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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** HESPERIA S.A.S. DI DONATO FRANCO & C. [IT/IT]; Via Silvestri 6, I-45100 Rovigo (RO) (IT).
- (72) **Inventor; and**
- (75) **Inventor/Applicant (for US only):** DONATO, Franco [IT/IT]; Via Riccoboni 14, I-45100 Rovigo (RO) (IT).
- (74) **Agents:** CRUGNOLA, Pietro et al.; Luppi Crugnola & Partners S.r.l., Viale Corassori 54, I-41124 Modena (IT).
- (81) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):** AE, AG, AL, AM,

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

**Published:**

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))

[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** COUNTERFRAME FOR DOORS OR WINDOWS, CROSSPIECE ELEMENT AND SPACER ELEMENT FOR COUNTERFRAME

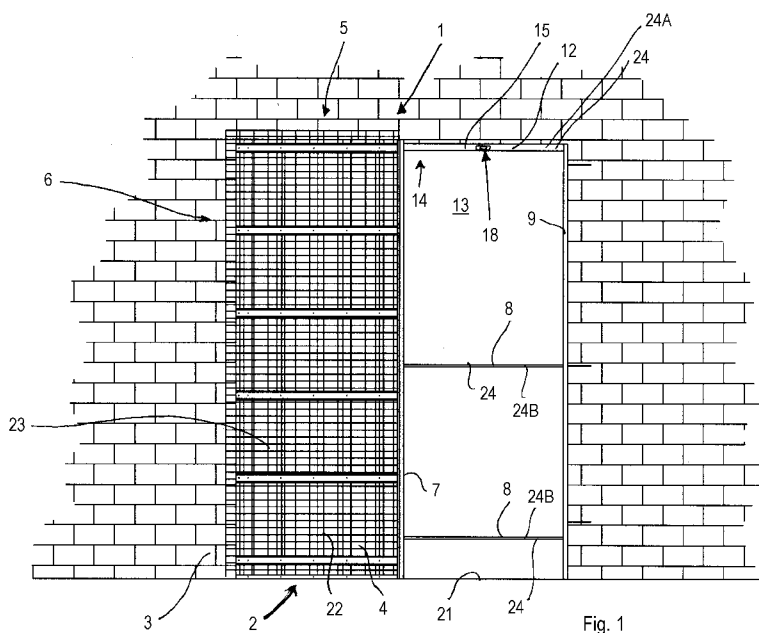


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A counterframe for a slidable door or window comprises: - a box structure (2) shaped for receiving internally- said sliding door or window and suitable for being embedded in a housing zone of a wall (3), and - acoustic insulating means (23) to acoustically insulate said housing zone, said acoustic insulating means comprising a soundproofing paint (23) applied to said box structure (2). A crosspiece element for counterframe for a slidable door or window, suitable for supporting and slidably guiding said sliding door or window, is provided. The crosspiece element is provided with positioning indicating means (18) incorporated therein to indicate whether said crosspiece element (12) is in a horizontal position. The invention further relates to a spacer element for maintaining in a fixing position a counterframe (1) for a slidable door or window, the spacer element comprising warning means (24) to warn of an inaccessible zone near said spacer element (8).

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**  
7 July 2011

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2010/053883

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
INV. E06B3/46 E06B5/20 G10K11/00  
ADD.  
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)  
E06B G10K  
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, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 754 573 A (VAN ROOIJ HENRICUS F [NL] ET AL) 5 July 1988 (1988-07-05) column 3, line 14 - line 16; figure 3 -----	1-3,6-10
Y	US 4 414 257 A (HARAGA KOUSUKE [JP] ET AL) 8 November 1983 (1983-11-08) column 1, line 44 - line 52 -----	1
Y	US 4 079 162 A (METZGER ARTHUR C) 14 March 1978 (1978-03-14) the whole document -----	2,3,6
Y	FR 1 518 017 A (FERMETURES MISCHLER) 22 March 1968 (1968-03-22) page 2, left-hand column, last paragraph; figure 2 ----- -/--	7

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  16 December 2010	Date of mailing of the international search report  12/05/2011
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Knerr, Gerhard

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2010/053883

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 1 609 939 A2 (PROTEK S R L [IT]) 28 December 2005 (2005-12-28) paragraph [0023]; figure 2 -----	8-10
A	JP 11 013026 A (SOGO KAIHATSU KK; SASAKI MASARU) 19 January 1999 (1999-01-19) the whole document -----	1
A	JP 55 038852 A (DAINIPPON TORYO KK) 18 March 1980 (1980-03-18) the whole document -----	1

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2010/053883

## 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.: 36  
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:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
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 all searchable 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.:
  
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.:

see additional sheet(s)

### 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**

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 36

Claim 36 does not contain a single technical feature defining the subject-matter claimed but a mere reference to previous claims.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2010/053883

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4754573	A	05-07-1988	CA 1299023 C 21-04-1992
			DE 3672970 D1 30-08-1990
			EP 0225675 A2 16-06-1987
			GR 3001027 T3 20-01-1992
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US 4414257	A	08-11-1983	NONE
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US 4079162	A	14-03-1978	NONE
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FR 1518017	A	22-03-1968	NONE
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EP 1609939	A2	28-12-2005	AT 461347 T 15-04-2010
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JP 11013026	A	19-01-1999	NONE
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JP 55038852	A	18-03-1980	JP 55032745 B 27-08-1980
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**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-12

Counterframe for a slidable door

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2. claims: 13-23

Crosspiece element and counterframe with such a crosspiece element

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3. claims: 24-35

Spacer element and crosspiece element and counterframe with such a crosspiece element

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