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1106757.6 20 April 2011 (20.04.2011) GB(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ARTERI-
US LIMITED** [GB/GB]; 64 Broomfield, Leeds Yorkshire
LS16 7AD (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BRESSLOFF, Neil
W.** [GB/GB]; Faculty of Engineering and the Environment,
University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17
1BJ (GB). **PANT, Sanjay** [IN/GB]; Faculty of Engineer-
ing and the Environment, University of Southampton,
Highfield, Southampton SO17 1BJ (GB). **AL-LAMEE,
Kadem Gayad** [GB/GB]; Arterius Limited, 64 Broom-
field, Leeds Yorkshire LS16 7AD (GB).(74) Agent: **ARENDS, William Gerrit**; Marks & Clerk LLP,
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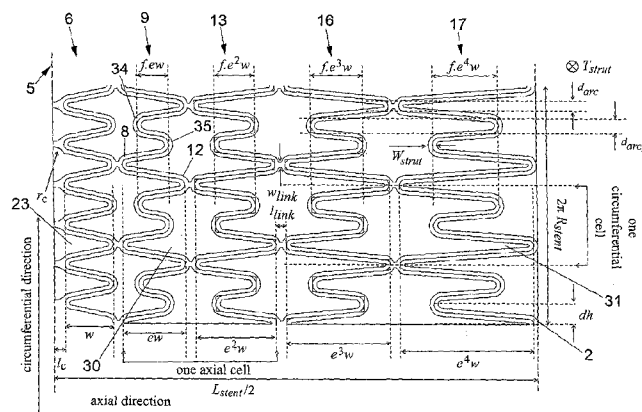


Fig. 2

(57) **Abstract:** A tubular stent (1) has first and second ends (2,3) and a longitudinal axis (4) therebetween. The tubular stent (1) is formed from a network of struts which defines a cylindrical surface about the longitudinal axis (4), the struts delineating a plurality of cells {23, 30, 31, 32, 33} within the network, there being rows of cells parallel to the longitudinal axis (4). At least one cell in each row is a nodal cell (23). There is an increase in the maximum length parallel to the longitudinal axis (4) of cells from the at (east one nodal cell (23) to a first distal cell (30) in the row that is closer to the first or second end (2, 3) of the tubular stent (1). There is a second distal cell (31) in the row which has a different maximum length parallel to the longitudinal axis (4) from the nodal cell (23) and the first distal cell (30). The network of struts comprises a plurality of circumferential rings (6, 6', 9, 9', 13, 13', 16, 16', 17, 17'). Each ring (6, 6', 9, 9', 13, 13', 16, 16', 17, 17') extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis (4) and the rings are located adjacent to each other parallel to the longitudinal axis (4) to define the cylindrical surface. The circumferential rings (6, 6', 9, 9', 13, 13', 16, 16', 17, 17') are of a wave form. Each circumferential ring (6, 6', 9, 9', 13, 13', 16, 16', 17, 17') has an amplitude parallel to the longitudinal axis (4), such that each wave form comprises a plurality of peaks (7, 10, 14, 18, 20) which extend towards the axial centre (5) of the tubular stent (1) and a plurality of troughs (8, 12, 29, 21, 36) which extend away from the axial centre (5) of the tubular stent (1).