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54 **Ultrasound transducer with improved vibrational modes.**

57 The transducer (10) is diced into subelements (12) which have a height-to-width ratio which determines the modality of their vibration. The subelements (12) are then electrically connected (20,24) to provide a transducer having the desired electrical configuration, i.e., an annular array transducer. Using the present invention, the electro-acoustic characteristics of the transducer (10) are not determinative of the vibrational characteristics of the individual subelements.

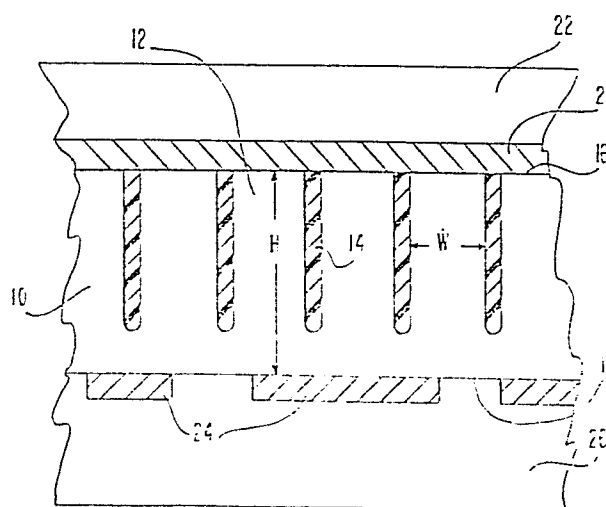


Fig 2



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. 3)
X	EP-A-0 025 092 (SIEMENS) * Abstract; page 4, line 1 - page 5, line 25; page 5, line 34 - page 11, line 22 *	1	G 10 K 11/34 H 01 L 41/10
X	FR-A-2 485 858 (COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE) * Page 1, lines 1-4; page 2, line 24 - page 3, line 1; page 3, lines 7-16; page 3, line 33 - page 4, line 11; page 4, line 30 - page 6, last line *	1,6	
P,X	ACOUSTICAL IMAGING, Minneapolis, Minnesota, US, 26th-28th October 1983, pages 357-368, vol. 13; P. CHALLANDE et al.: "A new technique for realizing annular arrays or complex shaped transducers" * Page 357: "Introduction", lines 1,2; page 358: "The technology", paragraph 1; page 359, figure *	1-3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3)
			G 10 K G 01 S
P,X	US-A-4 434 384 (DUNNROWICZ et al.) * Abstract; column 2, line 1 - column 5, line 57 *	1	
P,A		4	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 07-11-1986	Examiner OLDROYD D.L.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
E	FR-A-2 544 577 (C.N.R.S.) * Abstract; page 4, line 16 - page 6, line 16 *	1,2	
A	--- EP-A-0 006 623 (SIEMENS)		
A	--- US-A-4 122 725 (THOMPSON) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)
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	T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		