

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 September 2004 (10.09.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/076872 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **F16C 17/22**,
F16L 41/04

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/005078

(22) International Filing Date: 20 February 2004 (20.02.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/449,190 21 February 2003 (21.02.2003) US
10/772,685 5 February 2004 (05.02.2004) US

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(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), Euro-
pean (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR,
GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- with amended claims and statement

Date of publication of the amended claims and statement:

28 October 2004

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: SLIDING BEARING SUBJECT TO THERMAL EXPANSION

(57) Abstract: A bearing (130) for rotatably supporting a cylindrical shaft within a frame cylindrical support surface in which the shaft is subject to thermal expansion, the bearing (130) being formed of a tubular member having opposed ends (132, 134) and having an axial passageway therethrough, the outer surface (136) of the bearing member (130) having an external circumferential rib (144, 146) adjacent each of the ends (132, 134), each rib having an external diameter that permits the bearing member (130) to be slideably positionable in the frame internal cylindrical support surface, the axial passageway being defined by a central bearing surface (150) of internal diameter to rotatably receiving the shaft, the bearing surface (150) having an axial length less than the spacing between said ribs, the bearing (130) being deformable within elastic limits permitting the internal diameter of the bearing surface (150) to expand to accept thermal expansion of the shaft.

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