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**United States Patent** [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,110,381****Heckard et al.**[45] **Date of Patent:** **May 5, 1992****[54] ULTRASONIC WELDING WITH  
CONTROLLED SEAL COMPRESSION**4,741,796 5/1988 Althaus et al. .... 156/272.4  
4,897,134 1/1990 Doering ..... 156/73.1**[76] Inventors:** **David P. Heckard**, 61566 County Rd.  
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Elkhart, Ind. 46514**Primary Examiner**—David A. Simmons  
**Assistant Examiner**—J. Sells**[21] Appl. No.:** **541,551****[22] Filed:** **Jun. 21, 1990****[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> .....** **B32B 31/00****[52] U.S. Cl. ....** **156/64; 156/73.1;**  
156/358; 156/359; 156/378; 156/580.1;  
425/174.2; 264/23**[58] Field of Search .....** 156/73.1, 73.4, 580.1,  
156/64, 274.4, 274.8, 378, 380.4, 358, 359;  
264/23; 425/174.2; 228/1.1, 110**[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**4,410,381 10/1983 Chapman ..... 156/64  
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4,696,708 9/1987 Keller et al. .... 156/64**[57] ABSTRACT**

A two stage process of ultrasonic welding is disclosed wherein a first stage determines the amount of displacement required to produce a desired compressive force upon a seal or spring. This displacement is sent to a second stage where the desired displacement is achieved through ultrasonic bonding.

In an alternative embodiment, the first stage determines the amount of displacement required to achieve non-compressive contact between the gasket (seal) and the component. This displacement is summed with an empirically determined displacement required to obtain a desired compressive force upon the gasket. The summed displacement is used as the desired displacement for the second stage.

**9 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets**