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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/15192 (22) International Filing Date: 20 September 1996 (20.09.96) (30) Priority Data: 08/557,751 13 November 1995 (13.11.95) US (71) Applicant: KENNAMETAL INC. [US/US]; P.O. Box 231, Latrobe, PA 15650 (US). (72) Inventors: MEHROTRA, Pankaj, K.; 23 Peters Road, Greensburg, PA 15601 (US). HUSTON, William, R.; R.D. #8, Box 157-D, Greensburg, PA 15601 (US). (74) Agents: PRIZZI, John, J. et al.; Kennametal Inc., P.O. Box 231, Latrobe, PA 15650 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, JP, KR, MX, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: WHISKER REINFORCED CERAMIC CUTTING TOOL AND COMPOSITION THEREOF (57) Abstract A ceramic composition produced by the consolidation of a blend of starting components. The composition comprises a matrix with one or more of the carbides, nitrides and carbonitrides of hafnium, molybdenum, zirconium, tantalum, niobium, vanadium, tungsten and titanium, and solid solutions thereof in an amount that is greater than 50 volume percent of the matrix. The matrix comprises between 60 and 99.8 volume percent of the composition. Ceramic whiskers are uniformly dispersed throughout the matrix wherein the ceramic whiskers comprises between 0.2 and 40 volume percent of the composition.		