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(54) Title: ORTHOPEDIC DEVICE HAVING A PATIENT COMPLIANCE SYSTEM

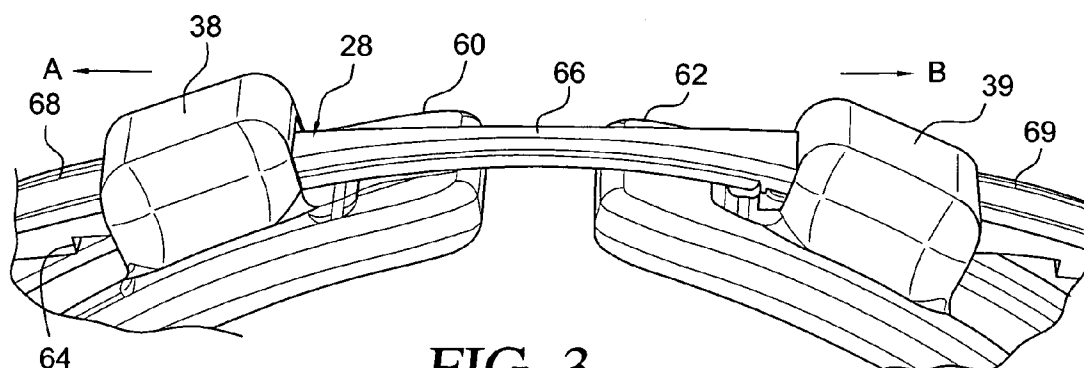


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: An orthopedic device (200) includes a strut assembly (218) having a resilient shell (220), and a patient compliance system (234A, 234B, 234C, 244). The patient compliance system (234A, 234B, 234C, 244) includes a tightening strap (234A, 234B, 234C) connecting first and second sides of the shell (220). The tightening strap (234A, 234B, 234C) has first and second end portions arranged for incremental unidirectional adjustment relative to at least one of the first and second sides of the strut assembly (218). The tightening strap (234A, 234B, 234C) is arranged to bend the shell and draw the first and second sides thereof toward one another.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
INV. A61F5/01

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

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, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/135901 A1 (INGIMUNDARSON ARNI T [US] ET AL) 22 June 2006 (2006-06-22)	1,3-5,
Y	abstract; figures 7-55 paragraphs [0097] - [0099], [0178] - [0217]	8-15 6,7,12
X	US 5 370 133 A (DARBY H DARREL [US] ET AL) 6 December 1994 (1994-12-06)	1,3-11,
Y	abstract; figures 1,3-5	13-15 6,7,12
X	WO 97/24085 A (ROYCE MEDICAL CO [US]) 10 July 1997 (1997-07-10)	1,3-5,8,
Y	figures 2-5,10 page 5, line 29 - page 6, line 2 page 10, lines 7-34	13 6,7,12
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.       See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

<p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*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)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>*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</p> <p>*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</p> <p>*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.</p> <p>*&amp;* document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  <b>21 January 2009</b>	Date of mailing of the international search report  <b>18/06/2009</b>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <b>Dennler, Samuel</b>
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2008/011694

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y  A	WO 2004/009001 A (ROYCE MEDICAL CO [US]) 29 January 2004 (2004-01-29) figures 1,18,21  -----	6,7  1,3-5, 8-15

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2008/011694

## 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:

see additional sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an 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.:

see annex

### 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.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1,3-15

an orthopedic device comprising a strut assembly having a resilient shell and defining first and second sides, and a patient compliance system including a tightening strap for closing the clearance between first and second sides, wherein the tightening strap is adapted for incremental uni-directional adjustment of said clearance;

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2. claims: 2-4,6-13

an orthopedic device comprising a strut assembly having a resilient shell and defining first and second sides, and a patient compliance system including a tightening strap for closing the clearance between first and second sides, wherein the strut assembly further comprises at least one substantially rigid frame member unitarily secured to the shell.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2008/011694

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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