PROJECTILE FOR USE IN AN ELECTROMAGNETIC LAUNCHER AND METHOD THEREFOR

Abstract: A projectile (52) for use with an electromagnetic launcher has an armature (82) for conducting current between conducting rails (66, 68) of the launcher. The armature has a plurality of curved trailing arms. During launch of the projectile, the current flowing through the trailing arms (84) of the armature, interacts with the magnetic fields generated by current flowing through the rails. The interaction causes the armature, and thus the projectile, to spin about its longitudinal axis.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F41B6/00 F42B6/00

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 7 F41B F42B

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, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5 237 904 A (KUHLMANN-WILSDORF DORIS) 24 August 1993 (1993-08-24) abstract; figures 5A-5D column 20, line 37 - column 21, line 41</td>
<td>1, 12, 13, 24, 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 4 741 271 A (DELVECCHIO ROBERT M ET AL) 3 May 1988 (1988-05-03) cited in the application figures 7-12 column 4, line 6 - line 43</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 4 449 441 A (MCALLISTER DAN R) 22 May 1984 (1984-05-22) abstract; figures 1-3B column 2, line 6 - column 3, line 15</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 6 June 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report 13/06/2001

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