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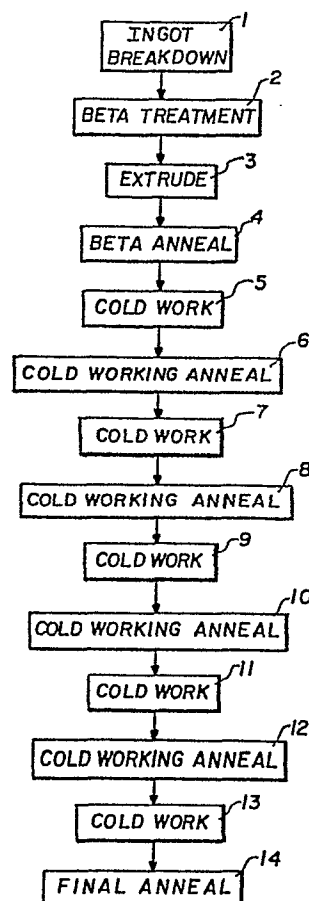
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54 **Process for producing a thin-walled tubing from a zirconium-niobium alloy.**

57 Thin-walled tubing of a zirconium-niobium alloy is fabricated by a process using a beta-quench prior to extrusion, the material being extruded at a temperature of 650°C or lower and cold worked with annealing, between a plurality of cold working stages, effected at a temperature of below 650°C, and the tubes then being subjected to a final anneal at a temperature below 600°C. The resultant thin-walled tubing has a microstructure of homogeneously dispersed niobium particules of a size less than about 800 angstroms, with the tubing exhibiting excellent corrosion resistance.

FIG. 1





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0198570

Application number

EP 86 30 0259

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)
A	EP-A-0 085 553 (WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP.) * Claims 1,10-13; figure 1 *	1,3-11	C 22 F 1/18
A	EP-A-0 071 193 (HITACHI LTD) * Claims 1-19; figure 3 *	1,3-11	
A	US-A-2 894 866 (M.L. PICKLESIMER) * Claims 1,2 *	1	
A	US-A-3 865 635 (A.S.B. HOFVENSTAM et al.) * Claim 1 *	1	
A	US-A-3 341 373 (E.W. EVANS et al.) * Claims 1,2 *	1,2	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	LU-A- 41 401 (COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE DE L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE) * Abstract, points 1,2 *	1,2	C 22 F C 22 C G 21 C
E	FR-A-2 576 322 (WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP.) * Whole document *	1-11	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 31-07-1987	Examiner GREGG N.R.
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	