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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB97/01343 (22) International Filing Date: 27 October 1997 (27.10.97) (30) Priority Data: 96890193.4 17 December 1996 (17.12.96) EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: AT et al. (71) Applicant: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL). (71) Applicant (for SE only): PHILIPS NORDEN AB [SE/SE]; Kista, Kottbygatan 7, S-164 85 Stockholm (SE). (72) Inventors: HÄFELÉ, Peter; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). RODDEMAN, Gerardus, Johannes, Hericus; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). WOLFGER, Arno; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). (74) Agent: WEBER, Helmut; Internationaal Octrooibureau B.V., P.O. Box 220, NL-5600 AE Eindhoven (NL).		(81) Designated States: CN, JP, KR, SG, 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>

(54) Title: TOOTHBRUSH HAVING A BRUSH HOLDER MOVABLE AGAINST SPRING FORCE**(57) Abstract**

In a toothbrush (1) comprising a stationary part (10) and a brush holder (24) which is movable with respect to the stationary part (10), and comprising a spring (48) which acts between the stationary part (10) and the brush holder (24), a link-motion device (49) is arranged between the stationary part (10) and the brush holder (24), in addition to the spring (48), in order to obtain a desired force characteristic, which link-motion device (29) is loaded by the spring (48) and comprises a link-motion follower (51) and a link-motion surface (50) having two link-motion surface portions (52, 53), the two link-motion surface portions (52, 53) adjoining one another by an edge-like transition portion (54).

