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(54) **Improvements in structural members.**

(57) A channel-section structural member 1 for use as the bottom plate of a galvanised steel building frame comprises a central web 2 and two parallel flanges 8 and 10 extending along opposite edges of the web 2 to form a channel. Two ribs 4 and 6 are provided in the web 2 for supporting the ends of upright structural members within the channel in such a manner as to allow a gap for drainage of moisture along the channel. Drainage holes 12 are provided in the structural member 1 so as to enable moisture to drain out of the channel at points intermediate the two ends of the structural member 1, thereby minimising the risk of accumulated moisture resulting in corrosion of the structural member over a period of time.

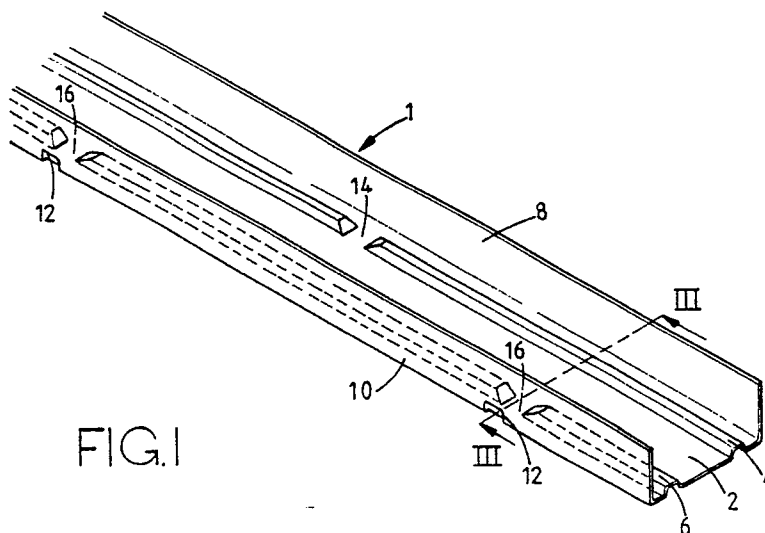


FIG. 1



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,D	GB-A-2 146 054 (PRECISION METAL FORMING) * Page 1, lines 43-54; figure 1 *	1,2	E 04 C 3/07 E 04 B 1/70
Y	--- US-A-4 011 704 (O'KONSKI) * Column 1, lines 52-68; column 2, lines 1-20; column 4, lines 3-25; figures 7,8 *	1,2	
A	--- GB-A-2 143 558 (PEARCE & CUTLER) * Page 4, lines 13-21,70-76; figure 4 *	1,2	
A,P	--- US-A-4 621 470 (BALINSKI) * Column 2, lines 14-29; figures 3,4 *	1	
A	--- FR-A-2 239 914 (VINCENS) * Page 23, lines 11-14; figures 12,13,23 *	1-3,5	E 04 C E 04 B
A	--- AU-B- 517 480 (WINSTONE) * Page 3, lines 23-29; page 4, lines 1-6; figure 1 *	1-3	
A	--- WO-A-8 503 965 (CAPPER) * Page 8, lines 33-37; page 9, lines 1-10; figure 7 *	1	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25-09-1987	Examiner CHESNEAUX J.C.
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	



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
A	US-A-1 545 168 (SCHENCK) * Page 2, lines 102-118; figures 13-15 * -----	1,9
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25-09-1987
Examiner CHESNEAUX J.C.		
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)		
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