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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/20535 ✓ (22) International Filing Date: 17 December 1996 (17.12.96) ✓ (30) Priority Data: 08/590,746 24 January 1996 (24.01.96) ✓ US (71) Applicant: MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). ✓ (72) Inventors: BENSON, Olester, Jr.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). LUNDIN, David, J.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). (74) Agents: JORDAN, Robert, H. et al.; Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (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, HU, IL, 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, <u>SG</u> , SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: CONSPICUITY MARKING SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A conspicuity marking system (10, 80) includes a light guide (12, 82) which has at least one optically reflective surface for propagating light through the light guide and a retroreflective light extractor (20, 84) for extracting light (52) propagating through the light guide and for retroreflecting light (54) from an external light source incident upon the system. Light propagating through the light guide (20, 82) which is transmitted into the light extractor (20, 84) is reflected back through the light guide such that it exits the light guide at a location displaced from the retroreflective light extractor. Light (54) from an external light source which is incident on the system passes through the light guide (12, 82) and is retroreflected toward the light source by the retroreflective light extractor (20, 84).

