



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
15.05.2002 Bulletin 2002/20

(51) Int Cl.7: **B28B 1/10, B28B 3/00,
B28B 5/02, B28B 13/02,
B30B 11/14**

(43) Date of publication A2:
30.01.2002 Bulletin 2002/05

(21) Application number: **01119708.4**

(22) Date of filing: **17.10.1997**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE ES FR IT PT

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(30) Priority: **22.11.1996 IT MO960151**
16.01.1997 IT MO970004
16.01.1997 IT MO970005

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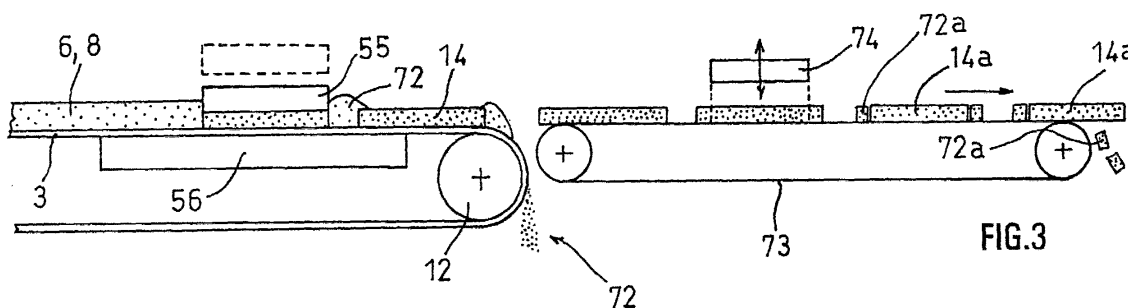
(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
97945854.4 / 0 939 691

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(54) **Manufacturing of powdered material**

(57) A method for pressing powder material (1, 10) to obtain tiles (14, 14a) comprises the steps of: distributing powders (6, 8) on flexible conveyor means (3) and advancing said powders (6, 8) along an advancing direction (V) through a pressing station, peripherally containing said powders (6, 8) on said conveyor means (3) by containing means (71, 72, 72a) in said pressing station, pressing said powders (6, 8) in said pressing station by pressing simultaneously the powder material of the intended tiles (14, 14a), said containing means acting on the powders (6, 8) to be pressed during said advancing and those containing means continuing to act during said pressing; said containing means (71, 72, 72a) further comprises powders (71, 72, 72a) located in a zone peripherally exceeding the intended tiles (14,

14a); an apparatus for pressing powdered material (1, 10) to form tiles (14, 14a) comprises flexible conveyor means (3) for receiving powders (6, 8) thereon from distributing means (2, 2a, 7) and for advancing said powders along an advancing direction (V) through a pressing station, containing means for peripherally containing said powders (6, 8) on said conveyor means (3), pressing means (3, 40, 55, 59a) for pressing said powders (6, 8) in said pressing station and pressing simultaneously on the powder material of the intended tiles (14, 14a), said containing means being arranged to act on the powders (6, 8) to be pressed during said advancing and said containing means continuing to act during said pressing; said containing means further comprises powders (72, 72a) arranged in a zone peripherally exceeding the intended tiles (14, 14a).





European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 11 9708

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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		20 March 2002	Orij, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (F04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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