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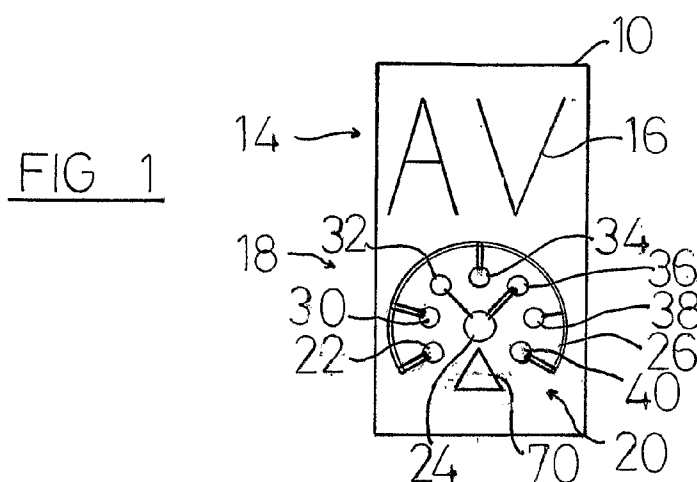
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(54) Title: IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDAL APPARATUS, AND LABEL THEREFOR



(57) Abstract: This invention relates to an identification and recordal apparatus, and in particular to an apparatus which allows the identification of products and the recordal of the expiry or use-by dates of those products. The apparatus comprises a set of labels, each label (10) having a unique machine-readable code (20), and a reader adapted to read the machine-readable code whereby each label can be distinguished from the other labels in the set by the reader, the reader having a memory to store the identity of the label and data associated with the label, each label having a detection zone, the detection zone (18) a pattern of having non-uniform conductivity to a chosen medium such as electricity or electromagnetic radiation whereby the pattern of non-uniform conductivity is detectable to the reader as the machine-readable code. There is also provided a label for use with the apparatus.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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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)

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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, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	WO 2005/069868 A (DOUGLAS JOEL STERLING [US]) 4 August 2005 (2005-08-04)	12
Y	page 15, line 24 - page 24, line 8; claims 1-22; figures 1-10 page 31, line 1 - line 13	1-11
X	EP 0 422 482 A (KG CATTS GES FUER ERKENNUNGS & [DE]) 17 April 1991 (1991-04-17)	12
Y	column 5, line 45 - column 6, line 55; figures 4-6	1-11
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	23 June 1998 (1998-06-23) column 4, line 28 - column 5, line 10; claims 1-10; figures 2-15 -----	1-8,10, 11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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