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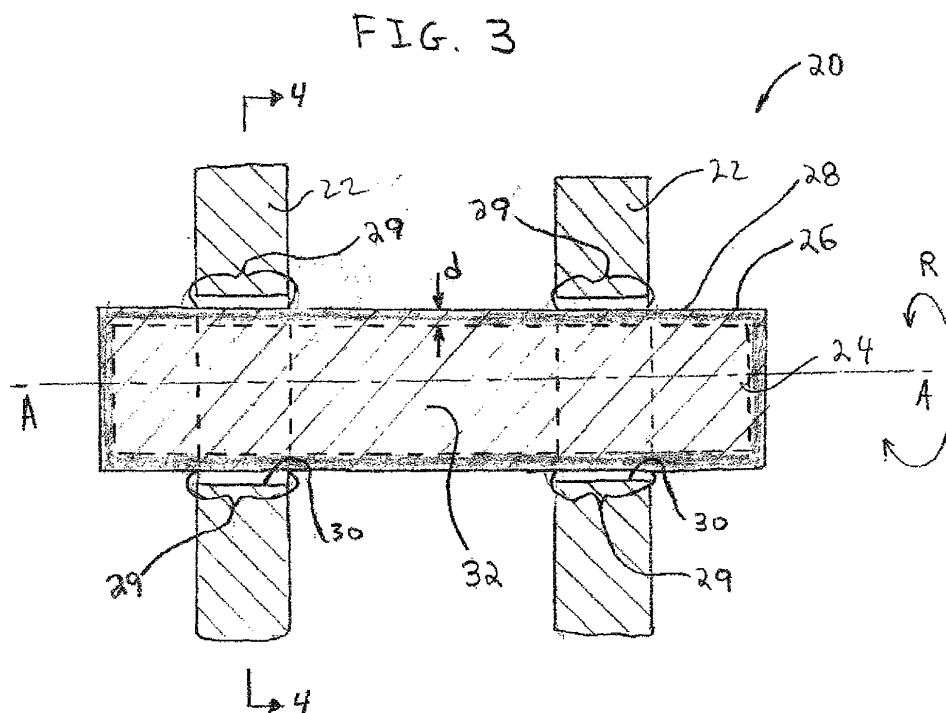
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(54) **Surface treated rocker arm shaft**

(57) A shaft (2, 19, 24, 124, 224) for a rocker arm assembly (1, 20, 120, 220) is disclosed. The shaft includes a substantially cylindrical outer surface (26, 126, 226) at least a portion (29, 129, 229) of which defines a bearing surface (28, 128, 228) thereon and an interior

core portion (32, 132, 232) located radially inward of the bearing surface. The bearing surface (28, 128, 228) has a hardness greater than that of the core portion (32, 132, 232), for providing wear resistance and deterring crack initiation and propagation.





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 15 0266

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			F01L B23P
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 20 July 2011	Examiner Paulson, Bo
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

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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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