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(54) **DIMPLED INSERT WITH RETAINING CLAMP**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A wear insert for a tool holder includes a top surface and a bottom surface with a dimple disposed in the top surface. A boss is disposed within the dimple. The tool holder for releasably securing the wear insert has a tool holder body including an insert-receiving pocket formed at a forward end. The tool holder body has a bottom and at least one side wall for receiving an insert. The tool holder includes an internally threaded clamp-securing bore formed between an inclined surface and the insert-receiving pocket. A clamp is arranged on the tool holder body and including a lower face with a nose portion having a shaped lip and a clamp contour portion. The clamp also has a threaded aperture formed therethrough. A clamp screw is inserted into the threaded aperture of the clamp. The clamp screw has a threaded portion capable of being threaded onto the internally threaded clamp-securing bore of the tool holder body and the threaded aperture of the clamp to bring the nose portion of the clamp into pressing engagement with the boss of the wear insert.

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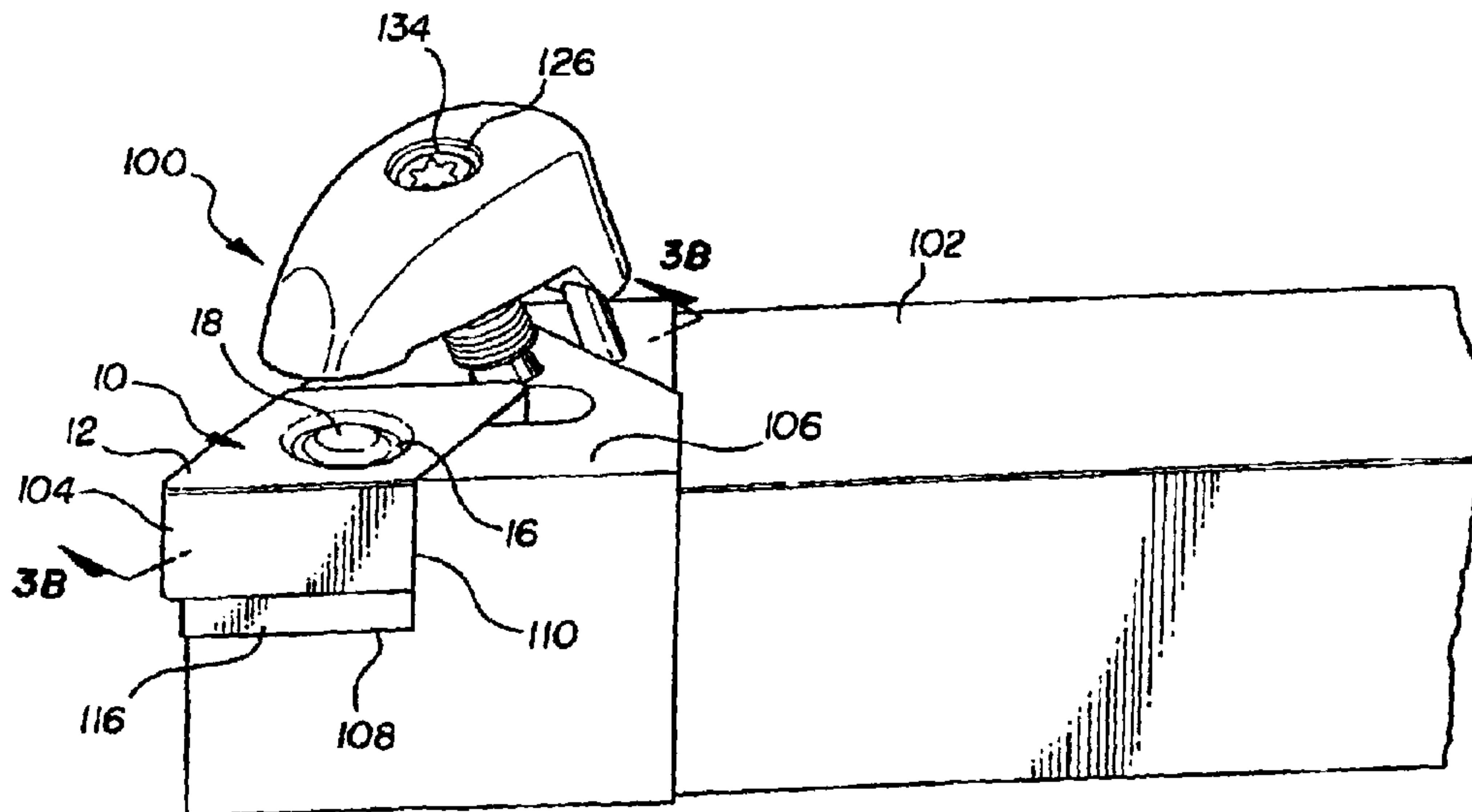
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See application file for complete search history.

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32 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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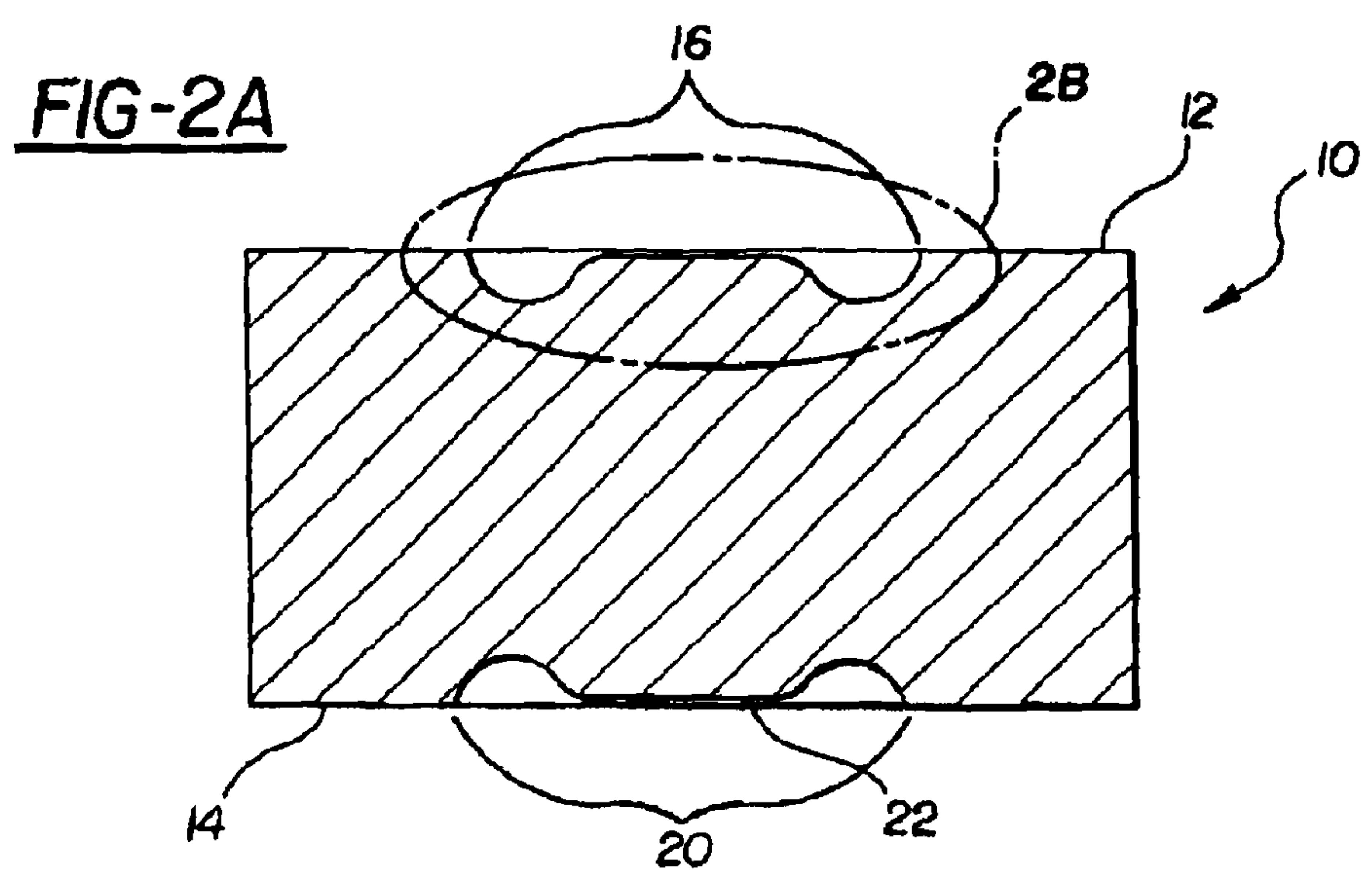
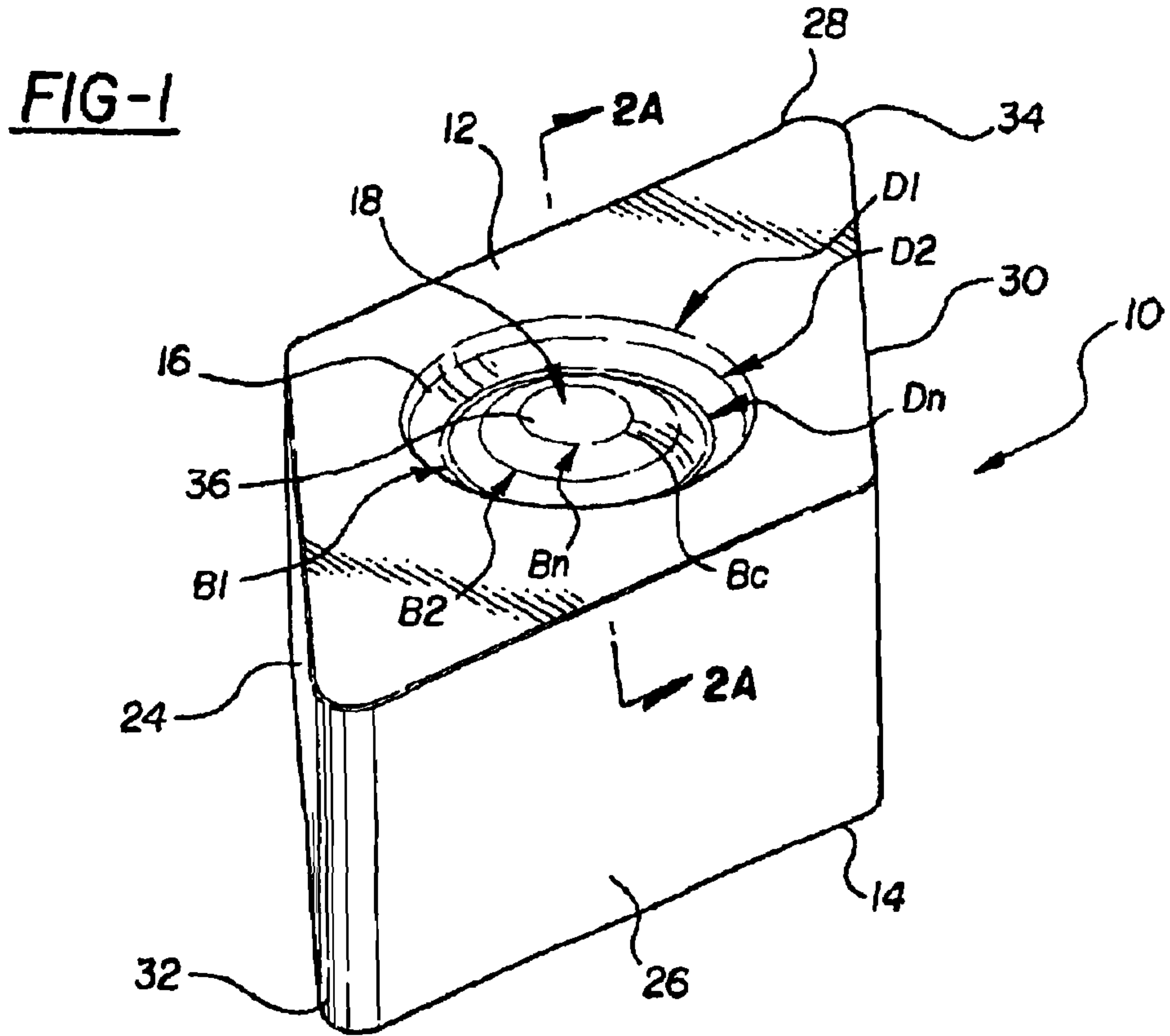
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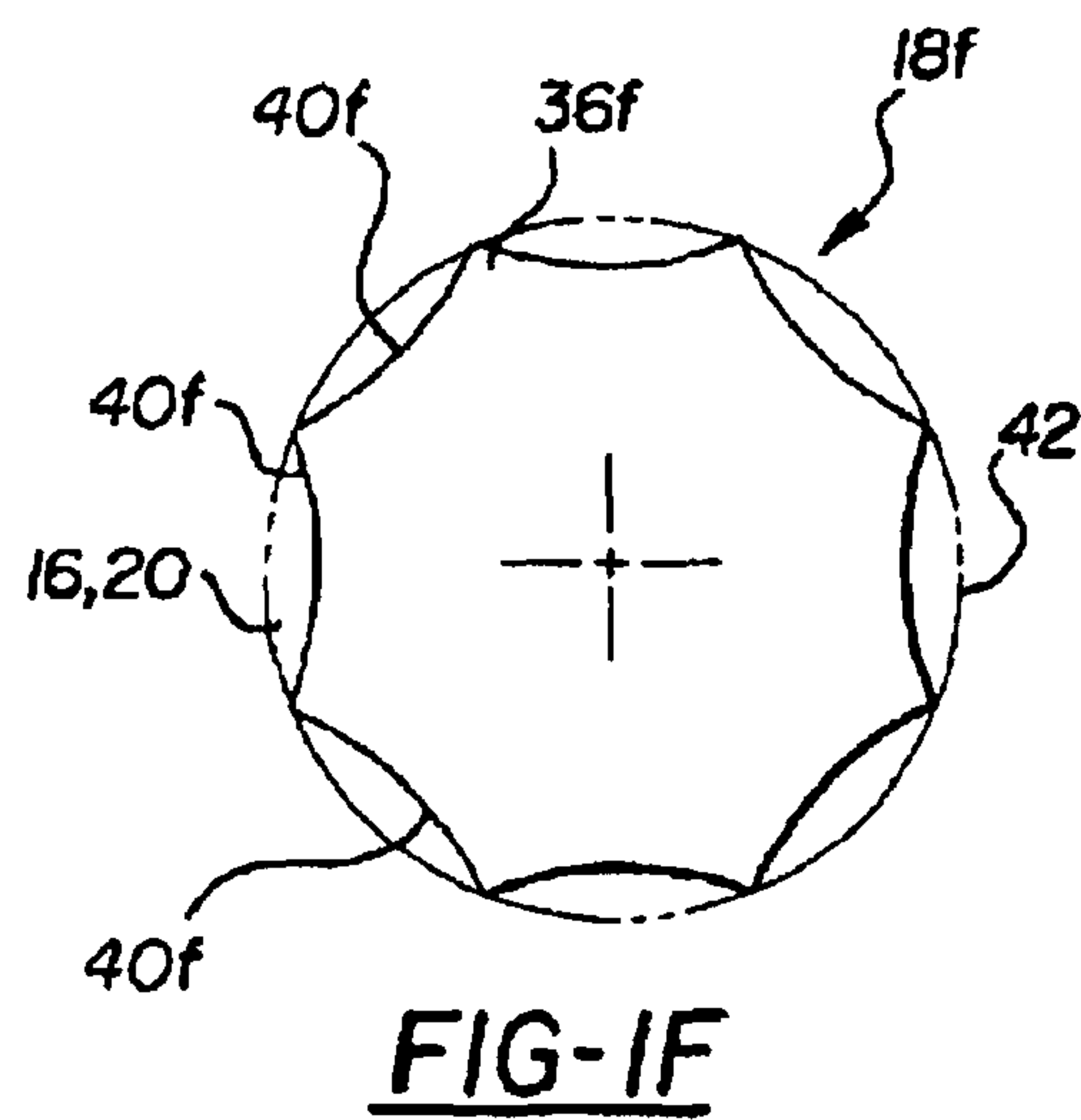
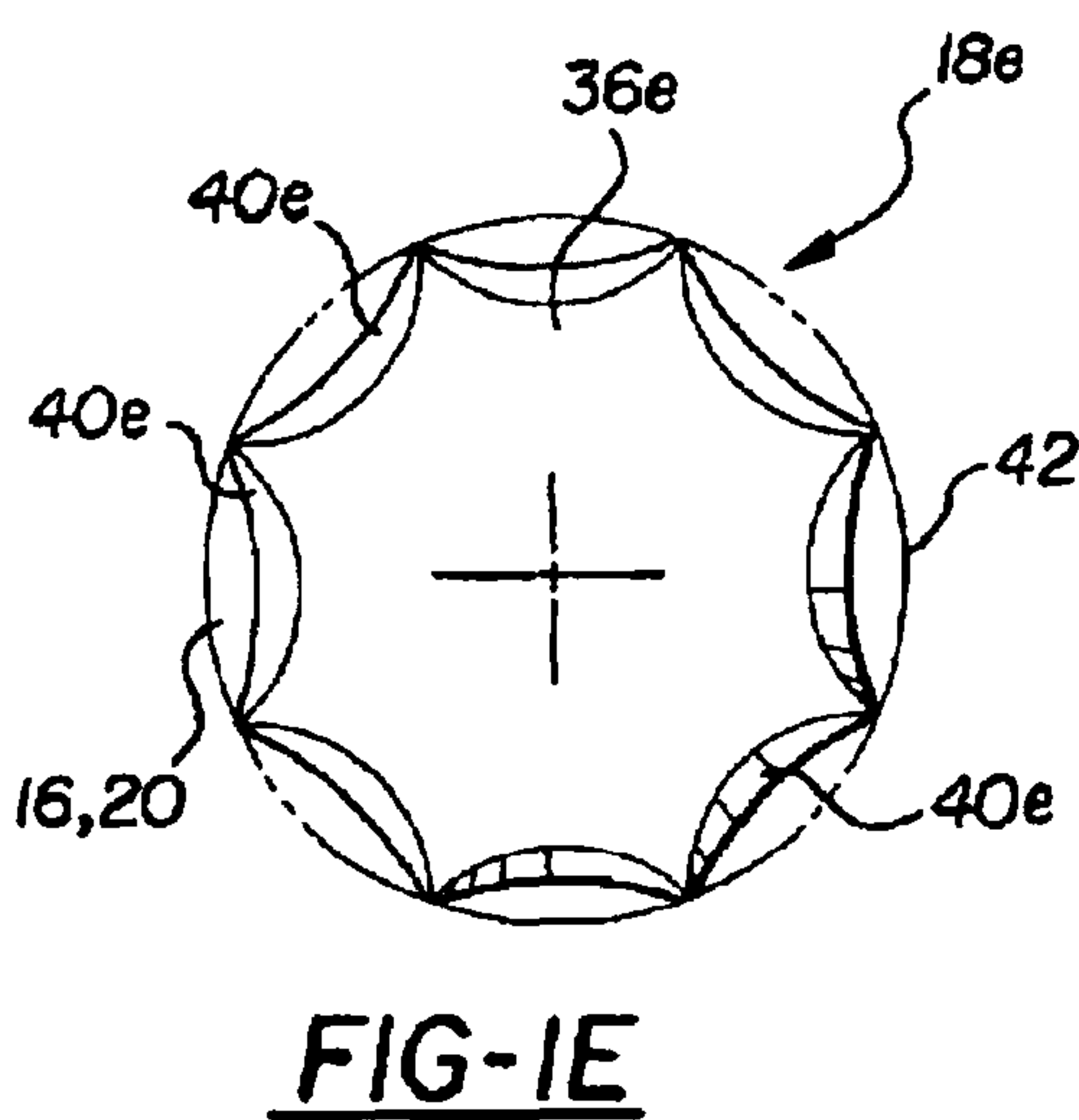
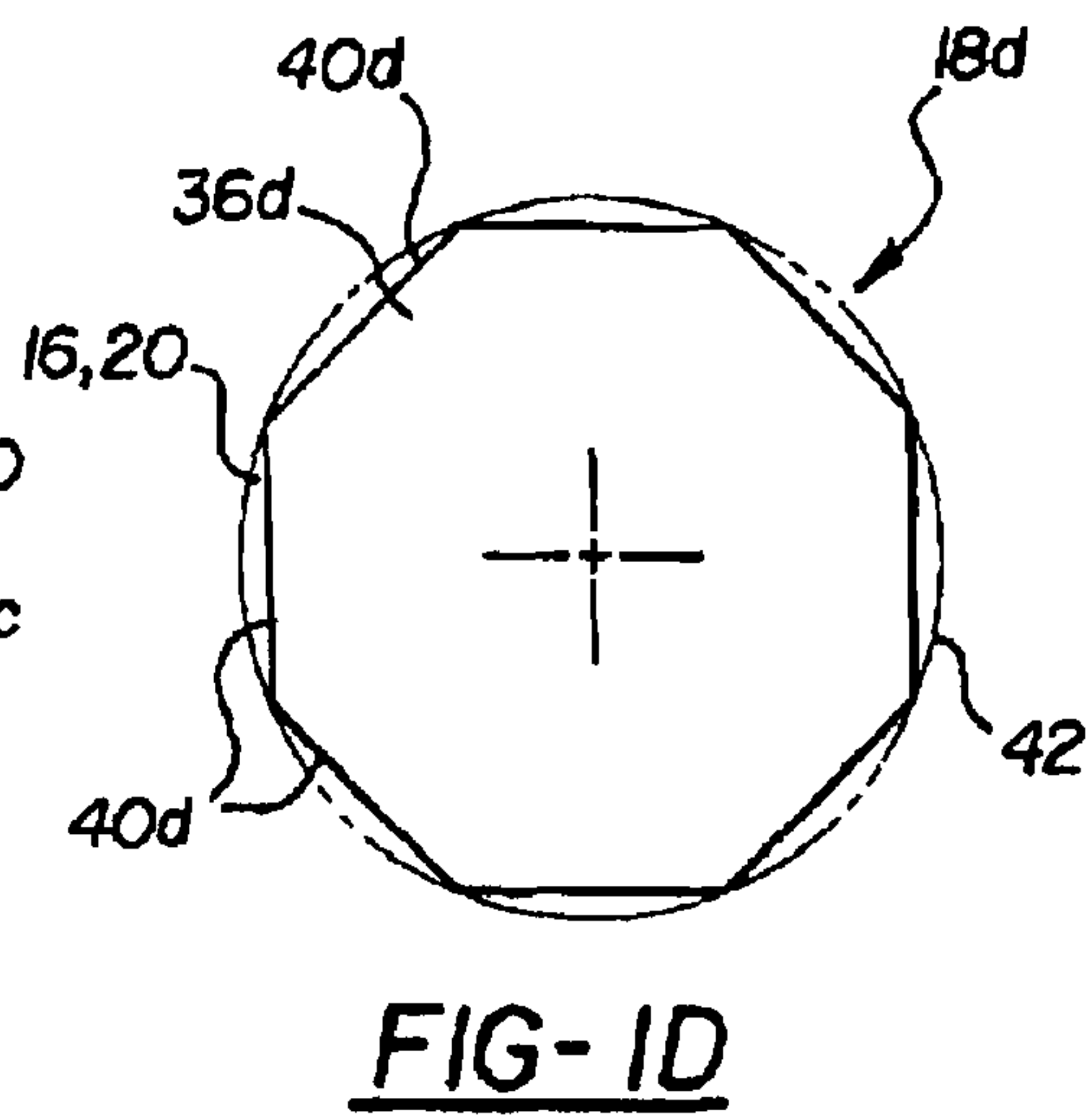
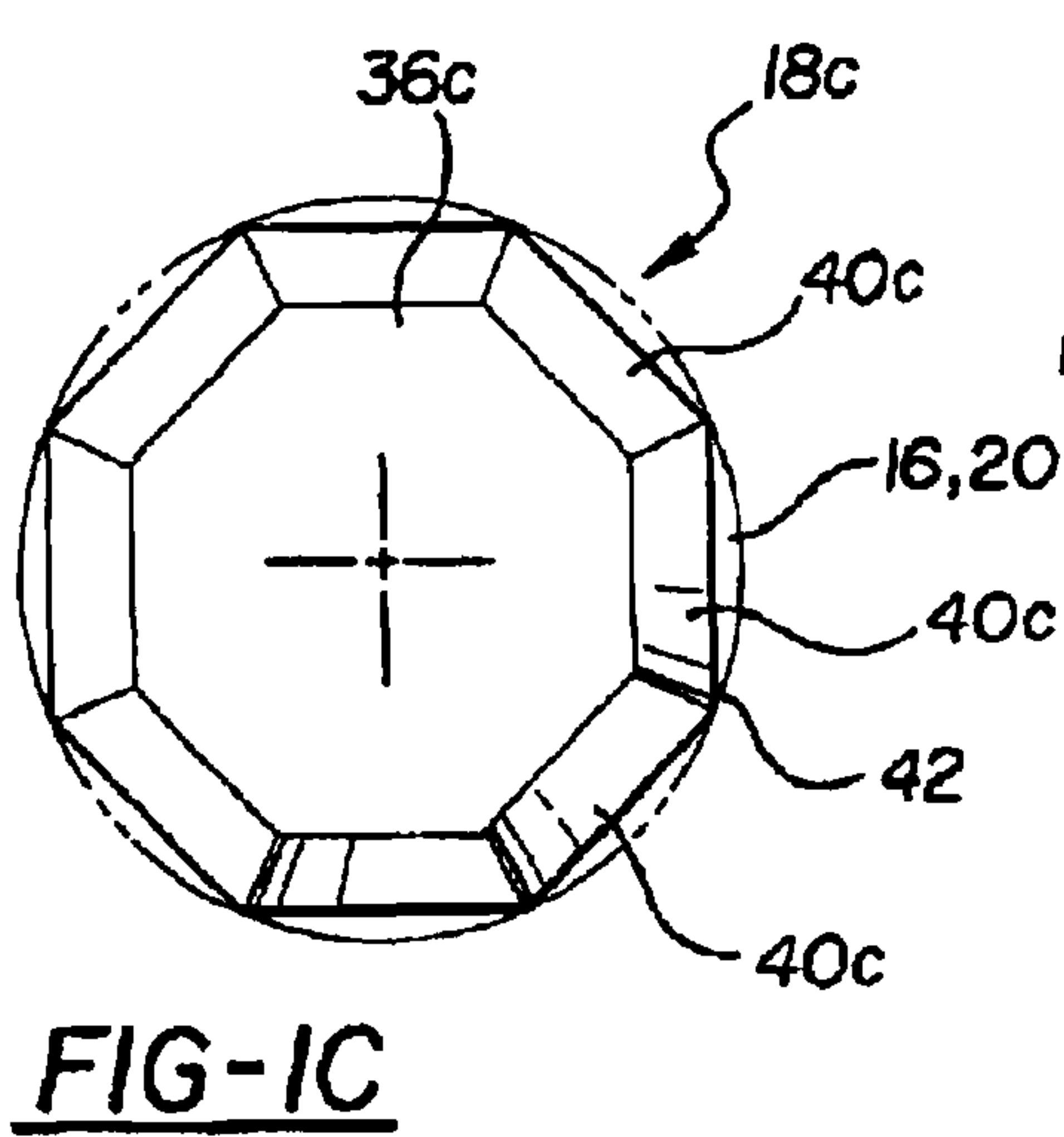
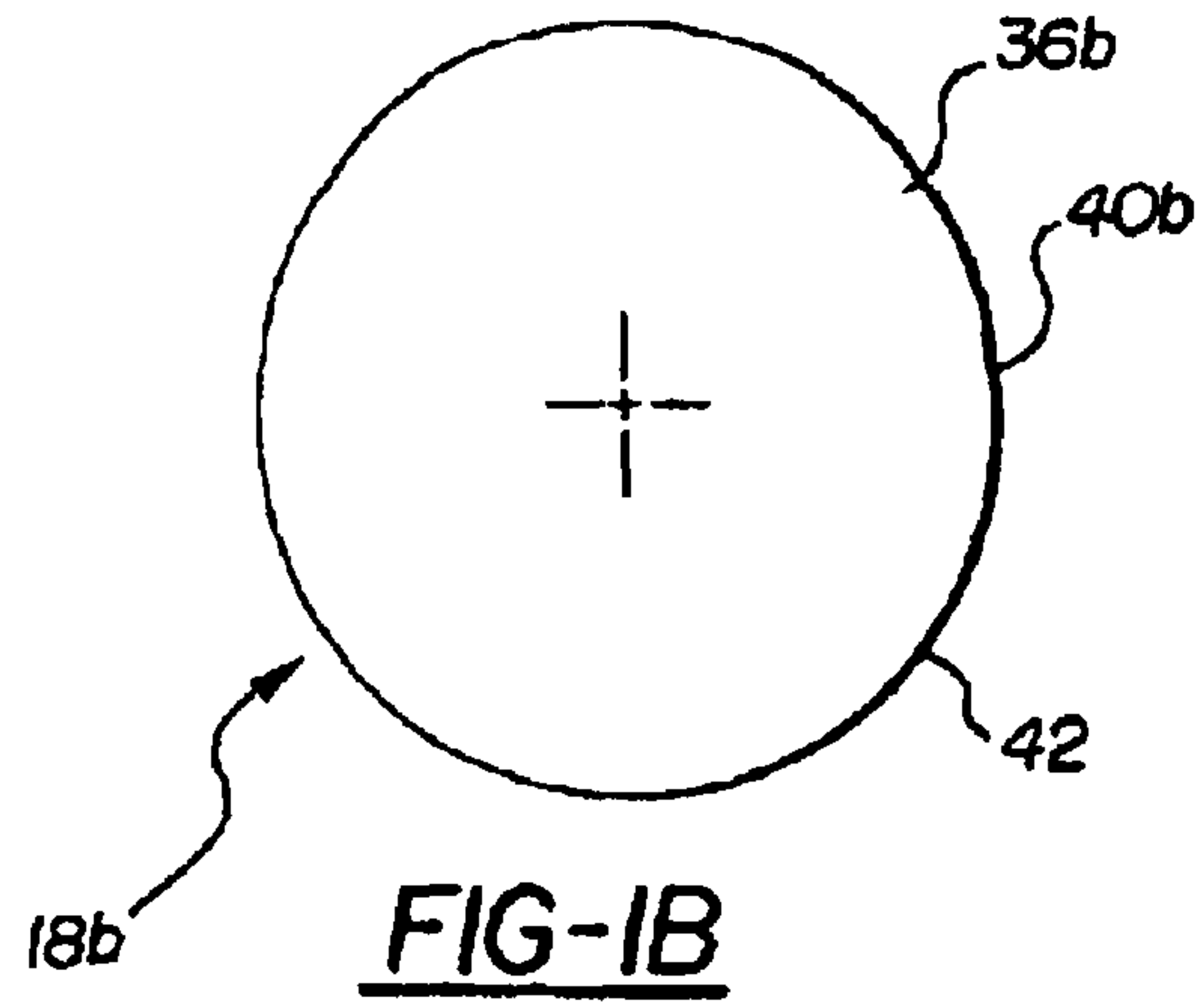
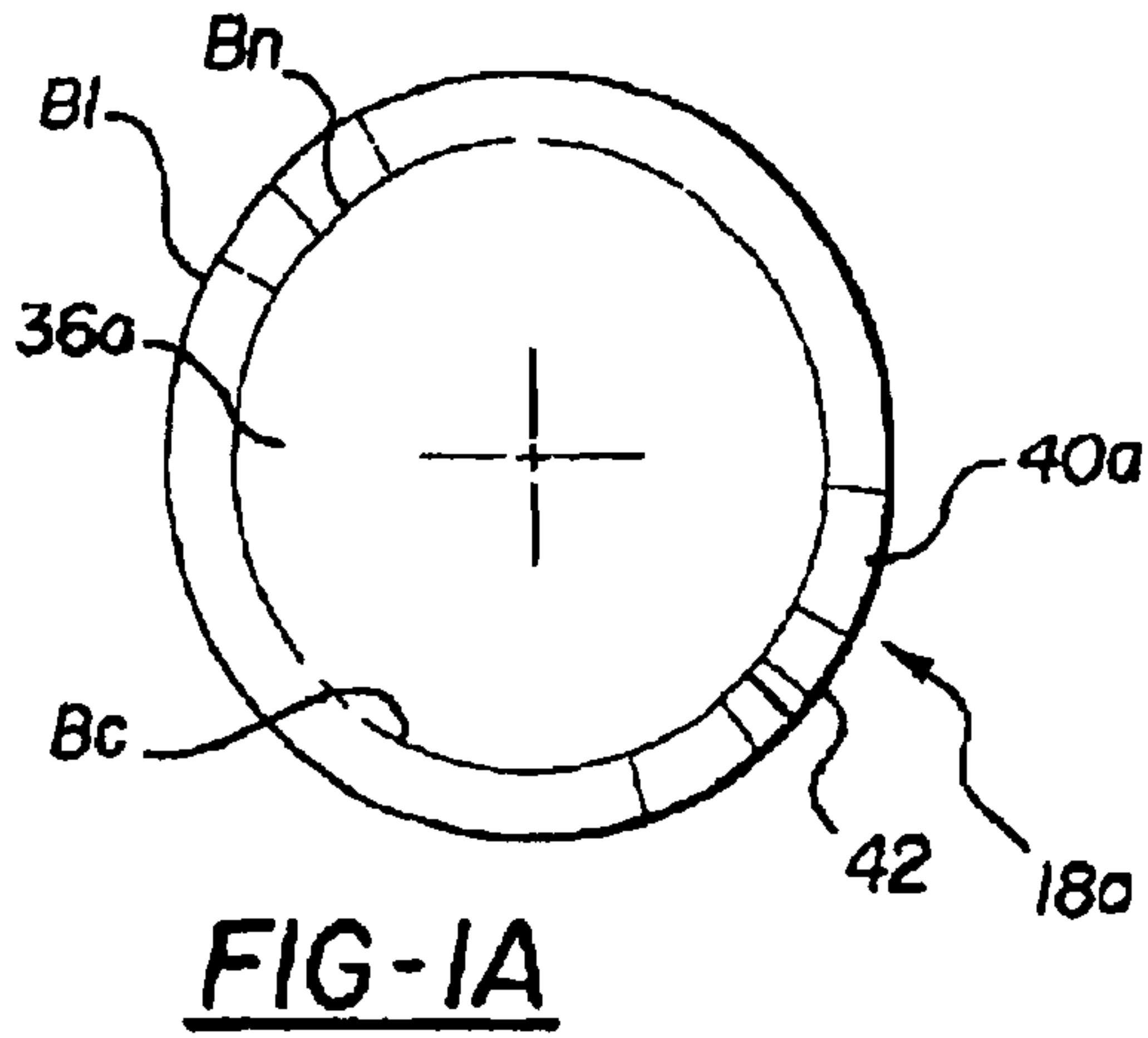
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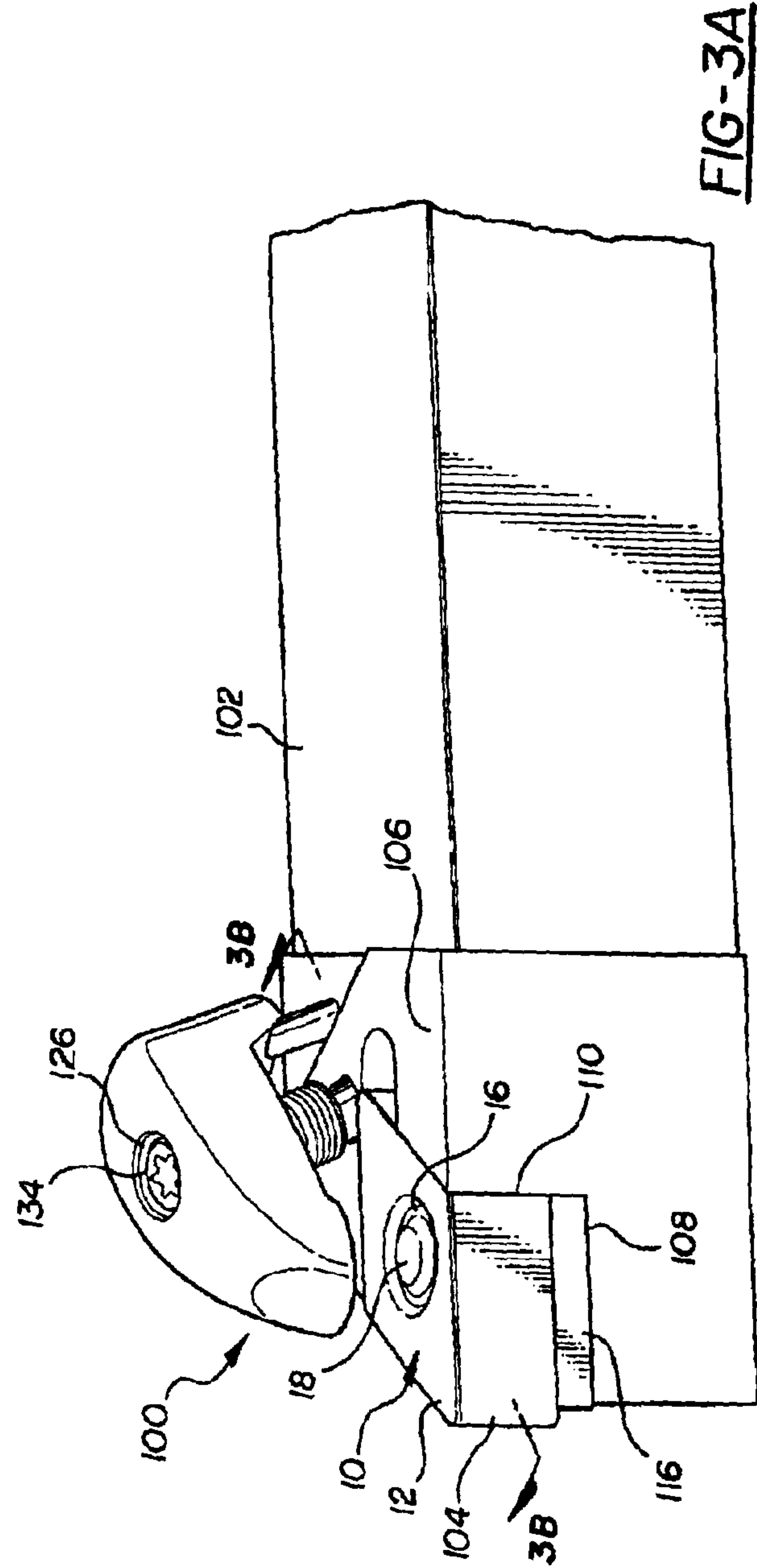
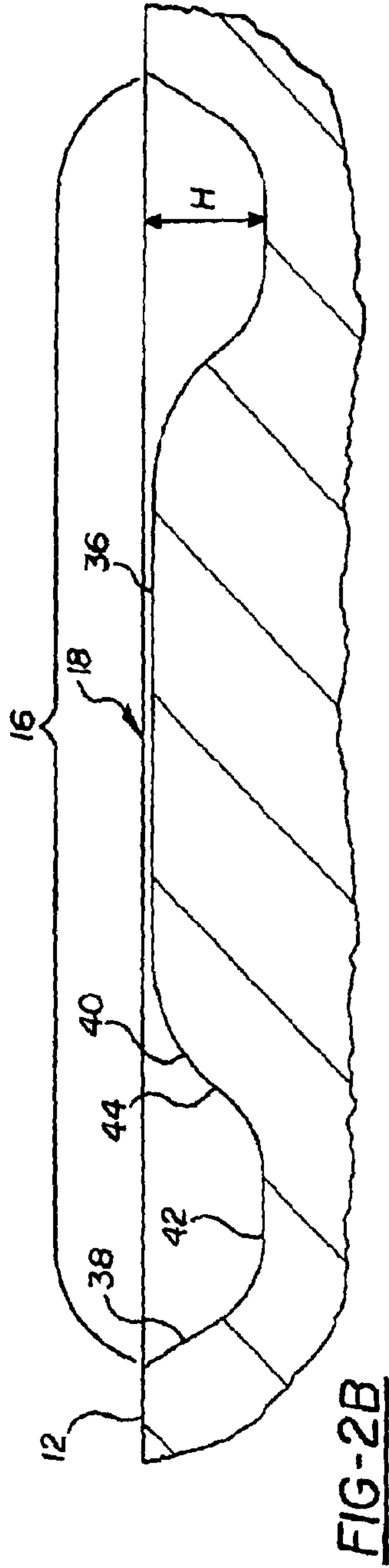
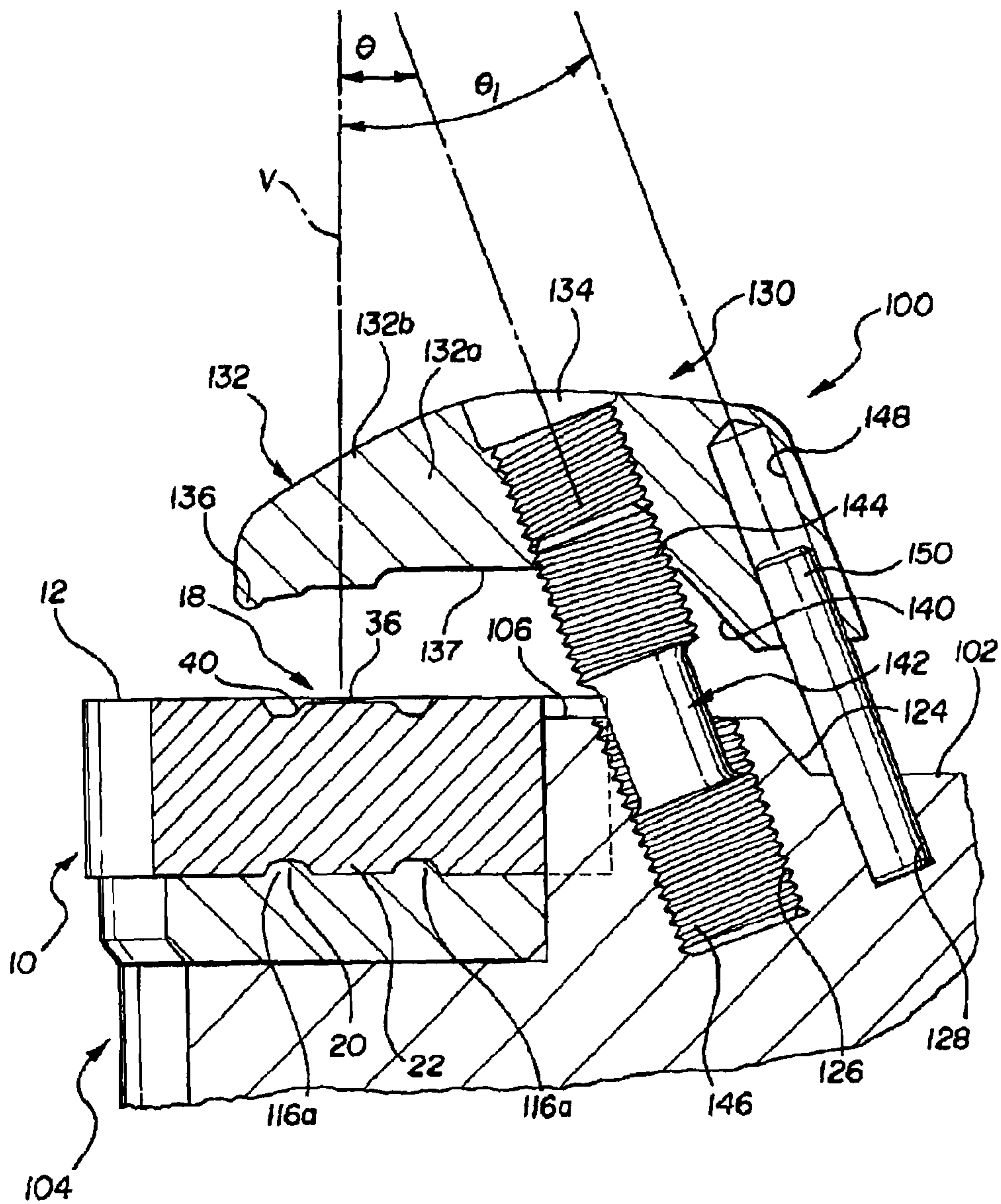
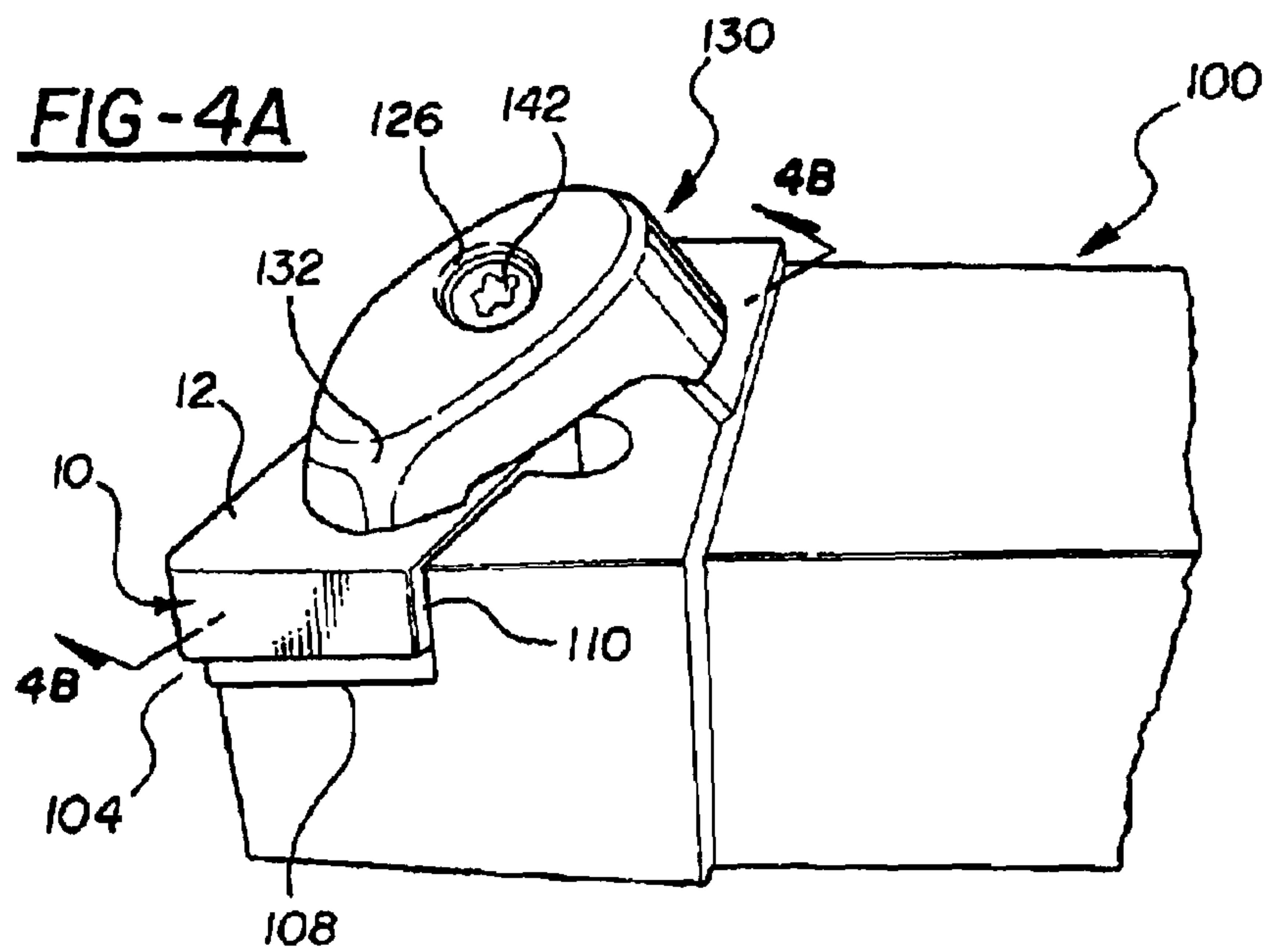
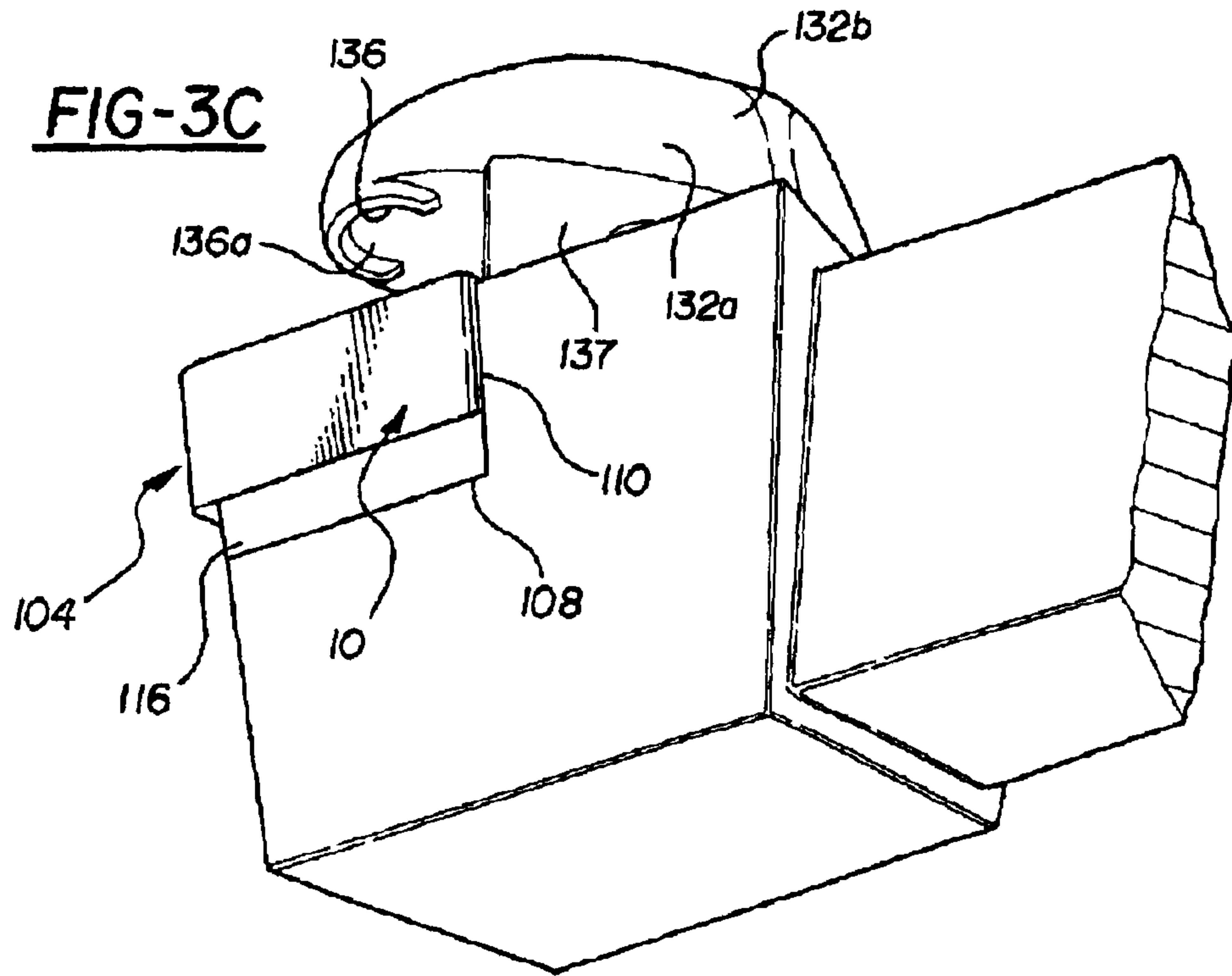
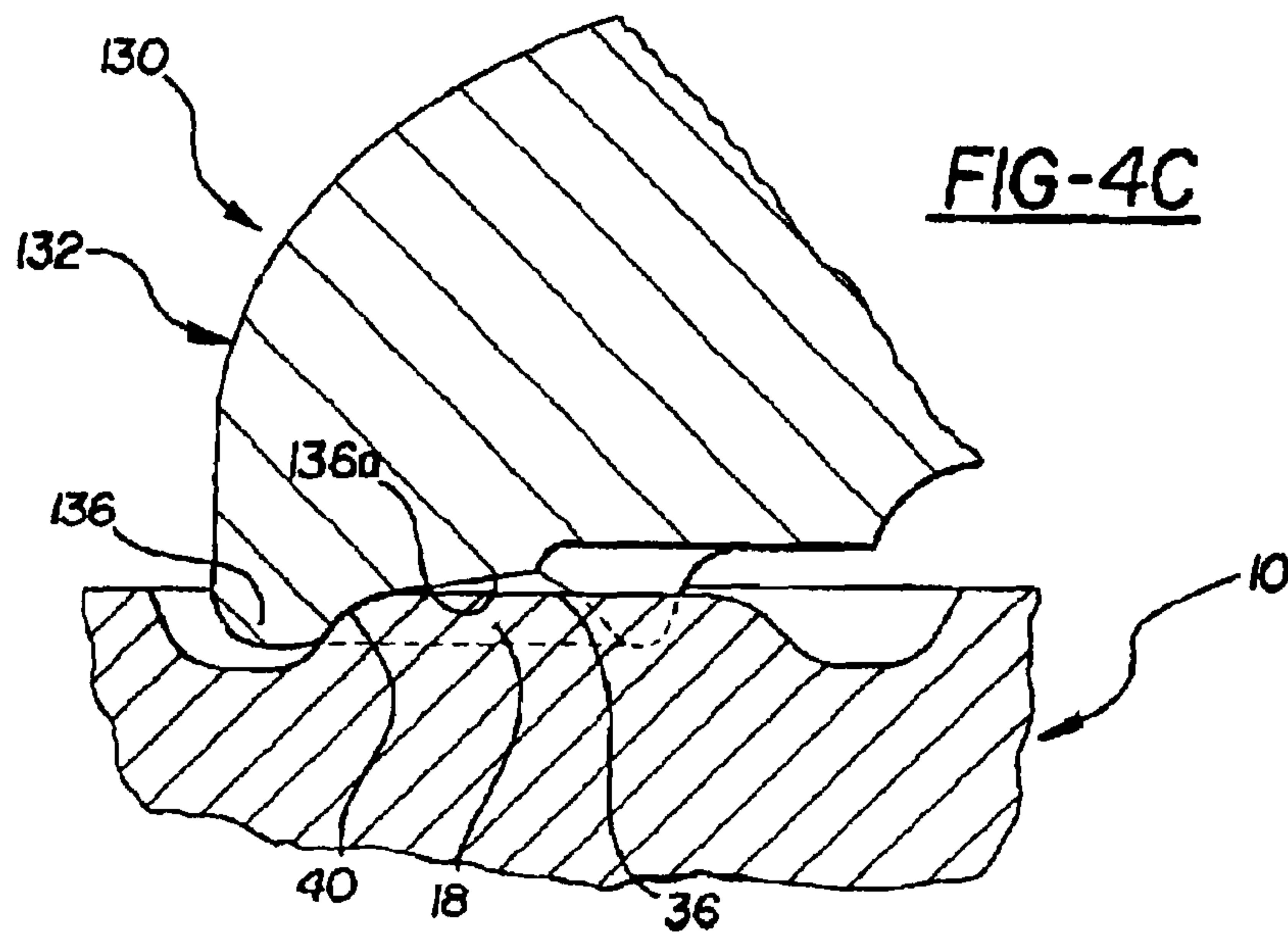
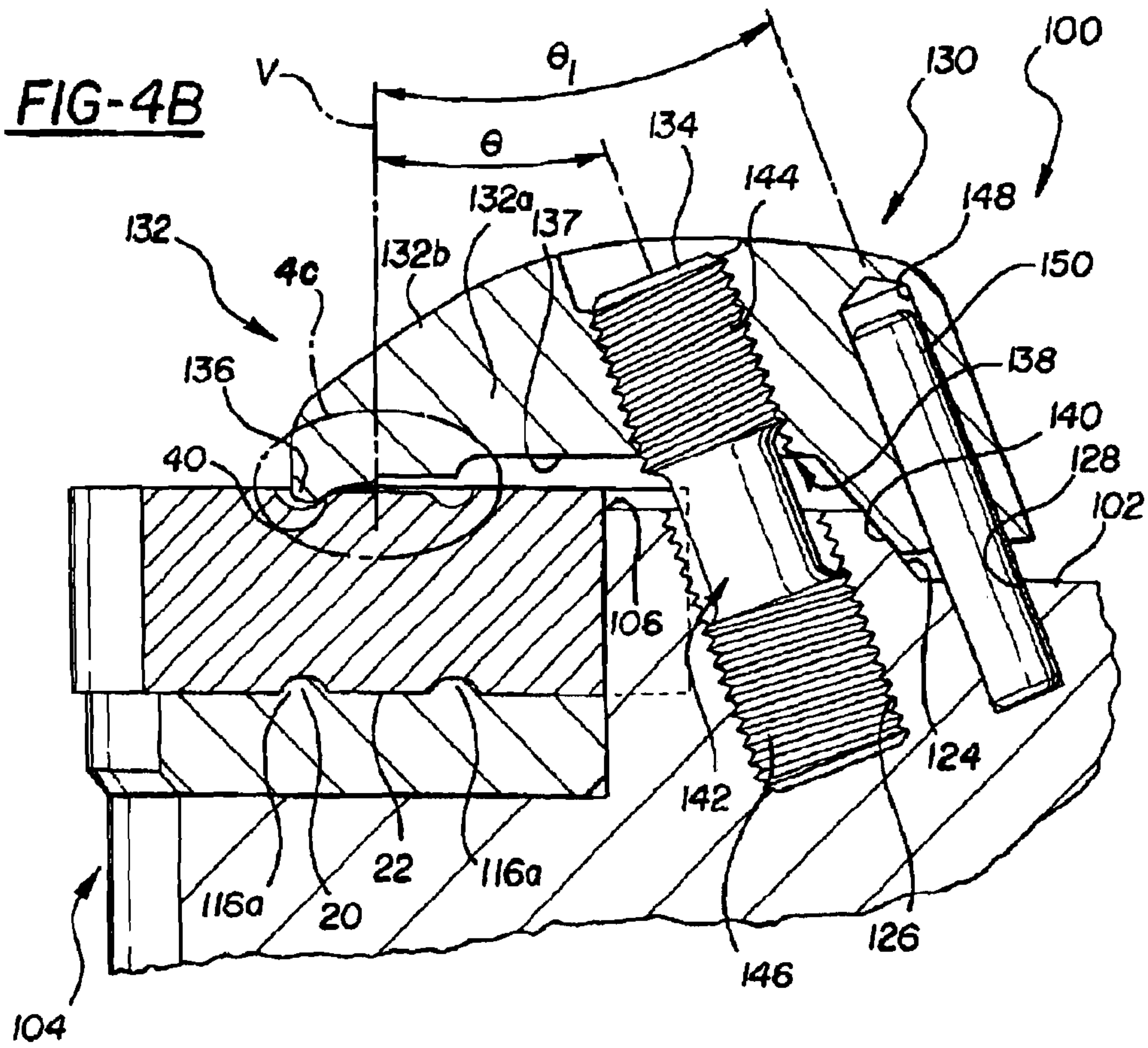


FIG-3B







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DIMPLED INSERT WITH RETAINING CLAMP

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue; a claim printed with strikethrough indicates that the claim was canceled, disclaimed, or held invalid by a prior post-patent action or proceeding.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a wear insert and clamp. More particularly, the present invention relates to a dimpled insert that is releasably secured to a clamping tool holder.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Wear inserts have a cutting angle, or angle of attack that is determined by the clamping alignment of a clamp on a clamping tool. Each wear insert has exclusively designed clamping means, which restricts the clamping envelope of a given insert for clamping tools that require a specific angle of attack. A plurality of inserts each having different clamping means are available to fulfill the need for different angles of attack on a clamping tool. The focus of the present invention is to eliminate the need for a plurality of inserts that are each designed for a single angle of attack and offer a single insert that is designed to have a plurality of attack angles, thereby unrestricting the clamping envelope of a wear insert.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a wear insert for a cutting device. The wear insert has a top surface and a bottom surface. A dimple is disposed in the top surface. A boss is disposed within the dimple.

The present invention is also directed to a combination tool holder and wear insert having a boss disposed within a dimple. The boss includes a boss wall and a boss surface. The tool holder body includes an insert-receiving pocket formed at a forward end having a bottom and at least one side wall for receiving the insert. The tool holder includes an internally threaded clamp-securing bore formed between an inclined surface and the insert-receiving pocket. A clamp is arranged on the tool holder body. The clamp includes a lower face with a nose portion having a shaped lip and a clamp contour portion. The clamp has a threaded aperture formed therethrough. A clamp screw is inserted into the threaded aperture of the clamp. The clamp screw has a threaded portion capable of being threaded onto the internally threaded clamp-securing bore of the tool holder body. The threaded aperture of the clamp to brings the clamp into pressing engagement with the insert. The shaped lip and clamp contour portion engages the boss wall and the boss surface of the wear insert when the clamp is brought into pressing engagement with the wear insert.

The present invention is also directed to a method of clamping an insert to a tool holder. The insert has a dimple with a boss disposed therein. The tool holder includes a tool holder body having an insert-receiving pocket formed at a forward end thereof and also having a bottom and at least one side wall. The insert-receiving pocket is capable of receiving the insert. The first step is arranging a clamp on the tool holder body. The clamp includes a lower face with a nose portion having a shaped lip portion and a clamp contour portion. The

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clamp has a threaded aperture formed therethrough. The second step is inserting a clamp screw into the aperture of the clamp. The clamp screw has a threaded portion capable of being threaded into the internally threaded clamp-securing bore of the tool holder to bring the clamp into pressing engagement with the insert. The shaped lip portion and the clamp contour portion of the clamp engages only a boss wall and a boss surface of the boss when the clamp is brought into pressing engagement with the insert.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a dimpled wear insert in accordance with the present invention;

FIGS. 1A-1F are top views of bosses each having a different boss wall;

FIG. 2A is a cross-sectional view of the wear insert taken along line 2A of FIG. 1;

FIG. 2B is an enlarged cross-sectional view of the wear insert indicated by the circled area 2B of FIG. 2A;

FIG. 3A is a top perspective view of a combination clamping tool holder and wear insert in an unclamped position in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 3B is a cross-sectional view of the combination clamping tool holder and wear insert taken along line 3B of FIG. 3A;

FIG. 3C is a bottom perspective view of a shaped lip portion and clamp contour portion of the combination clamping tool holder and wear insert in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 4A is a top perspective view of the combination clamping tool holder and wear insert in a clamped position in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 4B is a cross-sectional view of the combination clamping tool holder and wear insert taken along line 4B of FIG. 4A;

FIG. 4C is an enlarged cross-sectional view showing pressing engagement of the combination clamping tool holder and wear insert indicated by the circled area 4C of FIG. 4A.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

One embodiment of a dimpled wear insert 10 in accordance with the invention is shown in FIGS. 1 and 2A-2B. The wear insert 10 has a top surface 12, a bottom surface 14, a first dimple 16 disposed in the top surface 12, a first boss 18 disposed within the first dimple 16, a second dimple 20 disposed in the bottom surface 14, and a second boss 22 disposed within the second dimple 20. The wear insert 10 also includes first and second front faces 24, 26, and first and second rear faces 28, 30. The first and second front faces 24, 26 meet to form a first cutting edge 32. Similarly, the first and second rear faces 28, 30 meet to form a second cutting edge 34.

The wear insert 10 is selectively designed to have a substantially square shape, or as shown in FIG. 1, a shape similar to a parallelogram. However, the wear insert 10 may also be any desired shape, such as round, triangle, octagon or the like. The first dimple 16 is shown centrally disposed in the top surface 12 of the wear insert 10 and has an outer diameter D1. In the illustrated embodiment, the first dimple 16 has a bowl shape defined by a series of decreasing outer diameters D2-Dn with respect to D1. Alternatively, the first dimple 16 may be defined by a single outer diameter D1 that extends in a cylindrical shape and terminates at Dn. Centrally disposed within the dimple 16 is the first boss 18. The first boss 18 has an outer shape, for example, a diameter B1 that extends from

the dimple bottom **44** toward the top surface **12** with a series of decreasing outer diameters **B2-Bn**. The last diameter **Bn** forms a circumference **Bc** defining a generally planar boss surface **36**. The second dimple **20** and second boss **22** may be formed on the bottom surface **14** in a similar fashion. Alternatively, the second boss may have a different form resembling any of the bosses seen in FIGS. 1A-1F.

FIGS. 1A-1F show a plurality of different top views for boss designs that may be used within the dimples **16, 20** for the insert **10**. The bosses **18, 22** have a series of decreasing outer diameters **B1-Bn** that closely resemble a boss **18a** shown in FIG. 1A. A boss wall **40a** is formed by the series of proportionally decreasing outer diameters **B1-Bn** extending from a dimple bottom **42** (FIG. 2B) and terminates at a boss surface **36a**. Because the outer diameters **B1-Bn** may decrease at a slow rate or an exponential rate, the boss wall **40a** may have a generally flat slope, a U-shaped slope, or even an S-shaped slope. Relating to FIG. 1A, FIG. 1B also shows a boss **18b** with a circular formation. The boss wall **40b** generally retains the same diameter as it extends from the dimples **16, 20** (FIG. 1) at the dimple bottom **42** and terminates at a boss surface **36b**, thereby forming a substantially cylindrical-shaped boss.

As seen in FIG. 1C, a boss **18c** may have a plurality of boss walls **40c**, for example, eight boss walls **40c**. Each boss wall **40c** may be defined as a tapered flat that extends from the dimples **16, 20** at the dimple bottom **42** and terminates at a boss surface **36c**. Relating to FIG. 1C, FIG. 1D also shows a boss **18d** with a plurality of boss walls **40d**. Such boss wall **40d** extends generally vertically from the dimples **16, 20** at the dimple bottom **42** and terminates at a boss surface **36d**.

As seen in FIG. 1E, a boss **18e** may have a plurality of boss walls **40e**, for example, eight boss walls **40e**. Each boss wall **40e** may be defined as a tapered indentation that extends from the dimples **16, 20** at the dimple bottom **42** and terminates at a boss surface **36e**. Relating to FIG. 1E, FIG. 1F also shows a boss **18f** with a plurality of boss wall indentations **40f**. Each boss wall **40f** extends generally vertically from the dimples **16, 20** at the dimple bottom **42** and terminates at a boss surface **36f**.

FIGS. 2A and 2B show a cross-sectional view of the wear insert **10**. The first and second dimples **16, 20** and first and second boss **18, 22** are shown centrally disposed on the top and bottom surfaces **12, 14** of the wear insert **10**. The enlarged view in FIG. 2B of the top surface **12** of the wear insert **10** is taken along dashed line 2B in FIG. 2A.

Referring to FIG. 2B, the boss **18** extends from the dimple bottom **42** to a maximum height **H** located near the boss surface **36** such that boss surface **36** is on a slightly lower plane than that of the top surface **12**. A dimple wall **38** and a boss wall **40** are also shown in FIG. 2B. The dimple wall **38** has a generally similar slope and tapers slightly as it reaches the dimple bottom **42**, or zero slope point of the dimple **16**. The boss wall **40** has two generally different slopes that forms an S-shaped boss wall. Similar gradual slopes are seen near the dimple bottom **42** and boss surface **36**. An inflection point **44** that is near the middle ($\sim\frac{1}{2}H$) of the boss wall **40** has a steeper slope than any other point along the boss wall **40**. Thus, as the boss wall **40** approaches the boss surface **36**, the slope gradually tapers off, thereby completing the S-shaped boss wall **40**.

One embodiment of a clamping tool holder **100** for accommodating the insert **10** is shown in FIGS. 3A-3B. The clamping tool holder **100** comprises a tool holder body **102** having an insert-receiving pocket **104** formed in its upper surface **106** at a corner of its forward end portion. The insert receiving pocket **104** has a bottom **108** and angularly-disposed side

walls **110**. A seat member **116** may be used to mount the insert **10** in the tool holder **100**. The seat member **116** may have an embossed upper surface area **116a** (FIGS. 3B and 4B) that is capable of mating with the second dimple **20** and boss **22**. Alternatively, the seat member **116** may have a generally flat upper surface. In an alternative embodiment, the insert **10** can be disposed on the bottom **108** of the pocket **104** without the use of the seat member **116**.

As best seen in FIG. 3B, an inclined surface **124** sloping away from the insert-receiving pocket **104** is formed on the upper surface **106** of the tool holder body **102** which is displaced rearwardly of the tool body with respect to the pocket **104**. The inclined surface **124** is preferably at a prescribed angle with respect to a vertical axis **V**. An internally threaded clamp-securing bore **126** is formed in the tool holder **100** and is located between the inclined surface **124** and the insert-receiving pocket **104**. The clamp-securing bore **126** is preferably at a prescribed acute inclination angle, θ , with respect to the vertical axis, **V**, of the insert **10**.

The tool holder **100** further includes a pin-receiving bore **128** formed in the tool holder **100**. The pin-receiving bore **128** maintains alignment of the clamp **130** and the tool body as the clamp **130** presses downward and rearward on the insert **10**. The inclined surface **124** can be located between the pin-receiving bore **128** and the clamp-securing bore **126**. Preferably, the pin-receiving bore **126** has an inclination angle, θ_1 , with respect to the vertical axis, **V**, of the insert **10** that is approximately the same as the inclination angle, θ , defined between the clamp-securing bore **126** and the vertical axis, **V**, of the insert **10**. In other words, the pin-receiving bore **128** and the clamp-securing bore **126** are substantially parallel to each other. It should be noted that the angle of the inclined surface **124** with respect to the insert **10** may be approximately the same or may be different than the prescribed angle of the clamp-securing bore **126** with respect to the insert **10**.

The clamp, shown generally at **130**, is arranged on the upper surface **106** of the tool holder body **102**. As best shown in FIG. 3B, the clamp **130** is of a generally C-shape in side elevation having a tapered forward portion **132** and tapered side portions **132a, 132b** to provide a low profile design. The low profile design facilitates the removal of chips during the cutting process. Formed in the center of the clamp **130** is an aperture **134** which has approximately the same diameter as the clamp-securing bore **126** of the tool holder **100**. As best shown in FIG. 3A, the aperture **134** is formed so that its axis is concentric with the axis of the clamp-securing bore **126**.

As best seen in FIG. 3C, the lower face of the forward portion **132** of the clamp **130** includes a shaped lip portion **136** to be held in engagement with the boss wall **40** of the boss **18** of the insert **10**. The shaped lip portion **136** also includes a clamp contour portion **136a** (FIG. 4C) to facilitate in the engagement of the shaped lip portion **136** with the boss wall **40** and boss surface **36** of the insert **10**. The shaped lip portion **136** and clamp contour portion **136a** may also be configured to match any the bosses **18a-18f** seen in FIGS. 1A-1F. The illustrated shaped lip portion **136** is a generally semi-circular shape that is formed to mate with the boss wall **40**. The clamp contour portion **136a** is a dome-shape formed to mate with the boss surface **36**.

One advantage of the invention is that the combination of the shaped lip portion **136** and the boss **18** provides a virtually infinite number of angles of attack. By contrast, conventional inserts are limited to a single angle of attack for a given tool holder **100**. The invention eliminates the need for a plurality of inserts that are each designed for a single angle of attack and offers a single insert **10** that encompasses all angles of

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attack. The insert **10** thereby unrestricts its clamping envelope, unlike conventional inserts.

Referring back to FIG. 3B, the clamp **130** has an inclined surface **140** formed at a proximal end thereof so as to protrude downward and rearward with respect to the insert **10**. Preferably, the inclined surface **140** is at approximately the same angle as the angle of the inclined surface **124** of the holder **102** to enable the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** to act as a ramp to enable the clamp **130** to more easily slide downward and rearward when the clamp **130** is brought into pressing engagement with the insert **10**. The inclined surfaces **124**, **140** acting as a ramp provide a crucial "pull back" feature of the invention.

It should be noted that the relative angle between the clamp-securing bore **126** and the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** can be "tuned" to provide a desired downward force and/or rearward force on the insert **10**. Preferably, the angle of the clamp-securing bore **126** of the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** are approximately 40 degrees with respect to the vertical axis, V, to provide slightly more downward force than rearward force on the insert **10**. However, it will be appreciated that the relative angle between the clamp-securing bore **126** and the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** be the same angle or may differ by any desired amount. For example, the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** may have an angle of zero degrees and the clamp-receiving bore **126** may have an angle of 40 degrees or more with respect to the vertical axis, V. In this example, a single threaded screw can be used with a clamp having an unthreaded aperture and the guide pin **150** can be eliminated.

The clamp **130** is secured to the tool holder body **102** by means of a double-ended clamp screw **142** having opposite threaded portions **144**, **146** which is inserted through the aperture **134** and screwed into the threaded clamp-securing bore **126** and the aperture **134** of the clamp **130**. The threaded portion **144** and the aperture **134** are threaded in a direction opposite to the threaded portion **146** and the clamp securing bore **126** of the tool holder body **102**. For example, the bore **126** of the tool holder body **102** may have right hand threads and the aperture **134** of the clamp **130** may have left hand threads. The acute inclination angle, θ , of the clamp-securing bore **126** allows the clamp **130** to move downward and rearward as the clamp screw **142** is tightened. The use of a double-threaded clamp screw **142** allows the indexing of the clamp **130** to be twice as fast as conventional tool holders using spring mechanisms and the like, thereby reducing downtime and increasing production time. It will be appreciated that the threads of the aperture **134** and the bore **126** may be slightly larger than the threads of the clamp screw **142** to allow for variations in design, i.e. manufacturing tolerances in the tool holder **100**.

A lower face **138** of the clamp **130** also includes a pin-receiving bore **148** positioned rearward of the inclined surface **140** and the aperture **134**. The pin-receiving bore **148** of the clamp **130** is formed so that its axis is substantially concentric with the axis of the pin-receiving bore **128** of the tool holder body **102**. A guide pin **150** is disposed within the pin-receiving bores **128**, **148** to prevent the clamp **130** from spinning or twisting in an axial direction (in a direction perpendicular to the direction of travel of the clamp screw **142**) when turning of the clamp screw **142** to loosen or tighten the clamp **130**. Although the guide pin **150** can be formed of a solid pin, the guide pin **150** is preferably formed of a slotted spring pin that can flex, expand or compress to allow for variations in design and wear of the tool holder **100**. Specifically, the slotted spring pin **150** can flex to maintain the relative positions of the aperture **134**, the bore **126**, the pin-receiving bore **128** and the pin-receiving bore **148** to com-

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pensate for changes in the inclination angle, θ_1 , that may result due to manufacturing tolerances and wear of the tool body **102**, the mounting boss wall **40**, and the clamp **130** (i.e., alignment creep). The guide pin **150** can be press fit into the pin-receiving bore **128** of the tool holder body **102**. The length of the guide pin **150** is selected to allow the clamp **130** to move away from the insert **10** while preventing the clamp **130** from spinning or twisting in the axial direction.

Preferably, the diameter of the pin-receiving bore **148** can be slightly larger than the diameter of the guide pin **150** to allow free movement of the guide pin **150** within the pin-receiving bore **148**. In addition, the diameter of the pin-receiving bore **128** can be slightly larger than the diameter of the guide pin **150**. It will be appreciated that the pin-receiving bore **148** and guide pin **150** can be eliminated by forming the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** with convex, concave or contour complementary shaped surfaces. Oppositely, the inclined surfaces **124**, **140** can be eliminated and made integral with the guide pin **150** or attached as a separate component when retrofitting a conventional tool holder.

With reference to FIGS. 4A-4C, the clamping operation of the tool holder **100** using the clamp **130** will now be described. Because the clamping operation is usually required only when replacing the cutting insert **10** with a new one, it is not necessary to move the clamp **130** from the upward or unclamped position as shown in FIG. 3B. Therefore, there may be provided a stop member (not shown) to prevent the clamp screw **142** from being further loosened.

From the state shown in FIGS. 3A-3C where the clamp screw **142** is loosened, and the tool holder **100** is in an unclamped position. The clamp screw **142** is first screwed into the clamp-securing bore **126** to cause the clamp **130** to move downward and rearward with respect to the insert **10**. The clamp **130** is guided by guide pin **150** as it moves downward and rearward along the axis of the pin-receiving bore **128** of the tool holder body **102**.

As seen from a top perspective view in FIG. 4A, the clamp **130** is further tightened by turning the clamp screw **142** until the tool holder **100** is in a clamped position. The forward portion **132** of the clamp **130** is caused to positively engage the boss **18** of the insert **10** without abutting against the upper face of the insert **12**. Then, the shaped lip portion **136** presses against the boss wall **40**, forcing the insert **10** toward the bottom **108** and the side wall **110** of the pocket **104**. If an embossed surface **116a** is provided on the upper surface of the seat member **116**, the second dimple **20** and boss **22** are compressed onto the embossed surface **116a**. In addition, the inclined surfaces **124**, **140**, act as a ramp to cause the clamp **130** to press the insert **10** downward and rearward to further secure the insert **10** in the pocket **104**.

As best shown in FIG. 4C, one important aspect of the invention is that the shaped lip portion **136** and clamp contour portion **136a** of the clamp **130** only engages the boss wall **40** and boss surface **36**, respectively, when the clamp **130** is brought into pressing engagement with the insert **10**. Specifically, the shaped lip portion **136** of the clamp **130** engages only the front portion of the boss wall **40**. Once the shaped lip portion **136** engages the boss wall **40**, the clamp contour portion **136a** engages only the boss surface **36**.

It will be appreciated that the tool holder of the invention is not limited by the type and shape of the insert **10**, and that the invention can be practiced with any desirable shape and type of insert. For example, when the insert **10** is of a triangular in shape, rather than square or rectangular, the receiving pocket **104** can also be triangular in shape to accommodate the shape of the insert **10**.

When removing the insert 10 from the tool holder body 102, the clamp screw 142 is turned to cause the clamp 130 to move obliquely along the inclined surface 124 while being urged upwardly so that the pressing force of the shaped lip portion 136 and clamp contour portion 136a of the clamp 130 against the boss wall 40 and boss surface 36 until the insert 10 is released. As the clamp 130 is further loosened, the inclined surface 140 is separated from the inclined surface 124, as shown in FIGS. 3A-3C. In this released or unclamped position, the shaped lip portion 136 of the clamp 130 is positioned above the insert 10 such that the insert 10 can be easily removed, repositioned, or replaced.

If the cutting edge 32 is used, the insert 10 may be rotated 180 degrees in the insert receiving pocket 104 so that the other cutting edge 34 may be used. If the first boss 18 has a similar design as the second boss 22, the insert 10 may be turned over for using the opposite cutting edge 32, 34 in the tool holder 100 because of the similar design of the second boss 22. Alternatively, if the second boss 22 has a different design than the first boss 18, the insert 10 may be removed and inserted into a different tool holder 100 that has a clamp with a different attack angle and shaped lip portion design to mate with the alternative design for the second boss 22. Accordingly, the clamp 130 is released such that replacing the insert 10 can be conducted efficiently.

As described above, the clamp 130 is caused to move downward and rearward by means of the double-ended clamp screw 142 to engage only the boss wall 40 and boss surface 36 of the wear insert 10. When the clamp 130 engages only the boss wall 40 and boss surface 36, the wear insert 10 is brought into pressing engagement with the bottom 108 and the side faces 110 of the pull back clamping tool holder 100 to exert a substantially uniform clamping force on the wear insert 10 for a particular angle of attack. The combination of the wear insert 10 and the tool holder 100 allows a virtually infinite number of angles of attack and unrestricts the clamping envelope of the wear insert 10.

While the invention has been specifically described in connection with certain specific embodiments thereof, it is to be understood that this is by way of illustration and not of limitation, and the scope of the appended claims should be construed as broadly as the prior art will permit.

What is claimed is:

1. A wear insert for a cutting device, comprising:
 - a top surface terminating at a cutting edge,
 - a bottom surface,
 - a first dimple disposed in the top surface and near a center of the top surface, the first dimple spaced from the cutting edge, and
 - a first boss disposed within the first dimple, the first boss without a center hole,
 - wherein the first boss has a first boss surface on a plane lower than that of the top surface.
2. The wear insert according to claim 1, wherein the first dimple is centrally disposed in the top surface.
3. The wear insert according to claim 2, wherein the first dimple on the top surface extends into the wear insert at the first outer diameter and terminates at the first dimple bottom.
4. The wear insert according to claim 2, wherein the first dimple on the top surface extends into the wear insert at the outer diameter with a series of decreasing outer diameters and terminates at the first dimple bottom.
5. The wear insert according to claim 2, wherein the first boss is centrally disposed within the first dimple bottom, the first boss has an outer shape that extends from the dimple bottom toward the top surface to form a boss wall.

6. The wear insert according to claim 5, wherein the boss wall is formed by a plurality of proportionally decreasing outer shapes, and terminates with the boss surface.

7. The wear insert according to claim 5, wherein the boss wall is formed by extending the boss wall vertically from the dimple bottom and terminates with the boss surface.

8. The wear insert according to claim 6, wherein the outer shapes may be circular, multi-faceted, or indented multi-faceted.

9. The wear insert according to claim 2, wherein the bottom surface further includes a second dimple disposed in the bottom surface.

10. The wear insert according to claim 9, wherein the second dimple disposed in the bottom surface includes a second boss disposed within the second dimple, the second boss having a second boss surface, and the second boss having at least one second boss wall between the second dimple bottom and the second boss surface.

11. A combination tool holder and wear insert, the wear insert having a dimple and boss, the boss disposed within the dimple, the boss having a boss wall and a boss surface and a point of intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface, comprising:

(a) a tool holder body including an insert-receiving pocket formed at a forward end thereof and having a bottom and at least one side wall for receiving the insert, the tool holder including an internally threaded clamp-securing bore formed between an inclined surface and the insert-receiving pocket;

(b) a clamp arranged on the tool holder body, the clamp including a lower face with a nose portion having a shaped lip portion and a clamp contour portion wherein the shaped lip portion is adjacent to the clamp contour portion, the clamp having a threaded aperture formed therethrough;

(c) a clamp screw inserted into the threaded aperture of the clamp, the clamp screw having a threaded portion capable of being threaded onto the internally threaded clamp-securing bore of the tool holder body and the threaded aperture of the clamp to bring the clamp into pressing engagement with the insert, and

wherein the shaped lip and clamp contour portion engages the boss wall and the [boss surface of the wear insert] point of the intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface and the portion of the boss surface in contact with the point of intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface when the clamp is brought into pressing engagement with the wear insert.

12. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11, wherein the inclined surface has a prescribed angle with respect to the boss of the wear insert, and wherein the clamp further includes an inclined surface formed at a proximal end having approximately the same prescribed angle as the inclined surface of the tool holder.

13. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 12, wherein the angle between the inclined surface of the tool holder and the inclined surface of the clamp is different than the angle between the boss and the clamp-securing bore of the tool holder.

14. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11, wherein the tool holder also includes a pin-receiving bore formed therein, and wherein the clamp also includes a pin-receiving bore formed therein.

15. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 14, further including a guide pin capable of being received with the pin-receiving bore of the tool holder and the pin-receiving bore of the clamp.

16. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 14, wherein the pin-receiving bore of the tool holder and the pin-receiving bore of the clamp are formed at an angle approximately equal to an angle formed between the boss and the clamp-securing bore of the tool holder.

17. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11, wherein the clamp screw is a double-ended clamp screw having a first threaded portion and a second threaded portion being threaded in a direction opposite than the first threaded portion, the first threaded portion capable of being threaded onto the clamp screw, the second threaded portion capable of being threaded into the internally-threaded clamp-securing bore.

18. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11, wherein the first dimple is centrally disposed in the top surface, and wherein the first dimple has a first outer diameter on the top surface.

19. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 18, wherein the first dimple on the top surface extends into the wear insert at the first outer diameter and respectively terminates at the first dimple bottom.

20. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 18, wherein the first dimple on the top surface extends into the wear insert at the outer diameter with a series of decreasing outer diameters and terminates at the first dimple bottom.

21. the combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 18, wherein the first boss is centrally disposed within the first dimple bottom, the first boss has an outer shape that extends from the dimple bottom to the top surface to form a boss wall.

22. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 21, wherein the boss wall is formed by a plurality of proportionally decreasing outer shapes, and terminates with a generally flat first boss surface.

23. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 21, wherein the boss wall is formed by the boss wall extending vertically from the dimple bottom and terminates with a generally flat first boss surface.

24. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 21, wherein the outer shapes may be circular, multi-faceted, or indented multi-faceted.

25. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 18, wherein the bottom surface further includes a second dimple disposed in the bottom surface.

26. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 25, wherein the second dimple disposed in the bottom surface includes a second boss disposed within the second dimple, the second boss having a second boss surface,

and the second boss having at least one second boss wall between the second dimple bottom and the second boss surface.

27. A method of clamping a wear insert to a tool holder, the wear insert having a dimple with a boss disposed therein wherein the boss having a boss wall and a boss surface and a point of intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface, the tool holder including a tool holder body having an insert-receiving pocket formed at a forward end thereof and having a bottom and at least one side wall, the insert-receiving pocket capable of receiving the wear insert, comprising the steps of:

(a) arranging a clamp on the tool holder body, the clamp including a lower face with a nose portion having a shaped lip portion and a clamp contour portion wherein the shaped lip portion is adjacent to the clamp contour portion, the clamp having a threaded aperture formed therethrough;

(b) inserting a clamp screw into the aperture of the clamp, the clamp screw having a threaded portion capable of being threaded into the internally threaded clamp-securing bore of the tool holder to bring the clamp into pressing engagement with the wear insert, whereby the shaped lip portion and the clamp contour portion of the clamp engages only a boss wall and [a boss surface of the boss] the point of the intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface and the portion of the boss surface in contact with the point of intersection between the boss wall and the boss surface when the clamp is brought into pressing engagement with the wear insert.

28. The wear insert according to claim 1 wherein the first boss surface is generally flat.

29. The wear insert according to claim 10 wherein the second boss surface is generally flat.

30. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11 wherein the clamp directly presses against the wear insert.

31. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 11 wherein the shaped lip portion of the clamp engages only the boss wall and the clamp contour portion of the clamp engages only the boss surface.

32. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 25 further including a seat member disposed between the wear insert and the insert-receiving pocket, and the seat member having an embossed upper surface mating with the second dimple in the bottom surface of the wear insert.

33. The combination tool holder and wear insert according to claim 26 wherein the second boss surface is generally flat.

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