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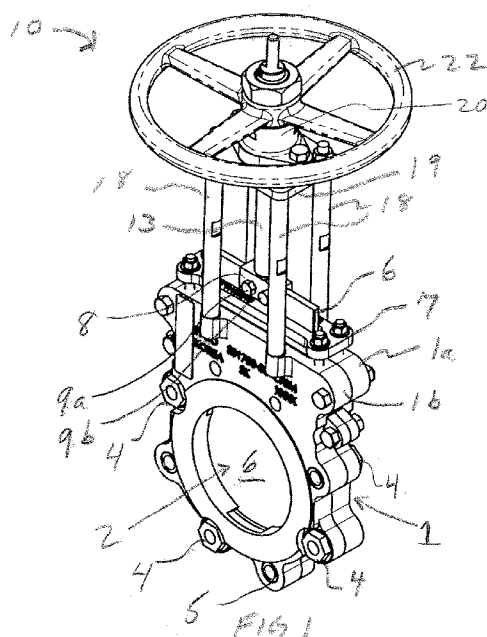
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(54) Title: A VALVE ASSEMBLY HAVING A REINFORCED VALVE SEAT



(57) Abstract: A knife gate valve includes a valve body defined by a first and second body halves. The valve halves are assembled to define a flow path, a knife gate channel and a seat channel. A knife gate is disposed between the body halves and is adapted to traverse the gate channel. The knife gate is configured to be in an open position to allow process flow through the valve and a closed position to prevent process flow through the valve. A seat assembly is positioned within the channel guide and is defined by a horizontal segment, a pair of vertical segments and a lower segment. The seat assembly is compressed between the first and second valve body halves. At least one reinforcing plate is disposed within a portion of the horizontal segment, such that the horizontal segment maintains its rigidity when the knife gate traverses the seat assembly.



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