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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MOISTURE RESISTANT SOLAR PANEL AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

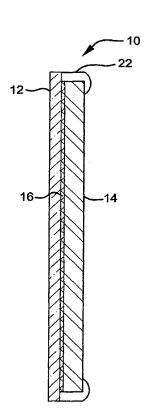


Fig. 5

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a solar panel assembly which is particularly impervious to moisture due, primarily, to the nature of the materials forming the coverplate and the base member of the solar panel assembly, namely a transparent glass, and a flexible metal, respectively. The flexibility of the base member also facilitates the deposition of a photovoltically functional coating thereon.



- DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, Declarations under Rule 4.17: HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
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- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. H01L31/048 H01L3 H01L31/18 B32B17/00 ADD. 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) H01L 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, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Χ US 6 204 443 B1 (KISO SIGEO [JP] ET AL) 1 - 2320 March 2001 (2001-03-20) the whole document EP 1 020 930 A2 (CANON KK [JP]) χ 1 - 2319 July 2000 (2000-07-19) paragraph [0085] - paragraph [0103] EP 0 836 233 A2 (CANON KK [JP]) χ 1 15 April 1998 (1998-04-15) page 2, line 30 - line 38 EP 0 829 909 A2 (CANON KK [JP]) 18 March 1998 (1998-03-18) χ 1,24 figure 15; example 1 -/--Х Χ 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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention 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 filing date 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) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. 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 6 July 2011 12/07/2011 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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