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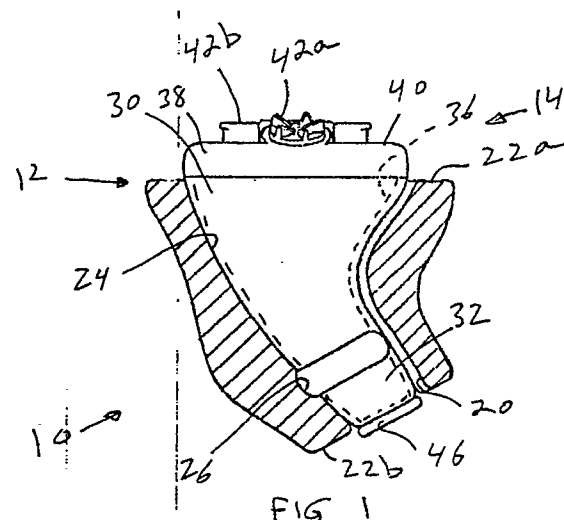
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(54) **Modular hearing aid system.**

(57) A modular hearing aid system (10) has an exterior shell (12) and a removable interior housing (14). The shell (12) can be customized for a user's right or left ear. The housing (14) has a standard, bilateral shape usable with either ear. The housing (14) can be removably locked (26) to the shell (12). A vent channel (20) is molded into the shell (12) adjacent a region of the housing (14).



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 10 5604

| 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  | EP-A-206 213 (SIEMENS. A.G.)   | 1,2,4,5,<br>7-9                                       | H04R25/02                                     |
| Y  | * page 2, line 13 - line 19 *<br>* page 3, line 23 - page 4, line 21; claims 1-4;<br>figures 1,6-9 *<br>* page 11, line 7 - line 13 *<br>* page 11, line 28 - page 12, line 3 *<br>--- | 6   |   |
| Y  | DE-A-3 616 648 (SIEMENS A.G.)  | 6   |   |
| A  | * column 1, line 64 - line 68; figure 1 *<br>* column 2, line 3 - line 5 *<br>* column 2, line 30 - line 32 *<br>* column 2, line 49 - line 51 *<br>---                                | 7-9   |   |
| Y  | EP-A-247 390 (SIEMENS A.G.)  | 6   |   |
| A  | * page 5, line 9 - line 13; figure 1 *<br>---  | 7-9   |   |
| A  | DE-U-8 906 695 (BOSCH G.M.B.H.)<br>* page 3, line 1 - line 6; claim 10; figures<br>1,3,7,9 *<br>-----  | 7-9   | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)      |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims   |  |   | H04R  |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE   |  | Date of completion of the search<br>20 SEPTEMBER 1991 | Examiner<br>DE HAAN A. J.                     |
| <b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b><br>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document<br>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>I : document cited for other reasons<br>.....<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |  |   |   |