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(54) **Miniature rare gas discharge lamp electrode and method of making**

(57) A method of making a miniature neon lamp electrode (10) having lead (12), can (20), and an emitter coating (40) is disclosed. A needle (44) with a quantity of emitter material (13) is advanced into a sleeve (20). The needle is then spun at high speed to deposit the emitter material (13) on the inside wall of the sleeve (20). The sleeve (20) is then coaxially crimped to a lead

(12), forming a narrow entrance hollow cathode having an even and specifically positioned emitter coating (40). The method of making a miniature neon lamp electrode (10) yields a miniature neon lamp electrode (10) capable of withstanding a long life, with many starts, while producing an accurately position arc.

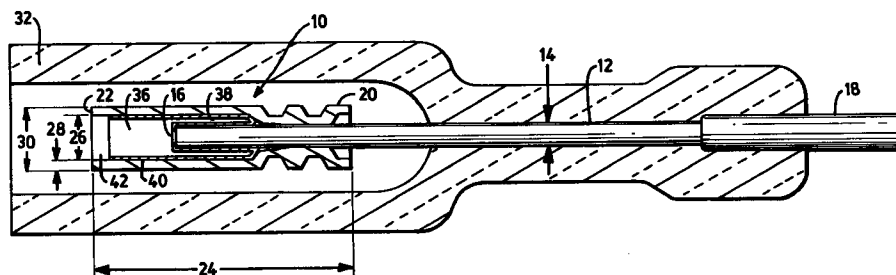


FIG. 1

EP 0 675 520 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 10 4514

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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Y A	EP 0 467 713 A (TOKYO DENSOKU KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 22 January 1992 * page 2, line 38 - line 40 * * page 3, line 24 - line 29 * * page 3, line 45 - line 46 * * page 5, line 14 - line 24 * * page 5, line 50 - line 54 * * page 7, line 25 - line 35 * * page 7, line 53 - line 55 * * figures 2,8,9 * ---	1,5,6,8,9 2,7,14,16,18,19	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H01J
A,D	US 3 969 279 A (KERN EDMUND R) 13 July 1976 * page 4, paragraph 9 - paragraph 13; figures 4,5 * ---	1,10,13,17	
A,D	US 2 847 605 A (BYER) * column 1, line 46 - line 47 * * column 2, line 14 - line 17 * * column 2, line 39 - line 40; claim 1; figures 1,2 * --- -/--	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 April 1997	Examiner Martín Vicente, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 10 4514

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.6)
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