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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

25096 7590 07/26/2024
PERKINS COIE LLP - SEA General
PATENT-SEA
P.O. BOX 1247
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247

EXAMINER
VU, QUYNH-NHU HOANG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER
3783

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2024

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/598,482	03/07/2024	Benjamin E. Merritt	111552.8016.US07	3249

TITLE OF INVENTION: HEMOSTASIS VALVES AND METHODS OF USE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$1200	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1200	10/28/2024

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the ENTITY STATUS shown above. If the ENTITY STATUS is shown as SMALL or MICRO, verify whether entitlement to that entity status still applies.

If the ENTITY STATUS is the same as shown above, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

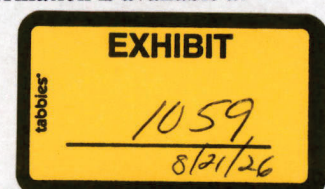
If the ENTITY STATUS is changed from that shown above, on PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, complete section number 5 titled "Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)".

For purposes of this notice, small entity fees are 40% the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 20% the amount of undiscounted fees.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Maintenance fees are due in utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due. More information is available at www.uspto.gov/PatentMaintenanceFees.



PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via the USPTO patent electronic filing system.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications. **Because electronic patent issuance may occur shortly after issue fee payment, any desired continuing application should preferably be filed prior to payment of this issue fee in order not to jeopardize copendency.**

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

25096 7590 07/26/2024
PERKINS COIE LLP - SEA General
PATENT-SEA
P.O. BOX 1247
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via the USPTO patent electronic filing system or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

(Typed or printed name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/598,482	03/07/2024	Benjamin E. Merritt	111552.8016.US07	3249

TITLE OF INVENTION: HEMOSTASIS VALVES AND METHODS OF USE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$1200	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1200	10/28/2024

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
VU, QUYNH-NHU HOANG	3783	604-167030

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/ALA/122 or PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/ALA/47 or PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. Fees submitted: ☐ Issue Fee ☐ Publication Fee (if required)

4b. Method of Payment: (Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above)

☐ Electronic Payment via the USPTO patent electronic filing system ☐ Enclosed check ☐ Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

☐ Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29

☐ Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

☐ Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

NOTE: Absent a valid certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.

NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.

NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____



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25096 7590 07/26/2024 PERKINS COIE LLP - SEA General PATENT-SEA P.O. BOX 1247 SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			EXAMINER VU, QUYNH-NHU HOANG	
			ART UNIT 3783	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 07/26/2024				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (Applications filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Office has discontinued providing a Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) calculation with the Notice of Allowance.

Section 1(h)(2) of the AIA Technical Corrections Act amended 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B)(i) to eliminate the requirement that the Office provide a patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. See Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment, 78 Fed. Reg. 19416, 19417 (Apr. 1, 2013). Therefore, the Office is no longer providing an initial patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. The Office will continue to provide a patent term adjustment determination with the Issue Notification Letter that is mailed to applicant approximately three weeks prior to the issue date of the patent, and will include the patent term adjustment on the patent. Any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment determination (or reinstatement of patent term adjustment) should follow the process outlined in 37 CFR 1.705.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

OMB Clearance and PRA Burden Statement for PTOL-85 Part B

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval before requesting most types of information from the public. When OMB approves an agency request to collect information from the public, OMB (i) provides a valid OMB Control Number and expiration date for the agency to display on the instrument that will be used to collect the information and (ii) requires the agency to inform the public about the OMB Control Number's legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

The information collected by PTOL-85 Part B is required by 37 CFR 1.311. 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 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application 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, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) collects the information in this record under authority of 35 U.S.C. 2. The USPTO's system of records is used to manage all applicant and owner information including name, citizenship, residence, post office address, and other information with respect to inventors and their legal representatives pertaining to the applicant's/owner's activities in connection with the invention for which a patent is sought or has been granted. The applicable Privacy Act System of Records Notice for the information collected in this form is COMMERCE/PAT-TM-7 Patent Application Files, available in the Federal Register at 78 FR 19243 (March 29, 2013).

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2013-03-29/pdf/2013-07341.pdf>

Routine uses of the information in this record may include disclosure to:

- 1) law enforcement, in the event that the system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law;
- 2) a federal, state, local, or international agency, in response to its request;
- 3) a contractor of the USPTO having need for the information in order to perform a contract;
- 4) the Department of Justice for determination of whether the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires disclosure of the record;
- 5) a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested the Member's assistance with respect to the subject matter of the record;
- 6) a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, in the course of presenting evidence, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations;
- 7) the Administrator, General Services Administration (GSA), or their designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906, in accordance with the GSA regulations and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive, where such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals;
- 8) another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c));
- 9) the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes; and
- 10) the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for legislative coordination and clearance.

If you do not furnish the information requested on this form, the USPTO may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings, abandonment of the application, and/or expiration of the patent.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 18/598,482	Applicant(s) Merritt et al.	
	Examiner QUYNH-NHU H VU	Art Unit 3783	AIA (FITF) Status Yes

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address–

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/01/24.
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 3. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____ 4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____	5. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment 6. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 7. ☐ Other _____
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/QUYNH-NHU H. VU/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3783	
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DETAILED ACTION

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1-14 are allowable. The restriction requirement Groups I-III, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 05/08/24, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). **The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.** Specifically, the restriction requirement of 05/08/24 is withdrawn. Claims 15-30, directed to Groups II-III no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-30 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the claim in this application have been allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose either single or in combination the claimed a valve assembly including: a pair of actuators movable from a first position to a second position, wherein the first filament includes a first portion operably acted upon by a first one of the actuators and a second portion operably acted upon by a second one of the actuators; the second filament includes a first portion operably acted upon by the first one of the actuators and a second portion operably acted upon by the second one of the actuators; in the first position, the actuators are positioned to tension the first filament and the second filament thereby decreasing a dimension of the first loop and a dimension of the second loop to constrict the lumen of the tubular member; in the second position, the actuators are positioned to loosen the first filament and the second filament thereby permitting the tubular member to expand against the first loop and the second loop to increase the dimension of the first loop and the dimension of the second loop to at least partially open the lumen of the tubular member; and the actuators are biased to the first position.

Regarding claim 15, the claim in this application have been allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose either single or in combination the claimed a valve assembly including: a first filament configured in a first loop completely around the tubular member and having a first portion extending from the first loop toward the first actuator and a second portion extending from the first loop toward the second actuator; and a second filament configured in a second loop completely around the tubular member and having a first portion extending from the second loop toward the first actuator and a second portion extending from the second loop toward the second actuator; wherein the first actuator and the second actuator are biased away from one another to elastically deform the tubular member to the first position by (a) increasing a tension in the first filament to decrease a dimension of the first loop and (b) increasing a tension in the second filament to decrease a dimension of the second loop; and the first actuator and the second actuator are movable toward one another to permit the tubular member to return to the second position by (a) decreasing the tension in the first filament and (b) decreasing the tension in the second filament.

Regarding claim 23, the claim in this application have been allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose either single or in combination the claimed a valve assembly including: a first filament extending in a first loop around the tubular member; a second filament extending in a second loop around the tubular member; and a pair of actuators biased to circumferentially constrict the first loop and the second loop to elastically deform the tubular member to a first position in which the lumen is constricted, wherein at least one the actuators is movable to decrease a level of tension in the first filament and a level of tension in the second filament to permit the tubular member to expand against the first loop and the second loop to a second position in which the lumen of the tubular member is at least partially open.

The closet prior art of record is Hartley (US 2003/0116731), Wong et al. (US 2011/0144592), Eller (US 2015/0305859), however these references do not disclose the device as claimed or described above.

Prior art Harley:

Harley discloses a valve assembly comprising: a tubular member 4 defining a lumen; a first filament 20 extending in a first loop around the tubular member, wherein the first filament is flexible; an actuator 12 movable from a first position (Fig. 4) to a second position (Fig. 3); a first filament includes a first portion operably acted upon by a first one actuator 12; wherein the first position, the actuator is positioned to tension the first filament; whereby a dimension of the first loop (in Fig. 4); wherein the second position (the actuator being rotated, see arrows in Fig. 5), the actuator is positioned to loosen the first filament thereby permitting the tubular member to expand against the first loop to increase the dimension of the first loop.

Harley fails to disclose that the actuator is as a pair of actuators; a second filament. Therefore, Harley fails to disclose the limitations as mentioned in the claims 1, 15 & 23 above.

Prior art Wong

Wong discloses a valve assembly comprising: a tubular member 9 defining a lumen, in Fig. 1; a pair of actuators 17/17d (see Figs. 10-11) movable first a first position (Fig. 11) to a second position (Fig. 10); in the first position, the actuators are positioned to tension, thereby constrict the lumen

of the tubular member, Fig. 11; the second position, the actuators are positioned to loosen, thereby permitting the tubular member to expand, see Fig. 10.

Wong fails to disclose the limitations as discussed in the claims 1, 15 & 23 above.

Prior art Eller

Eller discloses a valve assembly comprising:

A tubular member being attached to a handle 18; a first filament 22 extending in a first loop around the tubular member, see Figs. 9A-9C, wherein the first filament is flexible; a second filament 24 (or 26) extending in a second loop around the tubular member, wherein the second filament is flexible, an actuator 18 movable first a first position (being rotated, see arrow 159, in Figs. 1, 10C) to a second position (Fig. 9A-9B, 10A-10B); a first filament includes a first portion operably acted upon by the actuator; a second filament 24/26 includes a first portion operably acted upon the actuator, in the first position the actuator is positioned to tension the first filament and the second filament thereby decreasing a dimension of the first loop and second loop to constrict the lumen of the tubular member, see Figs. 9C & 10C; in the second position, the actuator is positioned to loosen the first filament and the second filament thereby permitting the tubular member to expand against the first loop and the second loop to increase the dimension of the first loop and the dimension of the second loop to at least partially open the lumen of the tubular member, Figs. 9A-9B; 10A-10B.

Eller fails to disclose that the actuator is as a pair of the actuator. Therefore Eller fails to disclose the claimed limitations as mentioned in the claims 1, 15 & 23 above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to QUYNH-NHU HOANG VU whose telephone number is (571)272-3228. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tsai can be reached on 571-270-5246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quynh-Nhu H. Vu/
Quynh-Nhu H Vu
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3783

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 18/598,482		Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination Merritt et al.	
	Examiner QUYNH-NHU H VU		Art Unit 3783	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date YYYY-MM-DD	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-2846179-A	1958-08-05	CATHERINE MONCKTON MARY	F16K7/04	222/507
*	B	US-3197173-A	1965-07-27	TAUBENHEIM ROY A	F16K7/06	24/527
*	C	US-3383131-A	1968-05-14	ROSFELDER ANDRE M	E21B25/06	251/74
*	D	US-3675657-A	1972-07-11	Gauthier; Oscar	A61B17/132	606/203
*	E	US-4551862-A	1985-11-12	Haber; Terry M.	A61F2/0036	600/491
*	F	US-4705518-A	1987-11-10	Baker; Charles D.	A61F2/0036	128/899
*	G	US-5484418-A	1996-01-16	Quiachon; Dinah B.	A61M25/005	604/167.03
*	H	US-20030116731-A1	2003-06-26	Hartley, David Ernest	F16K7/06	251/297
*	I	US-20110144592-A1	2011-06-16	Wong; En Hou Philip	A61M39/06	604/175
*	J	US-8118275-B2	2012-02-21	Mialhe; Claude	A61M39/0613	251/294
*	K	US-20150305859-A1	2015-10-29	Eller; Derek	A61F2/2469	623/1.24
*	L	US-9980813-B2	2018-05-29	Eller; Derek	F16K7/06	1/1
*	M	US-10183159-B2	2019-01-22	Nobles; Anthony	F16K31/445	1/1

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date YYYY-MM-DD	Country	Name	CPC Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in YYYY-MM-DD format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.