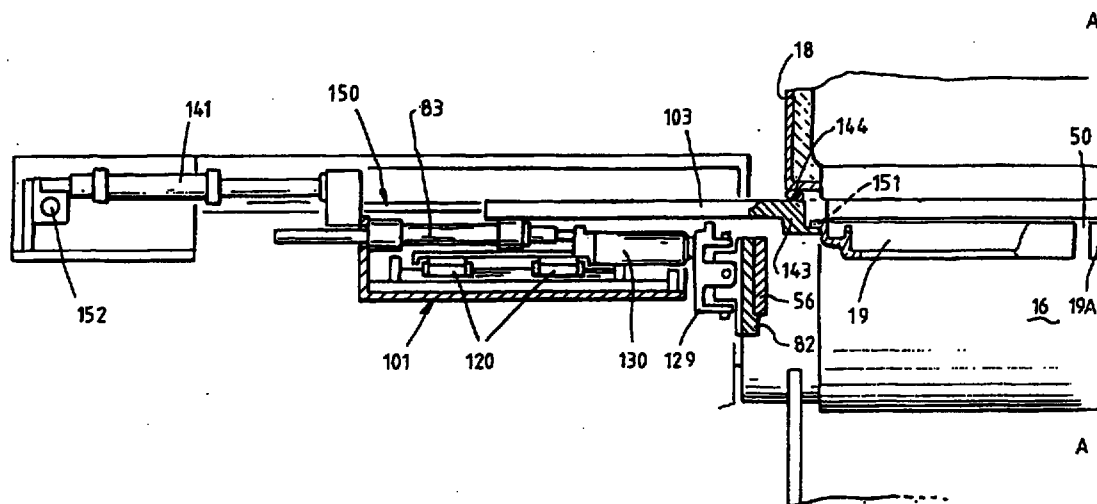




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : B22D 11/18, 11/06, 11/10	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/66294 (43) International Publication Date: 9 November 2000 (09.11.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU00/00388 (22) International Filing Date: 1 May 2000 (01.05.00) (30) Priority Data: PQ 0071 3 May 1999 (03.05.99) AU (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): ISHIKAWA-JIMA-HARIMA HEAVY INDUSTRIES COMPANY LIMITED [JP/JP]; 2-1, Ohtemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100 (JP). BHP STEEL (JLA) PTY LTD [AU/AU]; 1 York Street, Sydney, New South Wales 2000 (AU). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): FISH, John, Andrew [AU/AU]; 6 Charlotte Harrison Drive, Woonona, New South Wales 2517 (AU). KATO, Heiji [JP/JP]; 36-2 Nobi 2-chome, Yokosuka-shi, Kanagawa (JP). (74) Agent: GRIFFITH HACK; 509 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 (AU).		(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, 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>

(54) Title: STRIP CASTING APPARATUS**(57) Abstract**

Twin roll caster for casting metal strip comprises pair of parallel casting rolls (16) forming nip to receive molten metal from elongate metal delivery nozzle (19) formed in two pieces 19(A) supported in end to end relationship with a gap (50) between them. A pair of casting pool confinement plates (56) are thrust against the ends of rolls (16) by thrusters (83) mounted with the side plates on carriages (101) forming part of moveable structures (150) which are connected to the outer ends of nozzle pieces (19A) by pins (151) and which can be moved by operation of screw jacks (152). The outer ends of nozzle segments (19A) can be accurately set in position relative to side plates (56) prior to a casting and during a casting operation screw jacks (152) can be operated so as to move the nozzle segments (19A) inwardly to match inward advance of the side plates as they wear.