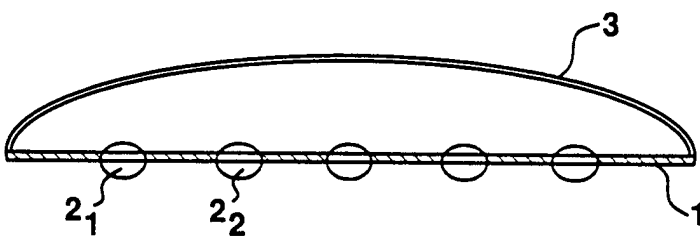




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> : <b>G01N 1/10</b></p>	<p><b>A3</b></p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 98/15355</b></p> <p>(43) International Publication Date: 16 April 1998 (16.04.98)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/18037</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 3 October 1997 (03.10.97)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data:  96/12375                      10 October 1996 (10.10.96)      FR  60/039,238                    28 February 1997 (28.02.97)      US</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CORNING INCORPORATED [US/US]; 1 Riverfront Plaza, Corning, NY 14831 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and</p> <p>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): DANNOUX, Thierry, L., A. [FR/FR]; 18, résidence du Bel-Ebat, F-77210 Avon (FR).</p> <p>(74) Agent: HERZFELD, Alexander, R.; Corning Incorporated, Patent Dept., SP FR 02-12, Corning, NY 14831 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AU, CN, JP, KR, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).</p> <p><b>Published</b>  <i>With international search report.  Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p> <p>(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  2 July 1998 (02.07.98)</p>
<p>(54) Title: TOOL AND METHOD FOR TRANSFER OF DROPS</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>The tool (1, 3) is designed for the transport of drops (2<sub>i</sub>) which are arranged according to a predetermined spatial distribution. It comprises at least one filiform support (1) mounted on a frame (3) clearing this support, said support presenting a plurality of the areas wettable by said liquid, distributed according to a predetermined distribution over its length, these wettable areas being separated from each other by nonwetable sections of said support (1). Application to cell cultures or tests on biological molecules.</p>		

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

<b>AL</b>	Albania	<b>ES</b>	Spain	<b>LS</b>	Lesotho	<b>SI</b>	Slovenia
<b>AM</b>	Armenia	<b>FI</b>	Finland	<b>LT</b>	Lithuania	<b>SK</b>	Slovakia
<b>AT</b>	Austria	<b>FR</b>	France	<b>LU</b>	Luxembourg	<b>SN</b>	Senegal
<b>AU</b>	Australia	<b>GA</b>	Gabon	<b>LV</b>	Latvia	<b>SZ</b>	Swaziland
<b>AZ</b>	Azerbaijan	<b>GB</b>	United Kingdom	<b>MC</b>	Monaco	<b>TD</b>	Chad
<b>BA</b>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	<b>GE</b>	Georgia	<b>MD</b>	Republic of Moldova	<b>TG</b>	Togo
<b>BB</b>	Barbados	<b>GH</b>	Ghana	<b>MG</b>	Madagascar	<b>TJ</b>	Tajikistan
<b>BE</b>	Belgium	<b>GN</b>	Guinea	<b>MK</b>	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<b>TM</b>	Turkmenistan
<b>BF</b>	Burkina Faso	<b>GR</b>	Greece			<b>TR</b>	Turkey
<b>BG</b>	Bulgaria	<b>HU</b>	Hungary	<b>ML</b>	Mali	<b>TT</b>	Trinidad and Tobago
<b>BJ</b>	Benin	<b>IE</b>	Ireland	<b>MN</b>	Mongolia	<b>UA</b>	Ukraine
<b>BR</b>	Brazil	<b>IL</b>	Israel	<b>MR</b>	Mauritania	<b>UG</b>	Uganda
<b>BY</b>	Belarus	<b>IS</b>	Iceland	<b>MW</b>	Malawi	<b>US</b>	United States of America
<b>CA</b>	Canada	<b>IT</b>	Italy	<b>MX</b>	Mexico	<b>UZ</b>	Uzbekistan
<b>CF</b>	Central African Republic	<b>JP</b>	Japan	<b>NE</b>	Niger	<b>VN</b>	Viet Nam
<b>CG</b>	Congo	<b>KE</b>	Kenya	<b>NL</b>	Netherlands	<b>YU</b>	Yugoslavia
<b>CH</b>	Switzerland	<b>KG</b>	Kyrgyzstan	<b>NO</b>	Norway	<b>ZW</b>	Zimbabwe
<b>CI</b>	Côte d'Ivoire	<b>KP</b>	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<b>NZ</b>	New Zealand		
<b>CM</b>	Cameroon			<b>PL</b>	Poland		
<b>CN</b>	China	<b>KR</b>	Republic of Korea	<b>PT</b>	Portugal		
<b>CU</b>	Cuba	<b>KZ</b>	Kazakstan	<b>RO</b>	Romania		
<b>CZ</b>	Czech Republic	<b>LC</b>	Saint Lucia	<b>RU</b>	Russian Federation		
<b>DE</b>	Germany	<b>LI</b>	Liechtenstein	<b>SD</b>	Sudan		
<b>DK</b>	Denmark	<b>LK</b>	Sri Lanka	<b>SE</b>	Sweden		
<b>EE</b>	Estonia	<b>LR</b>	Liberia	<b>SG</b>	Singapore		

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US97/18037**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(6) :GOIN 1/10

US CL :073/864

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)

U.S. : 073/863, 564.91

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

U.S. PTO APS

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
<u>X</u> Y	US 4,111,553 A (GARNYS) 05 September 1978 (05.09.78), see col. 1, lines 61-et seq.	<u>1</u> 2-17
Y	US 5,012,195 A (HARROLD) 30 April 1991 (30.04.91), see abstract.	1-17
Y	US 5,519,218 A (CHANG) 21 May 1996 (21.05.96), see col. 6, lines 52 et seq.	1-17
Y	US 4,008,154 A (RICHARDS ET AL.) 15 February 1977 (15.02.77), see abstract.	1-17
Y	US 4,396,287 A (HILDEBRAND ET AL.) 02 August 1983 (02.08.83), see col. 3.	1-17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*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
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*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
"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)	* & * document member of the same patent family
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 JANUARY 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

05 MAY 1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

W. NASHMIYA FAYYAZ / Mary C. Lilly  
Telephone No. (703) 305-4900