(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
2 February 2006 (02.02.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/012149 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
*B28B 5/02* (2006.01) *B29C 44/30* (2006.01)
*B28B 3/00* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/022076

(22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2005 (23.06.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/582,420 24 June 2004 (24.06.2004) US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

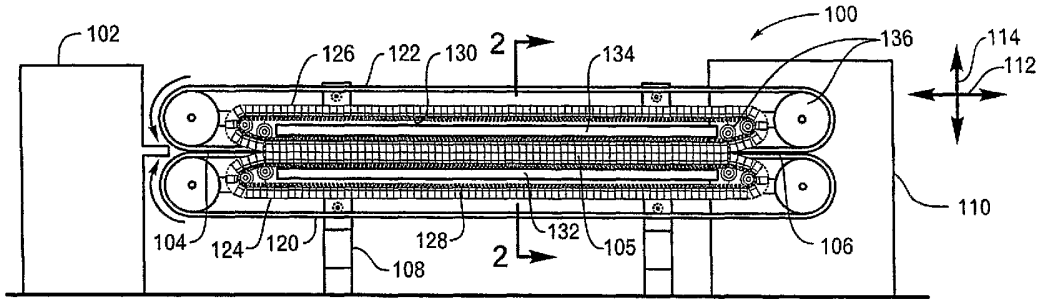
(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
19 October 2006

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: CONTINUOUS FORMING APPARATUS FOR THREE-DIMENSIONAL FOAMED PRODUCTS




(57) Abstract: A continuous forming apparatus for molding foam material into foam products that includes a first endless belt and a second endless belt that cooperates with the first endless belt to mold the foam material. The continuous forming apparatus may also include a first plurality of cleats and a second plurality of cleats opposed to the first plurality of cleats that support the first endless belt and the second endless belt respectively. The first plurality of cleats may include a three-dimensional abutment surface that provides transverse and lateral support to the first endless belt. Additionally, the continuous forming apparatus may include a first frame disposed to support the first plurality of cleats, a second frame disposed to support the second plurality of cleats, and a drive mechanism for imparting motion to the first endless belt, the second endless belt, the first plurality of cleats, and the second plurality of cleats.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US05/22076

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: **B28B 5/02**( 2006.01),**3/00**( 2006.01);**B29C 44/30**( 2006.01)

USPC: 425/371,329,4C,817C
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)
U.S. : 425/371,329,4C,817C

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|---|---|---|
| X | US 5,330,341 (KEMERER, et al) 19 July 1994 (19.07.1994), column 5, lines 15 - 20; column 8, lines 30 - 35, 48 - 60; column 11, lines 33 - 41. | 1-4,7,8-17 |
| X | US 5,340,300 (SAEKI, et al) 23 August 1994 (23.08.1994), column 5, lines 1 - 20, 30 - 40; figures 2 and 7. | 1-6,8-9,12-14,16-20 |
| A | US 4,330,494 (IWATA, et al) 18 May 1982 (18.05.1982), column 7, lines 25 - 65. | 1-20 |
| A | US 2001/0009683 A1 (KITAHAMA, et al) 26 July 2001 (26.07.2001), column 2 - column 3. | 1-20 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search
02 August 2006 (02.08.2006)

Date of mailing of the international search report
29 AUG 2006

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)