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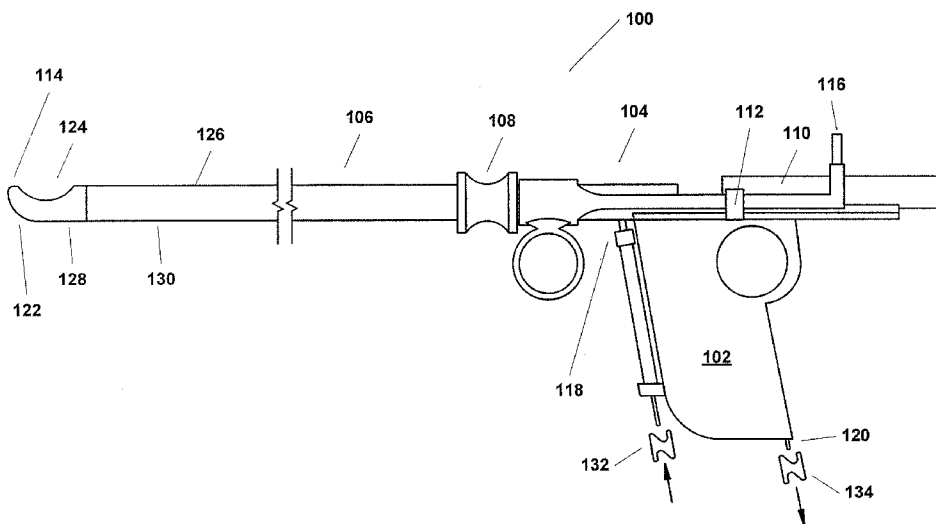
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(54) Title: RESECTOSCOPIC DEVICE AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A surgical instrument has a channel dimensioned to receive a viewing instrument and enable the viewing instrument to be moved to or from a position near an optically transparent portion of a blunt, enclosed distal end of a shaft to provide unobstructed viewing through the distal end, and a position to the proximal side of an enclosed working area to provide viewing of the enclosed working area. A surgical instrument also or alternatively has a fluid routing switch within a shaft which can selectively connect a fluid infusion channel to at least one fluid export pore or a return channel. A method involves moving a viewing instrument to or from a position near an optically transparent portion of a blunt, enclosed distal shaft end and a proximal side of an enclosed working area. A method also or alternatively involves changing a position of a fluid routing switch within the shaft.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/66055

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61B 18/18 (2007.10)

USPC - 606/46

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(8) - A61B 18/18 (2007.10)

USPC - 606/46

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)

MicroPatent

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y         | US 4,922,902 A (WUCHINICH et al) 08 May 1990 (08.05.1990) entire document          | 1-118                 |
| Y         | US 5,295,990 A (LEVIN) 22 March 1994 (22.03.1994) entire document                  | 1-118                 |
| Y         | US 6,090,103 A (HAKKY et al) 18 July 2000 (18.07.2000) entire document             | 5, 7-8, 25, 30        |
| Y         | WO 2006/021880 A2 (KUMAR) 02 March 2006 (02.03.2006) entire document               | 49-51, 55             |
| Y         | US 2005/0049459 A1 (HERN) 03 March 2005 (03.03.2005) entire document               | 39-43                 |

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"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

17 January 2008

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/66055

**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:  
 Group I, claims 1-30, 37-70, 72-74, 76-80, 82-98, 100-104 and 106-118, drawn to a surgical instrument having a shaft with a fluid infusion channel, a side wall having an opening, return channel, a viewing instrument and at least one pore.  
 Group II, claims 31-36, 39-43, 71, 75, 81, 99 and 105, drawn to a surgical instrument having a shaft and a scope.

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.