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(54) **Method and apparatus for flushing residual paint from the internal flow passages in a paint distribution system.**

(57) Residual paint is flushed from a paint distribution system (12) by simultaneously injecting a measured volume of atomized solvent and a quantity of compressed air into a manifold (58). Prior to injection, the solvent is first moved into a metering cylinder (44) having an outlet therefrom communicating with the manifold (58). A metering piston (46) is slideable within the metering cylinder (44) for urging the mea-

sured volume of solvent into the manifold (58). An air pressure responsive piston (32) is connected to the metering piston (46). At the appropriate times, air pressure is applied to the air piston (32) and also injected into the manifold (58). As the air piston (32) is moved, the connected metering piston (46) forces the measured solvent through an atomizer nozzle (56) and into the manifold (58).

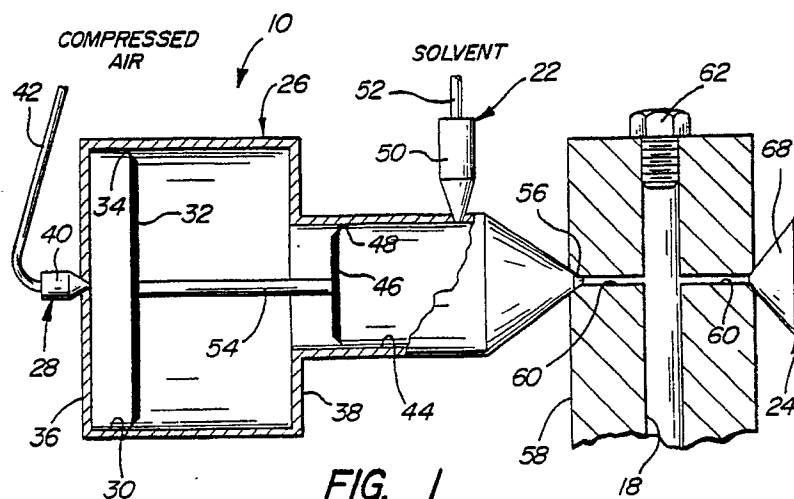


FIG. 1

EP 0 396 223 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 90 30 1948

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)
P,X	US-A-4 881 563 (CHRISTIAN) * Abstract; column 1, lines 35-49; figures 1,2 * - - -	1-3,17	B 05 B 12/14
A	EP-A-0 294 690 (IBM CORP.) * Figure; abstract * - - -	1-3,17	
A	WO-A-8 706 324 (STUTZMANN) * Abstract * - - - - -	1-3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 05 B B 08 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 17 May 91	Examiner GINO C.P.G.
<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>			