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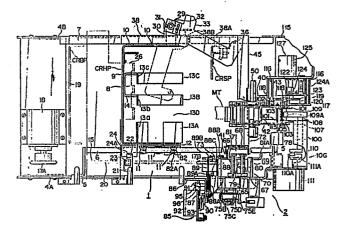
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Bundling apparatus.

(a) In a bundling apparatus, a carrier (8) of a transfer mechanism (1) is moved by a motor (18) of a first driving mechanism (15) from a carrier home position (CRHP) to a carrier stop position (CRSP) after a stack of sheets (P) are set on the carrier (8) and then moved from the carrier stop position (CRSP) to the carrier home position (CRHP). On the other hand, a catcher (72) of a winding mechanism (41) is moved along a line of movement including a catcher home position (CTHP) below the sheets (P) on the carrier (8) and a catcher intermediate position (CHIP) above the sheets (P). The line of movement lies between the carrier home position (CRHP) and the carrier stop position (CRSP). The catcher (72) is moved by the second driving mechanism (75) from the catcher home position (CTHP) to the catcher intermediate position (CTIP) before the carrier (8) moved from the carrier home position (CRHP) toward the carrier stop position (CRSP) by the first driving mechanism (15) crosses the line of the movement, and is moved from the catcher intermediate position (CTIP) to the catcher home position (CTHP) after the carrier (8) crosses the line of movement.





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category		th indication, where appropriate, vant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 3)
A	DENKI K.K.) * page 54, para	(TOKYO SHIBAURA graph 2 - page 58, gures 10,17-19 *	1,5,10 ,14,15	B 65 B 27/0
A	GB-A- 722 093 * column 2, 1 5, lines 34-47;	ines 40-52; column	1,2,4,	
A	CH-A- 388 182 * page 2, line 11; figure 4 *	 (A. FROMM) 116 - page 3, line	1,7,8	
A	GB-A-2 078 207 * page 1, lin 1,3 *	 (MUSASHI CO.) nes 38-52; figures	1	
	·			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3)
	The present search report has b			
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Y: par	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCL ticularly relevant if taken alone ticularly relevant if combined w cument of the same category hnological background n-written disclosure	E : earlier pater after the filli ith another D : document c L : document c	ng date sited in the app sited for other r	ring the invention but published on, or lication reasons at family, corresponding