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(54) An automatic labelling machine for incorporation to case packaging machines for pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and the like products, both of the continuous and intermittent feed types.

(57) An automatic labelling machine for incorporation to case packaging machines in general, of both the continuous and intermittent feed types using pushers, and including a printer head (9) and a wedge element (21) operative to break labels (5a) away from a carrier web (11) being paid out from a web storage reel, and a carrier web take-up reel, comprising a feeder (14) mounted rotatable about a parallel axis to the case feed plane and, hingedly connected peripherally thereto, oscillating arms (17a, 17b, 17c, 17d) which are guided at the opposed ends thereof by an annular guide (18) having a cam profile (18a) and carry each a box-like body (19) alternately subjected to a vacuum and adapted to receive one label (5a) from said label detaching wedge element (21), transfer it to an area of application thereof to a case moving along a case transport line, and apply it by pressure to said case; also provided being a means of rotating said feeder (14) and driving said carrier web forward, as well as sensor and timer means effective to synchronise the rotation speed of said feeder to the case feed rate and determine start-up and stop times for the web feeding means and means of providing said vacuum.

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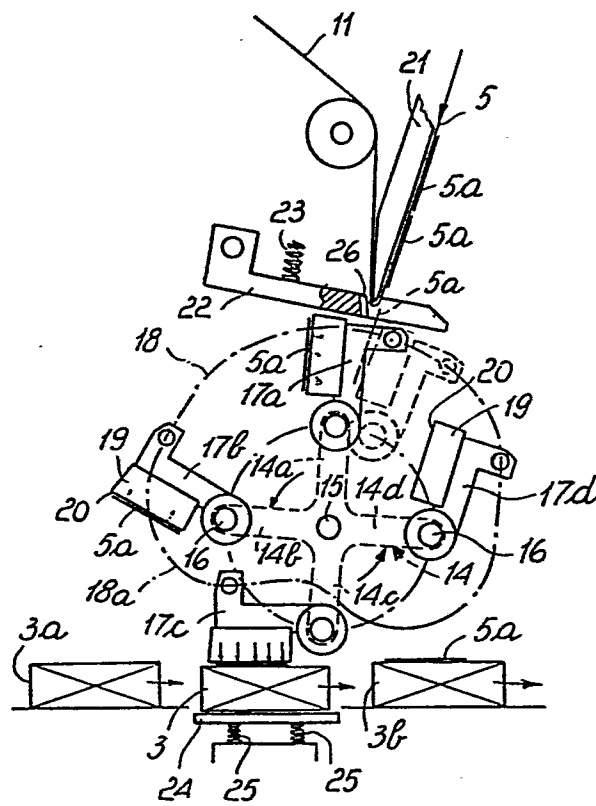


Fig. 2



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0131852

Application number

EP 84 10 7816

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. 4)
Y	US - A - 4 032 388 (TUCKER DUNNING) * Figures 6,7; column 3, lines 60 - 68; column 4, lines 1-60 * --	1,2,4	B 65 C 9/18
Y	FR - A - 2 464 195 (METRAPLAN SPAA) * Figure 1; page 4 * --	1,2,4	
A	DE - B - 1 206 785 (A. SCHMERMUND) * Figure 5; column 3, lines 24-45; column 4, lines 1-6 * -----	1,2,4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			B 65 C 9/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 15-10-1984	Examiner DEUTSCH
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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			



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 1,2,4-6: Automatic labelling machine for transferring and applying labels to a moving case
- 2) Claim 3: Apparatus for cutting labels from a carrier-web

- ☐ 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:
- ☒ 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: 1, 2, 4-6