### (12)

# **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

- (88) Date of publication A3: 15.05.2024 Bulletin 2024/20
- (43) Date of publication A2: 07.02.2024 Bulletin 2024/06
- (21) Application number: 23216691.8
- (22) Date of filing: 05.12.2017

- (51) International Patent Classification (IPC): H05H 1/34 (2006.01)
- (52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC): H05H 1/34; H05H 1/3457; H05H 1/3463

(84) Designated Contracting States:

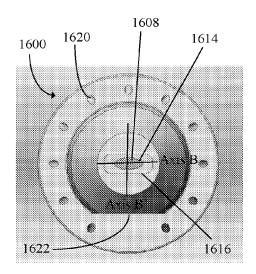
AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

- (30) Priority: **05.12.2016 US 201662430108 P 24.08.2017 US 201715685659**
- (62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC: 17817619.4 / 3 549 409
- (71) Applicant: Hypertherm, Inc. Hanover, NH 03755 (US)
- (72) Inventors:
  - Patel, Shreyansh Hanover, 03755 (US)

- Darrow, Clifford, G. Hanover, 03755 (US)
- Agan, David Hanover, 03755 (US)
- Moody, Steven Hanover, 03755 (US)
- Higgens, Martin Hanover, 03755 (US)
- Shipulski, E., Michael Hanover, 03755 (US)
- (74) Representative: Barker Brettell LLP
  100 Hagley Road
  Edgbaston
  Birmingham, West Midlands B16 8QQ (GB)

### (54) ASYMETRIC CONSUMABLES FOR A PLASMA ARC TORCH

(57)A torch tip assembly of a plasma arc torch is provided for delivering a diffused stream of plasma arc in a gouging operation. The assembly comprises a nozzle including a nozzle body defining a central longitudinal axis extending between a proximal end and a distal end. A nozzle exit orifice of the nozzle body defines at least a bore for conducting the plasma arc therethrough. The assembly also comprises a counter bore feature, disposed relative to the distal end the nozzle body, fluidly connected to the bore and located distally relative to the bore. At least one of the bore or the counter bore feature has a non-circular cross-sectional shape in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis. The non-circular cross-sectional shape is configured to enable a second non-circular cross-sectional shape in the plasma arc that diffuses the plasma arc.



**FIG. 16a** 



Category

Х

## **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

**DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT** 

Citation of document with indication, where appropriate,

WO 2014/025541 A1 (HYPERTHERM INC [US])

of relevant passages

**Application Number** 

EP 23 21 6691

CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)

Relevant

1,3,7,11 INV.

to claim

1	0	

5

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

Х	13 February 2014 (20	14-02-13)	1,3,7,11	H05H1/34
A	* abstract; figures		2,4-6,	•
	* paragraphs [0002],		8-10,	
	[0039] *	,,	12-15	
	- ··· •			
х	US 2014/284312 A1 (C	HEN CAREY [US] ET AL)	1,3,7,11	
	25 September 2014 (2			
A	* abstract; figures		2,4-6,	
	* paragraphs [0003],		8-10,	
	[0064] *	[0014], [0033],	12-15	
	[0004]		12 13	
A	JP S60 234919 A (HON	DA MOTOR CO LTD)	1-15	
	21 November 1985 (19			
	* abstract; figure 2			
	abstract, rigare 2			
A	US 5 334 235 A (DORF)	MAN MITCHEL R [US] ET	1-15	
_	AL) 2 August 1994 (1			
	* figure 1 *	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
A	GB 845 410 A (UNION	CARBIDE CORP)	1-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS
	24 August 1960 (1960			SEARCHED (IPC)
	* figures 8,9 *			н05н
	_			
	The present search report has be	en drawn up for all claims		
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
			Cre	escenti, Massimo
	The Hague	4 April 2024		,
	The Hague	4 April 2024		invention
	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS	T : theory or princ E : earlier patent	ciple underlying the i	invention shed on, or
X : par	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ticularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or princ E : earlier patent after the filing	ciple underlying the i document, but publi date	invention shed on, or
X : par Y : par doc	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ticularly relevant if taken alone ticularly relevant if combined with anothe sument of the same category	T : theory or princ E : earlier patent after the filing D : document cite L : document cite	ciple underlying the idocument, but publidate and in the application d for other reasons	shed on, or
X : par Y : par doc A : tec O : noi	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ticularly relevant if taken alone ticularly relevant if combined with anothe	T: theory or princ E: earlier patent after the filing r D: document cite L: document cite	ciple underlying the idocument, but publidate and in the application d for other reasons	shed on, or

## EP 4 319 491 A3

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

EP 23 21 6691

5

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.

04-04-2024

10	C	Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
15	W	O 2014025541	A1	13-02-2014	CN EP US WO	104704926 2880966 2014034618 2014025541	A1 A1	10-06-2015 10-06-2015 06-02-2014 13-02-2014
	ט –	S 2014284312	A1	25-09-2014	NONE			
		P S60234919	A	21-11-1985	NONE			
20	ט –	S 5334235	A	02-08-1994	BR	9400138		09-08-1994
					CA DE	2112928 69423373		23-07-199 <b>4</b> 06-07-2000
					EP	0607779		27-07-1994
					JP	но6240436		30-08-1994
25					us	5334235	A	02-08-1994
	G	B 845410	A	24-08-1960	СН	342303	A	15-11-1959
					DE	1066676		08-10-1959
30					FR GB	1156530 845410		19-05-1958 24-08-1960
	-							
35								
40								
45								
50								
55	FORM P0459							

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82