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(74) Agent: LEA, James, F., III; Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens, P.C., 321 South Boston, Suite 800, Tulsa, OK 74103-3318 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SPIDER-LATH, INC. [US/US]; 130 Welsco Road, Smackover, AR 71762 (US).

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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HUNT-HANSEN, Mary, Jane [US/US]; 62821 E. 312 Road, Grove, OK 74344 (US). LOVE, Robert, Wayne [US/US]; 506 Love Road, Norphlet, AR 71759 (US). FOSTER, William, Clyde [US/US]; 3917 Northeast 98th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665 (US). JOHNSON, William, L., Sr. [US/US]; 60651 E. 340 Trail, Grove, OK 74344 (US).

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(54) Title: LATH SUPPORT SYSTEM

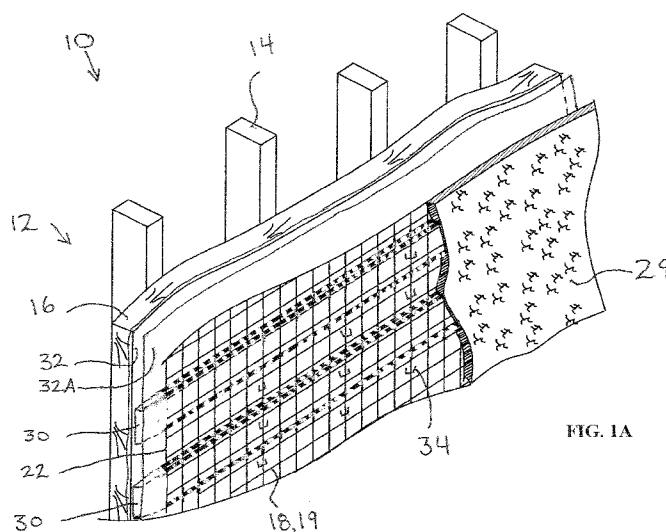


FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: A structural reinforcement system that utilizes a lath for receiving cementitious material. Lath is affixed to support structure such as sheathing supported by studs as may commonly be found in building construction. Strip members are affixed to the lath and function as fastener guides. Fasteners penetrate the strips for affixing lath and strips to the support structure. The strips are made of a compressible material that protects the lath from damage due to impacts associated with installing the fasteners and forms a gasket-like seal around the fasteners. Strips may be used as drainage guides for directing water that may flow behind the lath. The width of the strips creates spacing between the lath and the support structure, which allows for controlling of a thickness of a base layer of cementitious material by selecting a desired width. In another embodiment, entangled filaments are used as lath material for receiving cementitious material.

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