

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) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference 6058H-16-WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/EP2008/064800	International filing date (day/month/year) 31.10.2008	Priority date (day/month/year) 08.12.2007
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC F16C19/28 F16C19/48 F16C19/54 F16C33/76 F16C33/78 F16J15/00		
Applicant SCHAEFFLER TECHNOLOGIES GMBH & CO. KG		

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/EP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

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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>

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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)	Claims	1-4, 6-8, 12	YES
	Claims	5, 9-11, 13-17	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-17	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-17	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
1	Reference is made to the following documents:		
	D1: JP 2001 012483 A (KOYO MACHINE IND CO LTD; HARADA SEISAKUSHO KK) 16 January 2001 (2001-01-16)		
	D2: DE 100 22 408 A1 (PREC MOTORS DEUTSCHE MINEBEA G [DE]) 14 December 2000 (2000-12-14)		
	D3: US-A-3 926 484 (PARKINS DEREK RAY) 16 December 1975 (1975-12-16)		
	D4: DE 38 05 707 A1 (SCHAEFFLER WAE LZLAGER KG [DE]) 7 September 1989 (1989-09-07)		
	D5: EP-A-0 362 921 (RIV OFFICINE DI VILLAR PEROSA [IT] SKF IND SPA [IT]) 11 April 1990 (1990-04-11)		
2	INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1		
2.1	The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel (PCT Article 33(2)).		
	Document D1 discloses (paragraphs 9-16, figure 1):		
	an arrangement for mounting and radially/axially		

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sealing between a housing 12 and a movable element, characterized in that in each case separate components 4, 22 which are installed in series for mounting and sealing are provided for the mounting and for the radial/axial sealing, wherein at least one radial/axial seal 22 is provided between at least two bearings 4.

2.2 For the sake of completeness, it is to be noted that D2 (column 3, lines 28-50, figure 2) also discloses all the features of claim 1.

3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-17

Claims 2-17 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step. The reasons are as follows:

3.1 Novelty (PCT Article 33(2))

Claims 2, 3: D1 paragraphs 9-16, figure 1 or
D2 column 3, lines 28-50,
figure 2;

claim 4: D1 paragraphs 9-16, figure 1;

claims 6, 7, 12: D1 figure 1;

claim 8: D2 figure 2.

3.2 Inventive step (PCT Article 33(3))

Claim 5: the mixture of two different
types of rolling bodies in one

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bearing is known to a person skilled in the art (see, for example, D5 abstract, figure 1);

claims 9, 15, 16: the production of antifriction-bearing parts without the removal of material is a measure known to a person skilled in the art for saving production costs;

claims 10, 13, 17: D4 figure 1;

claim 11: the assembly by means of a press fit is a routine method for installing antifriction bearings;

claim 14: D5 claims 1, 2, figure.