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(54) Title: IMPROVED GASKET FOR AN AEROSOL VALVE STEM (57) Abstract The improved valve stem gasket of this invention comprises a flat-shaped gasket (50) with a central aperture (52) wherein the durometer of the gasket varies from a relatively low hardness value in the inner portion (A) of the gasket extending radially outward from the central aperture to a relatively higher hardness value at the radially outer portion (C) of the gasket whereat the gasket will be contacted by the upper wall portion (36) of the valve housing (26). In a preferred form of the gasket, the variation in durometer value will be gradually varied from the inner portion of the gasket to the radially outer portion of the gasket.		