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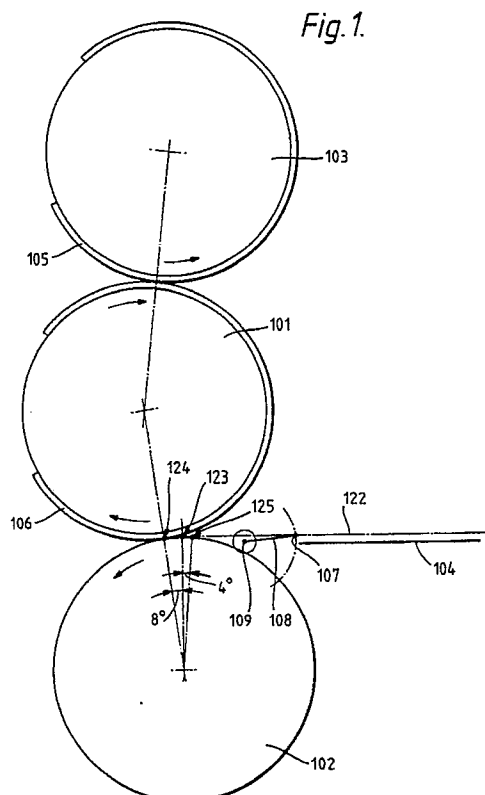
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(54) **A method of and apparatus for printing on metal sheets.**

(57) Sheet-fed metal decorating presses, which pass sheets successively between cylinders in mutual rolling contact, have pushed the sheets at virtually the same speed as the constant peripheral speed of the cylinders into contact with cyclically-moveable stops on one of the cylinders which stops are so pivoted inside the periphery of the cylinder that as they retract their tangential speed is appreciably less than the peripheral speed of the cylinders. The sheets are therefore abruptly decelerated and must be pushed with high force to accelerate them back to the speed of the cylinders before entering the nip, causing several disadvantages.

These are avoided by pushing the sheets at a higher speed than the constant peripheral speed of the cylinders (101, 102), and by pivoting the stops (107) about an axis (109) outside the periphery of the cylinder (102) so that they move relative to the cylinder in a substantially involute path whereby their tangential speed as they retract is substantially the same as the peripheral speed of the cylinders. As there is then no need to accelerate the sheets they can advantageously be pushed with lower force.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 30 8512

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-2 699 941 (HUCK COMPANY) * column 2, lines 18 - 50 ** column 3, line 42 - column 4, line 69; figures 1-11 @ column 5, line 80 - column 6, line 51; figures 15-18 *	1,2	B 41 F 7/16 B 41 F 21/12
A	US-A-2 809 831 (AMERICAN CAN COMPANY) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 41 F B 65 H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 11 March 91	Examiner LONCKE J.W.
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>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</div> <div>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</div>			