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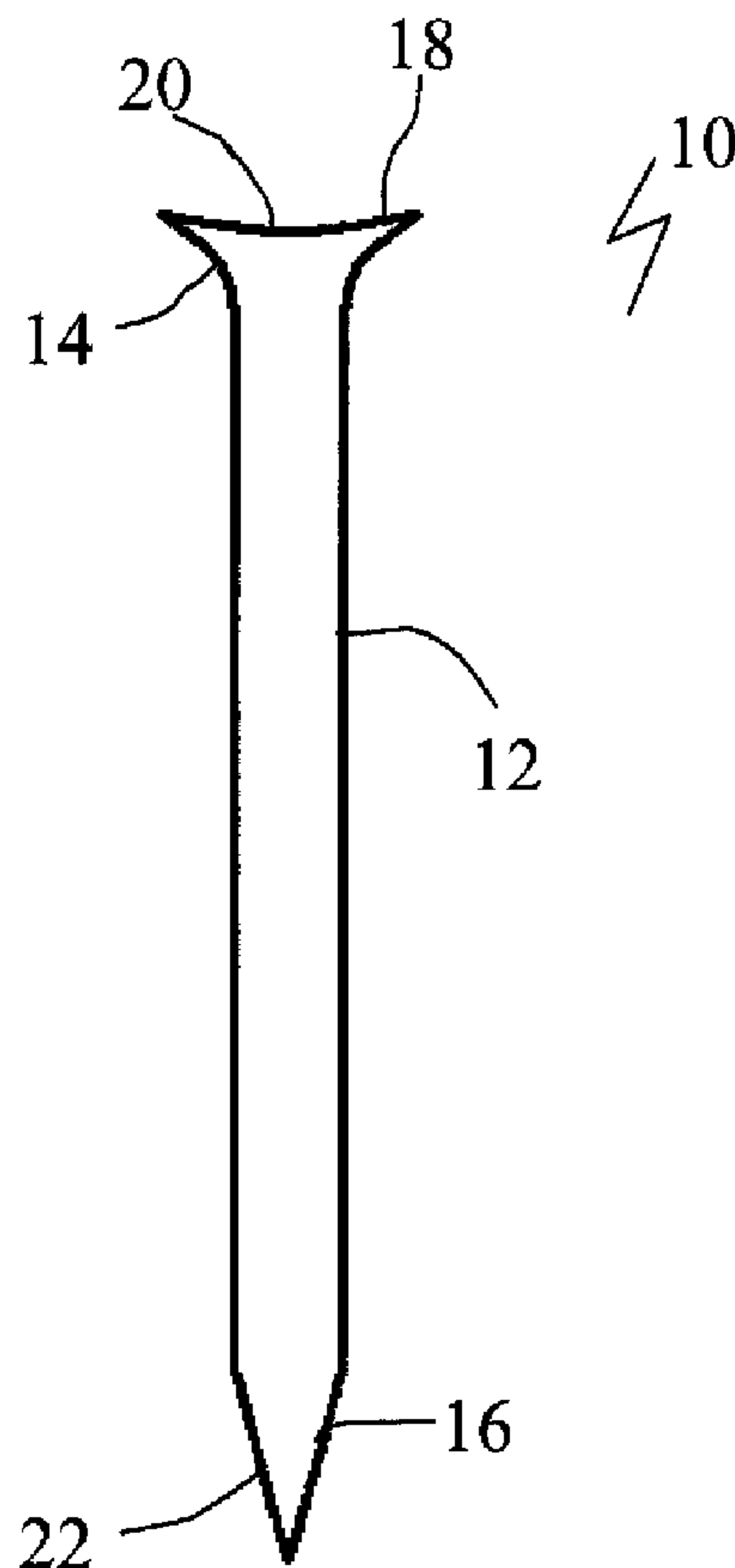
(71) Demandeur/Applicant:
WILKINSON, THOMAS, JR., CA

(72) Inventeur/Inventor:
WILKINSON, THOMAS, JR., CA

(74) Agent: WOODRUFF, NATHAN V.

(54) Titre : TE DE GOLF

(54) Title: GOLF TEE



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A golf tee includes an elongated shaft with a first end and a second end. The first end has a ball rest and the second end has a ground engagement. A reinforcing core is positioned within the elongated shaft and an outer skin covers the reinforcing core.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A golf tee includes an elongated shaft with a first end and a second end. The first end has a ball rest and the second end has a ground engagement. A reinforcing core is positioned within the elongated shaft and an outer skin covers the reinforcing core.

TITLE

[0001] Golf Tee

FIELD

5 [0002] This relates to golf tees and a method and apparatus for retrieving a golf tee.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Golf tees are often lost on the golf course or destroyed during use when a golf club makes contact with them. A golfer must, therefore, carry several tees during a game of
10 golf to ensure that they have an adequate supply. What is required is a more robust form of golf tee.

SUMMARY

[0004] There is provided a golf tee that has an elongated shaft with a first end and a
15 second end. The first end has a ball rest and the second end has a ground engagement. A reinforcing core is positioned within the elongated shaft and an outer skin covers the reinforcing core. The outer skin is of a material that prevents a golf club from sustaining damage upon impact with the reinforcing core.

20 [0005] The golf tee described above has additional strength due to the presence of the reinforcing core. If the reinforcing core was of a material stronger than the golf club, the golf club might sustain damage over prolonged use. The presence of the outer skin prevents this from occurring.

25 [0006] There will hereinafter be described and illustrated the present invention incorporated into a conventional golf tee that has a concave surface and the ground engagement is sharp to allow for insertion into the ground. It will be appreciated that the teachings are equally applicable to other styles of golf tee that are becoming available that rest on the ground or support a golf ball on bristles or in another manner.

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[0007] Beneficial results have been seen when the reinforcing core is made of a metal that is attracted to a magnet or is a magnet. This allows the golf tee to be picked up using a magnet or magnetic attraction with another object. The magnetic attraction may also be used

to store the golf tee.

[0008] Even more beneficial results may also be seen when the reinforcing core extends the entire length between the first end of the elongated shaft and the second end of the elongated shaft. This provides increased strength to the golf tee and when the golf tee has a magnetic core, a larger reinforcing core provides a stronger connection with a magnetic attraction.

[0009] There are various materials that are suitable for the outer skin. Beneficial results have been obtained when the outer skin is made of a carbon fibre. Carbon fibre is strong and aesthetically appealing.

[0010] There is also provided a method of picking up a golf tee that includes providing a golf tee with an elongated shaft that has a first end and a second end. The first end has a ball rest and the second end has a ground engagement. A reinforcing core is positioned with the elongated shaft and is covered by an outer skin. A golf tee retriever is provided that has a body with a top, a bottom and a magnetic core. An attachment is positioned on the bottom of the body for connecting the golf tee retriever to a golf club. The golf tee retriever is connected to a golf club and can then be used to pick the golf tee up off the ground using a magnetic attraction between the golf tee and the golf tee retriever.

[0011] Although the golf tee receiver could be positioned elsewhere on a golf club, beneficial results have been seen when the golf tee retriever is positioned on a grip of the golf club and even more beneficial results are positioned on the top of the grip.

[0012] There is also provided a golf tee and golf tee retriever in combination. The golf tee has an elongated shaft that has a first end with a ball rest and a second end that has a ground engagement. A reinforcing core is positioned within the elongated shaft and an outer skin covers the reinforcing core. The golf tee retriever includes a body with a top, a bottom and a magnetic core and has an attachment positioned on the bottom of the body for connection to a golf club.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] These and other features will become more apparent from the following description in which reference is made to the appended drawings, the drawings are for the purpose of illustration only and are not intended to be in any way limiting, wherein:

[0014] **FIG. 1** is a side elevation view of a golf tee

[0015] **FIG. 2** is a side elevation view, in section, of the golf tee shown in **FIG. 1**.

[0016] **FIG. 3** is a side elevation view, partially in section, of a golf tee retriever.

10 [0017] **FIG. 4** is an exploded side elevation view of the grip of a golf club and the golf tee retriever.

[0018] **FIG. 5** is a side elevation view of the grip of a golf club with a golf tee retriever picking up a golf tee.

[0019] **FIG. 6** is a front elevation view of a golf bag tag with a golf tee attached to it.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0020] A golf tee generally identified by reference numeral 10, will now be described with reference to **FIG. 1** through **6**.

20 **Structure and Relationship of Parts:**

[0021] Referring to **FIG. 1**, golf tee 10 has an elongated shaft 12 with a first end 14 and a second end 16. First end 14 has a ball rest 18 and second end 16 has a ground engagement 22. In the embodiment shown, ball rest 18 has a concave surface 20, however it will be understood that different types of ball rests 18 may be used including bristles, a ring which supports the ball, or any other type of ball rest 18 known in the art. Ground engagement 22, in the present embodiment, is shown as being sharp to allow for insertion of golf tee 10 into the ground; however, it will be understood that different ground engagements 22 may be used including flat bases as ground engagements 22 that allow golf tee 10 to rest on top of the ground.

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[0022] Referring to **FIG. 2**, elongated shaft 12 is reinforced with a reinforcing core 24

which provides additional strength to golf tee 10 and an outer skin 26 covers reinforcing core 24. In the embodiment shown, reinforcing core 24 extends from first end 14 of elongated shaft 12 to second end 16 of elongated shaft 12; it will, however, be understood that reinforcing core 24 may extend only part way between first end 14 and second end 16.

5 Reinforcing core 24 is preferably made of a metal that is attracted to a magnet or be made of a magnet. This allows golf tee 10 to be picked up or stored using a magnetic attraction. Outer skin 26 may provide additional strength to golf tee 10 but may also be altered to provide an aesthetically pleasing look to golf tee 10. Beneficial results have been obtained with an outer skin 26 made of a carbon fibre; however it will be understood that outer skin 25 may be made

10 of any material that can resist damage that occurs due to contact with a swinging golf club and everyday use.

[0023] Referring to **FIG. 3**, a golf tee retriever 30 has a body 32 with a magnetic or metallic core 34 to allow for magnetic coupling with the reinforcing core 24 of golf tee 10

15 from the ground. An attachment, such as screw 36, is positioned on a bottom 38 of body 32 to allow it to be connected to a golf club. It will be understood that different types of attachments, including a push pin or an adhesive strip may be used. Magnetic or metallic core 34 is preferably positioned closer to a top 37 of body 32 so that the magnet or metallic core 34 is closer to the outer surface 39. Referring to **FIG. 4**, golf tee retriever 30 is preferably

20 positioned on the top 40 of a grip 42 of the golf club, however it will be understood that retriever 30 can be placed in any position on the golf club. The placement of golf tee retriever 30 on top 40 of grip 42 is minimally obtrusive but leaves golf tee retriever 30 readily available to the user. Body 32 may have a non-corrosive covering, not shown, which may be placed on golf tee retriever 30 to alleviate any corrosion that may occur due to the partially metallic

25 structure of golf tee retriever 30. Referring to **FIG. 5**, when the retriever 30 is positioned on the top 40 of grip 42, a user simply rotates the golf club so grip 42 is closer to the ground and uses it to pick up golf tee 10. The user does not have to know exactly where on the ground their golf tee 10 is since the magnetic attraction of golf tee 10 to golf tee retriever 30 is strong enough to allow retrieval from a short distance away. Referring to **FIG. 4**, screw 36 connects

30 golf tee retriever 30 to the small hole 44 typically found at the top 40 of most golf club grips 42.

[0024] Golf tee retriever 30 may also be used to store other metallic or magnetic objects when not being used to pick up golf tee 10. For example, a ball marker, not shown, that is similar in size to golf tee retriever 30 could be conveniently stored for easy accessibility.

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[0025] Referring to **FIG. 6**, golf tee 10 may be easily stored on a golf bag tag 46 using a magnetic attraction between golf tee 10 and golf bag tag 46. When golf tee 10 has a magnetic core, golf bag tag 46 may be made of any metal that is attracted to magnets. When golf tee 10 has a core made of a metal that is attracted to magnets, golf bag tag 46 will require a magnetic surface to allow attraction between golf tee 10 and golf bag tag 46.

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[0026] In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but items not specifically mentioned are not excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be one and only one of the elements.

15

[0027] The following claims are to be understood to include what is specifically illustrated and described above, what is conceptually equivalent, and what can be obviously substituted. The scope of the claims should not be limited by the preferred embodiments set forth in the examples, but should be given the broadest interpretation consistent with the description as a whole.

20

What is Claimed is:

1. A golf tee comprising:
 - an elongated shaft having a first end and a second end, the first end having a ball rest
 - 5 and the second end having a ground engagement;
 - a reinforcing core within the elongated shaft; and
 - an outer skin covering the reinforcing core.
2. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing core is made of a metal that is attracted to a
- 10 magnet.
3. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing core is a magnet.
4. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing core extends from the first end of the
- 15 elongated shaft to the second end of the elongated shaft.
5. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the outer skin is non-magnetic.
6. The golf tee of claim 5, wherein the outer skin is carbon fiber.
- 20 7. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the ball rest is concave.
8. The golf tee of claim 1, wherein the ground engagement is sharp for insertion into the
- 25 ground.
9. A method of picking up a golf tee from the ground, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a golf tee having an elongated shaft with a first end and a second end, the
 - first end having a ball rest and the second end having a ground engagement, a reinforcing core
 - within the elongated shaft, and an outer skin covering the reinforcing core, the reinforcing
 - 30 core being one of magnetic or a metal that is attracted to a magnet;
 - providing a golf tee retriever having a body with a top, a bottom and a core, the core

being magnetic being of a material that is magnetically attracted to the reinforcing core of the golf tee;

connecting the golf tee retriever to a golf club; and

using the golf tee retriever on the golf club to pick up the golf tee from the ground

5 using a magnetic attraction between the golf tee and the golf tee retriever.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the outer skin of the golf tee is non-magnetic.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the outer skin of the golf tee is carbon fiber.

10

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the golf tee retriever is positioned on a grip of the golf club.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the golf tee retriever is positioned on the top of the grip
15 of the golf club.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the golf tee retriever has an attachment for attaching the golf tee receiver to a golf club.

20 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the attachment of the golf tee retriever is a screw for engaging a grip of a golf club.

16. A golf tee and golf tee retriever, comprising in combination:

a golf tee comprising:

25 an elongated shaft having a first end and a second end, the first end having a ball rest and the second end having a ground engagement;

a reinforcing core within the elongated shaft, the reinforcing core being one of magnetic or a metal that is attracted to a magnet; and

an outer skin covering the reinforcing core; and

30 a golf tee retriever comprising:

a body having a top, a bottom and a core, the core being made of a material

that is magnetically attracted to the reinforcing core of the golf tee; and
an attachment positioned on the the body for connection to a golf club.

17. The combination of claim 16, wherein the reinforcing core extends from the first end of
5 the elongated shaft to the second end of the elongated shaft.

18. The combination of claim 16, wherein the outer skin is non-magnetic.

19. The combination of claim 18, wherein the outer skin is carbon fiber.

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20. The combination of claim 16, wherein the ball rest is concave.

21. The combination of claim 16, wherein the ground engagement is sharp for insertion into
the ground.

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21. The combination of claim 16, wherein the attachment is a screw for engaging a grip of a
golf club.

22. A golf tee retriever, comprising in combination:

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a golf club grip; and

a body having one of a magnetic or metallic core adapted to magnetically interact with
a metallic or magnetic golf tee,
the body being incorporated into the golf club grip.

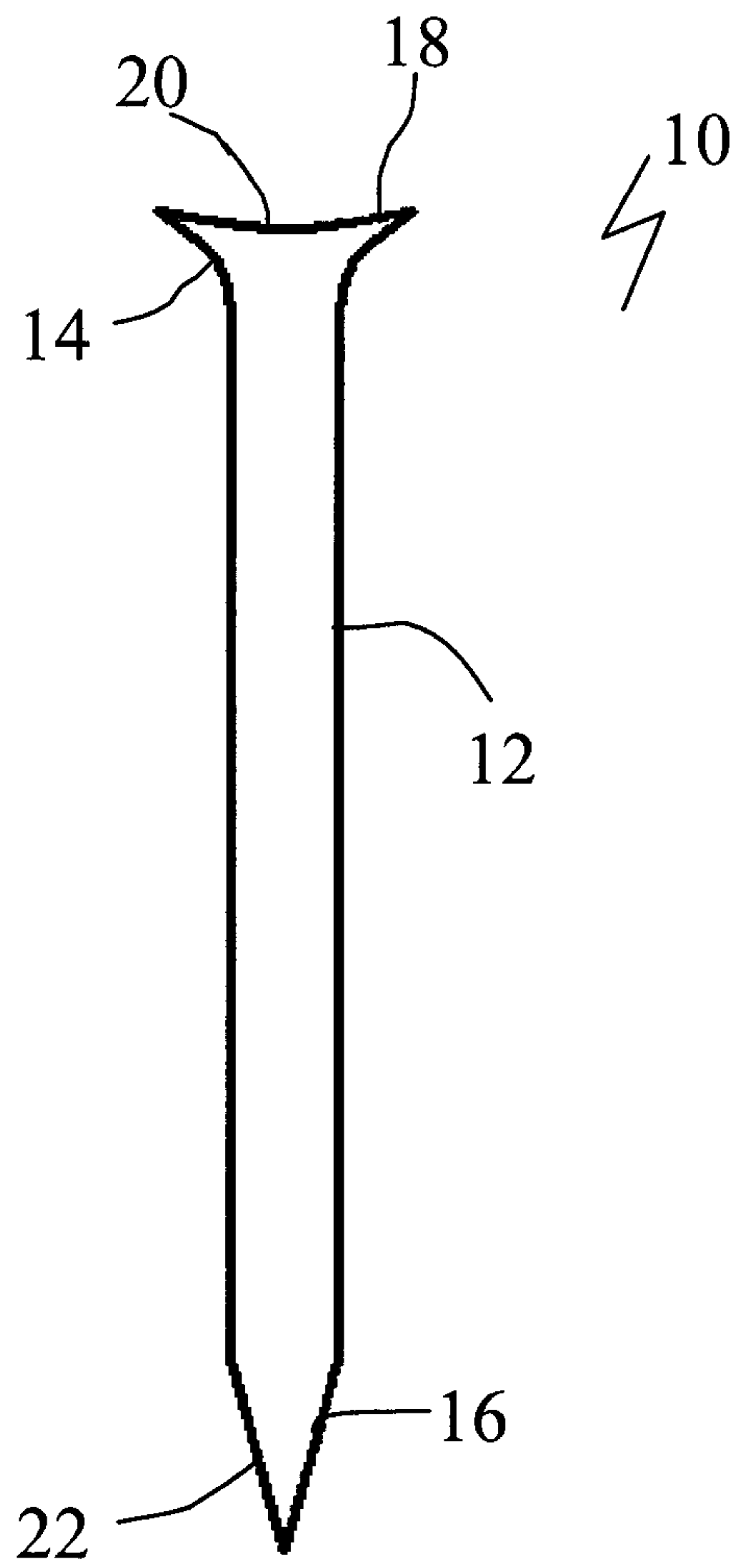


FIG. 1

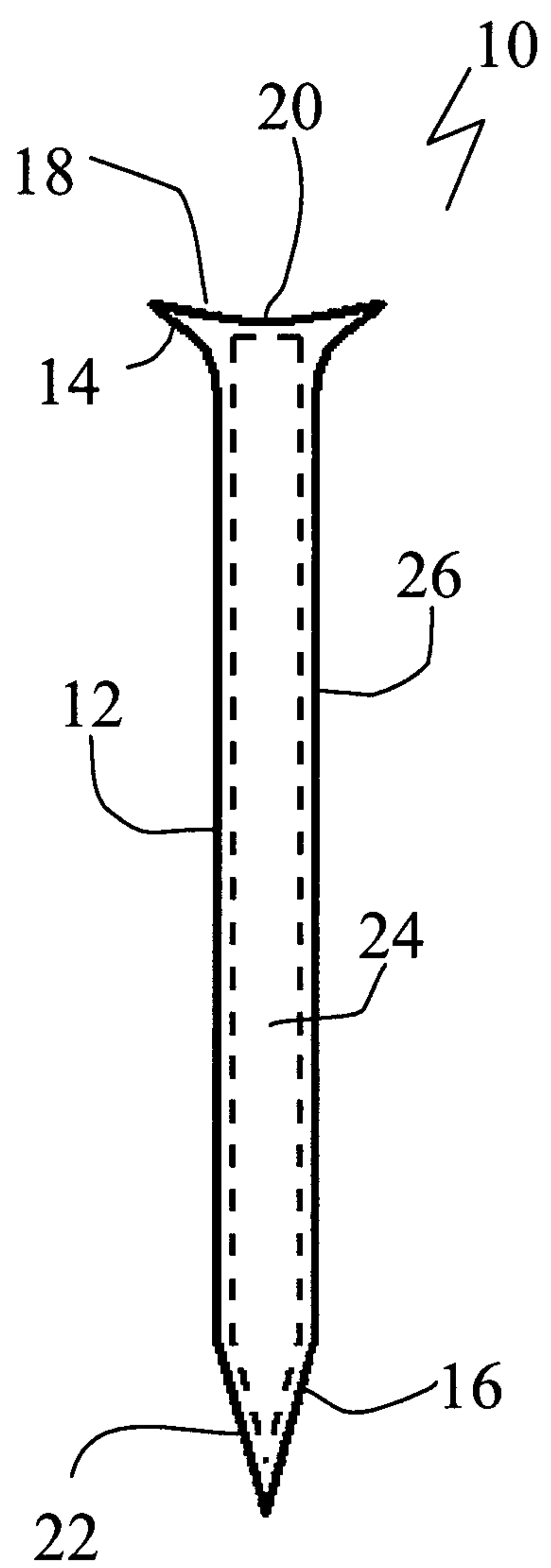


FIG. 2

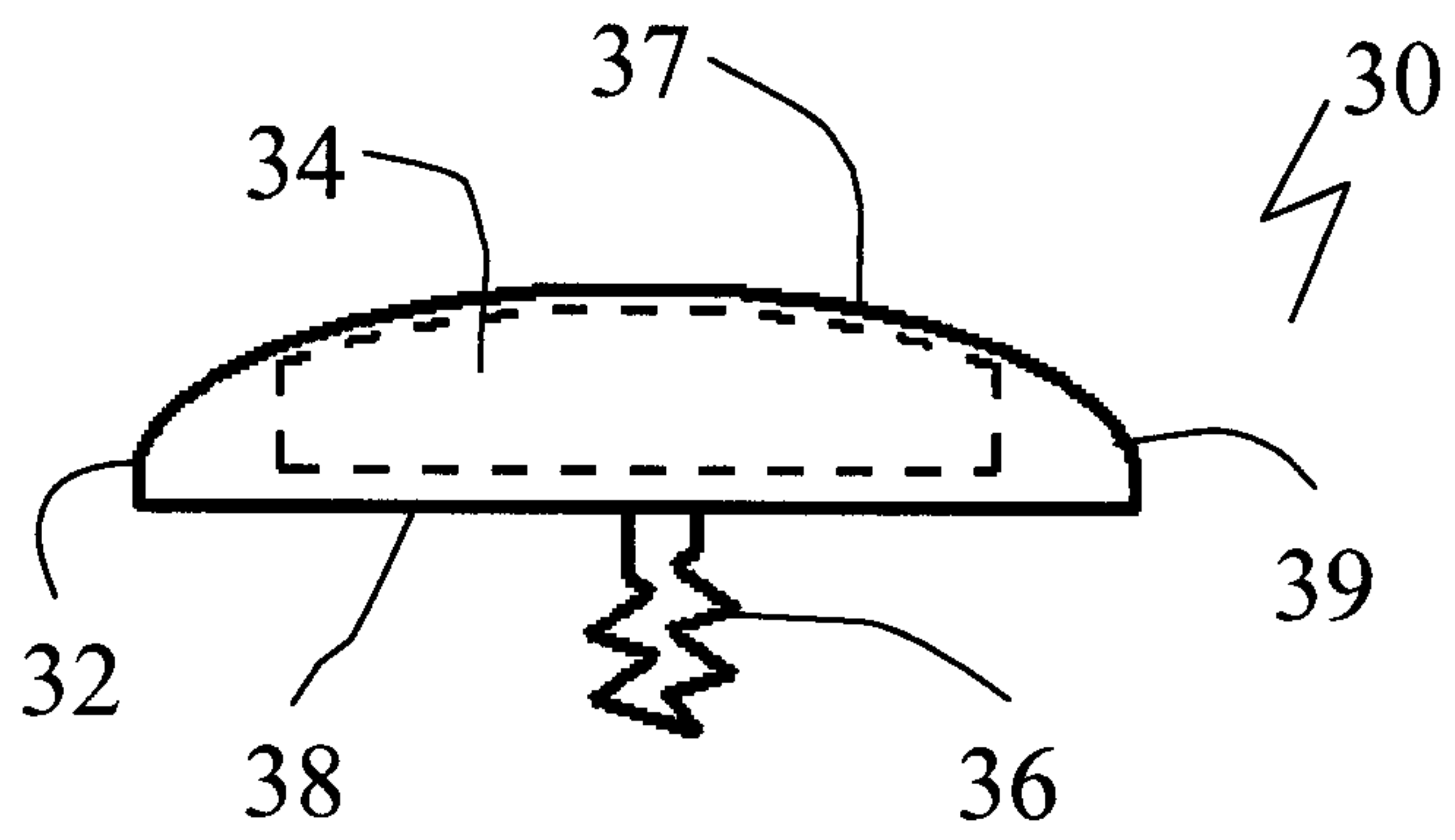


FIG. 3

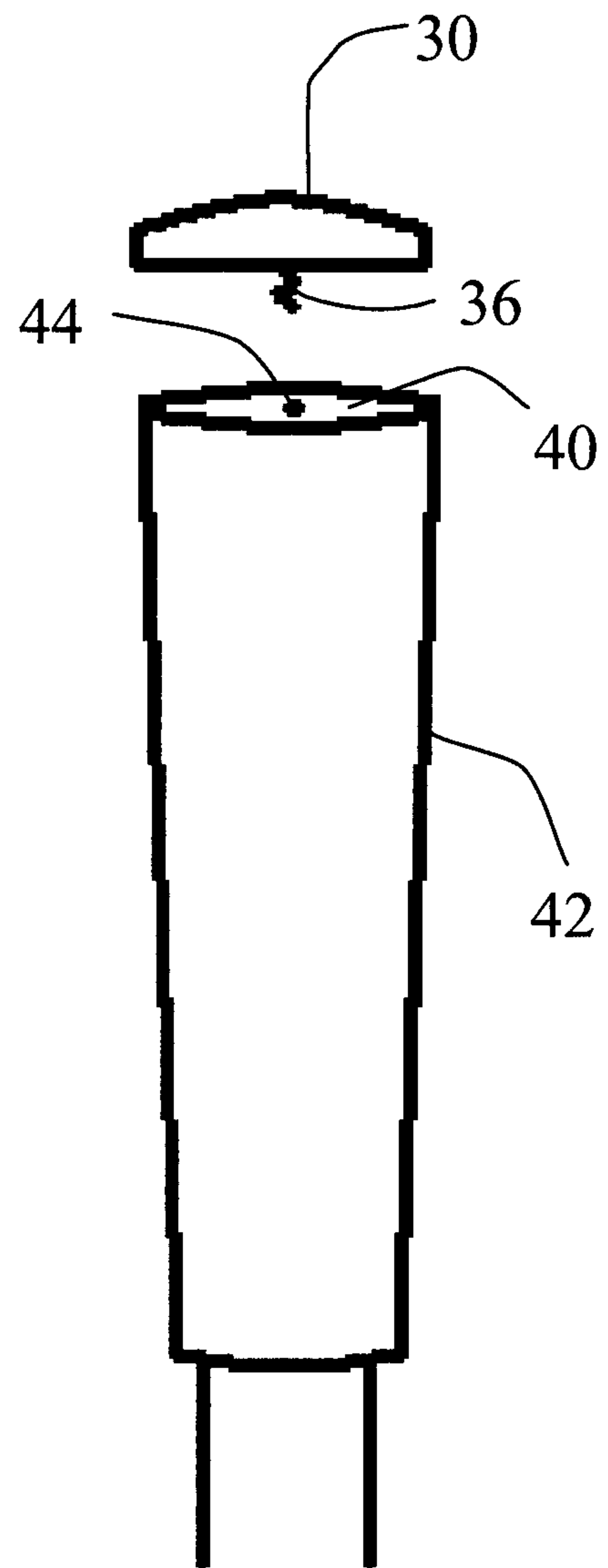


FIG. 4

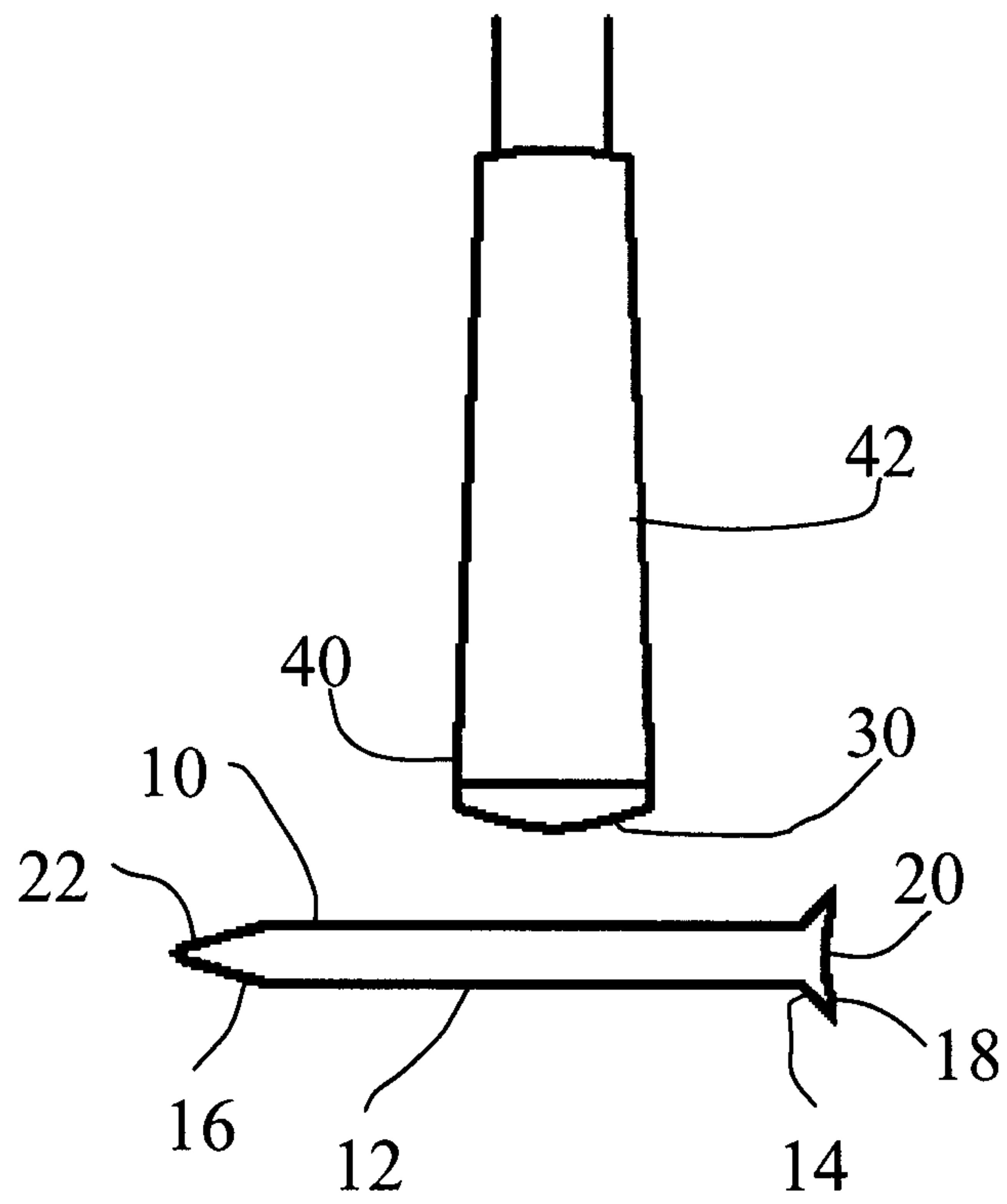


FIG. 5

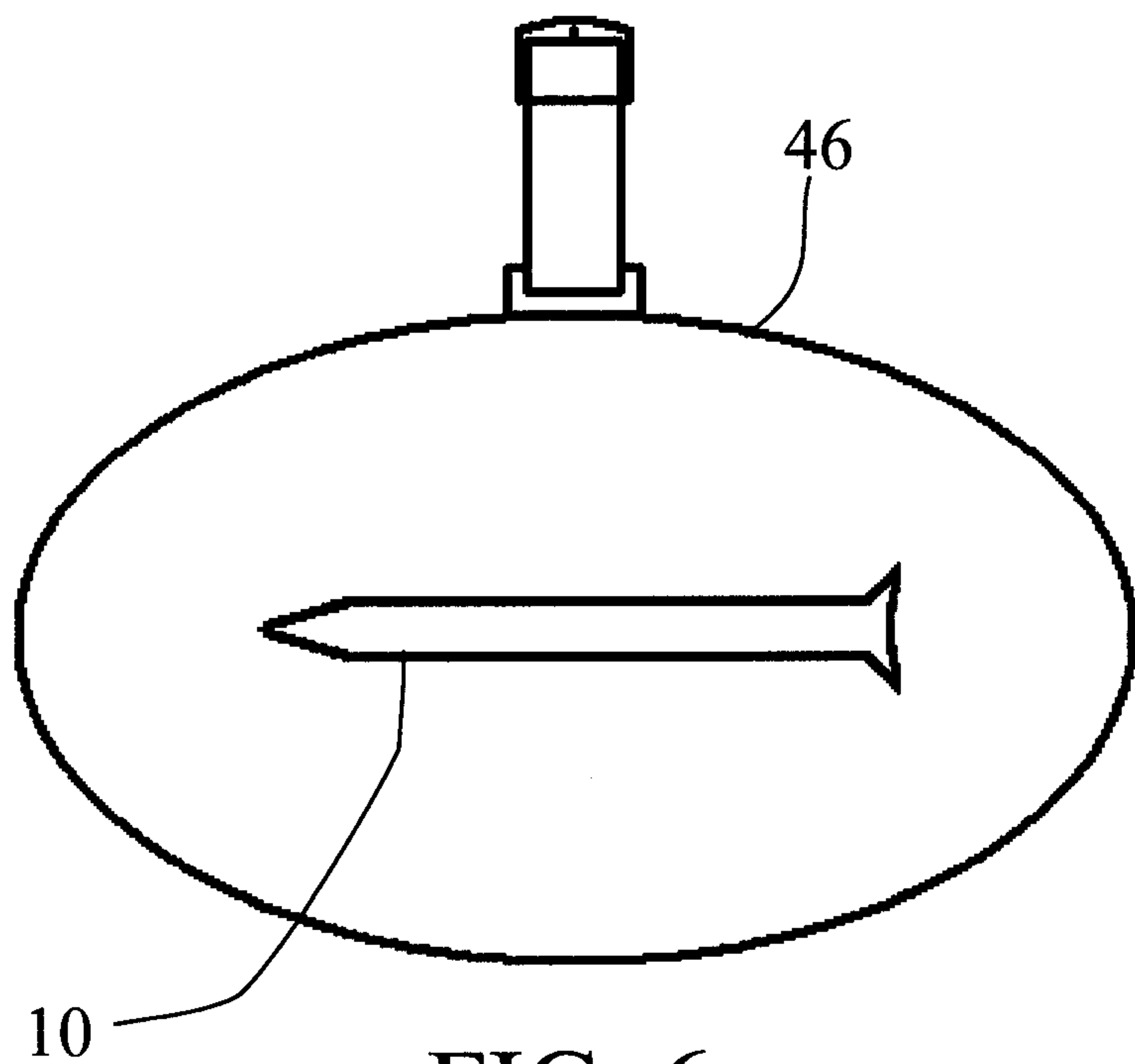


FIG. 6

