PROXIMALLY TAPERED GUIDEWIRE TIP COIL

The disclosure is directed to a guidewire having an elongate core member with at least one distally tapered portion at the distal section, with a flexible body member disposed around said distal section. The flexible body member is preferably comprised of a metallic helical coil that has proximally tapered portion at the proximal end, with a diameter similar to the outer diameter of the elongate core member at the point of attachment thereto. The distal end of the flexible body member is attached to the distal end of the elongate core member. The proximal taper of the flexible body member provides a smooth transition from the elongate core member to the flexible body member while minimizing the amount of bonding material needed and the resulting localized stiff portion at the point of connection between the proximal end of the flexible body member and the elongate body member.
### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

**IPC 6** A61M25/01

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)**

IPC 6 A61M

**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

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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</table>
| X        | US 5 479 938 A (WEIER STEVEN D)  
2 January 1996 (1996-01-02)  
column 2, line 38 - line 56; figures | 1-3,6 |
| X        | EP 0 771 572 A (CORDIS CORP)  
7 May 1997 (1997-05-07)  
column 2, line 51 - column 3, line 4; figures | 1-3,6 |
| X        | US 5 147 317 A (SHANK PETER J ET AL)  
column 4, line 16 - column 5, line 4; figures | 1-3,5-7 |
| A        | EP 0 812 600 A (CORDIS CORP)  
17 December 1997 (1997-12-17)  
column 2, line 41 - column 4, line 6; figures | 1,3,6,7 |

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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**"I"** document member of the same patent family.

**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

27 October 2000

**Date of mailing of the international search report**

07/11/2000

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**Authorized officer**

Kousouretas, I
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 4 748 986 A (MORRISON DAVID W ET AL) 7 June 1988 (1988-06-07) cited in the application abstract; figures</td>
<td>1-7</td>
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