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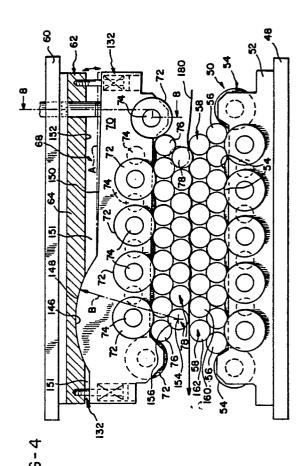
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(54) Leveling apparatus.

57) A leveling apparatus supports a plurality of backup roller assemblies (62), each of which is individually positionable to vary the penetration of a portion of the work rolls (78) it contacts such that the penetration of the entry work rolls can be varied independently of the penetration of the exit work roll. Each back-up roller assembly includes an elongate backup block (64) having a longitudinal channel (68) and a rearwardly-positioned concave portion (146), an elongate support member (70) positioned within the slot and including a rearwardly-positioned convex portion (148) positioned to matingly engage the concave portion, and a plurality of back-up rollers (72) positioned along the support member. The support member is urged against the back-up block by a resilient connection (132), and each support member is independently relative to the back-up block. The concave and convex portions of the back-up block and support member, respectively, have centers of curvature which coincide with the rotational axis (154) of the rearmost associated work roll (156) so that pivoting movement of the support member does not affect the penetration of the rearmost work roll. Consequently, the leveled sheet assumes a planar configuration upon exiting the apparatus.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
ategory	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages		Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)	
D,A	US-A-2 963 071 (KF * claim 1, figure 3	RYNYTZKY) 3 *	1	B 21 D	1/02
	US-A-3 301 031 (BB * claims 1, 2; colu figures 4, 17, pos	umn 4, lines 12-17,	1		
	US-A-4 454 738 (BU * claim 1, figures		1		
	DE-A-1 752 211 (H) * claim 1; figure 1		1,2		
	US-A-2 827 945 (NA* claim 1, figures 28-33, column 2, 1	2, 4, positions	1		
	GB-A-1 128 888 (William 1, figures 79 *	ILSON) 1, 3, positions 76,	1		
	DE-U-1 988 614 (SIEMAG) * figure 1, positions 4, 5, 8, 9, claim 4 *		2	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)	
				B 21 D	1/00
		heen drawn un for all claims			
	The present search report has				
	The present search report has Place of search	Date of completion of the se	arch	Examiner	

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X: particularly relevant if taken alone
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 A: technological background
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E: carlier 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