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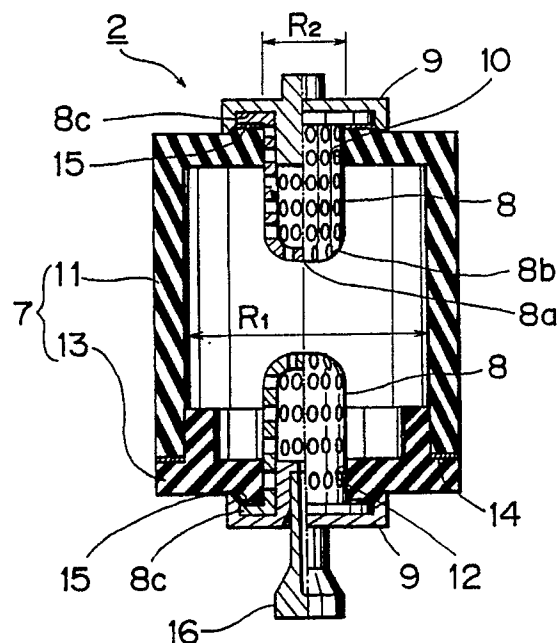
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Gas-filled discharge tube.

A gas-filled discharge tube (2) of a compact construction for use as a series gap in the ignition system of an automotive spark-ignition engine and the like. The gas-filled discharge tube (7) comprises an insulating tube unit (7) having a tube (11) provided with openings (10,12) of a diameter smaller than the inside diameter thereof in the opposite ends thereof, a pair of electrode bases (9) closely attached to the opposite ends of the tube (11) so as to seal the openings, a pair of perforated discharge electrodes (8) attached respectively to the opposite inner surfaces of the electrode bases (9) to form a series gap, and an inert gas filling the tube. Since the diameter of the electrode bases (9) sealing the comparatively small openings (10,12) is comparatively small, the electrode bases (9) of a comparatively small diameter may be used. Thus, the capacitance between the electrode bases, hence the capacitance of the gas-filled discharge tube, is comparatively small, which enables the firing potential of the gas-filled discharge tube to be increased without increasing the capacitance of the same.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 90 11 2498

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)
P,X,P,Y	EP-A-0 361 357 (YAZAKI) * line 1, paragraph 1 ** column 8, paragraphs 2 - 3; figures 3a-6 * -- --	1,3,2	H 01 J 61/90 H 01 J 17/40
Y	NL-A-7 415 840 (PHILIPS) * page 7, lines 4 - 13; figure 3 * -- --	2	
X,Y	DE-A-3 523 299 (BERU RUPRECHT GMBH) * column 3, lines 28 - 43; figure 7 * -- --	1,2,3	
Y	EP-A-0 048 407 (KRAFTWERK UNION) * page 1, line 11 - page 27; figure 1 * -- --	3	
A	FR-A-2 114 370 (ROBERT BOSCH GMBH) * page 5, last paragraph; figure 1 * -- -- --	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			H 01 J 17/00 H 01 T 1/00 H 01 J 61/00 H 01 T 13/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		05 June 91	HULNE S.L.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone		E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date	
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P: intermediate document		&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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