed around the circuit board and the heat dissipating structure, wherein the housing has a plurality of openings positioned around the heat dissipating structure in such a way as to draw the heat away from the LEDs on the circuit board through the heat dissipating structure and out of the heat dissipating space through the openings in the housing via air convection in all directions.