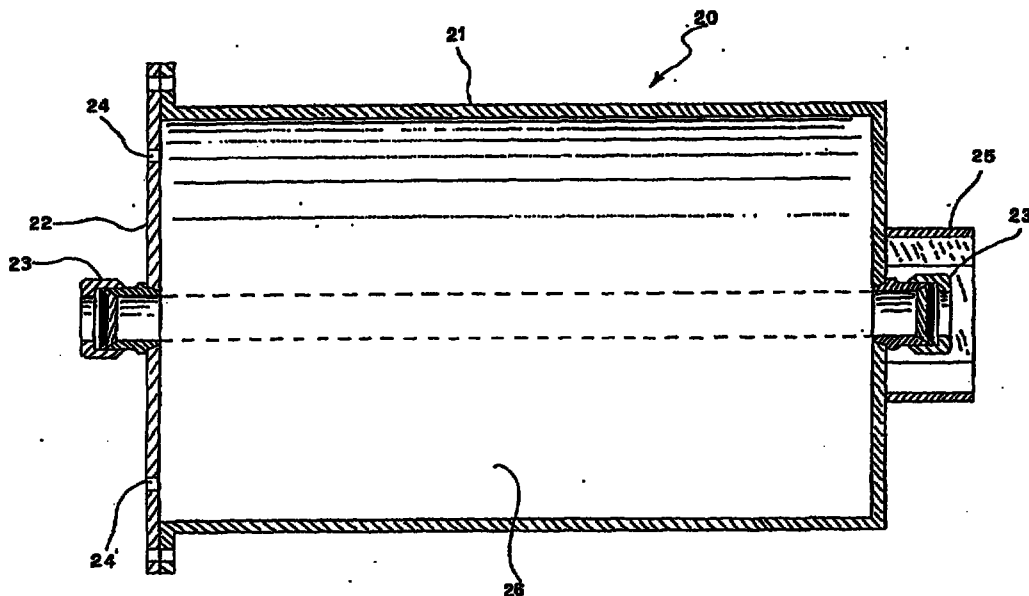




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : C03B 37/016, 19/12	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/53536
		(43) International Publication Date: 14 September 2000 (14.09.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/IT00/00076 (22) International Filing Date: 8 March 2000 (08.03.00) (30) Priority Data: NO99A000004 8 March 1999 (08.03.99) IT (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NOVARA TECHNOLOGY S.R.L. [IT/IT]; Via Fauser, 4, I-28100 Novara (IT). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COSTA, Fulvio [IT/IT]; Via Roma, 92, I-27048 Sommo (IT). COSTA, Pierpaolo [IT/IT]; Via Roma, 92, I-27048 Sommo (IT). COSTA, Lorenzo [IT/IT]; Via Roma, 92, I-27048 Sommo (IT). (74) Agent: GISLON, Gabriele; Marietti e Gislou S.r.l., Via Larga, 16, I-20122 Milan (IT).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Italian).</i>

(54) Title: SOL-GEL PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A DRIED GEL ADHERING TO AN INSERT AND PRODUCTS OBTAINABLE THEREBY

**(57) Abstract**

A sol-gel process is described that allows dry gels to be produced, and where necessary, the corresponding dense vitreous bodies, around an incompressible insert. A particular feature of the process is the step of rotating a container holding the sol and incompressible insert throughout the gelling step under such conditions that a wet gel adhering to the insert is produced, which is then dried. The process is useful particularly for the production of preforms for optical fibers, which are also claimed.