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(54) Title: **THRUST BEARING ARRANGEMENT**

(57) Abstract

A tilting pad thrust bearing assembly (400) comprises an annular body (106) which carries an array of bearing pads (402_i) etc. either as discrete pads or in an integral ring. The pads are manufactured with opposite faces flat, that is, without the usual radially extending fulcrum ridges, such ridges being provided at (415_i) etc. by a shim member (412_i) disposed between the pads and a correspondingly flat surface (107) of the carrier body (106). The fulcrum ridges are defined by folded back tabs (416_i) displacing the shim material or by pleating the shim material. This construction permits the consumable bearing pads to be made profitable more easily and cheaply.

