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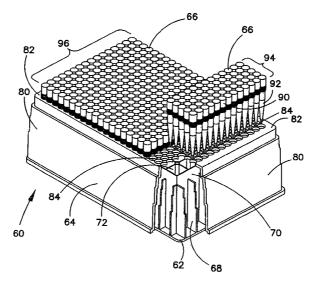
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(54) Title: CONDUCTIVE PLASTIC RACK FOR PIPETTE TIPS



(57) **Abstract:** A conductive plastic tip rack (60) for pipette tips (66) includes a conductive outer shell (64) formed around a support insert (62). The support insert (62) serves as the skeleton for the tip rack (60), providing structural support to make the tip rack strong and sturdy. The conductive outer shell (64) includes sidewalls (80) depending from the sides of a face (82) having a plurality of tip seats (84) for receiving a plurality of pipette tips (66). The conductive outer shell (64) is formed of an electrically conductive plastic. The conductive plastic rack is capable of sufficiently conducting or dissipating electricity such that static electricity existing in a pipette tip (66) placed within the tip rack (60) will flow out of the pipette tip (66) and through the tip rack (60). By removing the static electricity from the pipette tips (66) placed in the tip rack (60), static electricity is prevented from disturbing the tips seated in the tip rack (60).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B01L3/02									
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 7 B01L									
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched									
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data bas	se 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 rele	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
A	US 6 182 719 B1 (YAHIRO KANJI) 6 February 2001 (2001-02-06) column 3, line 6-16 column 4, line 16-40; figures 3,5 column 5, line 40-48; figure 7	1–20							
A	US 5 190 727 A (HIRSCH ALEXANDER) 2 March 1993 (1993-03-02) column 3, line 43-58; claim 1; fi	1,13							
A	EP 0 849 584 A (DADE BEHRING MARE 24 June 1998 (1998-06-24) column 4, line 45-58; claim 1; fi	1-4							
Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.									
"A" docume consic "E" earlier if filing c "L" docume which citatio "O" docum other "P" docume later ti	ent defining the general state of the art which is not lered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the International state ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another n or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filling date but han 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. '&' document member of the same patent family							
Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of malling of the international search report									
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Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,	Authorized officer Semino, D							

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

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