

ABSTRACT

CATHODIC ARC COATING APPARATUS

A cathodic arc coating apparatus (2) includes an elongated hollow cathode (10), elongated magnetic field means (12) located coaxially within the cathode, and elongated cooling supply passages located coaxially within the cathode for directly cooling the cathode. In a preferred arrangement the magnetic field means is hollow and the cooling means includes elongated passage means extending coaxially and within the magnetic field means. The cathode means may be rotated. In use, a closed loop arc path is formed which extends along substantially the full length of the cathode.

(Figure 1)