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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A DEVICE AND A METHOD FOR MAKING ICE CUBES AND A METERING DEVICE FOR ICE CUBES

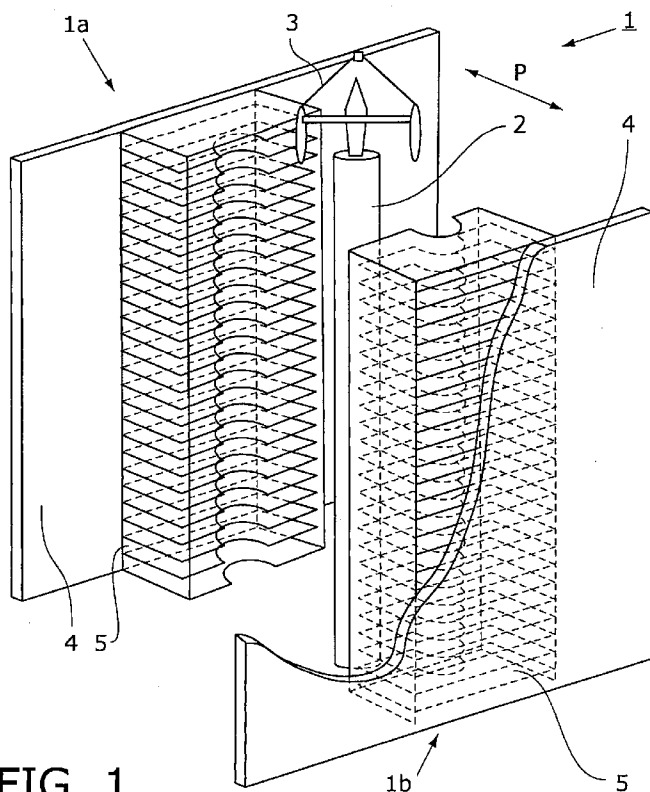


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Device and method for making ice cubes, comprising a supplying device for supplying a liquid substance to at least one elongated mould (1) and a refrigerating device for freezing said liquid substance, which at least one mould defines a space for an ice column which is at least substantially closed at least while said liquid substance is being refrigerated. The at least one mould comprises two mould halves (1a, 1b) which are movable relative to each other, so that the mould halves can be moved apart once the ice column has been formed. Method for making ice cubes, comprising the steps of a) supplying a liquid substance to a mould, b) freezing the liquid substance in the mould, and c) removing the ice cubes thus formed from the mould, wherein the liquid substance is supplied in step a) to a mould comprising an at least substantially closed space. Metering device for ice cubes.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/NL2008/000166

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. F25C1/12
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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)
F25C

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	US 4 903 506 A (DELISLE JOHN [CA] ET AL) 27 February 1990 (1990-02-27) abstract; figures 1,4-7 column 7, line 26 - line 37 column 8, line 17.- line 28 -----	1,3,5-7, 9
X	JP 09 033150 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO) 7 February 1997 (1997-02-07) abstract; figures 1-9 -----	1-3,7,9
X	FR 827 363 A (ERSTE BRU NNER MASCHINEN FABRI) 25 April 1938 (1938-04-25) figures 1-3 page 2, line 7 - line 49 ----- -/--	1-6

☒ 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
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- *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.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 November 2008

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10/02/2009

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International application No

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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 2 435 285 A (LUCIA LOUIS V) 3 February 1948 (1948-02-03) column 4, line 57 - line 73; figures 2,3,5,8 column 2, line 20 - line 40 -----	1,9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NL2008/000166

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 allsearchable 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 reportcovers 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.:

1-7, 9

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: 1-7, 9

Agitation means in ice mould

2. claims: 1,8; 10-14

Ice cube metering device

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/NL2008/000166

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4903506	A	27-02-1990	NONE	
JP 9033150	A	07-02-1997	NONE	
FR 827363	A	25-04-1938	NONE	
US 2435285	A	03-02-1948	NONE	