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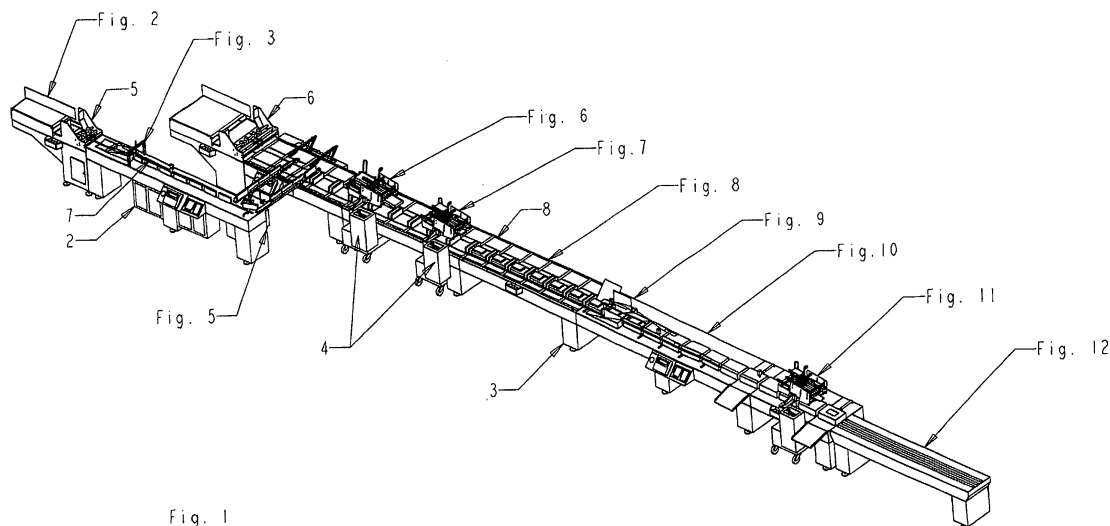
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(54) **Package, method and apparatus for manufacturing such package, and product feeder suitable for use with such apparatus**

(57) A package, as well as a method an apparatus for manufacturing such a package and a product feeder which, for example, can be utilized for feeding the products to such a package. In normal circumstances, the method and apparatus work continuously, which considerably increases the capacity with respect to the known method and apparatus. Moreover, with the method and apparatus packages of different inner space dimensions

can be manufactured. Not only the length of the inner space of the package can be varied, but also the height and the width thereof. Variation can take place without or with minimal resetting time.

The product feeder is distinguished from the known feeders in that it can process both heavy, rigid products, such as books, and light, slack products, such as loose sheets of paper.



EP 1 298 056 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 07 8682

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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Y		1,7,8, 10-12, 15,34 36	
A	---		
Y	DE 43 15 365 A (SILCOPLAN) 10 November 1994 (1994-11-10) * column 4, line 37 - column 6, line 49; figures 1-5 *	1,7,8, 10-12,15	
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A	US 5 590 812 A (IWAMOTO SHOZO ET AL) 7 January 1997 (1997-01-07) * column 7, line 23-34; figure 6 *	29	
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A	---		
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Y	---		
Y	DE 93 07 353 U (LEVI H) 22 July 1993 (1993-07-22) * page 8 - page 9; figures 2A,5 *	34	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 June 2003	Examiner Grentzius, W
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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Application Number

EP 02 07 8682

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

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

☐ Only part of the claims 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 claim(s):

☐ 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.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

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

see sheet B

☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ 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:

☐ None 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 invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
EP 02 07 8682

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

1. Claims: 1-28

Method and apparatus for manufacturing a package formed from a main blank and two pad blanks and for placing a product therein.

2. Claims: 29-33

Productfeeder

3. Claims: 34-37

Package manufactured from a main blank and two pad blanks

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 07 8682

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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