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54 **Metal-loaded carbon fibres.**

57 Disclosed is an improved metal loaded carbon fiber and a process for its production. Incorporated within the fiber is a combination of a boron compound and a heavy metal salt wherein the heavy metal is selected from the elements contained in Groups IVB, VB and VIB of the Periodic Table. These composite metal loaded carbon fibers show high thermal oxidation resistance and low degradation when compared to prior art carbon fibers. They have great utility in the aircraft and space technology because of their high oxidation resistance and their ability to retain structure at high temperature over extended periods of time.

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**EUROPEAN SEARCH
REPORT**

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
D,X	US-A-3 803 056 (M.L. HART) * Column 1, line 45 - column 2, line 57; column 3, line 39 - column 4, line 6; column 6, lines 44-47; table II *	1,2	D 01 F 9/22 D 01 F 11/12
D,Y	---	1-7	
Y	US-A-3 997 638 (A.J. MANNING et al.) * Claims; example IV; column 12, lines 4-6; example 4 * -----	1-7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			D 01 F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		26 June 91	PAMIES OLLE S.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			