



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**15.04.2009 Bulletin 2009/16**

(51) Int Cl.:  
**A62B 7/02** (2006.01) **A62B 7/10** (2006.01)  
**A62B 17/00** (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**31.12.2008 Bulletin 2009/01**

(21) Application number: **08017362.8**

(22) Date of filing: **21.07.2005**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**

(30) Priority: **23.07.2004 US 590621**

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
**05773697.7 / 1 786 523**

(71) Applicant: **Interspiro, Inc.**  
**Branford, CT 06405 (US)**

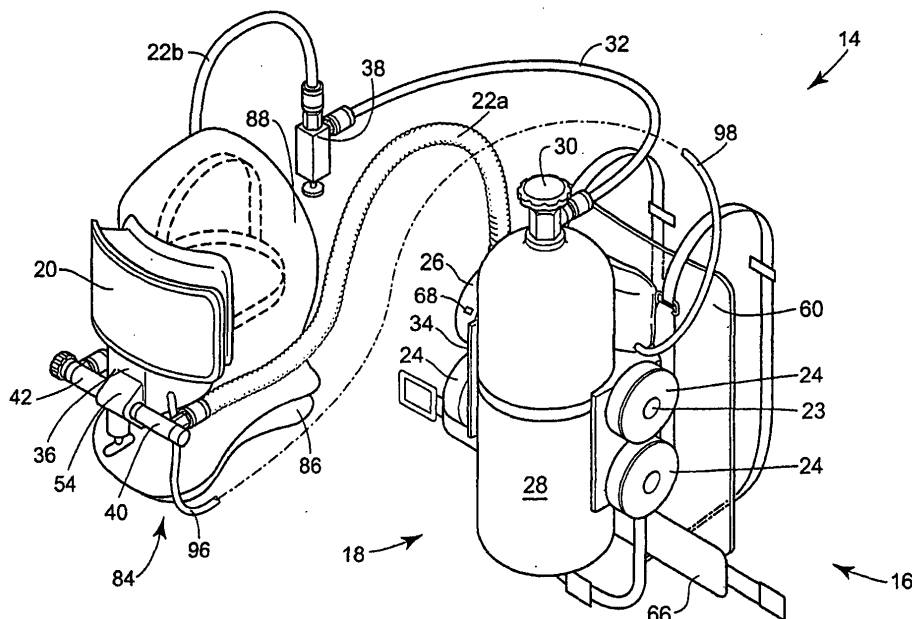
(72) Inventor: **Brookman, Michael, J.**  
**Branford, CT 06405 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Holzwarth-Rochford, Andreas**  
**Forrester & Boehmert**  
**Pettenkoferstraße 20-22**  
**80336 München (DE)**

(54) **Apparatus and method for providing breathable air and bodily protection in a contaminated environment**

(57) An apparatus for protecting a user (58) in a hazardous or contaminated environment caused by chemical, fire, biological, and/or nuclear contamination includes a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) (18) for providing tank stored breathable air, a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) (16) for purifying ambient air

and a valve system that can be used to control the source of air from either the SCBA (18) or the PAPR (16). The source of breathable air can be selectively controlled via manual or automatic controls while a protective body suit (12) can be operably coupled with the SCBA (18) and the PAPR (16) to protect a user within the contaminated environment.



**FIG. 1B**



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 08 01 7362

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 01/41873 A (HAAGER BIRGIT [AT]) 14 June 2001 (2001-06-14)	1,4,6,8,9,11	INV. A62B7/02
Y	* abstract * * page 1, line 31 - page 2, line 3 * * page 3, line 5 - line 6 * * page 4, line 5 - line 16 * * figures *	2,3,7,10	A62B7/10 A62B17/00
Y	----- WO 03/086541 A (INTERSPIRO INC [US]) 23 October 2003 (2003-10-23) * abstract * * figures 1,6 * -----	2,3,7,10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A62B
<del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 21 November 2008	Examiner Nehrdich, Martin
<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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

 4  
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 08 01 7362

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-4, 6-11

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 08 01 7362

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-4, 6-11

plurality of layers of material

---

2. claims: 5,12

provision of liquid hydration

---

3. claims: 13,14

air quality sensor

---

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 08 01 7362

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  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

21-11-2008

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0141873	A	14-06-2001	AT 3787 U1	25-08-2000
			AU 1679401 A	18-06-2001
-----				
WO 03086541	A	23-10-2003	AU 2003262167 A1	27-10-2003
			US 2004060102 A1	01-04-2004
-----				