

Title (en)  
Optical sorting of objects.

Title (de)  
Optische Sortierung von Gegenständen.

Title (fr)  
Tri optique d'objets.

Publication  
**EP 0402543 A1 19901219 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 89305989 A 19890613**

Priority  
EP 89305989 A 19890613

Abstract (en)  
A sorter is described that optically differentiates acceptable objects from unacceptable objects. The sorter illuminates the objects as they move in a stream through a viewing zone with both visible and infrared light. The detecting means and circuit provides electric signals proportional to the light transmitted or reflected by the objects to a microcomputer system which in turn activates a rejection mechanism if unacceptable objects are viewed. The microcomputer system determines which objects are unacceptable by comparing signals for objects being viewed with stored signals for acceptable objects.

IPC 1-7  
**B07C 5/342**

IPC 8 full level  
**B07C 5/342** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)  
**B07C 5/3425** (2013.01)

Citation (search report)  
• [X] US 4235342 A 19801125 - BRAHAM RICHARD R [US]  
• [X] WO 8701975 A1 19870409 - CRA SERVICES [AU]  
• [Y] US 4057146 A 19771108 - CASTANEDA FERNANDO, et al  
• [Y] EP 0060493 A2 19820922 - SATAKE ENG CO LTD [JP]  
• [Y] US 3993899 A 19761123 - CHAPMAN THOMAS HENRY  
• [A] EP 0111877 A1 19840627 - ILLYCAFFE SPA [IT], et al  
• [A] GB 2133531 A 19840725 - DELTA TECHNOLOGY CORP

Cited by  
US6087608A; US5448363A; US5692621A; US5873470A; US6078018A; WO9311882A1; WO9614168A1

Designated contracting state (EPC)  
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE

DOCDB simple family (publication)  
**EP 0402543 A1 19901219; EP 0402543 B1 19960522**; DE 68926537 D1 19960627; DE 68926537 T2 19970116

DOCDB simple family (application)  
**EP 89305989 A 19890613**; DE 68926537 T 19890613