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AIR MOVING DEVICE WITH BYPASS INTAKE

Abstract

An air moving device has a housing with a primary flow path and a secondary flow path that extends from a secondary inlet of the housing and empties into an inner outlet adjacent the primary flow path. An impeller assembly rotates a blade to cause air to enter the housing and flow along the primary flow path. The flow of air through the primary flow path creates a low pressure region at the inner outlet of the secondary flow path, causing air to flow through the secondary flow path and mix with the air in the primary flow path. The mixture of air flows through a downstream portion of the primary flow path having an expanded width compared to an upstream portion of the primary flow path and exits the housing. Stator vanes may extend longitudinally within the housing to cause columnar air flow. The device may be used for destratification of thermal gradients of air within an enclosure, such as a home or warehouse.

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Background/Summary

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE TO ANY PRIORITY APPLICATIONS [0001] Any and all applications for which a foreign or domestic priority claim is identified in the Application Data Sheet as filed with the present application are hereby incorporated by reference under 37 CFR 1.57. For example, this application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 18/459,224, filed Aug. 31, 2023, and titled “Air Moving Device With Bypass Intake,” which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 18/173,440, filed Feb. 23, 2023, now U.S. Pat. No. 11,781,761, and titled “Air Moving Device With Bypass Intake,” which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/849,768, filed Apr. 15, 2020, now U.S. Pat. No. 11,598,539, and titled “Air Moving Device With Bypass Intake,” which claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/835,314 filed Apr. 17, 2019, and titled “Air Moving Device With Bypass Intake,” and to U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/876,514 filed Jul. 19, 2019, and titled “Air Moving Device With Bypass Intake,” the entirety of each of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes and forms a part of this specification.

BACKGROUND

Field

[0002] The development is related to air moving devices, in particular to air moving devices having a bypass intake for introducing a second flow path of air into the device.

Description of the Related Art

[0003] Air moving devices may be used to move air within enclosures. The devices may be positioned at or near the ceiling of an enclosure to destratify thermal gradients in the air, such as to mix warmer upper air with cooler lower air. The devices require power to rotate a blade to generate a thrust with the moving air.

SUMMARY

[0004] The embodiments disclosed herein each have several aspects no single one of which is solely responsible for the development's desirable attributes. Without limiting the scope of this disclosure, its more prominent features will now be briefly discussed. After considering this discussion, and particularly after reading the section entitled “Detailed Description,” one will understand how the features of the embodiments described herein provide advantages over existing systems, devices and methods for air moving devices.

[0005] The following description includes non-limiting examples of some embodiments. For instance, other embodiments of the described systems, devices and methods may or may not include the features described herein. Moreover, described advantages and benefits may apply only

to certain embodiments and should not be used to limit the disclosure.

[0006] An aspect of the invention is the recognition that existing solutions for air moving devices have high power requirements for a given thrust and/or generate a low thrust for a give power input. However, improvements of existing solutions for air moving devices would be desirable.

[0007] In one aspect, an air moving device comprises a housing, an impeller assembly, and a secondary flow path. The housing extends axially and has an upper portion and a lower portion. The impeller assembly is supported by the housing and is configured to rotate a blade to cause air to enter the housing through the upper portion and exit the housing through the lower portion. The upper portion has a primary inlet, an upper inner sidewall, and an upper outer sidewall. The upper inner sidewall extends from the primary inlet toward the lower portion to a lower inner edge, and the upper outer sidewall is located radially outward from the inner upper sidewall and extends from the primary inlet toward the lower portion to a lower outer edge. The inner sidewall defines an upper region of a primary flow path extending through the upper portion, with the upper region having a first width. The lower portion has a lower outer sidewall extending from an upper edge to a primary outlet. The lower outer sidewall is located toward the primary outlet from the outer sidewall of the upper portion, and the lower outer sidewall defines a lower region of the primary flow path extending through the lower portion, with the lower region having a second width that is greater than the first width. The secondary flow path extends from an annular secondary inlet of the housing to an annular inner outlet that is in fluid communication with the primary flow path. The annular secondary inlet is located between the lower outer edge of the upper outer sidewall and the upper edge of the lower outer sidewall. The annular inner outlet is located between the lower outer sidewall of the lower portion and the lower inner edge of the upper inner sidewall.

[0008] Various embodiments of the various aspects may be implemented. The upper inner sidewall of the upper portion may form a nozzle. An axial distance from the primary inlet to the lower outer edge of the lower outer sidewall may be greater than or equal to an axial height of the annular secondary inlet. The axial height of the annular secondary inlet may extend from the lower outer edge of the upper outer sidewall to the upper edge of the lower outer sidewall. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal stator vanes, with each vane extending from an upper curved portion of the vane located within the upper region of the primary flow path to a first bottom edge of the vane at the primary outlet located within the lower region of the primary flow path. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal ribs, with each rib extending between the upper inner sidewall and the upper outer sidewall along the secondary flow path to a second bottom edge of the rib located within the lower region of the primary flow path. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal stator vanes extending from within the upper region of the primary flow path to within the lower region of the primary flow path. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal ribs extending between the upper inner sidewall and the upper outer sidewall along the secondary flow path. The upper portion and the lower portion may be integral.

[0009] In another aspect, an air moving device comprises an annular housing, an impeller assembly, and a secondary flow path. The annular housing extends axially from a primary inlet to a primary outlet and defines a primary flow path from the primary inlet to the primary outlet. The impeller assembly is coupled with the housing and is configured to rotate a blade to cause air to enter the housing through the primary inlet, flow along the primary flow path, and exit the housing through the primary outlet. The secondary flow path extends from an annular secondary inlet to an inner outlet, with the annular secondary inlet defined by an annular outer sidewall of the housing and located toward the primary outlet from the primary inlet of the housing, and the inner outlet located adjacent the primary flow path within the housing.

[0010] Various embodiments of the various aspects may be implemented. An upper region of the primary flow path located closer to the primary inlet than to the primary outlet may have a first cross-sectional area, a lower region of the primary flow path located closer to the primary outlet

than to the primary inlet may have a second cross-sectional area, and the first cross-sectional area may be less than the second cross-sectional area. An axial distance from the primary inlet to an upper edge of the annular secondary inlet may be greater than or equal to an axial height of the annular secondary inlet. An upper region of the primary flow path located closer to the primary inlet than to the primary outlet may define a first diameter, a lower region of the primary flow path located closer to the primary outlet than to the primary inlet may define a second diameter, and the first diameter may be less than the second diameter. The upper portion of the housing may form a nozzle. An axial distance from the primary inlet to an upper edge of the annular secondary inlet may be greater than or equal to an axial height of the annular secondary inlet. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal stator vanes extending within the primary flow path. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal ribs extending within the secondary flow path. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal stator vanes extending within the primary flow path and that are radially aligned with the plurality of longitudinal ribs.

[0011] In various embodiments of the various aspects, an axial distance from the primary inlet to an upper edge of the annular secondary inlet may be greater than or equal to 80% of an axial height of the annular secondary inlet. The axial distance from the primary inlet to the upper edge of the annular secondary inlet may be greater than the axial height of the annular secondary inlet. The annular secondary inlet may extend an axial distance $D2$, the secondary flow path may have an axial portion with a radial width of distance $D5$, and $D2$ may be greater than or equal to 70% of $D5$. $D2$ may be 80% of $D5$. The air moving device may further comprise an upper inner sidewall that extends along an inner side of the secondary flow path to a lower edge, with the primary inlet located an axial distance $D1$ from an upper edge of the annular secondary inlet, the annular secondary inlet extending an axial distance $D2$, the lower edge of the upper inner sidewall located an axial distance $D3$ from the primary inlet, and where $D1 + D2 \leq 1.1 \times D3$. In some embodiments $D1 + D2 < D3$. An upper-most portion of the primary inlet may be located the axial distance $D1$ from the upper edge of the annular secondary inlet, and the lower edge of the upper inner sidewall may be located the axial distance $D3$ from the upper-most portion of the primary inlet. An upper-most portion of the blade may be located an axial distance $D4$ from the primary inlet, and $D4$ may be greater than or equal to 2 inches. The upper-most portion of the blade may be located the axial distance $D4$ from an upper-most portion of the primary inlet. The primary inlet may be located an axial height H from the primary outlet, the primary inlet has a radial opening equal to a width $W1$, and wherein H is at least 75% of $W1$. H may be greater than or equal to $W1$. H may be greater than $1.25 \times W1$.

[0012] In another aspect, an air moving device comprises a cowling, a lower sidewall, an impeller assembly, and a secondary flow path. The cowling defines a primary inlet and an upper region of a primary flow path having a first width. The lower sidewall is coupled with the cowling and defines a lower region of the primary flow path and a primary outlet. The lower region of the primary flow path has a second width that is greater than the first width. The impeller assembly is configured to rotate a blade to cause air to enter the primary inlet and exit the primary outlet. The secondary flow path extends from an annular secondary inlet to an inner outlet, with the annular secondary inlet defined by the cowling and the lower sidewall and located toward the primary outlet from the primary inlet, and the inner outlet located adjacent the primary flow path within the housing.

[0013] Various embodiments of the various aspects may be implemented. The cowling may form a nozzle. An axial distance from the primary inlet to an upper edge of the lower sidewall may be greater than or equal to an axial height of the annular secondary inlet. The air moving device may further comprise a plurality of longitudinal ribs extending within the secondary flow path to define a plurality of annular secondary inlets located between adjacent ribs.

[0014] In another aspect an air moving device comprises a housing and an impeller assembly. The housing has an upstream inlet, a downstream outlet, and defines a primary flow path extending

through the housing from the inlet to the outlet. The housing further defines an annular secondary flow path extending from an annular opening of a sidewall of the housing to an annular downstream outlet of the secondary flow path that is adjacent the primary flow path within the housing. The impeller assembly is supported by the housing and configured to rotate a blade to cause air to enter the housing through the inlet, flow along the primary flow path, and exit the housing through the outlet.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0015] The foregoing and other features of the present disclosure will become more fully apparent from the following description and appended claims, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. Understanding that these drawings depict only several embodiments in accordance with the disclosure and are not to be considered limiting of its scope, the disclosure will be described with additional specificity and detail through use of the accompanying drawings. In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof. In the drawings, similar symbols typically identify similar components, unless context dictates otherwise. The illustrative embodiments described in the detailed description, drawings, and claims are not meant to be limiting. Other embodiments may be utilized, and other changes may be made, without departing from the spirit or scope of the subject matter presented here. It will be readily understood that the aspects of the present disclosure, as generally described herein, and illustrated in the drawing, can be arranged, substituted, combined, and designed in a wide variety of different configurations, all of which are explicitly contemplated and make part of this disclosure.

[0016] FIGS. 1 and 2 are top and bottom perspective views, respectively, of an embodiment of an air moving device having a bypass intake.

[0017] FIGS. 3 and 4 are top and bottom views, respectively, of the device of FIG. 1.

[0018] FIGS. 5A and 5B are cross-section views of the device of FIG. 3 as taken along the line A-A shown in FIG. 3.

[0019] FIGS. 6A and 6B are cross-section views of the device of FIG. 3 as taken along the line B-B shown in FIG. 3.

[0020] FIG. 7 is a side view of the device of FIG. 1.

[0021] FIG. 8 is a cross-section view of the device of FIG. 7 as taken along the line C-C shown in FIG. 7.

[0022] FIG. 9 is a partial cross-section view of the device of FIG. 1.

[0023] FIG. 10A is a perspective view of another embodiment of an air moving device having a bypass intake.

[0024] FIGS. 10B and 10C are respectively side and top views of the device of FIG. 10A.

[0025] FIG. 10D is a cross-section view of the device of FIG. 10A as taken along the line 10D-10D indicated in FIG. 10C.

[0026] While the above-identified drawings set forth presently disclosed embodiments, other embodiments are also contemplated, as noted in the discussion. This disclosure presents illustrative embodiments by way of representation and not limitation. Numerous other modifications and embodiments can be devised by those skilled in the art which fall within the scope and spirit of the principles of the presently disclosed embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0027] The following detailed description is directed to certain specific embodiments of the development. In this description, reference is made to the drawings wherein like parts or steps may be designated with like numerals throughout for clarity. Reference in this specification to “one embodiment,” “an embodiment,” or “in some embodiments” means that a particular feature,

structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the invention. The appearances of the phrases “one embodiment,” “an embodiment,” or “in some embodiments” in various places in the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment, nor are separate or alternative embodiments necessarily mutually exclusive of other embodiments. Moreover, various features are described which may be exhibited by some embodiments and not by others. Similarly, various requirements are described which may be requirements for some embodiments but may not be requirements for other embodiments. Reference will now be made in detail to embodiments of the invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts.

[0028] An air moving device is described having a housing with a primary flow path and a secondary flow path that extends from a secondary inlet of the housing and empties into an inner outlet adjacent the primary flow path. An impeller assembly rotates a blade to cause air to enter the housing and flow along the primary flow path. The flow of air through the primary flow path creates a low pressure region at the inner outlet of the secondary flow path, causing air to flow through the secondary flow path and mix with the air in the primary flow path. The mixture of air flows through a downstream portion of the primary flow path having an expanded cross-sectional area compared to an upstream portion of the primary flow path and exits the housing. Stator vanes may extend longitudinally within the housing to cause columnar air flow. The device may be used for destratification of thermal gradients of air within an enclosure, such as a home or warehouse.

[0029] FIGS. **1** and **2** are top and bottom perspective views, respectively, of an embodiment of an air moving device **10**. The air moving device **10** includes a housing **100**. The housing **100** extends axially, as indicated by the labelled longitudinal “axis” in FIG. **1**. The housing **100** is cylindrical, but it may have other desirably rounded shapes. The housing **100** extends from a primary inlet **110** to a primary outlet **112**. Air flows into the housing **100** through the inlet **110** and out of the housing **100** through the outlet **112**. As used herein, unless otherwise stated or indicated by context, “upper,” “upward,” “above,” and the like refer to directions generally toward the primary inlet **110**, “lower,” “downward,” “below” and the like refer to directions generally toward the primary outlet **112**, “axial” and the like refers to directions generally parallel to the axis, “radial” and the like refers to directions generally perpendicular to the axis, and “annular” and the like refers to a generally rounded shape, for example a circular shape.

[0030] The housing **100** includes an upper portion **116**. The upper portion **116** includes a radially inward extending annular upper lip **120**. The upper lip **120** defines part of the primary inlet **110**. The upper lip **120** may be smoothly rounded in a radial direction to allow for smooth airflow over the upper lip **120** and into the housing **100**. The upper portion **116** includes an upper inner sidewall **122** extending downward from the upper lip **120** to a lower edge **123**. The upper portion **116** includes an upper outer sidewall **118** extending downward from the upper lip **120**. The upper outer sidewall **118** is located radially outward, relative to the axis, from the upper inner sidewall **122**. The upper outer sidewall **118** extends downward to a lower outer edge **119**. The upper portion **116** is cylindrical, but it may be other rounded shapes. The upper inner sidewall **122** may be contoured to define a nozzle. The upper inner sidewall **122** may thus extend axially downward from an upper first section having a first cross-sectional area to a lower second section having a second cross-sectional area that is less than the first cross-sectional area. In some embodiments, the air moving device **10**, for example the housing **100**, may include a grill **101** (see FIG. **3**) at the inlet, for example located above the primary inlet **110**.

[0031] The upper portion **116** may form a cowling as illustrated. The upper portion **116** may have a smoothly rounded upper lip **120** in a radial direction that smoothly extends to the upper inner sidewall **122**. The upper inner sidewall **122** may be straight or smoothly curved. In some embodiments, the upper inner sidewall **122** may form a nozzle or nozzle-like shape, for example as illustrated the radial width of the lower edge **123** may be less than the radial width of the inlet **110**.

The upper inner sidewall **122** may have a constant or non-constant radial width along an axial direction. Further details of the width of the upper portion **116** are described herein, for example with respect to FIG. **6B**. The upper portion **116**, for example the cowling, may be integral with the lower portion **128**, or they may be separate parts.

[0032] The housing **100** includes a lower portion **128**. The lower portion **128** includes a lower outer sidewall **132**. The lower outer sidewall **132** extends downward from an upper edge **130** to a lower edge **134**. As illustrated, the lower edge **134** may be located at and define the primary outlet **112**. The lower outer sidewall **132** may have the same or different outer width, for example diameter, as the upper outer sidewall **118**.

[0033] The air moving device **10** includes an annular secondary inlet **140**. The annular secondary inlet **140** is defined by the upper portion **116** and the lower portion **128**. The annular secondary inlet **140** is located between the lower outer edge **119** of the upper outer sidewall **118** of the upper portion **116** and the upper edge **130** of the lower outer sidewall **132** of the lower portion **128**. The lower outer edge **119** of the upper outer sidewall **118** may thus be an upper edge of the opening of the annular secondary inlet **140**, and the upper edge **130** of the lower outer sidewall **132** may be a lower edge of the opening of the annular secondary inlet **140**. The annular secondary inlet **140** provides a bypass intake for air to enter the housing **100** in a different location from that of the primary inlet **110**. The annular secondary inlet **140** provides an opening to a secondary flow path, as further described herein.

[0034] The annular secondary inlet **140** may be an opening defined by parallel upper and lower edges **130**, **119** as shown, such that the opening extends circumferentially and generally forms a belt-like shape. In some embodiments the upper and/or lower edge **130**, **119** defining the annular secondary inlet **140** may be straight, curved, segmented, other shapes, or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the upper and/or lower edge **130**, **119** may be, or include features that are, rounded radially to provide a smooth contour for air entering the annular secondary inlet **140**.

[0035] The annular secondary inlet **140** extends continuously around the outer perimeter, for example circumference, of the housing **100**. In some embodiments, the annular secondary inlet **140** may not extend continuously around the entire outer perimeter of the housing **100**. For example, there may be multiple annular segments of the annular secondary inlet **140** separated by solid wall and/or other features therebetween, for example separated by portions of the upper outer sidewall **118** or the lower outer sidewall **132**.

[0036] There may be one continuous annular secondary inlet **140** or separate segments of the annular secondary inlet **140** extending along the same or similar axial location of the housing **100**. For instance, the inlet or inlets **140** may be aligned circumferentially about the housing **100**. In some embodiments, there may be a second continuous annular secondary inlet, **140** or second separate segments of the annular secondary inlet **140**, located axially above and/or below the annular secondary inlet **140**. Further, the annular secondary inlet or inlets **140** may be entirely open as shown, or they may have screens or other porous structures over some or all of the openings of the annular secondary inlet or inlets **140**. Therefore, the particular embodiment of the annular secondary inlet **140** shown and described herein is merely one example, and other configurations and features may be implemented that are within the scope of the disclosure.

[0037] The air moving device **10** includes a plurality of longitudinal ribs **136**. The ribs **136** extend axially and radially between the upper and lower portions **116**, **128**. The ribs **136** may connect the upper portion **116** with the lower portion **128**. The ribs **136** may be distributed angularly about the axis within the housing **100**, as further described.

[0038] The air moving device **10** includes a handle **102**. The handle **102** extends from a first side of the housing **100** to a second opposite side of the housing **100**. The air moving device **10** may be hung from an enclosure, such as a ceiling in a building, using the handle **102**. The handle **102** may be connected to the housing **100** at rotatable connections **104**. The connections **104** may allow for angling the air moving device **10** about a perpendicular axis that is perpendicular to the

longitudinal axis shown in FIG. 1.

[0039] As shown in FIG. 2, the air moving device **10** includes a plurality of the longitudinal vanes **150**. The vanes **150** extend axially within the housing **100**. As viewed from above, the vanes **150** may be in locations that are distributed angularly with respect to the longitudinal axis of the air moving device **10**. The vanes **150** may be evenly distributed about the axis as shown. Some or all of the vanes **150** may be radially and angularly aligned with respective ribs **136**. In some embodiments, each vane **150** is aligned radially with a respective rib **136**. The vanes **150** include a flat portion **152** that extends longitudinally downward to a lower edge **156**. The lower edge **156** may be located at the outlet **112**, as shown, or it may not be located at the outlet **112**. The vanes **150** have an outer edge **157A** that attaches to and extends radially inwardly from an inner surface of the lower outer sidewall **132** to an inner edge **157B** of the vane **150**. The inner edges **157B** of opposite vanes **150** may be separated as shown, or they may connect with other vanes **150** at or near the axis of the air moving device **10**. The vanes **150** may include an upper curved portion **158** having an upper edge **154**, as further described herein, for example with respect to FIGS. 4 and 6A.

[0040] The vanes **150** may be integral with the lower portion **128**. In some embodiments, the vanes **150**, the lower portion **128**, and the upper portion **116** may be integral. In some embodiments, the vanes **150**, the lower portion **128**, the upper portion **116** and the ribs **136** may be integral. The various integral combinations of parts of the housing **100** may be injection molded, or formed using other suitable methods. In some embodiments, the various parts are made separately and attached together. In some embodiments, the upper portion **116** may be a cowling, which may be integral with one or more of the vanes **150**, the lower portion **128**, and the ribs **136**, or the cowling may be removeably attached with one or more of the vanes **150**, the lower portion **128**, and the ribs **136**.

[0041] FIGS. 3 and 4 are top and bottom views, respectively, of the air moving device **10**. The impeller assembly **200** includes a motor **210** and a plurality of blades **220**. The motor **210** may be an electric motor supplied with power from a power cord or batteries. A fixed portion of the motor **210**, such as a hub or motor case, may be supported by the housing **100**. Alternatively, or in addition, the motor **210** may be supported by the grill **101**, such as a grate or other suitable structure, which for clarity is partially shown in phantom lines in FIG. 3 and is not shown in most figures. The grill **101** may have various embodiments, for example as shown and described in U.S. Pat. No. 9,335,061, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued May 10, 2016, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes and forms a part of this specification. The grill **101** may be located partially or entirely above the impeller assembly **200**, or otherwise support the impeller assembly **200** above the blades **220**. The grill **101** may provide safety to prevent injury to users or animals from the rotating blades **220**. A rotational portion of the motor **210** may rotate the blades **220**. The blades **220** extend axially outward from the motor **210**. There are five blades **220**, but there may be one, two, three, four, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, or more blades **220**. The motor **210** rotates the blades **220** about the longitudinal axis of the air moving device **10** to cause air to enter the primary inlet **110**. The blades **220** may be aerodynamically shaped to optimize volumetric air flow through the primary inlet **110**.

[0042] The impeller assembly **200** may be supported by the housing **100**. The motor **210** may be supported by upper portions of the vanes **150**, such as radially inward portions of the upper edges **154** of the vanes **150**. In some embodiments, the impeller assembly **200** may be supported by a support structure, such as a rib that connects the impeller assembly **200** with the upper portion **116** of the housing **100**. The support structure may be located above or below the blades **220**. Various suitable support structures may be implemented, for example as described in U.S. Patent Publication No. 2016/0146222, titled "Air Moving Device" and Published May 26, 2016, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes and forms a part of this specification.

[0043] FIGS. 5A and 5B are cross-section views of the air moving device **10** as taken along the line

A-A shown in FIG. 3. FIG. 5A is a perspective cross-section view, and FIG. 5B is a side cross-section view.

[0044] As shown in FIG. 5A, the air moving device **10** defines a primary flow path **111**. The primary flow path **111** is indicated by the geometric arrow for reference. The primary flow path **111** extends from within the upper portion **116** of the housing to within the lower portion **128** of the housing **100**. The primary flow path **111** may extend from the primary inlet **110** to the primary outlet **112**.

[0045] The primary flow path **111** may extend from and between the upper lip **120** downward between the upper inner sidewall **122**. The primary flow path **111** may continue downward between the lower outer sidewall **132**. The primary flow path **111** may terminate at the outlet **112** of the housing **100**, for example at the lower edge **134**.

[0046] The primary flow path **111** includes an upper region **113** and a lower region **115**. The upper region **113** is located within the upper portion **116** of the housing **100**. The lower region **115** is located below the upper region **113**, within at least part of the lower portion **128** of the housing **100**. The upper region **113** may include a portion of the primary flow path **111** that is flowing through a part of the housing **100** having a first cross-sectional area. The lower region **115** may include a portion of the primary flow path **111** that is flowing through a part of the housing **100** having a second cross-sectional area that is greater than the first cross-sectional area. A width **W1** of the housing **100** within the upper region **113** may be less than a width **W2** of the housing within the lower region **115**, as further described herein, for example with respect to FIG. 6B.

[0047] The secondary flow path **142** extends from the annular secondary inlet **140** to a secondary outlet **144**. The secondary flow path **142** is indicated by the geometric arrow for reference. The secondary outlet **144** may have an annular shape as shown, or other shapes. The secondary outlet **144** may have features to facilitate air flow, such as rounded edges, etc.

[0048] The secondary flow path **142** may extend from and between the lower outer edge **119** of the upper outer sidewall **118** and the upper edge **130** of the lower outer sidewall **132**. The secondary flow path **142** may continue downward between an inner surface of the lower outer sidewall **132** and an outer surface of the upper inner sidewall **122**. The secondary flow path **142** may terminate between the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122** and an inner surface of the lower outer sidewall **132**. The air moving device **10** may include a pocket **141** located above the secondary flow path **142**. The pocket **10** may be part of the secondary flow path **142**. The pocket **141** may be hollow. In some embodiments, the pocket **141** may be partially hollow, may not be hollow, or there may not be a pocket **141**.

[0049] The secondary outlet **144** is located adjacent the primary flow path **111**. Thus air entering the secondary flow path **142** via the annular secondary inlet **140** flows through the secondary outlet **144** and mixes with air in the primary flow path **111**. The air flowing along the primary flow path **111** adjacent to the secondary outlet **144** will cause a lower pressure at the secondary outlet **144** relative to the air pressure at the annular secondary inlet **140**. For example, the ambient air adjacent the annular secondary inlet **140** may be static or not flowing as fast as the air in the primary flow path. The resulting differential pressures between the secondary outlet **144** and the annular secondary inlet **140** will cause air to flow along the secondary flow path **142** in the direction indicated and empty into the primary flow path **111**, which may be at the lower region **115** of the primary flow path **115**.

[0050] FIG. 5B shows examples of various air flow paths **111A**, **111B**, **111C** and **111D** along which the air flowing along the primary flow path **111** may move. Air in the path **111A** may flow from outside the housing **100** and over the lip **120**. Air in the paths **111B**, **111C**, **111D** may flow, respective, at progressively decreasing angles with the longitudinal axis into the housing **100**. The paths may straighten out within the primary flow path **111** located within the housing **100**. Further, air moving within the secondary flow path **142** may move along the air flow path **142A** as indicated.

[0051] The air moving device **10** may include a mixing region **145**, which is indicated in FIG. 5B with a geometric box for reference. The mixing region **145** is a region within the housing extending along and near the annular secondary inlet **140**, for example at the intersection of the secondary flow path **142** and the primary flow path **111** within the housing **100**. The mixing region **145** may therefore be annular in shape. The mixing region **145** is where the air from the secondary flow path **142** mixes with the air from the primary flow path **111**. Air from the primary flow path **111**, for example flowing along the paths **111A** and/or **111B**, may move radially outward to mix with the air from the secondary flow path **142**. The air from the primary flow path **11** may move radially outward due to lower pressures within the mixing region **145**.

[0052] FIGS. **6A** and **6B** are cross-section views of the air moving device **10** as taken along the line B-B shown in FIG. **3**. FIG. **6A** is a perspective cross-section view and FIG. **6B** is a side cross-section view.

[0053] As shown in FIGS. **6A** and **6B**, the air moving device **10** includes longitudinal ribs **136** and vanes **150**. The ribs **136** each extend from a top edge **137** axially downward to a respective vane **150**. The ribs **136** may extend to a lower edge **138**, which may be a portion of the vane **150**. The ribs **136** extend radially inward from an outer edge **139A** to an inner edge **139B**. The top edge **137** connects with the upper portion **116** of the housing **100**. As shown, the top edge **137** and part of the outer and inner edges **139A**, **139B** connect with the upper portion **116**. The top edge **137** and upper portions of the outer and inner edges **139A**, **139B** are attached respectively with the upper outer sidewall **118**, the upper lip **120**, and the upper inner sidewall **122**. A portion of the rib **136** located below the annular secondary inlet **140** is attached to an inner surface of the lower outer sidewall **132** and to the respective vane **150**. The ribs **136** may each be integral with and/or form a continuous surface with a portion of a respective vane **150**. The ribs **136** may be continuous with a flat portion of the respective vane **150**. Thus the adjacent rib **136** and vane **150** may be continuous below the upper inner sidewall **122**, with the upper inner sidewall **122** separating an upper portion of the rib **136** from an upper portion of the flat portion of the vane **150**. The upper portion of the vane **150** may bend or curve, as described herein.

[0054] In some embodiments, the ribs **136** may not connect with or be integral with the respective vane **150**. For example, the vanes **150** may be angularly aligned differently from the ribs **136**, or there may not be any vanes **150**. The lower edge **138** of the rib **136** may be located below the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122**. The lower edge **138** of the rib **136** may be located closer to the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122** than to the lower edge **134** of the lower outer sidewall **132**. The lower edge **138** of the rib **136** may be in other locations, for example above the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122**, or closer to the lower edge **134** of the lower outer sidewall **132** than to the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122**, etc. There are eight ribs **136**, but there may be none, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, nine, ten eleven, twelve, or more ribs **136**.

[0055] As shown in FIG. **6B**, the ribs **136** may extend along at least a part of the secondary flow path **142**. The ribs **136** may straighten the flow of air entering the annular secondary inlet **140**. The ribs **136** may separate compartments of the secondary flow path **142**, as further described herein, for example with respect to FIG. **8**.

[0056] The vanes **150** have an upper edge **154**. The upper edge **154** is located within the upper region **113** of the primary flow path **111**. The upper edge **154** may be located at the same axial location as the upper edge **130** of the lower outer sidewall **132**. In some embodiments, the upper edge **154** may be located axially above or below this location. The upper edge **154** is on the upper end of the curved portion **158**. The curved portion **158** curves perpendicularly to a radial direction of the housing **100**. Each of the curved portions **158** curve in the same direction. In some embodiments, some or all of the vanes **150** may not include the curved portion **158**.

[0057] The vanes **150** have the flat portion **152** extending axially downward from the curved portion **158** to the lower edge **156**. The vanes **150** may be integral with, or otherwise couple with, a

respective longitudinal rib **136**. Thus, the vane **150** and respective rib **136** may form a continuous structure.

[0058] As further shown in FIG. **6B**, the housing **100** may have a first radial width **W1** and a second radial width **W2**. The widths **W1**, **W2** are measured perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing. The first width **W1** may be an inner width of the upper portion **116** of the housing **100**. The first width **W1** may correspond to an inner width of an axial location of the housing **100** in which the upper region **113** of the primary flow path **111** is located. As shown, the first width **W1** may be measured between opposite radial locations of the upper inner sidewall **122**. The second width **W2** may be an inner width of the lower portion **128** of the housing **100**. The second width **W2** may correspond to an inner width of an axial location of the housing **100** in which the lower region **115** of the primary flow path **111** is located. As shown, the second width **W2** may be measured between opposite radial locations of the lower outer sidewall **132**. The second width **W2** may be measured between opposite radial locations of an upper portion of the lower outer sidewall **132** that is immediately below the secondary outlet **144** and/or lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122**.

[0059] The widths **W1**, **W2** may be constant axially along their respective locations. The widths **W1**, **W2** may be diameters, where the respective sections are cylindrical. In some embodiments, the widths **W1**, **W2** may change at different axial locations along their respective locations. In some embodiments, the width **W1** may decrease from an upper portion of the upper inner sidewall **122** to a lower portion of the upper inner sidewall, for example where the upper inner sidewall **122** forms a nozzle or cowling. In such cases, the first width **W1** may refer to the width of the outlet or lower end of the nozzle cowling, for example as measured between opposite radial locations of the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122**.

[0060] The width **W2** is greater than the width **W1**. The width **W2** may be greater than the width **W1** by 3%, 5%, 7%, 10%, 15%, 20% or more. The increased second width **W2** relative to the first width **W1** creates a low pressure area at the secondary outlet **144**. The expanded cross-sectional area due to the increased width **W2** thus creates a low pressure zone that pulls in air through the secondary flow path **142**. This induces mixing of the air flowing from the secondary flow path **142** and the air flowing along the primary flow path **111** near the secondary outlet **144**.

[0061] In some embodiments, **W1** is from 4 inches to 12 inches. **W1** may be 4 inches, 5 inches, 6 inches, 7 inches, 8 inches, 9 inches, 10 inches, 11 inches, 12 inches, or more. **W1** may be at least 4 inches, at least 5 inches, at least 6 inches, at least 7 inches, at least 8 inches, at least 9 inches, at least 10 inches, at least 11 inches, or at least 12 inches. In some embodiments, **W2** is from 5 inches to 13 inches. **W2** may be 5 inches, 6 inches, 7 inches, 8 inches, 9 inches, 10 inches, 11 inches, 12 inches, 13 inches, or more. **W2** may be at least 4 inches, at least 5 inches, at least 6 inches, at least 7 inches, at least 8 inches, at least 9 inches, at least 10 inches, at least 11 inches, at least 12 inches, or at least 13 inches. **W2** may be 1 inch or about 1 inch greater than **W1**. In some embodiments, **W2** may be 0.5 inches greater than **W1**, 0.75 inches, 1.25 inches greater than **W1**, 1.5 inches greater than **W1**, 1.75 inches greater than **W1**, or 2 inches greater than **W1**.

[0062] As further shown in FIG. **6B**, the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122** is located an axial distance **D3** from the upper lip **120**. The distance **D3** may be the axial distance from the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall **122** to the upper edge of the upper lip **120**, to the upper end of the curved edge **137**, or to the upper-most portion of the upper inner sidewall **122** (e.g. the flat portion thereof). The distance **D3** may be about 5.5 inches. In some embodiments, the distance **D3** may be greater than or equal to 2 inches, greater than or equal to 3 inches, greater than or equal to 4 inches, greater than or equal to 5 inches, or greater than or equal to 6 inches.

[0063] As further shown in FIG. **6B**, the upper lip **120** is located an axial distance **D4** from an upper edge of the fan blades **220**. The distance **D4** may be the axial distance from an upper-most portion of the edges of the blades **220** to the upper edge of the upper lip **120**, to the upper end of the curved edge **137**, or to the upper-most portion of the upper inner sidewall **122** (e.g. the flat portion

thereof). The distance D4 may be greater than or equal to 0.5 inches, greater than or equal to 1 inch, greater than or equal to 1.5 inches, greater than or equal to 2 inches, greater than or equal to 2.5 inches, greater than or equal to 3 inches, greater than or equal to 3.5 inches, or greater than or equal to 4 inches.

[0064] As further shown in FIG. 6B, the secondary flow path **142** has a radial width extending a distance D5. The secondary flow path **142** may have a minimum radial width extending the distance D5, for example where the secondary flow path **142** has a non-uniform width along its axial length, such as with an hour glass, narrowing, widening, or other shaped secondary flow path **142** or portions thereof. The inner surface of the lower outer sidewall **132**, or portion thereof, may be located a radial distance D5 from the outer surface of the upper inner sidewall **122**, or from a portion thereof. The secondary flow path **142** may have a radial width of distance D5 along all or most of its axial length. Thus the radial width of the channel formed by the secondary outlet **144** may be uniform or substantially uniform along its axial length. The portion of the secondary flow path **142** located below the secondary inlet **140** may have a radial width of distance D5. In some embodiments, the space above the secondary flow path **142**, for example between an inner surface of the upper outer sidewall **118** and an outer surface of the upper portion of the upper inner sidewall **122**, may be radially separated by the distance D5. The distance D5 may be 0.8 inches or about 0.8 inches. In some embodiments, the distance D5 may be greater than or equal to 0.25 inches, greater than or equal to 0.375 inches, greater than or equal to 0.5 inches, greater than or equal to 0.625 inches, greater than or equal to 0.75 inches, greater than or equal to 0.875 inches, greater than or equal to 1 inch, greater than or equal to 1.125 inches, greater than or equal to 1.25 inches, greater than or equal to 1.375 inches, greater than or equal to 1.5 inches, or greater than or equal to 1.75 inches. Any of the dimensions for D5 described herein may also apply to the radial opening of the secondary outlet **144** of the secondary flow path **142**.

[0065] The various dimensions of the device **10** may be sized or designed to achieve desired air flow performance goals. In some embodiments, D2 and D5 may be related. For example, D2 may be, or be about, $0.8 \times D5$ (i.e., 0.8 multiplied by D5). In some embodiments, D2 may be greater than or equal to $0.6 \times D5$, $0.7 \times D5$, $0.8 \times D5$, $0.9 \times D5$, $1.0 \times D5$, $1.1 \times D5$, $1.2 \times D5$, $1.3 \times D5$, $1.4 \times D5$, or $1.5 \times D5$.

[0066] In some embodiments, the area of the outer opening(s) or space(s) defined by the secondary inlet **140** along the outside of the device **10** may be related to the cross-sectional area of the secondary flow path **142** located between the lower outer sidewall **132** and the upper inner sidewall **122**. The area of the secondary inlet **140** may be approximated by the product of D2 and the circumference of the upper edge **130**. The cross-sectional area of the secondary flow path **142** may be measured perpendicularly to the axis of the device **10** and may be approximated by the product of D5 and either W1 or W2. In some embodiments, the cross-sectional area of the secondary inlet **140** may be greater than or equal to 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, or 1.5 multiplied by the cross-sectional area of the secondary flow path **142**. The cross-sectional area of the secondary inlet **140** and the cross-sectional area of the secondary flow path **142** may be about the same. For purposes of this application, unless otherwise stated, these relationships are based on cross-sectional areas which do not include any area obstructed by features within the opening of the secondary inlet **140** or within secondary flow path **142**, such as the ribs **136**, screws, etc. Thus, any area actually taken up by a rib by default is not considered part of the cross-sectional area. On the other hand, if specifically so stated, these relationships may be based on a cross-sectional area which includes any area(s) obstructed by features within the opening of the secondary inlet **140** or within secondary flow path **142**, such as the ribs **136**, screws, etc. In particular, the relationships discussed above could be used regardless of whether an area obstructed by features is included in the calculation of the cross-sectional area.

[0067] Such relations between DI and D5, or between the area of the secondary inlet **140** and the cross-sectional area of the secondary flow path **142**, may result in greater thrust being produced by

the device **10**, allowing for less energy usage and related savings in cost of using the device **10**, and other benefits as described herein. Such relations may allow for 5% or more, 7% or more, 10% or more, 15% or more, or 20% or more thrust as compared to an air moving device that did not have the bypass intake features described herein, such as the secondary flow path **142**.

[0068] In some embodiments, **D1**, **D2** and **D3** may be related. In some embodiments, the secondary inlet **140** may not extend axially below the lower edge **123** of the upper inner sidewall. For example, **D3** may be greater than or equal to the sum of **D1** and **D2**, i.e. $D3 \geq D1 + D2$. In some embodiments, $D3 \times 0.9 \geq D1 + D2$, $D3 \times 0.8 \geq D1 + D2$, $D3 \times 0.7 \geq D1 + D2$, $D3 \times 0.6 \geq D1 + D2$. In some embodiments, the secondary inlet **140** may axially extend below or slightly below the lower edge **123**. For example, in some embodiments, $D3 \times 1.1 > D1 + D2$, $D3 \times 1.2 > D1 + D2$, $D3 \times 1.3 > D1 + D2$, or $D3 \times 1.4 \geq D1 + D2$. In some embodiments, **D1**, **D2** and/or **D3** may be sized such that the mixing region **145** (see FIG. 5B) is located at or near the lower end of the secondary flow path **142**.

[0069] The mixing of air from the primary and secondary flow paths **111**, **142** creates more thrust for a given power input. In other words, less power is needed to achieve a given thrust. The low pressure zone pulls in the ambient air through the annular secondary inlet **140** and through the secondary flow path **142** into the primary flow path **111**. This in effect creates another source of thrust for the air flowing through the housing **100**. The air flowing from the secondary flow path **142** thus has a velocity with an axial component in the direction of the air flowing in the primary flow path **111**. The axial component of the secondary air is additive with the already flowing primary air flow to create more thrust for a given rotational speed of the impeller assembly **200**.

[0070] The housing **100** may have an overall axial height **H**. The height **H** may be measured axially from the upper lip **120** to the lower edge **134** of the housing **100**. The height **H** may be greater than the second width **W2**. The height **H** may be greater than the second width **W** by 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25% or more. In some embodiments, the height **H** be the same as or less than the second width **W2**. The height **H** may be designed to provide a desired “throw” or length of column of air emitted from the device **10**. The height **H** may be increased to provide for a longer throw. The height **H** may be decreased for a shorter throw. The height **H** may be designed to control the lateral dispersion of the air emitted from the device **10**. The height **H** may be decreased to provide more lateral dispersion of the air emitted from the device **10**, for example to have a wider column of air emitted and/or to emit a conical-shaped stream of air from the device **10**.

[0071] FIG. 7 is a side view of the air moving device **10**. As shown in FIGS. 6B and 7, an upper portion of the annular secondary inlet **140** may be located an axial distance **D1** from the inlet **110**. The axial distance **D1** may be measured from the upper lip **120** to the lower outer edge **119** of the upper outer sidewall **118**. In some embodiments, the axial distance **D1** may refer to only the flat portion of the upper outer sidewall **118**. The distance **D1** is less than 50% of the height **H**. In some embodiments, the distance **D1** may be less than 50%, 40%, 30%, 20%, 10% or less of the height **H**. [0072] The annular secondary inlet **140** may extend an axial height of distance **D2**. The distance **D2** may be measured from the lower outer edge **119** of the upper outer sidewall **118** axially to the upper edge **130** of the lower outer sidewall **132**. The distance **D2** may be constant circumferentially along the annular secondary inlet **140**. In some embodiments, the distance **D2** may not be constant circumferentially along the annular secondary inlet **140**.

[0073] The distance **D1** is greater than the distance **D2**. The distance **D2** may be equal to the distance **D1**. In some embodiments, the distance **D1** is greater than the distance **D2** by 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25% or more. In some embodiments, the distance **D1** is at least 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, or 1.5 times the distance **D2**. In some embodiments, the distance **D1** is at least 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, or 1.0 times the distance **D2**. Thus, in some embodiments, the distance **D2** may be greater than the distance **D1**. In some embodiments, there may be multiple annular secondary inlets **140** extending circumferentially, for example parallel, to each other, and each of the multiple annular secondary inlets **140** may have the axial distance **D2** as described herein. **D2** is 1.25 inches. In some embodiments, may be 0.25 inches, 0.375 inches, 0.5 inches, 0.625 inches, 0.75 inches, 0.875

inches, 1 inch, 1.125 inches, 1.25 inches, 1.375 inches, 1.5inches, 1.625 inches, 1.75 inches, 1.875 inches, 2 inches, 2.25 inches, 2.5 inches, 3 inches, or about any of the foregoing lengths. In some embodiments, D2 may be less than D1.

[0074] FIG. 8 is a cross-section view of the air moving device 10 as taken along the line C-C shown in FIG. 7. As shown in FIG. 8, the ribs 136 may be angularly distributed evenly about the housing 100. Further, the ribs 136 may separate the annular secondary inlet 140 into multiple annular inlet segments 140A, 140B, 140C, 140D, 140E, 140F, 140G, 140H. The annular inlet segments 140A, 140B, 140C, 140D, 140E, 140F, 140G, 140H are circumferentially aligned and extend around the housing 100. Each of the annular inlet segments 140A, 140B, 140C, 140D, 140E, 140F, 140G, 140H may be separated by a respective rib 136. There may be seven annular inlet segments 140A, 140B, 140C, 140D, 140E, 140F, 140G, 140H. In some embodiments, there may be two, three, four, five, six, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, or more of the annular inlet segments, with a corresponding number of ribs 136 and/or other structures separating the annular inlet segments.

[0075] FIG. 9 is a partial cross-section view of the device 10. The device 10 includes all of the features as described herein with respect to FIGS. 1-8. For example, as shown, the device 10 includes the housing 100 including the lower portion 128 and the upper portion 116 with an annular secondary inlet 140. The primary inlet 110 is formed by the lip 120 and an upper region of the upper inner sidewall 122. The impeller assembly 200 rotates the impeller blades 220 to draw air through the primary inlet 110 and out the primary outlet 112. Air is drawn into the secondary inlet 140 and mixes with the air flowing inside the housing 100 and exits the primary outlet 112. The secondary flow path 142 may draw air radially inward through the secondary inlet 140 and down the flow path 142 on a radially outward side of the upper inner sidewall 122. The upper region 113 of the primary flow path 111 flows downward on a radially inward side of the upper inner sidewall 122. The two flow paths meet and the air flow may then mix below the upper inner sidewall 122. As shown, and as described herein, for example with respect to FIGS. 6A-6B, the rib 136 and the vane 150 may be one continuous part that extends to or near the bottom end of the housing 100, for example to the outlet 112. This configuration may facilitate axial or columnar flow produced by the device 10.

[0076] FIG. 10A is a perspective view of an air moving device 11 having a bypass intake. FIGS. 10B and 10C are respectively side and top views of the device 11. FIG. 10D is a cross-section view of the device 11 as taken along the line 10D-10D indicated in FIG. 10C. The device 11 may include the same or similar features as the device 10, and vice versa. Therefore, any description of the device 10 herein with respect to FIGS. 1-9 may apply to the device 11.

[0077] The device 11 includes the housing 100 including the lower portion 128 and the upper portion 116 with an annular secondary inlet 140. The primary inlet 110 is formed by the lip 120 and an upper region of the upper inner sidewall 122. The impeller assembly 200 rotates the impeller blades 220 to draw air through the primary inlet 110 along the primary flow path 111 and out the primary outlet 112. Air is drawn into the secondary inlet 140 along a secondary flow path 142 and mixes with the air flowing inside the housing 100 and exits the primary outlet 112.

[0078] The air moving device 11 also includes the grill 101. As shown, the embodiment of the grill 101 on the device 11 includes upper grill members 103 extending along a top surface of the grill 101 in an annular direction. The grill 101 also includes side grill members 105 extending along a side surface of the grill 101 in an annular direction. The members 103, 105 are spaced to allow air to be drawn into the primary inlet 110 and into the housing 100 by the impeller 200 rotating the blades 220.

[0079] The impeller 200 is desirably positioned and retained in place by supports 107. There may be eight supports 107 as shown, or fewer or greater than eight supports 107. The supports 107 may be part of the grill 101. In some embodiments, there may not be a grill 101 but only the supports 107 supporting the impeller 200. As shown, the grill 101 is attached to the supports 107 to support

the impeller **200** and the grill members **103**, **105** at a top region of the device **11**. The impeller **200** extends axially downward from the supports **107** into the housing **100** such that the rotating blades **220** are located under the grill **101** and provide protection from injury to a user. The impeller **200** may be supported by a mount connecting the impeller **200** to the grill **100**. Outer ends of the supports **107** connect to the housing **100**, as shown to outer regions of the annular upper lip **120**. Attachments **109** are located at an upper region of the device **11**. As shown, the attachments **109** may be located on or near top outer ends of one or more of the supports **107**. The attachments **09** may be eye hooks as shown, or other suitable mechanical features, for example for hanging the device **11** from a ceiling.

[0080] The device **11** further includes outer connecting ribs **131**. The ribs **131** connect the upper portion **116** of the housing **100** to the lower portion **128** of the housing **100**. As shown, the ribs **131** connect the upper outer sidewall **118** to the lower outer sidewall **132**. The ribs **131** also define circumferential ends of the secondary annular inlets **140**. The ribs **131** may be continuations of the upper portion and/or lower portion **128**. The ribs **131** may be regions of the same continuous housing **100** structure.

[0081] The device **11** includes a plurality of the secondary annular inlets **140**. The inlets **140** are separated by the ribs **131**. There are eight inlets **140**. There may be one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, or more inlets **140**. The inlets **140** may form windows leading to the secondary flow path **142**. The outer connecting ribs **131** may be angularly aligned with the inner ribs **130**. There may be one or more inner ribs **130** located radially inward of each outer connecting rib **131**. In some embodiments, the inner and outer ribs **130**, **131** may be one continuous structure. The inner rib **130** may have a thickness in the circumferential direction that is much smaller than the circumferential length of the outer rib **131**, or these two dimensions may be the same or similar.

[0082] Importantly, the air moving device **11** may have a configuration as discussed above in connection with the air moving device **10**. For example, the air moving device **11** may have a height **H** and an upper portion of the annular secondary inlet **140** may be located an axial distance **D1** from the inlet **110**. Similarly, the annular secondary inlet **140** may extend an axial height of distance **D2**. The distance **D1** may be less than 50% of the height **H**. In some embodiments, the distance **D1** may be less than 50%, 40%, 30%, 20%, 10% or less of the height **H**. The distance **D2** may be greater than the distance **D1**. The distance **D2** may be equal to the distance **D1**. In some embodiments, the distance **D2** is greater than the distance **D1** by 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25% or more.

[0083] The air moving devices described herein, such as the devices **10** and **11**, may be implemented with a variety of features and configurations that are still within the scope of this disclosure. For example, the housing **100**, such as the upper and/or lower portions **116**, **128** and/or other features of the housing **100**, the impeller assembly **200**, the ribs **136**, and/or the vanes **150**, may have other suitable shapes, configurations, features, etc., as shown and described in U.S. Pat. No. 7,381,129, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Jun. 3, 2008, in U.S. Pat. No. 9,631,627, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Apr. 25, 2017, in U.S. Pat. No. 8,616,842, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Dec. 31, 2013, in U.S. Pat. No. 10,221,861, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Mar. 5, 2019, in U.S. Pat. No. 9,151,295, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Oct. 6, 2015, in U.S. Pat. No. 9,459,020, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Oct. 4, 2016, in U.S. Pat. No. 9,335,061, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued May 10, 2016, in U.S. Pat. No. 9,702,576, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Jul. 11, 2017, in U.S. Pat. No. 10,024,531, titled "Columnar Air Moving Devices, Systems and Methods" and issued Jul. 17, 2018, in U.S. Patent Publication No. 2016/0146222, titled "Air Moving Device" and Published May 26, 2016, and/or in U.S. Patent

Publication No. 2017/0370363, titled “Air Moving Device” and Published Dec. 28, 2017, the entire content of each of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes and forms a part of this specification.

[0084] Various modifications to the implementations described in this disclosure will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein can be applied to other implementations without departing from the spirit or scope of this disclosure. Thus, the disclosure is not intended to be limited to the implementations shown herein, but is to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the claims, the principles and the novel features disclosed herein. The word “example” is used exclusively herein to mean “serving as an example, instance, or illustration.” Any implementation described herein as “example” is not necessarily to be construed as preferred or advantageous over other implementations, unless otherwise stated.

[0085] Certain features that are described in this specification in the context of separate implementations also can be implemented in combination in a single implementation. Conversely, various features that are described in the context of a single implementation also can be implemented in multiple implementations separately or in any suitable sub-combination. Moreover, although features can be described above as acting in certain combinations and even initially claimed as such, one or more features from a claimed combination can in some cases be excised from the combination, and the claimed combination can be directed to a sub-combination or variation of a sub-combination.

[0086] Similarly, while operations are depicted in the drawings in a particular order, this should not be understood as requiring that such operations be performed in the particular order shown or in sequential order, or that all illustrated operations be performed, to achieve desirable results. Additionally, other implementations are within the scope of the following claims. In some cases, the actions recited in the claims can be performed in a different order and still achieve desirable results.

[0087] It will be understood by those within the art that, in general, terms used herein are generally intended as “open” terms (e.g., the term “including” should be interpreted as “including but not limited to,” the term “having” should be interpreted as “having at least,” the term “includes” should be interpreted as “includes but is not limited to,” etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is intended, such an intent will be explicitly recited in the claim, and in the absence of such recitation no such intent is present. For example, as an aid to understanding, the following appended claims may contain usage of the introductory phrases “at least one” and “one or more” to introduce claim recitations. However, the use of such phrases should not be construed to imply that the introduction of a claim recitation by the indefinite articles “a” or “an” limits any particular claim containing such introduced claim recitation to embodiments containing only one such recitation, even when the same claim includes the introductory phrases “one or more” or “at least one” and indefinite articles such as “a” or “an” (e.g., “a” and/or “an” should typically be interpreted to mean “at least one” or “one or more”); the same holds true for the use of definite articles used to introduce claim recitations. In addition, even if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is explicitly recited, those skilled in the art will recognize that such recitation should typically be interpreted to mean at least the recited number (e.g., the bare recitation of “two recitations,” without other modifiers, typically means at least two recitations, or two or more recitations).

[0088] Furthermore, in those instances where a convention analogous to “at least one of A, B, and C, etc.” is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., “a system having at least one of A, B, and C” would include but not be limited to systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). In those instances where a convention analogous to “at least one of A, B, or C, etc.” is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., “a system having at

least one of A, B, or C” would include but not be limited to systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that virtually any disjunctive word and/or phrase presenting two or more alternative terms, whether in the description, claims, or drawings, should be understood to contemplate the possibilities of including one of the terms, either of the terms, or both terms. For example, the phrase “A or B” will be understood to include the possibilities of “A” or “B” or “A and B.”

Claims

1. (canceled)
 2. A method of moving air through an air moving device, the method comprising: directing a primary air flow through a primary inlet of a housing of the air moving device and into a primary flow path; directing a secondary air flow through a secondary inlet of the housing and into a secondary flow path, the secondary inlet defined by an upper portion and a lower portion of an annular outer sidewall of the housing; guiding the secondary air flow through the secondary flow path between an inner surface of the annular outer sidewall of the housing and an outer surface of an inner sidewall of the housing and out a secondary outlet; and exiting the primary air flow and the secondary air flow out of the air moving device through a primary outlet of the housing.
 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the outer surface of the inner sidewall of the housing is parallel to the inner surface of the annular outer sidewall.
 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising mixing the primary air flow and the secondary air flow after guiding the secondary air flow through the secondary outlet.
 5. The method of claim 2, wherein the primary air flow comprises a plurality of air flow paths flowing through the primary inlet of the housing.
 6. The method of claim 2, further comprising pulling the secondary air flow through the secondary outlet and into the primary flow path by a low pressure zone.
 7. The method of claim 2, wherein an upper region of the primary flow path defines a first diameter, and a lower region of the primary flow path defines a second diameter, the first diameter being less than the second diameter.
 8. The method of claim 2, wherein the secondary outlet is an annular secondary outlet.
 9. The method of claim 2, wherein a portion of the secondary flow path is parallel to a portion of the primary flow path.
 10. The method of claim 2, further comprising guiding a portion of the secondary air flow into a pocket positioned above the secondary flow path.
 11. The method of claim 2, wherein guiding the secondary air flow through the secondary flow path causes a first pressure at the secondary outlet and a second pressure at the secondary inlet, the second pressure higher than the first pressure.
 12. The method of claim 11, wherein a pressure differential between the first pressure and the second pressure directs the secondary air flow into primary flow path.
 13. The method of claim 2, further comprising moving a portion of the primary air flow radially outward to mix with the secondary air flow exiting the secondary outlet.
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