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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑳ Application number: **84308857.6**

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⑦① Applicant: **Stratham, Geoffrey Lawson Norman, 27 Dama Road Deer Park, Fazeley Tamworth Staffordshire (GB)**

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⑦② Inventor: **Stratham, Geoffrey Lawson Norman, 27 Dama Road Deer Park, Fazeley Tamworth Staffordshire (GB)**

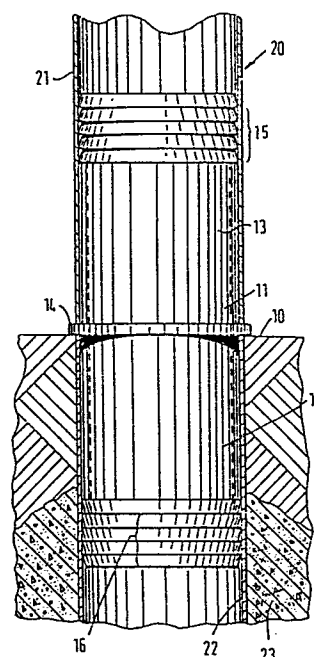
⑧④ Designated Contracting States: **AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE**

⑧⑧ Date of deferred publication of search report: **16.04.86 Bulletin 86/16**

⑦④ Representative: **Attfield, Donald James, Prudential Buildings 5 St. Philip's Place, Birmingham B3 2AF (GB)**

⑤④ Improvements in or relating to methods and apparatus for supporting tubular posts.

⑤⑦ Disclosed is a method of supporting a road traffic sign post (20) in which a lower sleeve portion (22) of the post (20) is embedded in the ground and secured therein by concrete (23), an interference fit tubular adaptor (1, 11) is driven into the sleeve (22) to provide a predetermined length of adaptor extending from the sleeve and the upper post portion (21) driven into the projecting portion (3, 13) of the adaptor (1, 11) so that the upper end of the sleeve and lower end of the post are in an abutting relationship. The adaptor (1, 11) is required to be weaker than the upper portion (21) of the post (20) in order that it will fracture or bend along a line between the abutting ends of the upper portion (21) and sleeve (20) in event of being hit, by for example, a car. The adaptor (1, 11) may have an outwardly directed flange (4, 14) to determine the extent of penetration into the sleeve (22) and post (21), and outwardly directed chevrons (15, 16) at the ends to provide "lead-in" portions. The impact strength of the adaptor (1, 11) is predetermined by controlling its wall thickness or providing lines of weakness such as a groove or lines of holes (7).





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Application number

EP 84 30 8857

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	US-A-3 349 531 (WATSON) * Column 1, lines 28-35, 40-43, 56-58; column 3, lines 42, 46-48, 66-75; column 4, lines 1-10, 18-41, 59-61, 70-75; column 5, lines 1-8, 74, 75; column 6, lines 1-6, 21-26, 50-58; column 7, lines 9-11; figures 1-4 *	1, 3-8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16	E 01 F 9/01
Y	---	2	
Y	US-A-4 021 977 (DEIKE) * Column 1, lines 5-8, 22, 23, 34-45; column 2, lines 1-4, 20, 21, 23, 24; column 3, lines 14-17, 26-31; column 4, lines 33-42; column 5, lines 41-44, 57, 58; column 6, lines 2-5, 8-10; figures 1, 4, 13 *	2	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			E 01 F
A	---	1, 3-6, 9, 11, 15, 16	
A	DE-A-2 309 249 (NAGL) * Page 1, lines 1-9; page 2, lines 17-23; page 3, lines 4-7, 18-20; page 4, claim 5; page 5, claim 7; figures 2, 6, 7 * --- -/-	1-4, 6, 7, 11	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13-01-1986	Examiner SCHUMAN R.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone</p> <p>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</p> <p>A : technological background</p> <p>O : non-written disclosure</p> <p>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</p> <p>D : document cited in the application</p> <p>L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			



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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)												
A	DE-A-2 319 229 (NÜSSEL) * Page 1, lines 1-3,8-16,19-22,26,27; page 2, claims 1-3; figures 1-3 * ---	1-4,6,8,10,11,15,16													
A	BE-A- 893 094 (ZEPHIR DAUBY ET FILS) * Page 3, lines 1-16; page 4, lines 6-18; figures 1-4 * ---	1-4,6,11,12													
A	FR-A-2 500 505 (PINOTEAU) * Page 2, lines 12-24,30-33; page 3, lines 19,20; page 4, lines 10,11,16-24,30-36; page 5, lines 11-13; figures 1,2 * ---	1,4,11,14													
A	DE-A-2 150 316 (BENNINGER) * Page 1, lines 1-3,10-30; page 2, lines 2-10; figures 1,2 * ---	1-7,11,14-16													
A	DE-U-8 016 501 (DAMBACH-WERKE) * Page 1, lines 1-7; page 5, lines 5-9,14-21,25-33; page 6, lines 1-3; figures 1,2 * --- -/-	1,3-8,11,14-16	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)												
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<table border="0"><tr><td>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</td><td>T : theory or principle underlying the invention</td></tr><tr><td>X : particularly relevant if taken alone</td><td>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</td></tr><tr><td>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</td><td>D : document cited in the application</td></tr><tr><td>A : technological background</td><td>L : document cited for other reasons</td></tr><tr><td>O : non-written disclosure</td><td>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</td></tr><tr><td>P : intermediate document</td><td></td></tr></table>				CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS	T : theory or principle underlying the invention	X : particularly relevant if taken alone	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date	Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	D : document cited in the application	A : technological background	L : document cited for other reasons	O : non-written disclosure	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	P : intermediate document	
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A	EP-A-0 065 660 (BOARD OF CONTROL OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY) * Page 1, lines 1-4,25-28; page 2, lines 6-8,10-14; page 11, lines 28-31; page 12, lines 1,2,10-15; figure 8 * ---	4	
A	GB-A-1 574 061 (CHISHOLM) * Page 1, lines 10-13,20-24; page 2, lines 93-99,101-104 * ---	11-13	
P,A	EP-A-0 099 070 (HOECKLE) * Page 1, lines 1-5; page 3, lines 33,34; page 4, line 1; page 5, lines 24-34; page 6, lines 1-3,7-17,30-34,37-44; page 7, lines 10,24-27; page 8, lines 10-13; figures 1,3 * ---	1-7,10 ,14-16	
P,A	EP-A-0 137 712 (J.N. ROSKELL LTD.) * Page 1, lines 18-28; page 2, lines 10-18,29-35; page 3, lines 1,2,6,7,15-31; page 4, lines 3-14,36,37; page 5, line 1,10-23; page 6, lines 1-4; figure * ---	1-6,10 ,11	
P,A	EP-A-0 100 803 (PINOTEAU) * Page 1, lines 30-37; page 2, lines 8-14,31,32; page 3, lines 7-11; page 4, lines 6,7,11-15,23-26,33-35; page 5, lines 20-25,32,33; figures 1,2,8 * ---	1,2,4, 5,11- 14,16	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
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