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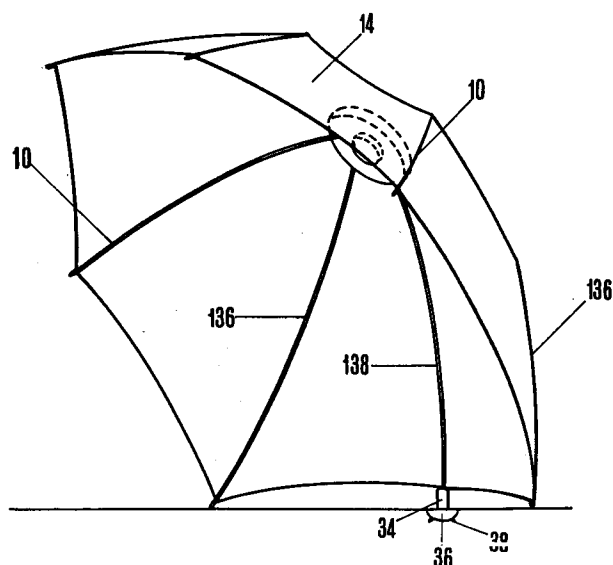
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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION(21) Application number: **90307941.6**(51) Int. Cl.⁵: **A45B 25/02**(22) Date of filing: **20.07.90**(30) Priority: **21.07.89 GB 8916696**(43) Date of publication of application:
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08.01.92 Bulletin 92/02(71) Applicant: **FOX DESIGN INTERNATIONAL
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123, Ringwood Road, Watford
Nr. Christchurch, Dorset BH23 5RB(GB)**(74) Representative: **Crouch, David John et al
Bromhead & Co. 19 Buckingham Street
London WC2N 6EF(GB)**(54) **A canopy.**

(57) A canopy comprising a plurality of ribs (10) extending from a hub (12) of the canopy and a membrane (14) attached to those ribs (10). The ribs (10) extend radially outwardly from the hub (12) when the canopy is in use so that the membrane (14) is stretched outwardly from the hub (12). The

ribs (10) are held securely in their radially extending positions, against collapse towards one another, at their inner ends to avoid the need for a central pole and rib-supporting struts such as are present in a conventional umbrella.

**FIG. 29****EP 0 409 639 A3**



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)
X	US-A-1 659 738 (O. KNAPP) * Figures 4,5; page 1, right-hand column, line 91 - page 2, left-hand column, line 16 *	1-4	A 45 B 25/02
X	US-A-4 809 724 (FUSER) * Figures 5-7; column 1, line 66 - column 2, line 21 *	1	
Y	FR-A- 629 108 (G. NÄGELE) * Figures 1,2,5,6; page 1, line 54 - page 2, line 30 *	1-4,8,9	
Y	US-A-2 948 287 (S.J. RUPERT) * Figures 1,3; column 2, lines 40-63 *	1-4,8,9	
A	GB-A-2 165 448 (L. FORDE) * Figures 2-7; page 2, lines 16-18 *	1,4,5,6,7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			A 45 B E 04 H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims—			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 01-07-1991	Examiner ECCETTO M.
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			



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

See sheet -B-

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,

namely claims: 1-9



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,

namely:

1. Claims 1-9: A canopy comprising a plurality of ribs extending from a hub.
2. Claim 10: A device for holding two pieces of fabric or other sheet material together.