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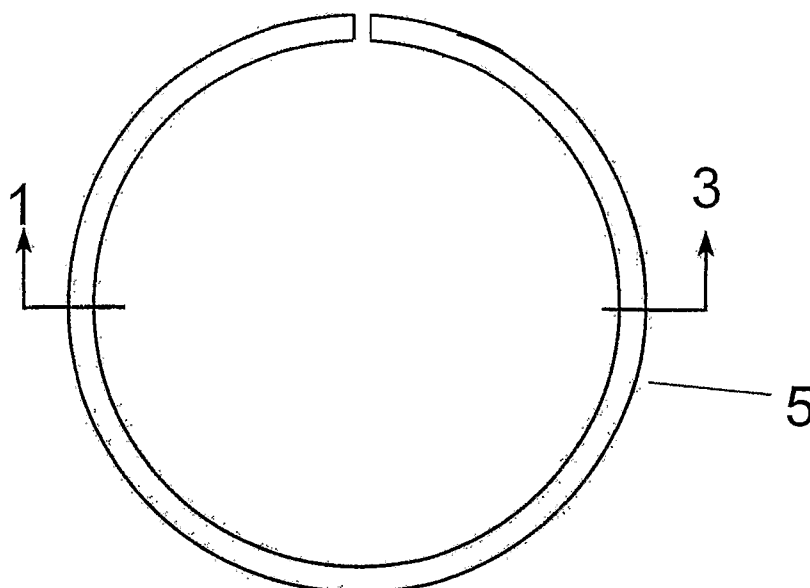
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(54) Title: REFRACTORY METAL ANNEALING BANDS



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for making an annealing band, the process comprising (a) producing a refractory metal powder; or refractory metal alloy powder; (b) optionally blending the powder with an oxide component or a carbide component; (c) consolidating the powder or powder blend and forming a consolidated powder component; (d) subjecting the consolidated powder component to thermo-mechanical treatment and forming a sheet, or tube; (e) cutting the sheet into a strip; and (f) forming an annealing band from the strip. Then invention also relates to annealing bands and processes for using annealing bands.