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(54) **Method and apparatus for expanding heat exchanger tubes.**

(57) A heat exchanger tube is expanded externally, for instance for connecting it with a plate perimetrically of a hole in the plate through which it passes, by forcing through the bore of the tube a series of at least two expanders (3, 4) of progressively larger size. These expanders are secured on a tool steel rod (10) so far apart from one another than before a trailing expander (4) engages in the bore of the tube, the expander which led it has already emerged from the far end of the tube.

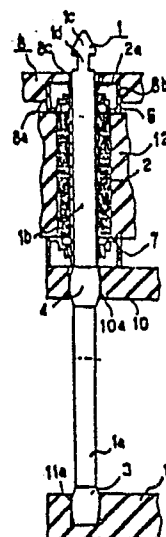


Fig. 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 84 10 9179

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)
X	GB-A- 10 223 (STILL)(A.D. 1911) * Page 2, lines 26-41; figure 7 *	1,2	B 21 D 53/08
A	GB-A- 497 318 (LOUVROIL-MONTBARD-AULNOYE)	1	
A	FR-A-1 510 577 (HUDSON ENGINEERING)		
A	FR-A-2 380 088 (THERMAL-WERKE WÄRME-KÄLTE-KLIMATECHNIK)		
A	GB-A- 815 096 (TALALMANYOKAT ERTEKESITO VALLALAT)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			B 21 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13-06-1986	Examiner PEETERS L.
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			