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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PHASE STABLE METAL OXIDE ARTICLE AND PROCESS FOR MAKING THE SAME

(57) Abstract: A shaped ceramic article, made from an amorphous metal hydroxide having a crystalline microstructure and at least 60 weight percent of the crystalline microstructure is tetragonal, is disclosed. The article's crush strength exceeds 4 kg. A process for making the ceramic article is also described.

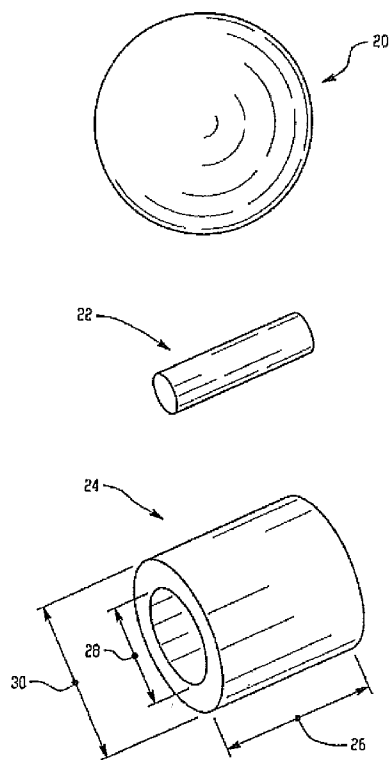


Fig. 1



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, 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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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) B01J C01G C04B				
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				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
A	HUSSAIN S T ET AL: "Increase in Concentration and Strength of Acidic Catalytic Sites on Sulfated Zirconia by Doping with Silica" CHINESE JOURNAL OF CATALYSIS / DALIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS, ELSEVIER, AMSTERDAM, NL LNKD- DOI:10.1016/S1872-2067(07)60054-0, vol. 28, no. 7, 1 July 2007 (2007-07-01), pages 622-626, XP022857637 ISSN: 1872-2067 [retrieved on 2007-07-01] ----- -/--	1-18		
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BARTHOS R ET AL: "A study of the acidic and catalytic properties of pure and sulfated zirconia-titania and zirconia-silica mixed oxides" TOPICS IN CATALYSIS, KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS-PLENUM PUBLISHERS, NE, vol. 10, no. 1-2, 1 March 2000 (2000-03-01), pages 79-87, XP019291879 ISSN: 1572-9028	8-18
A	-----	1-7
A	YUNCHEN DU ET AL: "Ordered mesoporous sulfated silica-zirconia materials with high zirconium contents in the structure" JOURNAL OF POROUS MATERIALS, KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS, BO LNKD-DOI:10.1007/S10934-006-7026-5, vol. 13, no. 2, 1 April 2006 (2006-04-01), pages 163-171, XP019212448 ISSN: 1573-4854	1-18
A	----- YANG H ET AL: "Preparation, characterization and catalytic activity of sulfated zirconia-silica nanocrystalline catalysts" MATERIALS LETTERS, NORTH HOLLAND PUBLISHING COMPANY, AMSTERDAM, NL LNKD-DOI:10.1016/S0167-577X(02)01313-7, vol. 57, no. 16-17, 1 May 2003 (2003-05-01), pages 2572-2579, XP004418473 ISSN: 0167-577X -----	1-18