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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
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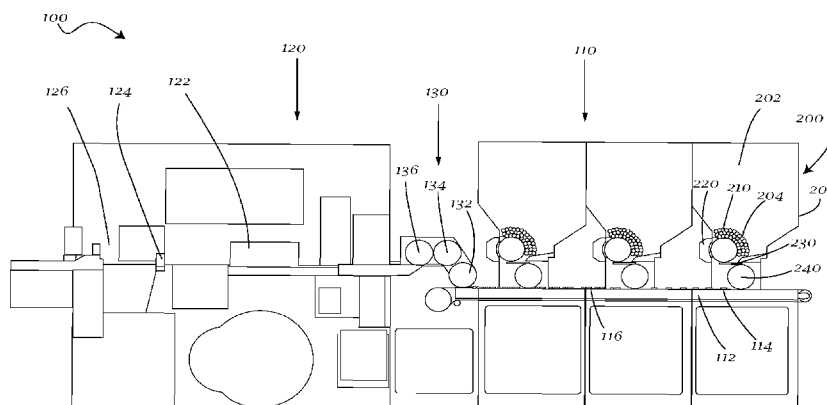


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for assembly of multi-segment rod-like objects, such as, for example, components of a composite cigarette filter, is disclosed. The apparatus may include an intercalating unit and an assembly unit, linked by a transfer unit. Intercalating unit may include at least one rod supply unit and a conveyor. In one embodiment, intercalating unit may include a plurality of independent rod supply units. Each rod supply unit may include a hopper and a rod delivery mechanism comprising a rotary drum, a cutting device, a transfer wheel and a delivery wheel.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2010/041892**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***A24D 3/02(2006.01)i, A24C 5/52(2006.01)i*

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)

A24D 3/02; A24D 3/10; A24C 5/52

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: cigarette, filter

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 2008-526192 A (PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS S.A. et al.) 24 July 2008 See claims 1-17; Figures 1-3.	1-12
A	JP 2005-058232 A (HAUNI MASCHINENBAU AG) 10 March 2005 See claims 1-16; Figures 1-2.	1-12
A	WO 2006-000918 A2 (PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS S.A. et al.) 05 January 2006 See claims 1-19; Figures 1-7.	1-12
A	JP 2005-058229 A (HAUNI MASCHINENBAU AG) 10 March 2005 See claims 1-15; Figure 1.	1-12



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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