

<i>Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary</i>	Application No. 13/099,823	Applicant(s) SMITH ET AL.	
	Examiner NIKITA WELLS	Art Unit 2881	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) NIKITA WELLS. (3)_____.
- (2) Gerald E. Worth. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: 06 August 2012.

Type: Telephonic Video Conference
 Personal [copy given to: applicant applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: Yes No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Issues Discussed 101 112 102 103 Others
(For each of the checked box(es) above, please describe below the issue and detailed description of the discussion)

Claim(s) discussed: 1, 2, 6, and 14.

Identification of prior art discussed: none.

Substance of Interview

(For each issue discussed, provide a detailed description and indicate if agreement was reached. Some topics may include: identification or clarification of a reference or a portion thereof, claim interpretation, proposed amendments, arguments of any applied references etc...)

The Examiner initiated an Interview with the Applicant in order to have all the independent claims possess allowable material so that the application could be placed in a condition for allowance. Independent claim 14 was determined to be allowable as written. Independent claim 1 is amended, claim 2 is canceled, and claim 6 is rewritten in independent form as shown in the Examiner's Amendment.

Applicant recordation instructions: It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of interview.

Examiner recordation instructions: Examiners must summarize the substance of any interview of record. A complete and proper recordation of the substance of an interview should include the items listed in MPEP 713.04 for complete and proper recordation including the identification of the general thrust of each argument or issue discussed, a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed regarding patentability and the general results or outcome of the interview, to include an indication as to whether or not agreement was reached on the issues raised.

Attachment

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DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gerald E. Worth on August 6, 2012.

The Examiner initiated an Interview with the Applicant in order to have all the independent claims possess allowable material so that the application could be placed in a condition for allowance. Independent claim 14 was determined to be allowable as written. Independent claim 1 is amended, claim 2 is canceled, and claim 6 is rewritten in independent form as follows:

In claim 1, on line 6: "to block at least a portion of the energy" is changed to: --and blocking the energy provided to the ionized medium that is not absorbed by the ionized medium--.

Claim 2 is canceled.

In claim 6, on line 1: "The light source of claim 1," is changed to:

--A light source, comprising: a chamber;
an ignition source for ionizing a medium within the chamber;
a laser for providing energy to the ionized medium within the chamber to produce a light;--.

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Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1 and 3-22 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to the independent claims 1 and 14, prior art fails to disclose or make obvious, in combination with other recited features of the claim limitations, a light source and method of producing light, comprising: a chamber; an ignition source for ionizing a medium within the chamber; a laser for providing energy to the ionized medium within the chamber to produce a light; and a blocker suspended along a path the energy travels and blocking the energy provided to the ionized medium that is not absorbed by the ionized medium.

With respect to the independent claim 6, prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a light source, comprising: a chamber; an ignition source for ionizing a medium within the chamber; a laser for providing energy to the ionized medium within the chamber to produce a light; wherein the blocker reflects energy provided to the ionized medium that is not absorbed by the ionized medium.

The key element of the applicant's invention, not disclosed in prior art but present in all of the independent claims, is that the blocker suspended along a path the energy travels blocks or reflects the energy provided to the ionized medium that is not absorbed by the ionized medium.

The dependent claims 3-5 and 8-13, 7, and 15-22, are allowable by virtue of their dependence upon the independent claims 1, 6, and 14, respectively.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. D.K. Smith (7,435,982 B2) and Smith et al. (7,989,786 B2 and 2011/0181191 A1)

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disclose a laser driven light source including a chamber within which a gas is ionized. Sawada et al. (6,184,517 B1) disclose a particle analyzer system using a laser beam and a beam blocking mechanism.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nikita Wells whose telephone number is (571) 272-2484. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The central fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Nikita Wells/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2881

August 6, 2012

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