



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

⑪ Publication number:

0 181 203
A3

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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑬ Application number: 85308072.9

⑮ Int. Cl.4: **B 21 D 47/01, B 21 C 37/15**

⑭ Date of filing: 06.11.85

⑯ Priority: 06.11.84 GB 8428064

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⑰ Date of publication of application: 14.05.86
Bulletin 86/20

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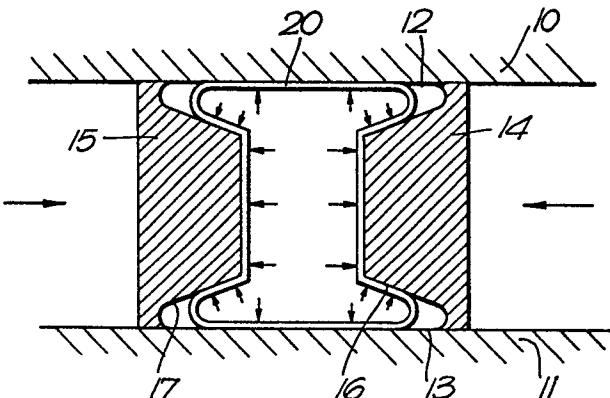
⑰ Designated Contracting States: DE FR GB

⑰ Date of deferred publication of search report: 21.01.87 Bulletin 87/4

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④ Forming complex hollow sectioned structural members.

⑤ A method is described of forming relatively complex I-sectioned tubular beam from relatively simple O-sectioned tubular stock either seamed or seamless provided that the material of the stock is superplastically deformable. The O-sectioned stock is sealed and filled with inert gas, heated to superplastic forming temperature and, in one embodiment, is placed in a mould which has regions inwardly movable to compress the stock into a desired shape, the gaseous pressure thus formed internally of the sealed stock causing the material of the stock to conform to the final interior shape of the mould. In a further embodiment the sealed, filled and heated stock is urged axially through a die which compresses the stock and is again constrained to conform with the final interior shape of the die by virtue of its internal gaseous pressure.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0181203

Application number

EP 85 30 8072

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)
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	GB-A-1 415 510 (BRITISH AIRCRAFT) * claim 1 *	1	B 21 D 47/01 B 21 C 37/15
A	DE-A-2 941 972 (THYSSEN) * claim 1 *	1	
A	US-A-2 055 771 (LAUGHLIN) * figure 1 *	3	

			B 21 D 22/00 B 21 D 26/00 B 21 D 47/00 B 21 C 37/00
	The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search BERLIN	Date of completion of the search 20-10-1986	Examiner SCHLAITZ J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>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</p>	
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			