

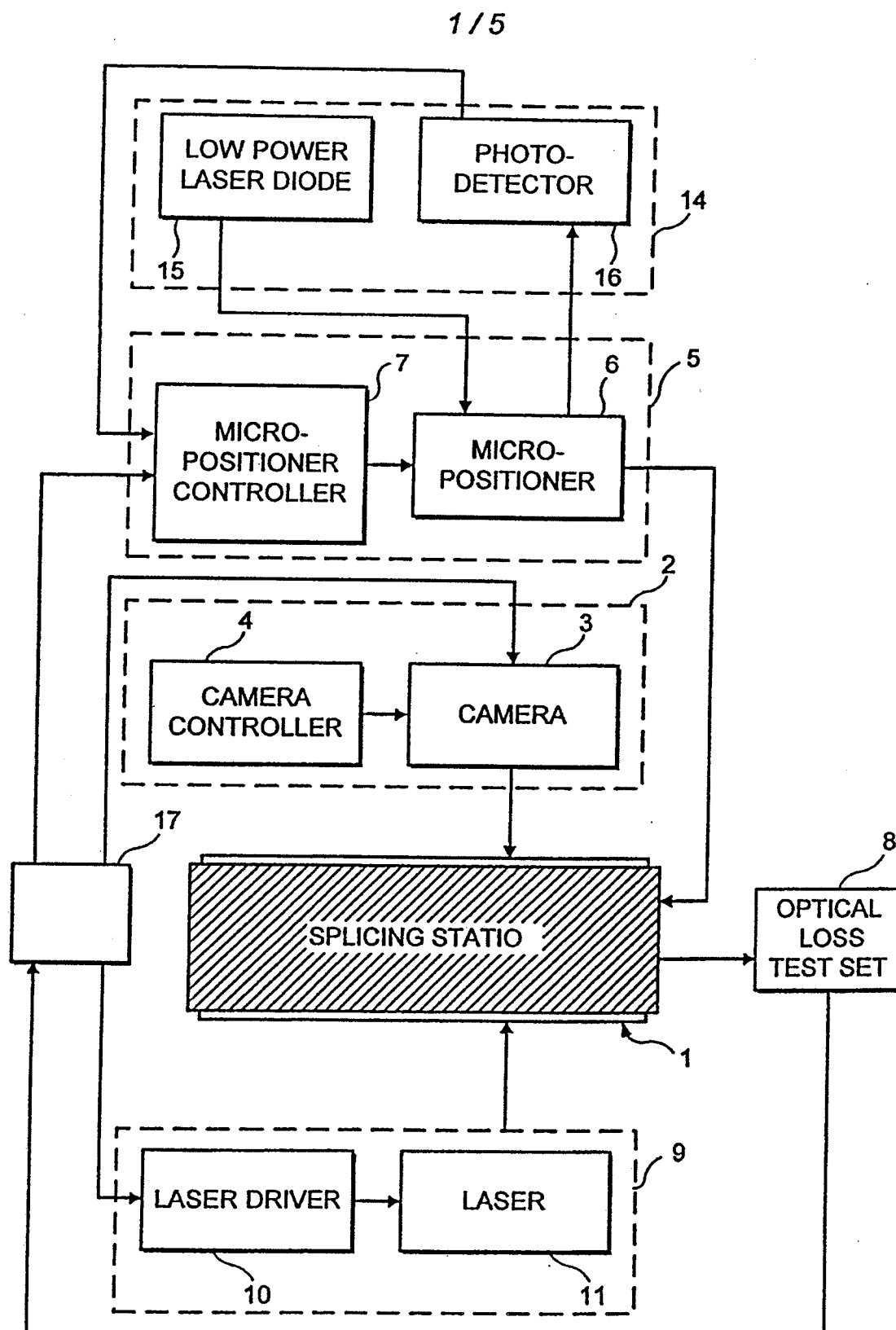


FIG. 1

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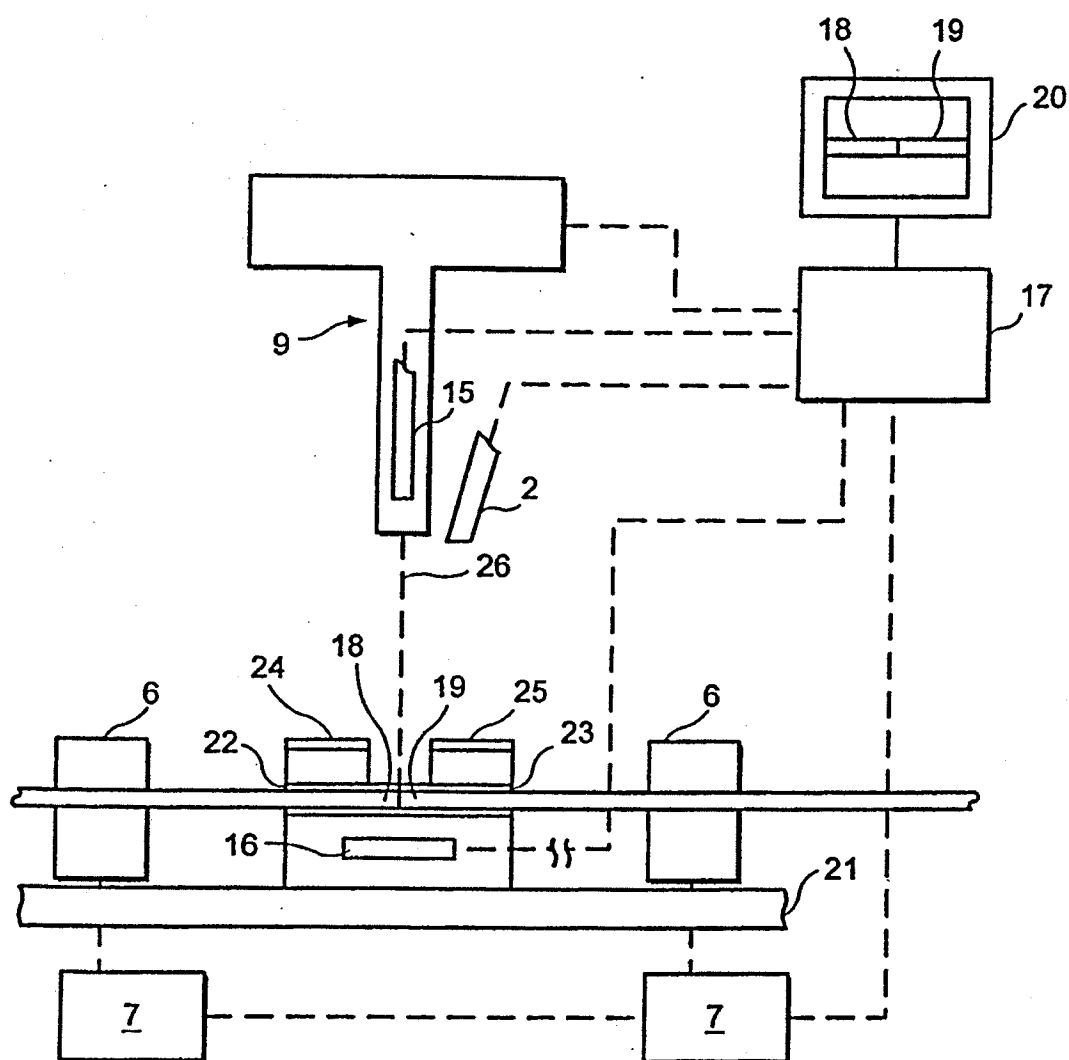


FIG. 2

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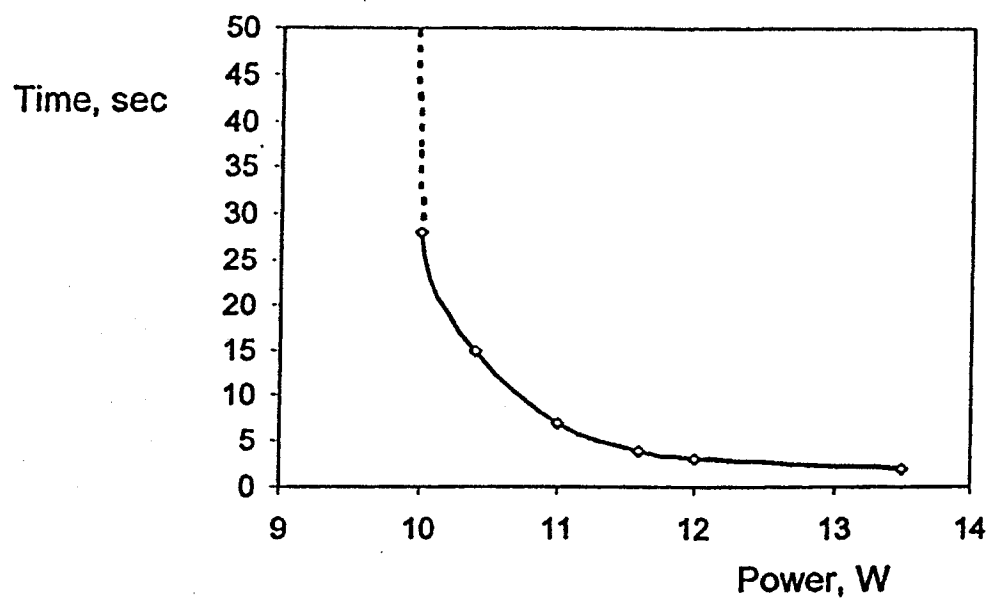
Maximum Power Limit for Fiber Splicing (CW Laser)

FIG. 3

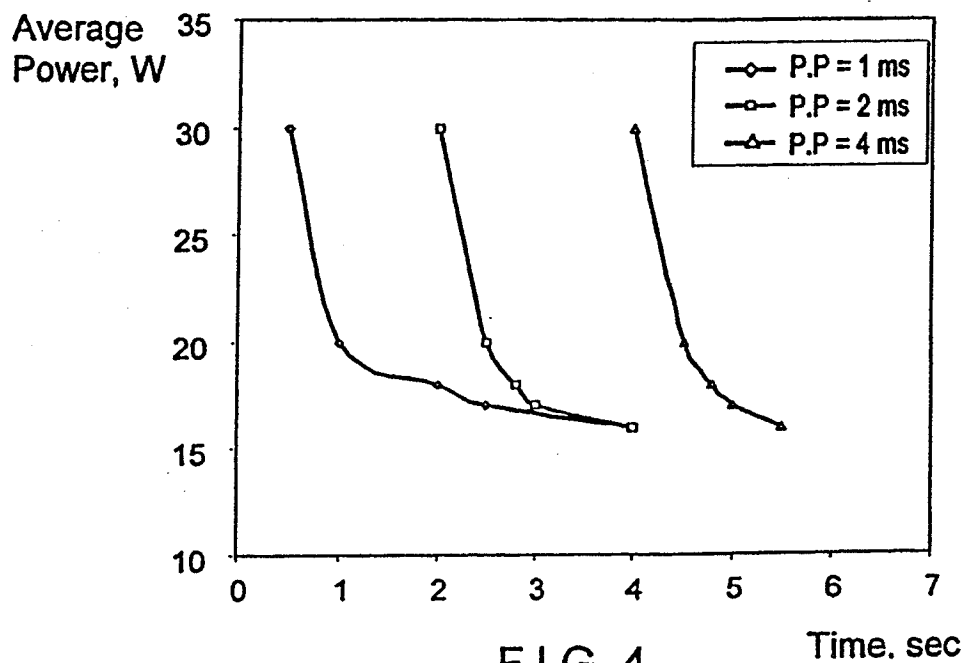
Maximum Power Limit for Fiber Splicing (Pulsed Laser)

FIG. 4

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Epoxy Curing Time vs Power using CO₂ Laser

Curing time, sec

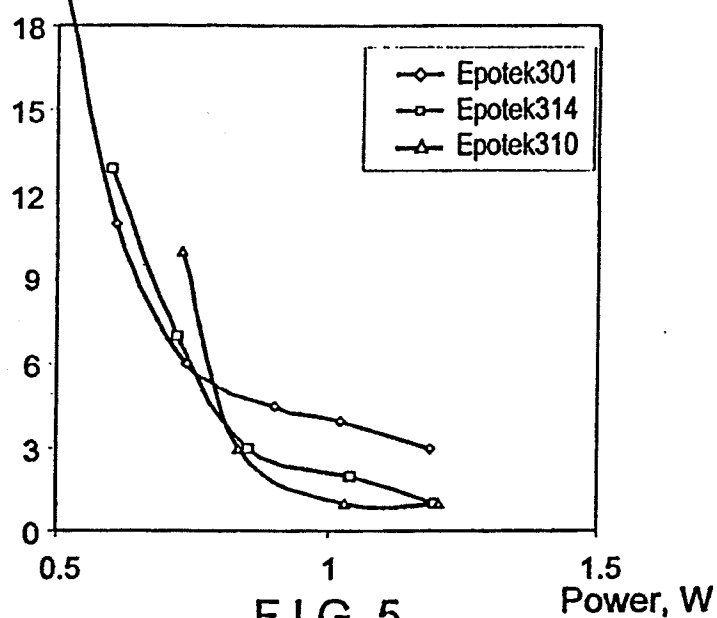


FIG. 5

Relative Spliced Loss of Fibers

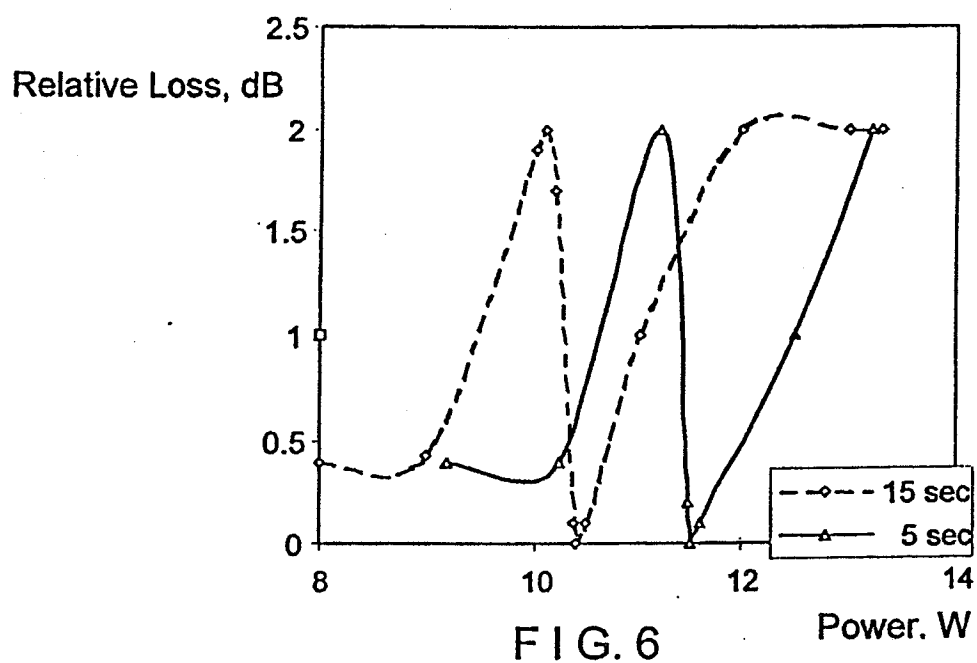


FIG. 6

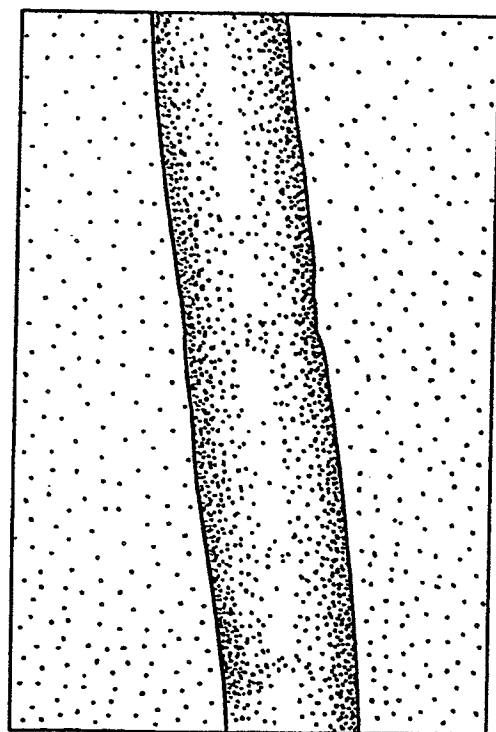


FIG. 7

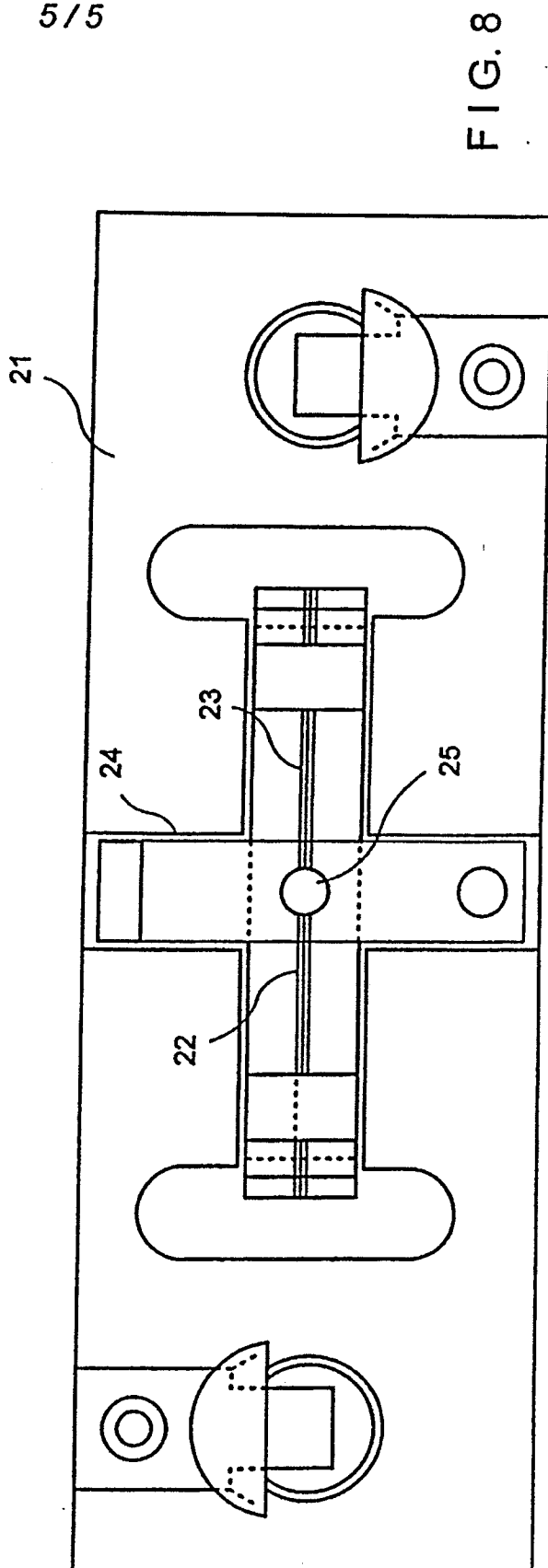


FIG. 8

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB00/01730

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B23K 26/00

US CL : 219/121.63, 121.64, 121.6, 121.65, 121.66

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 219/121.63, 121.64, 121.6, 121.65, 121.66

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

DERWENT, JPO, EPO, USPAT

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SEIPPEL. R.G. Optoelectronics for Technicians and Engineering. Prentice Hall Career and Technology. Englewood Cliffs NJ 1989	1-21
X	US 5,299,274 A (WYSOCKI et al.) 29 March 1994, abstract, col. 2, lines 15-68 & col. 3, lines 1-65.	1-21
X, P	US 6,085,004 A (DOWER et al.) 04 JULY 2000, abstract, col. 3, lines 35-67 & col. 4, lines 1-13.	1-21
X	US 5,631,989 A (KOREN et al.) 20 MAY 1997, abstract.	1-21
X	US 5,500,917 A (DANIEL et al.) 19 MARCH 1996, abstract.	1-21

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
E earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Z* document member of the same patent family
O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

05 FEBRUARY 2001

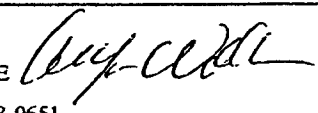
Date of mailing of the international search report

21 MAR 2001

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29 MAR 2004

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB00/01730

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,604,119 A (KUHL et al.) 05 AUGUST 1986, abstract.	1-21