

Title (en)  
HEAT EXCHANGER TUBE REPAIR

Publication  
**EP 0128644 B1 19870916 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 84302486 A 19840411**

Priority  
• GB 8309988 A 19830413  
• GB 8313266 A 19830513

Abstract (en)  
[origin: EP0128644A2] Prior to effecting a repair of a leaking heat exchanger tube by an internal repair tube brazed to the leaking tube, strain in the leaking tube is measured whilst heating it to brazing temperature. A braze is only effected if the strain is below a predetermined level. Apparatus for carrying out the strain measurement typically of probe form having a strain gauge head (21) at the nose of the probe and a heater element (23). Preferably, the length of the probe is such that the head (21) reaches to just above a grid support plate (12). Where strain is found to be above said predetermined level and the leaking tube is of U-shape the strain may be relieved by heating both legs of the tube. Alternatively, strain may be relieved by thinning and bulging the leaking tube (Figs 5A-C) at a region close enough to the braze for the thinned zone to experience heat from the braze to allow it to yield under the strain.

IPC 1-7  
**F28F 11/02; F16L 55/16**

IPC 8 full level  
**F28F 11/02** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)  
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**EP 0128644 A2 19841219; EP 0128644 A3 19850710; EP 0128644 B1 19870916; DE 3466279 D1 19871022**

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