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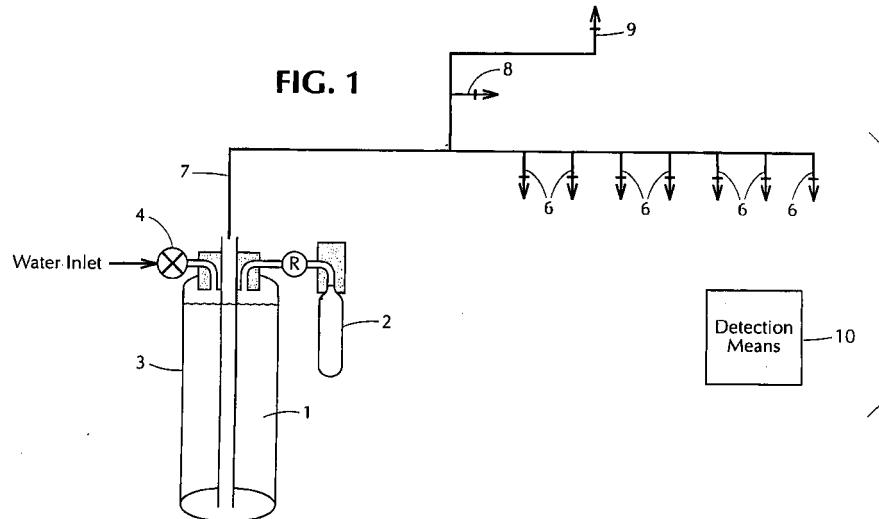
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(54) Fire suppression system

(57) The present invention relates to a fire suppression system and method in which an extinguishing agent is automatically discharged from a limited source of supply of the wet chemical extinguishing agent for rapid extinguishment of the fire, followed by water application to the locus of the fire from an unlimited source of supply of water. The subsequent automatic application of water provides rapid cooling of the hot burning material below its refash temperature. The present hybrid

system exploits the best fire suppression properties of both agents against fires i.e. the wet chemical extinguishing agent provides rapid flame extinguishment and water provides rapid cooling following extinguishment. The present hybrid system is significantly more robust (fire test variables are less critical to its fire suppression performance) than current water or wet chemical agent systems.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim			
A	GB 2 187 641 A (IRON WORK NISHIMURA CO LTD) 16 September 1987 (1987-09-16) * page 1, line 80 - page 2, line 10; figures * ---	1-7	A62C35/68 A62C37/38 A62C35/02		
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)		
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims					
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner			
THE HAGUE	2 September 1999	Trianaphillou, P			
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					

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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