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(54) A reproduction system and method for producing copies.

(57) A reproduction system for producing copies of a set of document sheets and a method of producing bound sets of copy sheets are disclosed. A very high speed, fully automated reproduction system is described having a document handling apparatus, copy sheet processor, and a finishing station. For very high reproduction rates, post-collation of copy sheets into copy sets is utilized. In this arrangement the document apparatus (12) is arranged to expose each document sheet of a document a predetermined number of times before a succeeding document sheet is brought into exposure position so that for each complete circulation of all the document sheets, the document would have been copied a number of times equal to said predetermined number. A sorter bin array (102) having a number of bins (104) equal to said predetermined number is arranged to collate the resultant copy sheets into corresponding copy sets. The copy sets are removed from the bin array for stapling and stacking or non-stapling and stacking (130).

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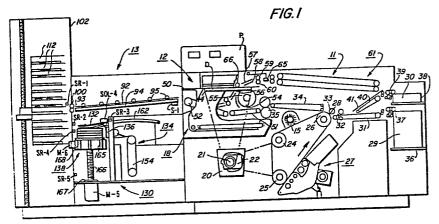
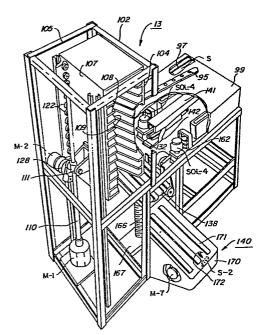


FIG.3







EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

EP 81 30 3835.3

	DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 3)	
ategory	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
D,A	<u>US - A - 3 944 794</u> (E.G. REEHIL et al.)	1,9	G 03 G 15/00
	* column 6, line 62 to column 7, line 5;		В 65 Н 31/24
	fig. 1B, 3 *		в 65 н 37/04
D,A	US - A - 4 054 380 (J.M. DONOHUE et al.)	1,9	
	* fig. 1B, 2 *		
D,A	US - A - 4 134 672 (L.E. BURLEW et al.)	1,9	
	* fig. 2 *		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl. 3)
D,A	RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, No. 185		B 41 L 43/00
	September 1979		В 65 Н 31/00
	R.M. STERRETT "Apparatus for producing		В 65 Н 33/00
	Sets of Collated Copies"		1
	pages 497 to 499, no. 18541		В 65 Н 37/00
	* fig. 1 *		G 03 B 27/00
			G 03 G 15/00
D,A	IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN	1,9	G 03 G 21/00
	Vol. 18, No. 10, March 1976, New York		
	M.J. MILLER "Collator-Stapler Module		
	for Copier"		CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS
	* pages 3160, 3161 *		X: particularly relevant if
			taken alone Y: particularly relevant if
A	US - A - 4 145 037 (H.C. MOL)		combined with another document of the same
	* fig. 1 to 3, 6 *		category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure
			P: intermediate document T: theory or principle
A	US - A - 3 561 754 (B.W. GAFFRON et al.)	•	underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after
	* fig. 1, 3 *		the filing date D: document cited in the application L. document cited for other reasons
			&. member of the same paten
V	The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		family, corresponding document
Place of	Search Berlin Date of completion of the search 02-07-1982	Examiner	