

**SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH
REPORT**Application number:
EP 20 96 34 76Classification of the application (IPC):
F25B 45/00Technical fields searched (IPC):
F25B

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
Y	US 5285647 A (MANZ KENNETH W [US] ET AL) 15 February 1994 (1994-02-15) * column 4, line 7 - column 7, line 21; figures 1-7 *	1-9, 11-14
Y	JP 2012189246 A (HITACHI APPLIANCES INC) 04 October 2012 (2012-10-04) * paragraph [0014] - paragraph [0041]; figures 1-4 *	1-9, 11-14
A	JP H055581 A (TOSHIBA CORP) 14 January 1993 (1993-01-14) * paragraph [0008] - paragraph [0054]; figures 1-7 *	1-14
A	US 4939905 A (MANZ KENNETH W [US]) 10 July 1990 (1990-07-10) * column 3, line 4 - column 5, line 40; figures 1-3 *	1-14

The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and
available at the start of the search.

Place of search Munich	Date of completion of the search 12 March 2024	Examiner Szilagyi, Barnabas
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

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| X: particularly relevant if taken alone | P: intermediate document |
| Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category | T: theory or principle underlying the invention |
| A: technological background | E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date |
| O: non-written disclosure | D: document cited in the application |
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SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application number:
EP 20 96 34 76

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-14(partially)

Refrigerant-collecting apparatus wherein the identifying unit identifies the type of refrigerant based on a first refrigerant temperature on a first port side of the compressor and a second refrigerant temperature on a second port side of the compressor.

2. claims: 1-14(partially)

Refrigerant-collecting apparatus wherein the identifying unit identifies the type of refrigerant based on a first refrigerant temperature on a first port side of the compressor and a value relating to the electric power consumed by the compressor

3. claim: 15

Refrigerant-collecting apparatus wherein the collected-amount-estimating unit estimates a collected amount of the refrigerant collected from the target equipment on the basis of a time period during which the refrigerant is being collected from the target equipment, and the output unit outputs a result estimated by the collected-amount-estimating unit.

Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims: 1-14

The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.

Place of search Munich	Date of completion of the search 12 March 2024	Examiner Szilagyi, Barnabas
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ANNEX TO SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN
SEARCH REPORT

Application number:
EP 20 96 34 76

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 12-03-2024
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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5285647	A	15-02-1994	NONE		
JP 2012189246	A	04-10-2012	NONE		
JP H055581	A	14-01-1993	NONE		
US 4939905	A	10-07-1990	CA	2026563 A1	05-06-1991
			DE	4031370 A1	06-06-1991
			JP	H0560431 A	09-03-1993
			JP	H0792297 B2	09-10-1995
			US	4939905 A	10-07-1990