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(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: BUSHELL, Richard, Nigel [GB/GB]; 7 Chapel Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1EG (GB).

(74) Agents: DOWNING, Michael, Philip et al.; Fry Heath & Spence, The Old College, 53 High Street, Horley, Surrey RH6 7BN (GB).

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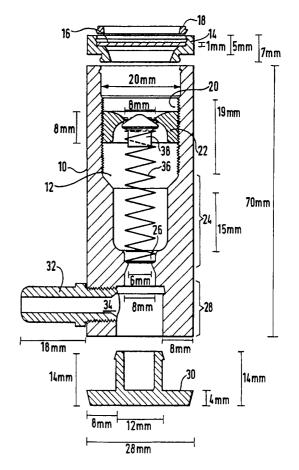
With international search report.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 20 February 1997 (20.02.97)

### (54) Title: AUTOMATIC VALVE FOR THE INLET MANIFOLD OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

#### (57) Abstract

An automatic bleed valve is disclosed, suitable for attachment to the inlet manifold of an internal combustion engine in order to provide an effective embodiment of the "air bleed" principle. Small amounts of inlet air are allowed into the inlet manifold at periods of high vacuum (low pressure) present during deceleration. The valve closure (38) is biassed by a biassing means (36), e.g. a compressing spring, which acts on the face of the closure disposed away from the seat (22). Other aspects provide for a valve seat which is adjustable in position relative to the closure, a closure and seat of different plastics materials, and a closure with a conical aspect, preferably paired with a seat with a complementary contact portion.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 F02M23/09 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 6 F02M 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 practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ' Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Χ WO,A,93 00508 (BAITEL MIKE ; FAULL SIMON H 1 - 4(VE)) 7 January 1993 Υ see abstract; figures 1,2 16-18 X FR,A,2 084 305 (FISKER) 17 December 1971 12-15 Υ see page 1, paragraph 1; figure 1 16-18, 27-29 Υ WO,A,80 02727 (ZETTELMEIER H ; DUENNWALD H 27-29 (DE); LINDNER A (DE)) 11 December 1980 see abstract; figure 3 Α GB,A,2 213 875 (NOLAN DAVID LAWRENCE) 23 1,5 August 1989 cited in the application see figures -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Χ Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: '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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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) 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 04.11.96 24 October 1996 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Alconchel y Ungria, J Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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Inte onal Application No PCT/GB 96/00999

		PC1/GB 96/00999
	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Relevant to claim No.
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X	US,A,3 677 237 (HANSEN POUL E ) 18 July 1972 see column 3, line 27 - line 37; figure 3	5
A	WO,A,80 02310 (ALMQUIST E) 30 October 1980 see figures 2-4	9-11
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Х	DE,A,38 23 569 (CONCORDIA FLUIDTECHNIK GMBH) 18 January 1990 see abstract see column 3, line 8 - line 11 see column 3, line 61 - column 4, line 14; figure 1	19
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Interional Application No PC1/GB 96/00999

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
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A	US,A,3 687 161 (GRGURIC ROBERT M ET AL) 29 August 1972 see column 2, line 20 - line 23 see column 4, line 1 - line 30	19			
A	see column 2, line 20 - line 23 see column 4, line 1 - line 30 FR,A,2 476 220 (TRICOIRE ALAIN) 21 August 1981 see column 5, last paragraph; figure 1	19			

ernational application No.

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Int	sernational 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:
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Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
	SEE ANNEX
1. <b>X</b>	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 searches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.    X   No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/210

- 1: Claims 1 4, 12 18 and 25 31
  Air inlet bleed valve wherein the valve closure element is conical.
- 2: Claims 5 11
  Air inlet bleed valve wherein the valve seat member is displaced longitudinally.
- 3: Claims 19 -24
  Air inlet bleed valve wherein the closure and seat are of a different plastic materials.

information on patent family members

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