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(54) **Surgical stapling instruments including a cartridge having multiple staple sizes**

(57) A surgical stapling apparatus (100) includes a staple cartridge (118) and an anvil member (112). The staple cartridge includes a plurality of surgical fasteners (125) disposed in rows of retention slots (123). The staple cartridge may have an annular or linear configuration of retention slots. The tissue contacting surface (121) of the staple cartridge may be tapered or stepped. The anvil member has a tissue contacting surface (112a, 112b, 112c) that includes a number of pockets (114) arranged for substantially aligning with the retention slots. In addition, the tissue contacting surface of the anvil member may complement the tissue contacting surface of the staple cartridge.

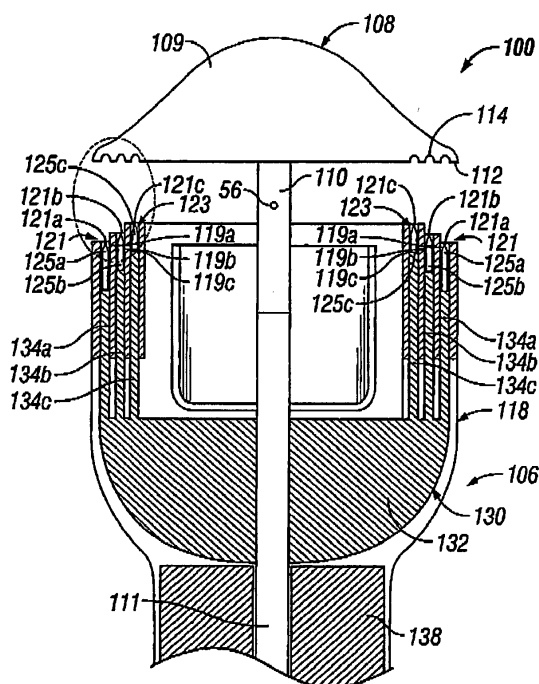


FIG. 2



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 06 01 6963

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 28 February 2007	Examiner Hübner, Jens
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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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 01 6963

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 28 February 2007	Examiner Hübner, Jens
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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EP 06 01 6963

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
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28-02-2007

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专利名称(译)	外科缝合器械包括具有多种钉尺寸的钉仓		
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CPC分类号	A61B17/00491 A61B17/068 A61B17/072 A61B17/07207 A61B17/11 A61B17/1114 A61B17/115 A61B17/1155 A61B17/32053 A61B2017/07235 A61B2017/07242 A61B2017/07264 A61B2017/320052		
优先权	11/204060 2005-08-15 US		
其他公开文献	EP1754445B1 EP1754445A2		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

外科缝合器械 (100) 包括钉仓 (118) 和砧构件 (112)。钉仓包括设置在多排保持槽 (123) 中的多个外科紧固件 (125)。钉仓可具有环形或线性构造的保持槽。钉仓的组织接触表面 (121) 可以是锥形的或阶梯状的。砧座构件具有组织接触表面 (112a, 112b, 112c), 该表面包括多个口袋 (114), 口袋 (114) 布置成与保持槽基本对齐。另外, 砧座构件的组织接触表面可以与钉仓的组织接触表面互补。

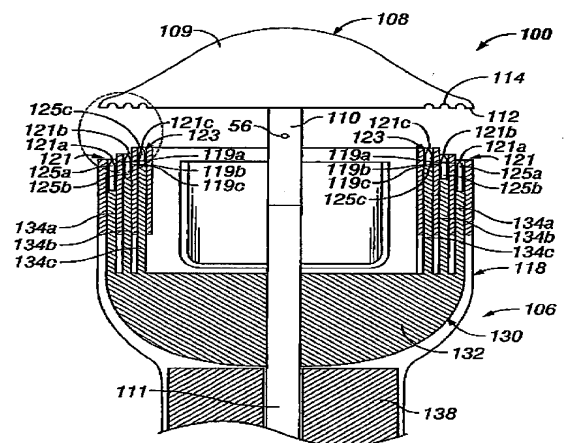


FIG. 2