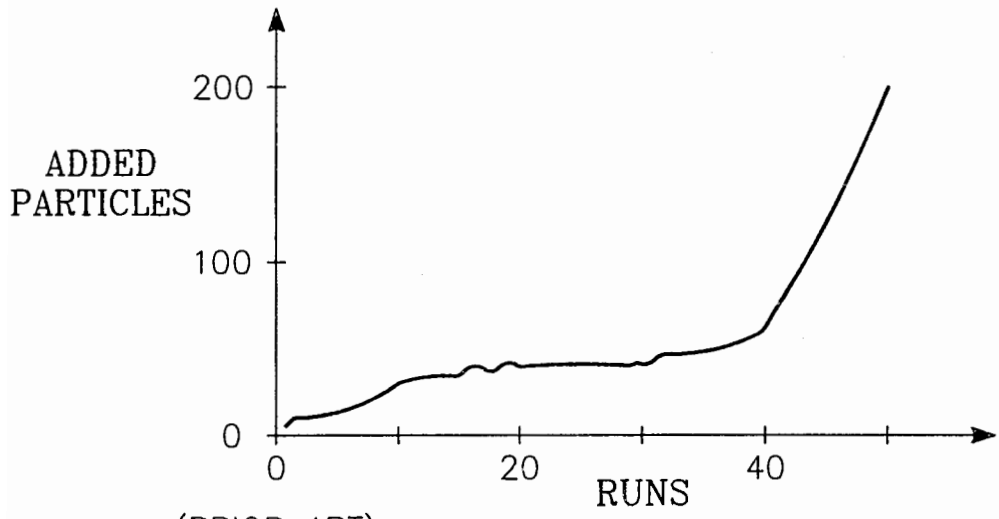


(PRIOR ART)

FIG. 1

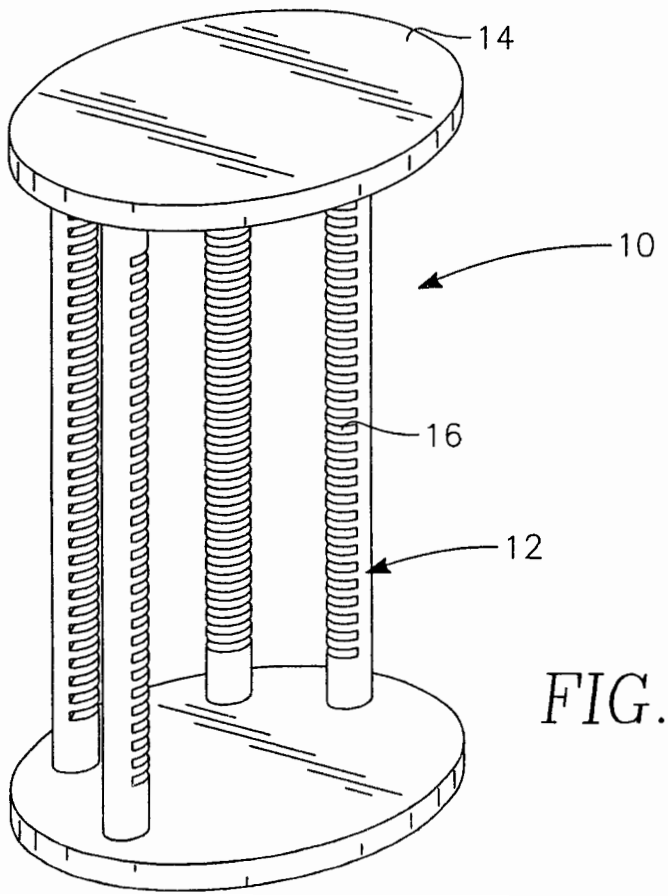


FIG. 2

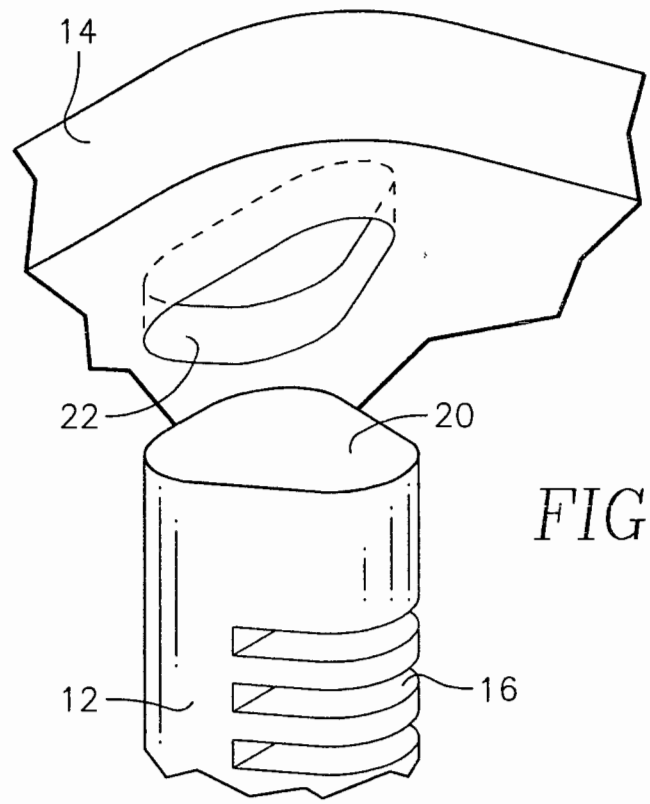


FIG. 3

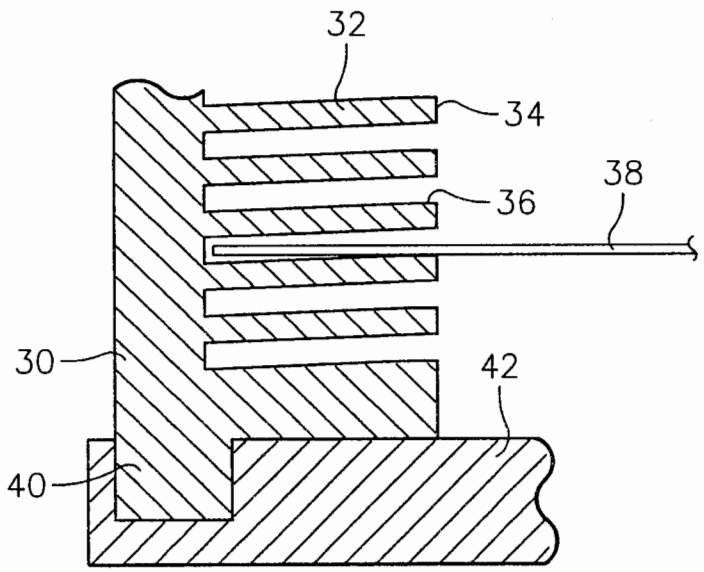


FIG. 4

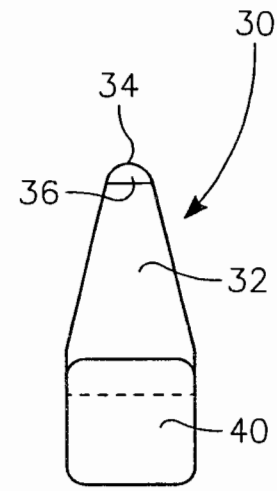


FIG. 5

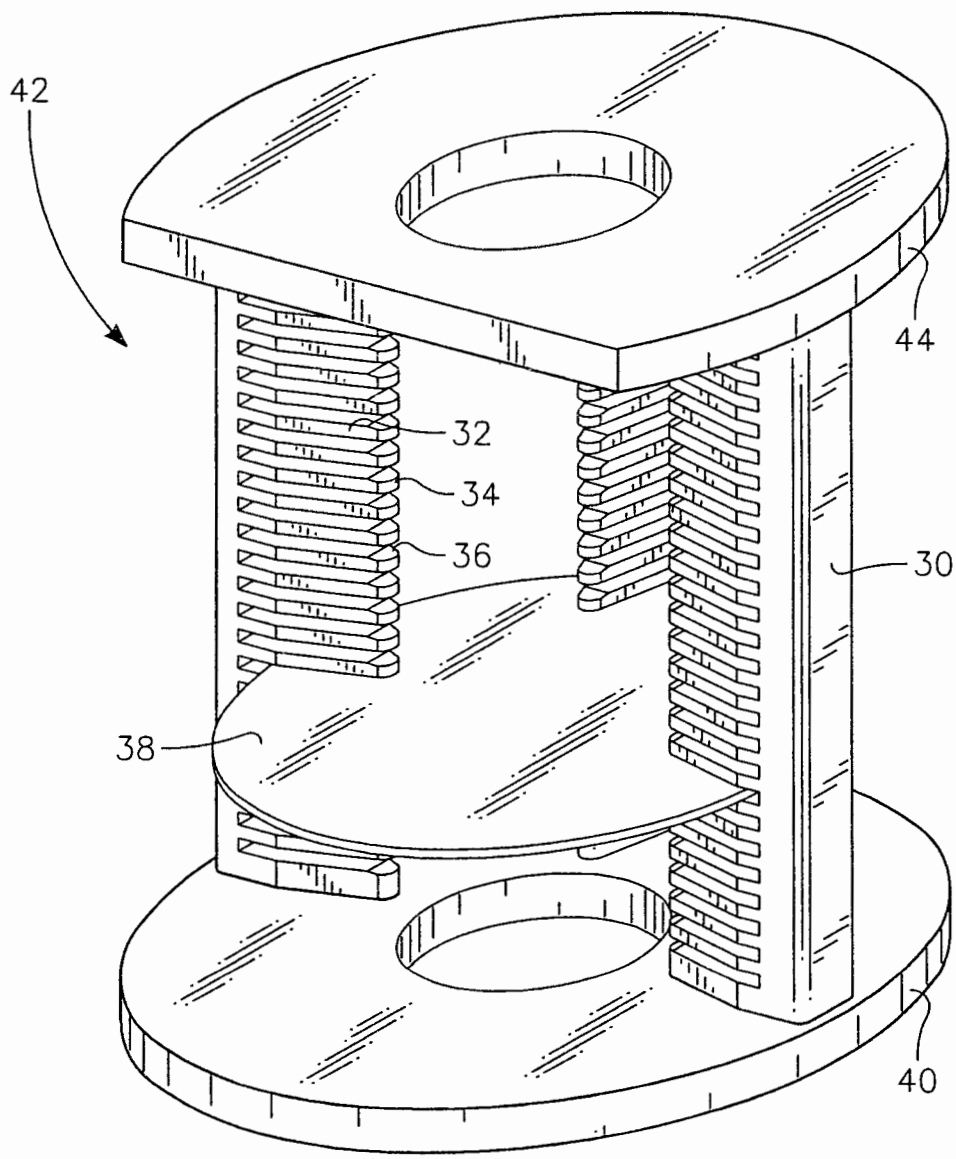


FIG. 6

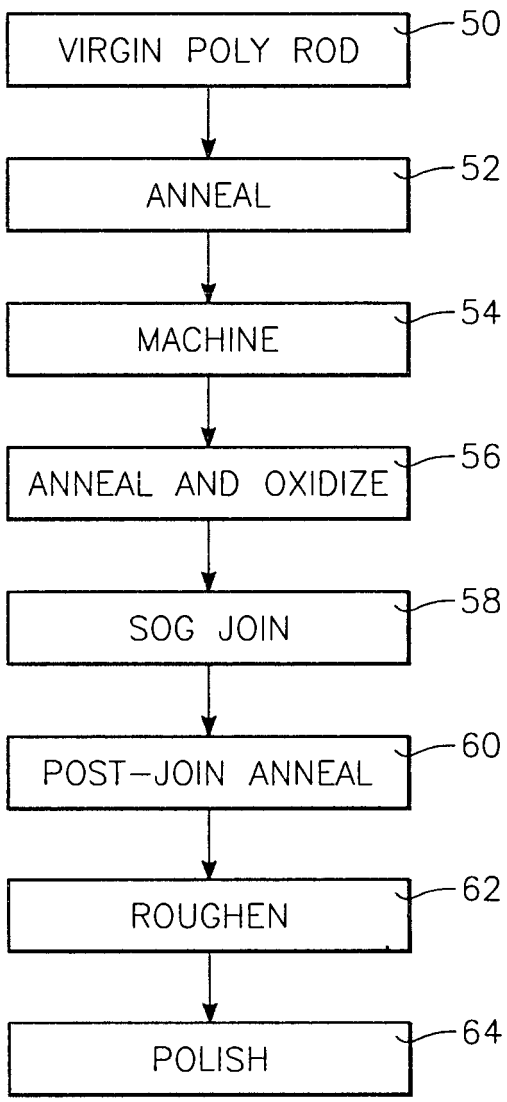

VIRGIN POLY ROD
50
ANNEAL
52
MACHINE
54
ANNEAL AND OXIDIZE
56
SOG JOIN
58
POST-JOIN ANNEAL
60
ROUGHEN
62
POLISH
64

FIG. 7

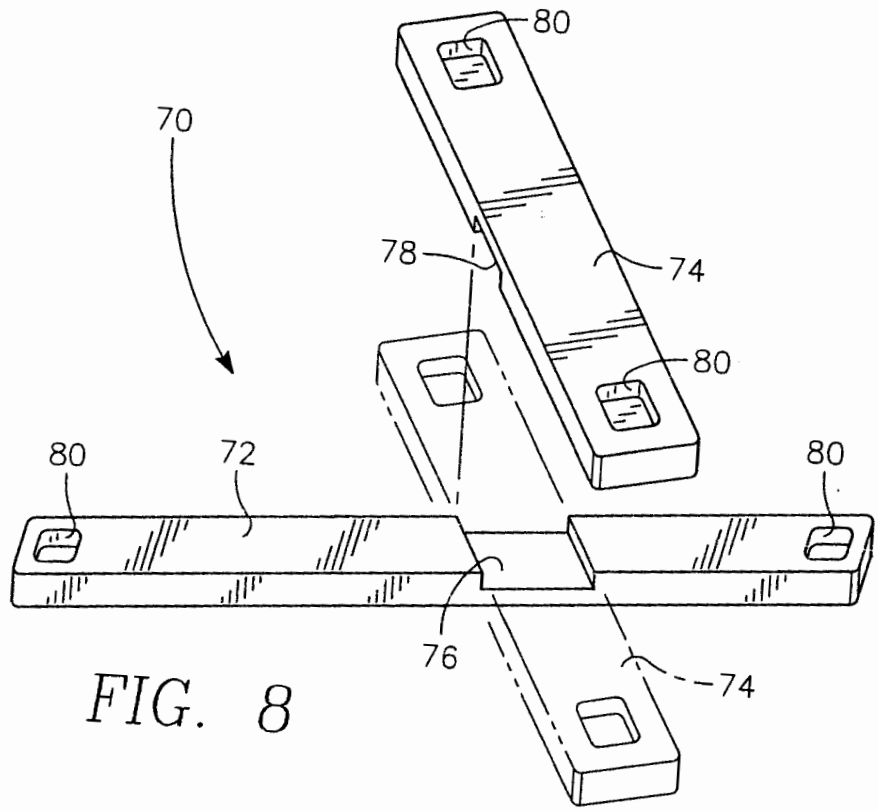


FIG. 8

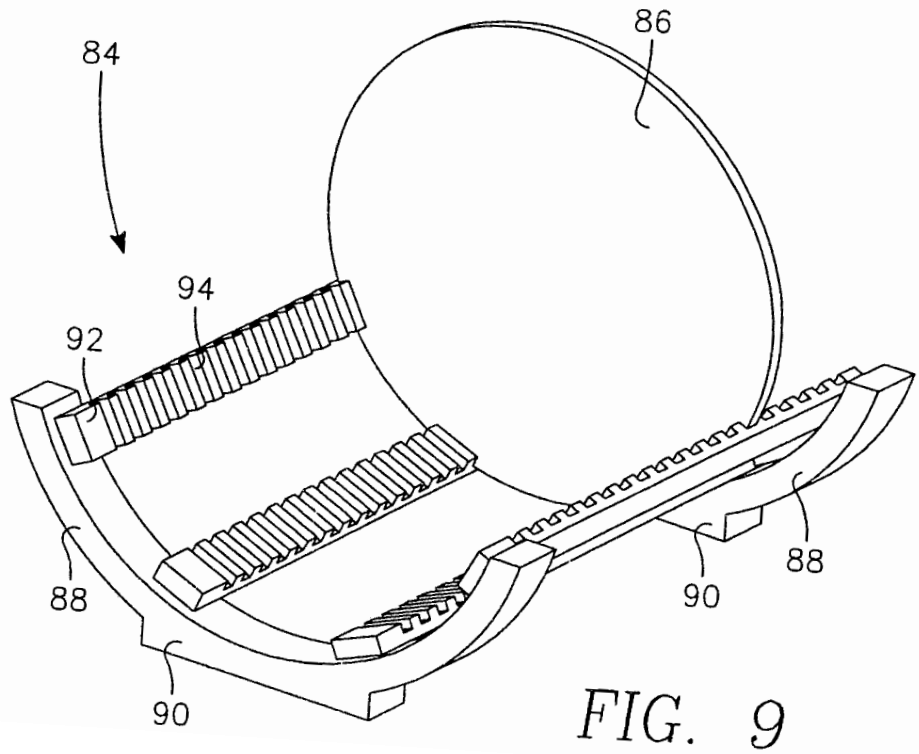


FIG. 9