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(54) **Cladding element, particularly for wood-block flooring**

(57) A cladding element (1), particularly usable for wood-block flooring, for pre-finished hardwood floors and for floors made of laminate of different thicknesses, which is flat and advantageously rectangular and has

two first contiguous lateral edges (4a,4b) which have a first snap-action interconnection means (6) which interacts with a complementarily shaped second interconnection means (8) formed on two second contiguous lateral edges (5a,5b).

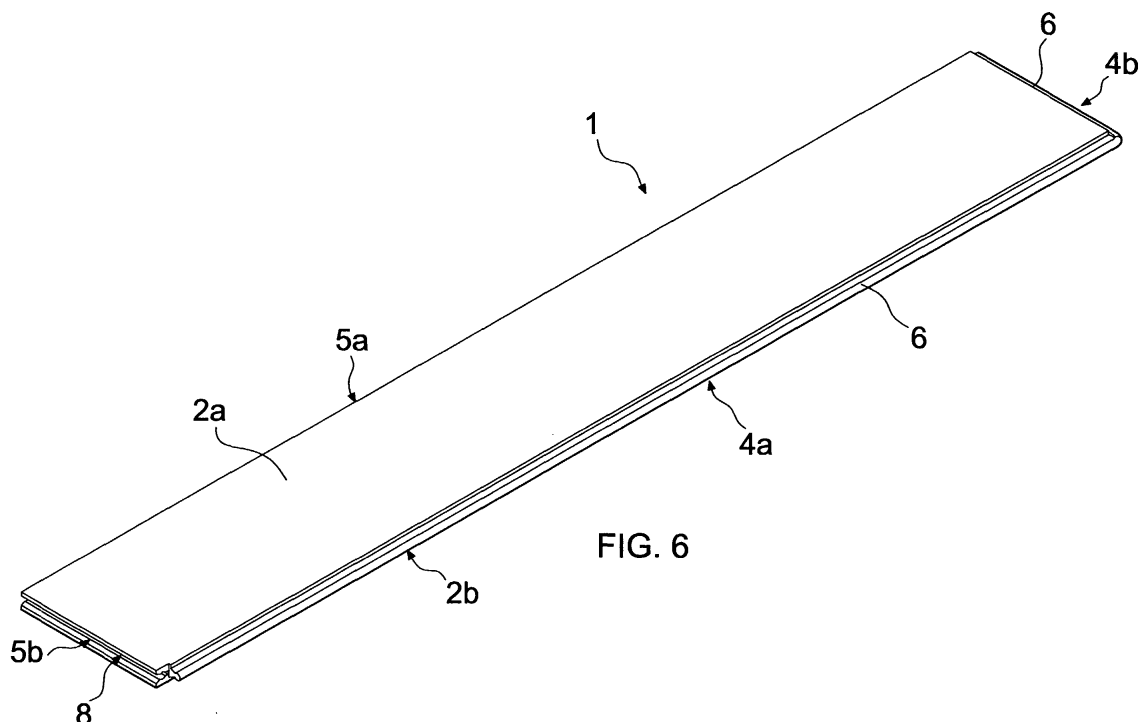


FIG. 6

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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A		9,10	
Y	US 753 791 A (FULGHUM) 1 March 1904 (1904-03-01) * the whole document *	1-6,9,10	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			E04F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 October 2002	Examiner Ayiter, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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