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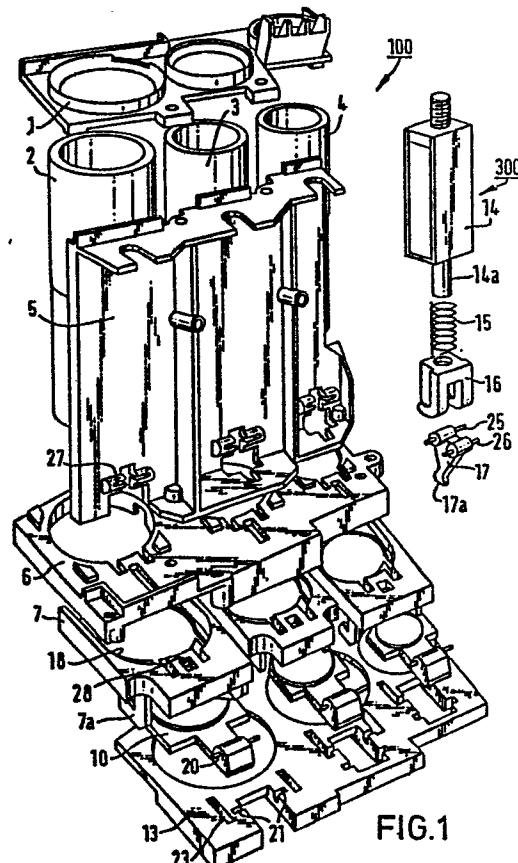
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**54 A method of dispensing coins and a coin dispenser.**

**57** A method of dispensing coins and a coin dispenser are intended for use in a vending machine to give coins as change when coins inserted into the vending machine to release goods have a greater value than the price of the goods purchased.

A plurality of coin tubes (2,3,4) each having a different diameter extend substantially vertically and are each arranged to receive a stack of coins of a different value. A respective dispensing mechanism (220) for each tube is actuated by way of a respective actuator (300) and comprises a pivotable flap (10) arranged in its initial position to extend across the bottom open end of the tube and support the stack of coins therein. A respective slide (7) is associated with each tube (2,3,4) and is arranged to withdraw the coin or coins immediately above the bottommost coin or coins to be dispensed partially out of the stack such that the withdrawn coins support the stack. Pivoting of the flap (10) out of its initial position then releases the bottommost coin or coins.



**FIG.1**



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. 4)
X	DE-C- 63 560 (SPRENGER) * Page 1, left-hand column, line 16 - page 2, left-hand column, line 15; figures 1-5 *	1-8	G 07 D 1/00
A		10, 13	
A	--- DE-A-2 656 820 (STANDARD ELEKTRIK LORENZ) * Page 4, line 14 - page 5, line 16; figures A, B *	1-8, 10	
A	--- EP-A-0 015 724 (MARS) * Page 4, line 17 - page 6, line 17; figures 1-4 *	1, 6, 9, 13-15	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			G 07 D G 07 F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 22-05-1987	Examiner RAHNER
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone  Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A : technological background  O : non-written disclosure  P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention  E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D : document cited in the application  L : document cited for other reasons  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			