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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **VAN RIET EQUIPMENT B.V.** [NL/NL]; Groningenhaven 2, NL-3433 PE Nieuwegein (NL).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: **VLUG, Casper Hermanus Gerardus** [NL/NL]; Anker 8, NL-3961 TJ Wijk Bij Duurstede (NL).

(74) Agents: **BROUWER, Hendrik Rogier** et al.; Patentwerk BV, NL-5200 BN 's-Hertogenbosch (NL).

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

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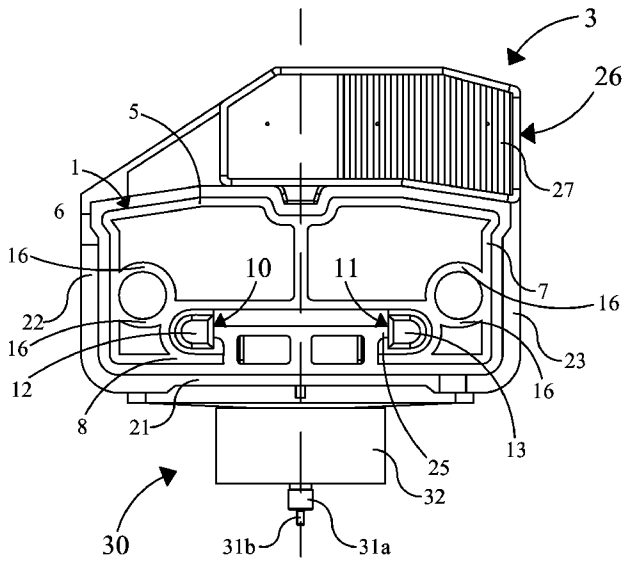
— *with international search report*

— *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:
3 January 2008

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TRANSPORT DEVICE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a transport device for objects, comprising a frame provided with a series of carriers which run mutually parallel and which are pivotally coupled to at least one endless drivable moving track so as to enable displacement thereof in a direction of displacement. At least some of the carriers are provided with pusher shoes with guiding construction (30) which are shiftable along the relevant carriers transversely of the direction of displacement using guide means (40) arranged on the frame. The device is characterized in that the guiding construction comprises a guide pin with a guide body arranged thereon, wherein the guide pin comprises at least two portions of differing diameter (31a, 31b).

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/NL2007/050147

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. B65G47/84

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)
B65G

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	WO 03/076310 A2 (RAPISTAN SYSTEMS ADVERTISING C [US]) 18 September 2003 (2003-09-18) page 9, line 17 - line 30; figures 10,12	1-3,8,12
A	NL 1 020 825 C2 (VANDERLANDE IND NEDERLAND [NL]) 17 December 2003 (2003-12-17) cited in the application	1

☐ 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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
9 August 2007	12/11/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Roberts, Peter

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NL2007/050147

Box 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 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 all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

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.:

1-3,8-12.

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ 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: 1-3,8-12

A transport device comprising pusher shoes with a guiding construction and the guiding construction comprises a guide pin with a guide body arranged thereon, wherein the guide pin comprises at least two portions of differing diameter.

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2. claims: 4-7,13,14

Transport device for objects, comprising a frame provided with a series of carriers and wherein at least some of the carriers are provided with pusher shoes and the pitch between two pusher shoes situated on successive carriers amounts to a maximum of 130 mm, and that at least some of the carriers have an arcuate upper surface in the width direction thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/NL2007/050147

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 03076310 A2	18-09-2003	AU 2003216551 A1	22-09-2003
		CA 2478630 A1	18-09-2003
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