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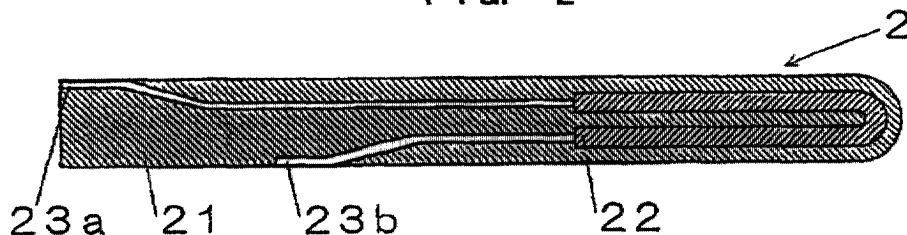
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(54) **MoSi₂-based heating element and method for manufacturing the same**

(57) There is provided an MoSi₂-based heating element having improved durability, and a method for inhibiting the formation of defects during the processes for manufacturing such an MoSi₂-based heating element. The MoSi₂-based heating element is a heating element containing 70% or more MoSi₂ in which the dif-

ference between the average density of the entire heating element and the density of the central portion corresponding to one fifth of the diameter of the heating element (true density ratio) is 5% or less, preferably 3% or less. In the process of temporary sintering, sintering is performed in a temperature pattern of an adequately adjusted temperature raising rate.

FIG. 2





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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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.7)
A	DE 26 56 072 A (BULTEN KANTHAL AB) 23 June 1977 (1977-06-23) * claims 1,2 * -----	1,3	H05B3/14
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H05B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 February 2002	Examiner Castanheira Nunes, F
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82