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(54) Title: AUTOMATED COOKING CONTROL VIA ENHANCED COOKING EQUIPMENT

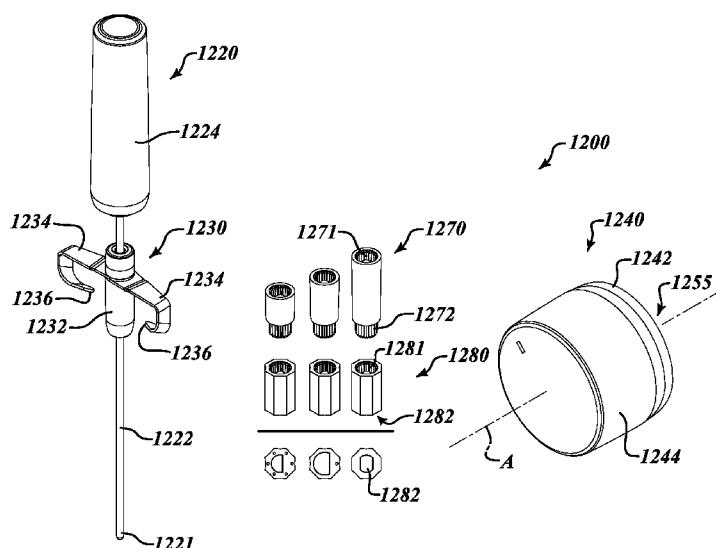


FIG. 12

(57) Abstract: Techniques are described for auto-
mated control of portions of a cooking process, such
as to control activation and heating for a cooking loca-
tion having a piece of cooking equipment. Such
automated control may include executing an auto-
mated control recipe having defined instructions used
to automatically control at least some aspects (e.g.,
surface temperature) of the cooking equipment piece
(e.g., a pan on a stove cooking surface) as part of a
cooking episode to prepare one or more dishes, and
may further include coordinating actions of a human
user who is participating in the cooking episode by
providing instructions or other information to the
user. Related food preparation systems and cookware
devices and components are also provided in connec-
tion with which the described automated cooking
control techniques and methods may be used, such
devices include a control knob provided to adjust a
characteristic of a cooking environment in a vicinity
of the implement during the cooking episode, the
control knob being controllably adjustable via a drive
motor contained within the control knob while also
remaining manually adjustable by a use, and a cook-
ing implement with a temperature sensor and a wire-
less communication module to transmit the temperat-
ure information from the implement.