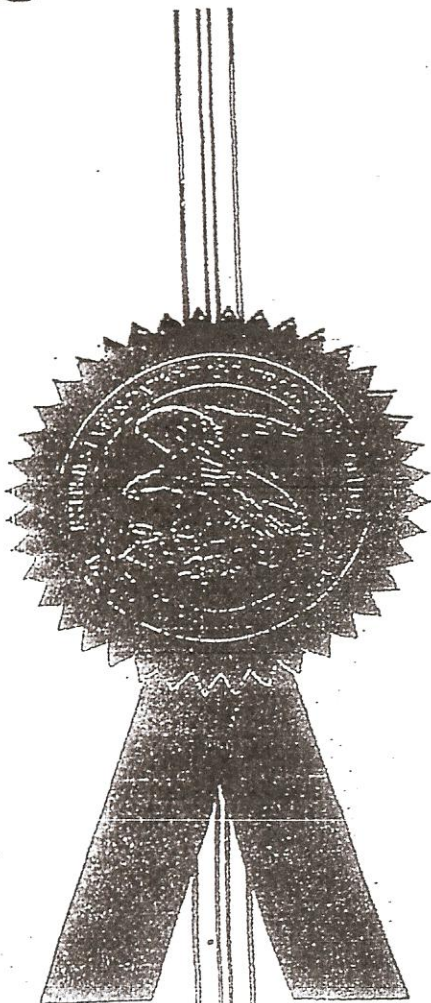


The United States of America



The Director of the United States
Patent and Trademark Office

Has received an application for a patent for a
new and useful invention, the title and descrip-
tion of the invention are enclosed. The require-
ments of law have been complied with, and it
has been determined that a patent on the in-
vention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this

United States Patent

Grants to the person(s) having title to this patent
the right to exclude others from making, using,
offering for sale, or selling the invention
throughout the United States of America or im-
porting the invention into the United States of
America for the term set forth below, subject
to the payment of maintenance fees as provided
by law.

If this application was filed prior to June 8,
1995, the term of this patent is the longer of
seventeen years from the date of grant of this
patent or twenty years from the earliest effec-
tive U.S. filing date of the application, subject
to any statutory extension.

If this application was filed on or after June 8,
1995, the term of this patent is twenty years from
the U.S. filing date, subject to any statutory ex-
tension. If the application contains a specific
reference to an earlier filed application or ap-
plications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c),
the term of the patent is twenty years from the
date on which the earliest application was filed,
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Jon W. I. Dudas

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office