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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP98/04294 (22) International Filing Date: 10 July 1998 (10.07.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/895,665 17 July 1997 (17.07.97) US (71) Applicant: STEAG AST ELEKTRONIK GMBH [DE/DE]; Benzstrasse 1, D-85551 Kirchheim (DE). <i>pls see 27/08/99</i> (72) Inventors: ASCHNER, Helmut; Kirchgasse 5, D-89179 Beimerstetten (DE). MERKLE, Helmut; Blumenhauweg 15, D-89160 Tomerdingen (DE). WALK, Ulrich; Berthold- strasse 8/1, D-89019 Ulm (DE). ZERNICKEL, Dieter; Donautalstrasse 57, D-89079 Ulm (DE).		(81) Designated States: JP, KR, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: INFLATABLE ELASTOMERIC ELEMENT FOR RAPID THERMAL PROCESSING (RTP) SYSTEM (57) Abstract A rapid thermal processing (RTP) chamber comprising a transparent plate and a body, the plate sealed with a gas tight seal against the body, the gas tight seal activated by inflating an inflatable element.		