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Spark plug apparatus and internal combustion engine ignition systems including same.

Spark plug apparatus includes a spark-enhancing construction operative during the time between sparks to create spark-enhancing conditions for the sparks. In one type of construction, a corona wind is produced in the air gap to direct the ignited mixture away from both electrodes in order to reduce heat loss from the ignited mixture by heat transfer to the electrodes. In a second type of construction, a plasma cloud is produced in the air gap enhancing the production of the sparks.

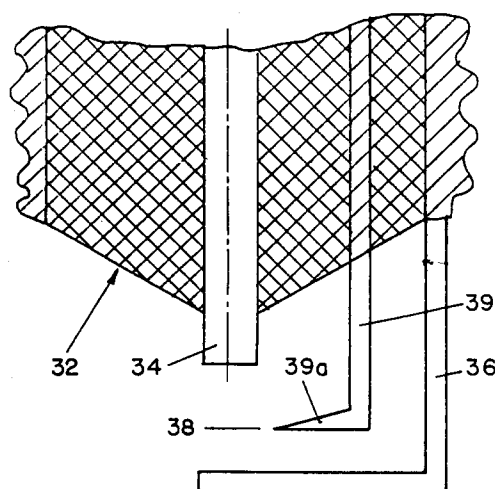


FIG. 6



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 11 0829

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	FR-A-2 277 977 (TOKAI TRW &CO) * page 3, line 29 - page 4, line 3 * * page 13, line 12 - line 25; figure 7 * ---	1-6, 12	H01T13/50
X	US-A-4 284 054 (KUMAGAI) * column 4, line 16 - line 62; figure 11 * ---	1, 3, 5, 8, 11	
A	US-A-4 122 816 (FITZGERALD) * column 3, line 12 - line 52; figures 1, 3A-3C * -----	10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			H01T F02P
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 DECEMBER 1992	Examiner BIJN E.A.
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			