SINGAPORE PATENT APPLICATION NO. 11201404663R
APPLICANT : UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION
ENTITLED : ELECTROFORMED SHEATH

WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR THE EXAMINER

The Applicant has enclosed the following comments for the Examiner's consideration. The marked up pages are simply to enable the Examiner to more clearly follow the amendments which have been made

With regard to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP) dated 12 August 2014, claims 1-17 are the subject of the IPRP with claims 1, 13, and 15 serving as independent claims. The IPRP indicates that claims 1-17 are novel and alleges that claims 1-17 lack an inventive step.

The IPRP cites and applies the following documents:

D1: US 5908285 A (GRAFF, JOHN M.) 01 June 1999
D2: US 2008-0124512 A1 (STEIBEL et al.) 29 .May 2008
D3: US 4648921 A (NUTTER, HARRY A. JR.) 10 March 1987
D4: US 7805839 B2 (CAMMER, JERALD C) 05 October 2010
D5: US 2010-0014964 A1l (SMITH et al.) 21 January 2010

Claims 4 and 7, when read in combination with one another, provide for a mandrel insert that is made of a non-metallic composite and is coated with a metallic material. The IPRP indicates that D land D2 fail to disclose the features of claim 7, but alleges that D3 at col. 5, line 43 - col. 6, line 2 remedies the deficiencies of D1 and D2 in this respect. The cited passage ofD3 refers to a blade subassembly as being covered or enveloped with one or more layers of reinforcing fiber. The cited passage of D3 does not refer to a mandrel insert, much less a mandrel insert that is made of a non-metallic composite and coated with a metallic material as recited in claims 4 and 7. Accordingly, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the features of claims 4 and 7.

The Applicant has also amended independent claims 13 and 15 to recite features similar to those described above with respect to claims 4 and 7. Amended claims 13 and 15 would be distinguishable from the cited art for at least reasons substantially similar to those described above with respect to amended claim 1.

The Applicant looks forward to the issuance of a favourable Examination Report.

Respectfully submitted,
UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION



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By their Agent,
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(DEDAR SINGH GILL / GERALD KOH)