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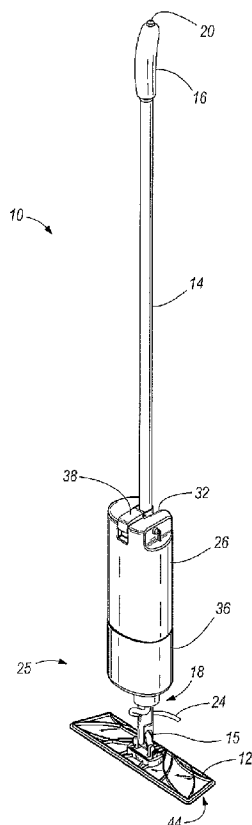
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(81) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, **BB**, BG, **BH**, **BR**, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, **DK**, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,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

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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** FLOOR FINISH APPLICATION ASSEMBLY AND METHOD



(57) **Abstract:** A floor finish application tool and method for applying floor finishes to a floor. Some embodiments are provided with disposable or quickly replaceable features, such as feed lines or reservoirs to eliminate the need for time consuming clean-up operations. Some embodiments are provided with a two portion hinged head having a spreading or distributing portion and a leveling portion to provide substantially uniform floor finish thickness across a floor. Some embodiments also feature an applicator pad composed of at least two different types of material. The first material is a floor finish distributing material that serves a function of substantially uniformly spreading bulk floor finish across a floor. The second material is a floor finish finishing material that is suitable for leveling the already spread floor finish.



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, LV, MC, MT, 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:

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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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12 September 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/088326**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****A47L 13/22(2006.01)i, A47L 13/20(2006.01)I**

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)

IPC 8 : A47L 13/22

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
KOREAN UTILITY MODELS AND APPLICATIONS FOR UTILITY MODELS SINCE 1975
JAPANESE UTILITY MODELS AND APPLICATIONS FOR UTILITY MODELS SINCE 1975Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
eKIPASS, PAJ "Keyword : cleaning, floor, pad, finish, replace and similar terms"**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 06101661A (Nicola John Policicchio et al) 15 August 2000 See the whole document	1 - 116
A	KR 20-0357758Y1 (Jang, S H.) 30 July 2004 See figures	1 - 74
A	JP 2006-516423A (David Kisela et al) 06 July 2006 See the whole document	1 - 74
A	US 04961243A (John E. Barber) 09 October 1990 See the whole document	75 - 116
A	KR 10-0568163B1 (NEWCLEAN CO., LTD.) 07 April 2006 See figures	75 - 116



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"X" 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 invention

"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

"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"Si" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 JULY 2008 (15.07.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2007/088326

Box No. 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

- 1 ☐ 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 No. 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

Group I, claims 1-16, 35 and 38-74 drawn to a floor finish application tool or system, or a method of applying a protective floor finish to a floor using a floor finish application tool

Group II, claims 17-34, 36 and 37 drawn to a disposable floor finish delivery system, replacing kit or reservoir

Group III claims 75-116 drawn to a floor finish application pad

- 1 ☒ 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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCTYUS2007/088326

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6101661	15 08 2000	US 6101661 A US 6766552 B1	15.08.2000 27.07.2004
KR 200357758	30 07 2004	None	
JP 2006-516423	06 07 2006	AU 2004-204766 A1 AU 2004-204766 B2 AU 2004-204766 AA CA 2512669 AA CA 2512669 A1 CN 1764409 A EP 1603446 A2 JP 2006-516423 T2 PA 05007413 A US 7048804 US 2004-01340 16 A1 US 2004-0139572 A1 US 2004-1340 16 A1 US 2004-1340 16 AA US 2004-139572 A1 US 2004-139572 AA US 7048804 BB wo 2004-062457 A2 wo 2004-062457 A3 wo 2004-062457 C1	29.07.2004 29.07.2004 29.07.2004 29.07.2004 29.07.2004 26.04.2006 14 12 2005 06.07.2006 18 10 2005 23.05.2006 15.07.2004 22.07.2004 15.07.2004 15.07.2004 22.07.2004 22.07.2004 23 05 2006 29.07.2004 16.09.2004 27. 10.2005
US 4961243	09 10 1990	None	
KR 100568163	07 04 2006	None	