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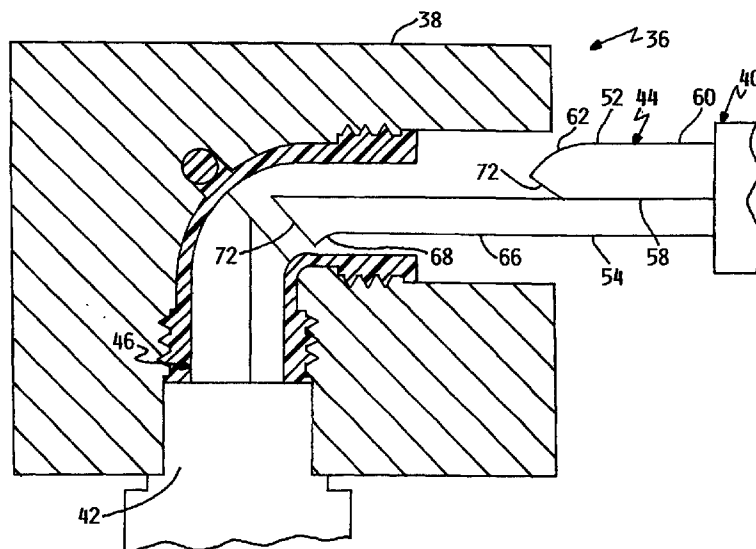
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(54) Title: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR MOLDING POLYMER FITTINGS



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for producing molded fluoropolymer sweep elbows (10) with straight ends while minimizing distortion of the fitting. The invention includes a mold (36) for creating the sweep fittings of the invention. The mold includes a mold cavity block (38) and internal coring. The internal coring includes two symmetrical cores (44, 46) that shut off at a 45° miter. Each of the symmetrical cores (44, 46) is divided into two parts, an outside sweep core (52) and an inside sweep core (54). The outside sweep core (52) and the inside sweep core (54) are divided on a straight plane running the length of the core. The outside sweep core (52) molds half of the straight lumen (14) and the greater curvature at the outside sweep surface of the bend. The inside sweep core (54) molds the other half of the straight bore and the lesser curvature (30) of the inside or undercut portion of the bend.

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