

12

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: 85301976.8

51 Int. Cl.⁴: B 22 F 9/08

22 Date of filing: 21.03.85

30 Priority: 21.03.84 GB 8407381

43 Date of publication of application:
02.10.85 Bulletin 85/40

88 Date of deferred publication of search report: 08.04.87

84 Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IT

71 Applicant: JOHNSON MATTHEY PUBLIC LIMITED
COMPANY
43 Hatton Garden
London, EC1N 8EE(GB)

72 Inventor: King, Charles
17 St. George's Terrace
Reading, RG3 2QL(GB)

74 Representative: Arthur, Bryan Edward et al,
Withers & Rogers 4 Dyer's Buildings Holborn
London EC1N 2JT(GB)

54 The production of metal particles from molten metal.

57 Process and apparatus for producing metal particles (12 or 32) from molten metal (2) using a gas flow to comminute a thin film (11 or 11a) of metal formed on an angled portion (6 or 26) of a surface (5 or 25) wetted by the metal (2). The angled portion (6 or 26) subtends an angle of from 5 to 120°. Preferably any rounding (8) of the edge (7) or point (27) defined by the angle should have a radius of curvature of from 4 to 25µm. Free flowing particles (12 or 32) are obtainable.

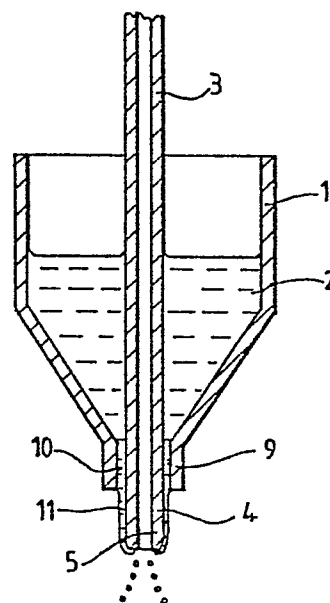


Fig.1.



EP 85 30 1976

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.4)
Y	GB-A-2 057 300 (UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY) * Whole document *	1-10	B 22 F 9/08
Y	DE-B-2 126 856 (MANNESMANN AG) * Claims 2-7 *	1-9	
Y	US-A-3 592 391 (L. BENDER et al.) * Column 4, lines 3-6 *	2	
Y	GB-A- 106 095 (A. CUSQUEL et al.) * Whole document *	1-8,10	
A	US-A-3 988 084 (D. ESPOSITO et al.) * Claims 1,3 *	1,10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	US-A-3 588 951 (W.G. HEGMANN) * Claims 2,3 *	1	B 22 F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		12-12-1986	SCHRUERS H. J.
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	
A : technological background		D : document cited in the application	
O : non-written disclosure		L : document cited for other reasons	
P : intermediate document		& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	