(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR SURFACING FLITCH

(57) Abstract: An apparatus (10, 210, 310) for surfacing a flitch (12) by cutting material from its radially outer surface (14) to prepare the flitch (12) for veneer slicing or other uses is disclosed. The apparatus (10, 210, 310) comprises a cutterhead (18, 218, 318) and a cutterhead mover (24, 224, 324) to move the cutterhead (18, 218, 318) on the flitch (12) circumferentially thereabout for the cutterhead (18, 218, 318) to cut material from the radially outer surface (14) of the flitch (12).
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : B27L 1/00
   US CL : 144/208.5
   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. : 144/208.5, 208.8, 162.1, 167, 207.1, 215.2, 211, 212
   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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 6,135,747 (NEVILLE) 24 October 2000 (24.10.2000), See column 2, lines 41-67</td>
<td>1-4, 7-10, 18-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 4,519,429 A (DREESE) 28 May 1985 (28.05.1985), See The Entire document.</td>
<td>1-4, 8-10, 18-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,996,656 A (FEZER) 07 December 1999 (07.12.1999), See The Entire Document.</td>
<td>1-4, 8-10, 18-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
19 August 2003 (19.08.2003)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer
Allen Ostrager
Telephone No. 703-308-1148

Technical Specialist
Tech. Center 3700