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Act. 411 PRESENTACION

Folios: 48

**FORMULARIO ÚNICO DE SOLICITUD DE PATENTE
PCT**

ENTRADA EN FASE NACIONAL

22 Feb 2008

1) SOLICITUD DE:

☒ Patente de invención

☐ Patente de Modelo de Utilidad

☒ Capitulo I.

☐ Capitulo II.

**2) SOLICITANTE
(71)**

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**Nacionalidad o Domicilio: Todos los anteriores,
Estadounidenses**

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Julio 22, 2005

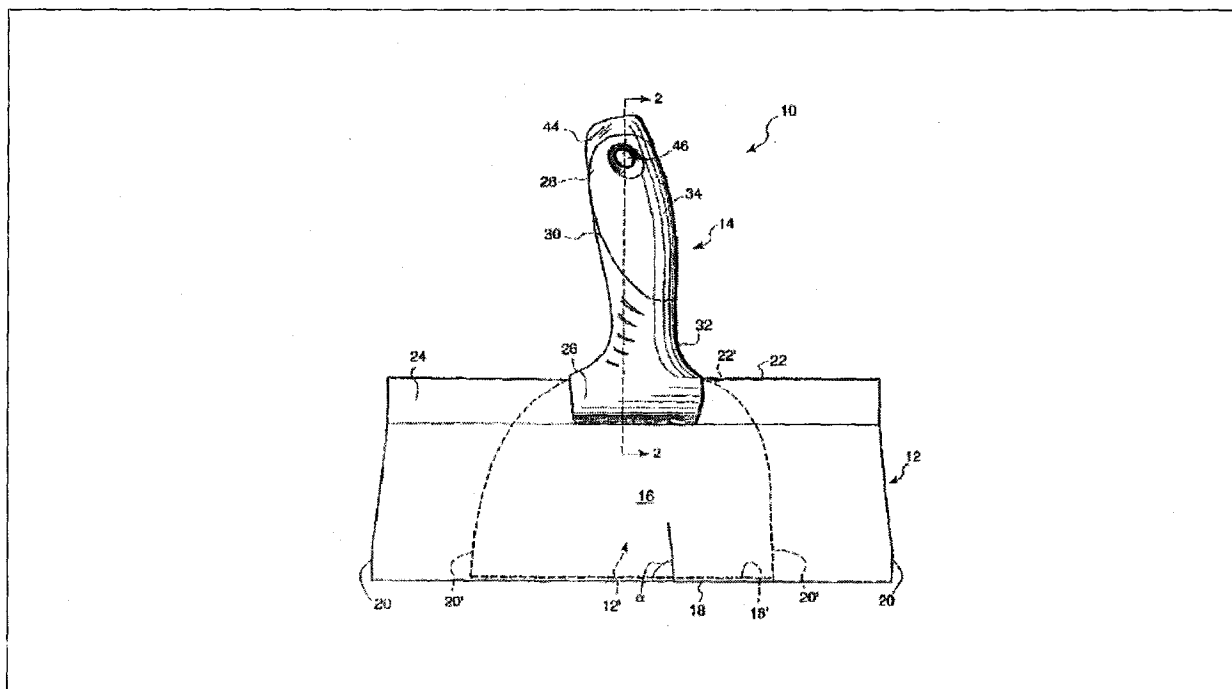
11/187,569

10)

ANEXOS

- ☒ Comprobante de pago de la tasa de presentación de la solicitud
- ☐ Comprobante de pago por reivindicación de prioridad
- ☒ Documento que acredita la existencia y representación legal cuando el solicitante sea persona Jurídica
- ☒ Poderes, si fuera el caso
- ☐ Documento de cesión del inventor al solicitante o a su causante
- ☐ Declaraciones
- ☒ Copia de la solicitud Internacional. (Resumen, descripción, reivindicación, Dibujos).
- ☒ Traducción de la solicitud internacional al castellano. (Resumen, descripción, reivindicación, Dibujos)
- ☐ Copia del examen preliminar efectuado por la IPEA
- ☐ De ser el caso, copia del contrato de acceso
- ☐ De ser el caso, documento que acredite la licencia o autorización de uso de conocimientos tradicionales de las comunidades indígenas
- ☐ De ser el caso, certificado de depósito del material biológico
- ☒ Arte final 12 x 12 y 6 x 6 cm
- ☐ De ser el caso, información sobre otras solicitudes de patente o títulos obtenidos en el extranjero por el mismo titular o su causante, relacionados parcial o totalmente con la invención de esta solicitud.
- ☒ Otros:
 1. Reporte internacional de búsqueda
 2. Dirección del solicitante
 3. Request,

11) FIGURA CARACTERÍSTICA:



12) Solicitud concesión de la patente,

NOMBRE: DILIA RODRÍGUEZ D'ALEMAN

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C.C. 41.654.882 de Bogotá TP 20824 CSJ

34
SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO



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SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO

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DEPOSITANTE	TIPO PAGO	BANCO	CUENTA	No. PAGO	FECHA PGO	Vr. PAGO
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***** CONCEPTO *****

CANT.	RENTISTICO	CONCEPTO	TOTAL CONCEPTO
1	50005-01-01	SOLICITUDES	
1		TRAMITES DE SOL. DE PATENTE DE IN	501,000.00
		TOTAL :	\$ 501,000.00

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

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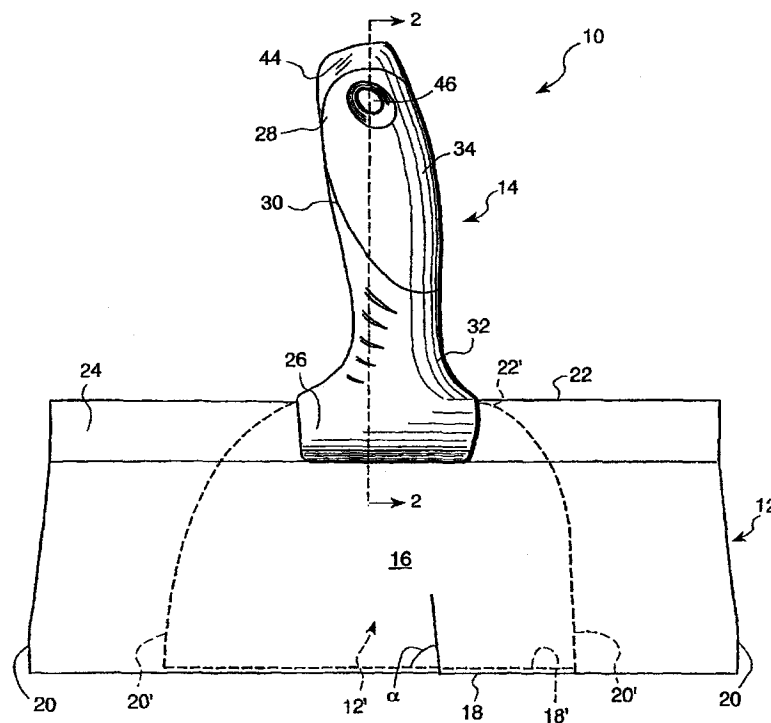
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: TAPING KNIFE WITH OFFSET HANDLE



(57) Abstract: A taping knife has a web, a working edge, two side edges, and a handle edge opposite the working edge. The handle is connected to the blade to have an angular orientation relative to the working edge of the blade such that the handle is neither parallel nor perpendicular to the blade working edge.

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TAPING KNIFE WITH OFFSET HANDLE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to hand tools and hand tool
5 handles, and more specifically to taping knives for use in finishing wallboard construction.

Taping knives, which have varying blade widths, are used to finish
drywall or wallboard construction projects and create a smooth surface
between abutting drywall surfaces. In this application, the terms "taping knife"
10 and "taping tool" are considered interchangeable. After drywall boards are
secured to the underlying wall supports, a smaller taping knife (e.g. four to six
inches) is generally used to apply settable joint compound and drywall tape to
the joints formed by the abutting drywall surfaces. At this stage, unseated
nails may also be set into wallboard and supporting studs. After the joint
15 compound dries, progressively larger taping knives (e.g. eight to fourteen
inches) are used to apply more compound to the joint areas. This step is
repeated, with intermittent sanding steps, until the joint is sufficiently flat and
smooth.

In the professional world, tools such as these are often used for
20 extended periods of time. Conventional taping knives are frequently designed
with ease of manufacturing in mind, rather than ease of use. This design
process can produce tools with light weight and hollow handles molded from a
hard plastic. Such handles are difficult or uncomfortable to grip adequately
and consequently allow the user's hand to slip on the tool, especially when
25 the hand or the knife handle becomes wet.

The handle is generally made to fit comfortably in the hand of an adult
male user. Consequently, users with smaller hands may have difficulty
maintaining a firm grip on the knife and controlling it as necessary. However,
if the handle size of a traditional taping knife were simply reduced, those with
30 average sized hands would no longer be able to properly grip the knife.

Finally, when using conventional taping knives, their configuration
requires the hand and wrist to bend at an uncomfortable angle and remain in
a prone position for extended periods of time. Moreover, the wrist is forced
into a particularly awkward position when using the end of the knife to strike

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nails or screws protruding from the wall. Over long periods of time, the awkward grip configuration contributes to fatigue, cramping, and general user discomfort.

Consequently, the construction and home repair and home decorating industries, as well as do-it-yourself workers have long felt the need for a well-designed, durable, professional grade tool that reduces stress and fatigue of the user's hand and arm.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 The present taping knife responds to the above identified needs felt by construction, home decorating, and home repair professionals, as well as do-it-yourself workers. The present taping knife has a handle with an angular, non-perpendicular orientation relative to the working edge of the taping knife blade. This angular offset allows the knife to be held in a more comfortable
15 position, reducing stress on the wrist and overall fatigue when using the knife to spread joint compound and joint tape and when using the end of the handle as a hammer. The knife also features a tapered handle to allow those with smaller hands to grip the knife more comfortably while still allowing those with average sized hands to maintain a secure grip. Further, the knife has a
20 relatively soft one-piece outer coating. This coating helps to prevent the users hand from slipping while using the tool, even should the tool become wet. This grip provides another degree of comfort to the user, particularly when the tool is in use for an extended time.

More specifically, the present invention provides a taping knife that is
25 designed to have a blade and an ergonomic handle. The knife blade has a web, a working edge, two side edges, and a handle edge opposite the working edge. The handle is connected to the blade to have an angular orientation relative to the working edge of the blade, meaning the handle is neither parallel nor perpendicular to the blade working edge.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front view of the preferred embodiment of the present taping knife;

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FIG. 2 is a cross-section of the knife taken along the line 2-2 as indicated in FIG. 1, in the direction generally indicated; and

FIG. 3 is a top perspective view of the taping knife of FIG. 1.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now to FIG. 1, the present taping knife is generally designated 10. The knife 10 generally includes a blade 12, 12', and a handle 14.

The taping knife blade 12, 12' is made up of a web 16, a working edge 18, 18', two side edges 20, 20', and a handle edge 22, 22' opposite the working edge. Taping knife blades are preferably thin and flexible, and they maintain the same general thickness throughout all portions of the blade 12, 12'. The blade 12, 12' is preferably made from blued steel, but other materials exhibiting similar physical characteristics are contemplated.

There are generally two styles of blade that are preferred: a blade 12 (shown in solid lines) eight to fourteen inches wide that has side edges 20 (shown in solid lines) composed of substantially straight segments and a handle edge 22 that is nearly as long as the working edge 18, and a blade 12' (shown in phantom) which is one to six inches wide, has curving side edges 20' (shown in phantom) and has a handle edge 22' that is much narrower than the working edge 18'. On blades eight inches or wider, it is preferred that the blade 12 additionally has a reinforcing backing 24 that extends the length of the handle edge 22 and projects over a portion of the web 16. The reinforcing backing 24 is provided to lend strength to the wider blades, and to address manufacturing issues well known in the art.

Although there are two embodiments represented, one in solid lines and one in phantom, they are extremely similar. For simplicity, only the first embodiment will be discussed. However, differences between the embodiments will be noted.

In the present knife 10, the reinforcing backing 24 is preferably made from aluminum or another different metal than the metal used to make the blade 12. Other metals that exhibit the necessary strength, hardness, weight, and cost characteristics are also contemplated.

The tool handle 14 includes a first end 26 and a second end 28, separated by a middle portion 30. In addition, the middle portion 30 is further subdivided into a neck portion 32 adjacent to the first end 26, and a body portion 34 adjacent to the second end 28. To complete the general structure of the tool, the handle 14 is preferably attachable to the blade 12 at the center of the handle edge 22.

In the preferred embodiment of the present knife 10, the handle 14 has a generally arcuate shape when viewed from the front or rear. Also, a radial cross section of the handle 14 is substantially elliptical. This overall handle shape is designed to mimic the hand's interior shape, and enhance ergonomic compatibility with the user's hand.

The handle 14 has an angular orientation relative to the working edge 18 meaning, when viewed from the front or rear, the handle 14 is neither perpendicular nor parallel to the working edge 18. An angle α is defined by the offset orientation of the handle 14 relative to the working edge 18. While a variety of angles are contemplated, the preferred angle α varies depending on the width of the blade. For blades that are one to six inches wide, an angular offset for α in the general range of 3° - 10° is preferred, and about 5° from perpendicular is most preferred. However, for wider blades, a larger angular offset α is preferable. Because the handle 14 still attaches to the blade 12 at the center of the handle edge 22, the handle's angular orientation causes the second end 28 to be closer to one of the side edges (20, 20') than to the other.

The first end 26 of the handle 14 is configured to be attachable to the blade 12. In the preferred tool 10, the first end 26 extends over at least a portion of the blade's handle edge 22, and onto the web 16. For blades eight to fourteen inches wide, the first end 26 preferably extends the same distance onto the web as the reinforcing backing 24. For blades one to six inches wide, the first end 26 covers only the portion of the blade 12 adjacent to the handle 14. The extension is preferably formed by injection molding the handle 14 about the blade 12 so that the plastic forms over the handle edge 22.

Also, in the preferred embodiment for all blade sizes, the first end 26 flares laterally outward. This flare causes the first end 26 to be wider than both the neck portion 32 and the body portion 34 of the handle. However, the amount of flare may vary with the width of the blade 12.

5 As is best seen in FIG. 2, the preferred knife 10 has a first end 26 that includes two lips 36 that narrow in thickness from the second end 28 to the first end 26. An advantage of this configuration is that these lips 36 provide a smooth transition from the handle 14 to the blade 12, and help provide a more comfortable grip for the user.

10 Another advantage of the configuration of the first end 26 is that it creates a moisture-resistant barrier around a joint 38. This barrier helps prevent water and joint compound from seeping into the joint 38 between the blade 12 and the handle 14. Retention of water, joint compound and the like around the joint 38 is known to lead to corrosion and an eventual weakening
15 of the blade 12 at that point. Thus, it is desirable to prevent as much seepage as possible in the preferred embodiment.

The middle portion 30 of the handle 14 is made up of an inner core 40 and an outer coating 42. In the preferred embodiment, the inner core 40 is made from a relatively hard material, for example a well-known hard
20 thermoplastic material such as polypropylene, polyolefin, or glass filled nylon. Other materials with the desired characteristics of environmental resistance, durability, affordability, and strength are contemplated as well. A solid inner core portion may be overmolded with at least one layer of plastic material to form the inner core 40. However, it is also contemplated that the handle 14 is
25 made of two mating hollow halves fastened to a blade shank, as is well known in the art.

Next, the inner core 40 is surrounded by a softer, more resilient outer coating 42 which makes the tool both easier to hold onto and more comfortable to grip. The softer outer coating 42 is preferably made from any
30 well-known soft, rubber-like thermoplastic material such as santoprene SEBS or polystyrene. These materials are preferred, but other embodiments could utilize various other plastics and rubbers in their construction to provide a resilient grip.

Returning to FIG. 1, the middle portion 30 of the handle 14 is designed for comfort when gripping the knife 10. While the body portion 34 remains wide to provide a grip for average-sized hands, the neck portion 32 tapers inward so that the radial cross-section of the neck portion has the same
5 general shape as that of the body portion, but is smaller in area. The tapered neck portion 32 also allows users with smaller hands to maintain a comfortable grip on the knife 10, and allows for enhanced control of the knife.

In the preferred knife 10, the second end 28 of the handle 14 is provided with a hammer element 44, preferably formed from a relatively
10 harder material to function as a hammer. The hammer element 44 is preferably formed from a metal, but may be made of any material that is hard enough to withstand repeated strikes against a nail or screw head. During manufacturing of the knife 10, the hammer element 44 is either and secured after the handle 14 has been formed, or the handle is molded around the
15 hammer element. The angular orientation of the handle 14 makes the hammer element 44 on the second end 28 easier and more comfortable to use.

In addition, the body portion 34 is provided with a hanger opening 46 to be used for hanging the tool from a hook, peg, or other apparatus when not in
20 use. This opening 46 preferably extends generally radially through the body portion 34 and perpendicular to the plane described by the blade 12. This configuration will allow for most efficient storage when hanging the tool on a wall.

While a particular embodiment of the present tapping knife has been
25 described herein, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that changes and modifications may be made thereto without departing from the invention in its broader aspects and as set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A tapping knife comprising:
a blade having a web, a working edge, two side edges, and a handle edge opposite said working edge; and
5 a handle connected to said blade, said handle having a non-perpendicular, non-parallel, angular orientation relative to said working edge of said blade.
2. The knife according to claim 1, wherein said handle includes a first end and a second end, separated by a middle portion, and said middle
10 portion includes a neck portion adjacent to said first end and a body portion adjacent to said second end.
3. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said second end of said handle is nearer to one side edge of said blade than to said other side edge of said blade.
- 15 4. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said first end includes two lips narrowing in thickness progressing from said second end to said first end
5. The knife according to claim 1, wherein said handle has a generally arcuate shape.
- 20 6. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said second end is provided with a hammer element made from a relatively harder material.
7. The knife according to claim 1, wherein said handle is provided with a hanger opening to be used for hanging the tool.
8. The knife according to claim 7, wherein said hanger opening
25 extends generally radially through said handle.
9. The knife according to claim 1, wherein said handle portion has an inner core made from a relatively strong, hard material to provide structural integrity to the tool, and a relatively softer outer coating applied over said inner core for facilitating gripping.
- 30 10. The knife according to claim 9, wherein said inner core is made of a relatively hard plastic, and said outer coating is made of a relatively softer plastic.

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11. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said neck portion tapers so that a radial cross-section of said neck portion has a smaller area than a radial cross section of said body portion.

12. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said first end is
5 attachable to said blade to form a moisture-resistant barrier where said handle and said blade are joined.

13. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said first end flares laterally outward such that said first end is wider than said neck portion and said body portion.

10 14. The knife according to claim 1, wherein said blade maintains a generally uniform thickness across all portions of the blade.

15. The knife according to claim 1 wherein said handle is attachable to said blade along said handle edge.

16. The knife according to claim 2, wherein said blade also
15 includes a reinforcing backing along the handle edge and extending over a portion of said web of said blade.

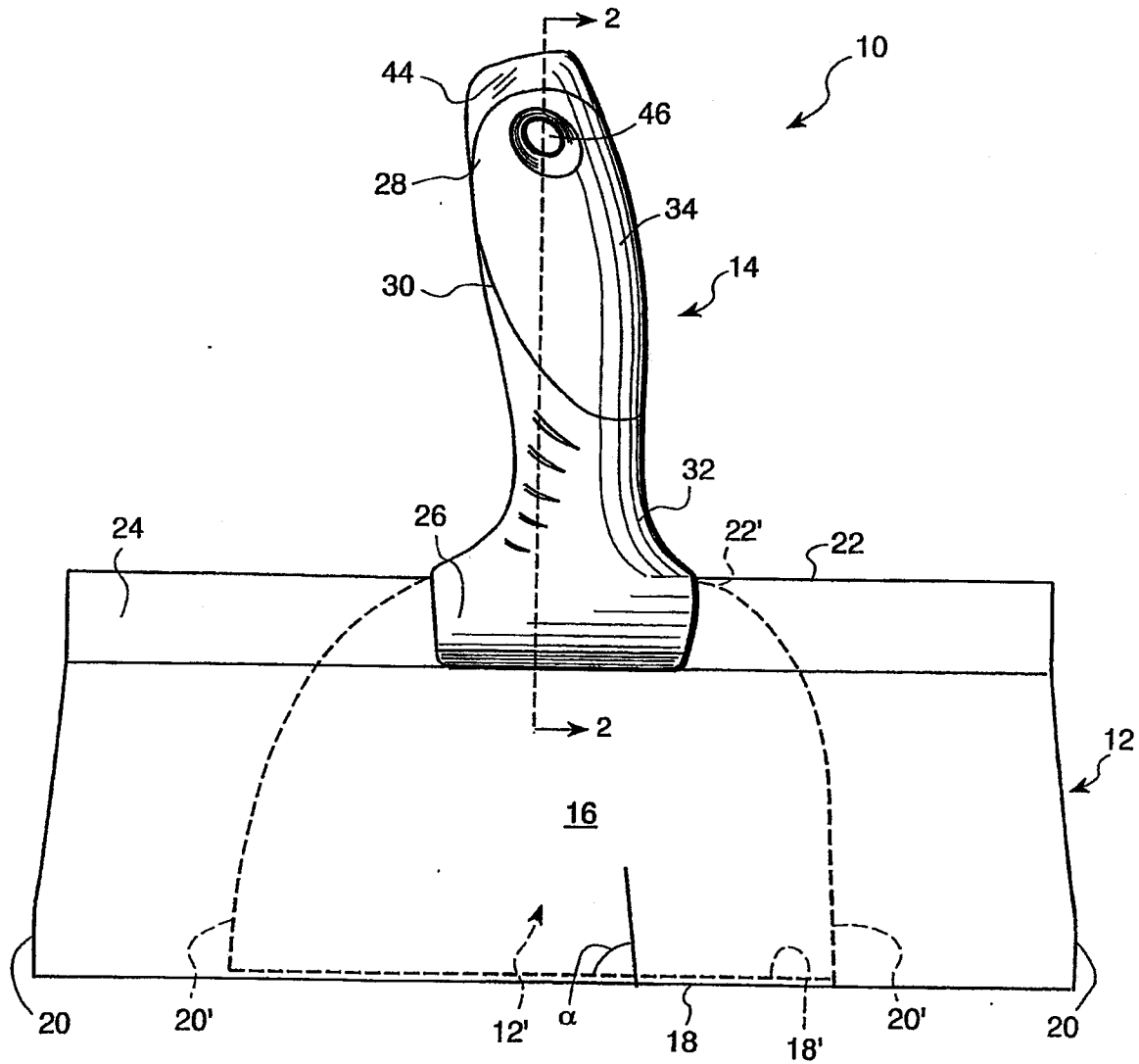
17. The knife according to claim 16, wherein a length of said first end is substantially the same as a distance said reinforcing backing extends over said web of said blade.

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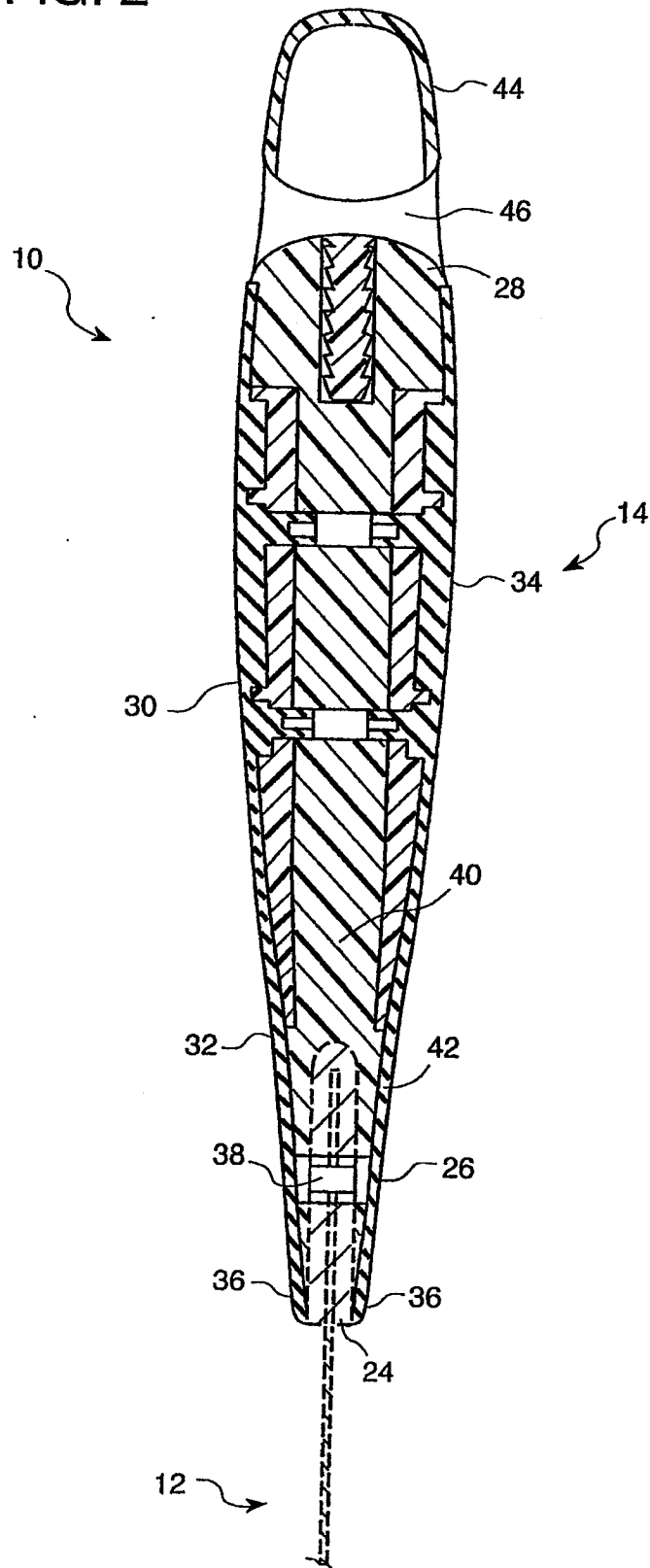
FIG. 1



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14

FIG. 2

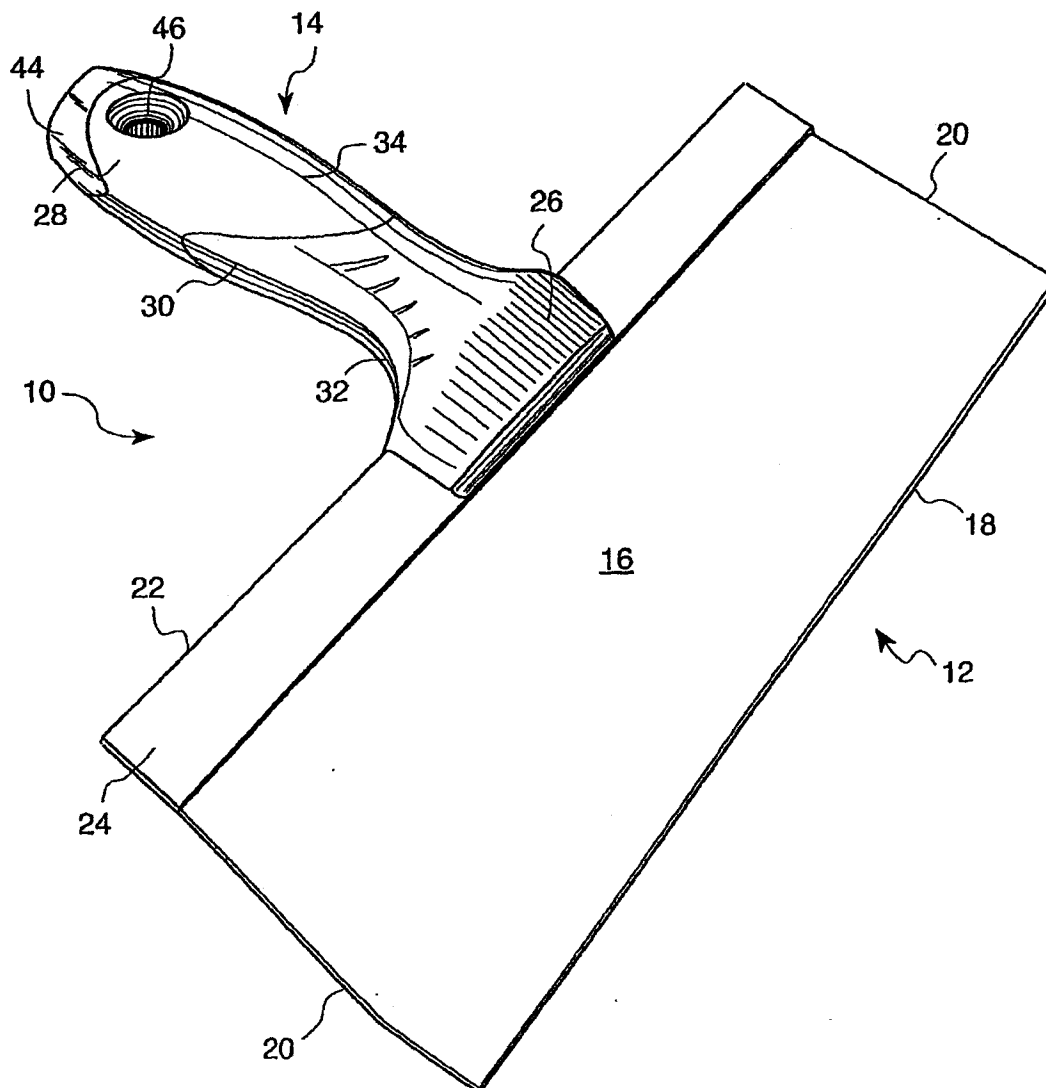


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3/3

FIG. 3



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/21792

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - B05C 17/10 (2006.01)

USPC - 15/245.1

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC(8) B05C 17/10 (2006.01)

USPC - 15/245.1

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT), MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro: search terms: "taping knife" and hammer, "putty knife" and handle and angled, "putty knife" and handle, "putty knife" and offset, "putty knife", "tape knife", "offset handle" and knife, "offset handle", "taping knife".

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2001/0037534 A1 (BRYAN) 08 November 2001 (08.11.2001) the entire document.	1
X	GB 2 111 575 A (GRIFFITHS) 06 July 1983 (06.07.1983) the entire document.	1, 5, 14, 15
Y		1-17
Y	US 5,615,445 A (KELSAY et al.) 01 April 1997 (01.04.1997) the entire document.	1-17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

07 November 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 DEC 2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Authorized officer:

Blaine R. Copenheaver

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

ESPÁTULA CON EMPUÑADURA EXCÉNTRICA

ANTECEDENTES DE LA INVENCION

La presente invención se refiere en general a herramientas manuales y empuñaduras de herramientas manuales, y más específicamente a espátulas para ser utilizadas en la terminación de construcciones de paredes de paneles de yeso.

Las espátulas, que poseen anchos de pala variables, se utilizan para dar acabado a proyectos de construcción de paneles de yeso y crear una superficie suave entre superficies de empalme de paneles de yeso. En esta solicitud, los términos "espátula" y "herramienta de alisado" se consideran en forma intercambiable. Luego de que los paneles de yeso para pared se fijan a los soportes de pared, se utiliza en general una espátula más pequeña (es decir de cuatro a seis pulgadas) para aplicar un compuesto de unión de fijación y cintas de paneles de yeso a las uniones formadas por estas superficies de empalme de paneles de yeso. En esta etapa, los clavos no asentados también pueden fijarse dentro del panel de yeso y prisioneros de soporte. Luego de que se seca el compuesto de unión, se utilizan espátulas progresivamente más grandes (es decir de ocho a catorce pulgadas) para aplicar más compuesto a las áreas de unión. Este paso se repite, con pasos de arenado intermitentes, hasta que la unión quede suficientemente plana y suave.

En el mundo profesional, herramientas como estas se utilizan frecuentemente por lapsos extendidos. Las espátulas convencionales se diseñan frecuentemente teniendo en mente la

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facilidad de fabricación en lugar de la facilidad del uso. Este proceso de diseño puede producir herramientas livianas y con empuñaduras huecas moldeadas de material plástico. Tales empuñaduras son difíciles o poco confortables para asirse en forma adecuada, y en consecuencia permiten que la mano del usuario se deslice sobre la herramienta, especialmente cuando se la mano o la espátula se humectan.

La empuñadura en general se fabrica para adecuarse confortablemente a la mano de un usuario hombre adulto. En consecuencia, los usuarios con manos más pequeñas pueden tener dificultades para mantener un agarre firme sobre la espátula y controlarla en la forma que resulte necesaria. Sin embargo, si se redujera simplemente el tamaño de la empuñadura de una espátula tradicional, las personas con manos de tamaño estándar ya no podrían asir adecuadamente la espátula.

Finalmente, cuando se utilizan espátulas convencionales, su configuración requiere que la mano y la muñeca se doblen en un ángulo incómodo y permanezcan en una posición de cúbito por lapsos prolongados. Más aún, se fuerza a la muñeca a colocarse en una posición particularmente extraña cuando se utiliza el extremo de la espátula para martillar clavos o tornillos que sobresalen de la pared. Durante lapsos prolongados, la configuración de agarre extraño contribuye a la fatiga, calambres e incomodidad general del usuario.

En consecuencia, la construcción y reparación doméstica e industrias de decoración del hogar, así como los trabajadores del bricolaje han sentido durante largo tiempo la necesidad de una

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herramienta bien diseñada, durable y de nivel profesional que reduzca la tensión y la fatiga de manos y brazos del usuario.

BREVE RESUMEN DE LA INVENCIÓN

La presente espátula responde a las necesidades identificadas anteriormente observadas por los profesionales de la construcción, decoración y reparación de hogares, así como por trabajadores del bricolaje. La presente espátula posee una empuñadura con una orientación angular no perpendicular al borde operativo de la hoja de la espátula. Esta compensación angular permite a la espátula ser sostenida en una posición más confortable, reduciendo la tensión en las muñecas y la fatiga general cuando se utiliza la espátula para diseminar el compuesto de uniones y la cinta de unión y cuando se utiliza el extremo de la empuñadura como un martillo. La espátula asimismo presenta una empuñadura ahusada para permitir a las personas con manos pequeñas que puedan tomar la espátula en forma más cómoda al tiempo de permitir a las personas con manos de tamaño estándar mantengan un agarre seguro. Más aún, la espátula posee un revestimiento externo de una pieza relativamente blando. Este revestimiento ayuda a evitar que la mano de los usuarios se deslice mientras se utiliza la herramienta, en caso de que se humedezca la herramienta. Esta empuñadura brinda otro grado de confort al usuario, particularmente cuando la herramienta se utiliza por un lapso prolongado.

Más específicamente, la presente invención brinda una espátula que está diseñada para poseer una pala y una empuñadura ergonómica. La pala de la espátula posee un alma, un borde operativo,

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dos bordes laterales y un borde de empuñadura enfrentado al borde operativo. La empuñadura está conectada a la pala para poseer una orientación angular relativa al borde operativo de la pala, entendiendo que la empuñadura no es ni paralela ni perpendicular al borde operativo de la pala.

BREVE DESCRIPCIÓN DE LAS DISTINTAS VISTAS DE LAS FIGURAS

La Figura 1 es una vista delantera de la realización preferida de la espátula actual;

La Figura 2 es una vista transversal de la espátula tomada a lo largo de la línea 2-2 tal como se indica en la Figura 1, en la dirección generalmente indicada; y

La Figura 3 es una vista superior en perspectiva de la espátula de la Figura 1.

DESCRIPCIÓN DETALLADA DE LA INVENCION

Con referencia a la Figura 1, la presente espátula se designa en general como 10. La espátula 10 incluye en general una pala 12, 12' y una empuñadura 14.

La pala 12, 12' de la espátula comprende un alma 16, un borde operativo 18, 18', dos bordes laterales 20, 20', y un borde de empuñadura 22, 22' enfrentado al borde operativo. Las palas de la espátula son preferentemente finas y flexibles, y mantienen el mismo espesor general a través de todas las partes de la pala 12, 12'. La pala 12, 12' se fabrica preferentemente de acero azulado, pero se contemplan otros materiales que exhiban características físicas similares.

En general existen dos estilos de palas preferidas: una pala 12 (ilustrada en líneas sólidas) de un ancho de ocho a catorce pulgadas que posee bordes laterales 20 (ilustrados en líneas sólidas) compuesta de segmentos sustancialmente rectos y un borde de empuñadura 22 que es casi tan largo como el borde operativo 18, y una pala 12' (ilustrada en fantasma) que es de un ancho de una a seis pulgadas, posee bordes laterales curvos 20' (ilustrados en fantasma) y pose un borde de empuñadura 22' que es mucho más angosto que el borde operativo 18'. Sobre palas de ocho pulgadas o más anchas, se prefiere que la pala 12 adicionalmente posee un soporte de refuerzo 24 que se extienda sobre la longitud del borde de la empuñadura 22 y sobresalga sobre una parte del alma 16. El soporte de refuerzo 24 se suministra para brindar resistencia a las palas más anchas, y para abordar cuestiones de fabricación bien conocidas en el arte.

Aunque existen dos realizaciones representadas, una en líneas sólidas y una en fantasma, son en extremo similares. A los efectos de simplicidad, solamente se tratará la primera realización. Sin embargo, se indicarán las diferencias entre las realizaciones.

En la presente espátula 10, el soporte de refuerzo 24 se fabrica preferentemente de aluminio u otro metal diferente al metal utilizado para fabricar la pala 12. También se contemplan otros metales que exhiben las necesarias características de resistencia, dureza, peso y costo.

La empuñadura de la herramienta 14 incluye un primer extremo 26 y un segundo extremo 28, separado por una parte media 30.

Además, la parte media 30 además se subdivide en una parte de cuello 32 adyacente al primer extremo 26, y una parte de cuerpo 34 adyacente al segundo extremo 28. Para completar la estructura general de la herramienta, la empuñadura 14 preferentemente se fija a la pala 12 en el centro del borde de la empuñadura 22.

En la realización preferida de la presente espátula 10, la empuñadura 14 posee una forma generalmente en arco cuando se la observa desde la parte delantera o trasera. Asimismo una sección transversal radial de la empuñadura 14 es sustancialmente elíptica. Esta forma general de la empuñadura está diseñada para imitar la forma interior de la mano, y mejorar la compatibilidad ergonómica con la mano del usuario.

La empuñadura 14 posee una orientación angular relativa al borde operativo 18, entendiéndose por ello que, cuando se observa desde la parte delantera o trasera, la empuñadura 14 no es ni perpendicular ni paralela al borde operativo 18. Se define un ángulo α por la orientación de compensación de la empuñadura 14 con relación al borde operativo 18. Mientras que se contempla una variedad de ángulos, el ángulo preferido α varía, dependiendo del ancho de la pala. Para las palas que poseen un ancho de una a seis pulgadas, se prefiere una compensación angular para α en el rango general de 3° - 10° , y se prefiere que sea de aproximadamente 5° de la perpendicular. Sin embargo, para palas más anchas se prefiere una compensación angular α más grande. Dado que la empuñadura 14 aún se fija a la pala 12 en el centro del borde de la empuñadura 22, la orientación angular de la empuñadura logra que el

segundo extremo 28 se encuentre más cerca de uno de los bordes laterales (20,20') que el otro.

El primer extremo 26 de la empuñadura 14 se configura para poder fijarse a la pala 12. En la herramienta preferida 10, el primer extremo 26 se extiende sobre al menos una parte del borde 22 de la empuñadura de la pala, y dentro del alma 16. Para palas de un ancho de ocho a catorce pulgadas, el primer extremo 26 se extiende preferentemente en la misma distancia sobre el alma como soporte de refuerzo 24. Para las palas de un ancho de una a seis pulgadas, el primer extremo 26 cubre solamente la parte de la pala 12 adyacente a la empuñadura 14. La extensión se forma preferentemente por moldeo de inyección de la empuñadura 14 sobre la pala 12, de forma tal que el plástico se forma sobre el borde de la empuñadura 22.

Asimismo, en la realización preferida para todos los tamaños de pala, el primer extremo 26 se acampana lateralmente hacia fuera. Este acampanado hace que el primer extremo 26 sea más ancho que la parte de cuello 32 y la parte de cuerpo 34 de la empuñadura. Sin embargo, la cantidad de acampanado puede variar con el ancho de la pala 12.

Tal como se observa mejor en la Figura 2, la espátula 10 preferida posee un primer extremo 26 que incluye dos labios 36 que se estrechan en espesor desde el segundo extremo 28 al primer extremo 26. Una ventaja de esta configuración es que estos labios 36 brindan una transición suave desde la empuñadura 14 a la pala 12, y ayuda a brindar un agarre más confortable para el usuario.

Otra ventaja de la configuración del primer extremo 26 es que crea una barrera resistente a la humedad alrededor de una unión 38. Esta barrera ayuda a evitar que el agua y el compuesto de unión percole dentro de la unión 38 entre la pala 12 y la empuñadura 14. Se sabe que la retención de agua, compuesto de unión y similar alrededor de unión 38 conduce a la corrosión y un eventual debilitamiento de la pala 12 en ese punto. Por lo tanto, resulta deseable evitar la mayor percolación posible en la realización preferida.

La parte media 30 de la empuñadura 14 se conforma de un núcleo interno 40 y un revestimiento exterior 42. En la realización preferida, el núcleo interno 40 se fabrica de un material relativamente duro, por ejemplo, un material termoplástico duro bien conocido tal como polipropileno, poliolefina o nylon relleno de vidrio. Asimismo se contemplan otros materiales con las características deseadas de resistencia ambiental, durabilidad, costo y resistencia. Una parte sólida de núcleo interno puede sobremoldearse con al menos una capa de material plástico para formar el núcleo interno 40. Sin embargo, también se contempla que la empuñadura 14 se fabrique de dos medias partes huecas acopladas a un vástago de pala, tal como resulta conocido en el arte.

A continuación, el núcleo interno 40 está rodeado por un revestimiento exterior 42 más resistente y blando que logra que la herramienta sea más sencilla de retener y más confortable de asir. El revestimiento exterior más blando 42 se fabrica preferentemente de cualquier material blando termoplástico tipo goma tal como SEBS

santoprene o poliestireno. Estos materiales son preferidos, pero otras realizaciones podrían utilizar otros plásticos y gomas en su construcción para suministrar un agarre resistente.

Retornando a la Figura 1, la parte media 30 de la empuñadura 14 está diseñada para brindar confort cuando se toma la espátula 10. Mientras que la parte del cuerpo 34 permanece ancha para brindar un agarre para manos de tamaño promedio, la parte de cuello 32 se ahusa hacia adentro, de forma tal que la sección transversal radial de la parte de cuello tenga la misma forma general que la de la parte de cuerpo, pero es de un área más pequeña. La parte ahusada de cuello 32 asimismo permite a los usuarios con manos más pequeñas mantener un agarre confortable de la espátula 10, y permite un control mejorado de la espátula.

En la espátula 10 preferida, el segundo extremo 28 de la empuñadura 14 se suministra con un elemento martillo 44, fabricado preferentemente de un material relativamente más duro para que funcione como un martillo. El elemento martillo 44 se fabrica preferentemente de metal, pero puede fabricarse de cualquier material que sea suficientemente duro para soportar golpes repetidos contra un clavo o cabeza de tornillo. Durante la fabricación de la espátula 10, el elemento martillo 44 se fija luego de que se ha formado la empuñadura 14 o la empuñadura se moldee alrededor del elemento martillo. La orientación angular de la empuñadura 14 hace que el elemento martillo 44 sobre el segundo extremo 28 sea más simple y confortable de usar.

Además, la parte de cuerpo 34 se suministra con una abertura tipo colgante 46 que se utiliza para colgar la herramienta de un gancho, pasador u otro aparato cuando no se encuentra en uso. Esta abertura 46 se extiende preferente y generalmente en forma radial a través de la parte de cuerpo 34 y perpendicular al plano descrito por la pala 12. Esta configuración permitirá un almacenamiento más eficiente cuando se cuelga la herramienta en una pared.

Mientras que se ha descrito una realización particular de la presente espátula, las personas calificadas en el arte apreciarán que pueden realizarse cambios y modificaciones a la misma sin apartarse de la invención en sus aspectos más amplios y tal como se establece en las siguientes reivindicaciones.

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REIVINDICACIONES - 1911

1. Una espátula CARACTERIZADA PORQUE comprende:

una pala que posee un alma, un borde operativo, dos bordes laterales y un borde de empuñadura enfrentado al borde operativo; y

una empuñadura conectada a dicha pala, dicha empuñadura posee una orientación angular no perpendicular, no paralela, con respecto a dicho borde operativo de dicha pala.

2. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha empuñadura incluye un primer extremo y un segundo extremo, separados por una parte media, y dicha parte media incluye una parte de cuello adyacente a dicho primer extremo y una parte de cuerpo adyacente a dicho segundo extremo.

3. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho segundo extremo de dicha empuñadura se encuentra más cerca de un borde lateral de dicha pala que de dicho otro borde lateral de dicha pala.

4. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho primer extremo incluye dos labios que se estrechan en espesor en forma progresiva desde dicho segundo extremo a dicho primer extremo

5. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha empuñadura posee una forma generalmente en arco.
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6. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho segundo extremo se suministra con un elemento martillo fabricado de un material relativamente más duro.

7. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha empuñadura se suministra con una abertura tipo colgante a utilizarse para colgar la herramienta.

8. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 7, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha abertura tipo colgante se extiende en forma generalmente radial a través de dicha empuñadura.

9. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha parte de empuñadura posee un núcleo interno fabricado de un material relativamente resistente y duro para suministrar la integridad estructural para la herramienta, y un revestimiento exterior relativamente más blando aplicado sobre dicho núcleo interno para facilitar el agarre.

10. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 9, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho núcleo interno se fabrica de un plástico relativamente duro, y dicho revestimiento exterior se fabrica de un plástico relativamente más blando.

11. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha parte de cuello se ahusa de forma tal que una sección transversal radial de dicha parte de cuello posea un área más pequeña que una sección transversal radial de dicha parte de cuerpo.

12. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho primer extremo se fija a dicha pala para formar una barrera resistente a la humedad, en donde se unen dicha empuñadura y dicha pala.

13. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicho primer extremo se acampana lateralmente hacia afuera, de forma tal que dicho primer extremo es más ancho que dicha parte de cuello y dicha parte de cuerpo.

14. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha pala mantiene un espesor generalmente uniforme a través de todas las partes de la pala.

15. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 1, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha empuñadura se fija a dicha pala a lo largo de dicho borde de empuñadura.

16. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 2, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE dicha pala asimismo incluye un soporte de refuerzo a lo largo del borde de la empuñadura y que se extiende sobre una parte de dicha alma de dicha pala.

17. La espátula, de acuerdo con la reivindicación 16, CARACTERIZADA PORQUE una longitud de dicho primer extremo es sustancialmente la misma que una distancia en que dicho soporte de refuerzo se extiende sobre dicha alma de dicha pala.

p.p. United States Gypsum Company

ESPÁTULA CON EMPUÑADURA EXCÉNTRICA

RESUMEN

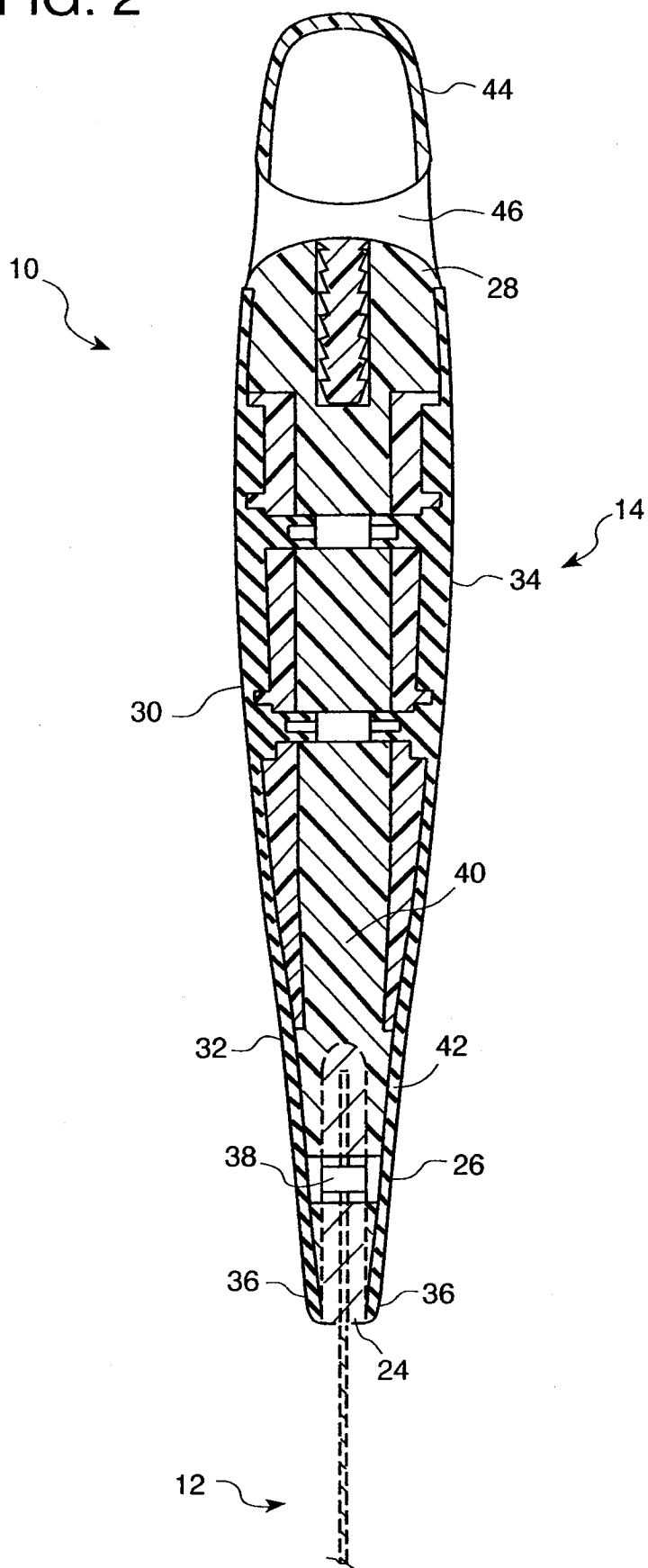
Una espátula posee un alma, un borde operativo, dos bordes laterales y un borde de empuñadura enfrentado al borde operativo. La empuñadura está conectada a la pala para poseer una orientación angular relativa al borde operativo de la pala, de forma tal que la empuñadura no es ni paralela ni perpendicular al borde operativo de la pala.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a mechanical assembly 10. The assembly includes a base member 12 having a top surface 22 and side surfaces 20. A vertical member 14 is positioned vertically relative to the base member 12. The vertical member 14 includes a lower portion 32 and an upper portion 34. A circular feature 46 is located near the top of the vertical member 14. A dashed line 16 indicates a cross-sectional plane through the assembly. Other components labeled include 24, 26, 28, 30, 44, and 46.

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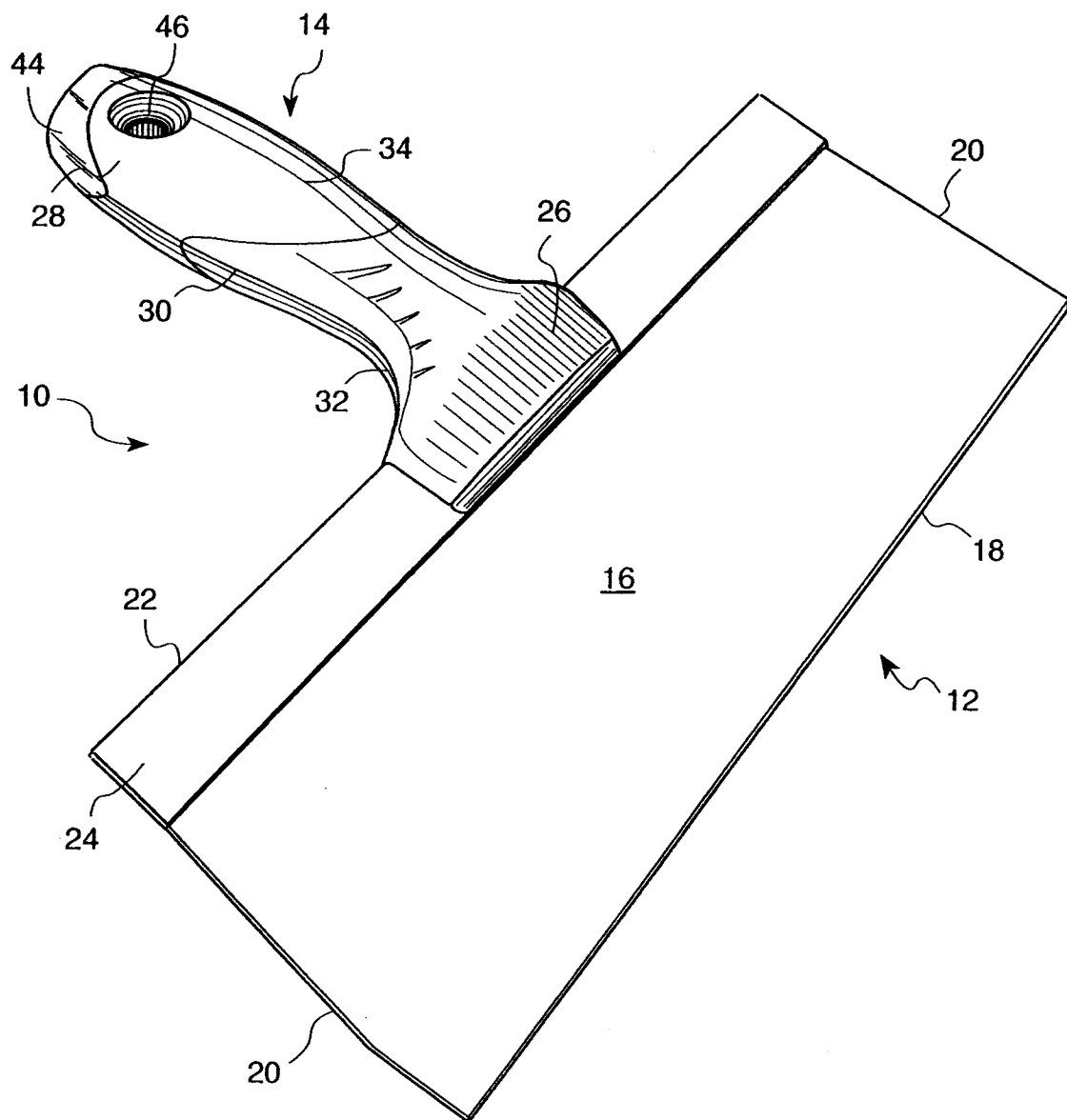
2/3

FIG. 2



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FIG. 3



From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT**NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE**(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

To:

JANCI, David, F.
USG CORPORATION
125 South Franklin Street
Chicago, IL 60606
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 25 July 2007 (25.07.2007)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference 3886WO	
International application No. PCT/US2006/021792	International filing date (day/month/year) 05 June 2006 (05.06.2006)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant

 ☐ the inventor

 ☐ the agent

 ☐ the common representative

Name and Address

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
 125 South Franklin Street
 Chicago, IL 60606
 United States of America

State of Nationality

US

State of Residence

US

Telephone No.

847-970-5113

Facsimile No.

312-214-1466

Teleprinter No.

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☐ the person

 ☐ the name

 ☒ the address

 ☐ the nationality

 ☐ the residence

Name and Address

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
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 Chicago, IL 60661-3637
 United States of America

State of Nationality

US

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312-214-1466

Teleprinter No.

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

☒ the receiving Office

 ☒ the designated Offices concerned
☐ the International Searching Authority

☐ the elected Offices concerned
☐ the International Preliminary Examining Authority

☐ other:

 The International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Thévenot Martine

e-mail Martine.Thevenot@wipo.int

Telephone No. +41 22 338 96 15

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE

Certification under 37 S.F.R. §1.10 (if applicable)

Express Mail mailing number: EQ782651954US

Date of deposit: 5 June 2006

I hereby certify that this application is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Aida Blekhan

Typed or Printed Name of Person Making Deposit

Aida Blekhan
Signature of Person Making Deposit

File reference no.: 3886WO

International Application No. (if known)

Title of Invention:

TAPING KNIFE WITH OFFSET HANDLE

Earliest Priority Date Claimed

(Day/Month/Year): 22 July 2005 (22.07.2005)

☒ This is a new International Application

SCREENING DISCLOSURE INFORMATION:

In order to assist in screening the accompanying international application for purposes of determining whether a license for foreign transmittal should and could be granted and for other purposes, the following information is supplied. (check as many boxes as apply):

- ☐ The invention disclosed was not made in the United States of America.
☐ There is no prior U.S. application relating to this invention.
☒ The following prior U.S. application(s) contain subject matter which is related to the invention disclosed in the attached international application. (NOTE: priority to these applications may or may not be claimed on the Request (form PCT/RO/101) and this listing does not constitute a claim for priority.)

Application no.	11/187,569	Filed on	22 July 2005 (22.07.2005)
Application no.		Filed on	
Application no.		Filed on	

- ☐ The present international application contains additional subject matter not found in the prior U.S. application(s) identified above. The additional subject matter is found on pages _____ and ☐ DOES NOT ALTER ☐ MIGHT BE CONSIDERED TO ALTER the general nature of the invention in a manner which would require the U.S. application to have been made available for inspection by the appropriate defense agencies under 35 U.S.C. 181 and 37 C.F.R. 5.15.

Itemized list of contents

Sheets of Request form: 5	Check No.: n/a
Sheets of description (excluding sequence listing): 6	Return receipt postcard: yes
Sheets of claims: 2	Power of attorney: no
Sheets of abstract: 1	Certified copy of priority document (specify): n/a
Sheets of drawings: 3 (Figs. 1-3, 3 pgs.)	Other (specify): Fee Calculation Sheet: 1
Sheets of sequence listing: n/a	
Sequence listing diskette/CD: n/a	
Tables related to sequence listing CD: n/a	

The person signing this form is:

- ☐ Applicant
☒ Attorney/Agent (Reg. No. 28,620)
☐ Common Representative

David F. Janci

Name of person signing

David F. Janci
Signature

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.10 and 1.412. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference
(if desired) (12 characters maximum) 3886WO

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION
TAPING KNIFE WITH OFFSET HANDLE

Box No. II APPLICANT ☐ This person is also inventor

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
125 South Franklin Street
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United States of America

Telephone No.
847 970-5113

Facsimile No.
312 214-1466

Teleprinter No.
n/a

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:
US

State (that is, country) of residence:
US

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☒ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

BRUNO, Robert
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Avon, Connecticut 06001
United States of America

This person is:

☐ applicant only

☐ applicant and inventor

☒ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☒ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.

Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: ☒ agent ☐ common representative

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

JANCI, David F.
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125 South Franklin Street
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Teleprinter No.
n/a

Agent's registration No. with the Office
28,620

☐ Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.

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Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S) <i>If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.</i>	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</i> STERPKA, Frank 153 Brace Road West Hartford, Connecticut 06107 United States of America	This person is: ☐ applicant only ☐ applicant and inventor ☒ inventor only <i>(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)</i> Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State <i>(that is, country)</i> of nationality:	State <i>(that is, country)</i> of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</i> MYERS, Matthew Earle 4639 Haviland Court Naperville, Illinois 60564 United States of America	This person is: ☐ applicant only ☐ applicant and inventor ☒ inventor only <i>(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)</i> Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State <i>(that is, country)</i> of nationality:	State <i>(that is, country)</i> of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</i>	This person is: ☐ applicant only ☐ applicant and inventor ☐ inventor only <i>(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)</i> Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State <i>(that is, country)</i> of nationality:	State <i>(that is, country)</i> of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</i>	This person is: ☐ applicant only ☐ applicant and inventor ☐ inventor only <i>(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)</i> Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State <i>(that is, country)</i> of nationality:	State <i>(that is, country)</i> of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.	

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Supplemental Box

If the Supplemental Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

1. *If, in any of the Boxes, except Boxes Nos. VIII(i) to (v) for which a special continuation box is provided, the space is insufficient to furnish all the information: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No." (indicate the number of the Box) and furnish the information in the same manner as required according to the captions of the Box in which the space was insufficient, in particular:*
 - (i) *if more than two persons are to be indicated as applicants and/or inventors and no "continuation sheet" is available: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. III" and indicate for each additional person the same type of information as required in Box No. III. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below;*
 - (ii) *if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the indication "the States indicated in the Supplemental Box" is checked: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Boxes No. II and No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the applicant(s) involved and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is applicant;*
 - (iii) *if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the inventor or the inventor/applicant is not inventor for the purposes of all designated States or for the purposes of the United States of America: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Boxes No. II and No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the inventor(s) and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is inventor;*
 - (iv) *if, in addition to the agent(s) indicated in Box No. IV, there are further agents: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. IV" and indicate for each further agent the same type of information as required in Box No. IV;*
 - (v) *if, in Box No. VI, there are more than three earlier applications whose priority is claimed: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. VI" and indicate for each additional earlier application the same type of information as required in Box No. VI.*
2. *If the applicant intends to make an indication of the wish that the international application be treated, in certain designated States, as an application for a patent of addition, certificate of addition, inventor's certificate of addition or utility certificate of addition: in such a case, write the name or two-letter code of each designated State concerned and the indication "patent of addition," "certificate of addition," "inventor's certificate of addition" or "utility certificate of addition," the number of the parent application or parent patent or other parent grant and the date of grant of the parent patent or other patent grant or the date of filing of the parent application (Rules 4.11(a)(iii) and 49bis.1(a) or (b)).*
3. *If the applicant intends to make an indication of the wish that the international application be treated, in the United States of America, as a continuation or continuation-in-part of an earlier application: in such a case, write "United States of America" or "US" and the indication "continuation" or "continuation-in-part" and the number and the filing date of the parent application (Rules 4.11(a)(iv) and 49bis.1(d)).*

Continuation of Box No. IV:
GEOFFREY, Michael M. (Reg. No. 41,775)
SAHU, Pradip K. (Reg. No. 45,551)

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Box No. V DESIGNATIONS

The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents. However,

- ☐ DE Germany is not designated for any kind of national protection
☐ JP Japan is not designated for any kind of national protection
☐ KR Republic of Korea is not designated for any kind of national protection
☐ RU Russian Federation is not designated for any kind of national protection

(The check-boxes above may only be used to exclude (irrevocably) the designations concerned if, at the time of filing, the international application contains in Box No. VI a priority claim to an earlier national application filed in the particular State concerned, in order to avoid the ceasing of the effect, under the national law, of this earlier national application. See the Notes to Box No. V as to the consequences of such national law provisions in these States).

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM

The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:

Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 22 July 2005 (22.07.2005)	11/187,569	US		
item (2)				
item (3)				

☐ Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.

The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office) identified above as:

☒ all items ☐ item (1) ☐ item (2) ☐ item (3) ☐ other, see Supplemental Box

* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or one Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)).

Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):

ISA / .US

Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):

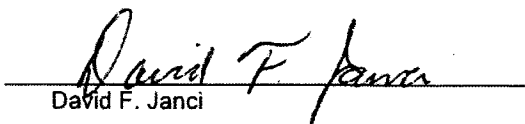
Date (day/month/year)	Number	Country (or regional Office)
22 July 2005	11/187,569	US

Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS

The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration):

		Number of declarations
☐ Box No. VIII (i)	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	:
☐ Box No. VIII (ii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	:
☐ Box No. VIII (iii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	:
☐ Box No. VIII (iv)	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	:
☐ Box No. VIII (v)	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	:

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Box No. IX CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING		
This international application contains: (a) on paper, the following number of sheets: request (including declaration sheets) : 5 description (excluding sequence listing and/or tables related thereto) : 6 claims : 2 abstract : 1 drawings : 3 Sub-total number of sheets : 17 sequence listing tables related thereto <i>(for both, actual number of sheets if filed on paper, whether or not also filed in electronic form; see (c) below)</i> Total number of sheets : 17 (b) ☐ only in electronic form (Section 801(a)(i)) (i) ☐ sequence listing (ii) ☐ tables related thereto (c) ☐ also in electronic form (Section 801(a)(ii)) (i) ☐ sequence listing (ii) ☐ tables related thereto Type and number of carriers (diskette, CD-ROM, CD-R or other) on which are contained the ☐ sequence listing: ☐ tables related thereto: <i>(additional copies to be indicated under items 9(ii) and/or 10(ii), in right column)</i>	This international application is accompanied by the following item(s) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in right column the number of each item): 1. ☒ fee calculation sheet : 1 2. ☐ original separate power of attorney : 3. ☐ original general power of attorney : 4. ☐ copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any: 5. ☐ statement explaining lack of signature : 6. ☐ priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s): 7. ☐ translation of international application into (language): 8. ☐ separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material : 9. ☐ sequence listing in electronic form (indicate type and number of carriers) (i) ☐ copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter only (and not as part of the international application) : (ii) ☐ (only where check-box (b)(i) or (c)(i) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter : (iii) ☐ together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the sequence listing mentioned in left column : 10. ☐ tables in electronic form related to sequence listing (indicate type and number of carriers) (i) ☐ copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) only (and not as part of the international application) : (ii) ☐ (only where check-box (b)(ii) or (c)(ii) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) : (iii) ☐ together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the tables mentioned in left column : 11. ☒ other (specify): Post Card :	Number of items
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract: 1	Language of filing of the international application: English	
Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE <i>Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).</i>		
 David F. Janci		

For receiving Office use only	
1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:	2. Drawings: ☐ received: ☐ not received:
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:	
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):	
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /	6. ☐ Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid

For International Bureau use only
Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau:

PCT

FEE CALCULATION SHEET

Annex to the Request

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

Date stamp of the receiving Office

Applicant's or agent's
file reference

3886WO

Applicant

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

CALCULATION OF PRESCRIBED FEES

1. TRANSMITTAL FEE

US\$300.00 [T]

2. SEARCH FEE

US\$300.00 [S]

International search to be carried out by

ISAUS

(If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the name of the Authority which is chosen to carry out the international search.)

3. INTERNATIONAL FILING FEE

Where items (b) and/or (c) of Box No. IX apply, enter Sub-total number of sheets } 17
Where items (b) and (c) of Box No. IX do not apply, enter Total number of sheets }

[i1] first 30 sheets

US\$1086.00 [i1]

[i2]

number of sheets
in excess of 30

US\$12.00

x

fee per sheet

US\$0.00 [i2]

[i3]

additional component (only if a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto are filed in electronic form under Section 801(a)(i), or both in that form and on paper, under Section 801(a)(ii)):

400 x

fee per sheet

[i3]

Add amounts entered at i1, i2 and i3 and enter total at I

US\$1086.00 [I]

(Applicants from certain States are entitled to a reduction of 75% of the international filing fee. Where the applicant is (or all applicants are) so entitled, the total to be entered at I is 25% of the international filing fee.)

4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCUMENT (if applicable)

US\$20.00 [P]

5. TOTAL FEES PAYABLE

US\$1706.00

Add amounts entered at T, S, I and P, and enter total in the TOTAL box

TOTAL

MODE OF PAYMENT (Not all modes of payment may be available at all receiving Offices)

☒ authorization to charge
deposit account (see below)

☐ postal money order

☐ cash

☐ coupons

☐ cheque

☐ bank draft

☐ revenue stamps

☐ other (specify):

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE (OR CREDIT) DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

(This mode of payment may not be available at all receiving Offices)

☒ Authorization to charge the total fees indicated above.

☒ (This check-box may be marked only if the conditions for deposit accounts of the receiving Office so permit) Authorization to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the total fees indicated above.

☒ Authorization to charge the fee for priority document.

Receiving Office: RO/ US

Deposit Account No.: 21-0425

Date: 5 June 2006

Name: David F. Janci

Signature:

David F. Janci

891

622 42

TRADUCCIÓN OFICIAL No. 05/599 de un documento escrito en inglés, el cual para su identificación se sella con el sello del traductor al tiempo con la presente. Esta traducción ha sido preparada por Juan Pablo Piedrahita Aguilera, Traductor e Intérprete Oficial debidamente reconocido de conformidad con el Certificado de Idoneidad Profesional No. 0045 expedido por la Universidad Nacional de Colombia, por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y autorizado por el Ministerio del Interior y de Justicia, por resolución número 718 de 2003.

(Se traduce un Certificado notarial, certificado de autorización del Estado de Illinois y Apostilla No. C05GL23962, escritos en inglés, adjuntos a un poder otorgado por la compañía UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY, firmado por Michel M. Geoffrey, con fecha 12 de octubre, 2005, escrito en inglés y español.)

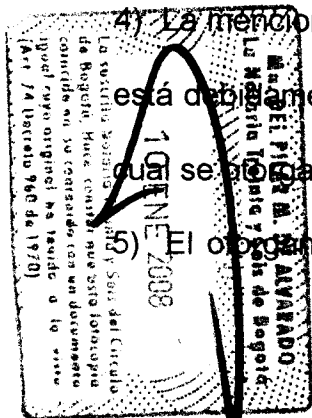
(En español e inglés, poder otorgado por la compañía UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY, firmado por Michel M. Geoffrey, con fecha 12 de octubre, 2005, una (1) hoja).

CERTIFICADO NOTARIAL (Cuando el solicitante es una SOCIEDAD)

(Poderes otorgados en El Salvador, México, Estados Unidos de América y Venezuela)

Expedido hoy día 12 de octubre, 2005, el suscrito Notario CERTIFICA que:

- 1). Michael M. Goffrey, (nombre de quien firma el poder), mayor de edad y domiciliado en Chicago, Illinois, suscribió el anterior documento.
- 2) El otorgante le es conocido personalmente y tiene capacidad para firmar el documento.
- 3) El otorgante ha suscrito el anterior documento en su calidad de Secretario Asistente de la persona jurídica UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY.
- 4) La mencionada persona jurídica con domicilio comercial en Chicago, Illinois, está debidamente constituida, tiene actualmente existencia legal y el fin para el cual se otorga este poder se encuentra dentro de su objeto social.
- 5) El otorgante tiene en efecto la capacidad referida y su representación es



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legal y está autorizado para otorgar este poder.

6) Fundamento las certificaciones 3), 4) y 5) en los documentos auténticos que para tal fin me fueron exhibidos.

(Firmado) AIDA BLEKHMEN, Notario Público

(Sello Notarial a tinta: SELLO OFICIAL, AIDA BLEKHMEN, NOTARIO PÚBLICO – ESTADO DE ILLINOIS, MI COMISIÓN VENCE SEPT. 30, 2006)

Nota: El Consulado de Colombia debe autenticar la firma del Notario Público.

Para todos los demás países el Señor Cónsul de Colombia o ante quien se otorgue, debe expedir una certificación dejando constancia de: 1) la existencia legal de la sociedad, 2) que cumple actualmente con su objeto social, y 3) que la persona o personas que otorgan este poder están facultadas para hacerlo. El Cónsul también certificará que los tuvo a la vista los documentos que prueban y acreditan tales circunstancias.

LEGALIZACIÓN POR EL CÓNSUL DE COLOMBIA A O POR APOSTILLA

(Sello Pre-impreso del Condado de Cook, Illinois)

Estado de Illinois)

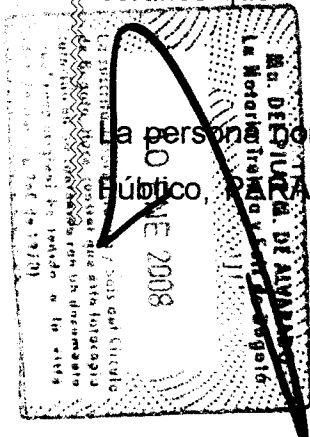
Condado de Cook)

CERTIFICADO DE AUTORIZACIÓN

Yo, DAVID ORR, Escribano del Condado de Cook en el Estado de Illinois, certifico que

BLEKHMEN, AIDA

La persona nombrada en el sello y firma del documento adjunto es un Notario Público, en el Estado de Illinois, y estaba autorizado para obrar como tal



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en el momento de la presentación en Notaría de dicho documento.

Para verificar este Certificado de Autorización para un Acto Notarial, he estampado mi firma y sello oficial hoy día 26 de Octubre, 2005.

(Firmado) David Orr

Condado de Cook, Estado de Illinois

(Firmado) Maria Canalu

(Sello en Relieve, Condado de Cook, Estado de Illinois)

ESTADO DE ILLINOIS

SECRETARIA DE ESTADO

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

APOSTILLA

(Convención de la Haya de Octubre 5 de 1961)

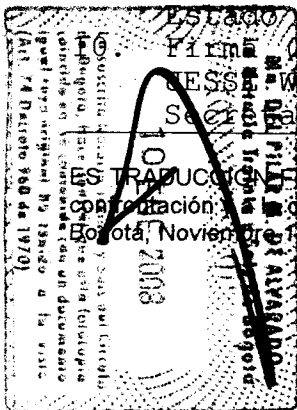
1. País: Estados Unidos de América
Este documento público
 2. Ha sido firmado por DAVID ORR
 3. Actuando en calidad de Escribano del Condado, Condado de Cook.
 4. Lleva el sello/estampilla del ESTADO DE ILLINOIS
- Certificada
5. En Chicago, Illinois
 6. Hoy 26 de octubre, 2005
 7. Por El Secretario de Estado del Estado de Illinois,
 8. No. **C05GL23962**
 9. Sello / Estampilla (Sello Redondo Dorado de Oblea del Estado de Illinois)

Firma (Firmado)

SESS WHITE

Secretario de Estado, Estado de Illinois

ES TRADUCCION FIEL Y COMPLETA de la cual se deja copia en los archivos de esta oficina para su
copiación, a la cual me remito.
Ejotá, Noviembre 10, 2005.



Juan Pablo Piedrahita Aguilera
TRADUCCION OFICIAL No. **051599**
JUAN PABLO PIEDRAHITA AGUILERA
TRADUCTOR E INTERPRETE OFICIAL
RES. 718 DE MAYO 2003
DEL MIN. INTERIOR Y DE JUSTICIA

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COLOMBIA

Carrera 11 n° 86-53, Piso 6 Bogotá Colombia Tel: (57 1) 6181088 Fax: (57 1) 6350824 Email: info@clarkemodet.com.co

PODER

Yo (nosotros), abajo firmante(s)

en mi (nuestro) carácter de representante(s) legales de

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

una sociedad organizada y existente de acuerdo con las leyes de

y en actual cumplimiento de su objeto social, con domicilio en

por el presente instrumento confiero (conferimos) poder especial a favor de DILIA MARIA RODRIGUEZ D'ALEMAN, con Cédula de Ciudadanía No. 41.654.882 de Bogotá, y tp. 20824 y CLAUDIA LUCIA CARO RAMIREZ, con Cédula de Ciudadanía No. 40.017.374 de Tunja, y tp. 36448, con domicilio en Bogotá, Colombia, para que actuando en su orden en nombre del (de la) otorgante le (la) representen ante cualquier entidad, autoridad y/o persona, especialmente ante las del orden Administrativo, Contencioso Administrativo, Judicial, Tribunales de Arbitramento y/o cualquier otro en lo referente a los siguientes asuntos:
Solicitud de Patente en Colombia, presentada bajo el No. 05087218 correspondiente a PCT/US2004/083146

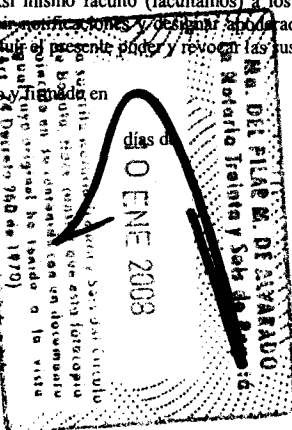
- 1) Solicitar, tramitar, obtener y/o registrar cualquiera de las modalidades de Propiedad Industrial, tales como: patentes de invención, modelos de utilidad; diseños industriales, variedades vegetales; marcas, lemas, nombres y enseñanzas comerciales y denominaciones de origen; así como sus renovaciones, prórrogas, transferencias, cambios de nombre y/o domicilio, contratos y licencias.
- 2) Solicitar, tramitar, obtener y/o registrar derechos de autor, en cualquiera de sus presentaciones así como la protección de secretos industriales y know-how.
- 3) Solicitar, tramitar, obtener y/o registrar registros sanitarios, permisos y/o licencias de funcionamiento; así como sus renovaciones o prórrogas, transferencias, cambios de nombre y/o domicilio, contratos y licencias.
- 4) Ejercer acciones de oposición, observación, reclamos, reconsideración, reposición, apelación, cancelación administrativa o judicial, nulidad, protección al consumidor, concesión de licencias, protección de secretos industriales y demás acciones y recursos relacionados con derechos derivados de los asuntos arriba indicados y en contra de la competencia desleal, acciones derivadas de la obtención o explotación de licencias, acciones de indemnización de perjuicios. También podrá(n) intervenir en juicios civiles, comerciales, penales, contencioso-administrativos, tutelas y de policía; en acciones o juicios promovidos por el (la) mandante o en contra el (ella).
- 5) Registrar nombres de dominio ante la entidad competente.
- 6) En el ejercicio de este mandato los mandatarios arriba mencionados quedan facultados para: conciliar, cancelar, transigir, comprometer en árbitros, desistir, recibir y tomar posesión de la cosa objeto de litigio y renunciar o desistir a derechos concedidos o en curso de concesión, admitir los hechos del proceso.
- 7) Ratificar o no la agencia oficiosa.
- 8) Así mismo faculta (facultamos) a los mencionados apoderados para recibir notificaciones y designar apoderados judiciales o extrajudiciales, sustituir el presente poder y revocar las sustituciones que hicieren.

Dado y firmado en

a los

días de

0 ENE 2008



POWER OF ATTORNEY

I (we), the undersigned

Michael M. Geoffrey,
legal representative(s) of

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

an organization existing under the laws of
State of Delaware

and in present execution of its business activity, domiciled at
125 South Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

do hereby grant POWER OF ATTORNEY to DILIA MARIA RODRIGUEZ D'ALEMAN, identification card No. 41.654.882 of Bogotá, and tp. 20824 and CLAUDIA LUCIA CARO RAMIREZ, tp. 36448, identification card No. 40.017.374 of Tunja, residing in Bogotá, Colombia, to act in the order of their appointment in behalf of grantor before any entity, authority and/or natural or juridical person, specially before those Administrative, Administrative-Contentious, Judicial, arbitration courts, and/or any other, in all matters concerning the following:
Patent Application in Colombia, file No.

- 1) To apply, process, obtain and/or register any of the modalities of Industrial Property, such as: Patents of Invention, Utility Models; Designs, plant varieties; Marks, Slogans, Trade Names and emblems and appellations of Origin; as well as their renewals, assignments, changes of name and/or domicile, agreements and licenses.
- 2) To apply, process, obtain and/or register copyrights of any kind as well as protection of industrial secrets or know-how.
- 3) To apply, process, obtain and/or register sanitary registrations, operating authorizations and/or licenses; as well as their renewals or assignments, changes of name and/or domicile, agreements and licenses.
- 4) To bring actions of opposition, observations, claims, reconsideration, appeal or legal remedies, cancellations, nullity, protection to the consumer, granting of licenses, protection of trade secrets and other actions related with rights derived from the above-mentioned matters and against the unfair competition, actions resulting from the obtaining or exploitation of licenses, recovering damages actions. They can also intervene or participate in Civil, Commercial, Criminal or Contentious-Administrative Trials; the actions for writ mandamus, police actions; in actions, lawsuits or litigations instituted by the grantor or against him.
- 5) To register domain names before the competent entity.
- 6) To the effect of this mandate the above-named proxy are empowered to: conciliate, cancel, settle, submit to arbitration, withdraw and to receive and take possession of the litigation related object and waive or renounce the rights granted or in process of granting, admit the facts of the case.
- 7) To ratify or not the officious agency.
- 8) I (we) hereby appoint the afore mentioned attorneys with powers to receive notifications and to designate judicial and extrajudicial attorneys, substitute this Power of Attorney and to revoke such substitutions.

Granted and signed at Chicago, Illinois

on this 12th day of October

of 2005.

Firma / signature

Michael M. Geoffrey



SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

APOSTILLE
APOSTILLE

(Convention de La Haye du 5 Octobre 1961)

1. Country: United States of America

This public document

2. has been signed by DAVID D. ORR

3. acting in the capacity of COUNTY CLERK, COOK COUNTY

4. bears the seal/stamp of STATE OF ILLINOIS

Certified

5. Chicago, Illinois

6. OCTOBER 26, 2005

7. By the Secretary of State, State of Illinois

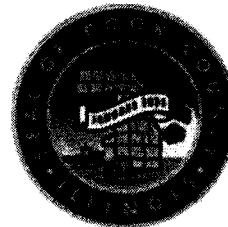
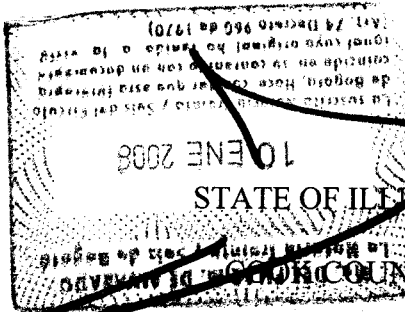
No. 23962

Seal Stamp:

10. Signature:

JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF ILLINOIS

05 / 599
TRADUCCION OFICIAL No. _____
JUAN PABLO PIEDRAHITA AGUILERA
TRADUCTOR E INTERPRETE OFICIAL
RES. 718 DE MAYO 2003
DEL MIN. INTERIOR Y DE JUSTICIA



CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

I, DAVID ORR, County Clerk of Cook County in the State of Illinois, certify that

BLEKHMEN, AIDA

the person named in the seal and signature on the attached document, is a Notary Public for the State of Illinois and was authorized to act as such at the time of the document's notarization.

To verify this Certificate of Authority for a Notarial Act, I have affixed my signature and seal of office this 26 day of October, 2005

Cook County Clerk, State of Illinois

Deputy

TRADUCCION OFICIAL No. 05 / 599
JUAN PABLO PIEDRAHITA AGUILERA
TRADUCTOR E INTERPRETE OFICIAL
RES. 718 DE MAYO 2003
DEL MIN INTERIOR Y DE JUSTICIA

CERTIFICADO NOTARIAL

(Cuando el solicitante es SOCIEDAD)

(Poderes otorgados en: El Salvador, Estados Unidos, México y Venezuela)

A los _____ días del mes de _____ de _____, el Notario que suscribe DA FE de que:

1. _____
(nombre de la persona que firma el poder)
mayor de edad y domiciliado _____
_____ firmó de su puño
y letra el documento que antecede.
2. Conoce al (a la) otorgante y que este (a) está legalmente capacitado para el otorgamiento.
3. El otorgante ha firmado el referido documento en su carácter de _____
de la persona jurídica UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

4. La citada persona jurídica con sede en _____
_____ está legalmente
constituida, que tiene actualmente
existencia legal y que el acto para el cual se ha otorgado este
poder está comprendido entre los que constituyen su objeto social.
5. El otorgante tiene efectivamente la representación que ostenta, que
esta es legítima y que está facultado para otorgar este poder.
6. las anteriores certificaciones de los puntos 3, 4 y 5, me constan porque
he tenido a la vista los documentos auténticos.

Notario Público

NOTA: A continuación de lo anterior, el Cónsul de Colombia debe
autenticar la firma del Notario Público.

CERTIFICADO NOTARIAL (Cuando el solicitante es INDIVIDUO)

A los _____ días del mes de _____ de _____, el Notario que suscribe DA FE de que:

1. _____
(nombre de la persona que firma el poder)
mayor de edad y domiciliado en _____
_____ firmó en su presencia
el documento que antecede, conoce al otorgante y que este está
legalmente capacitado para el otorgamiento.

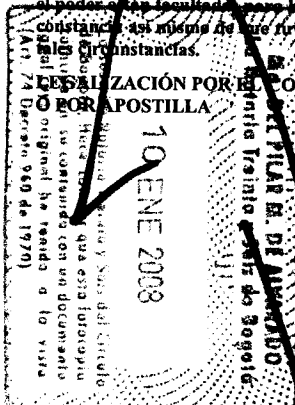
Notario Público

NOTA: A continuación de lo anterior, el Cónsul de Colombia debe
autenticar la firma del Notario Público.

Para todos los demás países el Señor Cónsul de Colombia o ante
quien se otorgue, debe expedir una certificación dejando constancia
1) de la existencia legal de la sociedad, 2) de que esta ejerce actual-
mente su objeto social y 3) de que la persona o personas que otorgan
el poder están facultadas para hacerlo, dejando
constancia así mismo de que tuvo a la vista las pruebas que acrediten
estas circunstancias.

LEGALIZACIÓN POR EL CONSUL DE COLOMBIA

O POR APOSTILLA



NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE

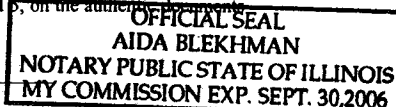
(When the applicant is a CORPORATION)

(Powers of attorney granted in: El Salvador, Mexico, U.S.A. and Venezuela)

This 12th day of October, 2005,
the undersigned Notary CERTIFIES that:

1. Michael M. Geoffrey
(name of the person who signs the power of attorney)
of legal age and domiciled in Chicago, Illinois set his hand on the
foregoing document.
2. The grantor is to him personally known and that he/she has legal capacity to
execute the document.
3. The grantor has executed the foregoing document in his capacity of
Assistant Secretary.
of the juridical person UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

4. The mentioned juridical person with place of business in Chicago, Illinois
is duly organized, has actual legal existence and that the purposes for which
the power of attorney is granted are within the scope of its corporate purposes.
5. The grantor has in fact the referred quality and that his/her
representation is legal and that he/she is empowered to grant this power
of attorney.
6. I have based the above certifications 3, 4 and 5, on the authentic documents
which for such purpose were exhibited to me.



Notary Public

NOTA: Then the Colombian Consul must legalize the signature of the Notary
Public.

NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE (When the applicant is an INDIVIDUALS)

On this _____ day of the undersigned Notary CERTIFIES that:

1. _____
(name of the person who signs the Power of Attorney)
of legal age and domiciled at _____
_____ signed in his presence the foregoing
document, the grantor is to him personally known and that he/she has legal
capacity to execute the document.

Notary Public

NOTA: Then the Colombian Consul must legalize the signature of the Notary
Public.

For all other countries the Colombian Consul or before who it is granted
must issue a certification stating 1) the legal existence of the corporation,
2) that the corporate purposes are actually being accomplished, 3) that
the person or persons who grant this Power of Attorney are empowered to
do it. The Consul will certify also that the documents evidencing those
circumstances were exhibited to him.

LEGALIZATION BY THE COLOMBIAN CONSUL OR BY
APOSTILLE.

TRADUCCION OFICIAL No. _____
JUAN PABLO PIEDRAHITA AGUILERA
TRADUCTOR E INTERPRETE OFICIAL
RES. 718 DE MAYO 2003
DEL MIN. INTERIOR Y DE JUSTICIA

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SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO



No. 08-001911- -00000-0000

Fecha: 2008-01-10 16:01:43 Dep. 2020 NUECREACION
Tra. 11 PATENTEIYII Eve: 378 FASENACIONALI
Act. 411 PRESENTACION Folios: 48



Industria y Comercio
SUPERINTENDENCIA

**REQUISITOS MINIMOS PARA ADMISION A TRAMITE
PCT**

PATENTE DE INVENCION ☒

MODELO DE UTILIDAD ☐

- ◆ Indicación de que se solicita la concesión de una patente ☒
- ◆ Datos de identificación del solicitante o de la persona que presenta la solicitud ☒
- ◆ Descripción de la invención ☒
- ◆ Dibujos de ser estos pertinentes ☒
- ◆ Comprobante de pago de las tasas establecidas ☒

COMPLETA ☐

INCOMPLETA ☐

DISEÑO INDUSTRIAL ☐

- ◆ Indicación de que se solicita el registro de Diseño Industrial ☐
- ◆ Datos de identificación del solicitante o de la persona que presenta la solicitud ☐
- ◆ Representación gráfica y fotográfica del Diseño Industrial o muestra del material que incorpora el diseño ☐
- ◆ Comprobante de pago de las tasas establecidas ☐

COMPLETA ☐

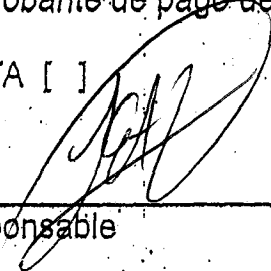
INCOMPLETA ☐

ESQUEMA DE TRAZADO ☐

- ◆ Indicación de que se solicita el registro de un Esquema de Trazado ☐
- ◆ Datos de identificación del solicitante o de la persona que presenta la solicitud ☐
- ◆ Representación gráfica del esquema trazado ☐
- ◆ Comprobante de pago de las tasas establecidas ☐

COMPLETA ☐

INCOMPLETA ☐

Firma Responsable 

10 ENE. 2008

Fecha

Carrera 13 No. 27-00 Piso 5, 7 y 10

Commutador: 3 82 08 40

30
SC

REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA
SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO

Bogotá,
2020

Doctor(a)
RODRIGUEZ D ALEMAN DILIA MARIA
Apoderado(a) y/o Representante de
UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

REFERENCIA	Radicación No.	8 1911
	Solicitud internacional	PCT/US2006/021792
	Fecha inicio fase nacional	22/02/2008
	Trámite	11
	Evento	378
	Actuación	430
	Oficio No.	

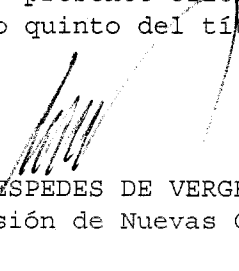
3107

Como resultado del examen de forma, realizado con fundamento en el artículo 38 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, artículo 27 del Tratado de Cooperación en Materia de Patentes (PCT), regla 51 bis del Reglamento y Circular Única de la Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio, se le comunica que:

1. La solicitud no contiene la copia del documento en que consta la cesión del derecho a la patente del inventor al solicitante o a su causante. (Art. 26-k) Decisión 486.

En cumplimiento de lo dispuesto por el artículo 39 de la Decisión 486, se le requiere para que dentro del término de dos meses siguientes a la fecha de notificación del presente oficio, complete los requisitos anteriormente enunciados. En caso de no dar cumplimiento al presente requerimiento, la solicitud se considerará abandonada y perderá su prelación.

Notifíquese el presente oficio conforme a lo dispuesto en el numeral 5.2, literal e), del capítulo quinto del título primero de la Circular Unica No.10 de 2001.


ALIX CARMENZA CESPEDES DE VERGEL
Jefe de la división de Nuevas Creaciones

El anterior requerimiento fue notificado por fijación en lista de
fecha _____
jfernand