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[54] Fail-safe composite-cast metal structure and method.

57 A method for manufacturing a structural component (100) includes forming a groove (104) in an outer surface of a fibre-reinforced body (102). Molten metal is introduced to an exposed surface of the groove (104) and to a predetermined portion of the outer surface of the body (102). The cast metal (106) is cooled in a controlled manner to thermally alter sufficient resin (103) in the body (102) so as to create a secure interconnection of the cast metal

(106) on the body (102). The cast metal (106) adjacent the groove (104) is sized so that it will fail prior to separation of the cast metal (106) from the body (102) under excessive tensile loads. A portion (108A) of the cast metal (106) remains on the body (102) so that elongation of the component significantly exceeds ultimate elongation of the fibre-reinforced body (102) and the cast metal (106).

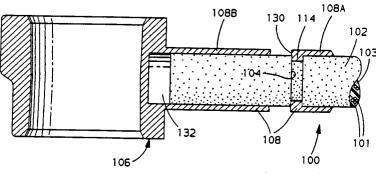


FIG. 14

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			T	EP 93203492.9
Category	Citation of document with i of relevant pa	ndication, where appropriate, issages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. CLS)
Y,D	EP - A - 0 50 (GENERAL MOTO * Totality	RS CORP.)	1,2	B 22 D 19/04 B 22 D 19/14
Y	<u>US - A - 4 64</u> (NUTTER) * Fig. 4-7	8 921 ; claims 1-4 *	1,2	
A	WO - A - 86/04 (THE SECRETAR * Fig. 1,2		1-3	
	GB - A - 2 129 (HONDA) * Fig. 1,2	9 342 ; abstract *		
A	<u>AT - E - 4 139</u> (SKF) * Fig.; cla	_	3	
A	US - A - 4 56 (BAN et al.) * Abstract		1-3	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL5)
A	US - A - 4 99 (SAKAI et al. * Abstract)	1	B 22 D F 16 C
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	The present search report has b	ocen drawn up for all claims	1	
Place of search VIENNA Date of completion of the search 22-11-1994		Examiner RIEDER		
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS T: theory or principle E: earlier patent docu 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 document document document				lished on, or