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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB99/01544 (22) International Filing Date: 4 August 1999 (04.08.99) (30) Priority Data: SP98A000006 5 August 1998 (05.08.98) IT (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: ARRICHIELLO, Vincenzo [IT/IT]; Via S. Antonio, 7, I-19121 La Spezia (IT).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AU, CA, NZ, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. In English translation (filed in Italian).</i></p>	
<p>(54) Title: BELLOWS ACTUATION DEVICE, SPECIALLY FOR ROBOTIC MANIPULATOR, AND METHOD TO OPERATE SAID DEVICE</p>		
<p>(57) Abstract</p>		
<p>It is described an actuation device using, for the active element, a flexible bellows operated by a pressurized fluid (usually, but not necessarily, at a pressure higher than the ambient one). The bellows is housed, for the most part of its length, inside a cylindrical cavity having the inner diameter slightly larger than the bellows outer one, so that the bellows is free to vary its length, but is restrained to bend sideways and therefore can be operated by high pressure.</p>		