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CA 2681085 C 2016/05/24

(11)(21) 2 681 085

(12) BREVET CANADIEN
CANADIAN PATENT

(13) C

(86) Date de dépôt PCT/PCT Filing Date: 2008/04/09
(87) Date publication PCT/PCT Publication Date: 2008/10/30
(45) Date de délivrance/Issue Date: 2016/05/24
(85) Entrée phase nationale/National Entry: 2009/09/11
(86) N° demande PCT/PCT Application No.: SE 2008/000254
(87) N° publication PCT/PCT Publication No.: 2008/130302
(30) Priorité/Priority: 2007/04/19 (SE0700952-5)

(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *B07B 1/46* (2006.01),
B07B 1/42 (2006.01)

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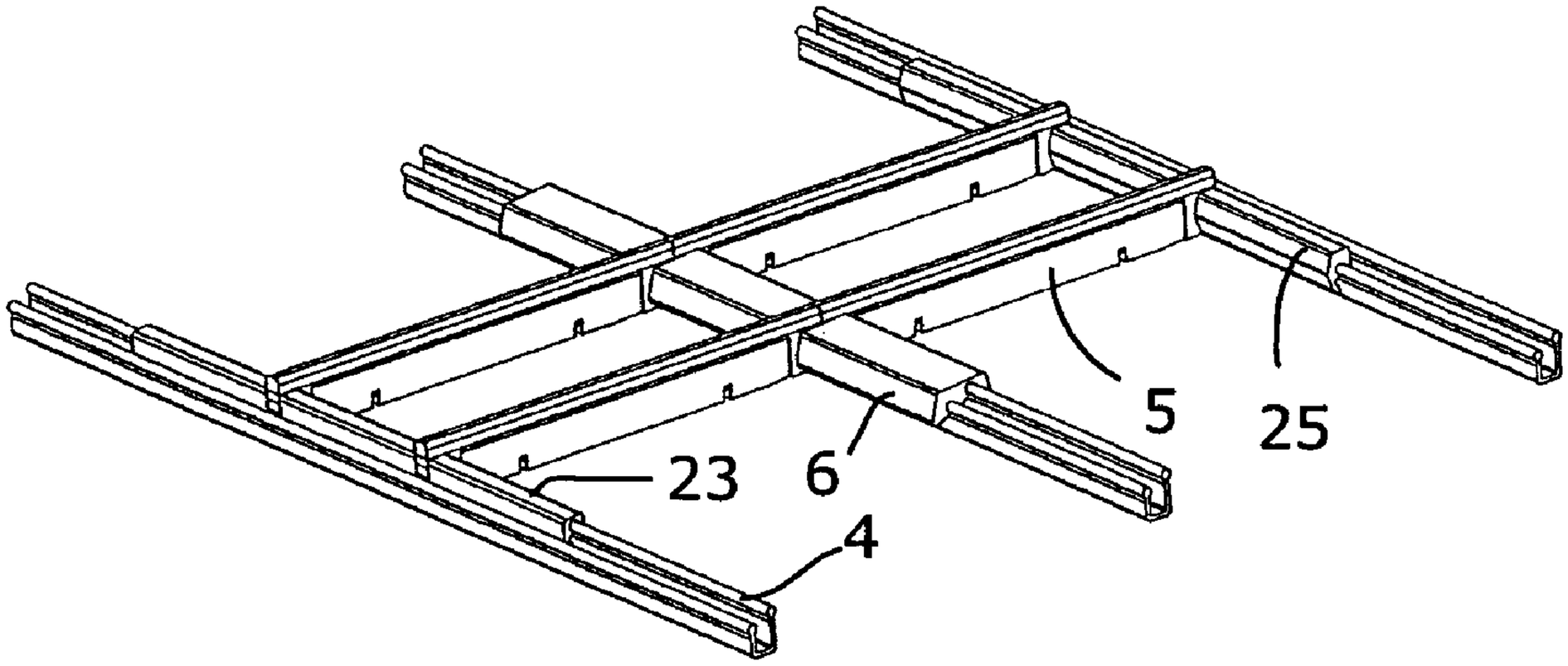
(54) Titre : STRUCTURE DE SUPPORT ET PORTEUR DE SUPPORT
(54) Title: SUPPORTING STRUCTURE AND A SUPPORT CARRIER



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
The present invention concerns a supporting structure for different screening media on a vibrating screen. It also concerns a support carrier (5) of the supporting structure. The supporting structure is received on a vibrating screen (1) and it has a number of support carriers (5) arranged parallel to each other and perpendicular to a number of transversal carriers (4). The support carriers (5) and the transversal carriers (4) form a grid. The support carriers (5) have grooves (8, 9) at each end to be snapped on and locked on circular ribs (20) on top of the transversal carriers (4). The support carriers (5) are made of a polymeric material and are elongated elements.

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
30 October 2008 (30.10.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/130302 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
B07B 1/46 (2006.01) *B07B 1/42* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/SE2008/000254

(22) International Filing Date: 9 April 2008 (09.04.2008)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0700952-5 19 April 2007 (19.04.2007) SE

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

(54) Title: SUPPORTING STRUCTURE AND A SUPPORT CARRIER

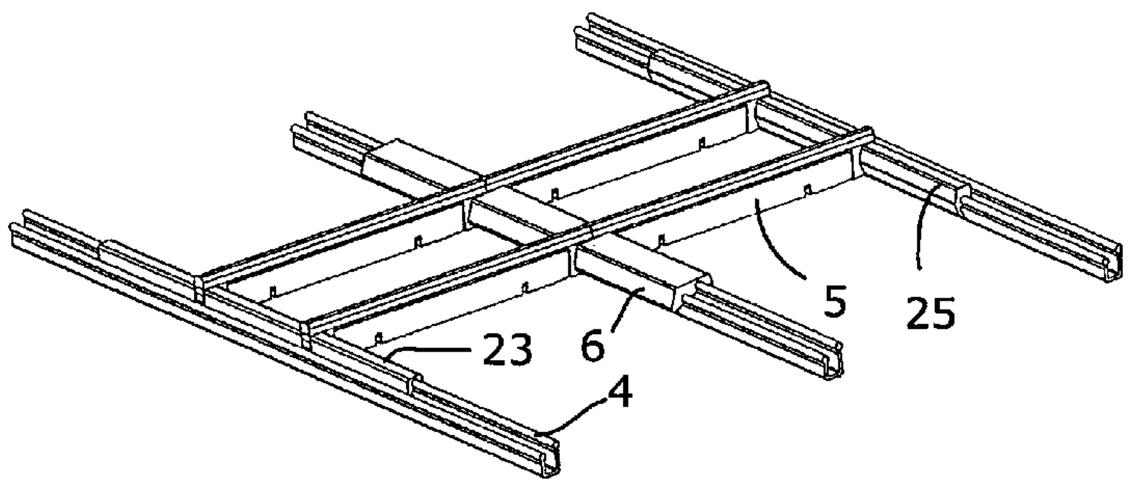

Fig. 3

(57) Abstract: The present invention concerns a supporting structure for different screening media on a vibrating screen. It also concerns a support carrier (5) of the supporting structure. The supporting structure is received on a vibrating screen (1) and it has a number of support carriers (5) arranged parallel to each other and perpendicular to a number of transversal carriers (4). The support carriers (5) and the transversal carriers (4) form a grid. The support carriers (5) have grooves (8, 9) at each end to be snapped on and locked on circular ribs (20) on top of the transversal carriers (4). The support carriers (5) are made of a polymeric material and are elongated elements.

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SUPPORTING STRUCTURE AND A SUPPORT CARRIER

Technical Field

The present invention concerns a supporting structure for different screening media on a vibrating screen and a support carrier used in the supporting structure.

Prior Art

In vibrating screens used for fractionation of for example crushed stones and gravel into fractions of stones with different sizes, screening media are used having screening holes for allowing stones smaller than the screening holes to pass through the holes.

Vibrating screens are known having an adapter system or a supporting structure to be able to use different types of screening media. The screening media normally have the form of a wire mesh, polymer mats, panels or modular screening elements. The supporting structure has the form of a number of elements placed in a grid supporting the screening media.

Summary of the Invention

A screen is relatively heavy and a general strive is always to lower the total weight whenever possible as well as to lower costs. In the different adapter systems or supporting structures for the screening media it is common to use different parts of metal, mainly steel. By replacing such parts with polymeric parts not only will the total weight of the screen be reduced one also avoids possible corrosion problems. Further, by having snap on locks instead of bolts, rivets or welding it will be easier and quicker to adapt the screen to the screening media used in a certain situation. By avoiding welding one also avoids problems caused by welding, such as cracking due to fatigue. Depending on the type of material received, the sizes of the fractions wanted etc. it may be necessary to change the type of screening media from time to time. Thus, it should be possible to amend the set-up of the screen without having to make any major rebuilding of the screen.

One object of the present invention is to reduce the total weight of the screen. According to the present invention one way to do this is to replace parts made of steel with corresponding parts made of a polymeric material. By using a polymeric material with reinforcement it is possible to combine relatively high strength with low weight. The use of a polymeric material instead of steel further means that one also avoids problems concerning corrosion. A further object is to form a system that easily could be adapted to different situations, both concerning the material to be screened and the screening media, such as modular screening elements or wire meshes to be used. A further object is to avoid the use of bolts, rivets, welding or similar means of fastening. Still a further object is to have a more simple system.

Further objects and advantages will be obvious for a person skilled in the art, reading the detailed description below of at present preferred embodiments.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention will be described further below, by way of examples and with reference to the enclosed drawings. In the drawings,

Fig 1 is a perspective view of a screen in which the present invention may be implemented,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the screen of Fig. 1 illustrating an alternative screening media,

Fig. 3 is a perspective illustrative view of a supporting structure according to the present invention,

Fig. 4 is a side view of a support carrier according to the present invention,

Fig. 5 is an end view of the support carrier of Fig. 4,

Fig. 6 is a cross section taken at the line B-B in Fig. 4,

Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section taken at the line A-A in Fig. 5,

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of one example of a support carrier,

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of an alternative support carrier,

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of an alternative support carrier,

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of a further alternative support carrier,

Fig. 12 is an end view of one example of a transversal carrier according to the present invention,

Fig. 13 is an end view of a second example of a transversal carrier,

Fig. 14 is an end view of a further example of a transversal carrier,

Fig. 15 is an end view of yet a further example of a transversal carrier, and

Fig. 16 is a perspective view of three different protective spacer elements according to the present invention.

Detailed Description of Preferred Embodiments

As used in this description expressions like "top", "upper", "lower" and similar expressions are in view of the positions as shown in the drawings and with the normal orientation of a vibrating screen.

A vibrating screen 1 has a screen deck receiving materials to be screened, such as crushed stones, gravel etc. To accomplish the screening the screen deck is vibrated. The screen deck is normally furnished with screening media formed of either a number of modular screening elements 2, a wire mesh, polymer mats 3 or panels. Wire meshes and polymer mats are often referred to as cross tension media. The screening media are received on some kind of supporting structure. If the screening media have the form of modular screening elements 2, they may be placed oriented either along or transversal to the direction of motion of the material to be screened. In the example of Fig. 1 the modular screening elements 2 are placed along the direction of motion of the material to be screened. In the example of Fig. 2 a cross tension media in the form of a polymer mat 3 is indicated. The polymer mat 3 is given a curved form.

In the shown embodiment the supporting structure is formed of a number of transversal carriers 4, support carriers 5 and protective spacer elements 6, 23, 25. The transversal carriers 4 are placed parallel to each other and transversal to the direction of motion for the material to be screened. The transversal carriers 4 are fastened by bolting, welding or other suitable fastening means to cross members (not shown) of the vibrating screen deck. The support carriers 5 are placed parallel to each other on top of the transversal carriers 4 and perpendicular to the transversal carriers 4. The protective spacer elements 6 are normally used together with cross tension media. The spacer elements 6, 23, 25 are placed on top of the transversal carriers 4 between the support carriers 5.

The transversal carriers 4 have the form of elongated rails. In cross section each transversal carrier 4 has a base with two stanchions 16, 17, 18, one at each side of the base. The transversal carriers 4 placed at the ends of the screen deck may have only one stanchion 19, 19a. In some embodiments the stanchions 18 are of similar height, while in other embodiments the

stanchions 16, 17 of each transversal carrier 4 are of different heights. The stanchions 19, 19a of the transversal carriers 4 placed at the ends may also be of different heights. On top of each stanchion 16-19a a circular rib 20 is formed. The circular rib 20 is to be received in a matching groove of parts to be placed on top of the transversal carriers 4. A person skilled in the art realises that the exact form of the transversal carriers 4 may vary, as long as they fulfil the intended used.

The support carriers 5 are elongated, relatively thin elements having a generally rectangular cross section. The support carriers 5 are made of a polymeric material, for example polyurethane. At each end of each support carrier 5 a groove 8, 9 is formed for cooperation with the circular ribs 20 of the transversal carriers 4. The grooves 8, 9 have a generally vertical orientation and open towards the lower side of each support carrier 5. Thus, the grooves 8, 9 of the support carriers 5 will form a snap lock with the circular ribs 20 on top of the stanchions 16-19 of the transversal carriers 4. The positions and depths of the grooves 8, 9 of the support carriers 5 are adapted to the form of the transversal carriers 4 to receive said support carriers 5. As reinforcement and to increase the stiffness of the support carriers 5 a reinforcing rib 7 is placed inside each support carrier 5. The reinforcing ribs 7 are preferably made of a composite, e.g. fibreglass, or aramid. The reinforcing ribs 7 are placed in the support carriers 5 during moulding or are glued to the support carriers 5. The grooves 11 shown in the Figs. 3 and 6 at the bottom of the support carriers 5 are used in the manufacturing process. To save weight and material the support carriers 5 have a thinner part or indentation 10 placed at the lower part of each support carrier 5. One indentation 10 is formed on both opposing sides of each support carrier 5. The support carriers 5 have the full width, seen in cross section, at the top and at each end. Thus, the support carriers have full width in the area of the grooves 8, 9 for cooperation with the circular ribs 20 of the transversal carriers 4.

In some embodiments the upper part 5a of the support carriers 5 is made of a softer material. In other embodiments a capping in form of a polymeric strip is placed on top of each support carrier 5.

The top of the support carriers 5 has different shape depending on the type and make of the screen 1 and the screening media used. Some different shapes of the top of the support carriers 5 are indicated in Figs. 8-11. In the example of Fig. 8 the top is a rail profile 12, having side parts extending outside the support carriers 5, seen in cross section, and forming a longitudinal groove. In this example a central bulge 13 is indicated. The bulge 13 is intended for

cooperation with an opening in a modular screening element 2, whereby the modular screening elements 2 will be correctly orientated and any tendency to movement of the screening media will be counteracted. Normally the bulge 13 is placed centrally on each support carrier 5, seen in longitudinal direction. In other embodiments each support carrier has two or more bulges placed along the upper surface of the support carrier. In another example the top of the support carriers 5 is a straight surface (Fig. 11), in other examples it is a groove profile 14 (Fig. 10) or a bar profile 15 (Fig. 9) in the form of a circular rib. Independent of the shape of the top of the support carrier 5, at least one bulge 13 is normally arranged. The bulge(s) 13 is placed on top of the support carrier 5, in the rail profile 12, in the groove profile 14 or on top of the bar profile 15. To give a wire mesh or other tensioned or pre-tensioned screening media of the screen deck an arched surface if wanted, support carriers 5 of different height are normally used.

The spacer elements 6, except the spacer elements 23, 25 placed at the ends of the screen deck, have two longitudinal grooves 21, 22 on the lower surface. The grooves 21, 22 are formed for cooperation with the circular ribs 20 of the stanchions 16-18 of the transversal carriers 4. Depending on the height of the stanchions 16-18 the grooves 21, 22 have different depths. Spacer elements 23, 25 to be placed on transversal carriers 4 at the ends of the screen deck have only one groove 24, 26 for cooperation with a circular rib 20 on a single stanchion 19, 19a of a transversal carrier 4. The spacer elements 23, 25 to be placed at the ends of the screen deck are shown having different heights. In the shown examples the higher of the spacer elements has inclined surfaces on the side facing the screen deck. Thus, there will be a snap lock between the grooves 21, 22, 24, 26 of the spacer elements 6, 23, 25 and the circular ribs 20 of the transversal carriers 4. The spacer elements 6, 23, 25 are normally placed abutting two adjacent support carriers 5.

In use a number of transversal carriers 4 are first placed in equal spacing to start forming the supporting structure. The transversal carriers 4 are fixed to the screen as indicated above. Then a number of support carriers 5 are placed on the transversal carriers 4 in a spacing adapted to the width of the screen. The support carriers 5 are placed parallel to each other and perpendicular to the transversal carriers 4, to form a grid. The spacing between the transversal carriers 4 and support carriers 5, respectively, depends inter alia on the intended use of the screen 1, the screening media and the material to be screened. The exact shape, i.e. the cross section, of the support carriers 5 are chosen depending on the type of modular screening elements 2, wire mesh 3 or

other screening media to be used. The support carriers 5 are placed on the transversal carriers 4 with the ends of adjacent support carriers abutting each other. Each support carrier 5 is placed with its ends on two adjacent transversal carriers 4. The grooves 8, 9 of the support carriers 5 cooperate with the circular ribs 20 of the stanchions 16-19a of the transversal carriers 4 to form snap locks. The support carriers 5 are placed parallel to each other and perpendicular to the transversal carriers 4. Concurrent with the placement of the support carriers 4 the protective spacer elements 6, 23, 25 are placed between the support carriers 5 and on top of the transversal carriers 4. The length of the spacer elements 6 are adapted to the distance between the support carriers 5 and normally the ends of the spacer elements will abut the support carriers 5. The grooves 21, 22, 24, 26 of the spacer elements 6 cooperate with the circular ribs 20 of the stanchions 16-19a of the transversal carriers 4, to form snap locks. Finally, a wire mesh 3, modular screening elements 2 or other screening media are placed on the supporting structure formed of the transversal carriers 4, the support carriers 5 and the spacer elements 6.

Depending on type and brand of the modular screening elements 2 and their orientation a number of support carriers 5 and spacer elements 6 may be taken away to receive the modular screening elements 2. The modular screening elements 2 are either snapped on to the support carriers 5 or the transversal carriers 4, depending on the orientation of the modular screening elements 2.

The modular screening elements 2 are placed oriented either along or transversal to the direction of motion of the material to be screened. When the modular screening elements 2 are oriented along the direction of motion of the material to be screened they are placed on the support carriers 5. When the modular screening elements 2 are oriented transversal to the direction of motion of the material to be screened they are placed directly on the transversal carriers 4, thus no support carriers 5 or spacer elements 6 are needed in that case. Openings in the screening elements 2 are normally placed to receive bulges 13 of the support carriers 5.

In use it is possible to have both cross tension media and modular screening elements on the same vibrating screen. It is also possible to have different types of modular screening elements or different types of cross-tensioned screening media.

What is claimed is:

1. A supporting structure of a vibrating screen, having a number of support carriers arranged parallel to each other and perpendicular to a number of transversal carriers, whereby the support carriers and the transversal carriers form a grid,

wherein the support carriers have grooves at each end to be snapped on and locked on circular ribs on top of the transversal carriers,

the support carriers are made of a polymeric material,

screening media are received on the supporting structure having a grid shape, formed by the support carriers and the transversal carriers, and

a reinforcing rib is received inside each support carrier.

2. The supporting structure of claim 1, wherein protective spacer elements are placed between and abutting adjacent support carriers and sides of the vibrating screen.

3. The supporting structure of claim 1 or 2, wherein the support carriers are made of polyurethane.

4. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the reinforcing rib is made of a composite.

5. The supporting structure of claim 4, wherein the composite is fibreglass or aramid.

6. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the support carriers have different heights.

7. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the support carriers have a rectangular cross section form.

8. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the support carriers have a cross section forming a rail, a groove or a bar at the top.

9. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-8, wherein at least one bulge is formed for cooperation with an opening of a part received on the supporting structure.

10. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the transversal carriers have a base part with one or two stanchions, on top of which stanchions the circular ribs to be received in the grooves of the support carriers are placed.

11. The supporting structure of claim 10, wherein the stanchions of the transversal carriers have different heights.

12. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the supporting structure receives tensioned media.

13. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the supporting structure receives a number of modular screening elements placed perpendicular to the general direction of motion of material on the screen, which modular screening elements are placed on the transversal carriers.

14. The supporting structure of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the supporting structure receives both cross tension media and one or more different types of modular screening elements.

15. A supporting structure of a vibrating screen, having a number of support carriers arranged parallel to each other and perpendicular to a number of transversal carriers, whereby the support carriers and the transversal carriers form a grid,

wherein the support carriers have grooves at each end to be snapped on and locked on circular ribs on top of the transversal carriers,

the support carriers are made of a polymeric material,

screening media are received on the supporting structure having a grid shape, formed by the support carriers and the transversal carriers, and

at least one bulge is formed for cooperation with an opening of a part received on the supporting structure,

16. The supporting structure of claim 15, wherein protective spacer elements are placed between and abutting adjacent support carriers and sides of the vibrating screen.

17. The supporting structure of claim 15 or 16, wherein the support carriers are made of polyurethane.

18. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-17, wherein the reinforcing rib is made of a composite.

19. The supporting structure of claim 18, wherein the composite is fibreglass or aramid.

20. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-19, wherein the support carriers have different heights.

21. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-20, wherein the support carriers have a rectangular cross section form.

22. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-21, wherein the support carriers have a cross section forming a rail, a groove or a bar at the top.

23. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-22, wherein the transversal carriers have a base part with one or two stanchions, on top of which stanchions the circular ribs to be received in the grooves of the support carriers are placed.

24. The supporting structure of claim 23, wherein the stanchions of the transversal carriers have different heights.

25. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-24, wherein the supporting structure receives tensioned media.

26. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-25, wherein the supporting structure receives a number of modular screening elements placed perpendicular to the general direction of motion of material on the screen, which modular screening elements are placed on the transversal carriers.

27. The supporting structure of any one of claims 15-26, wherein the supporting structure receives both cross tension media and one or more different types of modular screening elements.

28. A support carrier of a supporting structure, of a vibrating screen, comprising:

a support carrier that is an elongated element,

wherein the support carrier is made of a polymeric material and has grooves cooperating with a plurality of transversal carriers of the supporting structure to form a snap lock,

the support carrier has a reinforcement received inside the support carrier, and

screening media are received on the supporting structure having a grid shape, formed by the support carrier and the transversal carriers.

29. The support carrier of claim 28, wherein the support carrier is made of polyurethane.

30. The support carrier of claim 28 or 29, wherein the reinforcement is a reinforcing rib made of a composite.

31. The support carrier of claim 30, wherein the composite is fibreglass or aramid.

32. The support carrier of any one of claims 28-31, wherein the support carrier has a cross section forming a rail, a groove or a bar at the top.

33. The support carrier of any one of claims 28-32, wherein the support carrier has a rectangular cross section form.

34. The support carrier of claim 32, wherein at least one bulge is formed on each support carrier, either at the top or inside the rail or the groove at the top.

35. The support carrier of any one of claims 28-34, wherein the support carrier has an indentation on opposite sides of a lower part of the support carrier.

36. The support carrier of any one of claims 28-35, wherein an upper part is made of a softer material than the rest of the support carrier.

37. A support carrier of a supporting structure, of a vibrating screen, comprising:

a support carrier that is an elongated element,

wherein the support carrier is made of a polymeric material and has grooves cooperating with a plurality of transversal carriers of the supporting structure to form a snap lock,

at least one bulge is formed on the support carrier, either at the top or inside a rail of the support carrier or a groove at the top, and

screening media are received on the supporting structure having a grid shape, formed by the support carrier and the transversal carriers.

38. The support carrier of claim 37, wherein the support carrier is made of polyurethane.

39. The support carrier of claim 37 or 38, wherein the support carrier has a rectangular cross section form.

40. The support carrier of any one of claims 37-39, wherein the support carrier has an indentation on opposite sides of a lower part of the support carrier.

41. The support carrier of any one of claims 37-40, wherein an upper part is made of a softer material than the rest of the support carrier.

42. A support carrier of a supporting structure, of a vibrating screen, comprising:

a support carrier that is an elongated element,

wherein the support carrier is made of a polymeric material and has grooves cooperating with a plurality of transversal carriers of the supporting structure to form a snap lock,

an upper part is made of a softer material than the rest of the support carrier, and

screening media are received on the supporting structure having a grid shape, formed by the support carrier and the transversal carriers.

43. The support carrier of claim 42, wherein the support carrier is made of polyurethane.

44 The support carrier of claim 42 or 43, wherein the support carrier has a cross section forming a rail, a groove or a bar at the top.

45. The support carrier of any one of claims 42-44, wherein the support carrier has a rectangular cross section form.

46. The support carrier of any one of claims 42-45, wherein the support carrier has an indentation on opposite sides of a lower part of the support carrier.

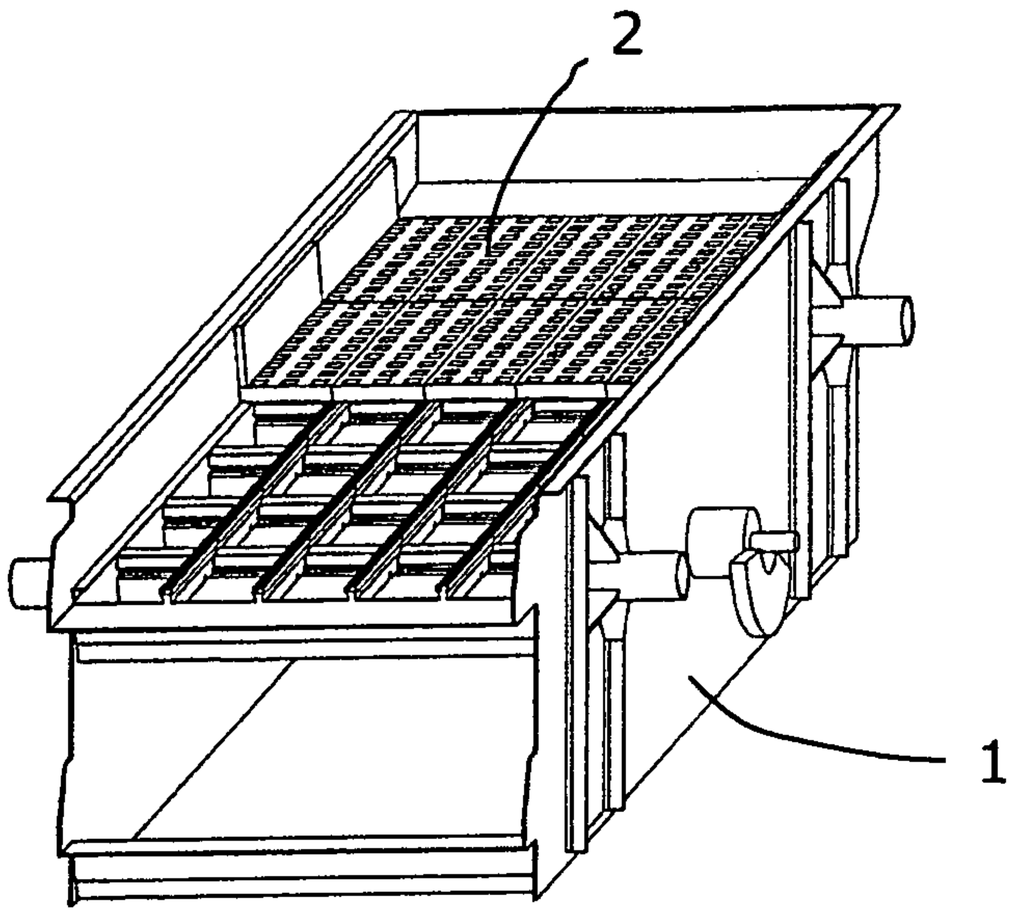


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

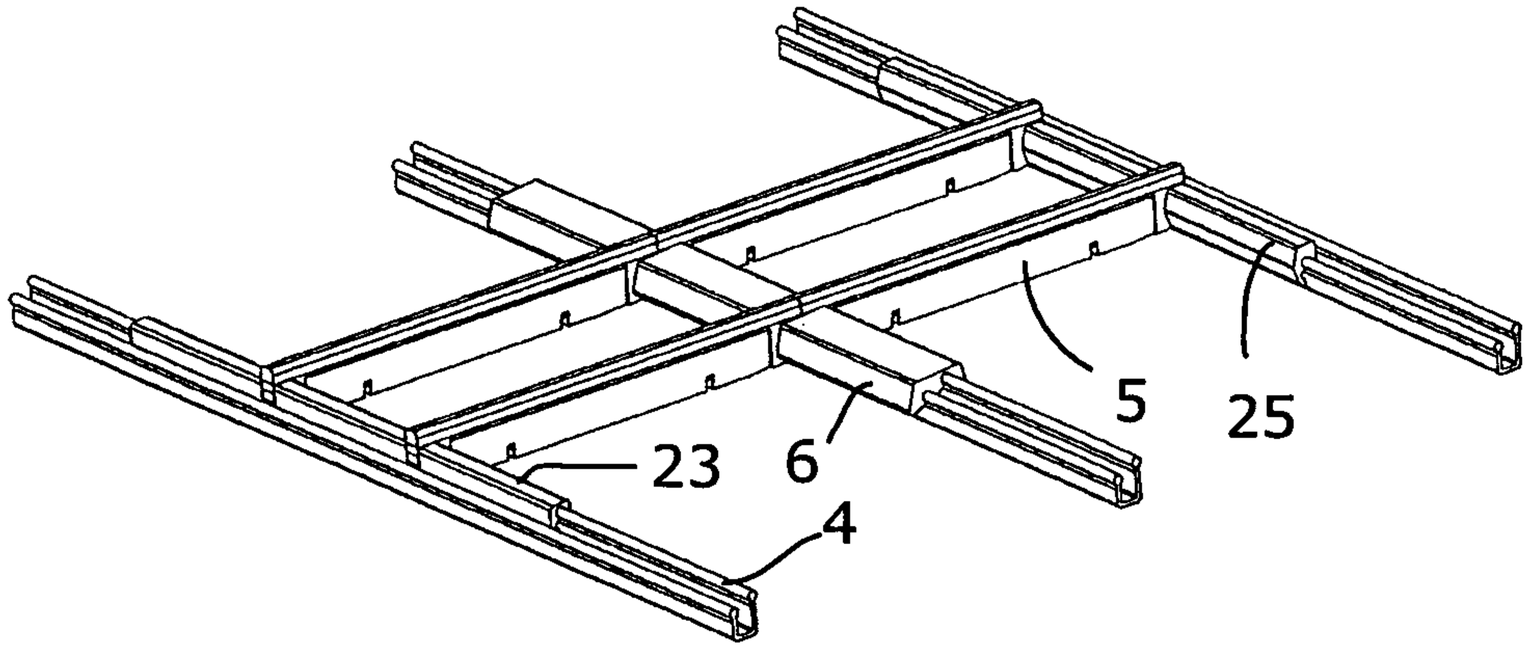


Fig. 3

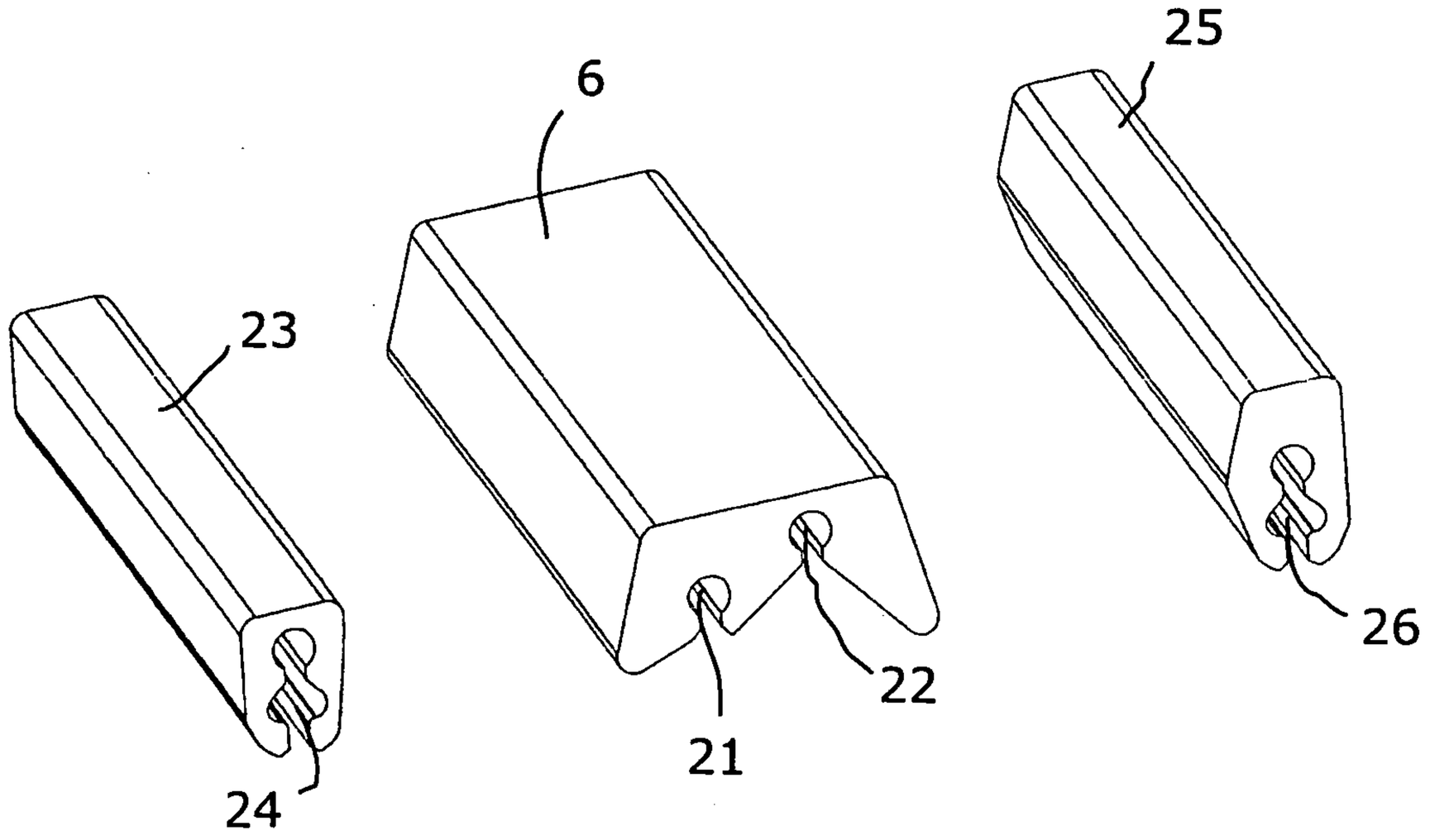


Fig. 16

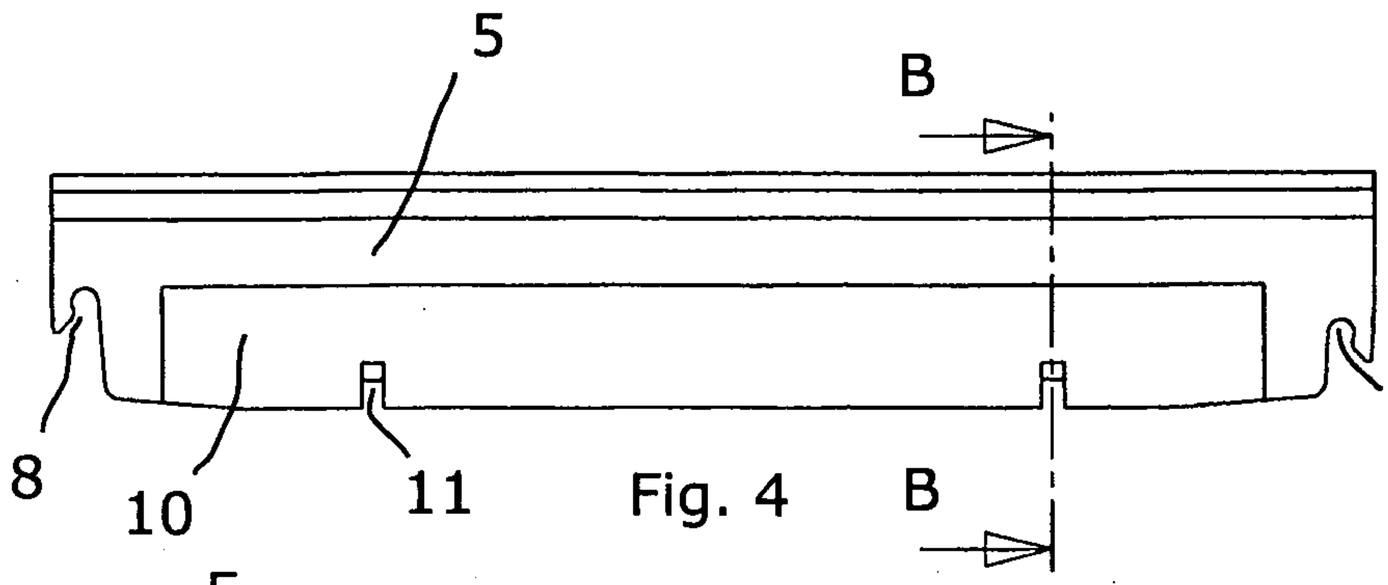


Fig. 4

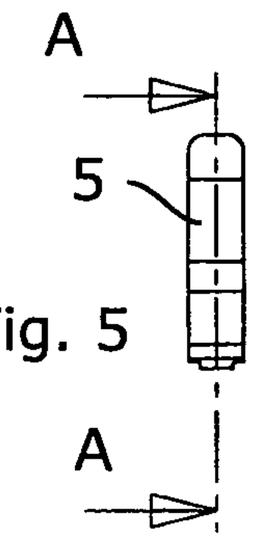


Fig. 5

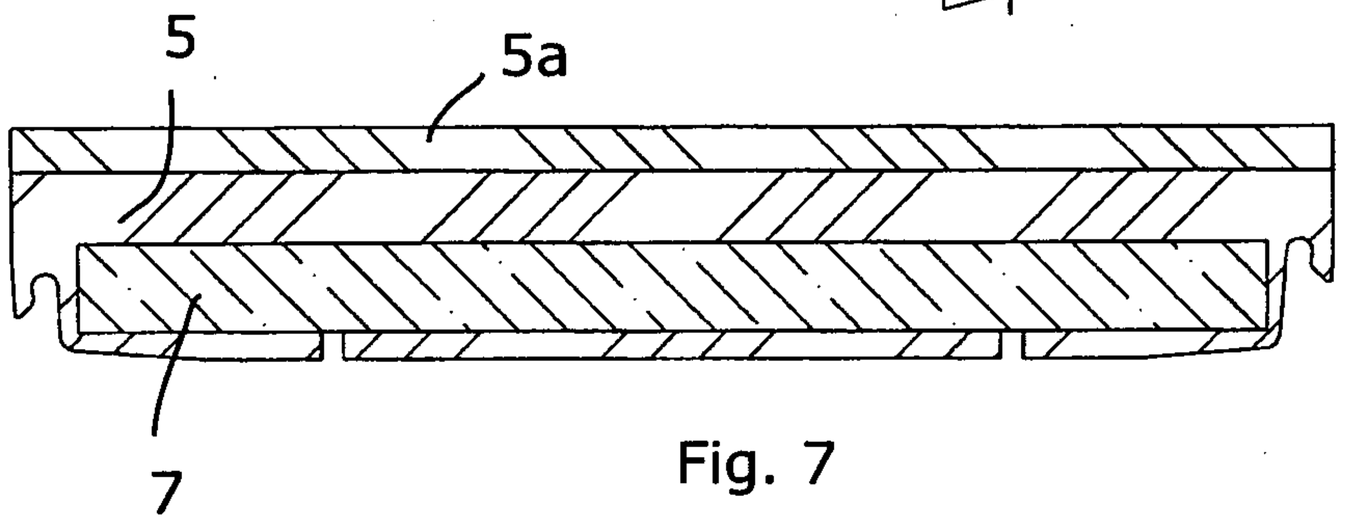


Fig. 7

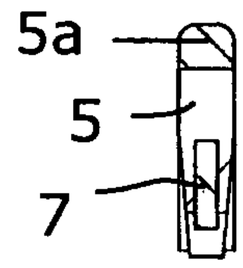


Fig. 6

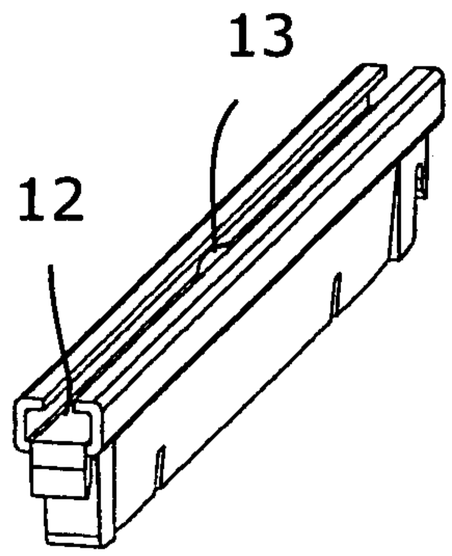


Fig. 8

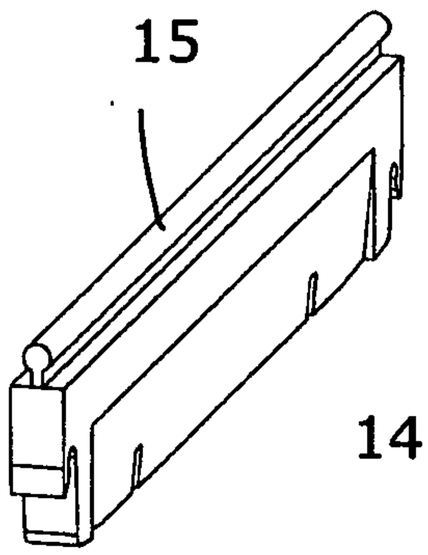


Fig. 9

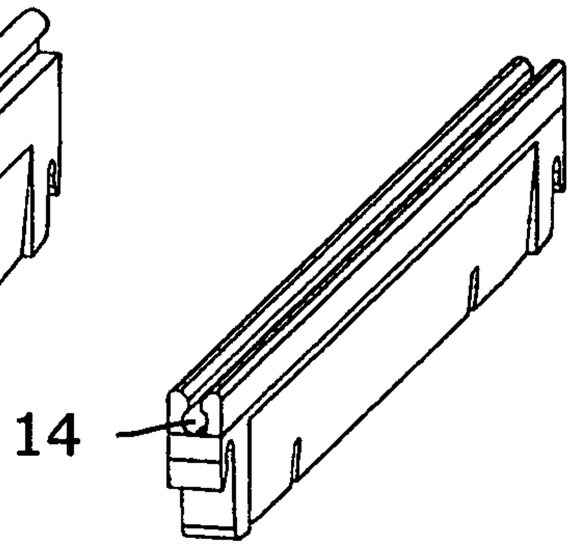


Fig. 10

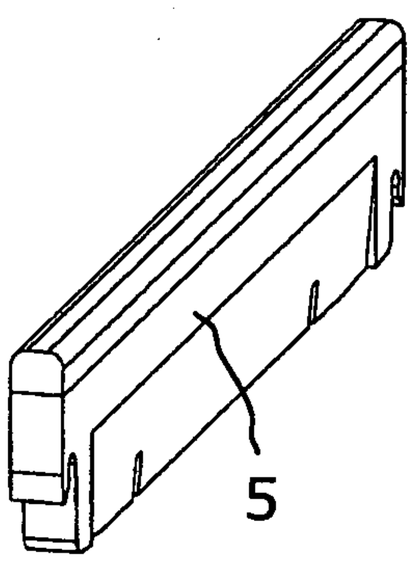


Fig. 11

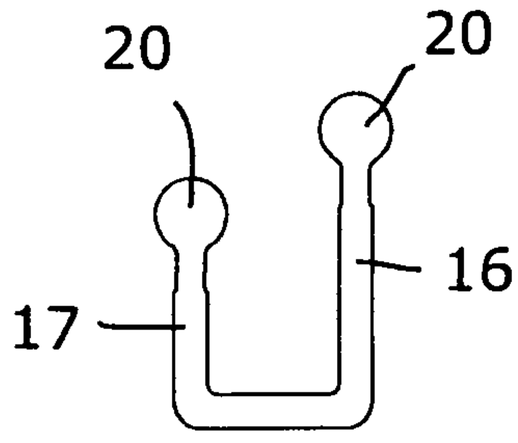


Fig. 12

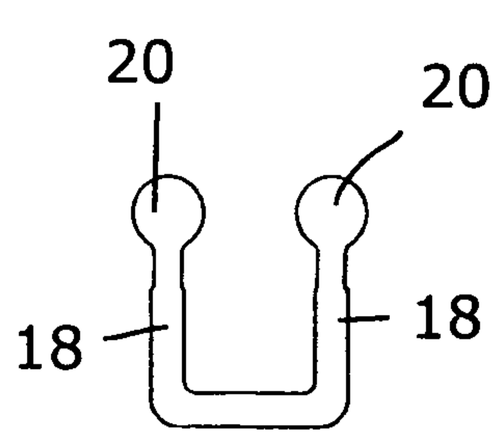


Fig. 13

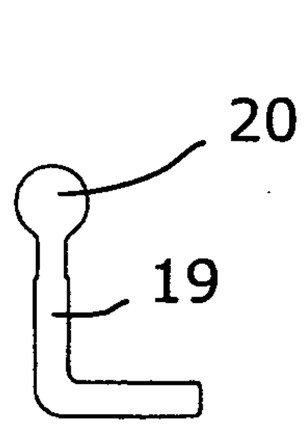


Fig. 14

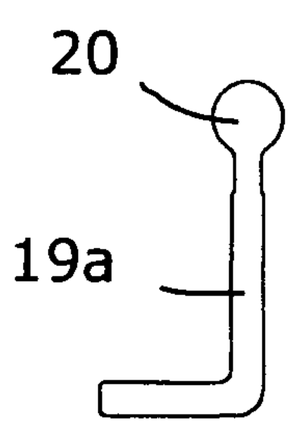
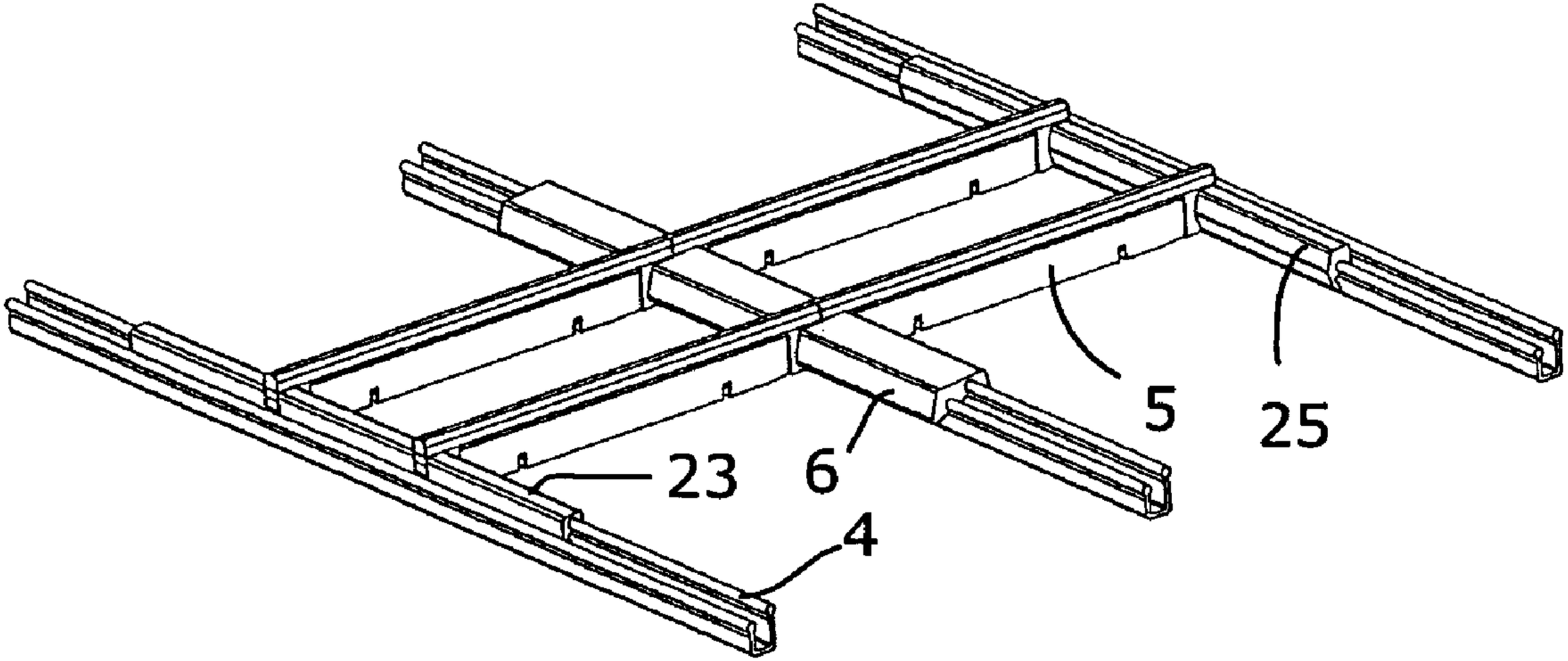


Fig. 15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