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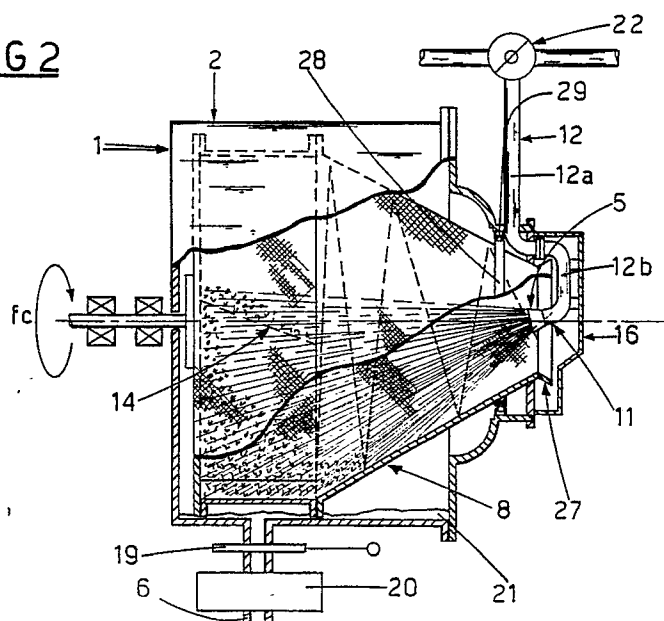
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Machine for cleaning and drying small items.

The machine for cleaning and/or drying metal and non-metal items comprises a drum with a sealable charge/discharge port, and a single cage in which to place the items (typically nuts and bolts); the cage is rotatable about a horizontal axis in either direction and embodied frusto-conically at least in part, its narrower end open to provide a charge/discharge port coinciding with that of the

drum. The conical part of the cage, at least, is provided internally with one or more helical ribs departing from the relative port and extending the full axial length of the cone, the purpose of which being to propel the charge steadily and uniformly away from and toward the port. The solvent used for cleaning purposes is sprayed straight into the cage so as to invest the nuts and bolts directly.

FIG 2





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 83 0022

| 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.5) |
| A | US-A-4 719 933 (W.M. JACKSON) * abstract; figures ** - - - - | 1 | B 08 B 3/04 B 08 B 3/02 |
| A | GB-A-1 075 602 (ACHILLE TALENTI) * page 1, line 72 - page 2, line 115; figures ** - - - - | 1 | |
| A | US-A-4 537 669 (R. MCINNES) - - - - | | |
| A | US-A-3 464 539 (F.C. KELLY) - - - - | | |
| A | WO-A-7 900 244 (R. STEIMEL) - - - - | | |
| A | EP-A-0 036 952 (W. RUTTEN) - - - - - | | |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) B 08 B B 65 G |
| Place of search The Hague | | Date of completion of search 31 October 91 | Examiner FRANKS N.M. |
| <div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>X: particularly relevant if taken alone</div> <div>Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</div> <div>A: technological background</div> <div>O: non-written disclosure</div> <div>P: intermediate document</div> <div>T: theory or principle underlying the invention</div> <div>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</div> <div>D: document cited in the application</div> <div>L: document cited for other reasons</div> <div>&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div> | | | |