

Title (en)
PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURE OF A COMPONENT

Title (de)
VERFAHREN UND VORRICHTUNG ZUR HERSTELLUNG EINES GEGENSTANDES

Title (fr)
PROCEDE ET APPAREIL POUR FABRIQUER UN ELEMENT

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EP 1021291 A1 20000726 (EN)

Application
EP 98912628 A 19980324

Priority
• GB 9800892 W 19980324
• GB 9705523 A 19970324

Abstract (en)
[origin: GB2323552A] A method of fabricating a moulding component such as a pre-form from a roving comprises the steps of: drawing the roving 11 from a wound bobbin 12 thereof; separating predominantly by shearing constituent filaments or strands of the roving to a greater or lesser extent from one another to form a stream of continuous fibres; causing the stream of fibres to be passed along a duct 18 to a nozzle 19 where they are entrained in a supply of gas such as air; dispensing entrained fibres from the nozzle for deposition on a screen 13 serving to define a boundary region of the required moulding component; displacing the nozzle relative to the screen to provide for fibres to be dispensed over an extend region of the screen; depositing on at least some fibres in the stream a polymerisable material prior to, or simultaneously with, the deposition of the stream on the screen; and providing for the polymerisable material to polymerise following the dispensing onto the screen. Apparatus for use in the method comprises a carrier unit supporting a bobbin 12 of glass fibre roving; a roller unit 14 for withdrawing a fibre strand from a bobbin; fibre separating means such as an air comb 15 or a roller comb 16 for separating the strand by a predominantly shearing action into constituent filaments or strands; a duct 18 whereby the stream of fibres from separating means is passed to a nozzle 19 and a supply of air or gas through the nozzle such that the fibres are entrained in a supply of the gas and dispensed from the nozzle towards a screen 13 means for displacing the nozzle relative to the screen to provide for fibres to be dispensed over an extended region of the screen, means for depositing on at least some fibres in the path a polymerisable material prior to, or simultaneously with, deposition of the fibres on the screen; and means for causing that polymerisable material to polymerise following the dispensing of the fibres onto the screen.

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