

Title (en)
Packaging sealing mechanism and method.

Title (de)
Vorrichtung und Verfahren zum Siegeln von Verpackungen.

Title (fr)
Appareil et procédé de soudage d'emballages.

Publication
EP 0588520 A1 19940323 (EN)

Application
EP 93306800 A 19930826

Priority
• US 93692592 A 19920827
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• US 95437892 A 19920930

Abstract (en)
A jam prevention device comprises a light beam source (63) that emits a light beam and is located on a main frame structure of a packaging machine in the machine's sealing section. During operation, the light beam is reflected off two reflective surfaces located on a moveable support operably connected to a prime mover (14). The reflected beam is received by a receiver (64) located opposite the source. A clamping sub-assembly (13) includes a seal bar and a reciprocable seal pad housing (35). The housing is spring-mounted on the clamping sub-assembly and substantially surrounds the seal bar. The reflective devices (31,33) are mounted on the housing. The prime mover moves the clamping sub-assembly (13) towards a heater bar sub-assembly (15). The housing defines two cavities for receiving the reflective devices. The movement of the clamping sub-assembly brings a loaded bag into contact with the heater bar sub-assembly for the purpose of effectuating a seal of the bag. The pressure applied by the clamping sub-assembly (13) during the meeting of the clamping sub-assembly and the heater bar sub-assembly causes the housing to move during the sealing process thereby moving the reflective devices into the cavities and disrupting the light beam. A photo-sensor (64) is provided for detecting the reflection of the light beam (B) during the sealing process as just described. Control structure either allows or disallows the sealing process to continue based upon detection of the light beam. <IMAGE>

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Citation (search report)
• [XA] FR 2638420 A1 19900504 - JAQUIER CLAUDE [CH]
• [DXDA] US 4899520 A 19900213 - LERNER BERNARD [US], et al
• [A] EP 0296387 A2 19881228 - PACKAGE MACHINERY CO [US]
• [A] US 4546596 A 19851015 - CHERNEY DALE M [US]

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