

(19)



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(11) Publication number:

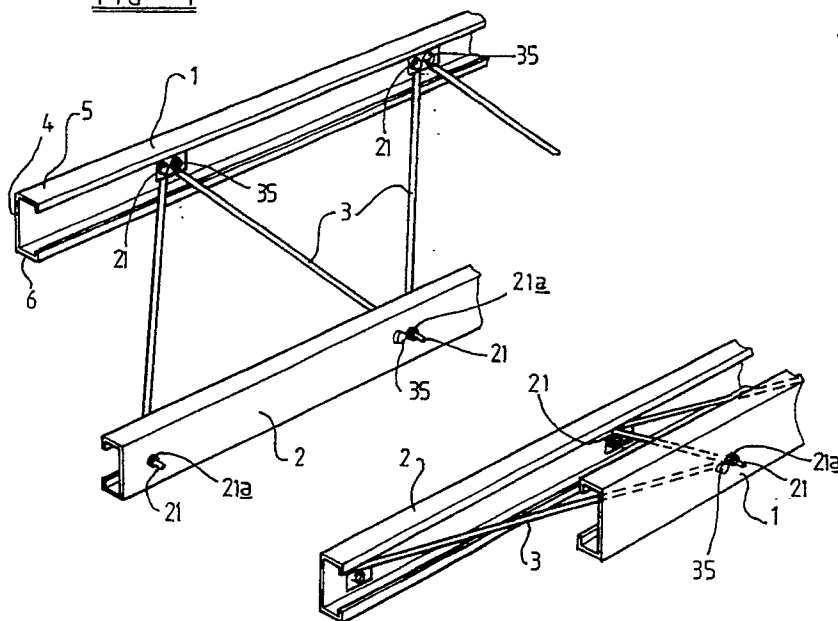
**0 422 875 A3**

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**(21) Application number: **90311011.2**(51) Int. Cl.5: **E04B 1/19**(22) Date of filing: **08.10.90**(30) Priority: **07.10.89 GB 8922637****Malton North Yorkshire YO17 8PQ(GB)**(43) Date of publication of application:  
**17.04.91 Bulletin 91/16**(72) Inventor: **Wallis, Malcolm Robert**  
**"High Noon", Kilham, Near Driffield**  
**East Yorkshire(GB)**(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE**Inventor: **Pottage, Alan Victor****4 Station View, Crossgates**(68) Date of deferred publication of the search report:  
**11.09.91 Bulletin 91/37****Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO12 4NJ(GB)**(71) Applicant: **WARD BUILDING SYSTEMS**  
**LIMITED**  
**Widespan Works Sherburn**(74) Representative: **Symes, Christopher A. et al**  
**FORRESTER & BOEHMERT**  
**Widenmayerstrasse 4**  
**W-8000 München 22(DE)**(54) **Space frame.**

(57) A space frame comprises first and second chord structures which are spaced apart and connected together by a strut structure comprising struts (3), the chord structures each comprising chords which

each consist of first and second chord members (1, 2) which are fastened together in side by side relationship, each of the chord members being channel shaped.

**FIG 1****EP 0 422 875 A3**



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 31 1011

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                  |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                                                    | Relevant to claim                                | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5) |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-4 821 480 (SILVEY)<br><br>* column 3, line 19 - column 4, line 68; figures 1-5 *<br><br>---                                                 | 1-10, 12, 13, 20-22, 24-26                       | E04B1/19                                      |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-3 312 082 (SEABORG)<br><br>* column 2, line 49 - column 3, line 53 *<br>* column 5, line 1 - column 5, line 34; figures 1-4, 9 *<br><br>--- | 1-10, 14, 20, 22                                 |                                               |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                  | 17                                               |                                               |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | WO-A-8 810 343 (CARR)<br>* page 6, line 23 - page 7, line 17; figures 4, 5 *<br><br>---                                                          | 13, 19                                           |                                               |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-4 178 736 (SALAS)<br>* column 6, line 49 - column 6, line 66; figure 7 *<br><br>---                                                         | 21                                               |                                               |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-3 477 189 (MERSON)<br>* column 4, line 56 - column 5, line 67; figures 1-8 *<br><br>---                                                     | 28                                               | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)         |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-3 882 653 (OLLMAN)<br>* column 3, line 28 - column 4, line 57; figure 3 *<br><br>---                                                        | 28, 29, 31                                       | E04B                                          |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | US-A-3 744 206 (NELSON)<br>* column 2, line 47 - column 3, line 25; figure 3 *<br><br>-----                                                      | 31, 32                                           |                                               |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                  |                                               |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                  | Date of completion of the search<br>05 JULY 1991 | Examiner<br>W. Schofs                         |
| <b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b><br>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document<br><br>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>-----<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                  |                                               |



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## CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

## X LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,

namely:

1. Claims 1-27: A space frame.
2. Claims 28-33: A prefabricated assembly.
3. Claims 34-37: Construction method for space frame.

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid,
- namely claims: 1-33
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,

namely claims: