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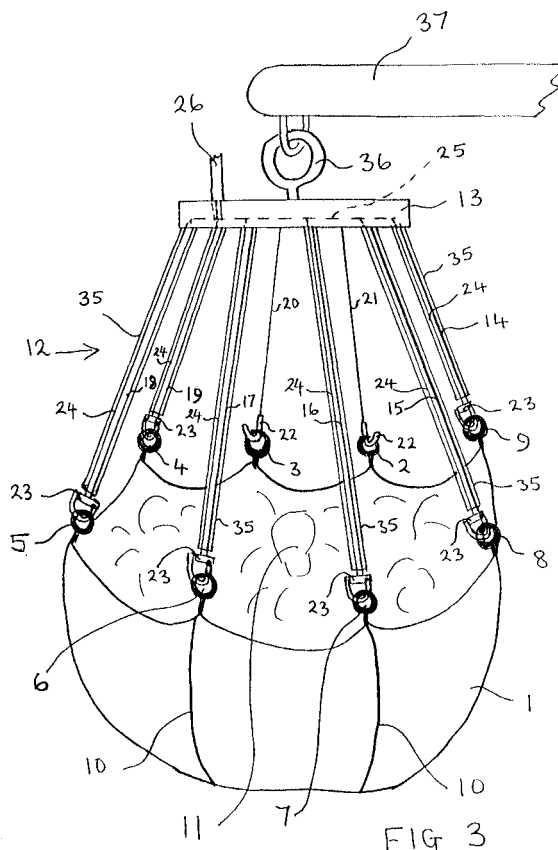
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(54) **Method of handling bulk material**

(57) Bulk material is handled by means of a sheet (1) of pliant heavy-duty material which incorporates a plurality of loop-form attachments (2 to 9) spaced apart around its peripheral edge. Bulk material (11) to be handled is placed on the sheet (1) and lifting means comprising a manifold (13) having deployed therefrom a plurality of straps (14 to 21) provided with hook means (22,23) at ends thereof engages with the plurality of loop-form attachments of the sheet. A majority, but not all, of the hook means (23) are provided with automatic release means, a minority of the hook means (22) being of fixed form.



EP 1 266 848 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 3917

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 26 August 2002	Examiner Clivio, E
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			

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EP 02 25 3917

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EPO FORM P0459

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