



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ³ : A63H 33/00, 3/14	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 83/ 01392 (43) International Publication Date: 28 April 1983 (28.04.83)
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US82/01459

(22) International Filing Date: 13 October 1982 (13.10.82)

(31) Priority Application Number: 310,983

(32) Priority Date: 13 October 1981 (13.10.81)

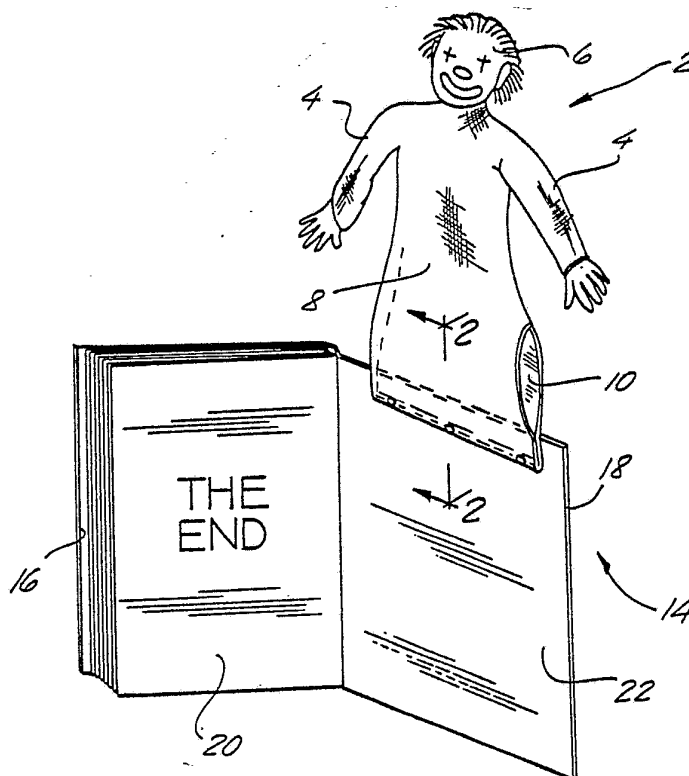
(33) Priority Country: US

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405 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10174 (US).(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (Euro-
pean patent), CH (European patent), DE (European
patent), FR (European patent), GB (European pa-
tent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European pa-
tent), SE (European patent).**Published***With international search report.*

(54) Title: BOOK WITH PUPPET

(57) Abstract

A hollow puppet (8) is secured to a book (14) and is sufficiently large that a user can introduce a hand to manipulate the puppet within its interior. The puppet may be detachably secured to the book, e.g., by VELCRO (30, 32) or by a snap fastener (26, 28).



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BOOK WITH PUPPET

The invention pertains to books which are suitable for use by children, and particularly pertains to books in which a child may, while reading, manipulate an attached puppet.

15

U.S. Patent No. 3,918,180 discloses a book in which a puppet is movably secured to or otherwise introduci-
ble in a book. The puppet is disposed in aligned slots which are located in the pages of the book, and can be moved within a groove formed by the slots while the book is
20 being read. Since the slots extend through the pages of the book, the amount of surface area on the pages available for words or illustrations is reduced. Furthermore, the puppet must be relatively small if a substantial amount of
25 printing or illustration is to be placed on the pages of the book without inconveniently increasing its size. Therefore, the puppet is not large enough for a child to manipulate by using an entire hand to, e.g., wave the arms or nod the head.

30

It is an object of the invention to provide a book with a puppet which permits a child to manipulate the puppet using an entire hand.

35

It is another object to provide a book with a puppet which permits a larger amount of visual or illustrative material to be presented on the pages of the book without interruption by slots.

It is a further object to provide a book with a puppet which is easy for a child to use while being relatively inexpensive to manufacture.

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1 These objects, among others which will appear
hereinafter, are achieved in the invention by securing a
hollow puppet made of a foldable material to the book.
The puppet has an opening through which a child can
5 introduce a hand to manipulate the puppet within its
interior. Preferably, the puppet is secured to one or
both covers of the book and may, if desired, be detachably
secured thereto. The latter permits the puppet to be
detached by the child for use independently of the book.

10 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The drawings show presently preferred but
nonetheless illustrative embodiments of the invention, in
which:

Fig. 1 shows a first embodiment of the invention;

15 Fig. 2 is a view partly in cross section, along
line 2-2 of Fig. 1, illustrating one means by which the
puppet may be detachably secured to the book;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 which illus-
trates another means by which the puppet may be detachably
20 secured to the book; and

Figs. 4 and 5 show a second embodiment of the
invention with the book closed and opened, respectively.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

25 Fig. 1 shows a puppet generally indicated by re-
ference numeral 2. Here, puppet 2 is in the shape of a
clown, although other shapes may be used. Puppet 2 has
two arms 4, a head 6, and a torso 8.

30 Puppet 2 is hollow and is preferably made of a
thin flexible and foldable material such as a plastic film
or a textile product. For example, the puppet can be
formed of two sheets of material cut to the desired shape
and attached near the edges thereof, such as by sewing, an
adhesive, heat sealing, etc. If desired, the film or
textile may be printed with features for puppet 2 or may
35 alternatively bear cloth or plastic strips which i.e.
indicate a nose with a circular dot of a furry substance
or the like. The particular theme of clown 2 and the

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1 decorative material printed or otherwise installed on it
form no part of the invention.

To permit a user, such as a child, to introduce
a right hand into puppet 2 and manipulate its arms 4, head
5 6, or torso 8 either individually or together, puppet 2
has an opening 10 which permits access to its interior 12
(see Figs. 2 and 3). Opening 10 is here shown to be a
slot in the side of puppet 2 at the bottom of its torso 8,
but the shape and location of opening 10 may be varied.
10 Opening 10 may be located either on the front or the back
of puppet 2, and one alternative location for opening 10
is illustrated in Fig. 5, discussed below.

A book generally indicated by reference numeral
14 has a front cover 16, a rear cover 18, and a plurality
15 of individual pages 20. Pages 20 may be printed or
otherwise marked with words, numbers, or pictures, and can
also support other materials with different textures. The
content of pages 20 and the manner of its presentation
form no part of this invention.

20 In the embodiments of Figs. 1-3, puppet 2 is
detachably secured to rear cover 18 on its inner surface
22. However, the puppet may be secured to the outer
surface of rear cover 18 or may alternatively be located
on either surface of front cover 16. Puppet 2 may alter-
25 natively be permanently fixed to book 14 as by sewing,
gluing, or other suitable technique. Because puppet 2 is
of a thin, flexible, and foldable material, it can be
folded into the book and the book can be closed.

Two alternative ways in which puppet 2 can be
30 secured to book 14 are illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3. In
Fig. 2, a snap generally indicated by reference numeral 24
is shown. Snap 24 is located at the bottom left corner of
puppet 2 as viewed in Fig. 1. Snap 24 has a female
component 26 which is secured to puppet 2 and also has a
35 male component 28 which is secured to inner surface 22
of rear cover 18. In this example, only one snap 24 is
shown but any suitable number of snaps 24 may be positioned

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1 as desired and needed anywhere on rear cover 18 and puppet
2. Puppet 2 is preferably secured near the top of inner
surface 22 so that puppet 2 is not obscured by any of the
pages 20 while book 14 is being read. However, puppet 2
5 may be secured below the top edge of inner surface 22 in
any suitable manner. When snaps 24 are closed, puppet 2
is fixably secured to book 14 and can be manipulated by a
child without becoming detached. Alternatively, snaps
24 may be opened to permit puppet 2 to be detached from
10 book 14.

In the alternative structure shown in Fig. 3,
the means for detachably securing the puppet 2 to book 14
is a statistical fastener such as VELCRO. Other suitable
statistical fasteners may be used. In this example, a
15 strip 30 of the hook component of a VELCRO fastener is
secured to puppet 2 either entirely along its bottom or at
various locations on its bottom edge. A corresponding
strip 32 of a VELCRO loop component is secured to inner
surface 22 of rear cover 18 so that strips 30 and 32 mate
20 together when puppet 2 is secured to book 14. Strips
30 and 32 can be continuous or divided.

The structures shown in Figs. 2 and 3 are not to
be considered as limiting. Any other suitable means for
detachably securing puppet 2 to book 14 may be used
25 instead. Such alternatives may include, e.g., zippers,
buttons, or hooks.

Turning now to Figs. 4 and 5, there is shown an
embodiment in which puppet 2 is placed at a different
location on book 14. In this embodiment, front cover 16,
30 rear cover 18, and pages 20 are notched to form a central
gap generally indicated by reference numeral 34. Gap 34
in this example is smooth and generally U-shaped, but may,
for example, be rectangular or semicircular. While gap
34 may be shaped as desired, all the notches and gaps on
35 pages 20 and front and rear covers 16 and 18 respectively
should conform with each other for the sake of appearance.

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1 Gap 34 is bounded by a curved peripheral region
36 in the top center of book 14. In this example, puppet
2 is permanently secured to book 14 at peripheral region
36, as by gluing, sewing, heat sealing, or other means.
5 The region of attachment of puppet 2 may be concealed by a
sheet secured to the inner surfaces of covers 16 and 18.
However, puppet 2 may alternatively be detachably secured
to book 14, as by one of the structures described above
or by other suitable technique.

10 In this example, opening 10 is located in the
center of puppet 2 at its front. However, as mentioned
above, the location of opening 10 may be different.

 In this example, puppet 2 is made of a material
which is sufficiently thin that puppet 2 may be folded
15 into book 14 prior to closure of book 14, as is shown in
Fig. 4. Because puppet 2 is secured to front and rear
cover 16 and 18 at peripheral region 36, puppet 2 may be
between any two of pages 20 or between one page 20
and front or rear cover 16 or 18. Thus, when puppet 2 is
20 folded into book 14 as is illustrated in Fig. 4, book 14
may be opened to any page without raising puppet 2. This
is different from the embodiment of Fig. 1, in which
folding puppet 2 into book 14 will prevent any pages 20
located between puppet 2 and rear cover 18 from being
turnable unless puppet 2 is folded up out of book 14.

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What is claimed is:

1. In combination:
a book having a cover and at least one page; and
a hollow puppet secured to the book, the puppet having an opening through which a user can introduce a hand to manipulate the puppet within an interior thereof.
2. The combination of claim 1, further comprising means for detachably securing the puppet to the book.
3. The combination of claim 1, wherein the puppet is secured to the cover.
4. The combination of claim 3, wherein the cover is a rear cover.
5. The combination of claim 1, wherein the puppet is made of a thin and flexible material which is foldable into the book.
6. The combination of claim 5, wherein the material is plastic film.
7. The combination of claim 2, wherein the means comprises a statistical fastener having one component which is secured to the book and another component which is secured to the puppet.
8. The combination of claim 7, wherein the statistical fastener is VELCRO.
9. The combination of claim 2, wherein the means comprises a snap fastener having one component which is secured to the book and another component which is secured to the puppet.

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10. The combination of claim 1, wherein the book has two covers, wherein the covers have a central gap bounded by a peripheral region, and wherein the puppet is secured to the peripheral region.

11. The combination of claim 10, wherein the book has a plurality of pages which are all notched to conform with the central gap when the book is opened.

12. The combination of claim 10, wherein the gap is generally U-shaped.

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FIG. 1

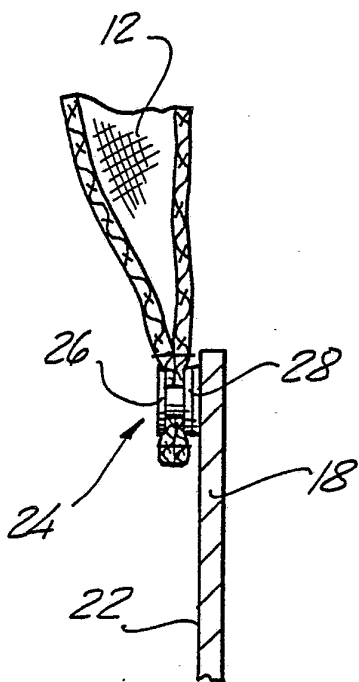
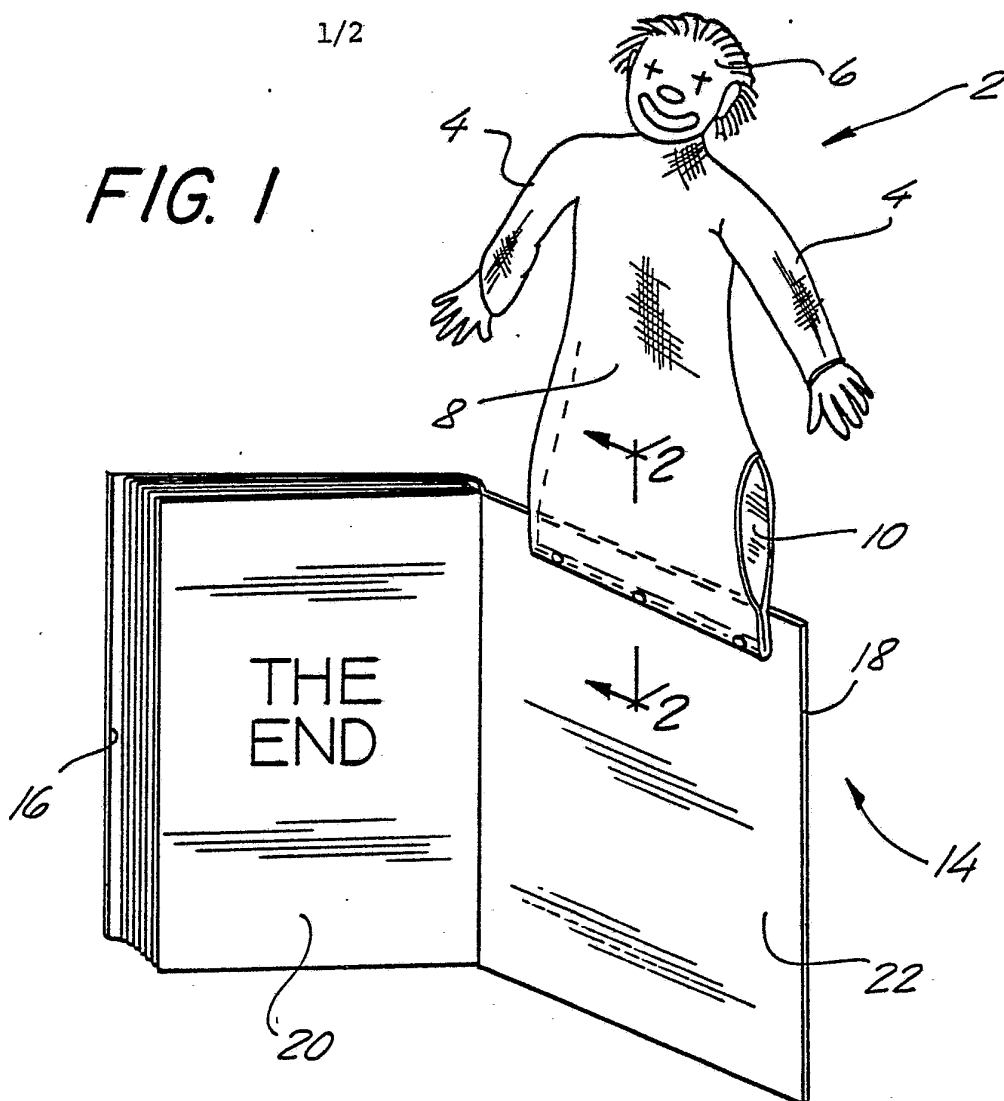


FIG. 2

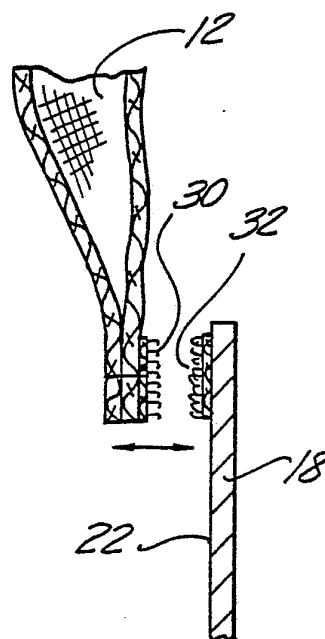


FIG. 3

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FIG. 4

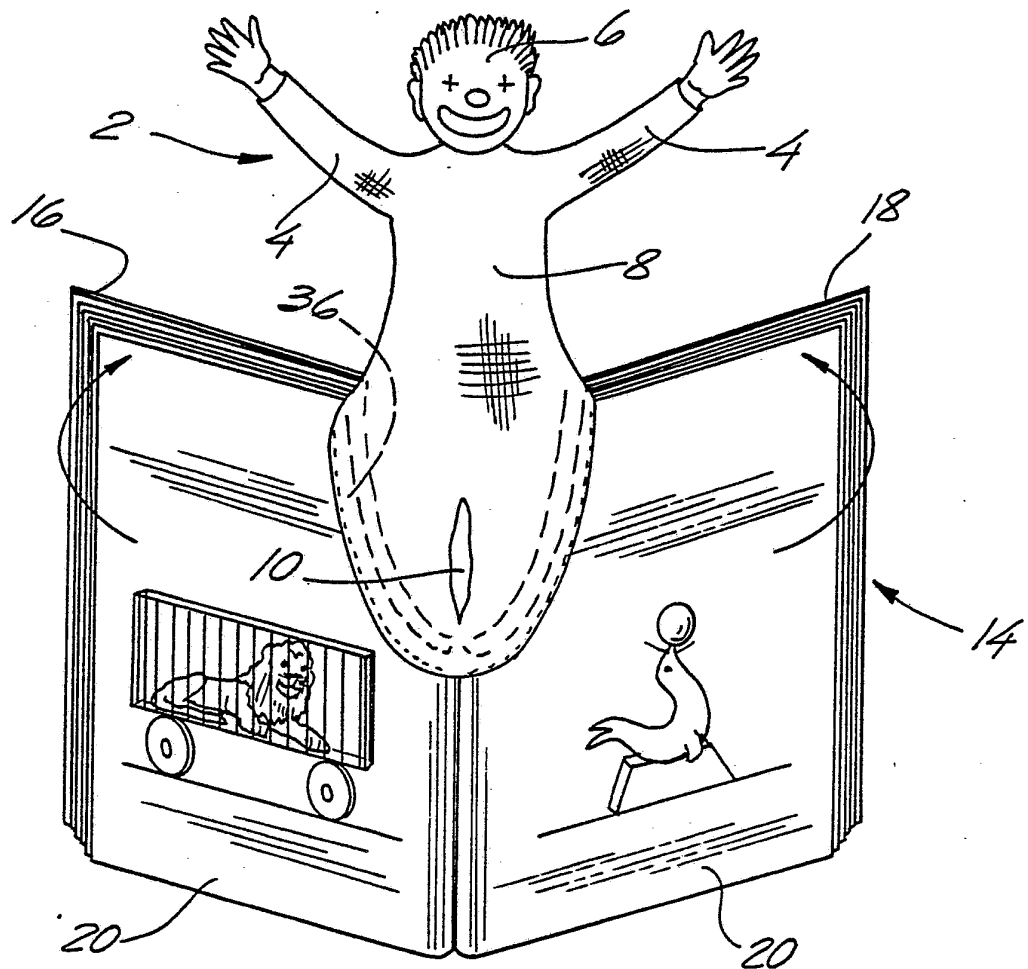
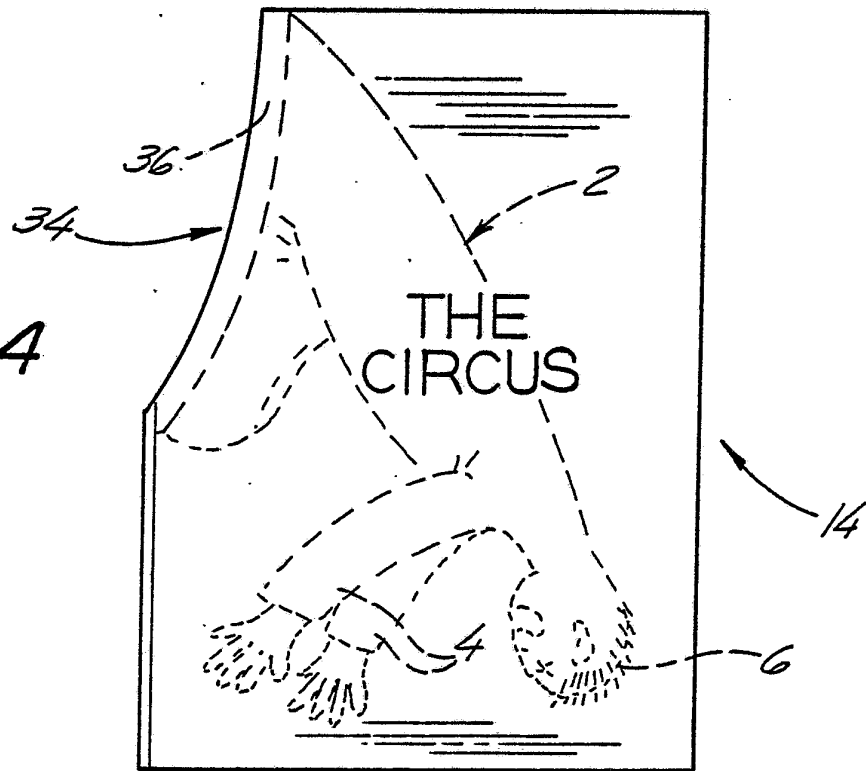


FIG. 5

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US82/01459

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ³ According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC US CL. 46-34; 46-154 I.P.C. A63H 33/00 A63H 3/14																													
II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searched ⁴ <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 20%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification System</th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification Symbols</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">US</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">46-34, 154 434-178</td> </tr> </table> Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁵			Classification System	Classification Symbols	US	46-34, 154 434-178																							
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III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ¹⁴ <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 10%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Category ⁶</th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Citation of Document, ¹⁶ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹⁷</th> <th style="width: 15%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Relevant to Claim No. ¹⁸</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 1,405,134 Published 31 January 1922 Hoyne</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 1,490,295 Published 15 April 1924 Stephens</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">2-4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 2,655,762 Published 20 October 1953 Burke</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">X</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 3,918,180 Published 11 November 1975 Chamberlin</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">1-7,9</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">X</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 4,233,772 Published 18 November 1980 Hamar</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">1,5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 3,789,546 Published 05 February 1974 Morrison</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 4,280,292 Published 28 July 1981 Hills</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">GB, A, 133,572 Published 16 October 1919 Lamude</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Category ⁶	Citation of Document, ¹⁶ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹⁷	Relevant to Claim No. ¹⁸	Y	US, A, 1,405,134 Published 31 January 1922 Hoyne	2	Y	US, A, 1,490,295 Published 15 April 1924 Stephens	2-4	A	US, A, 2,655,762 Published 20 October 1953 Burke		X	US, A, 3,918,180 Published 11 November 1975 Chamberlin	1-7,9	X	US, A, 4,233,772 Published 18 November 1980 Hamar	1,5	A	US, A, 3,789,546 Published 05 February 1974 Morrison		A	US, A, 4,280,292 Published 28 July 1981 Hills		A	GB, A, 133,572 Published 16 October 1919 Lamude	
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¹⁵ * 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 document 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 another 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 "T" 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 "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. "&" document member of the same patent family																													
IV. CERTIFICATION <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search ² 26 January 1983 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Date of Mailing of this International Search Report ³ 01 FEB 1983 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> International Searching Authority ¹ ISA/US </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Signature of Authorized Officer ¹⁹ F. B. Shay </td> </tr> </table>			Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search ² 26 January 1983	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report ³ 01 FEB 1983	International Searching Authority ¹ ISA/US	Signature of Authorized Officer ¹⁹ F. B. Shay																							
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