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drews & Ingersoll, LLP, Suite 1000, 999 Peachtree Street,  
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: BONE SCREW RETAINING AND REMOVAL SYSTEM

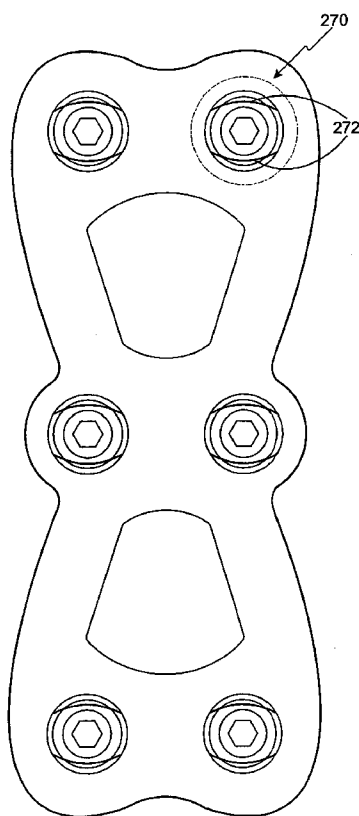


FIG. 2A

(57) Abstract: A bone screw retention system is provided for a plate which defines a plurality of transversely extending bores that are configured to receive a bone screw for engaging the plate to the cervical spine. One or more retention members, having an elliptical, arcuate, straight, or other shape, can be positioned therein a cavity of the plate such that portions of the retention member(s) extend into a portion of an upper region of each bore to retain a bone screw therein. A bone screw removal device is provided, having at least one tongue member configured to selectively displace the one or more retention members to allow the bone screw to be removed from the respective bore.

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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKIPASS(KIPO Internal) "bone", "screw", "retention", "retaining", "elastic", "deformable", "bore", "relax"

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2006-0155285 A1 (KENT ANDERSON) 13 July 2006 See claim 1, paragraph [0027], figures 1-9	1-25
A	EP 1169971 A2 (STRYKER SPINE SA) 9 January 2002 See claims 1 and 24, abstract, figures 1-4	1-25
A	JP 2005-040600 A (U & I CORP.) 17 February 2005 See claim 1, abstract, figures 1 and 2	1-25
A	WO 00-78238 A1 (EUROSURGICAL) 28 December 2000 See abstract, figures 1-7	1-25

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

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