

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



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

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/042721 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61M 5/36 (2006.01)

Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84106 (US). **MICHEALSON, Terral, Bart** [US/US]; 1564 West 1900 South, Woods Cross, UT 84047 (US). **EGGERS, Philip** [US/US]; 7704 So. Timberline Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84121 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/079767

(74) Agent: **BATEMAN, Randall, B.**; Bateman Ip Law Group, P.O. Box 1319, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 (US).

(22) International Filing Date:
27 September 2007 (27.09.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(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.

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/827,622 29 September 2006 (29.09.2006) US
11/862,155 26 September 2007 (26.09.2007) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ZEVEX, INC.** [US/US]; 4314 Zevex Park Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84123 (US).

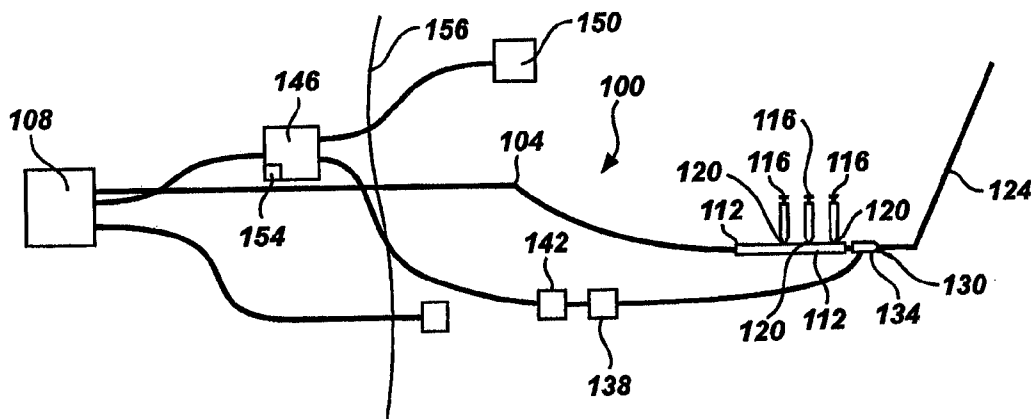
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, 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).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BLAINE, David** [US/US]; 1622 East Moor Dale Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84117 (US). **STRINGHAM, Mark** [US/US]; 6102 S. Dewdrops Drive, Kearns, UT 84118 (US). **RILEY, Timothy** [US/US]; 4332 Royal River Road #121, Taylorsville, UT 84123 (US). **FOJTIK, Shawn** [US/US]; 5010 Heuga Court, Park City, UT 84098 (US). **SMITH, Allan** [US/US]; 1631 Siena Circle, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 (US). **CRANDALL, Frank** [US/US]; 2940 Oregon

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING AIR BUBBLES



(57) Abstract: An air bubble detection system includes an air bubble detector which is disposed downstream from a syringe or manifold used during an angiography procedure. The air bubble detection system monitors contrast medium being injected into the patient and creates an alarm or other indication if the air bubble exceeds any desired threshold.

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— *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:
15 May 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/79767

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61M 5/36 (2007.10)

USPC - 604/122

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(8) - A61M 5/36 (2007.10)

USPC - 604/122, 67

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 practicable, search terms used)

USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT), MicroPatent.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X -- Y	US 2003/0055375 A1 (HOLST et al) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003) entire document	1-3,5,6 ----- 4,7-13
Y	US 6,932,114 B2 (SPARKS) 23 August 2005 (23.08.2005) entire document	4,34,36-40
X -- Y	US 2002/0192111 A1 (DIVINO JR et al) 19 December 2002 (19.12.2002) entire document	45-48 ----- 7,8,49-51
Y	US 6,068,612 A to (BOWMAN et al) 30 May 2000 (30.05.2000) entire document	9-13,29,30
X -- Y	US 2005/0234407 A1 (SPOHN et al) 20 October 2005 (20.10.2005) entire document	14-28,31-33,35,41,42 ----- 29,30,34,36-40,43,44, 49-51
X -- Y	US 6,142,008 A (COLE et al) 07 November 2000 (07.11.2000) entire document	52-55 ----- 40,43,44

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* Special categories of cited documents:

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"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 31 December 2007	Date of mailing of the international search report 03 MAR 2008
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774
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