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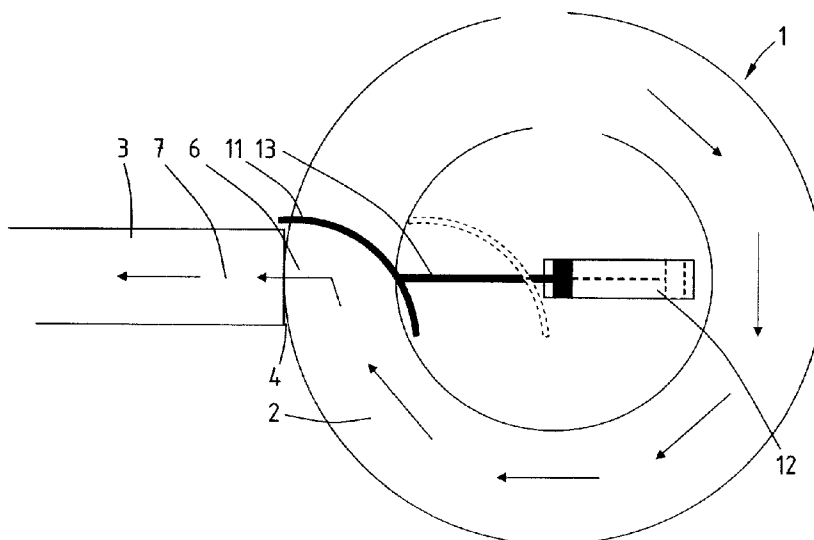
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Published:

- 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

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONVEYOR



(57) Abstract: A conveyor system (1) for conveying at least one product comprises at least one first conveyor (2), which is adjacent to at least one second conveyor (3) via a junction (4). The conveying direction of the first conveyor (2) near the junction (4) is different from the conveying direction of the second conveyor (3) near the junction (4). The first conveyor (2) has a first conveying surface (6) and the second conveyor (3) has a second conveying surface (7) for supporting the product thereon. The orientation of the normal of the part of the first conveying surface (6) adjacent to junction (4) is substantially different from that of the normal of the part of the second conveying surface (7) adjacent to the junction (4). Moving means (11-15) are provided for moving the product from the first conveyor (2) to the second conveyor (3). The first conveyor (2) describes an arcuate path at least near the junction (4).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B65G21/18 B65G47/57 B65G47/71 B65G15/10 B65G47/52

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 , PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 07 157058 A (TOYO KANETSU KK) 20 June 1995 (1995-06-20)	1, 2, 4, 6-10, 13, 14, 20, 21, 25 22
Y	abstract; figures 1, 2, 4, 6 -----	
Y	US 5 664 661 A (MAIER WILLI [CH]) 9 September 1997 (1997-09-09) column 2, line 48 - line 50; figure 1 -----	22
X	JP 07 033241 A (NITTA KK). 3 February 1995 (1995-02-03) abstract; figures -----	1-3, 6, 13-15
X	EP 0 814 038 A1 (GD SPA [IT]) 29 December 1997 (1997-12-29) column 4, line 2 - line 16; figures 1, 2, 4 ----- -/--	1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-15



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

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"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

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 170 321 A (JAMES THOMAS COWLEY; LAMSON CO) 19 October 1921 (1921-10-19) page 3, line 93 - line 1,18; figures -----	1, 20, 21
X	DE 10 2004 007590 A1 (KRONES AG [DE]) 8 September 2005 (2005-09-08) paragraph [0031]; figures 4,5 -----	1, 20, 23
X	US 5 833 045 A (OSTI ROBERTO [IT] ET AL) 10 November 1998 (1998-11-10) the whole document -----	1
X	DE 34 44 132 A1 (KRUPP GMBH [DE]) 5 June 1986 (1986-06-05) the whole document -----	1
A	EP 1 389 595 A (HARTNESS INT INC [US]) 18 February 2004 (2004-02-18) cited in the application column 2, line 48 - line 50; figure 1 -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NL2007/050695

Box No. 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 No. 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 allsearchable claims.

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

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.:

1-15,20-25

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.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☒ 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: 1-15,20-25

conveyor system with diverter

2. claims: 16-19,26-29

spiral conveyor with parallel conveying elements

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/NL2007/050695

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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EP 1389595	A	18-02-2004	NONE