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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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⑦① Applicant: **Apoteksbolaget AB, S-105 14 Stockholm (SE)**

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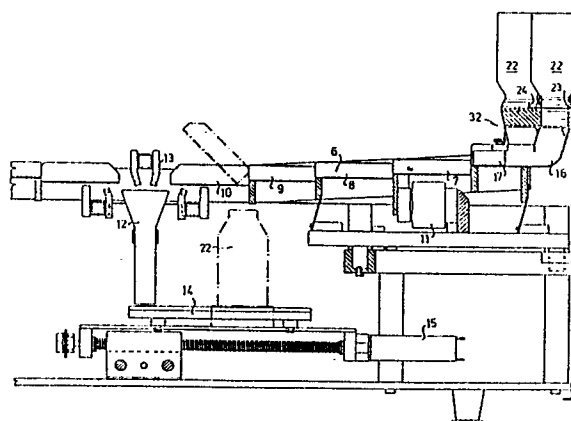
⑦② Inventor: **Sarv, Nils, Herrgardsvägen 4,
S-552 66 Jönköping (SE)**

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⑦④ Representative: **Barnieske, Hans Wolfgang, c/o H.W.
Barnieske Patentbyrå AB S:ta
Ragnhildsgatan 24-26 P.O. Box 25,
S-151 21 Södertälje 1 (SE)**

⑤④ **A means for dispensing pharmaceuticals.**

⑤⑦ The present invention relates to a means for dispensing solid pharmaceuticals such as tablets into medication receptacles. The means comprises a control unit and a feeding unit including a plurality of feed-in stations through which pharmaceuticals are supplied to the means. An elongate transport channel (6) leads from each feed-in station (32) and carries pharmaceuticals, preferably by means of vibration, towards a feed-out means (12). The transport channels (6) are driven individually, independently of each other. A photocell (13) emits an impulse to the control unit each time a tablet is passed from the transport channel (6) to the feed-out means (12). When the desired number of tablets has been supplied by the transport channel (6), the control unit discontinues the supply. The feed-out means (12) supplies the tablets to the medication receptacles which are arranged on a positioning member, preferably comprising a coordinate table (14). The control unit emits drive signals to the motors (15) of the coordinate table when the control unit has stopped the drives for all transport channels (6), whereupon the medication receptacles are indexed forward to a new position in which the control unit re-activates the drives for the transport channels (6).





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0197900

Application number

EP 86 85 0035

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)
A,D	US-A-3 885 702 (JOSLIN et al.) -----	1	B 65 B 35/14 B 65 G 27/34 B 65 G 47/14
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			B 65 B B 65 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28-01-1987	Examiner HARRISON
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			