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(54) **Title: METAL-MATRIX DOWNHOLE SAND SCREENS**

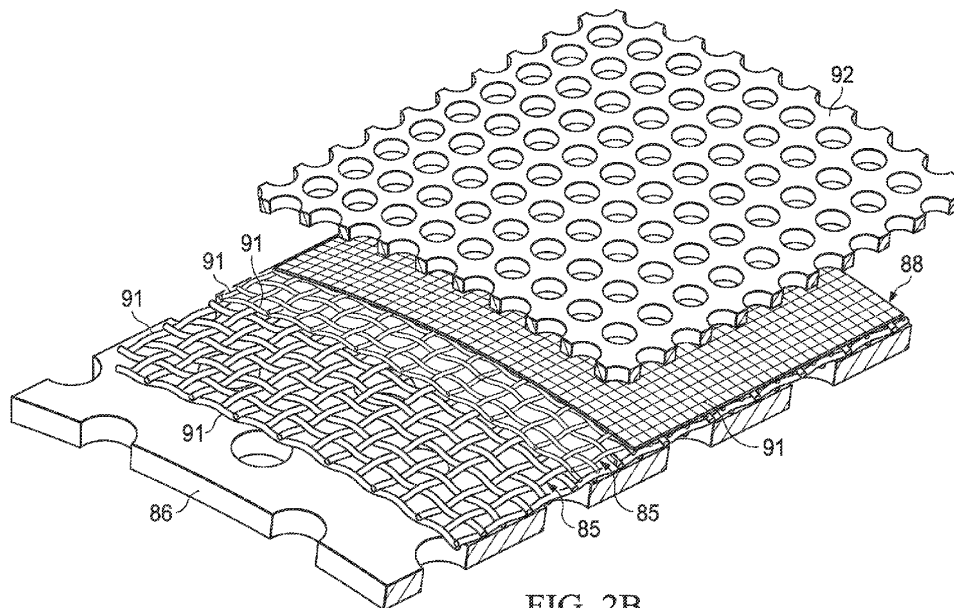


FIG. 2B

(57) **Abstract:** A screen assembly for wellbore production wherein a base pipe is wrapped with a screen constructed one or more cables formed from a plurality of non-metallic fibers bonded to one another with a metal binder. The non-metallic fibers may be basalt fibers or another ceramic material. The metal binder forms a metal matrix that has a first diameter about a primary cable axis, with the metal matrix securing the non-metallic fibers so that they have a second diameter about the primary cable axis, where the second diameter is larger than the first diameter, minimizing exposure of the metal matrix to wellbore fluids.

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