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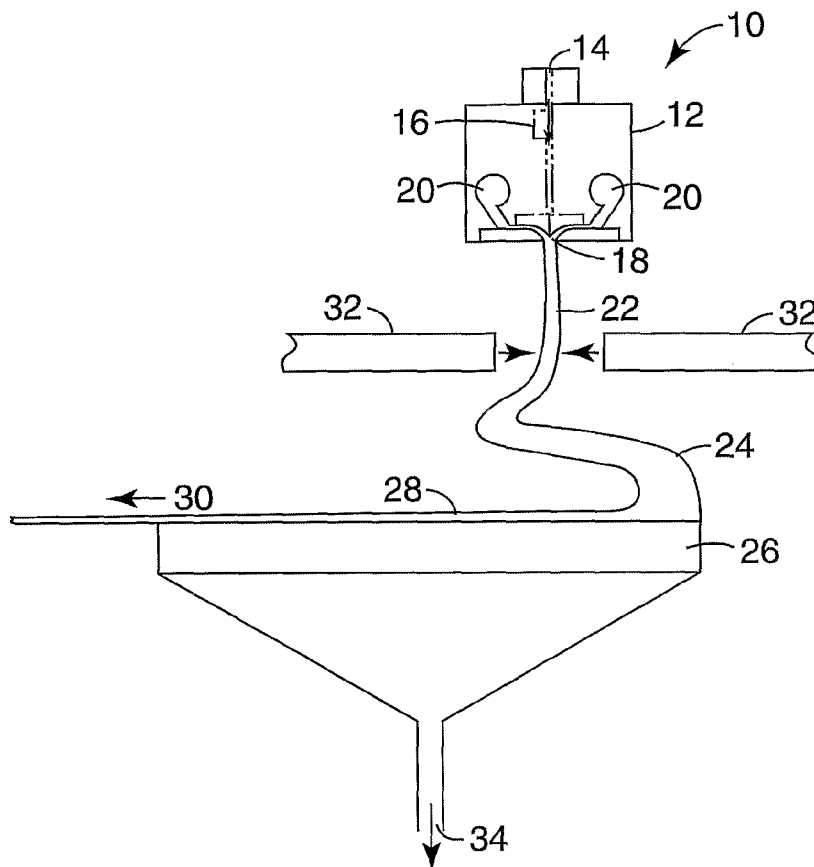
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(54) Title: **ALIGNED FIBER WEB**



(57) Abstract: Nonwoven webs having substantially aligned fibers can be formed in an apparatus having a direction of motion corresponding to the direction of web formation. The web is formed in the presence of at least one secondary fluid stream that oscillates the filaments or resulting attenuated fibers to and fro generally in and against the direction of motion so that a majority of the collected fibers are aligned within $\pm 20^\circ$ of the direction of motion and fibers having lengths of about 1 - 10 cm can be teased from the web. The resulting nonwoven webs are especially useful for forming pleated filtration media having pleats generally transverse to the direction of motion.



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