

row by an eighth distance, the sixth row being spaced apart from said seventh row by a seventh distance, and the fifth row being spaced apart from said sixth row by a sixth distance, wherein said eighth distance is greater than the ninth distance and the seventh and sixth distances are each substantially equal to each other, the fifth row of said holes being spaced apart from said fourth row of said holes by a fifth distance, wherein the fifth distance is greater than the fourth distance, wherein each hole in said first row of holes is spaced apart from adjacent holes in said first row of holes by a first Y distance, each hole in said second row of holes is spaced apart from adjacent holes in said second row of holes by a second Y distance, and said first Y distance is less than said second Y distance;

a first housing coupled to said first plate;

a second housing coupled to said second plate;

a handle coupled to said first and second housings, said handle operable between an open position and a closed position, said pins of said first plate and said holes of said second plate being constructed and arranged so as to engage with one another when said handle is in the closed position;

a vapor generator disposed within said second housing, said vapor generator being capable of heating aqueous fluid to vaporization;

a refillable reservoir for containing fluid coupled in fluid flow communication with said vapor generator;

a pump coupled in fluid flow communication with said refillable reservoir and said vapor generator, said pump being capable of withdrawing a metered volume of fluid from said reservoir and placing said metered volume of fluid in contact with said vapor generator; and

a passage connecting said vapor generator and a plurality of holes which extend through said second plate so that vaporized fluid can pass from said holes.

11. An apparatus according to claim 10 further comprising a trigger to actuate said pump.

12. An apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said refillable reservoir is constructed so as to be detachable from said vapor generator.

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13. An apparatus for styling hair, comprising:

a first plate which includes a plurality of pins extending therefrom;

a second plate which includes a plurality of holes therein;

a first housing coupled to said first plate;

a second housing coupled to said second plate;

a handle including a first handle member wherein the distal end of said first handle member is coupled to said first housing, said handle further including a second handle member wherein the distal end of said second handle member is coupled to said second housing, the proximal end of said first handle member being coupled to the proximal end of said second handle member by a hinge, whereby said handle is operable between an open position and a closed position, said handle including a proximal guide member and a distal guide member affixed to said first handle member and said second handle member, said proximal guide member comprising a proximal male alignment part coupled to said first handle member and a proximal female alignment part coupled to said second handle member, said proximal male alignment part and said proximal female alignment part being constructed and arranged so that when said handle is in the open position said alignment parts are not engaged with one another, and when a user moves said handle from a first partially closed position to second partially closed position and from the second partially closed position to the closed position said proximal alignment parts engage one another to cause initial alignment of said first plate and said second plate, said distal guide member comprising a distal male alignment part coupled to said first handle member and a distal female alignment part coupled to said second handle member, said distal male alignment part and said distal female alignment part being constructed and arranged so that when said handle is in the open position and when said handle is between the first partially closed position and the second partially closed position, said distal alignment parts are not engaged with one another, and when a user moves said handle from the second partially closed position to the closed position said distal alignment parts engage one another to cause final alignment of said first plate and said second plate, said pins of said first plate and said holes of said second plate being constructed and arranged so as to engage with one another when said handle is in the closed position;

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a vapor generator disposed within said second heating zone, said vapor generator being capable of heating aqueous fluid to vaporization;

a refillable reservoir for containing fluid coupled in fluid flow communication with said vapor generator;

a pump coupled in fluid flow communication with said refillable reservoir and said vapor generator, said pump being capable of withdrawing a metered volume of fluid from said reservoir and placing said metered volume of fluid in contact with said vapor generator; and

a passage coupling said vapor generator and a plurality of holes which extend through said second plate so that vaporized fluid can pass from said holes.

14. An apparatus according to claim 13 further comprising a trigger to actuate said pump.

15. An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said refillable reservoir is constructed so as to be detachable from said vapor generator.

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*[Handwritten signature]*

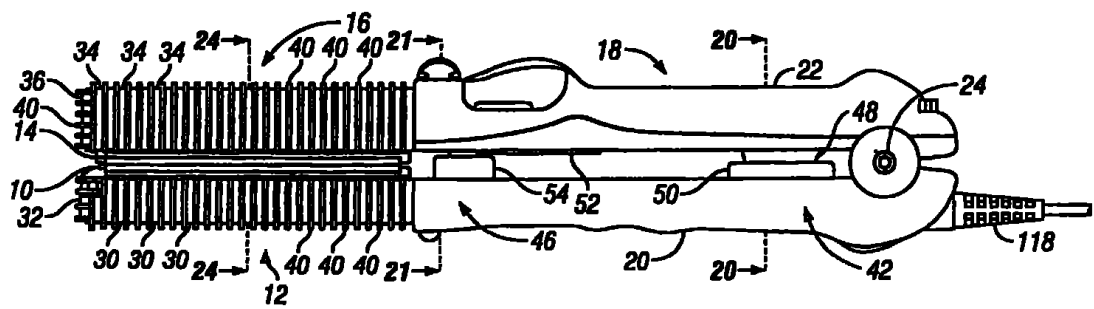


FIG. 1

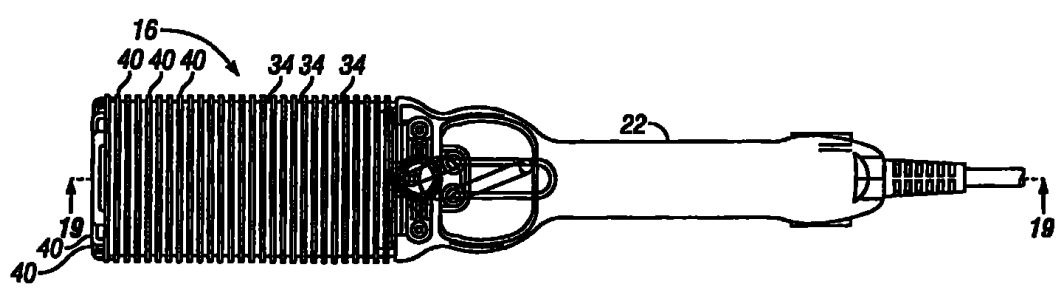


FIG. 2

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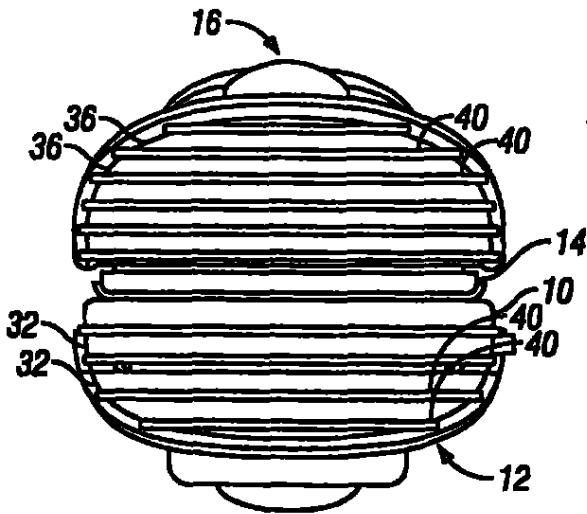


FIG. 3

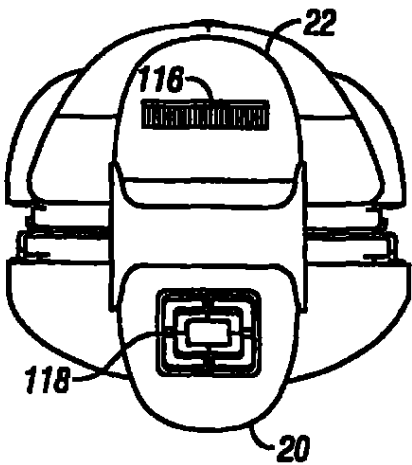


FIG. 4

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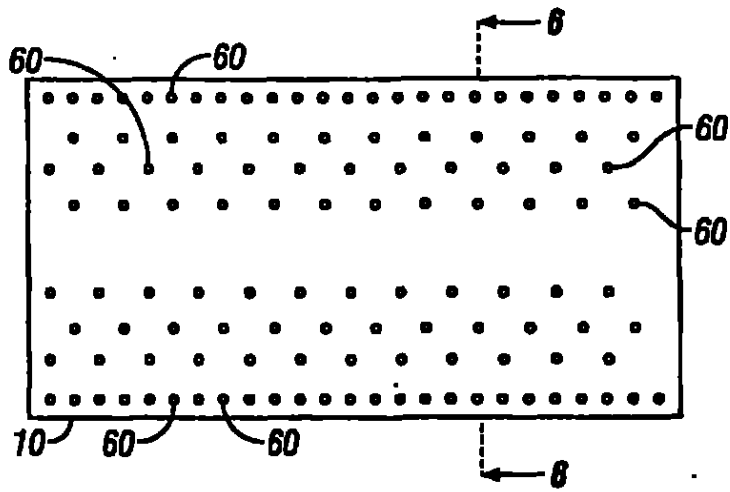


FIG. 5

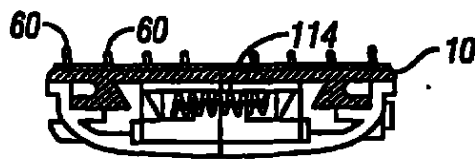


FIG. 6

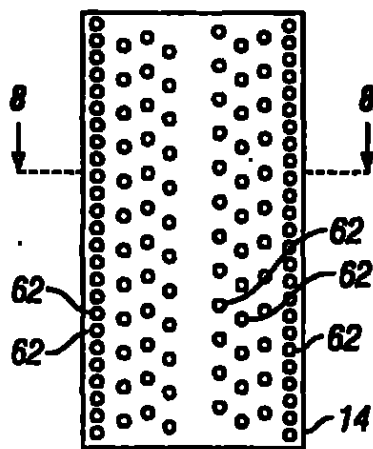


FIG. 7



FIG. 8

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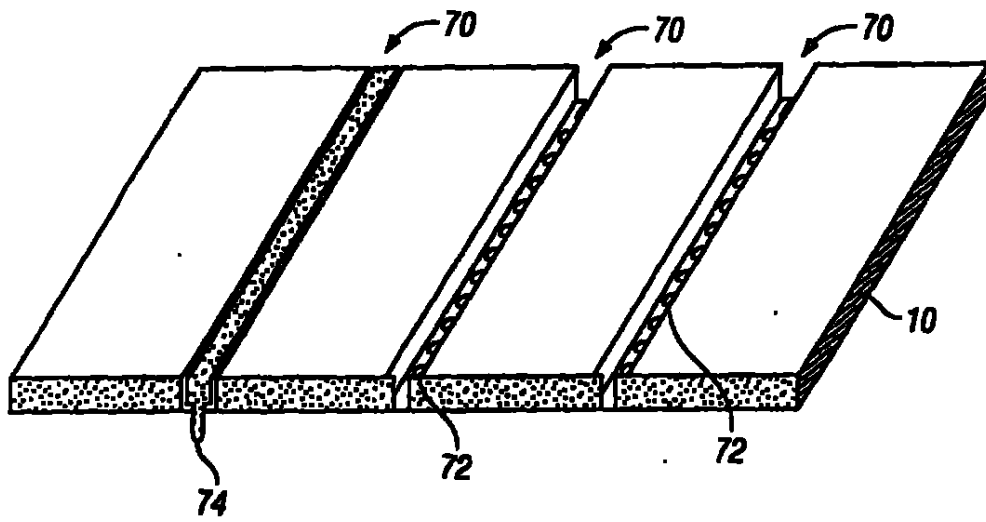


FIG. 9

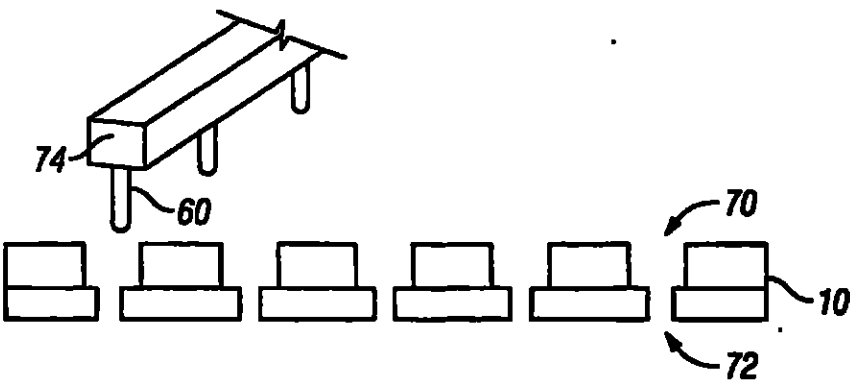


FIG. 10

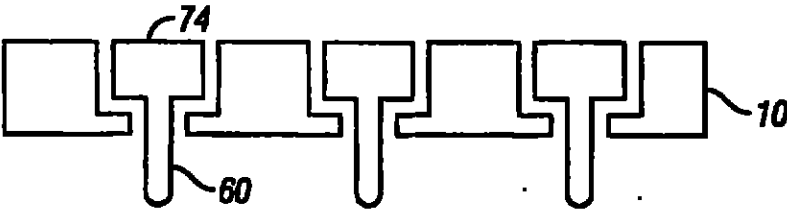


FIG. 11

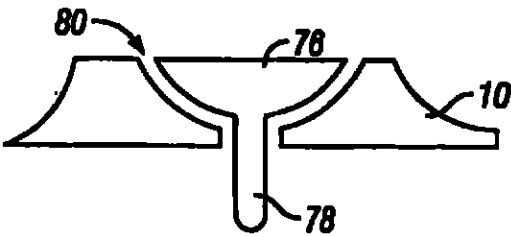


FIG. 12