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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
**18196292.9 / 3 442 242**  
**13751960.9 / 2 820 865**

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(54) **ADJUSTABLE SECURING MECHANISM FOR A SPACE ACCESS DEVICE**

(57) A securing mechanism comprising a plurality of outwardly projecting members having a plurality of contact points that are configured to contact a surface of an opening when disposed on a space access device that

is inserted in the opening, the securing mechanism being configured to apply a pressure to a contact surface within the opening less than approximately 10000 kPa.

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**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.  
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

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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	US 5 572 594 A (DEVOE LAMBERT [US] ET AL) 5 November 1996 (1996-11-05) * figures 2b,2c,4b * * column 4, lines 54-67 * * column 1, lines 9-27 * -----	1,3-6, 8-12	INV. H04R1/10  ADD. H04R5/033 H04R25/00
X	US 2011/019851 A1 (MICHEL FLORENT NICOLAS JOSEPH [FR] ET AL) 27 January 2011 (2011-01-27) * paragraphs [0057], [0060] - [0062]; figure 2B * -----	1,3,4,6	
A	WO 00/76271 A1 (INSONUS MEDICAL INC [US]) 14 December 2000 (2000-12-14) * page 20, lines 16-24; figure 18 * -----	1,3-6, 8-12	
A	EP 1 385 355 A1 (PHONAK AG [CH]) 28 January 2004 (2004-01-28) * paragraph [0050] * -----	1,3-6, 8-12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			H04R
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.			
Claims searched completely :			
Claims searched incompletely :			
Claims not searched :			
Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		16 November 2021	Rogala, Tomasz
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	

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH  
SHEET C**Application Number  
EP 21 16 9117

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Claim(s) completely searchable:  
1, 9

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Claim(s) searched incompletely:  
3-6, 8, 10-12

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Claim(s) not searched:  
2, 7

Reason for the limitation of the search:

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The originally filed claims of the present application contained multiple independent claims in the same category (apparatus): 1, 2, 7 and 9. On 24.09.2021 and invitation under Rule 62a(1) EPC, to indicate the subject-matter to be searched was issued.

In reply, the applicants indicated claims 1 and 9 as defining alternative solutions falling under Rule 43(2)(c) EPC and requested the search to be based on these two independent claims.

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In particular, they submitted that claims 1 and 9 define constructional alternatives for a space access device, the latter comprising a housing with a securing mechanism disposed on said housing, whereas the former shows a solution which does not involve said housing.

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The above argumentation is accepted. In consequence, the search report is based on the independent claims 1 and 9. Dependent claims 3-6, 8 and 10-12 were searched only partially, i.e. when dependent on claim 1 or 9 (excluding the subject-matter of independent claims 2 and 7).

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

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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.

16-11-2021

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