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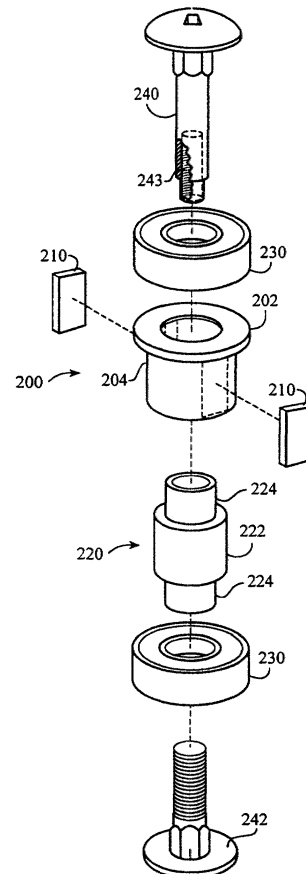
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(54) **Wheel assembly for in-line roller skates**

(57) In an in-line roller skate, a wheel bearing assembly (136) comprises an axle (240), a bearing spacer (220) axially disposed about the axle, and a pair of wheel bearings (230) axially coupled to and spaced apart by the bearing spacer (220). A magnet carrying sleeve (200) is juxtaposed between the wheel bearings (230) and concentric with the axle (240). At least one magnet (210) is disposed in the body portion (204) of the sleeve (200), and alternatively includes a second magnet disposed in diametric opposition relative to the first magnet. Alternatively, the second "magnet" is a similarly weighted non-magnetic element.



*Fig. 2*



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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	US 5 649 716 A (ZHANG) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) * column 1, paragraph 12; figures 2,3 * -----	1,2,9,15	A63C17/06 A63C17/22
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>3 September 2001</b>	Examiner <b>Stegman, R</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82