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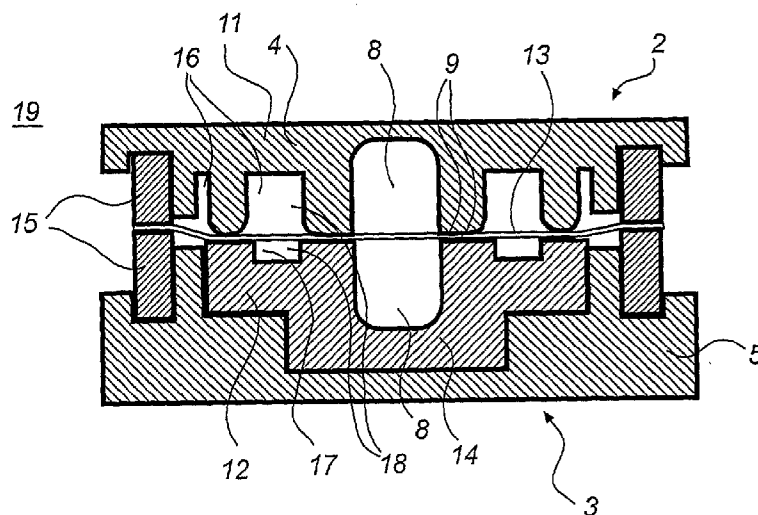
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(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CONTAMINATION-FREE AND/OR STERILE SEALING BETWEEN AT LEAST TWO INTERCONNECTABLE CONNECTING MEANS



(57) Abstract: In a method and a device (10) for contamination-free and/or sterile sealing between two interconnectable connecting means (4, 5) with opposing openings (8) to allow, after the interconnection, transfer of a fluid between them, sealing elements (11, 12) are arranged on the connecting means around the openings and provided with protective films (13) covering the sealing elements and the openings and adapted to be removed in the final interconnection. The sealing elements are each provided with at least one recess (16, 17), which in a cooperating manner extends wholly or partly around the associated opening and receives a gas. In the interconnection of the connecting means, the sealing elements are moved into engagement with each other, interleaved with the protective films, to reduce the volume of the recesses and, thus, increase the pressure of the gas therein. In the subsequent quick removal of the protective films, the gas flows out of the recesses to the environment to prevent penetration of contamination into the openings in the final interconnection of the connecting means.

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