(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2480968 (13) A

(43) Date of Reproduction by UK Office 07.12.2011

(21) Application No: 1116620.4

(22) Date of Filing: 24.03.2010

(30) Priority Data:
(31) 61165085 (32) 31.03.2009 (33) US

(86) International Application Data:
PCT/CA2010/000437 En 24.03.2010

(87) International Publication Data:
WO2010/111773 En 07.10.2010

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(51) INT CL:
F16L 35/00 (2006.01) ***A62C 33/00*** (2006.01)
F16L 25/00 (2006.01) ***F16L 31/00*** (2006.01)

(56) Documents Cited by ISA:
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US 20070063512 A1

(58) Field of Search by ISA:
INT CL **A62C, F16L**
Other: **ONLINE: WPI, EPODOC**

(54) Title of the Invention: **Fire hose coupling with directional indicator**
Abstract Title: **Fire hose coupling with directional indicator**

(57) A fire hose coupling comprises a body having a first end connected to a fire hose and a second end having either male or female threads or, alternatively, a quarter-turn sexless coupler. The fire hose coupling comprises a recessed portion formed in an outer surface of the body. The recessed portion is shaped to define a visuotactile directional indicator such as an arrow. The recessed portion may include a light-reflecting surface to enhance visibility such as a super reflective metal film, a photo luminescent coating, or a phosfluorescent coating. The recessed directional indicator may be formed in female, male or sexless (Storz) couplings. Since the light-reflecting directional indicator is recessed, it will not cause the hose assembly to snag or catch when the hose is dragged through a burning structure, nor will the directional indicator abrade or wear over time. This coupling enables firefighters to readily determine the exit direction when operating in dark and smoky conditions.

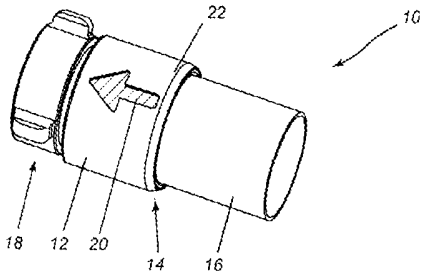

FIG. 1

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