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(54) Title: AUTOMATED CELL CULTURE INCUBATOR

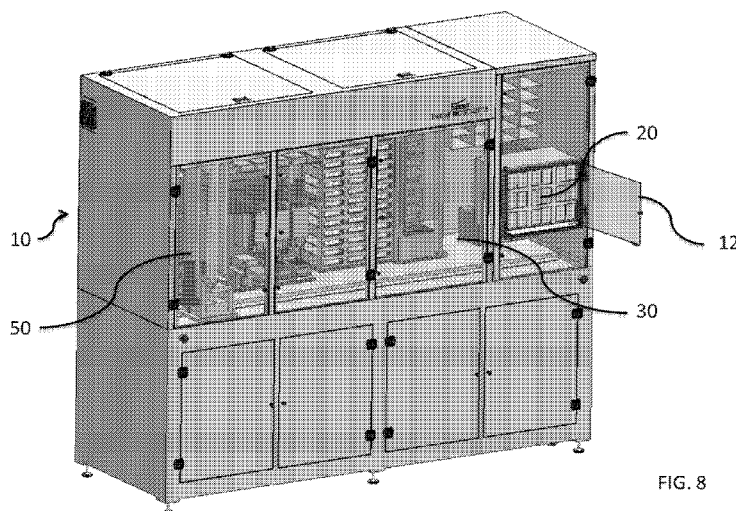


FIG. 8

(57) Abstract: Aspects relate to an automated cell culture incubator and to methods for using such an incubator. In one aspect, the cell culture incubator includes an incubator cabinet having a transfer chamber and an internal chamber that are arranged to form an airlock configuration. In some embodiments, objects placed into the incubator cabinet are sterilized using ozone produced by an ozone generator. The incubator may include one or more transfer devices that move objects between the transfer chamber and the internal chamber.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US16/25339

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A01K 41/04, 41/06; A61G 10/00; C12M 1/00 (2016.01)

CPC - C12M 1/00, 41/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC(8): A01K 41/04, 41/06; A61G 10/00; C12M 1/00 (2016.01)

CPC: C12M 1/00, 41/14

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PatSeer (US, EP, WO, JP, DE, GB, CN, FR, KR, ES, AU, IN, CA, INPADOC Data); Google; EBSCO;

Search terms used: cell culture incubator, "external chamber", "internal chamber", "internal door", two chambers

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,958,763 A (GOFFE, RA) 28 September 1999; column 8, lines 31-33	1-2, 3/1-2
A	US 4,871,676 (YAMADA, K) 03 October 1989; abstract; column one, lines 38-39; figure 1	1-2, 3/1-2
A	INCUBATOR FLUORESCENCE MICROSCOPE LCV110U VivaView FL. 2008. Brochure by Olympus America. Retrieved from the Internet. Retrieved from: < <a href="http://www.olympus-lifescience.com/en/microscopes/inverted/incubator/#!cms[tab]=%2Fmicroscopes%2Finverted%2Fincubator%2Fresources">http://www.olympus-lifescience.com/en/microscopes/inverted/incubator/#!cms[tab]=%2Fmicroscopes%2Finverted%2Fincubator%2Fresources</a> >; page 5	1-2, 3/1-2
A	US 3,887,436 A (HADDAD, IA et al.) 03 June 1975; abstract	1-2, 3/1-2

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US16/25339

**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: 4-21  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.