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(54) **IMPROVED COVER FOR MOTORCYCLE HELMETS**

(57) The invention relates to an improved cover which can be fitted to any integral-or open-type helmet configuration, formed by two elastic parts joined at a single seam. The front part contains the corresponding

opening which fits perfectly to the opening in the helmet and which enables the visor to be used and tilted or rotated in relation to the pivot point provided on the body of the helmet.

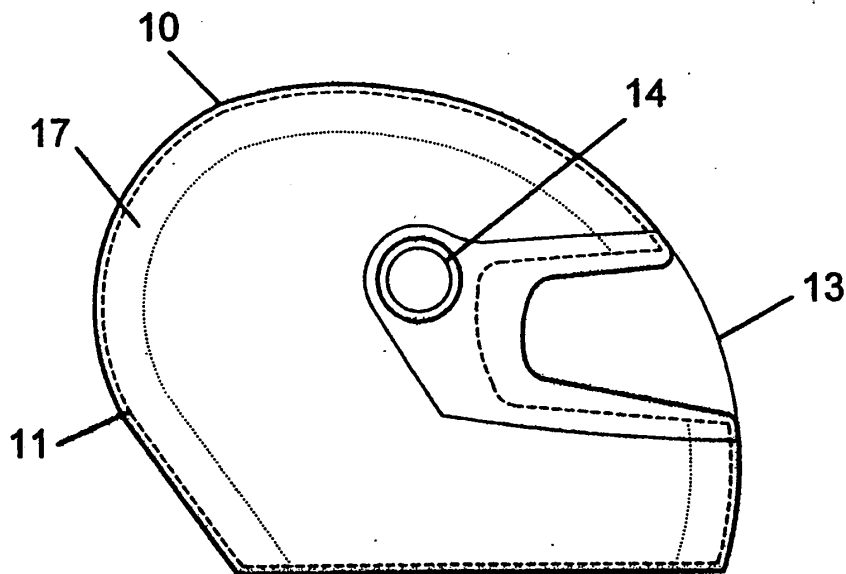


Fig. 2

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Description

[0001] More specifically, the invention refers to an improved cover that can be adapted to any shape of full-face or open-face helmet, made of two pieces of elastic material joined together by a single seam; the front part has an opening corresponding to that of the helmet, and allowing the use of the visor and its flipping up or turning, however the body of the helmet is joined to it.

[0002] The improved cover has several associated purposes: basically that of decorating the helmet with decorative, advertising, sports, etc. designs, as helmets always have the same appearance, whatever the erosion of their outer surface; the second purpose is to protect the outer surface of the helmet, to avoid wear and tear from dirtiness, scratches, and insects that may alter the material of the helmet's outer layer.

[0003] There are already other types of helmet covers on the market, which as such can be considered state of the art, but they are only for open-face helmets, that is to say, those that are not full-face and do not cover the wearer's mouth and jaw. Furthermore the covers in question have been designed in three parts, a wide middle part with straight lines and two side parts tending towards a rectangular shape, joined to one another with seams. An example of this cover is that described and claimed in Utility Model no. 200101152, the purpose of which is "a motorcycle helmet cover".

[0004] Another precedent is the cover claimed in French Invention Patent no. 2,680,305, the purpose of which is a "removable and interchangeable helmet cover" manufactured in a non-rigid material and with a manner of attachment to the helmet included. In this case the helmet is also an open-face helmet.

[0005] The improved cover has been designed with a triple aim: first of all, to fill the void in terms of full-face helmets; secondly, to reduce cover manufacturing costs as much as possible; and lastly, to improve the adaptation of the cover to the particular shape of the helmet, so that when the cover is in place, its appearance simulates that of the helmet itself and does not cover the opening foreseen for the face.

[0006] In order to meet these aims, a pattern has been designed, formed of two identical pieces joined at the top by a seam, and with a mouth or hole that fits perfectly with the opening or hole in the helmet, and with a hem around its lower edge with an elastic band inside. The cover is not subject to tension in the vertical parts corresponding to the mouth or hole, so that the adaptation of the cover to the opening or mouth of the helmet is perfect.

[0007] The only difference between the cover for a full-face helmet and an open-face helmet is that the shape of the pattern is different: in the first case the pattern has a hole in the front part, whereas in the second case there is an opening in the front part; according to the different shapes of helmets.

[0008] The fabric chosen is manufactured based on elastic thread on both sides, both for the warp and the

weft, which on one hand allows for the possibility of adapting to different types of full-face helmets, as well as to the different sizes available for each type, to adapt better to the measurements of each wearer's head. An additional feature of the fabric is that it will be washable, which will allow it to be used for a long time, keeping its colors and texture.

[0009] The fabric described may have any type of decoration, based on known representations or not, which, besides protecting the outer surface of the helmet, also allows it to be washed and for covers to be changed when users have more than one; they may use one while the other is being washed, or choose to give the helmet a different look depending on the decoration of the different covers.

[0010] Other details and characteristics shall be shown throughout the description below referring to drawings attached to this report which are shown for illustrative but not limiting purposes one of the preferred embodiments of the invention.

[0011] Below is a detailed list of the different parts of the invention which are shown with a number in the figures attached to this report. (10) cover, (11) helmet, (12a) front hole of the helmet (11), (12b) front opening of the helmet (11), (13) visor, (14) point where the visor attaches (13), (15) hem, (16) elastic band, (17) inside layer of the helmet (11), (20) pieces, (21) seams, (22) lower part of the cover (10), (23) hem, (24) cut area, (25a) front hole of the cover (10), (25b) front opening of the cover (10), and (26) vertical area of the opening (25) of the cover (10).

Figure 1 is a front elevation view of a full-face helmet (11), covered by a cover (10).

Figure 2 is a side elevation view of a full-face helmet (11), covered by a cover (10).

Figure 3 is a side elevation view of a cover (10) for a full-face helmet, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 4 is a side elevation view of an open-face helmet (11), covered by a cover (10).

Figure 5 is a front elevation view of an open-face helmet (11), covered by a cover (10).

Figure 6 is a side elevation view of a cover (10) for an open-face helmet, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention.

[0012] In one of preferred embodiments of the purpose that is the present invention, the cover (10) is made up of two identical pieces (20) joined by a seam around their perimeter (21) except the lower edge, which has a hem (15) with an elastic band inside (16), as may be seen in figures 1 and 3.

[0013] A helmet (11) of the kind called "full-face", is, as represented in figure 1 and 2, a body made of a single piece and closed in the front, except for a frontal hole (12a), covered inside by an interior cushioning layer (17), the function of which is to provide elastic adjustment between the user's head and the body of the helmet (11),

as well as softening the blow in case of an accident. The body of the full-face helmet (11) is totally closed except for the frontal hole (12a), protected by a transparent visor (13) that protects the wearer's eyes and nose, while the mouth and jaw are totally protected by the lower part of the helmet.

[0014] The visor (13) has a joint and flips around the two attachment points (14) located on the side of the body of the helmet (11). As can be seen in figures 1 and 2, the reason that the cover (10) must have holes in these points (14), according to the holes (24), is so that the visor (13) works and the cover (10) is duly located in operating position, covering (10) all the visible surface of the body of the helmet (10), without interfering in the function and the movement of the visor; for this purpose the perimeter of the opening of the cover (10) will come with a hem (23), with the corresponding elastic band inside (16).

[0015] The cover (10) for a full-face helmet (11), according to the shape of the aforementioned full-face helmet (11) has a frontal hole (25a). So the hole (12a) of the full-face helmet (11) is covered by the hole (25a) in the cover (10), the aforementioned hem (23) going around it, with the elastic band (16) in the vertical area (26) between lines, see figure 3, subject to tension, so that the opening (25) of the cover does not cover up the opening (12) of the helmet through excessive pressure of the bands (16) on the hem (23), making the areas converge (26) towards the center of the opening (25), covering it.

[0016] Similarly, in figures 4-5 the open-face helmet is shown (11) with the cover (10) placed on it, and in figure 6 a profile view of the cover (10) is shown. The placement of the cover (10) on the helmet (11) is the same as that in the case of a full-face helmet, which is to say that the opening (25b) of the cover (10) coincides with the opening (12b) of the open-face helmet (11) and in the vertical sections of the opening (12b) of the helmet (11) the elastic band (16) does not press down, so that the cover (10) does not cover up any part of the opening of the helmet (11), guaranteeing perfect visibility for the wearer.

[0017] The pieces (20) will be made of elastic fibers that will allow repeated washing without losing flexibility, making it easy to place over the helmet (11), adapting to its shape and respecting its frontal opening (12a) or (12b).

[0018] The surface of the cover (10) will be decorated with any type of figure and drawing, whether resulting from the texture of the fabric itself, or painted, printed, or using any other conventional or known system.

[0019] Having sufficiently described this invention using the attached drawings, it is easy to understand that any changes judged to be suitable may be made, whenever these changes do not alter of the essence of the invention summarized in the following claims.

Claims

1. **"IMPROVED MOTORCYCLE HELMET COVER"**, made up of a single body, totally closed in the front, except for a hole (12a) in the case of full-face helmets or an opening (12b) in the case of open-face helmets, this aforementioned frontal opening being covered (12a or 12b) optionally by a visor (13) that is articulated and flips up with respect to the helmet (11) by the attachment points (14) located on the side of the opening (12a or 12b), with an inside covering (17), **characterized by** the fact that the cover (10) covering the helmet (11) is made up of the joining of two identical pieces (20) sewn by the upper part using a single seam (21), and with a hole in the front part (25a) in the case of covers (10) for use with full-face helmets (11) or an opening (25b) in the case of covers (10) for open-face helmets (11), so once the cover (10) is placed in its position the said hole (25a) or opening (25b) fits perfectly with the hole (12a) or opening (12b) of the helmet (11), and the cover (10) has a hem (15) along its lower edge, with an elastic band (16) inside, so the cover (10) is not subject to tension in the vertical parts corresponding to the hole (25a) or opening (25b).
2. **"IMPROVED MOTORCYCLE HELMET COVER"** according to the claim 1, **characterized by** the fact that the fabric of the cover (10) will be elastic on both sides and washable.
3. **"IMPROVED MOTORCYCLE HELMET COVER"** according to the claim 1, **characterized by** the fact that the fabric of the cover (10) will be decorated with any type of figure.

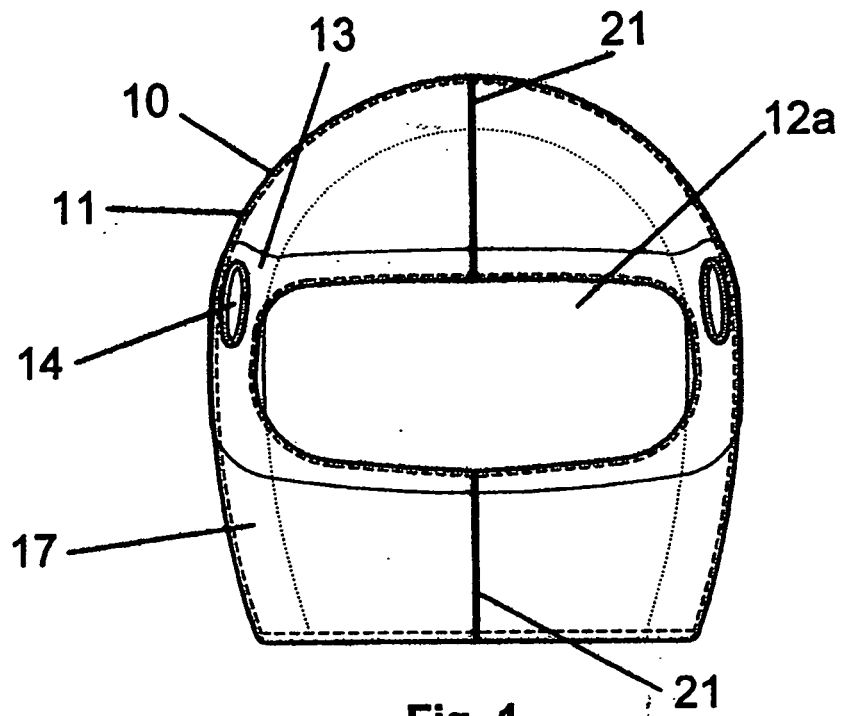


Fig. 1

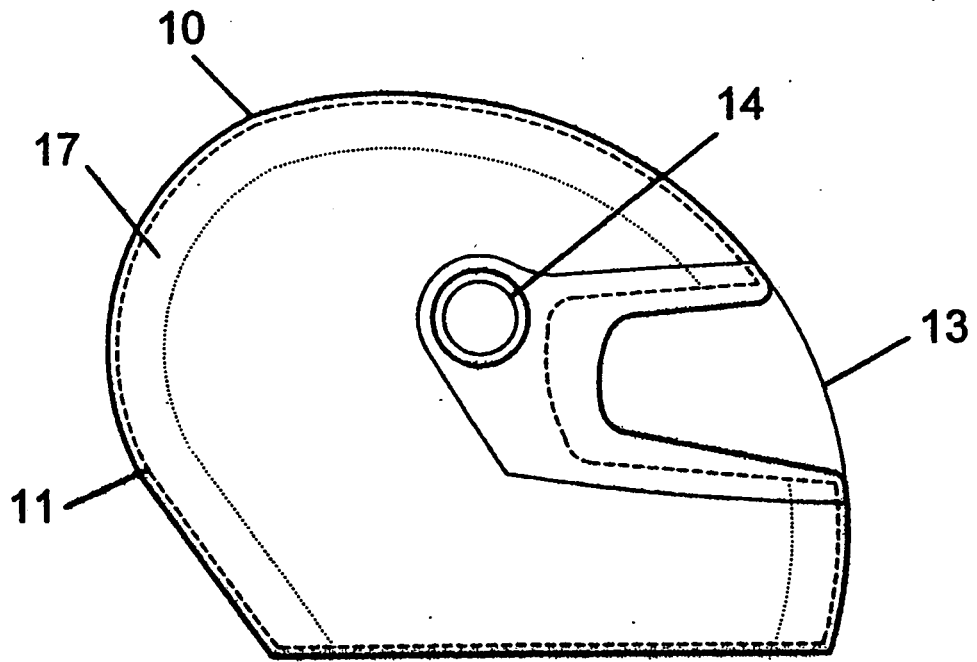


Fig. 2

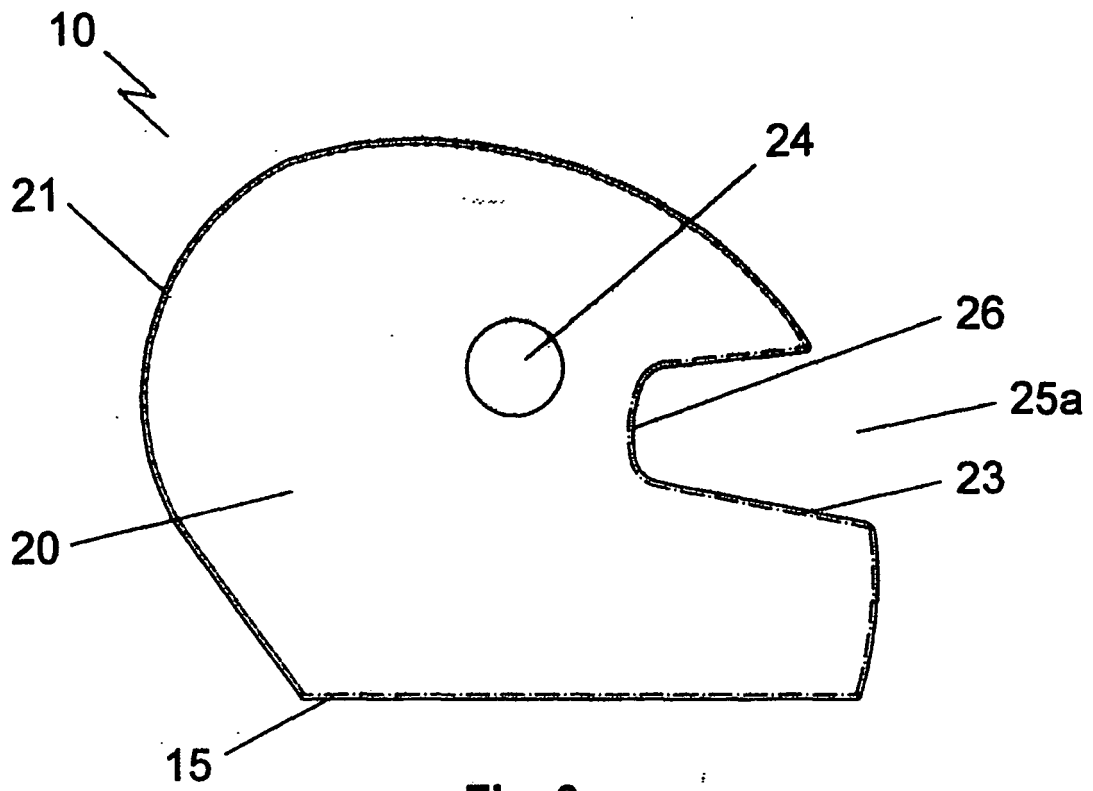


Fig. 3

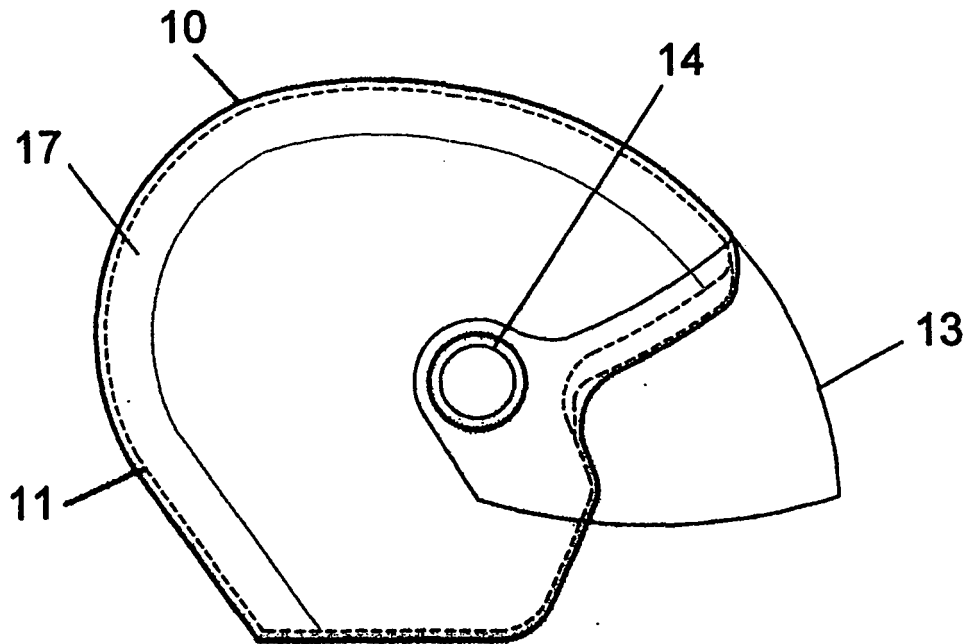


Fig. 4

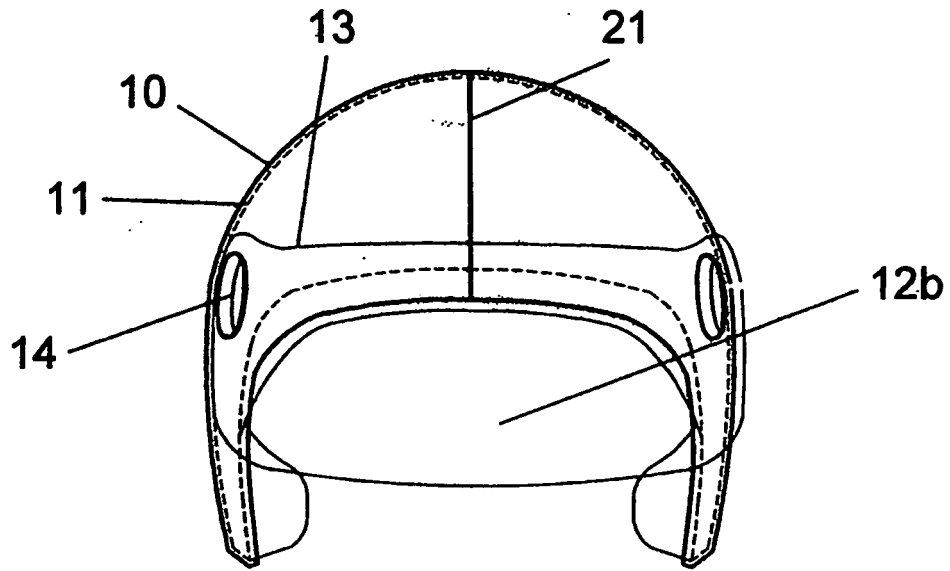


Fig. 5

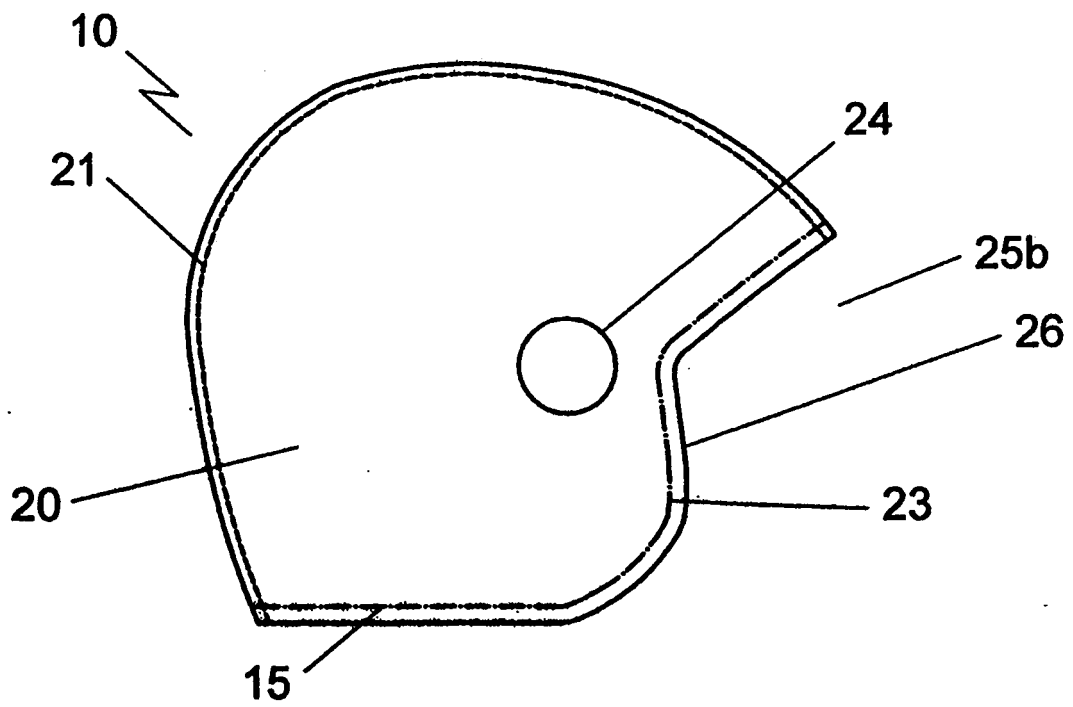


Fig. 6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/ ES 2007/000551

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
A24B 3/04 (2006.01)		
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) A42B3+		
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) CIBEPAT,EPODOC, WPI Helmet, cover, casque, couvre		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 11323647 A (NAKAGAWARA KOJI) 26.11.1999, Abstract, paragraphs 12,13 and 21 and figures 1 a 4.	1-3
Y	FR 2336096 A1 (CEBE L CRETIN BILLET ET FILS) 22.07.1977, Abstract, page 5 lines 0 a 18 and figure 5.	1-3
Y	ES 1048981 U (GONZALEZ GOMEZ MARGARITA) 16.10.2001, claims and figures 1 a 2.	1-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents:	"I"	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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.	"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
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"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 documents , such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 21 January 2008 (21.01.2008)	Date of mailing of the international search report (30/01/2008)	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ O.E.P.M. Paseo de la Castellana, 75 28071 Madrid, España. Facsimile No. 34 91 3495304	Authorized officer A. Martín Moronta Telephone No. +34 91 349 53 77	

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/ ES 2007/000551

Patent document cited in the search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 11323647 A	26.11.1999	NONE	-----
FR 2336096 A B	22.07.1977	NONE	-----
ES 1048981 U	16.10.2001	ES 1048981 Y	16.02.2002 16.02.2002 16.02.2002

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (April 2007)

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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Patent documents cited in the description

- FR 2680305 [0004]