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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

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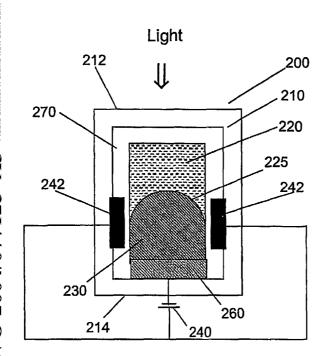
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(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO FLUID FILLED DEVICES



(57) Abstract: A device (100; 200; 300; 400) comprising a sealed cavity (210) containing n volumes of fluids (80, 87; 220, 230; 320, 332; 420, 422, 430, 432) is described, where n is an integer and n>_2. Each volume of fluid is substantially immiscible with every contiguous volume of fluid. The cavity is defined by an interior surface divided into n continuous areas (60, 170; 260, 270; 360, 362, 370; 460, 462, 470, 472), each continuous area corresponding to and being in contact with a respective one of the volumes of fluid. The wettability of each area is such that each volume of fluid preferentially adheres to the corresponding continuous area rather than any one of the continuous areas adjacent to the corresponding area.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/IB2004/050133 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G02B26/02 G02B G02B3/14 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 GO2B 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, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category 9 Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 4 079 368 A (DISTEFANO THOMAS HERMAN) X 1-1114 March 1978 (1978-03-14) column 4, line 23 - line 46; claim 8; figure 1A Α EP 1 069 450 A (CANON KK) 1 - 1117 January 2001 (2001-01-17) cited in the application paragraph '0015! - paragraph '0031!; figures 1,2 WO 02/069016 A (LIGHTWAVE MICROSYSTEMS Α 1 - 11CORP) 6 September 2002 (2002-09-06) cited in the application paragraph '0102! - paragraph '0115!; figure 4 -/--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 cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "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 docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means 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 23/06/2004 14 June 2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer Buropean 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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