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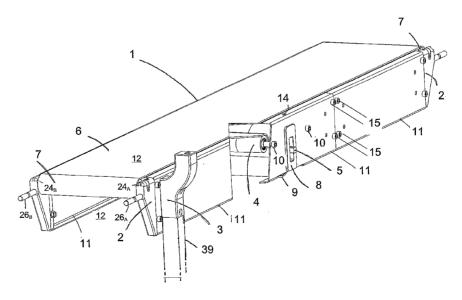
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(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN A CONVEYOR SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A conveyor system having any number of conveyor system modules, each system module comprising a support structure, a band (6) and a band drive mechanism for driving the band around a path of each respective system module. In one aspect of the invention a mounting bracket (2) forms a part of the conveyor system and has mounting details (28,29) for mounting the bracket onto a conveyor system support element (1). In a second aspect of the invention a conveyor drive mechanism bracket mounts a drive mechanism in the conveyor system. Locking details (82-86) are also designed to tighten a band (6) of the conveyor system. In a third aspect of the invention a coupling bracket for a first conveyor system module has mechanical coupling details (21).





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/N02006/000296

PCT/N02006/000296 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. B65G21/06 B65G21/10 B65G15/24 B65G23/44 B65G39/12 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B65G Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α GB 646 190 A (FISHER & LUDLOW LTD) 1 - 815 November 1950 (1950-11-15) page 4, line 22 - line 41; figures Α EP 0 492 058 A1 (DYNAMIC CONVEYOR CORP 1-8 [US]) 1 July 1992 (1992-07-01) column 8, line 35 - line 44; figure 7 DE 84 07 676 U1 (GEPPERT, HELMUT, 5162 Α 1-8 NIEDERZIER, DE) 11 July 1985 (1985-07-11) figure 4 US 2004/089522 A1 (SHAUM FRANK-PETER [US] Α 1 - 8SCHAUM FRANK-PETER [US]) 13 May 2004 (2004-05-13) paragraph [0034]; figures -/---Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 29 January 2007 08/02/2007 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/N02006/000296

| C(Continua | tinuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | | | | | | |
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International application No. PCT/N02006/000296

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

| Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: | | | | | | | |
| Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: | | | | | | | |
| 2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: | | | | | | | |
| 3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). | | | | | | | |
| Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet) | | | | | | | |
| This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: | | | | | | | |
| see additional sheet | | | | | | | |
| As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims. | | | | | | | |
| 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. | | | | | | | |
| 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: | | | | | | | |
| 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: | | | | | | | |
| Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. | | | | | | | |

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-8

Invention 1 relates to a bracket for use in coupling modules of a conveyor system, whereby the bracket has coupling details allowing a mechanical coupling between similar coupling brackets.

2. claims: 9-15

Invention 2 relates to a bracket for releasably and adjustably mounting and holding a band drum axle whereby the locking details are able to move the axle enabling a tightening or tensioning of a conveyor belt.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/N02006/000296

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