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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
17/250,716	02/24/2021	Thomas Bruckmann	80808US004	6838
32692	7590	02/12/2024	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY			MINCHELLA, ADAM ZACHARY	
PO BOX 33427			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			3794	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			02/12/2024	ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 17/250,716	<b>Applicant(s)</b> Bruckmann et al.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Adam Z Minchella	<b>Art Unit</b> 3794	<b>AIA (FITF) Status</b> Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/24/2021.  
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims\*

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
5a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

\* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/index.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp) or send an inquiry to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

#### Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02/24/2021 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

##### Certified copies:

- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\*\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is pursuant to the claims filed on 02/24/2021. Claims 1-20 are pending. A first action on the merits of claims 1-20 is as follows.

#### ***Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status***

2. The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 04/27/2021 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

#### ***Claim Objections***

4. Claim 8 is/are objected to because of the following informalities:
- Claim 8; “the first or second physiological indicator” should read “the first physiological indicator or a second physiological indicator” to increase clarity.

Appropriate correction is required.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):
- (b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:  
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 4 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter which the inventor or a joint inventor (or for applications subject to pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, the applicant), regards as the invention.

7. Claim 4 recites the limitation "a memory comprising instructions that when executed...". This limitation is previously recited in independent claim 1. As such it is unclear if claim 4 intends to recite antecedent basis to the memory and instructions of claim 1 or recite a new distinct memory and instructions. This claim will be interpreted to read "the memory comprising instructions that when executed ..."

8. Claim 19 recites "the remote server". This limitation lacks antecedent basis. For examination purposes, this limitation will be read as "a remote server".

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent for a claimed invention may not be obtained, notwithstanding that the claimed invention is not identically disclosed as set forth in section 102, if the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention as a whole would have been obvious before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the claimed invention pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. The factual inquiries for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103 are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

11. **Claim(s) 1-2, 5-6, 8, and 11-13 is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over DeSeve (U.S. PGPub No. 2018/0250159) in view of Frey (U.S. Patent No. 7,517,360).**

12. Regarding **claim 1**, DeSeve teaches **An apparatus for providing pressurized, thermally conditioned air** (Apparatus 100 of Figs 2A-D; [0059-0060] disclosing pressurized thermally conditioned air), **comprising: a casing** (casing of controller 112); **a first sensor input port adjacent to a portion of the casing and configured to receive a signal indicative of a first physiological indicator** ([0057] disclosing multi-input, multi-output; each sensor 120a has a corresponding input and output port to casing in effector matrix 109a); **a first sensor output port adjacent to a portion of the casing and configured to transmit the signal indicative of the first physiological indicator** ([0057] disclosing multi-input, multi-output; each sensor 120a has a corresponding input and output port to casing in effector matrix 109a); **a controller communicatively coupled to the first sensor input port, the first sensor output port, the convective module** (Fig 2a controller 112), **the controller comprising one or more computer processors and a memory** ([0034]) **comprising instructions that when executed by the one or more computer processors cause the one or more computer processors to: transmit the first physiological indicator via the first sensor output port** (Fig 6, processor transmits first physiological indicator via first sensor output port); **determine a first physiological indicator value from the first sensor input port** (see Fig 6 obtain actual cutaneous temperature step); **perform at least one operation in response to the determination of the first physiological indicator value** (Fig 6 steps to control effectors depending on determined physiological indicator value). DeSeve further discloses that the use of convective air in heating/cooling

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