



(51) International Patent Classification:

A61F 13/00 (2006.01) A61M 1/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2009/045754

(22) International Filing Date:

29 May 2009 (29.05.2009)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

61/057,803	30 May 2008 (30.05.2008)	US
61/078,114	3 July 2008 (03.07.2008)	US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(54) Title: REDUCED-PRESSURE, LINEAR WOUND CLOSING BOLSTERS AND SYSTEMS

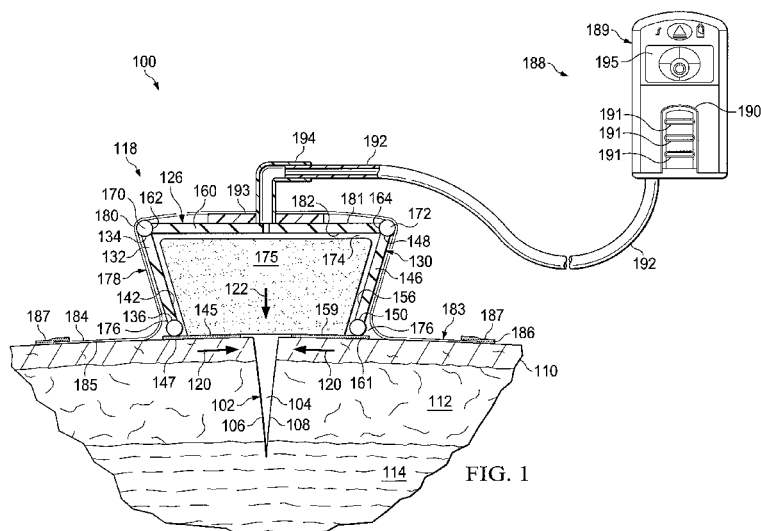


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A reduced-pressure, linear-wound closing bolster (126) has a pivotable frame (130) that moves from an extended position to a compressed position under the influence of reduced pressure. The closing bolster (126) may have a first closing member (132), a second closing member (146), and an interior space. A manifold member is disposed within the interior space (174) and may be coupled to the pivotable frame (130). When a reduced pressure is applied, the pivotable frame (130) is urged from the extended position to the compressed position. A first gripping member (145) for transmitting a closing force from the first closing member to a first edge (106) of a linear wound may be attached. Likewise, a second gripping member (159) for transmitting a closing force from the second closing member (146) to a second edge (108) of the linear wound may be attached.