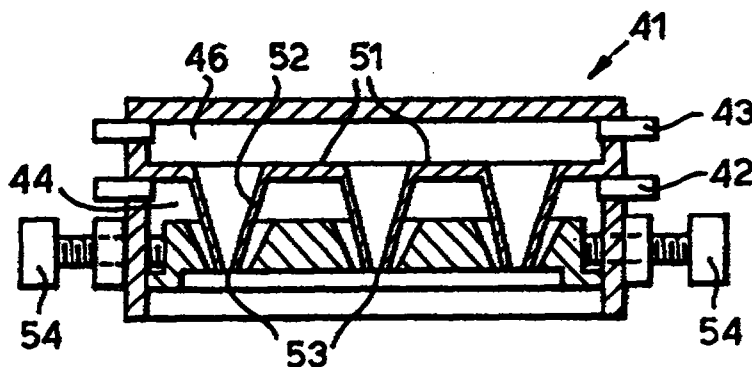




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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SPINNING HOLLOW POLYMERIC FIBRES



(57) Abstract

A method of manufacture of solid-walled hollow polymeric fibres comprises the steps of dissolving polymeric material in a suitable solvent liquid to form a dope solution (44), extruding the dope solution through an aperture in a spinneret (41) to form a narrow jet of liquid, injecting a coagulant (46) through an aperture (53) in the centre of the liquid dope jet as it leaves the spinneret, directing the jet through an air gap into a coagulant bath containing a further coagulant; and directing the fibre through a drawing bath to reduce the diameter, each coagulant solution being a mixture of a coagulant liquid capable of causing gelation and solidification of the liquid dope jet and between 20 % and 80 % of the solvent liquid.