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54 Fluorescent lamp apparatus.

57 A fluorescent lamp apparatus is disclosed which
 (15) includes a fluorescent lamp including a dis-
 charge tube (16) having a discharge space (17) filled
 with a gas conducive to light emission and elec-
 trodes (20) sealed one at each end of the tube and
 having a phosphor layer (21) coated on an inner
 surface (18) of the tube (16) and a high-frequency
 lighting circuit (30) for supplying a high-frequency

electric power with a potential gradient set at over 5
 V/cm, in which a light-transmitting electric insulation
 layer (22) is provided between the phosphor layer
 (21) and the inner surface (18) of the tube (16). The
 fluorescent lamp apparatus is of such a type that
 mercury ions within the discharge space (17) are
 prevented by the insulating layer from intruding in
 the wall of the tube (16).

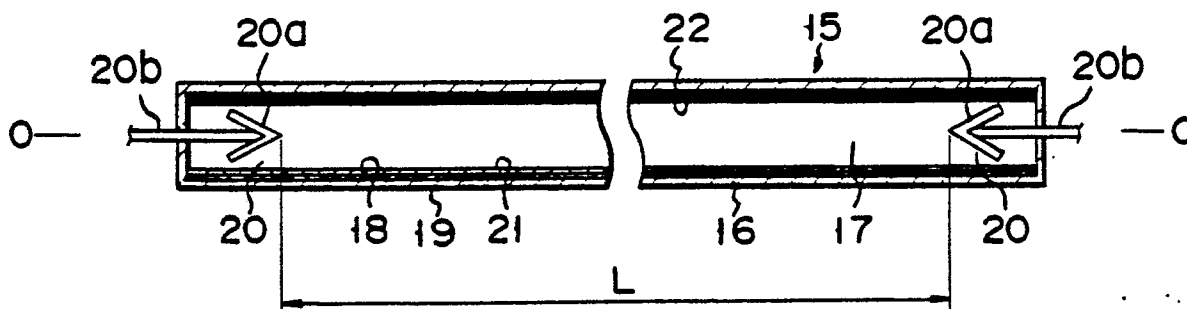


FIG. 3



EP 89 11 1876

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.5)
A	US-A-3067356 (RAY) * column 1, lines 17 - 27 * * column 1, lines 51 - 63 * * column 2, lines 61 - 64 * ---	1, 2, 4	H01J61/35 H01J61/72
A	EP-A-270004 (KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA) * abstract; figures 1, 7, 8 * * column 1, lines 19 - 21 * * column 3, lines 28 - 36 * * column 4, lines 42 - 44 * * column 7, lines 4 - 11 * ---	1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15	
A	EP-A-249743 (GTE) * abstract * -----	9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			H01J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 SEPTEMBER 1990	Examiner MARTIN Y VICENTE M.
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			