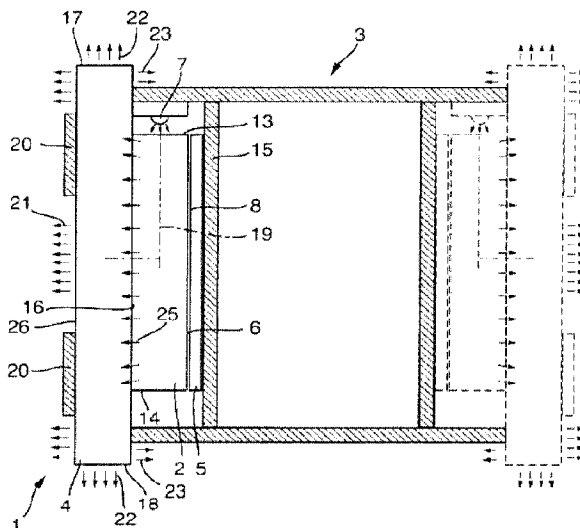




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(54) Title: LIGHTING SYSTEM



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The invention relates to a lighting system (1) comprising a lighting panel (2), wherein at least one light source (7), assigned to a narrow side of the lighting panel (2), is provided for coupling light into the lighting panel (2). The lighting system (1) also comprises a reflector (5) facing a flat side (8) of the lighting panel (2), wherein the flat side (8) of the lighting panel (2) facing the reflector (5) and/or the reflector (5) and/or an intermediate layer between the reflector (5) and the lighting panel (2) is provided with a surface structure (6). Said surface structure (6) is formed as a line grid made of continuous and intersecting grid lines (9). According to the invention, a high level of homogenisation of the light emission from the lighting panel (2) can be achieved in a simple manner. In this way, in particular, greater transmission losses in the edge regions of the lighting panel (2) are prevented.

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a lighting system (1) comprising a lighting panel (2), wherein at least one light source (7), assigned to a narrow side of the lighting panel (2), is provided for coupling light into the lighting panel (2). The lighting system (1) also comprises a reflector (5) facing a flat side (8) of the lighting panel (2), wherein the flat side (8) of the lighting panel (2) facing the reflector (5) and/or the reflector (5) and/or an intermediate layer between the reflector (5) and the lighting panel (2) is provided with a surface structure (6). Said surface structure (6) is formed as a line grid made of continuous and intersecting grid lines (9). According to the invention, a high level of homogenisation of the light emission from the lighting panel (2) can be achieved in a simple manner. In this way, in particular, greater transmission losses in the edge regions of the lighting panel (2) are prevented.

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## DESCRIPTION

**Lighting system**

## TECHNICAL FIELD

5

The present invention relates to a lighting device comprising a lighting panel, at least one light source, assigned to a narrow side of the lighting panel, for coupling light into the lighting panel, and a reflector facing a flat side of the lighting panel, wherein the flat side of the lighting panel facing the reflector and/or the reflector is provided with a surface structure.

15 PRIOR ART

Such lighting devices can be used in buildings or in outdoor spaces and can serve as room illumination, decoration element or design element, with other uses however also being conceivable. In particular, such lighting devices can serve as a structural and/or decoration element of gaming and/or entertainment devices, such as casino machines or other operating terminals.

25

In order to achieve a high luminosity without a blinding effect, the light emitted in such lighting devices by the at least one light source - for example an LED band or an LED arrangement - is coupled on the narrow side into a relatively large-area lighting panel and emitted by way of the flat side thereof in an at least partly

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distributed manner. In order to obtain a uniform light distribution in the lighting panel despite the narrow-side light feed, one flat side of the lighting panel can be provided with a light-scattering or light-refractive surface structure, which e.g. can be embodied in the form of printing on the surface. In particular, such a surface structure can be provided in conjunction with a reflector facing the aforementioned flat side of the lighting panel, said reflector reflecting light emerging out of the lighting panel from the aforementioned flat side into the lighting panel or onto the flat side thereof such that the light passes through the aforementioned surface structure at least twice and, to this extent, is scattered multiple times at the surface structure. The light reflected into the lighting panel by the reflector can emerge from the flat side of the lighting panel lying opposite to the reflector.

A lighting device of the aforementioned type is known from the document US 2012/0287631A1, according to which a lighting panel in the form of an acrylic panel is also covered a rear side by a reflector panel, wherein the flat side facing the reflector of the aforementioned panel is provided with a cloud-shaped surface structure in the form of ink printing. The aforementioned cloud-shaped surface structure should in this case have an ever decreasing degree of filling - i.e., so to speak, a reducing cloud density - with increasing distance from the light source arranged on the narrow side. From such a changing filling density of the surface structure, the aforementioned document expects light emission or light transmission, uniform overall over the flat side, into an

emission panel placed on the front side in front of the  
aforementioned acrylic panel.

However, what was found in practice is that the  
5 brilliance of the emitted light and the luminosity of  
the lighting panel are relatively restricted in this  
known lighting device and, overall, there is relatively  
diffuse emission. The efficiency, particularly in the  
edge regions of the lighting panel, is impaired as a  
10 result of the surface printing becoming ever denser  
toward the light sources.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

15 Proceeding therefrom, the present invention is based on  
the object of developing an improved lighting device of  
the aforementioned type, which avoids the disadvantages  
of the prior art and advantageously develops the latter.  
In particular, a uniform, brilliant light emission with  
20 high luminosity should be achieved by the lighting  
panel, even with limited powers of the light sources.  
Preferably, illumination to different sides of the room  
or a good visibility from different locations should be  
achieved.

25

Thus, it is proposed to form the surface structure  
provided between reflector and lighting panel no longer

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in a cloud-shaped manner but in the form of a line grid made of continuous, crossing lines, said line grid extending uniformly over the flat side of the lighting panel facing the reflector and/or the reflector surface.

5 Surprisingly, high equalization of the light emission from the lighting panel can also be achieved by such a simple line grid, as a result of which it is possible to avoid relatively large transmission losses in the edge regions of the lighting panel, as were known in the prior

10 art.

In an advantageous development of the invention, the surface structure can have a mesh size which remains substantially unchanged over the flat side of the

15 lighting panel and/or an unchanging degree of filling. The surface structure can be embodied to have approximately the same density in edge regions of the panel as in a central region of the lighting panel and various edge regions of the lighting panel and/or of the

20 reflector facing the lighting panel can have a uniformly dense surface structure or a substantially equal grid density or mesh size independently of the arrangement of the light source - for example at only a narrow side of the lighting panel, or else at opposite narrow sides or a

25 plurality of narrow sides of the lighting panel.

Here, the grid lines of the grid structure can have a straight extent, with this however not being mandatory. By way of example, the continuous, crossing grid lines

30 can also have an arcuate or e.g. a sinusoidal extent.

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In a development of the invention, the surface structure has a relatively thin embodiment and/or the degree of filling of the surface structure, i.e. the surface portion of the surface structure relative to the unstructured surface portion and/or in relation to the overall area of the lighting panel, is relatively low. This can be achieved by a relatively large mesh size in the case of a relatively small line width. In a development of the invention, the surface structure can have a degree of filling of approximately 1 percent to 25 percent, preferably 5 percent to 15 percent, of the overall surface of the flat side of the lighting panel, wherein the aforementioned degree of filling may also be provided if the surface structure is provided on the reflector surface or on an intermediate layer or an intermediate panel, for example in the form of an intermediate film between the aforementioned lighting panel and the aforementioned reflector.

In an advantageous development of the invention, the line grid can have a mesh size of 2 to 3 mm. A line width can be less than 0.5 mm, in particular approximately in the range from 0.01 to 0.2 mm.

Depending on the line profile, the line grid can have different crossing angles, wherein, preferably, the line profile is embodied in such a way that the crossing angles remain substantially unchanged over the flat side. In principle, a crossing angle of 90 degrees could be considered here, particularly if a straight line profile is provided. However, it was surprisingly found that a crossing angle deviating from 90 degrees is advantageous,

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in particular a crossing angle in the range from approximately 60 degrees to 80 degrees - or in the range from 100 degrees to 120 degrees when the complementary, larger crossing angle is considered. Even more  
5 multifaceted light scattering and hence a greater equalization can be achieved by such an intersection of the grid lines.

Advantageously, the grid lines are arranged at an angle  
10 relative to the narrow side of the lighting panel - or to the plurality of narrow sides of the lighting panel - by means of which the light is coupled into the lighting panel from the light source such that the grid lines extend neither parallel nor perpendicular to the  
15 aforementioned narrow side.

The grid structure can consist of printing on the panel and/or reflector surface, for example by means of suitable ink or printing color, wherein, however, a  
20 different embodiment, for example in the form of surface etching, engraving or milling or grinding, could also be provided where necessary.

Here, in an advantageous development of the invention,  
25 the grid lines are not black but have a light embodiment, in particular with a white color or a color similar to white. Transmission losses can be significantly reduced compared to dark or even black printing, but, surprisingly, it is nevertheless possible to obtain a  
30 high equalization of the light distribution.



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In principle, the light can be emitted from the lighting panel in different ways. In a simple development of the invention, the light can be emitted directly from the lighting panel into which the light is preferably coupled from the narrow side, in particular via the flat side of the lighting panel facing away from the reflector. Alternatively, or additionally, a further lighting panel and/or emission panel can be disposed downstream of the aforementioned lighting panel into which the light is coupled, for example in such a way that the light which emerges from the flat side of the first panel facing away from the reflector enters into the downstream panel, propagates further in this downstream panel and is emitted by this downstream panel or an even further downstream lighting panel. In particular, such an emission panel can sit with a flat side on the flat side of the lighting panel facing away from the reflector, into which the light is fed, preferably with two-dimensional contact between the two panel flat sides or, alternatively, also forming an intermediate gap.

Here, the lighting device can comprise one or more emission surfaces, wherein a panel flat side - of the first or of a downstream panel - facing away from the reflector, in particular, can serve as emission surface such that the light is emitted substantially across, in particular perpendicular to, the input coupling direction of the light, in which the light is coupled into the lighting panel on the narrow side.

30

Alternatively, or additionally, provision can also be made in a development of the invention of an emission

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surface which is aligned substantially across the flat side of the lighting panel such that the light is emitted substantially parallel to the plane in which the light is coupled into the lighting panel on the narrow side.

5 Advantageously, this emission surface with a transverse alignment is arranged offset from the incoming radiation plane such that the light coming from the light source assumes a step-shaped or stair-shaped propagation or emission path through the lighting panel.

10

By way of such an embodiment of the lighting panel or arrangement of the emission surface, the lighting device is able, so to speak, to shine around the corner and illuminate a spatial region to the side of the flat side  
15 of the lighting panel.

In an advantageous development of the invention there can be a multi-axis emission or the lighting device can have a plurality of chief emission directions which are  
20 preferably perpendicular to one another. In an advantageous development of the invention, the lighting panel and/or emission panel can have an emission surface formed by the flat side of the panel facing away from the reflector and at least one further emission surface  
25 formed by a narrow side of the aforementioned lighting panel and/or emission panel.

Advantageously, the aforementioned lighting panel and/or emission panel can comprise a narrow side which is  
30 surrounded by a device housing, with the light being coupled into the aforementioned panel by way of said narrow side, wherein, in particular, the at least one

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light source, for example in the form of an LED arrangement, can be arranged between an inner side of the aforementioned device housing and the aforementioned panel narrow side. In addition to this input coupling  
5 narrow side, the aforementioned lighting panel, or a downstream emission panel, can comprise a further panel narrow side which is not covered by the aforementioned device housing and/or which projects out of the device housing and/or which is arranged in an exposed manner  
10 such that there can be light emission via this aforementioned further end side. The aforementioned further panel narrow side can lie in the plane of the input coupling narrow side, but advantageously it can also be arranged offset in relation to the input coupling  
15 narrow side in a direction perpendicular to the panel flat side such that an overall stair-shaped or step-shaped light course emerges through the panel or the panels between the light source and the aforementioned exit narrow side.

20

The lighting device can have various forms and embodiments. In an advantageous development of the invention, the lighting device can be embodied as a preferably arcuate portal in the style of a gate, which  
25 spans a clear space and/or has a self-supporting embodiment. The portal can have a floor contact area or feet and can be able to be put up freely on the floor in a self-supporting manner. Alternatively, or additionally, the portal can be connected to a structure to be spanned,  
30 for example a gaming table, or anchored thereon.

- 10 -

Advantageously, the portal can have a modular design and be assemblable from a plurality of portal parts, in particular straight base parts and at least one bent and/or kinked connection part, wherein the portal parts  
5 are preferably contoured in such a way that the portal parts can be brought into holding engagement with one another in an interlocking manner, in particular are pluggable into one another, such that the portal parts together form a stiff portal structure.

10

At least one display device for displaying information can be arranged on the portal, preferably in the region of a portal top or upper restriction region, wherein, for example, two screens aligned toward opposite sides can be  
15 provided. The display device can be fastened to the portal or mounted at a different position.

Advantageously, the portal can be used to span a gaming and/or entertainment machine such as a gaming table in a  
20 casino or gaming establishment, or else for spanning other structures to be highlighted, such as delivery tables in warehouses, or else it can be used outdoors.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

25

Below, the invention will be explained in more detail on the basis of a preferred exemplary embodiment and associated drawings. In the drawings:

30 figure 1 shows a cross section through a lighting device along the line A-A in figure 4 according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention, said

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cross section showing the arrangement of a lighting panel in a device housing and the assignment of the light source to the lighting panel, and showing the arrangement of a reflector at a panel rear side,

figure 2 shows a perspective plan view on the flat side of the lighting panel from figure 1, provided with a grid surface structure, said perspective plan view showing the line grid made of continuous, crossing grid lines,

figure 3 shows a frontal plan view of the line grid of the lighting panel from figure 2, said frontal plan view elucidating the mesh size and line width,

figure 4 shows a side view of the overall arcuate lighting device and the arrangement thereof over a gaming table,

figure 5 shows a lateral plan view of the lighting device from figure 4,

figure 6 shows a perspective side view of a post-shaped portal base part of the lighting portal from figures 4 and 5,

figure 7 shows a perspective side view of an arcuate portal base part of the lighting portal from figures 4 and 5, which can be assembled with

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the post-shaped portal base part from figure 6,  
and

figure 8 shows a sectional view of a portal part from  
5 figure 6 or 7, which shows the integration of  
the lighting device functional components into  
the portal and the arrangement thereof in  
relation to one another.

## 10 IMPLEMENTING THE INVENTION

As shown in figures 4 and 5, the lighting device 1 can be  
embodied in the form of a lighting arc or lighting portal  
which can arc in the style of a doorframe or in the style  
15 of a doorway arch over a gaming table 12, for example in  
the form of a roulette table, or a different gaming or  
entertainment machine, or which can span a clear space  
28. Here, the lighting device 1 can have a - loosely  
speaking - rectangular or box-shaped cross section, the  
20 flat sides of which extend to the outer sides and inner  
sides of the aforementioned lighting arc and the narrow  
sides of which can extend in the passage direction of the  
lighting arc. However, it is understood that the lighting  
device can also have different contouring and different  
25 geometries.

As shown by figures 4 to 7, the gate or the portal 27,  
into which the lighting device 1 is integrated, can have  
a modular design and be assemblable from a plurality of  
30 portal parts, in particular straight base parts 27a and  
27d and at least one, or a plurality of, bent and/or  
kinked connection parts 27b and 27c, wherein the portal

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parts 27a-d are preferably contoured in such a way that the portal parts 27a-d can be brought into holding engagement with one another in an interlocking manner, in particular are pluggable into one another, such that the  
5 portal parts 27a-d together form a stiff portal structure.

As figures 1 to 3 show, the gate-shaped lighting device can comprise a plate-shaped, in particular plane,  
10 lighting panel 2 which can be arranged in a preferably box-shaped device housing 3. As shown in figure 1, the device housing 3 can surround the narrow sides 13 and 14 of the aforementioned lighting panel 2 in particular and also cover a rear side or a rear-side flat side 8 with a  
15 housing wall 15.

As shown with a dashed representation in figure 1, two such lighting panels 2 can be integrated into the device housing 3, which lighting panels can advantageously be  
20 aligned toward opposite sides. If the lighting device 1 is embodied in the form of a lighting arc or lighting portal, as is shown in figures 4 and 5, the aforementioned lighting panels 2 can be oriented toward the end sides of the lighting arc.

25

A light source 7 in the form of an LED band or another LED arrangement can be assigned to the aforementioned narrow sides 13 and 14 of the lighting panel 2 such that the light source 7 radiates light into at least one of  
30 the aforementioned narrow sides 13 and 14 such that the light is coupled into the lighting panel. In particular, the light source 7 can be arranged directly opposite to

- 14 -

the aforementioned narrow side 13 or 14, for example be fastened to the inner side of the device housing 3.

A reflector 5 is assigned to a flat side 8 of the lighting panel 2 facing the housing interior, said reflector capturing light emerging from the aforementioned flat side 8 and reflecting it into the lighting panel 2. The aforementioned reflector 5 can likewise have a panel-shaped or plate-shaped, in particular plane, embodiment and can sit directly on the aforementioned flat side 8 of the lighting panel 2 or be arranged with a slit-shaped distance therefrom. By way of example, the reflector 5 can form a reflector panel or it can be applied onto the flat side 8 in the form of a reflector film or reflector coating.

As figures 2 and 3 show, a surface structure 6 embodied as a line grid is provided on the flat side 8 of the lighting panel 2 facing the reflector 5, which line grid can consist of continuous, crossing grid lines 9 which may be printed onto the lighting panel 2, for example in the form of an ink or colored print. Advantageously, the aforementioned grid lines 9 or the surface structure 6 is/are embodied in white or a color which is similar to white or very light.

As figures 2 and 3 show, the grid lines 9 can have a straight profile and intersect under a crossing angle of approximately 60 to 80 degrees. The degree of filling of the surface structure 6 is advantageously relatively low, in particular embodied in the range set forth at the outset. By way of example, this can be obtained by the



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ratio, visible in the figures, of a relatively large mesh size to a relatively thin line width. Advantageously, the mesh size can be in the range of a couple millimeters, e.g. 2 to 3 mm, while the line width can be only a  
5 fraction of a millimeter, for example in the range from 0.05 to 0.5 mm.

Advantageously, the mesh size can have an unchanging mesh size and/or an unchanging degree of filling over the  
10 whole area of the lighting panel 2 or the whole lighting panel portion provided with the surface structure 6, i.e. the density of the grid structure substantially does not change over the extent of the lighting panel 2.

15 By way of the aforementioned surface structure 6, the light, which wants to emerge from the lighting panel 2 via the flat side 8 toward the reflector 5 or which is reflected by the reflector 5 into the lighting panel 2, can be scattered and accordingly equalized.

20 Figure 1 shows a light source 7 on only one narrow side 13 of the lighting panel 2; however, provision can also be made of light sources 7 at a plurality of narrow sides. The narrow sides within the device housing 3 not  
25 provided with light sources 7 can have a mirrored embodiment so as to avoid transmission losses here.

The equalized light can emerge from the lighting panel 2 at the flat side of the lighting panel 2 lying opposite  
30 the reflector 5, as elucidated by the arrows 25 in figure 1, or it can enter into a downstream emission panel 4, which is, in particular, placed onto the lighting panel

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2, said emission panel 4 having emission surfaces not surrounded in front of the device housing 3. Here, in particular, a flat side 16 of the lighting panel 2 and/or a flat side 26 of the aforementioned emission panel 4 which is distant from the reflector 5 can serve as an emission surface. The light emission from said flat side 26 is elucidated by the arrows 21. Alternatively, or additionally, narrow sides 17 and 18 of the emission panel 4 can form light exit or emission surfaces, which can extend across, or approximately perpendicular to, the surface-structured flat side 8 of the lighting panel 2 and which can be arranged offset in relation to the light entrance narrow side such that the light emitted by the light sources 7 can, so to speak, be emitted around the corner through the lighting panel 2 and the emission panel 4, as elucidated by arrows 22 and 23 in figure 1. The beam path 19 through the lighting panel 2 and emission panel 4 can have stair-shaped contouring, if the chief input radiation direction and the corresponding chief emission direction are considered, cf. figure 1.

The lighting panel 2, the emission panel 4 and/or the reflector panel 5 can consist of various materials, for example a light-transmissive plastic such as Plexiglas or glass in each case, wherein the reflector panel 5 may have a reflecting or mirroring coating. In particular, the lighting panel 2 can be embodied as scattering Plexiglas, the emission panel 4 as light Plexiglas and/or the reflector panel 5 as mirroring Plexiglas.

30

The lighting panel 2, the emission panel 4 and/or the reflector panel 5 can be securely connected to one

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another and/or joined on one another under mutual bearing pressure, for example held on one another by way of screws or other connecting elements such as rivets, pins or the like, cf. figure 8. Advantageously, the lighting  
5 panel 2, the emission panel 4 and the reflector panel 5 can form a pre-assemblable assemblage and be installed together.

As figure 1 and figure 5 show, stop elements 20 can be  
10 attached to the emission surface of the emission panel 4, in particular on the flat side thereof, said stop elements covering part of the emission surface and preventing light emergence there. In particular, the  
15 aforementioned stop elements 20 can have a mirrored or at least strongly reflecting embodiment, for example in the form of a chrome-plated or polished metal surface.

As figures 4 and 5 show, the lighting device 1 can be combined with a display device, for example in the form  
20 of a screen 24, in particular a flat screen or the like. By way of example, such a screen 24 can be arranged in an upper and/or easily visible region, in particular in the region of the culmination point of the lighting arc, wherein the screen 24 can be mounted on the lighting  
25 device 1 or else separately therefrom.

**CLAIMS:**

1. A lighting device comprising:

a lighting panel;

5 at least one light source, assigned to an input coupling narrow side of the lighting panel for coupling light into the lighting panel;

a device housing;

10 a reflector facing a flat side of the lighting panel wherein the flat side of the lighting panel facing the reflector, the reflector, and/or an intermediate layer between the reflector and the lighting panel is provided with a surface structure, wherein the surface structure is embodied as a line grid made of continuous, crossing grid  
15 lines; and

an emission panel arranged on the flat side of the lighting panel facing away from the reflector, the emission panel having an emission surface formed by the flat side of the emission panel facing away from the reflector and at least  
20 one further emission surface formed by a narrow side of the emission panel,

wherein the lighting panel is surrounded at least in part by a device housing, said device housing covering the input coupling narrow side,

25 wherein the at least one light source is arranged between an inner side of the device housing and the input coupling narrow side,

wherein the reflector facing the flat side of the lighting panel is covered with a housing wall of the device housing,  
30 and

wherein the at least one further emission surface of the emission panel is arranged in an exposed manner relative to the device housing in such a way that light is emittable to surroundings of the housing.

5

2. The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface structure is formed as a line grid from continuous, crossing grid lines and has a mesh size which remains unchanged over the flat side of the lighting panel and/or an unchanging degree of filling.

10

3. The lighting device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the surface structure has a degree of filling of 3 percent to 25 percent of an overall surface of the flat side of the lighting panel.

15

4. The lighting device as claim in claim 1 or 2, wherein the surface structure has a degree of filling of 5 percent to 15 percent of the overall surface of the flat side of the lighting panel.

20

5. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the surface structure has a mesh size in the range from 2 to 3 mm.

25

6. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the grid lines have a line width of less than 0.5 mm.

7. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the grid lines have a line width of 0.01 to 0.2 mm.

30

8. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7,  
wherein the grid lines have a straight extent.
- 5 9. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8,  
wherein the grid lines cross at a crossing angle of 60 degrees  
to 80 degrees.
- 10 10. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9,  
wherein the grid lines have a white embodiment.
- 11 11. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10,  
wherein the lighting panel comprises a plurality of narrow  
sides, wherein the grid lines extend inclined at an acute  
angle in relation to the input coupling narrow side, by means  
15 of which the light from the light source is coupleable into  
the lighting panel.
- 20 12. The lighting device as claimed in any of one of claims 1 to  
11, wherein a multi-axis emission is provided and the lighting  
device has a plurality of main emission directions, wherein  
a first main emission direction is aligned perpendicular to  
the flat side of the lighting panel and a further main  
emission direction is aligned parallel to the flat side of  
the lighting panel.
- 25 13. The lighting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the at  
least one further emission surface formed by the narrow side  
of the emission panel and/or the emission surface of the  
emission panel is arranged offset with respect to the input  
coupling narrow side by means of which light is coupleable  
30 into the lighting panel, in a direction perpendicular to the  
flat side of the lighting panel.

14. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13,  
wherein the light from the at least one light source has, at  
least in part, a stair- or step-shaped light path through the  
lighting panel and/or through a downstream emission panel.
15. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14,  
wherein the lighting device is embodied as a portal.
16. The lighting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the portal  
spans a clear space and/or has a self-supporting embodiment.
17. The lighting device as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the  
portal is an arcuate portal.
18. The lighting device as claimed in any one of claims 15 to 17,  
wherein the portal has a modular design and is assemblable  
from a plurality of portal parts, including straight base  
parts and at least one bent and/or kinked connection part,  
wherein the portal parts are contoured in such a way that the  
portal parts are assemblable into holding engagement with one  
another in an interlocking manner.
19. The lighting device as claimed in claim 17 or 18, wherein at  
least one display device for displaying information is  
provided on the portal.
20. A portal for spanning a machine, comprising a lighting device  
as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 19.
21. The portal as claimed in claim 20, wherein the machine is a  
gaming and/or entertainment machine.

22. The portal as claimed in claim 20, wherein the machine is a gaming table.

5 23. A portal part of a lighting portal, the portal part comprising:

a device housing;

10 a lighting panel, wherein the device housing covers an input coupling narrow side of the lighting panel, wherein a housing wall of the device housing covers a rear side of the lighting panel;

15 a reflector arranged at the rear side of the lighting panel and facing a housing interior of the device housing, wherein light emitted from a light source assigned to the input coupling narrow side is coupled into the lighting panel on the input coupling narrow side, wherein the reflector reflects light emerging from the rear side of the lighting panel into the lighting panel;

20 a surface structure comprising a plurality of intersecting grid lines, wherein the surface structure is provided between the reflector and the lighting panel;

25 an emission panel arranged at a front side of the lighting panel, wherein the emission panel comprises one or more emission surfaces facing away from the reflector, wherein at least one emission surface is formed by a narrow side of the emission panel,

30 wherein the portal part is configured to be brought into holding engagement with another portal part in an interlocking manner, wherein the lighting portal is assemblable from a plurality of portal parts.



24. The portal part according to claim 23, wherein the device housing comprises a box-shaped device housing, wherein the box-shaped device housing comprises the housing wall converging the rear side of the lighting panel, a second housing wall covering the input coupling narrow side of the lighting panel, and a third housing wall covering an opposite narrow side of the lighting panel.
25. The portal part according to claim 23 or 24, wherein the portal part and another portal part are pluggable into one another.
26. The portal part according to any one of claims 23 to 25, wherein the one or more emission surfaces comprises an emission surface formed by a flat side of the emission panel and the at least one emission surface formed by a narrow side of the emission panel.
27. The portal part according to claim 26, wherein the narrow side of the emission panel projects out of the device housing in an exposed manner.
28. The portal part according to claim 26 or 27, wherein the narrow side of the emission panel is not covered by the device housing.
29. A lighting device embodied as a lighting portal, the lighting portal assembled from a plurality of portal parts according to any one of claims 23 to 28,  
wherein the light source assigned to the input coupling narrow side of the lighting panel of the portal part is arranged between the inner side of the device housing of the

portal part and the input coupling narrow side of the lighting panel of the portal part.

- 5      30.    The lighting device according to claim 29, the lighting portal comprising an arcuate lighting portal spanning a clear space.
31.    The lighting device according to claim 29 or 30, the lighting portal for spanning a machine, a gaming machine, a gaming table, and/or an entertainment machine.

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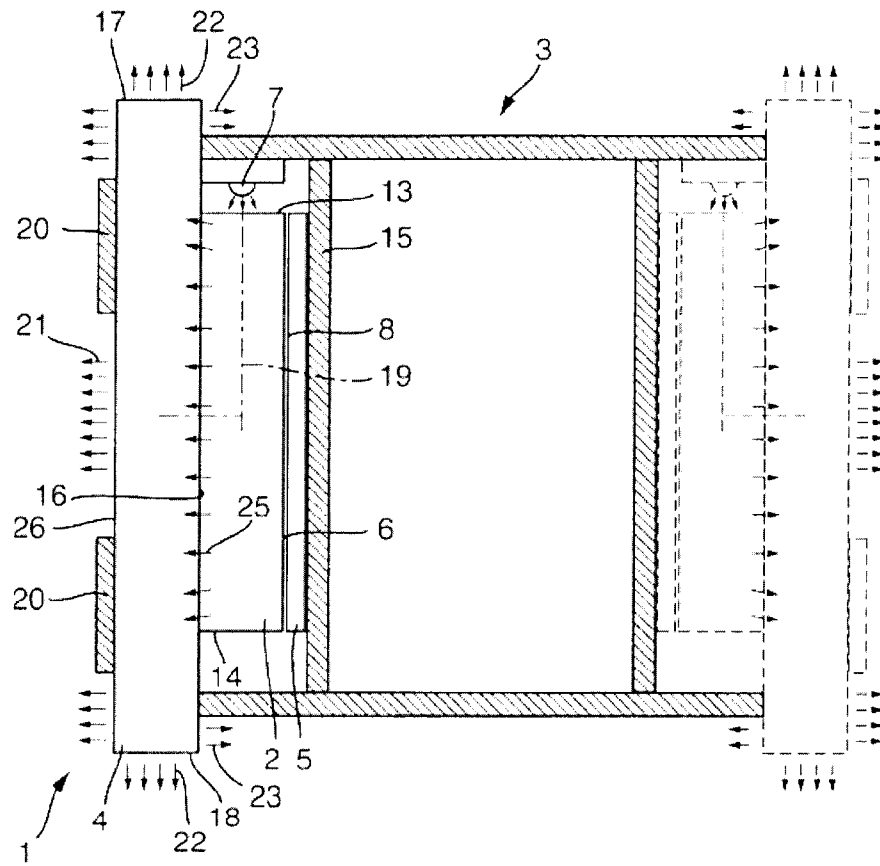


Fig. 1

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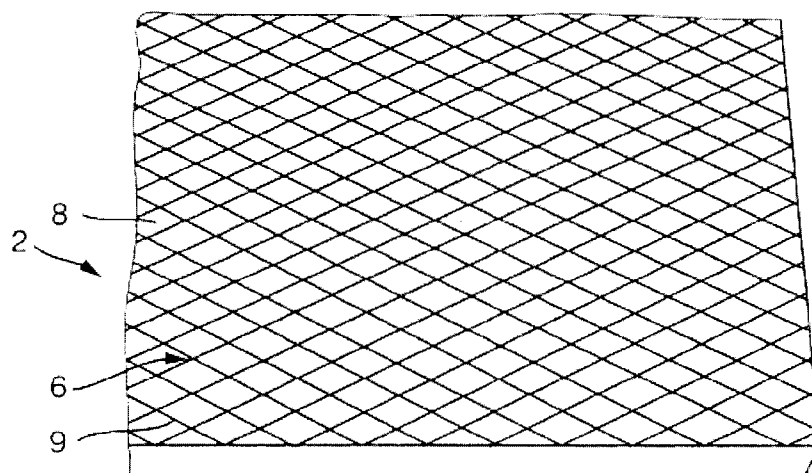


Fig. 2

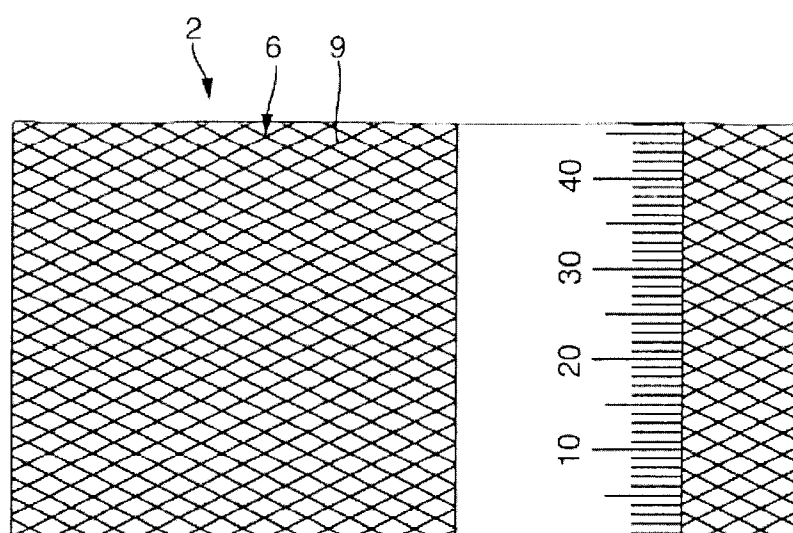


Fig. 3

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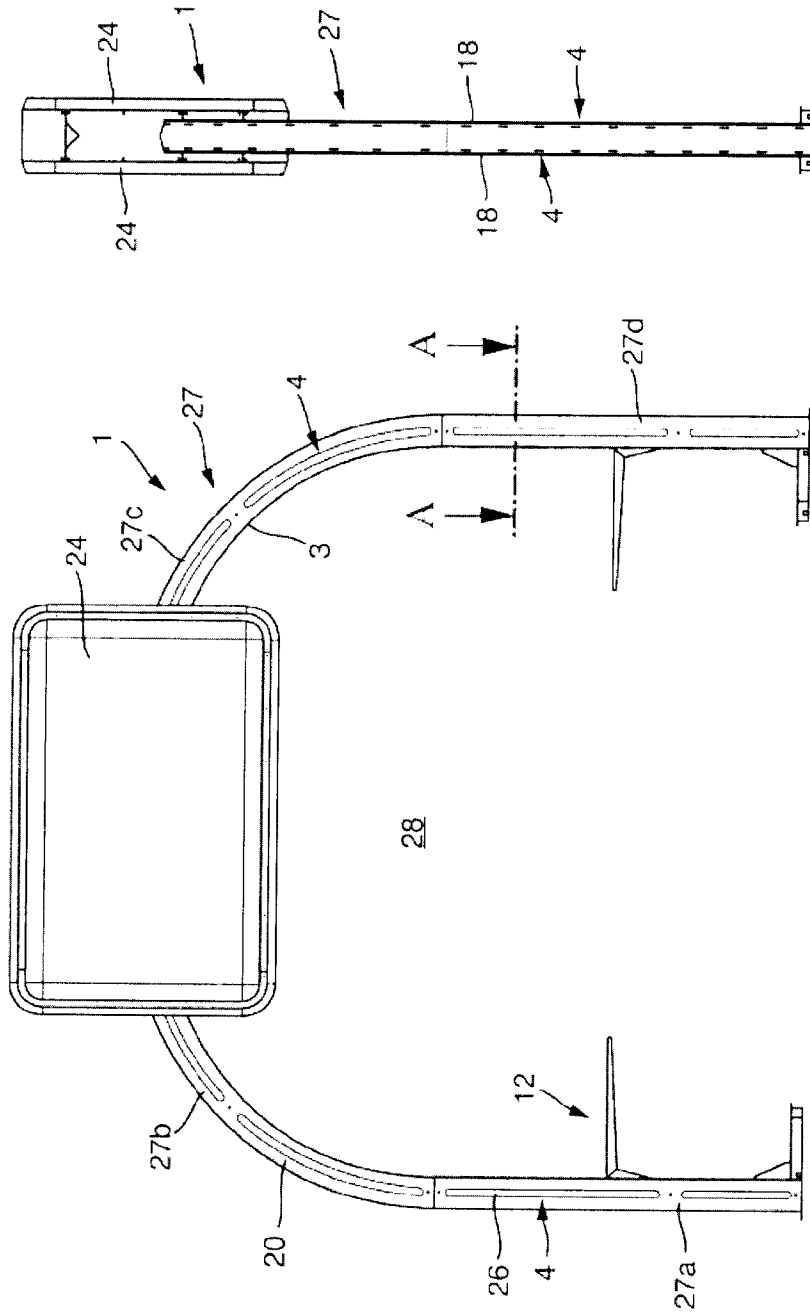


Fig. 5

Fig. 4

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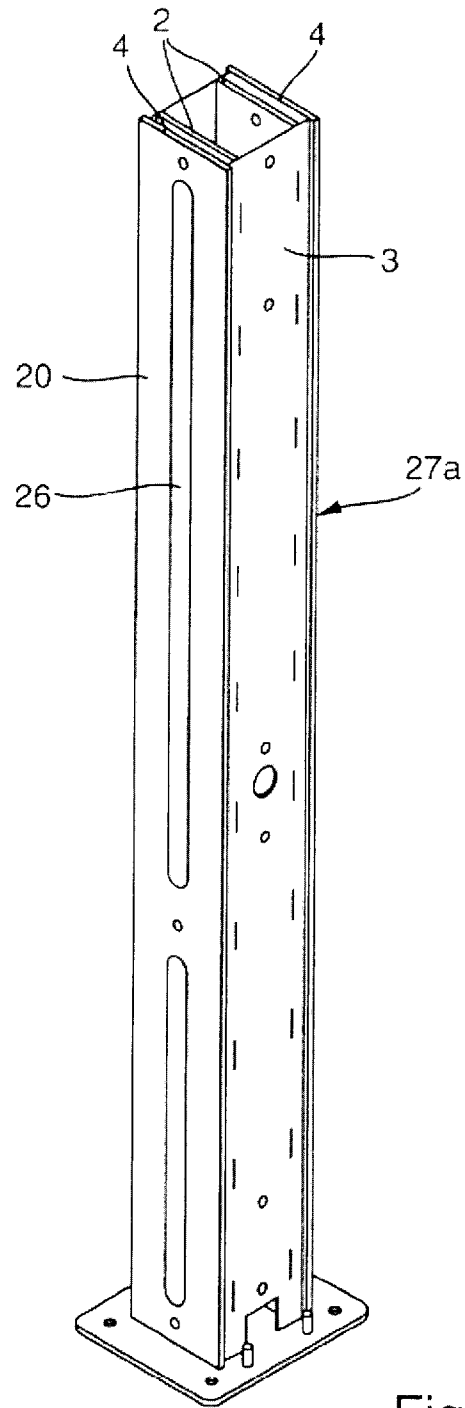


Fig. 6

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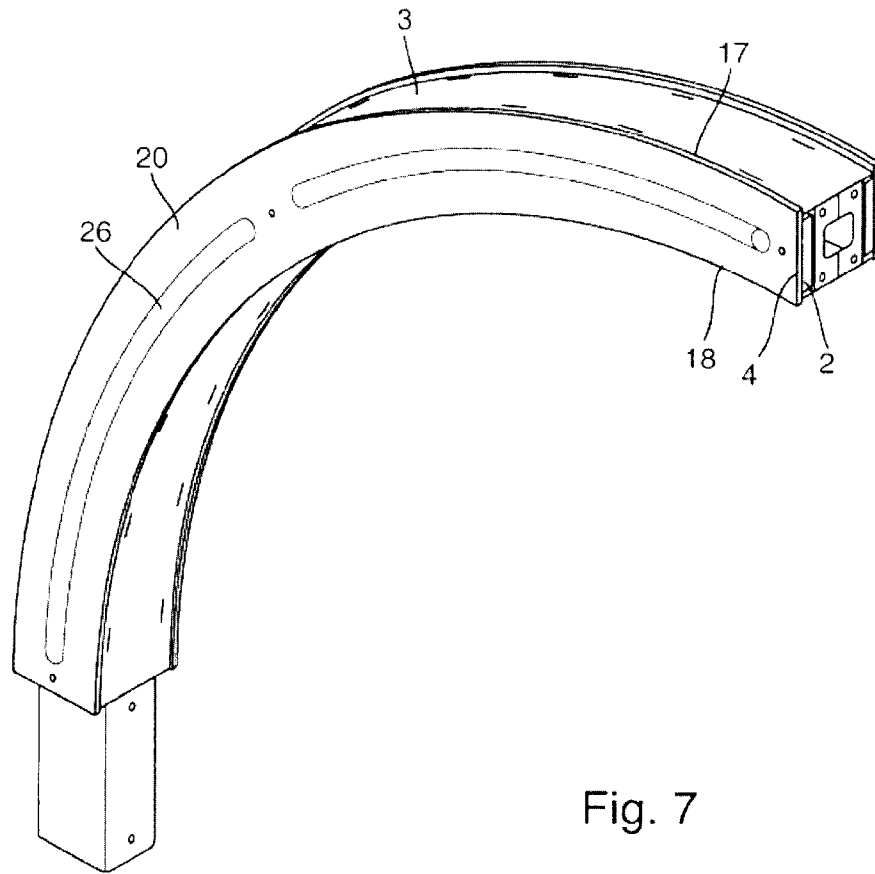


Fig. 7

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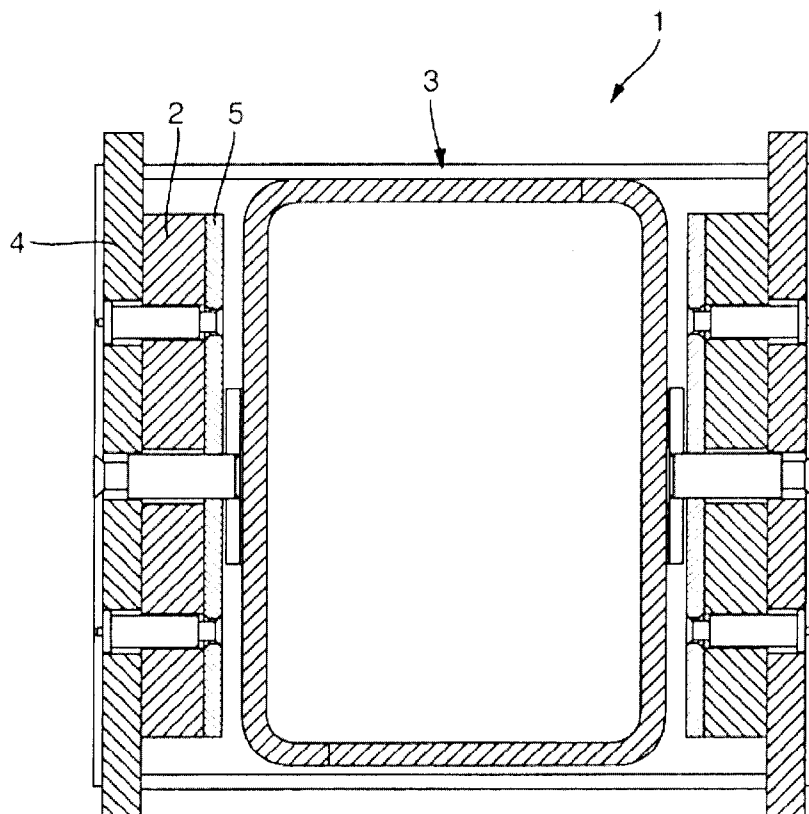


Fig. 8



