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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

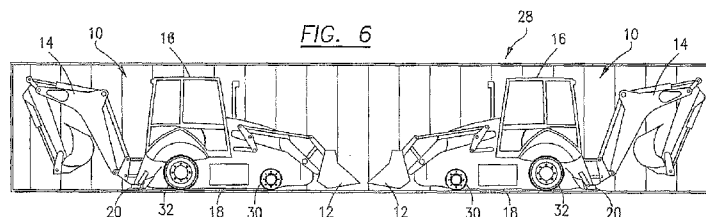
Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

29 July 2010

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPORTING CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT IN AN ENCLOSED CONTAINER WITHIN THE HOLD OF A VESSEL



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for permitting construction equipment, and particularly backhoe loaders (10), to be transported in the hold of a seagoing vessel within the interior of an enclosed cargo container (28) includes front (30) and rear (32) rollers that temporarily replace the wheels (22, 24) of the equipment (10) and allow it to be driven into and out of the container without any disassembly of the equipment.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2009/062000

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 INV. E02F9/00 E02F9/02 B60B19/00 B65D88/02

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)
 E02F B60B B60P B65D

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 6 375 243 B1 (BRADLEY AIDAN J [US] ET AL) 23 April 2002 (2002-04-23) figures 5-7	1,2
Y	-----	3
Y	DE 12 75 899 B (ESI KUNSTSTOFF UND APPBAU A G) 22 August 1968 (1968-08-22) column 3, lines 10-20; figures 1-4 -----	3

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
18 January 2010	09/06/2010

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center;">Papadimitriou, S</p>
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2009/062000

Box No. 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 No. 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 fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
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.:

see additional sheet(s)

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- 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: 1,2,3

an apparatus which may constitute a ground engagement means for a piece of equipment and which apparatus is not prone to damage when in use.

2. claims: 1,2,4,6

manufacturing of a roller set of an apparatus which may constitute a ground engagement means for a piece of equipment.

3. claims: 1,2,5

an apparatus which may constitute a tracked ground engagement means for a piece of equipment.

4. claims: 1,2,7

an apparatus which may constitute a ground engagement means for a piece of equipment having a number of different ground engaging means.

5. claims: 1,2,8,9,10

a method for safely transporting a construction equipment to a desired location.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/US2009/062000

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6375243	B1	23-04-2002	US 2003098606 A1	29-05-2003
DE 1275899	B	22-08-1968	NONE	