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(54) **Diaphragm pump**

(57) A diaphragm pump (10) comprising:
a chamber (12) opening at opposite end portions to provide an inlet (14) and an outlet (16), and including an aperture (30) defined in a surface of the chamber between the inlet and outlet;
a flexible diaphragm (40) having an inner region (42) and an outer region (44), the outer region (44) sealing against the surface of the chamber surrounding the aperture to close off the aperture, the chamber and the diaphragm (40) thereby defining a passageway (50) providing fluid communication between the inlet and outlet;
a one-way inlet valve (25) coupled to the inlet (14) and a one-way outlet valve (27) coupled to the outlet (16);
the inner region (42) of the diaphragm (40) being reciprocable within the chamber (12), whereby on reciprocation of the inner region fluid is drawn in via the inlet valve and expelled via the outlet valve,
wherein the diaphragm (40) is angled such that the plane of the diaphragm faces the outlet (16).

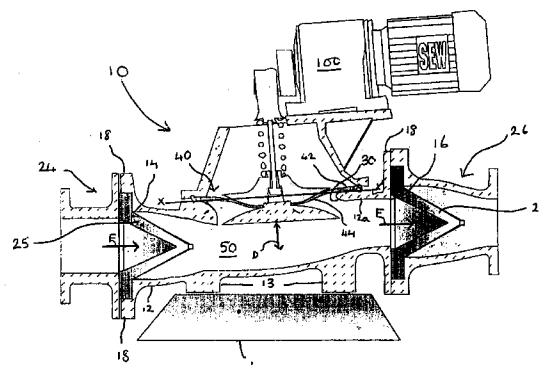


Figure 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 30 8267

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)
X	US 2 351 304 A (TABB) * column 5, line 53 - line 68; figure 2 *	1-3,5-7	F04B43/02
X	US 3 358 610 A (BRIAN) * figure 1 *	1,2	
X	US 2 811 929 A (RUPP) * figures 2,4 *	1	
X	FR 1 043 464 A (DEVERNOIS) * figure 1 *	7	
A	FR 1 424 503 A (LEGRAND) * figure 1 *	1,6,7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			F04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		19 December 1997	Bertrand, G
<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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