



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**09.07.2003 Bulletin 2003/28**

(51) Int Cl.7: **E04B 2/58**, E04C 3/07,  
E04C 3/09

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**04.07.2001 Bulletin 2001/27**

(21) Application number: **00128698.8**

(22) Date of filing: **29.12.2000**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU**  
**MC NL PT SE TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL LT LV MK RO SI**

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(30) Priority: **30.12.1999 SE 9904864**

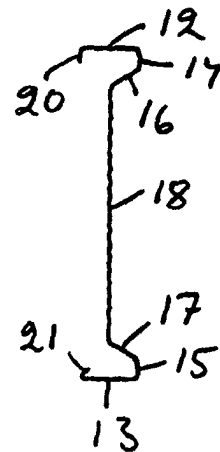
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(54) **A stud and an exterior wall**

(57) An insulated exterior wall of a building is made up of inner and outer boards (31,32 and 33,34) screwed to sheet steel studs (37-39) and there are insulation (40) in the spaces between the studs. The web (14-18) of each stud is retracted inwardly a distance that is between 1/3 and 2/3 of the width of the flanges, and the retracted portion (18) of the web has overlapping longitudinal slots (19) such that the transverse thermal transmission capability and the transverse bending stiffness of the stud are less than 1/3 of the corresponding values of a corresponding non-slotted web.

Figure 1





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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Y	* page 1, line 81 - line 125; figures 1A,IB *	2,4,7,9	E04C3/09
Y	--- EP 0 342 114 A (PROFILCOMETUBE) 15 November 1989 (1989-11-15) * column 6, line 51 - column 7, line 8; figures 9-12 *	2,4,7,9	
X	--- DE 299 12 774 U (PROFIL VERTRIEB GMBH) 18 November 1999 (1999-11-18) * page 7, line 31 - page 9, line 28; figures 1,2 *	1	
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A	--- US 5 464 302 A (MENCHETTI ROBERT J) 7 November 1995 (1995-11-07) * column 2, line 31 - line 63; figures 1-3 *	1-12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) E04B E04C
A	--- EP 0 080 250 A (AYRSHIRE METAL PROD PLC) 1 June 1983 (1983-06-01) * figure 3 *		
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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 14 May 2003	Examiner Khera, D
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04CO1)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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EP 00 12 8698

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on the European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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