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(54) **Device for optimizing the flow of refrigerant fluid fed to an evaporator of a refrigeration circuit and acting as an expansion noise level reducer**

(57) A device for optimizing, within a refrigeration circuit, the flow of refrigerant fluid fed to an evaporator via an expansion member (1) and for reducing the expansion noise level comprises a body (10) constructed of porous material and positioned in correspondence with a free end (5) of said expansion member (1) along the refrigerant fluid path towards the evaporator within a containing tube (3) for said member (1) positioned at the entry to said evaporator, said body (10) containing at least a portion (7) of said free end (5) and being fixed within said tube (3).

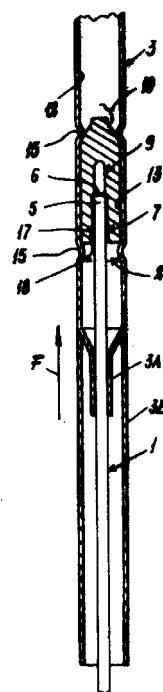


Fig. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 10 3641

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		28 January 2000	De Graaf, J.D.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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