

METHOD OF LASER DRILLING AN AIRFOIL**ABSTRACT**

5 A method for laser drilling cooling air holes 42 into a leading edge passage 38 of an airfoil is disclosed. Various details of the method are developed for forcing material which blocks the laser beam into the leading edge passage. In one embodiment, the blocking material is forced into the leading edge passage 38 by expanding gas bubbles in a supply passage 54 for the blocking material.

10 (Figure 2)



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