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(74) Agent: LAWRENCE Y D HO & ASSOCIATES PTE LTD; 30 Bideford Road, #02-02 Thongsia Building, Singapore 229922 (SG).

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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):
NANYANG POLYTECHNIC [SG/SG]; 180 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 8, Singapore 569830 (SG).

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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): WONG, We Hung [SG/SG]; Blk 171A Edgedale Plains, #12-420, Singapore 821171 (SG). TAN, Lay Sze [SG/SG]; 34 Mayflower Crescent, Singapore 568842 (SG). KHOO, Nai Chuan [SG/SG]; Blk 233 Paya Lebar Road, #07-04, Singapore 409044 (SG). GOH, Kwang Ping [SG/SG]; Blk 537 Serangoon North Avenue 4, #10-137, Singapore 550537 (SG).

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(54) Title: METHOD FOR CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF RESIDUAL STAPLE QUANTITY IN DISPENSING DEVICES

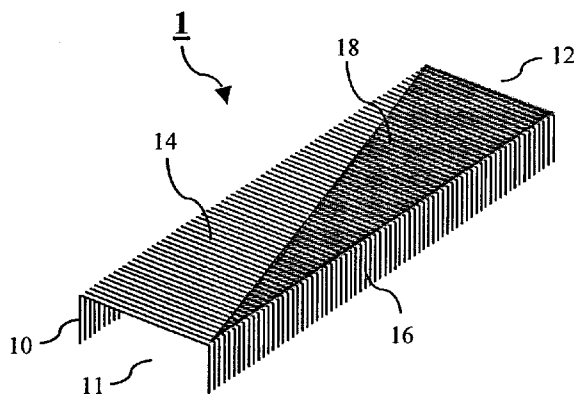


FIG. 2A

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a staple strip with a visual indicator for continuous monitoring of residual staple quantity in a dispensing device. The coverage of the visual indicator on the staple strip is configured to change continuously in a linear manner along the longitudinal axis. In use, when one of the staples is ejected from the stapling device, the coverage of the visual indicator thereon is operable to indicate the amount of staples remaining in the stapling device. The invention also provides a reference card to be used with the staple strip in order to facilitate the estimation of the amount of staples remaining in the stapling device.

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