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(54) Title: A PARTICLE MEDIATED ANODISING PROCESS FOR WHITE ANODISED SURFACES

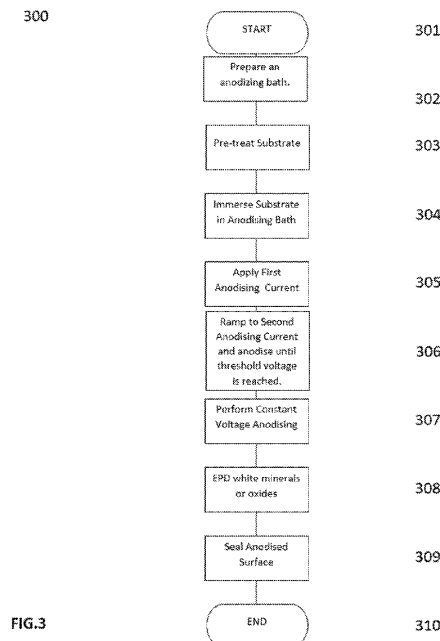


FIG.3

(57) Abstract: A method for anodising aluminium alloy including the step of providing a principally oxalic acid anodising bath with a tertiary butoxide; aging the anodising bath to condense the metal alkoxides to create metal oxide particles and acid esters; heating the bath to between 40 and 80 degrees; stirring the bath at between 200 and 700 rpm; immersing a workpiece in the bath and anodising at a constant current density of 1 to 4 A/dm² for a period of between 1 and 20 minutes or until the bath voltage reaches a threshold of between 100 and 200V; then anodising the workpiece for a period between 20 and 200 minutes at a constant voltage; to produce an anodised surface between 5 and 100 micrometres thick including a optically discontinuous pore structure which produces a white or near-white appearance.

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