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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/09751 (22) International Filing Date: 12 April 2000 (12.04.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/294,964 20 April 1999 (20.04.99) US (71) Applicant: BAXTER INTERNATIONAL INC. [US/US]; One Baxter Parkway 2-2E, Deerfield, IL 60015 (US). (72) Inventors: BILSTAD, Arnold, C.; 335 Pine Street, Deerfield, IL 60015 (US). BUCHANAN, Bradley, H.; P.O. Box 1851, 210 Wellington Avenue, Ross, CA 94957 (US). MARTTILA, Alan, W.; 1833 Ash Street, Waukegan, IL 60087 (US). WOODWORTH, Archie; 618 Prairie Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010 (US). (74) Agents: BUONAIUTO, Mark, J. et al.; Baxter International Inc., One Baxter Parkway, Deerfield, IL 60015 (US).		(81) Designated States: AE, AU, BR, CA, CN, IL, JP, KR, MX, NZ, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE STERILE FIELD <div data-bbox="256 1256 1307 1460" data-label="Image"> </div> (57) Abstract <p>The connection, assembly, or fill of two or more pre-sterilized components having at least one terminal end each for attachment to another component, and an apparatus for performing such a connection, while maintaining the sterility of the components is disclosed. The resulting connection is made permanent by bonding the contacting components together using either a solvent bonding technique, a radio frequency sealer, a heat sealer, or any other suitable process. The connection is preferably made within an active sterile field. Using a low-voltage electron beam instrument, such as the MIN-EBTM, a suitable sterile field sphere can be created. The terminal ends of the multiple components remain within the sterile field sphere until the possibility of contamination within the sealed components is significantly reduced to industry acceptable standards.</p>		

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