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(54) **Preform cutting elements for rotary drill bits**

(57) A preform cutting element, for a rotary drag-type drill bit, includes a facing table 10 of superhard material having a front face and a rear surface bonded to the front surface of a substrate 12 which is less hard than the superhard material, the cutting element having a peripheral surface which includes at least one cutting

apex 18 defined between two adjacent regions of the peripheral surface which are disposed at an angle to one another, and the rear surface of the facing table 10 being formed with at least one protuberance 20 which projects into a correspondingly shaped recess in the substrate 12.

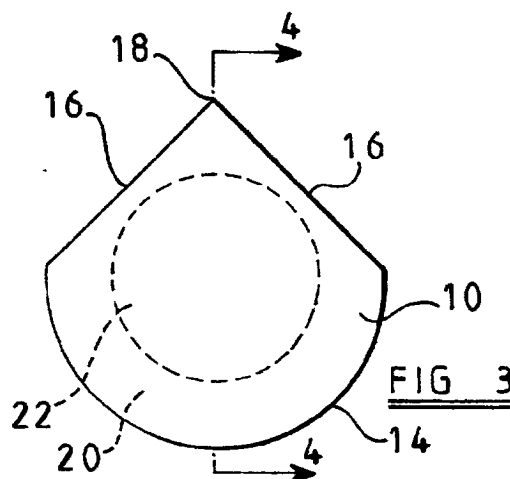


FIG 3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 3645

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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 6 November 2000	Examiner van Berlo, A
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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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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