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(74)

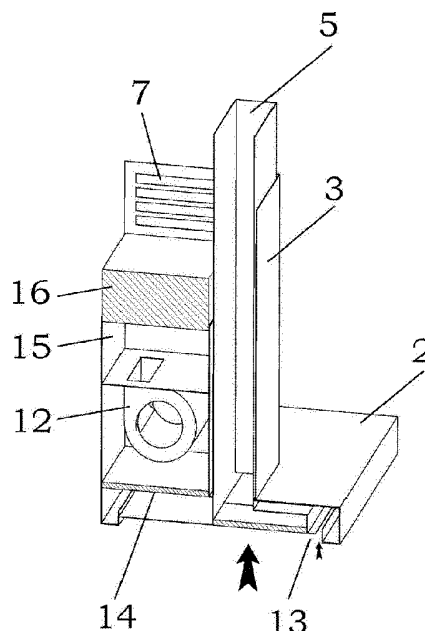
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(54)

Cooker hood and method of ventilating a kitchen.

(57)

The invention relates to a cooker hood having two separate channels, one for exhausting air to a CMV and one for re-circulating air back to the kitchen. A fan is arranged in the second exhaust channel for creating a flow through that exhaust channel. A first and second air inlet are arranged at a bottom side of the cooker hood wherein the first air inlet covers a central area of the bottom and the second air inlet covers a perimeter area of the bottom. By completely separating the two channels, two air flows are generated leading to a maximal exhaust of air without an overcapacity problem and without the need of moving valves.



NL C 2005384

Dit octrooi is verleend ongeacht het bijgevoegde resultaat van het onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek en schriftelijke opinie. Het octrooischrift komt overeen met de oorspronkelijk ingediende stukken.

Cooker hood and method of ventilating a kitchen

The invention relates to a cooker hood and a method of ventilating a room using such a cooker hood. It more specifically relates to a cooker hood connectable to a central mechanical ventilation (CMV) system.

Cooker hoods which are connectable to a central mechanical ventilation (CMV) system are known. The capacity of these cooker hoods is limited by the capacity of the CMV system. To improve the capacity, so-called hybrid cooker hoods are designed, which comprise their own mechanical ventilation fan. A problem with these cooker hoods may be that once the mechanical fan is activated, it produces an air flow that cannot be handled by the CMV. This problem is solved by a cooker hood described in patent publication WO 2007/003757 which describes a cooker hood having a separate outlet at the top of the hood for letting out an air flow produced by the fan. The air flow produces by the fan is separated from an air flow generated by a CMV. In this way, part of the exhaust air is re-circulated into the kitchen. The cooker hood comprises several valves for guiding the air flows depending on the mode of operation. If the fan is off, the outlet for re-circulating air is closed and another valve is moved to open a channel to the connected CMV system. It is believed that in this mode of operation a filter present at a central region of the hood is cleaned by the less polluted air going through the filter during periods of non-cooking. The disadvantage of this hood is that the mechanical valve may get polluted by grease and filth and will limit the life time of the hood considerably. Furthermore, the filter is used to clean the air in both operating modes. This means that the filter cannot be too thick because the CMV must be able to suck air through this filter in the non-cooking situation.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a cooker hood which solves at least one of the above mentioned problems.

This object is achieved by providing a cooker hood for ventilating a room, the hood comprising a first and second air inlet, a first air outlet for connecting the hood to a channel of a central mechanical ventilation system, and a second air outlet for recirculation air into the room. Furthermore the hood comprises a first exhaust channel for leading air from the first air inlet to the first air outlet and a second exhaust channel for leading air from the second air inlet to the second air outlet. A fan is arranged in the

second exhaust channel for creating a flow through the second exhaust channel. The first and second air inlet are arranged at a bottom side of the cooker hood and the first air inlet covers a central area of the bottom and the second air inlet covers a perimeter area of the bottom.

5 The cooker hood according to the invention uses two separate channels for exhausting air by means of the CMV and by exhausting air by means of the fan. In this way two air flows are generated leading to a maximal exhaust of air without an overcapacity problem and without the need of moving valves and without disturbing the CMV system.

10 Furthermore, by arranging the second air inlet at a perimeter of the bottom area it is able to enhance and/or guide the air flow created by the CMV going through the central inlet. So before entering the hood, the fan generated air flow enhances the air flow of the CMV underneath the cooker hood.

15 In an embodiment the second air inlet is arranged at least partly around the first air inlet. In this way it creates an air barrier which prevents air and gasses underneath the cooker hood at the mid region from escaping. This results in an optimal way of ventilating.

20 In an embodiment the first exhaust channel comprises an inlet filter arranged at the first air inlet. This filter prevents the CMV system from getting polluted with grease and moisture.

 In a further embodiment the second exhaust channel comprises a further inlet filter arranged at the second air inlet. This further inlet filter prevents the recirculation system from getting polluted with grease and moisture.

25 In an embodiment the second exhaust channel comprises an outlet filter arranged at the second air outlet. As a result the air will be cleaned from moisture and odour before it is recirculated.

 In an embodiment the first air inlet is substantially rectangular and the second air inlet is substantially U-shaped, said U-shaped second inlet at least partly surrounding the substantially rectangular shaped first inlet.

30 The invention also relates to a method of ventilating a room, such as a kitchen, using a cooker hood as described above.

Further details and advantages of the present invention will become clear to the reader after reading the description of the embodiments described below with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 schematically shows a cooker hood 1 according to an embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is a schematic cross section of the cooker hood 1 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 shows a cut-out view of the embodiment of Figure 1 showing the components of the cooker hood from a different perspective;

Figure 4 shows a bottom view of the embodiment of Figure 1.

Figure 1 schematically shows a cooker hood 1 according to an embodiment of the invention. The cooker hood 1 comprises a box shaped housing 2 and a u-shaped wall 3 surrounding a duct 4. At the top of the duct 4 a first outlet 5 is shown which can be connected to a channel of a central mechanical ventilation (CMV) system, not shown. In the wall 3 a second air outlet 5 is arranged in the form of a plurality of slots. At an opposite side of the cooker hood similar slots are present, not visible in Figure 1.

Figure 2 is a schematic cross section of the cooker hood 1 of Figure 1. Figure 2 shows an inlet filter 10 through which air will be drawn into the duct 4 by the CMV. Behind the duct 4 a fan 12 is installed for re-circulating air back into the kitchen. The re-circulated air enters the hood 1 via an inlet 13. Next, it reaches an inlet filter 14. The air is then sucked by way of the fan 12 upwards into a channel compartment before it reaches an outlet filter 16. Finally it passes through the air outlet slots 7 and is re-circulated into the kitchen. In Figure 2 the recirculated air is indicated by small arrows indicating the direction of the air flow. The larger arrows indicate the air flow going via the CMV channel.

According to the invention, the cooker hood 1 comprises two separate exhaust channels; a first exhaust channel for leading air from the first air inlet 10 to the first air outlet 5, also called the CMV outlet 5, and a second exhaust channel for leading air from the second air inlet 13 to the second air outlet 7 for recirculation.

Figure 3 shows a cut-out view of the embodiment of Figure 1 showing the components of the cooker hood from a different perspective. The inlet filters 10 and 14 may be grease filters made out of aluminium or the like. The outlet filter 16 in the

recirculation channel may be an odour filter comprising for example active carbon. The location of the outlet filter can differ from the location stated in the pictures.

Figure 4 shows a bottom view of the embodiment of Figure 1. As can be seen in this view, the air inlet 10 for leading air to the CMV is arranged as a rectangular area at a central part of the bottom of the hood 1. The air inlet 13 for the re-circulated air is arranged at a perimetral part of the bottom of the hood 1. An arrow 20 shows the back side of the cooker hood 1 which is normally in contact with a wall. In this embodiment the air inlet 13 is a u-shaped slot arranged along three edges of the bottom of the hood 1, i.e. the two side edges and the front edge. As can be seen, the u-shaped slot 13 is spaced from the outer ends of the box shaped housing 2. Typical values for the distance between the outer ends and the slot 13 are between 5-20 cm. Other values are possible.

Instead of a slot at three edges, a slot is conceivable along all four sides of the bottom of the hood. In that case the slot may be a rectangular slot completely surrounding the CMV air inlet 10. In the embodiment of Figure 4, the CMV air inlet 10 is covering approximately half of the region defined by the surrounding slot 13. It should be noted that the CMV air inlet 10 can be as large as to cover almost the complete enclosed region. However, if the CMV air inlet 10 is chosen too large, the velocity of the air through the CMV inlet may be too low. So, depending on the ventilation system present, the dimensions of the CMV channel and the ventilation criteria in the kitchen, the air inlet will have an optimal dimension. The form of the CMV air inlet 10 does not need to be rectangular, other shapes are possible such as oval.

The cooker hood according to the invention can be operated in two modes. If the fan 12 is off, the air is ventilated through the first channel towards the CMV. In this situation, the kitchen is ventilated via the cooker hood. The cooker hood will exhaust air and gasses coming from a cooking stove underneath the hood. If the produced gasses or smoke increases, the fan can be turned on to increase the capacity of the cooker hood. Preferably, the fan can be operated in several modes, such as low, medium, high, and as already mentioned above: off ☐

If the fan is turned on, the air is exhausted through both the channels. Underneath the cooker hood 1, air will flow at different rates depending on the region under the hood, and depending on the operating state of the fan 12.

When the fan 12 is fully operating, an air barrier is created at the edges of the cooker hood 1. In Figure 4 the air barrier is indicated by small arrows indicating the direction of the air flow of the recirculated air. The larger arrows indicate the air flow going via the CMV channel. The air barrier itself exhausts air through the filters 14 and 16 so as to recirculate cleaned air back into the kitchen. Furthermore, the air barrier prevents air and gasses underneath the cooker hood at the mid region from escaping. Since the CMV air inlet 10 is continuously extracting air from underneath the cooker hood, an air column defined by the barrier, is exhausted to the CMV. This air column comprises relatively more grease and smoke the air in the air barrier since it originates from pots and pans on the cooking stove which normally is aligned with the cooker hood 1. So the most polluted air is exhausted to the CMV which will blow the air outside. The less polluted air will pass the filter 16 and will be re-circulated. By re-circulating the air entering the hood via the inlet 13, a significant amount of energy is saved as compared to a hood that fully exhaust directly to the outside. Furthermore, the capacity of the hood is significant more than that of a hood that fully exhausts towards a CMV system.

The cooker hood according to the invention comprises two separate channels which have their own mode of operation and their own function. No valves are needed for leading air flows in different ways to different channels and outlets. This will make the configuration as such more robust.

Furthermore, the system works independently of the capacity of the CMV system and the capacity of the CMV system can be fully used.

It is emphasized that the present invention can be varied in many ways, of which the alternative embodiments as presented are just a few examples. These different embodiments are hence non-limiting examples. The scope of the present invention, however, is only limited by the subsequently following claims.

Conclusies:

1. Afzuigkap (1) voor het ventileren van een vertrek omvattende:

- een eerste luchtinlaat (10) en een tweede luchtinlaat (13);

- een eerste luchtuitlaat (5) voor het verbinden van de afzuigkap met een kanaal van een centraal mechanisch ventilatiesysteem;

- een tweede luchtuitlaat (7) voor het recirculeren van lucht in het vertrek;

- een eerste uitlaatkanaal voor het leiden van lucht vanuit de eerste luchtinlaat naar de eerste luchtuitlaat;

- een tweede uitlaatkanaal voor het leiden van lucht vanuit de tweede luchtinlaat naar de tweede luchtuitlaat;

- een ventilator (12) aangebracht in het tweede uitlaatkanaal voor het creëren van een luchtstroom door het tweede uitlaatkanaal,

waarbij de eerste en tweede luchtinlaat zijn ingericht aan een onderzijde van de afzuigkap en waarbij de eerste luchtinlaat een centraal gebied van de onderzijde bestrijkt en de tweede luchtinlaat een omtreksgebied van de onderzijde bestrijkt.

2. Afzuigkap volgens conclusie 1, waarbij de tweede luchtinlaat ten minste gedeeltelijk om de eerste luchtinlaat is ingericht.

3. Afzuigkap volgens één of meer van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij het eerste uitlaatkanaal een inlaatfilter omvat dat is ingericht bij de eerste luchtinlaat.

4. Afzuigkap volgens één of meer van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij het tweede uitlaatkanaal een verdere inlaatfilter omvat dat is ingericht bij de tweede luchtinlaat.

5. Afzuigkap volgens één of meer van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij het tweede uitlaatkanaal een uitlaatfilter omvat dat is ingericht bij de tweede luchtuitlaat.

6. Afzuigkap volgens één of meer van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij de eerste luchtinlaat in hoofdzaak rechthoekig is en de tweede luchtinlaat in hoofdzaak U-

vormig is, waarbij de U-vormige tweede luchtinlaat ten minste gedeeltelijk de in hoofdzaak rechthoekige eerste luchtinlaat omsluit.

- 5 7. Werkwijze voor het ventileren van een ruimte, zoals een keuken, met behulp van een afzuigkap volgens één of meer van de voorgaande conclusies.

Fig. 1

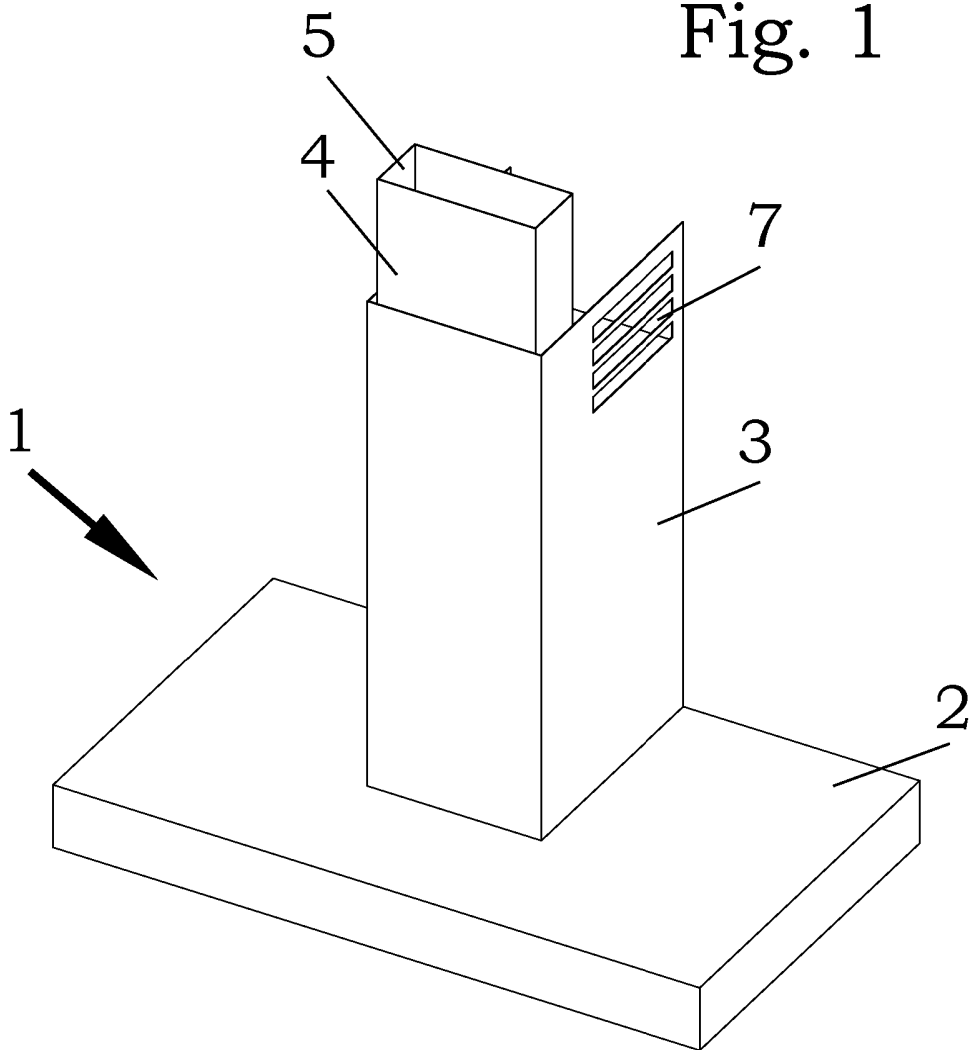


Fig. 2

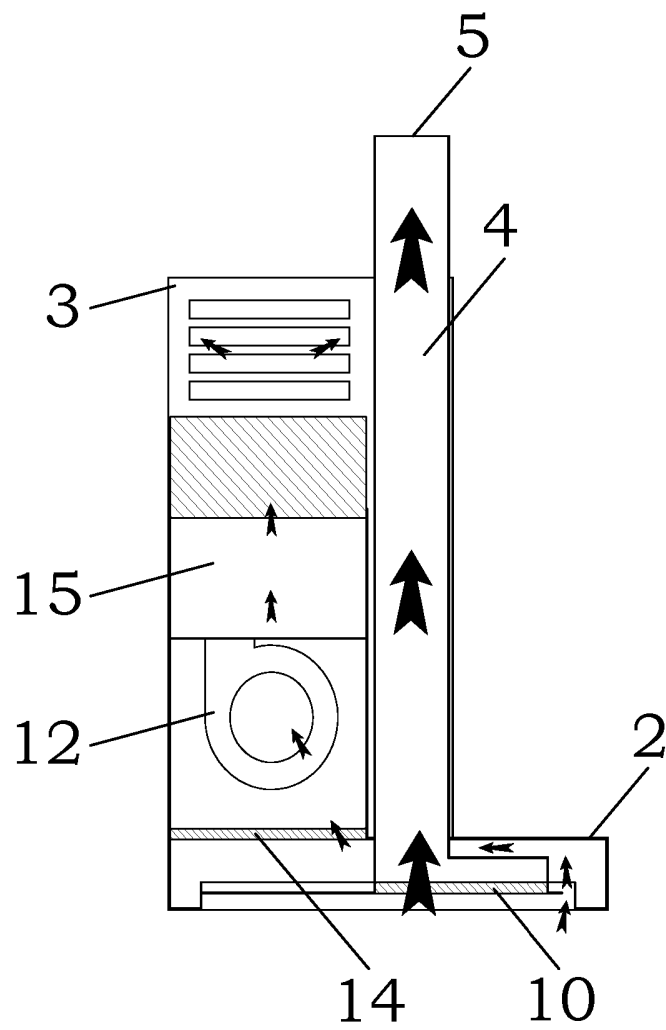
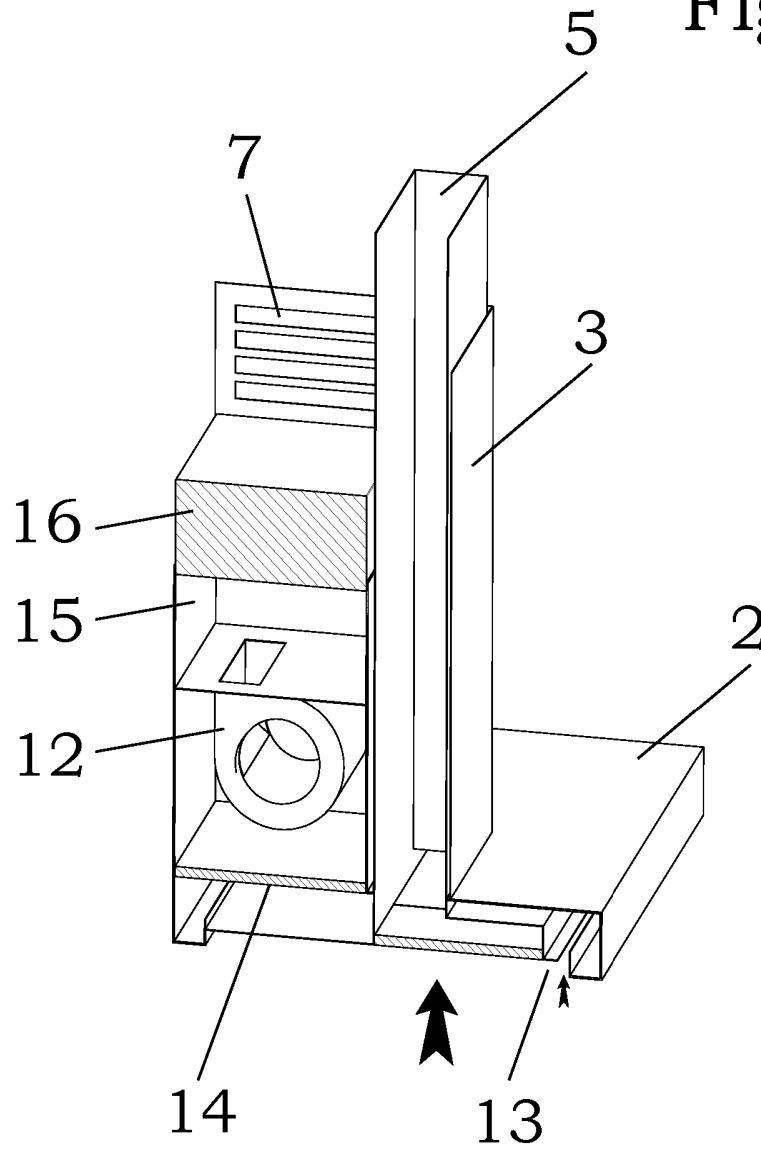
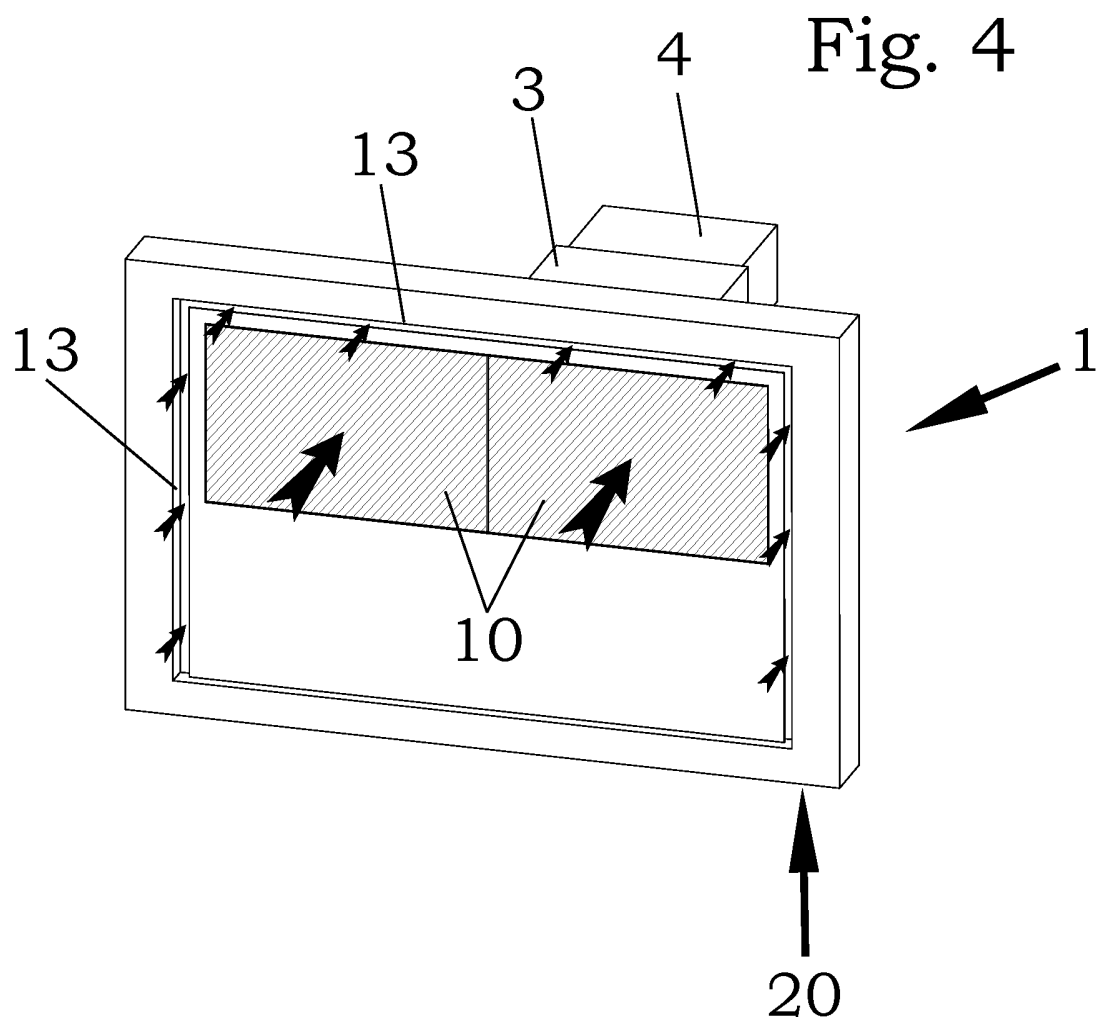


Fig 3.





SAMENWERKINGSVERDRAG (PCT)

RAPPORT BETREFFENDE NIEUWHEIDSONDERZOEK VAN INTERNATIONAAL TYPE

IDENTIFICATIE VAN DE NATIONALE AANVRAGE		KENMERK VAN DE AANVRAGER OF VAN DE GEMACHTIGDE	
		P21000186NL01	
Nederlands aanvraag nr.		Indieningsdatum	
2005384		23-09-2010	
		Ingeroepen voorrangsdatum	
Aanvrager (Naam)			
Intell Properties B.V.			
Datum van het verzoek voor een onderzoek van internationaal type		Door de Instantie voor Internationaal Onderzoek aan het verzoek voor een onderzoek van internationaal type toegekend nr.	
06-11-2010		SN 55113	
I. CLASSIFICATIE VAN HET ONDERWERP (bij toepassing van verschillende classificaties, alle classificatiesymbolen opgeven)			
Volgens de internationale classificatie (IPC)			
F24C15/20			
II. ONDERZOCHE GEBIEDEN VAN DE TECHNIEK			
Onderzochte minimumdocumentatie			
Classificatiesysteem		Classificatiesymbolen	
IPC8		F24C	
Onderzochte andere documentatie dan de minimum documentatie, voor zover dergelijke documenten in de onderzochte gebieden zijn opgenomen			
III.	☐	GEEN ONDERZOEK MOGELIJK VOOR BEPAALDE CONCLUSIES (opmerkingen op aanvullingsblad)	
IV.	☐	GEBREK AAN EENHEID VAN UITVINDING (opmerkingen op aanvullingsblad)	

**ONDERZOEKSRAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET
RESULTAAT VAN HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE STAND
VAN DE TECHNIEK VAN HET INTERNATIONALE TYPE**

Nummer van het verzoek om een onderzoek naar
de stand van de techniek

NL 2005384

A. CLASSIFICATIE VAN HET ONDERWERP INV. F24C15/20 ADD.		
Volgens de Internationale Classificatie van octrooien (IPC) of zowel volgens de nationale classificatie als volgens de IPC.		
B. ONDERZOCHE GEBIEDEN VAN DE TECHNIEK Onderzochte minimum documentatie (classificatie gevolgd door classificatiesymbolen) F24C		
Onderzochte andere documentatie dan de minimum documentatie, voor dergelijke documenten, voor zover dergelijke documenten in de onderzochte gebieden zijn opgenomen		
Tijdens het onderzoek geraadpleegde elektronische gegevensbestanden (naam van de gegevensbestanden en, waar uitvoerbaar, gebruikte trefwoorden) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. VAN BELANG GEACHTE DOCUMENTEN		
Categorie	Geciteerde documenten, eventueel met aanduiding van speciaal van belang zijnde passages	Van belang voor conclusie nr.
X,D	WO 2007/003757 A1 (ALDES AERAUQUE [FR]; LABAUME DAMIEN [FR]) 11 januari 2007 (2007-01-11) in de aanvraag genoemd	1,4,7
Y	* samenvatting; figuren *	2,3,5,6
Y	DE 14 54 643 A1 (SIEMENS ELEKTROGERAETE GMBH) 20 maart 1969 (1969-03-20) * bladzijde 2, alinea 3; figuren *	2,6
Y	FR 2 131 064 A5 (COSTE CAUMARTIN ETS) 10 november 1972 (1972-11-10) * figuren 2,3 *	3,5
A	EP 1 180 648 A1 (ALDES AERAUQUE [FR]) 20 februari 2002 (2002-02-20)	1,7
☐ Verdere documenten worden vermeld in het vervolg van vak C. ☒ Leden van dezelfde octrooifamilie zijn vermeld in een bijlage		
* Speciale categorieën van aangehaalde documenten "A" niet tot de categorie X of Y behorende literatuur die de stand van de techniek beschrijft "D" in de octrooiaanvraag vermeld "E" eerdere octrooi(aanvraag), gepubliceerd op of na de indieningsdatum, waarin dezelfde uitvinding wordt beschreven "L" om andere redenen vermelde literatuur "O" niet-schriftelijke stand van de techniek "P" tussen de voorrangsdatum en de indieningsdatum gepubliceerde literatuur "T" na de indieningsdatum of de voorrangsdatum gepubliceerde literatuur die niet bezwarend is voor de octrooiaanvraag, maar wordt vermeld ter verheldering van de theorie of het principe dat ten grondslag ligt aan de uitvinding "X" de conclusie wordt als niet nieuw of niet inventief beschouwd ten opzichte van deze literatuur "Y" de conclusie wordt als niet inventief beschouwd ten opzichte van de combinatie van deze literatuur met andere geciteerde literatuur van dezelfde categorie, waarbij de combinatie voor de vakman voor de hand liggend wordt geacht "&" lid van dezelfde octrooifamilie of overeenkomstige octrooi-publicatie		
Datum waarop het onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek van internationaal type werd voltooid 14 juni 2011		Verzenddatum van het rapport van het onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek van internationaal type
Naam en adres van de instantie European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		De bevoegde ambtenaar Verdoodt, Luk

**ONDERZOEKSRAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET
RESULTAAT VAN HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE STAND
VAN DE TECHNIEK VAN HET INTERNATIONALE TYPE**

Informatie over leden van dezelfde octrooifamilie

Nummer van het verzoek om een onderzoek naar
de stand van de techniek

NL 2005384

In het rapport genoemd octrooigeschrift	Datum van publicatie	Overeenkomend(e) geschrift(en)	Datum van publicatie
WO 2007003757	A1	11-01-2007	EP 1899652 A1 19-03-2008
			FR 2887968 A1 05-01-2007
DE 1454643	A1	20-03-1969	GEEN
FR 2131064	A5	10-11-1972	GEEN
EP 1180648	A1	20-02-2002	AT 258294 T 15-02-2004
			DE 60101825 D1 26-02-2004
			DE 60101825 T2 04-11-2004
			ES 2211750 T3 16-07-2004
			FR 2812933 A1 15-02-2002



OCTROOICENTRUM NEDERLAND

WRITTEN OPINION

File No. SN55113	Filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 23.09.2010	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>)	Application No. NL2005384
International Patent Classification (IPC) INV. F24C15/20			
Applicant Intell Properties B.V.			

This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the application

	Examiner
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WRITTEN OPINION

Application number

NL2005384

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. This opinion has been established on the basis of the latest set of claims filed before the start of the search.
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ on paper
 - ☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the application in electronic form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

Box No. V Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty	Yes: Claims	2, 3, 5, 6
	No: Claims	1, 4, 7
Inventive step	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-7
Industrial applicability	Yes: Claims	1-7
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. State of the art

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1 WO 2007/003757 A1 (ALDES AERAILIQUE [FR]; LABAUME DAMIEN [FR]) 11 januari 2007 (2007-01-11) in de aanvraag genoemd
- D2 DE 14 54 643 A1 (SIEMENS ELEKTROGERÄTE GMBH) 20 maart 1969 (1969-03-20)
- D3 FR 2 131 064 A5 (COSTE CAUMARTIN ETS) 10 november 1972 (1972-11-10)

2. Remark

The terms "central area" and "perimeter area" used in claim 1 are vague and leaves the reader in doubt as to the meaning of the technical feature to which it refers, thereby rendering the definition of the subject-matter of said claim unclear.

3. Novelty

The present application does not meet the criteria of patentability, because the subject-matter of **claims 1, 4 and 7** is not new.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

a cooker hood (5) (fig. 1+2) for ventilating a room, the hood comprising:

- a first air inlet (low side of element 13) and a second air inlet (below filter 7);
- a first air outlet (4) for connecting the hood to a channel of a central mechanical ventilation system (figure 1);
- a second air outlet (9) for recirculation air to the room (figure 1);
- a first exhaust channel (12) for leading air from said first air inlet to said first air outlet (4);

- a second exhaust channel (6) for leading air from said second air inlet to said second air outlet (9);
- a fan (8) arranged in said second exhaust channel for creating a flow through said second exhaust channel,

wherein said first and second air inlet are arranged at a bottom side of the cooker hood (5) and said first air inlet covers a central area of the bottom and said second air inlet covers a perimeter area of the bottom.

From the drawings it is clear that the air inlets are arranged at a bottom side of the cooker hood and both inlets cover a certain area of this bottom side.. The second air inlet starts on the front edge (in figure 1 this is near reference sign 7) and therefore it is considered that the second air inlet covers a perimeter area of the bottom. The "central area" of the bottom is considered to be covered by the inlet below reference sign 13. Consequently, all the features of claim 1 are known from D1. Therefore the subject-matter of said claim is not new.

Furthermore, D1 discloses a method of ventilating a room, such as a kitchen, using the above cooker hood. The subject-matter of claim 7 is therefore not new.

In addition, D1 discloses a cooker hood wherein said second exhaust channel comprises a further inlet filter (7) arranged at the second air inlet. The subject-matter of dependent claim 4 is therefore also not new.

4. Inventive step

Dependent claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of inventive step, the reasons being as follows:

- in claims 2 and 6 slight constructional changes in the air inlets are defined which come within the scope of the customary practice followed by persons skilled in the art, especially as the advantages thus achieved can readily be foreseen. Such a configuration of the inlet is for example known from D2 (see figure 2). -
- the additional features of dependent claims 3 and 5 have already been used for the same purpose in a similar cooker hood, see document D3 (figures 2 + 3 disclosing a cooker hood having an inlet filter (3) arranged at a first air inlet (2) and a second outlet (15) with an outlet filter (4). It would therefore be obvious to

the person skilled in the art to apply these features with corresponding effect to a cooker hood according to D1, thus arriving at a cooker hood according to claim 3, respectively claim 5.

The subject-matter of **dependent claims 2, 3, 5 and 6** does therefore not involve an inventive step.

5. Industrial applicability

The subject-matter of **claims 1-7** is deemed to be industrially applicable.