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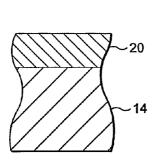
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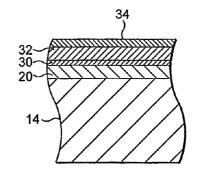
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(54) Title: COATING



(a)



(b)

(57) **Abstract:** A method of forming a coating on a plastics component (14) of a vacuum pump comprises the steps of applying a metallic layer (20) to the component and forming the coating (30, 32, 34) from the metallic layer by subjecting the metallic layer to electrolytic plasma oxidation.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interr.____ Application No PCT/GB2004/003010

Relevant to claim No.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C25D11/02 F04D7/00

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Minimum documentation searched} & \text{(classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \text{IPC 7} & \text{C25D} & \text{F04D} \\ \end{array}$

Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages

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, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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χ Furi	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed i	n annex.
"A" docum	ategories of cited documents : ent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance	T* later document published after the inte or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or the	the application but
"E" earlier filing of the community of the citation of the cit	cate ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another in or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filing date but	invention X* document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the do Y* document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an involve an involve and its combined with one or moments, such combination being obvious in the art. &* document member of the same patent	laimed invention be considered to cument is taken alone laimed invention ventive step when the ore other such docu- us to a person skilled
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"E" earlier filing "L" docum which citatic "O" docum other "P" docum later t	date ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another in or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filing date but han the priority date claimed	X* document of particular relevance; the c cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the do Y* document of particular relevance; the c cannot be considered to involve an interest of the combined with one or moments, such combination being obvious in the art. X* document member of the same patent	laimed invention be considered to cument is taken alone laimed invention ventive step when the re other such docu- us to a person skilled

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