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(72) Inventor:
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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
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(54) **Process for treating formed metal surfaces**

(57) A process for treating an aluminium can, comprising the steps of cleaning with an aqueous acidic or alkaline solution, drying and subsequently conveying the cleaned and dried can via automatic conveying equipment to a location where it is lacquered or decorated by printing or both. At least one exterior surface of the can, prior to the last drying of the surface before automatic conveying, is contacted with a lubricant and surface conditioner forming composition comprising ethoxylated, hydrogenated castor oil triglycerides, and the can is then dried without subsequent rinsing, thereby forming a film on the can to provide the surface of the can after drying with a reduced coefficient of static friction compared to an otherwise identical sequence of treatments where the lubricant and surface conditioner forming composition is substituted with water.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document				

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