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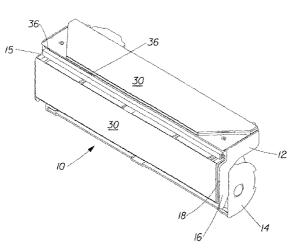
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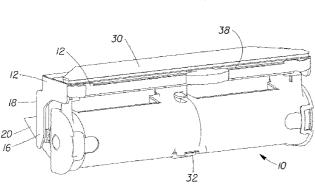
[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPLICATOR FOR AND METHOD OF APPLYING A SHEET MATERIAL TO A SUBSTRATE



(57) Abstract: A method and device for applying sheet material, such as wallpaper, to a substrate. The applicator (10) is bi-positionable, having a first position where the sheet material is spaced apart from the substrate and a second position where the sheet material contact the substrate. Additionally or alternatively, the applicator may be provided with a control bar (15). In the first position, the control bar contacts a portion of the sheet material such as its free end. This minimizes the chance of the sheet material prematurely contacting the substrate. In the second position, the sheet material is disengaged from the control bar for application to the substrate. The applicator and sheet material may be provided together in a kit.





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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B65H37/00 B290 B29C63/00 B44C7/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B65H B29C B44C 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, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 6 540 002 B1 (EDWARDS TOBY ET AL) Α 1 - 101 April 2003 (2003-04-01) column 2, line 66 - column 3, line 51; figures 1,2 Α US 2002/056526 A1 (KELDERS JOHANNES H.J.M 1 - 10ET AL) 16 May 2002 (2002-05-16) paragraph '0017! - paragraph '0019!; figure 1 Α US 6 461 068 B1 (HOLMES ROBERT) 1 - 108 October 2002 (2002-10-08) column 6, line 43 - column 7, line 24; figure 1 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 6 April 2005 22/04/2005 Authorized officer 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, Sartor, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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