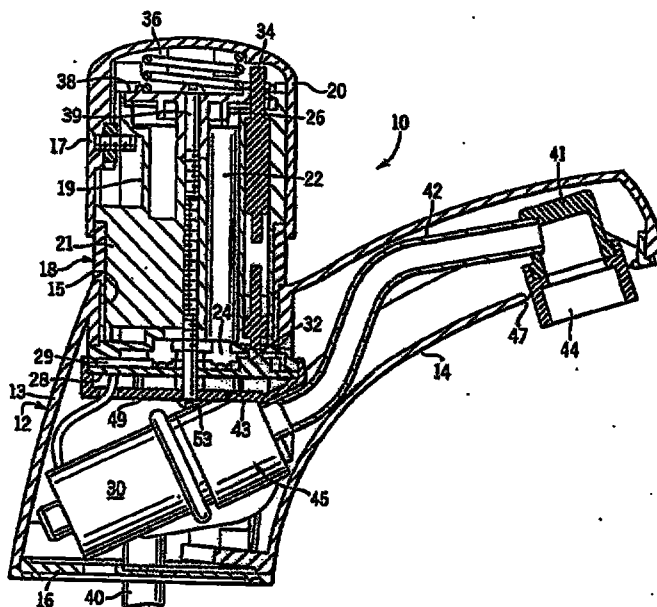


INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : E03C 1/04, 1/05, F16K 31/40	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/22080 (43) International Publication Date: 6 May 1999 (06.05.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/22604 (22) International Filing Date: 26 October 1998 (26.10.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/957,891 27 October 1997 (27.10.97) US (71) Applicant: KOHLER CO. [US/US]; 444 Highland Drive, Kohler, WI 53044 (US). (72) Inventors: KOLAR, Anton, J.; 3422 South 11th Street, Sheboygan, WI 53083 (US). HILDEBRAND, Jeffrey; 3004 Evergreen Parkway, Sheboygan, WI 53083 (US). (74) Agent: STREIT, Richard, J.; Ladas & Parry, 244 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60604 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, 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</i> <i>claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of</i> <i>amendments.</i>

(54) Title: SELF-CLOSING SOLENOID OPERATED FAUCET**(57) Abstract**

A self-closing faucet (10) includes a hollow body (12) with a spout (14). The hollow body contains an integral plumbing sub-assembly (45) that has a solenoid valve (30) supplied by an inlet tube (40) and connected to a spout tube (42) that extends through the spout to an outlet opening at a remote end of the spout. An actuator assembly (18) coupled to the housing includes a timer circuit (29) that controls the solenoid valve to send water from the faucet for a predefined period of time. A switch (32) triggers the timer circuit upon activation by a user operable mechanism on the faucet.