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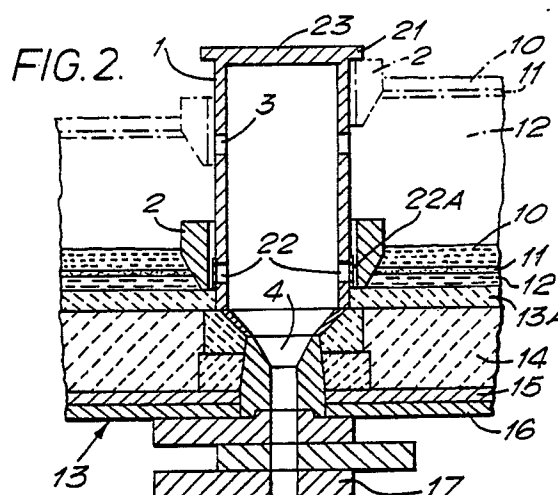
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285 Long Acre
Nechells Birmingham B7 5JR(GB)(72) Inventor: **Comes, Heinrich****Bookamp 20****D-4280 Borken, 3-Weseke(DE)**Inventor: **Friede, Klaus Dieter****Löfflerstrasse 15****D-4223 Vörde 2(DE)**Inventor: **Krampe, Hubert****Ulmenstrasse 44****D-4421 Reken(DE)**Inventor: **Jünnemann, Michael****Schönblick 18****D-4504 Georgsmarienhütte(DE)**(74) Representative: **Moore, John Hamilton**
Foseco Holding International Limited Group
Patents Department 285 Long Acre Nechells
Birmingham B7 5JR(GB)(54) **Retaining and/or pouring means for tanks for metal melting baths.**

(57) The invention relates to means for retaining contaminations in metal melting baths, e.g. a tundish containing molten metal.

Contaminations, e.g. from slag and other covering layers on the metal surface, can pass through the outlet of the tundish and hence contaminate the cast metal. The invention aims to avoid this problem by providing an annular buoyancy body (2) which surrounds the outlet (4), the body (2) being in the form of a protective ring preventing particles (10, 11) floating on the surface of the metal (12) from entering outlet (4). The body (2) may be constrained to surround a starting tube (1) which surrounds outlet (4) and to float up the starting tube (1) with increasing depth of molten metal (12). Pouring openings (3) in the starting tube (1) are thereby effectively closed by body (2) as the slag-covered surface of the metal (12) rises above the openings (3) and the openings (3) are then exposed to allow molten metal (12) to flow through only after layers (10, 11) of potential contaminations have safely passed.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 30 5293

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)
X	CH-A-5 175 42 (CONCAST) * Figures 2-5; column 5, line 9 - column 6, line 9 * - - -	1,2,3,5,7, 8	B 22 D 41/08
P,X	DE-U-8 907 044 (FOSECO) * Whole document * - - -	1-12	
X	FR-A-2 224 230 (THERMO-INDUSTRIE GmbH) * Figure 4; page 6, lines 10-25 * - - -	1,2,3,5,7, 8	
X	US-A-4 526 349 (J.W. SCHWER) * Figures 3-5; abstract; column 4, line 25 - column 5, line 25 * - - -	1,2,3,5,7	
A	DE-A-2 830 811 (EISEN- UND STAHLWERK PLEISSNER GmbH) * Fig.; page 5, lines 6-16 * - - - - -	12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 22 D C 21 C F 27 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		29 November 90	MAILLIARD A.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			