9900315-4
IPOS

PCT WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A61M 16/16 — A1

(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/02199

(43) International Publication Date: 22 January 1998 (22.01.98)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB97/00849

(22) International Filing Date: 8 July 1997 (08.07.97)

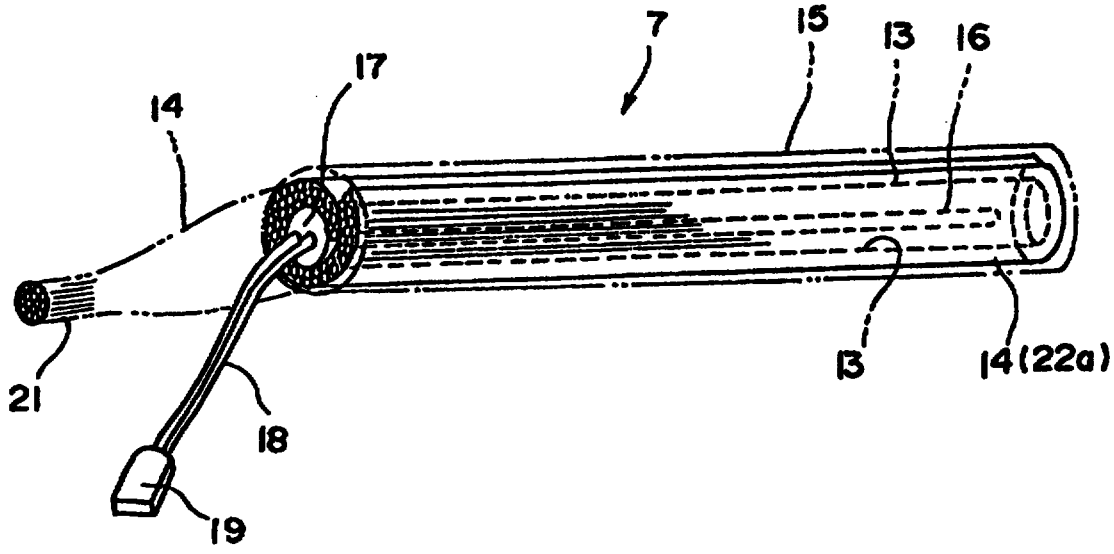
(30) Priority Data:
8/186364 16 July 1996 (16.07.96) JP

(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: NITTA, Kazufuku [JP/JP]; 1031-15, Shiraoka-cho, Shiraoka, Minami Saitama-gun, Saitama-ken, 349-02 (JP).

(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, 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, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), 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: UNIT FOR ADJUSTING HUMIDIFICATION



(57) Abstract

To provide a unit for adjusting humidification capable of improving inconveniences that may otherwise be caused to occur due to damages, while sustaining the humidifying ability and other performance that are to be originally achieved by the humidification adjusting unit. Around the outer surface of the exothermic member (13) are wound multiple hollow fibers (14) each having a minute diameter and having a peripheral wall with minute openings each being large enough to allow water vapor to permeate therethrough yet small enough to fail to permeate water therethrough, and the multiple hollow fibers (14) and the exothermic member (13) are inserted tightly into an extendable mesh cover tube (15) in engagement therewith. In order to perform humidification, water to be supplied to the multiple hollow fibers (14) is warmed by the exothermic member (13) to generate water vapors. Even if the multiple hollow fibers (14) would be broken or damaged, the water to be leaked from the multiple hollow fibers can be made extremely small in volume by taking advantage of the minuteness of each of the multiple hollow fibers (14), thereby failing to cause to occur any substantial problems that may otherwise cause inconveniences due to the leakage of water.