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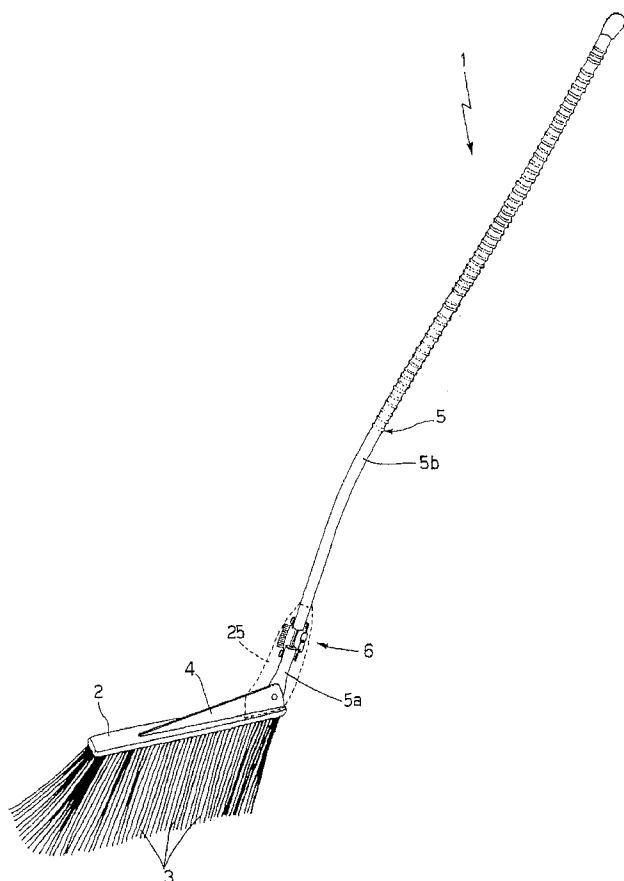
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: WORKING TOOL



(57) Abstract: A work tool comprising a work ele-
ment (2, 3) , a handle (5) connected to said work ele-
ment (2, 3) , and damping means (6; 6a; 6b; 6c; 6d;
6e; 6f; 6g; 6h; 6i; 6j) capable of damping mechan-
ical stresses transmitted along said handle (5) . A work
tool (1a) comprising: a work element (2) , a coupling
element (4) extending from a surface of the work ele-
ment (2) , and a handle (5) connected to said coupling
element (4) , an axial end portion (106) of said han-
dle (5) being associated to connecting means (107; 121;
134; 137; 142; 147; 151; 157; 164) capable of connect-
ing said axial end portion (106) of said handle (5) to
the coupling element. A work tool (170) comprising a
support element (171) having a surface (173) to which
a plurality of bristles (3) is attached, as well as a han-
dle (5) connected at an end (5c) thereof to said support
element (171) , said surface (173) having a curved con-
figuration.

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *with international search report*
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2006/001959

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A46B5/00		
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) A46B		
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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 333 345 A (O'DONNELL) 2 August 1994 (1994-08-02) column 1, line 54 - line 56; figures -----	1-28
X	US 2 268 488 A (KEEYS) 30 December 1941 (1941-12-30) the whole document -----	1-28
X	US 6 279 189 B1 (CASSAR) 28 August 2001 (2001-08-28) claims; figures -----	1-28
X	US 2002/092107 A1 (KIMBRO) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18) claims; figures -----	1-28
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. * & * document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 29 November 2006		Date of mailing of the international search report 04/05/2007
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Coniglio, Carlo

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International application No

PCT/IB2006/001959

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 384 930 A (UNO) 31 January 1995 (1995-01-31) claims; figures -----	1-28
X	EP 0 536 509 A2 (WATZ) 14 April 1993 (1993-04-14) claims; figures -----	1-28
X	US 4 785 489 A (VON DOEHREN) 22 November 1988 (1988-11-22) claims; figures -----	1-28
X	US 3 340 556 A (ALLEN) 12 September 1967 (1967-09-12) claims; figures -----	1-28

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2006/001959

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-28

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-28

a work tool with damping means between work element and handle

2. claims: 29-68

a work tool with a coupling element between work element and handle

3. claims: 69-86

a work tool with a support element to which a plurality of bristles is fixed in several configurations

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001959

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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US 2268488	A	30-12-1941	NONE		
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