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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB96/02248 (22) International Filing Date: 12 September 1996 (12.09.96) (30) Priority Data: 9518798.5 14 September 1995 (14.09.95) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE [GB/GB]; Defense Evaluation & Research Agency, DRA Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6TD (GB). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): FERGUSON, James [GB/GB]; University of Strathclyde, Dept. of Pure Applied Chemistry, 295 Cathedral Street, Glasgow G1 1XL (GB). (74) Agent: SKELTON, Stephen, Richard; D/IPR (DERA) Formalities, Poplar 2, MOD (PE) Abbey Wood #19, P.O. Box 702, Bristol BS12 7DU (GB).		(81) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), 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> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SPINNING HOLLOW POLYMERIC FIBRES		
(57) Abstract A method of manufacture of solid-walled hollow polymeric fibres comprises the steps of dissolving polymeric material in a suitable solvent liquid to form a dope solution (44), extruding the dope solution through an aperture in a spinneret (41) to form a narrow jet of liquid, injecting a coagulant (46) through an aperture (53) in the centre of the liquid dope jet as it leaves the spinneret, directing the jet through an air gap into a coagulant bath containing a further coagulant; and directing the fibre through a drawing bath to reduce the diameter; each coagulant solution being a mixture of a coagulant liquid capable of causing gelation and solidification of the liquid dope jet and between 20 % and 80 % of the solvent liquid.		