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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
13193051.3 / 2 873 358

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(54) **PIVOTING HANDLE FOR A SURFACE CLEANING DEVICE**

(57) A surface cleaning device generally includes a nozzle, a cleaner housing connected to the nozzle, and a handle coupled to the cleaner housing at a pivot joint. The cleaner housing defines a longitudinal axis. The pivot joint is configured to rotatably store the handle at a position offset from the longitudinal axis.

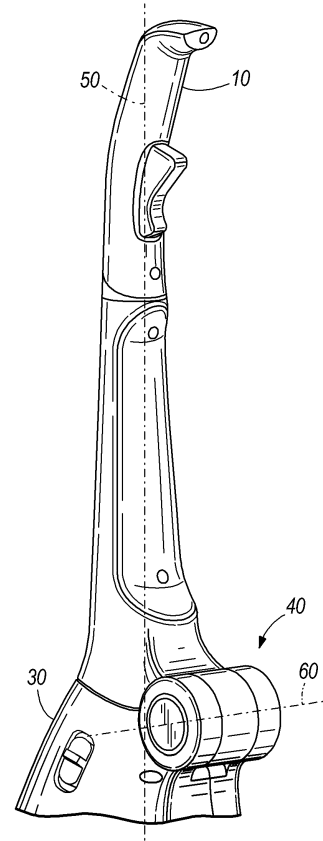


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
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| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC) |
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| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) |
| | | | A47L |
| INCOMPLETE SEARCH | | | |
| The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out. | | | |
| Claims searched completely : | | | |
| Claims searched incompletely : | | | |
| Claims not searched : | | | |
| Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C | | | |
| Place of search | | Date of completion of the search | Examiner |
| Munich | | 28 February 2017 | Lopez Vega, Javier |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | | |
| 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 | | 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 | |

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)



PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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| X | GB 2 433 022 A (HOOVER LTD [GB]) 13 June 2007 (2007-06-13) * pages 4,5; figures 1-5 * ----- | 8,9,14 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) |
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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C10)



INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C

Application Number
EP 16 18 2253

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Claim(s) completely searchable:
8-14

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Claim(s) not searched:
1-7, 15-20

Reason for the limitation of the search:

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1 The present application contains 20 claims, of which claims 1, 8 and 15 are independent. There is no clear distinction between the independent claims because of overlapping scope, so that the claims as a whole do not comply with the provisions of clarity and conciseness in Article 84 EPC in combination with Rule 43(2) EPC. Non-compliance with the substantive provisions is such that a meaningful search of the whole claimed subject-matter cannot be carried out (Rule 63 EPC and Guidelines B-VIII, 3).

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1 Furthermore, the present European Patent Application has been filed as a divisional application from European Patent Application 13 193 051 (hereafter referred to as the parent application). Although the present, divisional application contains a description and drawings that are identical to the ones of its parent application, the claims relate to subject-matter extending the content of the originally filed parent application, contrary to the requirements set out in Art. 76(1) EPC. This happens for instance in the following points concerning independent claim 1:

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30 i) the inclusion of the technical feature:
"a base including a suction nozzle, the base defines a front edge positioned adjacent the suction nozzle, a back edge opposite the front edge, a first side surface extending between the front edge and the back edge";
35 ii) the cleaner housing being pivotally coupled to the base;
iii) the handle being coupled to the housing, this not being through a pivot joint;
iv) (as the handle moves from the operating position to the storage position) the handle moves away from the longitudinal axis and toward the first side surface.

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40 1 It should be noted that also some of the dependent claims contain technical features leading to combinations of features extending beyond the content of the parent application as originally filed; see for instance the technical feature "linearly translates" in claim 4.

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45 1 The applicant is therefore invited to file a statement indicating the subject-matter to be searched within the time limit indicated in the present communication (Rule 63(1) EPC).

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

28-02-2017

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82