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(72) Inventors:

- **Meier, Hilmar**
8008 Zürich (CH)
- **Schwob, Christoph**
4132 Muttensz (CH)

(71) Applicant: **PHONAK AG**
8712 Stäfa (CH)

(74) Representative: **Troesch Scheidegger Werner AG**
Schwäntenmos 14
8126 Zumikon (CH)

(54) **In-ear device**

(57) A housing (1) inserted in to the ear of a user is disclosed, said housing (1) comprising a lateral end (8) defined by being a part of the housing (1) which is directed towards surroundings if the housing (1) is inserted into the ear, a medial end (6) defined by being a part of the housing (1) which is directed towards the inner ear of the user if the housing (1) is inserted into the ear, said medial

end (6) comprising at least a medial opening (5, 9), wherein at least the lateral end (8) of the housing (1) is covered by a cover element (2). The cover element (2) is acoustically transparent and made of open porous foam. The inventive in-ear device can be used as hearing device to improve the hearing of a hearing impaired person or as a communication device for natural and/or for remote communication.

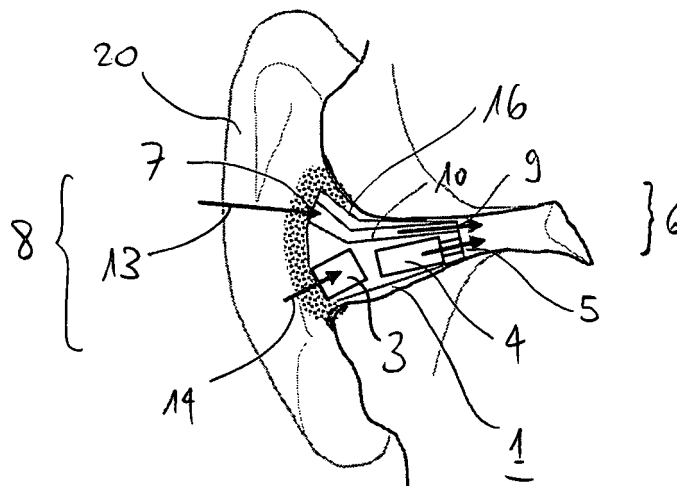


FIG. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) H04R
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 6 December 2005	Examiner Peirs, K
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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