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- (71) **Applicant:** 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
- (72) **Inventors:** CILISKE, Scott, L.; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). PEKUROVSKY, Mikhail, L.; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). SOLOMONSON, Steven, D.; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). BERTLING, Stephen, M.; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
- (74) **Agents:** BAKER, James, A. et al.; 3M Center, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).

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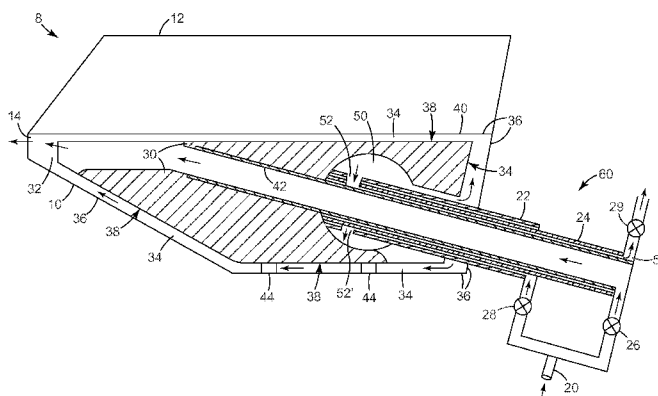
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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(54) **Title:** DIE WITH INSERT AND GAS PURGING METHOD FOR DIE



(57) **Abstract:** The disclosure relates to a die assembly. The die assembly includes a die housing having a plurality of inner wall sections defining a die cavity, an inlet passageway passing through the die housing in fluid communication with the die cavity, and an outlet passageway passing through the die housing in fluid communication with the die cavity at a position distal from the inlet passageway. The die assembly also includes an insert removably received in the die cavity. The insert includes a body portion having a plurality of outer wall sections, and at least one flow channel is formed between at least one inner wall section of the die housing and each opposite outer wall section of the body portion of the insert. The die assembly includes a means for providing fluid communication between the external supply of fluent material and each of the at least one flow channel and the outlet passageway. The means for providing fluid communication may include a first conduit passing through at least part of the body portion of the insert in fluid communication between the inlet passageway and the outlet passageway, and a second conduit passing through the die housing in fluid communication with each flow channel and the outlet passageway. The first and second conduits may each be adapted to selectively connect to the external supply of fluent material. Also provided is a die insert for use within a die, and a method of purging gas from a die having an insert.



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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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