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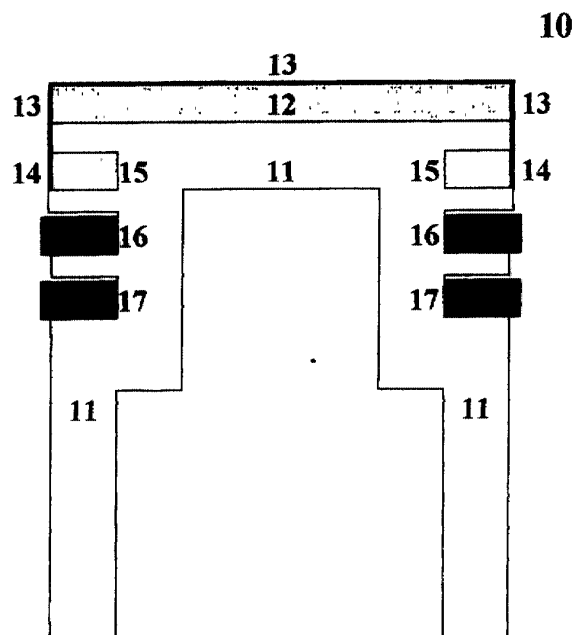
(54) **Internal combustion engine**

(57) A means of improving the performance of internal combustion engines by coating the surfaces of combustion chambers, such as cylinder heads, inlet and out-

let valves, and piston crowns, and inlet and exhaust valve ports with a layer of low thermal mass formed from a suitable combination of thermally conducting and thermally insulating materials.

AN IMPROVED INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE DESIGN

FIGURE 1 Means of insulating a piston crown



EP 1 046 805 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 3319

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)
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X	EP 0 313 340 A (ISUZU MOTORS LTD) 26 April 1989 (1989-04-26) * column 1, line 55 - column 9, line 7; figures * -----	1-3	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 July 2001	Examiner von Arx, H
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 00 30 3319

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