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(71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** RUB-
BERCRAFT CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA
LTD. [US/US]; 3701 Conant Street, Long Beach, CA
90808 (US).

(72) **Inventors; and**

(75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only):** **HIKEN, Alan, D.**
[US/US]; 3701 Conant Street, Long Beach, CA 90808
(US). **LEE, David, H.** [US/US]; 3701 Conant Street, Long
Beach, CA 90808 (US). **HARSHBERGER, Robert, L.**
[US/US]; 3701 Conant Street, Long Beach, CA 90808
(US). **PHAN, Leo, H.** [US/US]; 3701 Conant Street, Long
Beach, CA 90808 (US). **SANTOS, Rufino** [US/US]; 3701
Conant Street, Long Beach, CA 90808 (US).

(74) **Agent:** **CLARK, Gary;** Sheppark Mullin Richter &
Hampton LLP, 333 South Hope Street, 43rd Floor, Los
Angeles, CA 90071 (US).

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(54) **Title:** COMPOSITE FABRICATION VENT ASSEMBLY AND METHOD OF CONNECTING

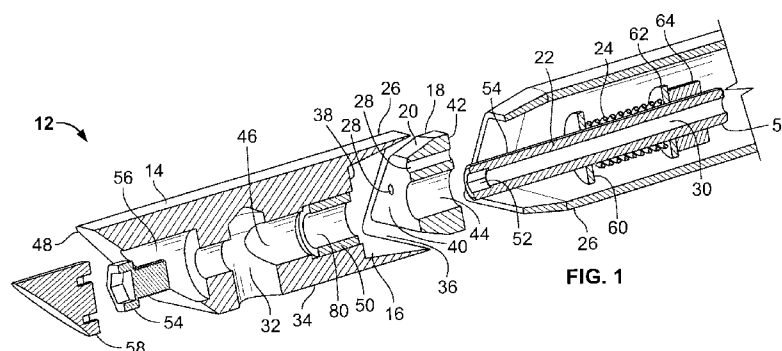


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A The composite fabrication vent assembly (12) comprises a body member (14) having a first clamping surface (16), a clamping member (18) having a second clamping surface (20), and a carriage member (22) interconnecting the body member and the clamping member such that the first and second clamping surfaces are in opposing relationship. The carriage member is adapted for translating the body member and clamping member relative to one another from an open state to a closed state. When the open end of an inflatable bladder (26) is inserted between the opposed first and second clamping surfaces of the vent assembly, the clamping surfaces form an airtight seal with the open end of the bladder as the clamping surfaces are translated to the closed state. The vent assembly can then control the flow of gas into and out of the inflatable bladder through one or more passageways in the vent assembly.

