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(54) **Title:** METHOD FOR ASSEMBLING A TAMPON APPLICATOR

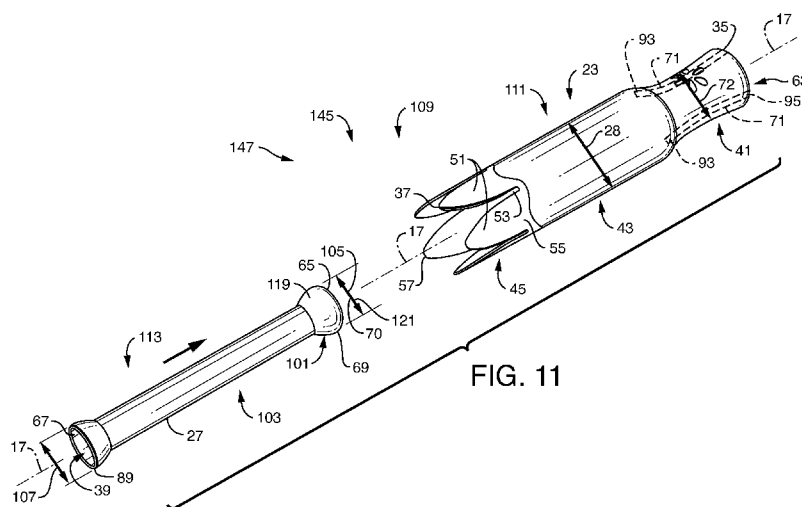


FIG. 11

(57) **Abstract:** A method of assembling a tampon applicator includes providing a barrel with internal ridges that define a guide channel having an effective diameter. The method includes providing a plunger that has a finger flare with a circular shape and a flare diameter that is at least 15% larger than the effective diameter of the guide channel. The method includes assembling the plunger and the barrel by pushing the finger flare into the guide channel and deforming the finger flare into a non-circular shape while moving the finger flare through the guide channel. The method includes moving the finger flare out of the plunger end of the barrel and reestablishing the circular shape of the finger flare.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2012/050552**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER*****A61F 13/26(2006.01)i, A61F 13/20(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)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: KOMPASS, Google

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 2010-0016780 A1 (VANDENBOGART, T. W. et al.) 21 January 2010 See entire document.	1-20
A	US 2010-0324468 A1 (GANN, D. L. AND HASSE, M. H.) 23 December 2010 See entire document.	1-20
A	US 2004-0054317 A1 (LEMAY, J. E. et al.) 18 March 2004 See entire document.	1-20
A	US 2004-0199102 A1 (LEMAY, J. E. et al.) 07 October 2004 See entire document.	1-20
A	US 05158535 A (PAUL, S. C. AND SHELDON, D. A.) 27 October 1992 See entire document.	1-20

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

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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