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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/03404 (22) International Filing Date: 18 February 1999 (18.02.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/025,946 19 February 1998 (19.02.98) US (71) Applicant: ALLIEDSIGNAL INC. [US/US]; 101 Columbia Road, P.O. Box 2245, Morristown, NJ 07962-2245 (US). (72) Inventors: ROBERT, Richard, G.; 4331 Parker Road, Ham- burg, NY 14075 (US). DECAIRE, Barbara, Ruth; 200 L Sunshine Drive, Amherst, NY 14228 (US). CONVISER, Stephen, Alan; 27 Windmill Drive, Morristown, NJ 07960 (US). (74) Agents: CRISS, Roger, H. et al.; AlliedSignal Inc., Law Dept. (R. Fels), 101 Columbia Road, P.O. Box 2245, Morristown, NJ 07962-2245 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the</i> <i>claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of</i> <i>amendments.</i>
(54) Title: STERILIZING GAS COMPOSITIONS OF ETHYLENE OXIDE, PENTAFLUOROETHANE AND HEPTAFLUORO- PROPANE (57) Abstract Non-flammable sterilizing gas compositions of ethylene oxide and a flame suppressant comprising pentafluoroethane and heptafluoropropane are useful in the gaseous sterilization of heat and/or moisture sensitive materials. The sterilizing gas compositions are environmentally acceptable and are more efficient and safer to use than conventional sterilant gas mixtures.		