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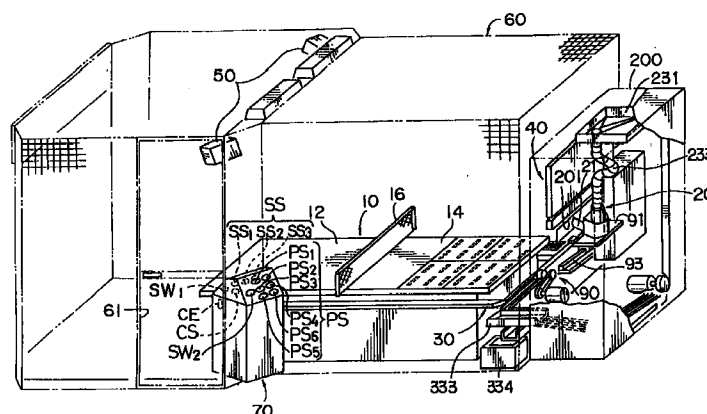
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(54) Table tennis ball-sorting device

(57) In a table tennis ball-sorting device, a plurality of rails (321) are disposed side by side in substantially a horizontal direction along the side of at least one playing surface (14) of a table tennis table (10) at intervals that are capable of having passed therethrough only deformed balls, and a plurality of rails (331,351,361) are disposed side by side in substantially a horizontal direction along the rear part of the playing surface (14) at

intervals that are capable of having passed there-through only deformed balls. The former rails are disposed to be inclined towards downstream, while the downstream side thereof is overlapped on the upstream part of the latter rails so that balls can be transferred. A table tennis apparatus using the table tennis ball-sorting device is also disclosed.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	US 3 917 265 A (SCHRIER MICHAEL ROBERT ET AL) 4 November 1975 (1975-11-04) * column 2, line 32 - column 3, line 21; figures 1-6 *	1-7	A63B47/00
A	DE 296 22 337 U (POLLAK MICHAEL DIPL ING) 6 March 1997 (1997-03-06) * page 3, line 4 - line 28; figures 1-6 *	1-5	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) A63B
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 4 November 1999	Examiner Levert, C
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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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
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04-11-1999

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