

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1245

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2022

PROJECT MP0519

**The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:**

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
<b>SCHEME:</b>		
Titles Changed:	G02B	Subclass
	G02B	1/00
	G02B	3/00
	G02B	5/20, 5/30
	G02B	6/02, 6/10, 6/12, 6/24, 6/27, 6/293, 6/35, 6/43
	G02B	7/09, 7/182, 7/185, 7/28
	G02B	13/20
	G02B	17/00
	G02B	21/00, 21/34
	G02B	23/00, 23/10, 23/12, 23/16
	G02B	25/00
	G02B	26/10
	G02B	27/02, 27/40, 27/44, 27/46, 27/48, 27/60, 27/62, 27/64
Notes Modified:	G02B	Subclass
<b>DEFINITIONS:</b>		
Definitions New:	G02B	5/20, 6/27, 6/293, 6/35, 6/43, 7/09, 7/182, 7/185, 7/28, 13/20, 21/34, 23/10, 23/12, 23/16, 26/10, 27/02, 27/40, 27/44, 27/46, 27/48, 27/60, 27/62, 27/64, 30/22, 30/26
Definitions Modified:	G02B	1/00, 3/00, 6/00, 6/02, 6/10, 6/12, 6/24, 17/00, 21/00, 23/00, 25/00

**No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.**

**This Notice of Changes includes the following [Check the ones included]:**

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

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2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
  - B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)
3.  REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)
  4.  CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)
  5.  CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

**SUBCLASS G02B – OPTICAL ELEMENTS, SYSTEMS OR APPARATUS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> “CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**	<u>Transferred to#</u>
M	G02B	Subclass	OPTICAL ELEMENTS, SYSTEMS OR APPARATUS	
M	G02B 1/00	0	Optical elements characterised by the material of which they are made; Optical coatings for optical elements	
M	G02B 3/00	0	Simple or compound lenses	
U	G02B 5/00	0	Optical elements other than lenses (light guides G02B 6/00; optical logic elements G02F 3/00)	
M	G02B 5/20	1	Filters (polarising elements G02B 5/30)	
M	G02B 5/30	1	Polarising elements (light-modulating devices with active elements G02F 1/00)	
U	G02B 5/32	1	Holograms used as optical elements	
M	G02B 6/02	1	Optical fibres with cladding	
M	G02B 6/10	1	of the optical waveguide type (G02B 6/02, G02B 6/24 take precedence; devices or arrangements for the control of light by electric, magnetic, electro-magnetic or acoustic means G02F 1/00; transferring the modulation of modulated light G02F 2/00; optical logic elements G02F 3/00; optical analogue/digital converters G02F 7/00)	
M	G02B 6/12	2	of the integrated circuit kind (electric integrated circuits H01L 27/00)	
M	G02B 6/24	1	Coupling light guides	
M	G02B 6/27	3	with polarisation selective and adjusting means	
M	G02B 6/293	4	with wavelength selective means	
M	G02B 6/35	3	having switching means (by changing the optical properties of the medium G02F 1/00)	
M	G02B 6/43	3	Arrangements comprising a plurality of opto-electronic elements and associated optical interconnections	
M	G02B 7/09	3	adapted for automatic focusing or varying magnification	
M	G02B 7/182	2	for mirrors	

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<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> <u>“CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to#</u>
M	G02B 7/185	3	with means for adjusting the shape of the mirror surface	
M	G02B 7/28	1	Systems for automatic generation of focusing signals	
M	G02B 13/20	1	Soft-focus objectives	
M	G02B 17/00	0	Systems with reflecting surfaces, with or without refracting elements	
M	G02B 21/00	0	Microscopes	
M	G02B 21/34	1	Microscope slides, e.g. mounting specimens on microscope slides	
M	G02B 23/00	0	Telescopes, e.g. binoculars; Periscopes; Instruments for viewing the inside of hollow bodies; Viewfinders; Optical aiming or sighting devices	
M	G02B 23/10	2	reflecting into the field of view additional indications, e.g. from collimator	
M	G02B 23/12	1	with means for image conversion or intensification	
M	G02B 23/16	1	Housings; Caps; Mountings; Supports, e.g. with counterweight	
M	G02B 25/00	0	Eyepieces; Magnifying glasses	
M	G02B 26/10	2	Scanning systems	
M	G02B 27/02	1	Viewing or reading apparatus (stereoscopic systems G02B 30/00)	
M	G02B 27/40	1	Optical focusing aids	
M	G02B 27/44	2	Grating systems; Zone plate systems (G02B 27/46 takes precedence)	
M	G02B 27/46	2	Systems using spatial filters	
M	G02B 27/48	1	Laser speckle optics	
M	G02B 27/60	1	Systems using moiré fringes	
M	G02B 27/62	1	Optical apparatus specially adapted for adjusting optical elements during the assembly of optical systems	
M	G02B 27/64	1	Imaging systems using optical elements for stabilisation of the lateral and angular position of the image	

\*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

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### NOTES:

- \*\*No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “<administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalisation projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

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C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)

**SUBCLASS G02B – OPTICAL ELEMENTS, SYSTEMS OR APPARATUS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Note</u>	<u>New/Modified Note</u>
M	G02B	Attention is drawn to the Notes following the titles of class B81 and subclass B81B relating to "microstructural devices" and "microstructural systems"	<p><u>Replace the existing note with the following updates.</u></p> <p>1. Attention is drawn to the Notes following the titles of class B81 and subclass B81B relating to "microstructural devices" and "microstructural systems".</p> <p>2. This subclass <u>does not cover</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• devices or arrangements, the optical operation of which is modified by changing the optical properties of the medium of the devices or arrangements for the control of the intensity, colour, phase, polarisation or direction of light, frequency-changing, non-linear optics, optical logic elements;</li> <li>• optical analogue/digital converters;</li> </ul> <p>which are covered by subclass G02F.</p>

\*N = new note, M = modified note, D = deleted note

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the note. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

## 2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

Insert: The following new Definitions.

### G02B 5/20

#### References

##### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Polarising elements	<a href="#">G02B 5/30</a>
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##### Application-oriented references

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Filters specially adapted for photographic purposes	<a href="#">G03B 11/00</a>
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### G02B 6/27

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Polarising elements in general	<a href="#">G02B 5/30</a>
Polarisation systems in general	<a href="#">G02B 27/28</a>
Optical polarisation multiplex systems	<a href="#">H04J 14/06</a>

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**G02B 6/293****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Optical wavelength-division multiplexing systems	<a href="#">H04J 14/02</a>
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**G02B 6/35****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

By changing the optical properties of the medium	<a href="#">G02F 1/00</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Optical switching in general	<a href="#">G02B 26/08</a>
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**G02B 6/43****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Light-emissive or light-sensitive semiconductor devices	<a href="#">H01L 27/00</a> , <a href="#">H01L 31/00</a> , <a href="#">H01L 33/00</a>
Semiconductor lasers monolithically integrated with other components	<a href="#">H01S 5/026</a>



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## G02B 7/09

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Automatic generation of focusing signals	<a href="#">G02B 7/28</a>
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## G02B 7/182

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Optical devices or arrangements using movable or deformable optical elements for controlling the intensity, colour, phase, polarisation or direction of light	<a href="#">G02B 26/00</a>
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## G02B 7/185

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mirrors with curved faces	<a href="#">G02B 5/10</a>
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## G02B 7/28

### Application-oriented references

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Using such signals to control focus of particular apparatus	<a href="#">G03B,</a> <a href="#">H04N</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Measuring distance per se	<a href="#">G01C, G01S</a>
Using such signals to control focus of particular apparatus	<a href="#">G03C</a>

**G02B 13/20****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Diffusing elements in general	<a href="#">G02B 5/02</a>
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**G02B 21/34****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preparing specimens for investigation	<a href="#">G01N 1/28</a>
Means for supporting the objects or the materials to be analysed in electron microscopes	<a href="#">H01J 37/20</a>

**G02B 23/10****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Collimators in general	<a href="#">G02B 27/30</a>
Graticules	<a href="#">G02B 27/34</a>

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**G02B 23/12****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Objectives for image conversion or intensification	<a href="#">G02B 13/16</a>
Electrical image converters with optical input and optical output	<a href="#">H01J 31/50</a>

**G02B 23/16****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Cases or receptacles in general	<a href="#">A45C</a>
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**G02B 26/10****Application-oriented references**

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

For special places	<a href="#">G03B 27/32</a> , <a href="#">G03G 15/04</a> , <a href="#">G09G 3/00</a> , <a href="#">H04N 1/46</a>
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**G02B 27/02****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Stereoscopic systems	<a href="#">G02B 30/00</a>
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**Application-oriented references**

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Of the protection type	<a href="#">G03B 21/00</a>
Slide-changing apparatus	<a href="#">G03B 23/00</a>

**G02B 27/40****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Beam splitting or combining systems	<a href="#">G02B 27/10</a>
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**G02B 27/44****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Systems using spatial filters	<a href="#">G02B 27/46</a>
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**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Spectrometry	<a href="#">G01J 3/00</a>
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**G02B 27/46**

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Character recognition	<a href="#">G06V 30/00</a>
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**G02B 27/48**

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Speckle suppression in holography	<a href="#">G03H 1/32</a>
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**G02B 27/60**

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Means for converting the output of a sensing member using diffraction gratings	<a href="#">G01D 5/38</a>
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**G02B 27/62****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Adjusting means being part of the system to be assembled	<a href="#">G02B 7/00</a>
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**G02B 27/64****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Focusing systems	<a href="#">G02B 7/04</a>
Adjustment of optical system relative to image or object surface	<a href="#">G03B 5/00</a>

**G02B 30/22****Glossary of terms**

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Stereoscopic	with left and right images projected to the left and right eyes of an observer, who is required to view the image through an optical system placed adjacent to the eyes.
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**G02B 30/26****Glossary of terms**

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Autostereoscopic	with left and right images projected to the left and right eyes of an observer, who is not required to view the images through an optical system placed adjacent to the eyes.
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## 2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

### G02B 1/00

#### References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

Insert: The following new Informative references section.

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Composition of optical glasses	C03C 3/00
Cements for glass	C03C 27/00

### G02B 3/00

#### References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

Insert: The following new Application-oriented references section.

#### Application-oriented references

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Ophthalmic lenses	G02C
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Insert: The following new Informative references section.

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Artificial eyes	<a href="#">A61F 2/14</a>
Watch or clock glasses	<a href="#">G04B 39/00</a>

**G02B 6/00**

**Definition statement**

Delete: The last paragraph of the Definition statement, so that the updated text reads as follows.

Light guides per se, coupling light guides and mechanical protection of light guides.

The term "light" as used in [G02B 6/00](#) refers to visible, infrared and ultraviolet light only.

The group covers the optical and mechanical aspects of light guides and light guide coupling, including the coupling of light into, out of and between light guides, as well as positioning, holding and protecting the light guides. This includes optical cables and arrangements for handling optical cables. The group covers the manufacture of some light guides, in particular optical waveguides of the integrated circuit kind.

The group covers light guides for illumination.



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## Special rules of classification

Insert: The following new text as the first paragraph of the Special rules of classification section.

Light guides occur in many areas of technology. To avoid unnecessary double classification, the implementation of light guides in optical systems and instruments for which specific entries exist elsewhere (for example in surgical instruments or for chemical sensing) are not generally given a secondary class in [G02B 6/00](#). This applies particularly to systems and instruments where light guide use is well established. The brief mention of a light guide does not in itself justify classifying in [G02B 6/00](#). Exceptionally, where an optical aspect of the light guide coupling of general interest is disclosed, such a secondary class may be given. A class in [G02B 6/00](#) is always given where a passive light guide per se has been specially adapted.

### [G02B 6/02](#)

#### [G02B 6/02233](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO9942869).

#### [G02B 6/02242](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO9733188).

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[G02B 6/02247](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO9942869).

[G02B 6/0285](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO03012489).

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO02088041).

[G02B 6/036](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP1439408).

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO2004023182).

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[G02B 6/03605](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2005089289).

[G02B 6/03611](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP1158323).

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2006045449).

[G02B 6/03627](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2007009218).

[G02B 6/03633](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP1189082).

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Delete: The following text.

(Source EP856754).

[G02B 6/03638](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2007116418).

[G02B 6/03644](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source: Li et al in Optical Engineering, Dec. 1994, Vol. 33, p. 3999 (XP484832)).

Delete: The following text.

(Source US5659649).

[G02B 6/0365](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP260795).

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[G02B 6/03655](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US5032001).

[G02B 6/03661](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2007009218).

[G02B 6/03666](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO9733188).

[G02B 6/03672](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2004067034).

[G02B 6/03677](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO0017680).

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[G02B 6/03683](#)

Delete: The following text.

EP260795:

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP260795).

[G02B 6/03688](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source WO0017680).

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2005013571).

[G02B 6/03694](#)

Delete: The following text.

(Source EP0260795).

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2007116416).

Delete: The following text.

(Source US2007204657).

## References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

## Informative references

Insert: The following new reference in the Informative references table.

Mechanical structures for providing tensile strength and external protection	<a href="#">G02B 6/44</a>
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## G02B 6/10

## References

### Limiting references

Delete: The following four references from the Limiting references table.

Stores using opto-electronic devices	<a href="#">G11C 11/42</a>
Electric waveguides	<a href="#">H01P</a>
Transmission of information by optical means	<a href="#">H04B 10/00</a>
Multiplex systems	<a href="#">H04J 14/00</a>

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Replace: The existing text in the Informative references table with the following updated text.

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Light guides for illumination	G02B 6/0001
Probes and tips for near field optical microscopy	G01Q 60/18
Stores using opto-electronic devices	G11C 11/42
Stores using electro-optical elements	G11C 13/047
Electric waveguides	H01P
Transmission of information by optical means	H04B 10/00
Multiplex system	H04J 14/00

### G02B 6/12

### References

### Limiting references

Delete: The following reference from the Limiting references table.

Production or processing of single crystals	C30B
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### Informative references

Insert: The following new reference in the Informative references table.

Production or processing of single crystals	C30B
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## G02B 6/24

### References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

### Informative references

Insert: The following new reference in the Informative references table.

For electric wave guides	H01P 1/00, H01P 5/00
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## G02B 17/00

### References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

### Informative references

Insert: The following three new references in the Informative references table.

Panomarc objectives	G02B 13/06
Scanning optics with mirrors	G02B 26/126
Optical derotators, e.g. rotating dove prisms	G02B 27/642

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**G02B 21/00****References**

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

Insert: The following new Application-oriented references section.

**Application-oriented references**

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Ophthalmic microscopes	A61B 3/13
Measuring microscopes	G01B 9/04

**Informative references**

Insert: The following five new references in the Informative references table.

Eyepieces	G02B 25/00
Polarising systems	G02B 27/28
Microtomes	G01N 1/06
Scanning probe techniques or apparatus	G01Q
Electron microscopes	H01J 37/00

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**G02B 23/00****References**Delete: The entire Limiting references section.Insert: The following new Application-oriented references section.**Application-oriented references**

*Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:*

Measuring telescopes	G01B 9/06
Diagnostic instruments	A61B 1/00

Insert: The following new Informative references section.**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Objectives	G02B 9/00, G02B 13/00, G02B 15/00, G02B 17/00
Eyepieces	G02B 25/00
Non-optical aspects of weapon aiming or sighting devices	F41G

**G02B 25/00**

**References**

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

**Informative references**

Insert: The following new reference in the Informative references table.

Viewfinders for photographic apparatus	G03B 13/02
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