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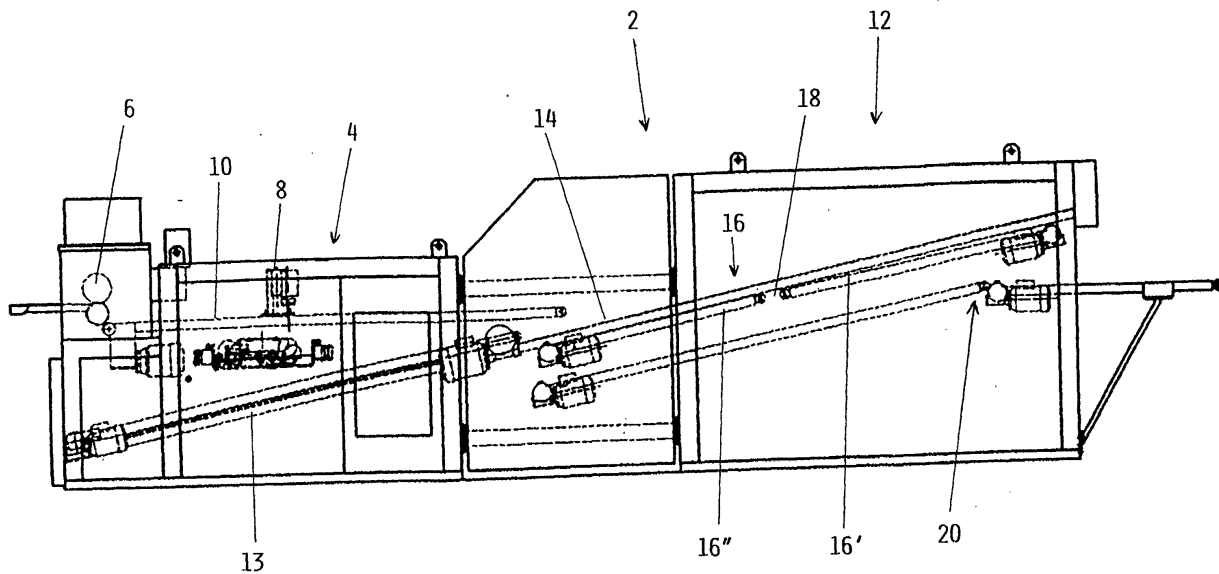
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(54) **Method and device for folding piles of sheets**

(57) A method for folding piles of flexible objects in sheet form, in particular skins, characterised by causing the pile of objects to descend progressively, starting from its central part, through a transverse gap (18) pro-

vided in the pile-forming belt conveyor (16), the pile, which is folded into two parts as it descends, being collected on a moving underlying collection belt conveyor (20).





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 11 2062

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	DE 11 86 407 B (STROJOSVIT) 28 January 1965 (1965-01-28) * claim 1; figures * ----	1,4	C14B1/62 B65H45/04
A	EP 0 198 777 A (CHARVO SA) 22 October 1986 (1986-10-22) * abstract; figures * -----	1,4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			C14B B65H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		26 April 2001	Helpiö, T.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
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		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	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 11 2062

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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