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## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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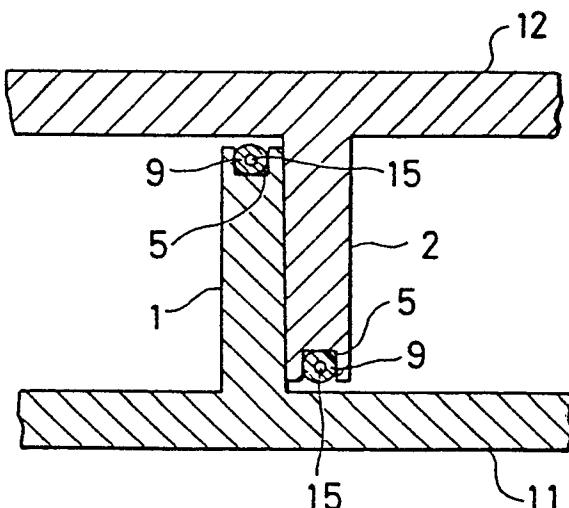
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⑯ Scroll-type compressor.

⑰ A scroll-type compressor having improved tip seal elements (9) at the ends of scrolls (1, 2) of the compressor. Grooves (5) are formed in the ends of the stationary and orbiting scrolls (1, 2) of the compressor opposite the ends of the scrolls' end plates (11, 12). Tip seal elements (9) made of an expandable material and which are capable of being inflated preferably in response to a pressure difference between a high pressure side of the compression chamber of the compressor and the low pressure side thereof, are disposed along the grooves (5). In one embodiment the tip seal elements take the form of a hollow tube (9) having one end closed and the other end in communication with the high pressure side. In another embodiment, the tip seal elements are tubes in which a fluid such as a coolant is sealed. In still another embodiment, the tip seal elements take the form of a thin resilient strip sealed to the end surfaces of the grooves except for an innermost end portion, which is in fluid communication with the high pressure side of the compression chamber.



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. *)
Y	US-A-4 082 484 (McCULLOUGH) * column 5, lines 46-68; figures 1,2,4 *	1	F 01 C 19/08 F 01 C 1/02
Y	--- GB-A- 908 116 (BIRD INSTRUMENTS) * page 1, line 65 - page 2, line 37; page 2, line 82 - page 3, line 90, figures 1-9; page 4, lines 62-83, figure 10 *	1-5,8	
Y	--- GB-A- 135 834 (SWARTLING) * page 2, lines 15-73; figure 3 *	1-3,5	
Y	--- GB-A-1 052 169 (HÜBENER) * page 1, lines 40-45, 54-57; page 2, lines 34-54; figures *	1-4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. *)
A		6,7	F 01 C
Y	--- US-A-4 043 714 (BERKOWITZ) * Column 8, line 45 - column 9, line 35; figures 12-14 *	1-3,8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	04-10-1984	KAPOULAS T.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention		
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date		
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