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Published:

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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
11 June 2015

(54) Title: STRUCTURALLY REINFORCED MODULAR BUILDINGS

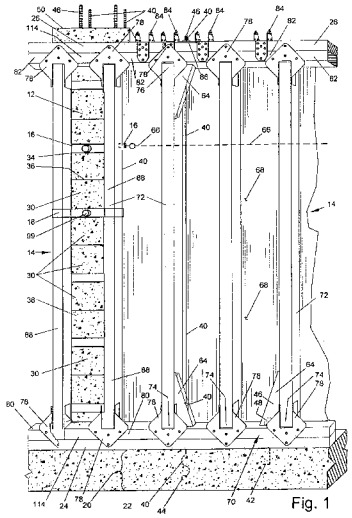


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: The modular building structure (10) has reinforced column (12) and wall panel (14) components to form walls of a building. A foundation (20) of concrete may have rods (40) embedded according to a building floor plan. Concrete blocks (30) with hollow cores (32) may be stacked at specified column locations with at least one rod bracket device (16) positioned in a joint (34) and at least one rod (40) extending upwardly through the hollow core (32). An attachment rod (98) may be inserted in at least one channel (54) of each rod bracket device (16). A wall panel (14) may be positioned on the foundation (20) to span the space between adjacent columns (12). Each wall panel (14) may have at least one embedded rod (40) extending through a lower horizontal member (80) to be attached with a fastener. A wall holding bracket (18) may also engage an outside stud member of adjacent wall panels (14) at each column (12) with the wall holding bracket (18) attached to the rod bracket device (16).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US13/00043

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: **E02D 27/42**(2006.01)

USPC: 52/299,282.4,293.2,295,763
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)
U.S. : 52/299, 282.4, 293.2, 295, 763

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 practicable, search terms used)
US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT: wall, concrete, column, studs, building, block, bracket

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 1,345,871 A (NOTTEBOHM) 06 July 1920 (06.07.1920), see entire document.	1-20
A	US 3,547,396 A (OUEILHE JR) 15 December 1970 (15.12.1970), see entire document.	1-20
A	US 3,593,477 A (BRIGGS) 20 July 1971 (20.07.1971), see entire document.	1-20
A	US 3,594,965 A (SAETHER) 27 July 1971 (27.07.1971), see entire document.	1-20

☐ 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 application or patent 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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
05 April 2013 (05.04.2013)	08 APR 2013
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	Authorized officer William Krynski Telephone No. 571-272-1700

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	International application No. PCT/US13/00043

Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.c of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of:
   a. type of material
      ☐ a sequence listing
      ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
   b. format of material
      ☐ on paper
      ☐ in electronic form
   c. time of filing/furnishing
      ☐ contained in the international application as filed
      ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
      ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

2. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

3. Additional comments:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	International application No. PCT/US13/00043

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:

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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any 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.