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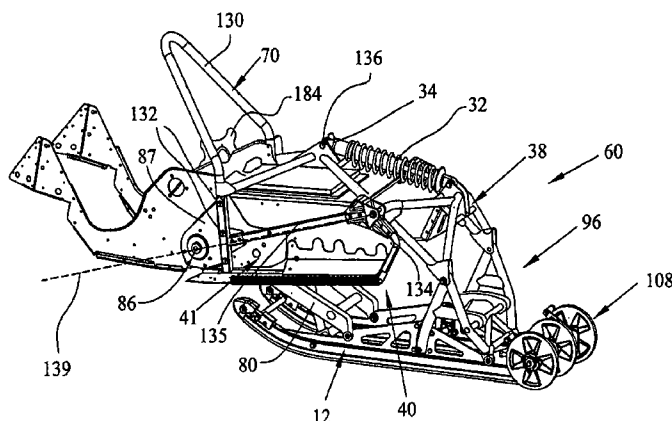
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SNOWMOBILE REAR SUSPENSION



(57) Abstract: A snowmobile rear suspension is shown comprised of a linear force element (LFE) (32) positioned outside the envelope of the snowmobile endless track (39). The LFE is attached at one end to the frame (41) and at the other end to a bell crank (38). The bell crank is operatively connected to the slide rails (12). When the slide rails collapse in normal operation, the bell crank strokes the LFE1 and the suspension is progressive throughout the range.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2007/004895

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. B62M27/02

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)
B62M

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, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	CA 2 561 337 A1 (FORBES VERNAL D [US]) 2 September 1999 (1999-09-02)	1-8, 10-15, 17-23, 25-31,60 39,49
Y	the whole document	
X	US 3 933 213 A (TROWBRIDGE DARRELL L) 20 January 1976 (1976-01-20)	25, 31-34, 41-44
Y	column 2, line 53 - column 3, line 1; claims; figures	35,36, 45-48
X	US 4 987 965 A (BOURRET MICHEL [CA]) 29 January 1991 (1991-01-29)	33,38, 40,50-57
Y	claims; figures	39,48, 49,58, 59,63
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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.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2007/004895

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 5 860 486 A (BOIVIN DENIS [CA] ET AL) 19 January 1999 (1999-01-19) claims; figures -----	1
X	US 6 926 108 B1 (POLAKOWSKI STEPHEN E [US] ET AL) 9 August 2005 (2005-08-09) claims; figures -----	1
X Y	US 4 917 207 A (YASUI TOSHIHIRO [JP] ET AL) 17 April 1990 (1990-04-17) claims; figures -----	17,61, 62,64-66 35,36, 45,46, 63,68-72
Y	US 2005/205320 A1 (GIROUARD BRUNO [CA] ET AL) 22 September 2005 (2005-09-22) claims; figures -----	47
Y	WO 02/087957 A (SCHOENFELDER RAYMOND A [US]) 7 November 2002 (2002-11-07) claims; figures -----	58,59, 68-72
A	US 3 840 082 A (OLSON L) 8 October 1974 (1974-10-08) column 5, line 6 - line 29; figures -----	35,45
A	US 6 755 271 B1 (BERG NORMAN O [US]) 29 June 2004 (2004-06-29) claims; figures -----	71

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/004895

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.:

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: 1-24,60

Suspension mechanism for snow mobile with pyramid shaped bell crank.

2. claims: 25-32

Suspension mechanism for snow mobile with specific front/rear link length ratio

3. claims: 33-49

Snow mobile chassis

4. claims: 50-59,61-72

Snow mobile drive arrangement

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2007/004895

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