

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 April 2008 (10.04.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/041015 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61G 3/02 (2006.01) **B60R 9/042** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2007/003823

(22) International Filing Date: 8 October 2007 (08.10.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0619895.6 7 October 2006 (07.10.2006) GB

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(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH,

CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

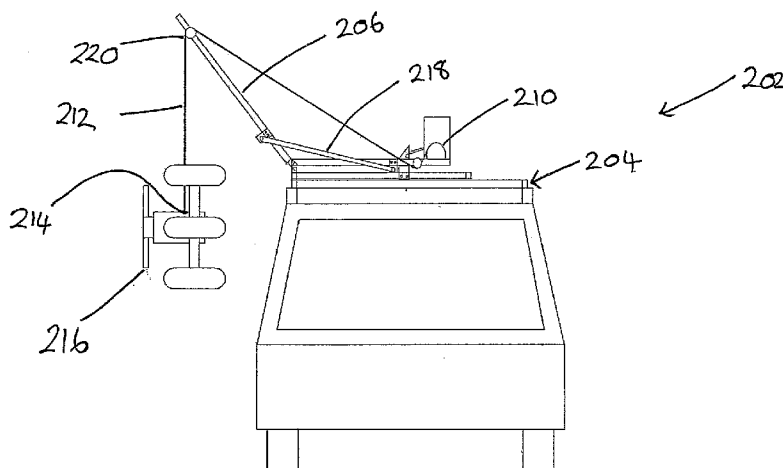
(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
29 May 2008

(54) Title: WHEEL CHAIR AND TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR THE SAME



(57) Abstract: An apparatus is provided for stowing a wheelchair or the like on a vehicle, in particular a domestic vehicle such as a car, and an improved powered wheelchair suitable for being stowed by the apparatus. A vehicle is provided having a seat to be occupied by a passenger or an operator, the vehicle comprising: a hoist system disposed on the roof of the vehicle and operable by a person located in the seat, the hoist system being adapted to move a powered wheelchair between a first position and a second position; wherein in the first position the wheelchair is within reach of a person located in the seat; and in the second position the wheelchair is securely stowed overlying the roof of the vehicle. A hoist system is also disclosed. A powered wheelchair comprises attachment means for attaching to a winch cable, the attachment means being disposed on the wheelchair such that when the wheelchair is raised by the attachment means the wheelchair is caused to rotate about a longitudinal axis of the wheelchair.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2007/003823

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61G3/02 B60R9/042

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)

A61G B60R

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 245 947 A (CLEMENT CLYDE H) 20 January 1981 (1981-01-20)	1, 2, 4, 6-10, 15-19, 21, 23-27, 32-34, 87
Y	figures 1, 8-10 column 3 column 6, line 1 - column 7, line 14 ----- -/--	3, 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 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
- *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.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 January 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/04/2008

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2007/003823

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 83/02430 A (WYBORN KENNETH GEORGE) 21 July 1983 (1983-07-21) cited in the application	1, 2, 5-8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 28, 30, 31 12, 29
A	figures 2, 3 page 2, line 26 - page 4, line 15	
Y	US 4 272 218 A (CARTER ROBERT A) 9 June 1981 (1981-06-09) cited in the application figures 2-4 column 3, lines 49-61	3, 20
A	US 5 827 036 A (STEFFES PAUL [US] ET AL) 27 October 1998 (1998-10-27) cited in the application figure 3	12, 29

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2007/003823

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.:

1-34, 87

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: 1-34,87

A vehicle and a hoist system to load a powered wheelchair

2. claims: 35-87

A powered wheelchair with attachment means

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2007/003823

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4245947	A	20-01-1981	NONE	
WO 8302430	A	21-07-1983	EP 0098277 A1	18-01-1984
US 4272218	A	09-06-1981	NONE	
US 5827036	A	27-10-1998	NONE	