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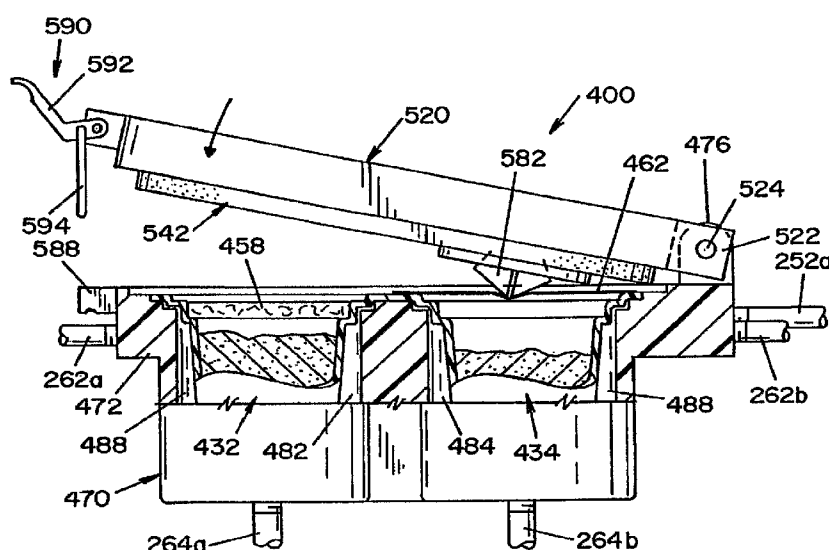
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR GENERATING A MICROBIAL DEACTIVATION FLUID IN AN APPARATUS FOR DEACTIVATING INSTRUMENTS AND DEVICES



(57) Abstract: A method of generating a microbial deactivation fluid to circulate through an apparatus that has a decontamination chamber for holding medical instruments and devices, comprising the steps of: (a) providing a first compartment and a second compartment in the circulation system; (b) providing a chemical reagent in the first compartment and a builder composition in the second compartment; (c) causing a fluid to flow through the second compartment to mix with the builder composition to create an alkaline fluid; (d) when the alkaline fluid has reached a predetermined pH level, causing the alkaline fluid to flow through the first compartment to mix with the chemical reagent to dissolve the chemical reagent to generate a microbial deactivation fluid; and (e) continuing steps (c) and (d) to continue the generation of the microbial deactivation fluid.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A61L 2/18(2006.01)
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USPC: 422/3,28,292,294;206/219

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)
U.S. : 422/3, 28, 292, 294; 206/219

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 practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,209,909 A (SIEGEL et al.) 11 May 1993 (11.05.1993), see entire document.	1-26
A	US 6,197,814 B1 (ARATA) 06 March 2001 (06.03.2001), see entire document.	1-26
A	US 5,494,644 A (THOMAS et al.) 27 February 1996 (27.02.1996), see entire document.	1-26



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family 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 cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST Database

Search Terms: alkaline, mix, solution, disinfectant, salt, pH, fluid, concetation, compartment, container