

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B070580		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/JP2008/069327	International filing date (day/month/year) 24.10.2008	Priority date (day/month/year) 27.10.2007
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant KANEKA CORPORATION		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2008/069327

Box No. I	Basis of this opinion
1.	<p>With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the international application in the language in which it was filed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).</p>
2.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> This opinion has been established taking into account the rectification of an obvious mistake authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))</p>
3.	<p>With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:</p> <p>a. type of material</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> table(s) related to the sequence listing</p> <p>b. format of material</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> on paper</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> in electronic form</p> <p>c. time of filing/furnishing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application as filed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in electronic form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search</p>
4.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.</p>
5.	<p>Additional comments:</p>

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2008/069327

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has, within the applicable time limit:
- paid additional fees
 - paid additional fees under protest and, where applicable, the protest fee
 - paid additional fees under protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid
 - not paid additional fees
2. This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- complied with
 - not complied with for the following reasons:

The feature common to the inventions set forth in claims 1-9 is characterized in that a tube being less stretchable in the major axis direction of a catheter than a balloon is eccentrically provided on one side of a restraining member.

However, as a result of the search, it has been found that such a feature is disclosed in JP 4-8337 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 13 January 1992, page 4, lower left column, lines 14 to 15; page 4, lower left column, line 19 to page 5, upper left column, line 11; fig. 7 and 8, and thus lacks novelty. As a result, the configuration wherein a tube being less stretchable in the major axis direction of a catheter than a balloon is eccentrically provided on one side of a restraining member does not make a contribution over the prior art; therefore, this common feature is not a special technical feature within the meaning of the second sentence of PCT Rule 13.2.

Hence, there is no feature common to all of the inventions in claims 1-9.

4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

all parts

the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2008/069327

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement								
1.	Statement								
	Novelty (N)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">5, 9</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1-4, 6-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	5, 9	YES	Claims	1-4, 6-8	NO	
Claims	5, 9	YES							
Claims	1-4, 6-8	NO							
	Inventive step (IS)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1-4, 6-9</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	5	YES	Claims	1-4, 6-9	NO	
Claims	5	YES							
Claims	1-4, 6-9	NO							
	Industrial applicability (IA)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1-9</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	1-9	YES	Claims		NO	
Claims	1-9	YES							
Claims		NO							
2.	Citations and explanations:								
	<p>Document 1: JP 4-8337 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 13 January 1992, page 4, lower left column, lines 14 to 15; page 4, lower left column, line 19 to page 5, upper left column, line 11; fig. 7 and 8</p> <p>The invention as in claims 1-4 and 6-8 lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step in view of document 1 (page 4, lower left column, lines 14 to 15; page 4, lower left column, line 19 to page 5, upper left column, line 11; fig. 7 and 8). Document 1 indicates that the treatment implement insertion channel (37) is eccentrically provided on one side of the coil spring (43) and the protective tube (34). Here, given that the protective tube (34) is located close to the eccentric side of the treatment implement insertion channel 37, it can be said that the protective tube (34) is provided on the eccentric side of the treatment implement insertion channel (37).</p> <p>The invention as in claim 5 is neither disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor would it be obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>The invention as in claim 9 does not involve an inventive</p>								

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2008/069327

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

step in view of document 1. Providing a reinforcing layer with a view to increasing the strength of the treatment implement insertion channel (37) is merely a design matter that a person skilled in the art could select, as necessary.