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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/03280 (22) International Filing Date: 12 April 2000 (12.04.00) (30) Priority Data: 60/129,551 16 April 1999 (16.04.99) US (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): TIBOTEC N.V. [BE/BE]; Generaal De Wittelaan L11 B3, B-2800 Mechelen (BE). UNIVERSITEIT GENT [BE/BE]; Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25, B-9000 Gent (BE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DE SMEDT, Stefaan, Cornelis [BE/BE]; Molenwalstraat 118, B-9030 Gent (BE). DEMEESTER, Joseph [BE/BE]; Sint-Baafkouterstraat 14, B-9040 Gent (BE). ROELANT, Christiaan, Hubert, Simon [BE/BE]; 's Hertogenlaan 115, B-3000 Leuven (BE). PAUWELS, Rudi, Wilfried, Jan [BE/BE]; Berentrodereef 27, B-2820 Bonheiden (BE). (74) Agent: DAELEMANS, Frank; Tibotec N.V., Generaal De Wittelaan L11 B3, B-2800 Mechelen (BE).			(81) Designated States: AE, AG, 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, TZ, 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>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: ENCODING OF MICROCARRIERS			
(57) Abstract Encoded microcarriers, and more specifically microcarriers having codes written on them. Methods for writing the codes on the microcarriers, methods of reading the codes, and methods of using the encoded microcarriers. A preferred method of encoding the microcarriers involves exposing microcarriers containing a bleachable substance to a high spatial resolution light source to bleach the codes on the microcarriers. The encoded microcarriers may be used, for example, as support materials in chemical and biological assays and syntheses.			