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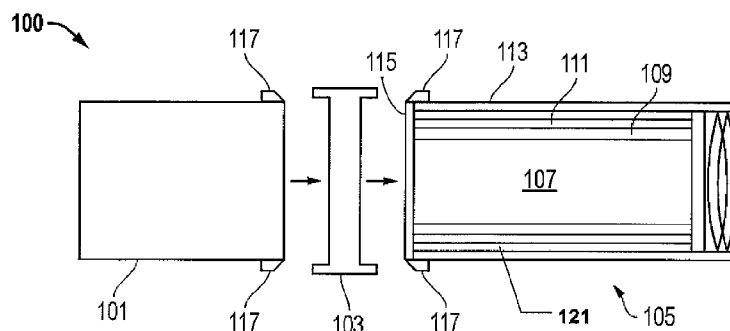


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A rare-earth halide material comprising a first surface region having a first surface roughness (R_{rms1}) and a second surface region having a second surface roughness (R_{rms2}), wherein the first surface roughness value is at least about 10% less than the second surface roughness value, wherein surface roughness is measured using scanning white light interferometry over an area of 1 mm².

