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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** SYNAGI INTELLIGENCE LIMITED [GB/GB]; 238 Main Street, Newthorpe, Nottingham NG16 2DN (GB).
- (72) **Inventor; and**
- (75) **Inventor/Applicant (for US only):** PAGE, Matthew [GB/GB]; 238 Main Street, Newthorpe, Nottingham NG16 2DN (GB).
- (74) **Agent:** MITCHELL, Darren Andrew; Potter Clarkson LLP, Park View House, 58 The Ropewalk, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG1 5DD (GB).

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(54) **Title:** IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO DECORATING TOOLS

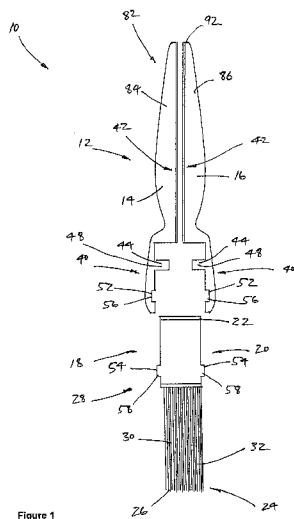


Figure 1

(57) **Abstract:** In the field of decorating tools there is a need for an improved decorating tool which provides the same degree of functionality expected by users of conventional decorating tools while having a reduced impact on the environment. A decorating tool (10; 100), for applying and removing material from a surface, comprises a tool head (18) which includes a retention portion (20) that lies towards a first end (22) thereof and an operative portion (24) that lies towards a second end (26) of the tool head (18) opposite the first end. The operative portion (24) is to apply or remove material from a surface. The decorating tool (10; 100) also includes a handle assembly (12) which has selectively separable first and second mutually opposed clamping members (14, 16). The first and second clamping members (14, 16) are defined at least in part by respective first and second handle portions (84, 86) of a handle body (82). Each of the first and second clamping members (14, 16) includes respective first and second clamping member portions (40, 42). The first clamping member portions (40) are selectively cooperable with one another to clamp the retention portion (20) of a first tool head (28) therebetween, and the second clamping member portions (42) are selectively cooperable with one another to clamp the retention portion (20) of a second tool head (34) therebetween. The retention portion (20) of the first tool head (28) has a greater thickness than the retention portion (20) of the second tool head (34). At least one of the clamping member portions (40, 42) includes

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a retention formation (44, 60, 70) which is mutually engagable with a retention formation (46, 62, 72) in the retention portion (20) of a corresponding tool head (28, 34). Clamping of the retention portion (20) of a tool head (28, 34) between the corresponding first or second clamping member portions (40, 42) mutually engages the respective retention formations (44, 46, 60, 62, 70, 72) of the or each clamping member portion (40, 42) and the tool head (28, 34) with one another to inhibit removal of the tool head (28, 34) from between the corresponding clamping member portions (40, 42). The corresponding clamping member portions (40, 42) further cooperating with the retention portion (20) of the tool head (28, 34) to position the operative portion (24) of the tool head (28, 34) beyond the handle assembly (12).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/GB2012/05 17 16

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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ADD .  
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED  
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
B25G A46B

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)  
EPO- I nternal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 6 115 921 A (GARNEAU JOHN P SR [US] ) 12 September 2000 (2000-09 - 12) col umns 2,8,9; f i gure s -----	1-7,9-15
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X	US 5 343 585 A (HOWELL VERNON L [US] ) 6 September 1994 (1994-09 -06 ) col umns 3,4; f i gures -----  - / - -	1,2,4 , 9-15

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Dav i d , Radu
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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