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(54) **Title:** METHOD FOR DIVIDING OPTICAL FIBRE

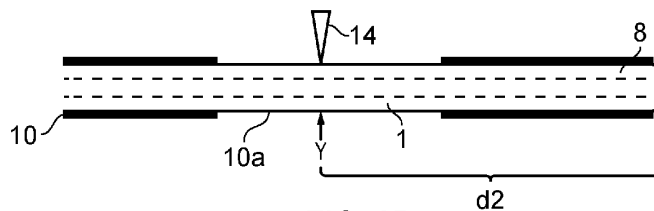


FIG. 6B

(57) **Abstract:** A method for dividing an optical fibre comprises providing a hollow core optical fibre having a length, a cladding which comprises a microstructure, a hollow core surrounded by the cladding, and a negative pressure portion in which the pressure is below atmospheric pressure that extends over at least a portion of the length; and cleaving the hollow core optical fibre at a divide location within the negative pressure portion to divide the hollow core optical fibre into two parts and provide an end facet at the divide location on one or both of the parts.



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