(54) Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING PRODUCT FLOW ON A FOOD PRODUCT MOLDING MACHINE

(57) Abstract: A manifold for a food product molding machine, which balances the flow and pressure of the food product over a wide fill area. The invention further relates to a feed system for a food product molding machine which has a multiple plunger configuration which increases the capacity of the food product molding machine. The invention further provides a valve for controlling the flow of food product molding machine. A breather vent assembly and auger cover is configured to return exhaust air and excess food product to the food product supply.
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : A22C 7/00
   US CL : 426/513
   According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
   Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
   U.S. : 426/513, 512; 425/205, 579, 575, 556, 572
   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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category *</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 4,975,039 A (DARE et al) 04 December 1990 (04.12.1990), Figure 2.</td>
<td>1-6</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,795,610 A (LONDON) 18 August 1998 (18.08.1998), Figure 4.</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,149,298 A (LINDEE) 22 September 1992 (22.09.1992), Figures 2-4.</td>
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<td>US 5,810,903 A (BRANCONNIER et al) 22 September 1998 (22.09.1998), Figure 1.</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 4,193,758 A (PETerson et al) 18 March 1980 (18.03.1980), Figures 1 and 3.</td>
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