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AUSTRALIA
PATENTS ACT 1990
NOTICE OF ENTITLEMENT

We, **William Robert Constantine** AND **William Constantine**, the
applicants/Nominated Persons in respect of Application No. 47242/93 state the
following:-

The Nominated Persons are entitled to the grant of the patent
because the Nominated Persons are the actual inventors.

The Nominated Persons are entitled to claim priority from the
application listed in the declaration under Article 8 of the PCT
because the Nominated Persons made the application listed in the
declaration under Article 8 of the PCT, and because that
application was the first application made in a Convention country
in respect of the invention.

DATED this THIRD day of MARCH 1995



.....
a member of the firm of
DAVIES COLLISON
CAVE for and on behalf
of the applicant(s)

(DCC ref: 1720622)



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PICTORIAL COMPETITION ENTRY METHOD AND MEANS, AND APPARATUS FOR CONDUCTING SAID COMPETITION

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(56) Prior Art Documents
GB 2233241
GB 2233240
GB 1604651

(57) Claim

1. A method of making multiple entries to a pictorial competition of the type wherein an entrant is required to indicate the notional position of an object in a picture on an entry coupon, which method comprises applying together a multiplicity of crosses or the like displayed on a sheet to the entry coupon.

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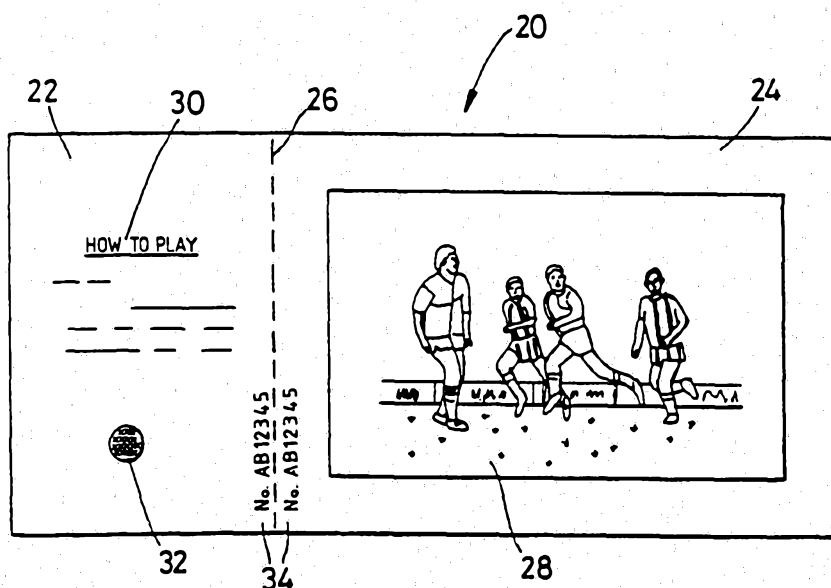


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB93/01696 (22) International Filing Date: 10 August 1993 (10.08.93) (30) Priority data: 9216965.5 11 August 1992 (11.08.92) GB (71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: CONSTANTINE, William [GB/GB]; CONSTANTINE, William, Robert [GB/GB]; 18 Lawson Road, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 1AD (GB). (74) Agent: VIRR, Dennis, Austin; Urquhart-Dykes & Lord, 1/15 Queens Square, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS2 1AL (GB).	(81) Designated States: AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, GB, HU, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LU, MG, MN, MW, NL, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SK, UA, US, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> 672811	

(54) Title: PICTORIAL COMPETITION ENTRY METHOD AND MEANS, AND APPARATUS FOR CONDUCTING SAID COMPETITION



(57) Abstract

A novel method of entering a pictorial competition of the type in which the position of an object omitted from a picture is required to be identified is in the form of a sheet (10, 32) on which one or more crosses or the like are displayed, the crosses being applied to a pictorial entry coupon (20) in the position selected by the entrant. The crosses may be in the form of transferable markings on the sheet or the sheet itself, bearing the crosses, may be adhesively secured to the coupon by the entrant.

"Pictorial Competition Entry Method and Means, and Apparatus for Conducting said Competition".

5 The present invention relates to competitions of the well-known "Spot the Ball" type, wherein a competition entrant is required to place a cross upon a pictorial entry coupon to indicate, in the judgment of the entrant, the position of an object, for example the centre of a football notionally missing from the picture, which often consists of
10 an action photograph from which the object has been deleted. Competitions of this type are acknowledged to be already known in GB-A-1604651, at page 1, lines 13 to 22 of that specification.

15 In GB-A-1604651 the difficulty of judging competitions of the foregoing type having a large number of entries is acknowledged. In such competitions, the entrant may usually mark the cross with ink, which may smudge or may, because of the width of the marking, give an imprecise indication of
20 the intended position. Most entrants attempt to optimise their chances of success by placing a large number of crosses in what they consider to be the relevant area and, with that in mind, organisers of competitions may allow entrants to
25 place, say, 500 crosses for an entry fee of as little as, say, £2.00. To facilitate entry on this scale, rubber stamps



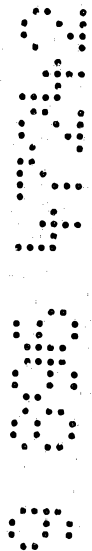
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have now become readily available, by means of which an entrant is able to print many crosses simultaneously. In practice, however, these rubber stamps have proved to be far from satisfactory. As the crosses are very close together, a clear impression is not obtained unless the rubber stamp is kept spotlessly clean. Even then, unless the rubber stamp is uniformly coated with the right amount of ink, and unless it is applied to the entry coupon on a perfectly flat surface, for example a sheet of glass, some of the crosses may not be printed clearly or at all. Furthermore, entrants who have unsteady hands or impaired vision also have difficulty in using a rubber stamp effectively.

An object of the present invention is to provide a method of entering a pictorial competition, and also means and apparatus for conducting such a competition, whereby some at least of the disadvantages of prior such competitions are reduced or avoided.

The method according to the invention of making multiple entries to a pictorial competition of the type wherein an entrant is required to indicate the notional position of an object in a picture on an entry coupon comprises applying together a multiplicity of crosses or the like displayed on a sheet to the entry coupon in a desired position.

The competition entry means according to the invention comprises a sheet on which there is displayed a



multiplicity of crosses or the like, the sheet having an adhesive coating on one side thereof and thereby being adapted to apply the crosses or the like to a pictorial competition entry coupon in a desired position so as to display the crosses or the like on the coupon.

The apparatus for conducting the competition comprises a pictorial competition entry coupon, a sheet on which there is displayed a multiplicity of crosses or the like, the sheet being adapted to apply the crosses or the like together to the pictorial entry coupon, and rules specifying that the winner of the competition is the entrant who applies the crosses or the like from the sheet to, or most nearly to, a particular position on the entry coupon determined by said rules.

As will be apparent, an important feature of the competition entry method to which the present invention applies is that the crosses or the like to be applied to the entry coupon are supplied on a sheet which is distinct from the entry coupon - although it may be connected to the coupon. To avoid undue repetition, further description herein will refer to "crosses" but it should be understood that such description is applicable also to like markings, for example stars or dots.

The crosses may be designed to be transferred from the sheet to the entry coupon, in which case they are preferably transferred by applying pressure to the sheet. That is the crosses are displayed on a so-called



"transfer", from which they are transferred en bloc to the entry coupon, the sheet ultimately being discarded. However it is much preferred that the crosses be applied by adhesively attaching the sheet to the entry coupon.

Thus, in a particularly preferred form of the present invention, the competition apparatus according to the invention comprises a pictorial competition entry coupon, one or more sheets, each sheet being adapted to be adhesively secured to the entry coupon and having thereon one or more crosses or the like, and rules specifying as aforesaid the manner of determining the competition winner.

Preferably, one side of each sheet is self-adhesive and is preferably attached to a peelable backing. For example the sheets may be provided with individual backing sheets or a plurality of sheets may be individually detachably mounted on a single backing. Alternatively, one side of each sheet may be coated with a water-activated adhesive, by means of which the sheet may be attached to the entry coupon.



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The sheets may be supplied separately from the pictorial entry coupon. For example, they may be intended for application to an entry coupon appearing in a newspaper or magazine, in which case they may be supplied free of charge with the newspaper or magazine or sold separately, for example by a newsagent. In another form of the apparatus, the sheets may be supplied removably attached to the competition entry coupon or to an extension of that coupon, for removal and then application to the pictorial area of the coupon.

When the sheets are supplied separately from the entry coupon, a plurality of sheets may be interconnected separably by perforations. As one alternative, a plurality of sheets may be supplied arranged on a backing roll. As another, less preferred, alternative, the sheets may be intended to be cut to size or simply torn off by a competition entrant.

In all the forms of the sheet, the sheets may be transparent, translucent or opaque. Transparency may assist the entrant in placing the crosses with precision upon the entry coupon but may be unnecessary from the point of view of the checkers who have the task of identifying the winning entry.

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The distribution of the crosses upon each sheet may be according to a predetermined pattern or may be random. As between different sheets, the concentration of the crosses may differ or the
5 sheets may be of different sizes, with the crosses at the same concentration.

The pictorial entry coupon may comprise a photograph or drawing and the picture may be in colour or in black and white. The coupon may
10 advantageously comprise two parts, one of which, comprising the competition entry, may be sent or handed to the competition organisers as the competition entry to be checked, while the other part may be retained by the entrant as his record
15 of having entered the competition.

In a preferred form of the entry coupon, a two-part coupon bears a unique number or other form of coding on each part of the coupon by which any coupon may be identified. When a winning entry has
20 been selected, the number or code of the winning coupon may be advertised, whereupon the winner of a competition using such a coupon need only present to the organisers the part of the coupon which he had retained in order to claim the prize. Such a
25 code may also be used to check the authenticity of coupons entered in a competition or to identify the location at which the coupon was obtained, for

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example. The coupon may include a security device, which is present to distinguish authentic coupons from forged copies, such as a watermark or other mark such as a hologram or the like or a mark
5 printed in a certain way so that it is visible only under certain conditions.

The coupon may optionally include a section for the competition entrant to write his name and/or address. The coupon may include space for
10 advertising purposes or an area in which the competition rules or instructions for entering the competition may be printed.

The rules of the competition define how the particular winning position on the pictorial entry
15 coupon is selected. In one form of the invention, the winning position corresponds to the position of a part of a photograph, for example, which was present in its original form but which has been omitted from the picture shown on the entry coupon.
20 In another form, the winning position may be that judged to be the most appropriate position for the marker by a competition judge or judges. The rules may also provide additional information for the entrant, such as the dates between which the
25 competition will be run, instructions for making a valid entry, etc.

The invention will now be further described

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with reference to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate, by way of example only, two preferred embodiments of the competition entry means and apparatus according to the invention and wherein:-

5 Fig.1 is a schematic representation of a first embodiment of competition entry means; and

 Fig.2 is a schematic representation of a second
10 embodiment of the competition apparatus.

Referring firstly to Fig.1, a number of sheets
10 each have the form of a relatively small circular disc which simulates the outline of a
15 football. One side of each sheet 10 is self-adhesive, and the sheets are peelably mounted on a single flat backing 12. Each sheet 10 is transparent so that a competitor can apply it to a conventional pictorial competition entry coupon in
20 precisely the randomly chosen position which he or she considers to be the most relevant, and carries an indelible display of a multiplicity of precisely defined crosses arranged in a predetermined pattern. The discs on a single
25 backing can all be of the same diameter and carry the same number of crosses, or can all be of the same diameter and carry different numbers of

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crosses at different concentrations or, as indicated not strictly to scale in the accompanying drawing, can be of different diameters and carry different numbers of crosses at the same concentration. Discs carrying different numbers of crosses can be colour-coded whilst remaining transparent, that is to say, can be tinted, or may be opaque and, if desired, colour-coded. The sheets do not need to be circular discs but can be square or any other shape. The backing can constitute a roll, or it can be flat as in the drawing, in which case it can be separate from or part of the entry coupon. Single self-adhesive sheets peelably mounted on individual backings can be supplied if desired.

The apparatus illustrated in Fig.2 is a competition entry coupon, designated generally by the reference numeral 20, which is in two parts 22,24, divided by a line of perforations 26. The coupon part 24 is the competition entry proper which is submitted by the entrant to the competition organisers. It bears a picture 28, which may be a photograph taken during a football match but from which photograph the ball has been discreetly erased. The other coupon part 22 bears instructions 30 for entering the competition and has at least one sheet in the form of a self-adhesive sticker 32 removably attached to its

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surface.

The sticker 32 is opaque and is marked upon its surface with a number of small crosses, of which only a small number are shown for reasons of clarity. For example, the or each sticker may carry, say, from 20 to 500 crosses, perhaps 50 to 150 in the illustrated version.

In order to enter the competition represented by Fig.2, the entrant removes the sticker 32 from the coupon part 22 and places it in a position on the picture 28 wherein he believes the obliterated ball should be. He then separates the two parts of the coupon by tearing along the perforations 26 and submits the separated coupon part 24 to the competition organisers. If, among the entries submitted, he has succeeded in placing the sticker 32 such that one of the crosses overlies the centre of the obliterated ball, he will be a or the competition winner. If there is no such correct entry, then the winner may be the entrant who is most nearly correct. The entrant who submitted the winning entry can be identified by the competition organisers publicising the serial number (indicated in the drawings by the reference numeral 34) which appears on both coupon parts and the winning entrant can prove his identity by producing the coupon part 22 corresponding to the successful entry.

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In a further embodiment of the invention (not illustrated), a plurality of sheets, one side of each of which is coated with a water-activated adhesive, are interconnected separably by perforations in the manner of a sheet of postage stamps. Each sheet is a relatively small square, rectangle, hexagon or other preferably continuously mutually contacting shape, is transparent so that it can be applied in precisely the chosen position on an entry coupon, and carries an indelible display of a multiplicity of precisely defined crosses arranged in a predetermined pattern. The interconnected sheets can be of the same or different areas, and carry the same or different numbers of crosses at the same or different concentrations, substantially as in the preferred first embodiment hereinbefore described. The variants applicable to said preferred embodiment concerning the colour, opacity, shape, and arrangement in a roll or as part of the entry coupon of the sheets are equally well applicable to this postage stamp-like embodiment. The usual but not obligatory way of moistening the adhesive is by licking.

Typical concentrations of crosses envisaged include, for example, 100 crosses in 1 to 6 square centimetres, with sheets carrying, say, from 20 to 500 crosses.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A method of making multiple entries to a pictorial competition of the type wherein an entrant is required to indicate the notional position of an object in a picture on an entry coupon, which method comprises
5 applying together a multiplicity of crosses or the like displayed on a sheet to the entry coupon.

2. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the crosses or the like are transferred from the sheet to
10 the coupon.

3. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the crosses or the like are applied by adhesively securing the sheet to the coupon.

4. Competition entry means comprising a sheet on which there is displayed a multiplicity of crosses or the like, the sheet having an adhesive coating on one side thereof and thereby being adapted to apply the crosses or the like to a pictorial competition entry coupon in a desired position so as to display the
15 crosses or the like on the coupon.
20



5. Competition entry means as claimed in Claim 4, wherein a plurality of sheets are provided upon a common backing.

5 6. Competition entry means as claimed in either of Claims 4 and 5, wherein a plurality of said sheets are interconnected separably by perforations.

10 7. Apparatus for conducting a pictorial competition, comprising a pictorial entry coupon, a sheet on which there is displayed a multiplicity of crosses or the like, the sheet being adapted to apply the crosses or the like together to the pictorial entry coupon, and rules specifying that the winner of the competition is the entrant who applies the crosses or the like from the sheet to, or most nearly to, a particular position on the entry coupon determined by said rules.

15 8. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said pictorial entry coupon and said sheet are separate.

20 9. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said sheet is removably attached to said entry coupon or to an extension thereof.



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10. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said pictorial entry coupon is in two parts, to one of which said sheet is attached.
11. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 7 to 10, wherein each said sheet is 5 transparent.
12. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 7 to 11, comprising a plurality of different said sheets having different numbers of crosses.
- 10 13. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 7 to 12, wherein said entry coupon is in the form of a photograph from which a feature has been removed.
14. A method of making multiple entries to a pictorial competition substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.
- 15 15. Apparatus for conducting a pictorial competition substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.
16. Competition entry means substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the 20 accompanying drawings.

Dated this 9th day of August 1996

WILLIAM CONSTANTINE AND WILLIAM ROBERT CONSTANTINE

25 By their Patent Attorneys

Davies Collison Cave



47242/93

1/1

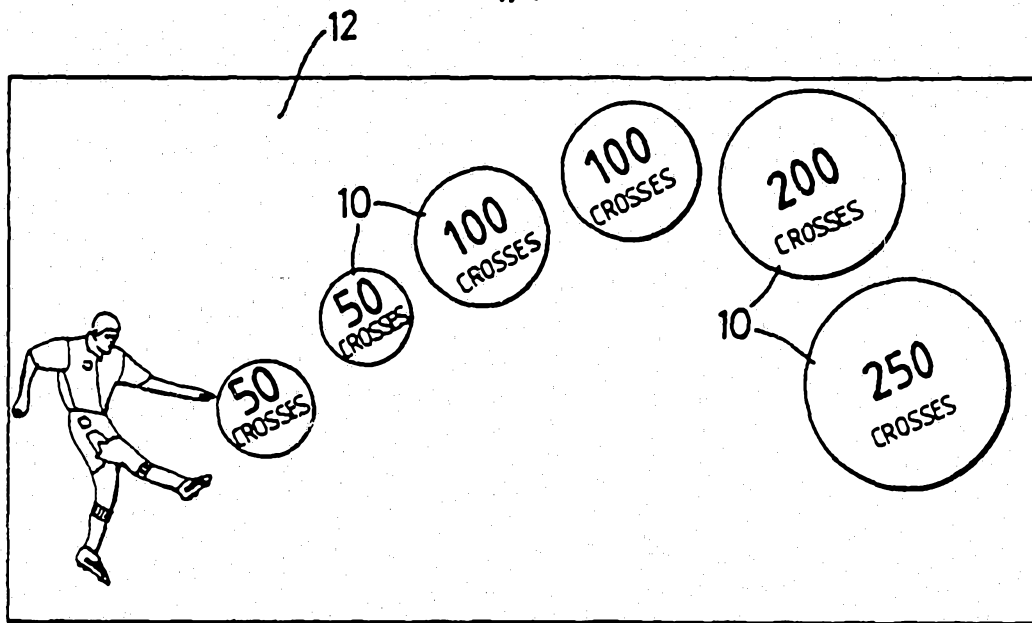


Fig. 1

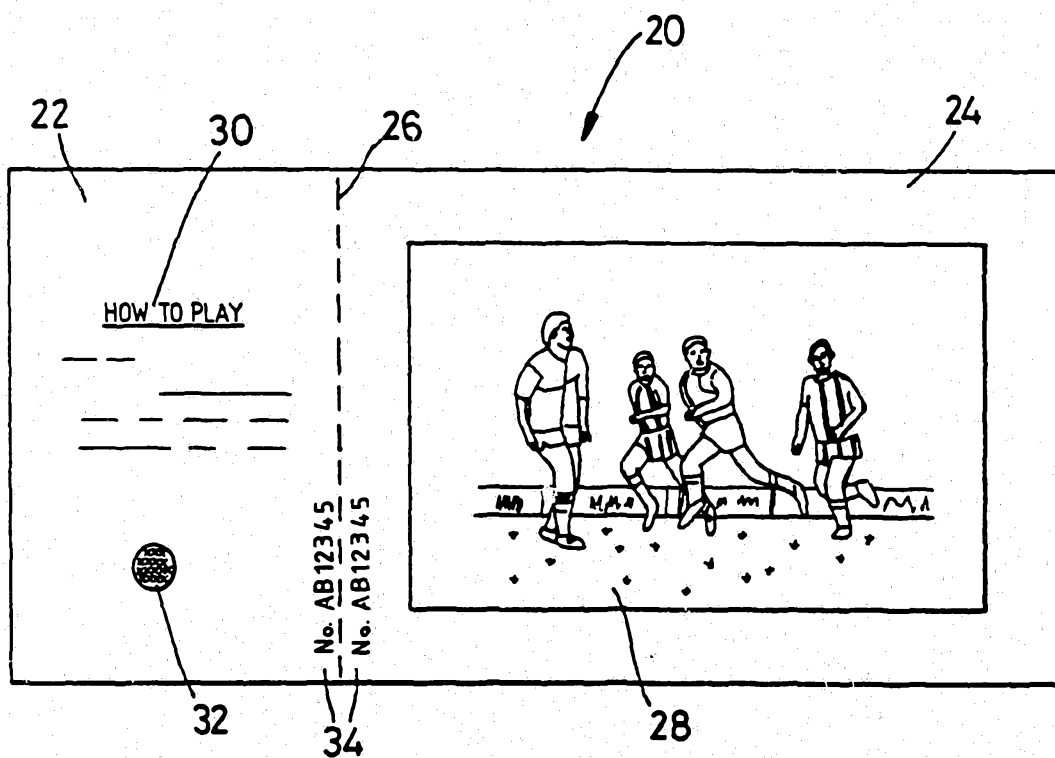


Fig. 2

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 93/01696

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC5: A63F 9/00

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)

IPC5: A63F, B42D

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB, A, 1604651 (A. FENWICK-WILSON, T.H.A. LLEWELLYN), 16 December 1981 (16.12.81) --	1-15
A	GB, A, 2233240 (ANTHONY FENWICK-WILSON), 9 January 1991 (09.01.91), claims 1-11 --	1-15
A	GB, A, 2233241 (ANTHONY FENWICK-WILSON), 9 January 1991 (09.01.91), figures 1-2, claims 1-15 --	1-15

☒ 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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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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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 November 1993

30. 11. 93

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority

Authorized officer



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 93/01696

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE, A, 1703290 (HEINTGES, FRIEDHELM), 25 November 1971 (25.11.71) -- -----	1-15

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

01/10/93

International application No.

PCT/GB 93/01696

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
GB-A-	1604651	16/12/81	NONE	
GB-A-	2233240	09/01/91	NONE	
GB-A-	2233241	09/01/91	NONE	
DE-A-	1703290	25/11/71	NONE	