

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 April 2008 (10.04.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/041103 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61B 17/3211 (2006.01) **A61B 19/00** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2007/002925

(22) International Filing Date: 3 October 2007 (03.10.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2006/08336 6 October 2006 (06.10.2006) ZA

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: **MILTON, Trevor, John** [ZA/ZA]; 19A North Road, Dunkeld West, Gauteng Province, 2196 Johannesburg (ZA).

(74) Agent: **VON SEIDEL, Michael**; Von Seidels Intellectual Property Attorneys, P.O. Box 440, Century City, 7446 Cape Town (ZA).

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL,

IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, 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, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

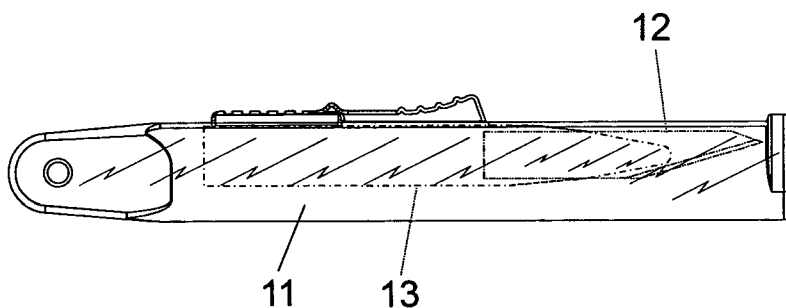
- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
28 August 2008

(54) Title: SCALPEL WITH TRANSPARENT PLASTIC BLADE CARRIER, HANDLE, OR BOTH



(57) Abstract: A scalpel (1) is provided having a handle, a plastic blade carrier (3, 13), and a scalpel blade (2, 9, 12) secured to the blade carrier. The blade carrier is preferably sufficiently transparent to enable at least the shape of a blade secured to a flat face (7) thereof to be visible from the opposite side of the blade carrier. Preferably, the blade carrier is made of a clear plastic material that may be colourless or tinted. The scalpel blade

may be a fixed scalpel blade (9) in which the blade carrier is integral with the handle (10). Alternatively, the scalpel blade may be retractable into a hollow handle that is also preferably sufficiently transparent to enable at least the shape of the scalpel blade to be visible through the wall of the handle.



WO 2008/041103 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2007/002925

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61B17/3211
ADD. A61B19/00

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)
A61B

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, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/212058 A1 (DJORDJEVIC ILIJA [US] ET AL) 21 September 2006 (2006-09-21)	1-3
Y	paragraph [0040]; figures 4,5	1-3,6,7
Y	US 5 370 654 A (ABIDIN MICHAEL R [US] ET AL) 6 December 1994 (1994-12-06)	1-3,6,7
	column 4; figures 1,2	
X	US 5 258 001 A (CORMAN JOHN M [US]) 2 November 1993 (1993-11-02)	1-3,6-8
	the whole document	
X	WO 03/070116 A (MOSSERI RAPHAËL [FR]) 28 August 2003 (2003-08-28)	1-3,5,8
	pages 16,17; figures 8-11	
	----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *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)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *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
- *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
- *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.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 July 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/07/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Herberhold, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2007/002925

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 263 577 B1 (WONDERLEY JEFFREY W [US]) 24 July 2001 (2001-07-24) column 9, line 50 - line 62 -----	4
X	US 4 657 012 A (BURGIN KERMIT H [US]) 14 April 1987 (1987-04-14) columns 2-4; figures 1,2,7 -----	1-3,5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2007/002925

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2006212058 A1	21-09-2006	NONE	
US 5370654 A	06-12-1994	US 5545175 A	13-08-1996
US 5258001 A	02-11-1993	NONE	
WO 03070116 A	28-08-2003	EP 1478285 A1 FR 2836410 A1	24-11-2004 29-08-2003
US 6263577 B1	24-07-2001	US 6438849 B1	27-08-2002
US 4657012 A	14-04-1987	NONE	