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**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

⑰ Application number: **84303414.1**

⑤① Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup>: **B 65 B 19/08**

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④③ Date of publication of application: **28.11.84**  
**Bulletin 84/48**

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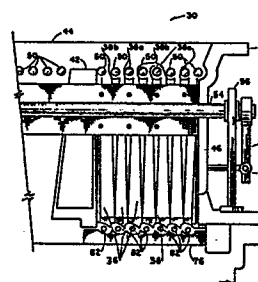
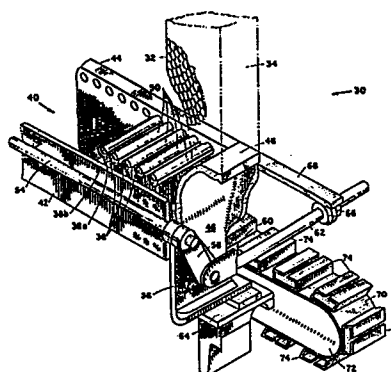
⑧④ Designated Contracting States: **BE CH DE FR GB IT LI NL**

⑧⑧ Date of deferred publication of search report: **03.04.85 Bulletin 85/14**

⑦④ Representative: **Bass, John Henton et al, REDDIE & GROSE 16 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PL (GB)**

⑤④ **Apparatus for packing oval cigarettes.**

⑤⑦ A method and an apparatus are disclosed for solving the problem of arranging oval cross-sectional rod-shaped smoking articles (32) whose circumferential orientation is initially random to align and position them for packing. The articles are separated into a plurality of streams and fed to a receiving bed (76) in which they are retained at a predetermined angular orientation, in troughs (80). From these troughs the articles are pushed, by pusher rods (82), one row at a time into a container (74).





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. 3)
X	GB - A - 736 889 (KEMP) * The whole document *	1,2,3, 11	B 65 B 19/08
Y	--	4,17, 18,19, 20	
Y	GB - A - 1 137 826 (SERAGNOLI) * Page 2, lines 8-119; figures 1,3 *	4,17	
Y	US - A - 1 668 693 (MOLINS) * Page 1, lines 79-109; figures 1,4,5,6 *	18,20	
Y	FR - A - 2 035 721 (SCHMERMUND) * Page 2, line 34 - page 3, line 28; figures 1,2 *	19	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 20-11-1984	Examiner CLAEYS
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>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</p> <p>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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			





### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### ☒ LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

- 1) Claims 1,2: Method and apparatus for packaging rod-shaped articles  
Claims 2,3-12: Receiving means
- 2) Claims 2,13,14,15,16,21,22: Article transferring means
- 3) Claims 2,17-20: Article separating means
- 4) Claims 2,23: Receiving pocket
- 5) Claims 2,24: Tray

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims: 1-12, 17-20.
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: