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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/16301 (22) International Filing Date: 16 September 1997 (16.09.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/714,555 ✓ 16 September 1996 (16.09.96) US (71) Applicant: SARCOS INC. [US/US]; 360 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108 (US). (72) Inventors: JACOBSEN, Stephen, C.; 274 South 1200 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84102 (US). DAVIS, Clark, C.; 4569 Wallace Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84124 (US). (74) Agents: THORPE, Calvin, E. et al.; Thorpe, North & Western, LLP, Suite 200, 9035 South 700 East, Sandy, UT 84070 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), 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), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING CUTS IN CATHETERS, GUIDEWIRES AND THE LIKE (57) Abstract A catheter, guidewire or other cylindrical object cutting device which includes a base, at least one circular saw blade mounted on a spindle member, and a clamp for manipulating the object to be cut. The at least one circular saw blade is rotatably mounted on the spindle member. The spindle member is free to move vertically and horizontally with respect to the base to thereby control the location, size and depth of the cuts in a cylindrical object disposed adjacent thereto. The clamp is able to hold the object to be cut, as well as rotate it to expose the entire circumference of the object to the saw blade. By releasing the clamp, a pinch roller can advance the object before the clamp is re-engaged to securely hold the object for cutting. Sensors are also provided to enable detection of wear of the saw blade so as to signal needed replacement or adjustment of the saw blade to compensate.		