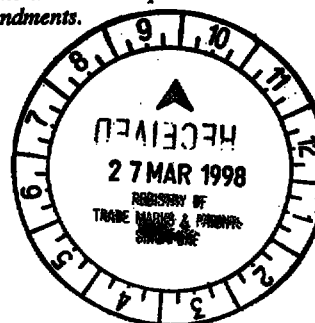


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| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/GB96/01965<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 9 August 1996 (09.08.96)<br><b>(30) Priority Data:</b><br>9516398.6      10 August 1995 (10.08.95)      GB<br><b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> ELTA FANS LIMITED [GB/GB]; 15 Barnes Wallis Road, Segensworth East Industrial Estate, Fareham, Hants PO15 5ST (GB).<br><b>(72) Inventors; and</b><br><b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> FENNER, David, Peter [GB/GB]; Beeches, Durley Brook Road, Durley, Southampton, Hampshire SO32 2AR (GB). LACK, Christopher, Winston [GB/GB]; 64 Woodham Park Road, Woodham, Weybridge, Surrey KT15 3SP (GB).<br><b>(74) Agents:</b> HANDS, Horace, Geoffrey et al.; George Fuery & Co., Whitehall Chambers, 23 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2BL (GB). | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), 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).<br><br><b>Published</b><br>With international search report.<br>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments. |                                                                                                                                             |

**(54) Title:** FLUID IMPELLER**(57) Abstract**

A fluid impeller (such as a fan for moving air or gases) comprises one or more rotatable fluid impelling blades (200); and a flow guiding member (220) adjacent to an edge of the blades (200), at least a blade (200) facing surface of the flow guiding member being formed substantially as a segment of a sphere of radius  $r_1$  about a centre of curvature (280). Each blade (200) has a flow guiding member abutting edge (290) curved substantially to fit against a sphere of radius  $r_1$ .

