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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

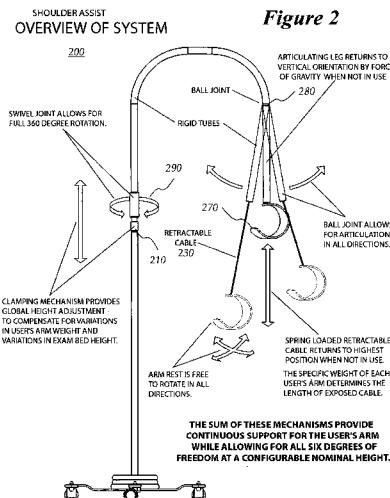
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
30 September 2010

(54) **Title:** ERGONOMIC ABDUCTED ARM SUPPORT APPARATUS, SYSTEM, AND METHOD



(57) **Abstract:** An ergonomic occupational health support device that supports the arm and/or shoulder during difficult prolonged periods of arm abduction. The described apparatus, methods and systems of ergonomic arm support reduce the muscle fatigue of an operator's arm when held in the abducted or reaching position and thereby optimize muscle recovery. Muscle fatigue caused by the stress on the upper extremity muscles of the shoulder and arm of an operator (e.g., a sonographer) is greatly reduced when placed into the arm cradle of the disclosed apparatus and will diminish or disappear as the muscles are able to relax and be refreshed.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER*A61F 5/042(2006.01)i, A61F 5/045(2006.01)i*

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)

A61F 5/042; A47C 7/54; A47F 5/00; B43C 15/00; B68G 5/00; F41A 27/30

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)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: arm, support, rest, ergonomic, spring, cable, and stand.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6086024 A1 (CONGRESS; MICHAEL ALAN) 11 July 2000 See the whole document.	1-12
A	US 2005-0012376 A1 (SIMINOVITCH; MICHAEL J. et al.) 20 January 2005 See the whole document.	1-12
A	US 6347771 B1 (LAUZON; PIERRE et al.) 19 February 2002 See the whole document.	1-12
A	US 6098936 A1 (BIRRELL; ANDREW) 08 August 2000 See the whole document.	1-12
A	US 6082034 A1 (MUSMANNO; BRAD A.) 04 July 2000 See the whole document.	1-12

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

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6086024 A1	11.07.2000	None	
US 2005-0012376 A1	20.01.2005	US 6923505 B2	02.08.2005
US 6347771 B1	19.02.2002	None	
US 6098936 A1	08.08.2000	None	
US 6082034 A1	04.07.2000	None	