



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
19.08.2009 Bulletin 2009/34

(51) Int Cl.:
B26F 1/14 (2006.01) **B65B 1/00** (2006.01)
B26D 3/08 (2006.01) **B26F 1/18** (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
10.06.2009 Bulletin 2009/24

(21) Application number: **09156028.4**

(22) Date of filing: **18.12.2006**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR

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(30) Priority: **16.12.2005 IT MO20050338**

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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
06126308.3 / 1 880 813

(54) **Apparatuses for packing products**

(57) An apparatus comprises:

- weakening promoting means (14) suitable for generating weakening line means (15, 16) on a sheet material (4), said weakening promoting means (14) comprising a serrated profile,
- gripping means (3) arranged for advancing said sheet material (4) to a forming station (7),

- folding means (25) downstream of said forming station (7) arranged for facing an edge portion (33) of said sheet material (4) on a further edge portion (34) of said sheet material (4), opposite said edge portion (33),

wherein said folding means comprises comb means (25) that acts on localised zones of said sheet material (4).

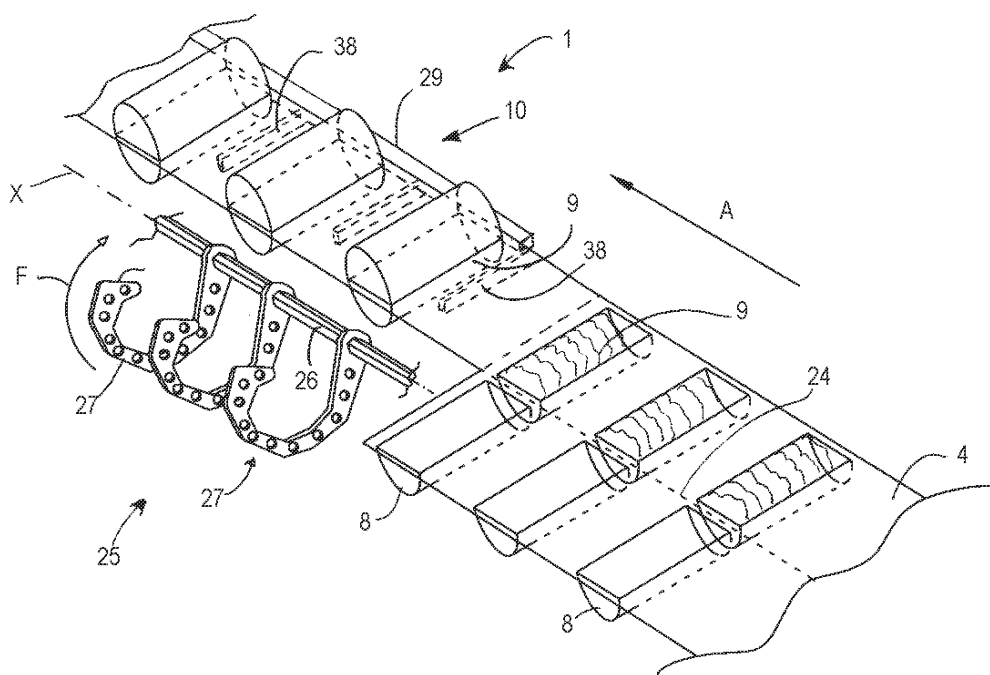


Fig. 5



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 15 6028

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	US 2 958 168 A (VOGT CLARENCE W) 1 November 1960 (1960-11-01) * column 6, line 30 - line 50; figures 1-10 * * column 6, line 74 - column 7, line 4 *	1-9	INV. B26F1/14 B65B1/00 B26D3/08
A	WO 2005/079147 A (GREEN PACK S R L [IT]; MINGHETTI BIANCA ELENA [IT]; CAPPONI MARCO [IT]) 1 September 2005 (2005-09-01) * page 26; figures 1-39 *	1-9	ADD. B26F1/18
A	US 4 907 394 A (TSCHEPKE JOSEF [DE] ET AL) 13 March 1990 (1990-03-13) * the whole document *	1-9	
A	US 3 912 080 A (WINBERG RAGNAR O) 14 October 1975 (1975-10-14) * the whole document *	1-9	
A	US 3 129 545 A (SLOAN EDWARD C ET AL) 21 April 1964 (1964-04-21) * the whole document *	1-9	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	DE 10 2004 030402 A1 (REINDL FRANZ JUN [DE]) 27 October 2005 (2005-10-27) * the whole document *	1-9	B26F B65B B26D
8 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 15 April 2009	Examiner Wimmer, Martin
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	

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

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:

see additional sheet(s)

☐ The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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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: 1-9

A packing apparatus with a forming station a weakening promotion means and gripping means that has folding means with comb means that act on localized zones of the sheet material in order to enable a precise folding process without damaging sensible zones of the material.

2. claims: 10-12

A packing apparatus with a forming station a weakening promotion means and gripping means comprising further gripping means having conduit means for interacting with the product.

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

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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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

15-04-2009

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2958168	A	01-11-1960	NONE	

WO 2005079147	A	01-09-2005	EP 1725457 A2	29-11-2006

US 4907394	A	13-03-1990	NONE	

US 3912080	A	14-10-1975	NONE	

US 3129545	A	21-04-1964	NONE	

DE 102004030402 A1		27-10-2005	NONE	
