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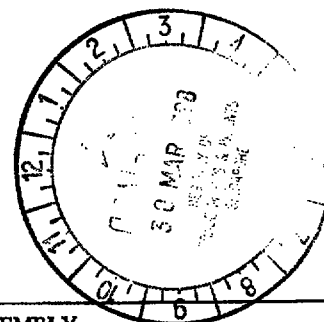
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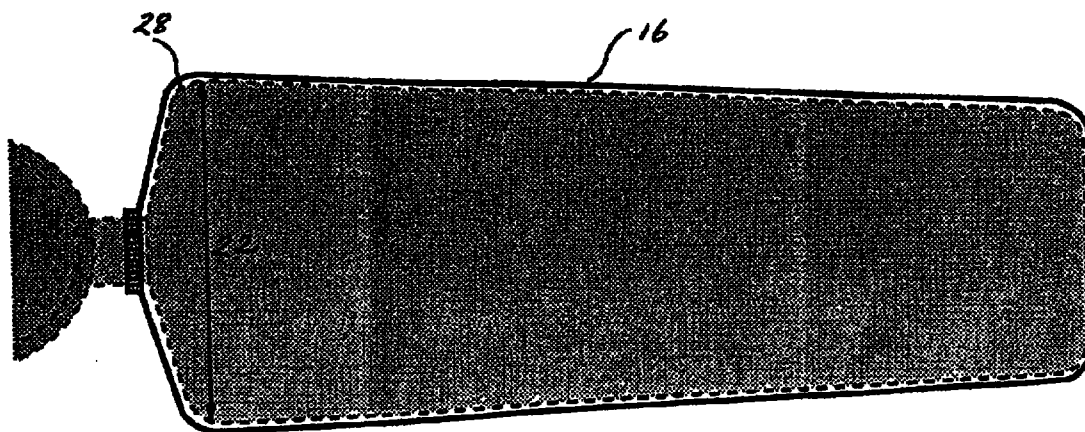


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(54) Title: **COVERING APPARATUS FOR A FAN BLADE AND A FAN BLADE ASSEMBLY**



(57) Abstract

A covering apparatus (15) for a fan blade (11) comprising a rectangularly shaped sleeve-like cover (16), having a closed end (17) and an opposing open end (18). The cover (16) also includes retaining means for retaining the cover on the fan blade, said retaining means including an expandable opening (19) associated with said open end (18).