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(72) Inventor: **Fabian, Peter**
63579 Freigericht (DE)

(74) Representative: **Reitstötter - Kinzebach**
Patentanwälte
Sternwartstrasse 4
81679 München (DE)

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(71) Applicant: **De Nora Deutschland GmbH**
63517 Rodenbach (DE)

(54) **Hydrodynamic means for electrochemical cells**

(57) The present invention is directed to hydrodynamic means to be installed in existing electrochemical cells wherein the electrodes are connected to the back-walls by means of rows of studs or ribs or other types of elongated supports and gaseous products are generated. The means of the invention consist of flat strips or folded strips which are inserted between each contiguous couple of studs or ribs or other types of elongated supports and allow for the separation between the ascending mixed phase comprising the generated gas and the degassed downcoming electrolyte. This separation greatly improves the overall internal recirculation, thus eliminating dead areas where the concentration of the electrolyte may change and/or gas bubbles may be entrapped, both situations leading to decay of performances. The means of the invention comprise optional diverting baffles in their upper section to facilitate the separation of the gas phase from the electrolyte. In addition, the means of the invention may be provided with side lips whose elastic deformation permits the easy and firm insertion within the existing rows of studs or ribs or other types of elongated support. The material of construction may be any metal or plastic material characterized by chemical resistance to the cell environment and by a proper combination of stiffness and elasticity as required for securely fixing in place the means.

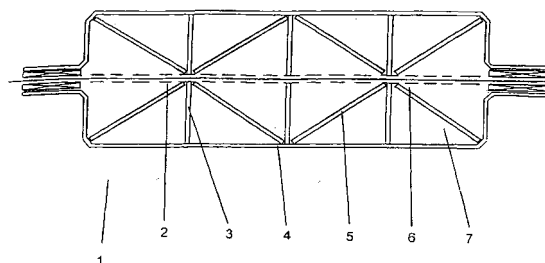


FIG. 2



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 16 May 2008	Examiner Hammerstein, G
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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