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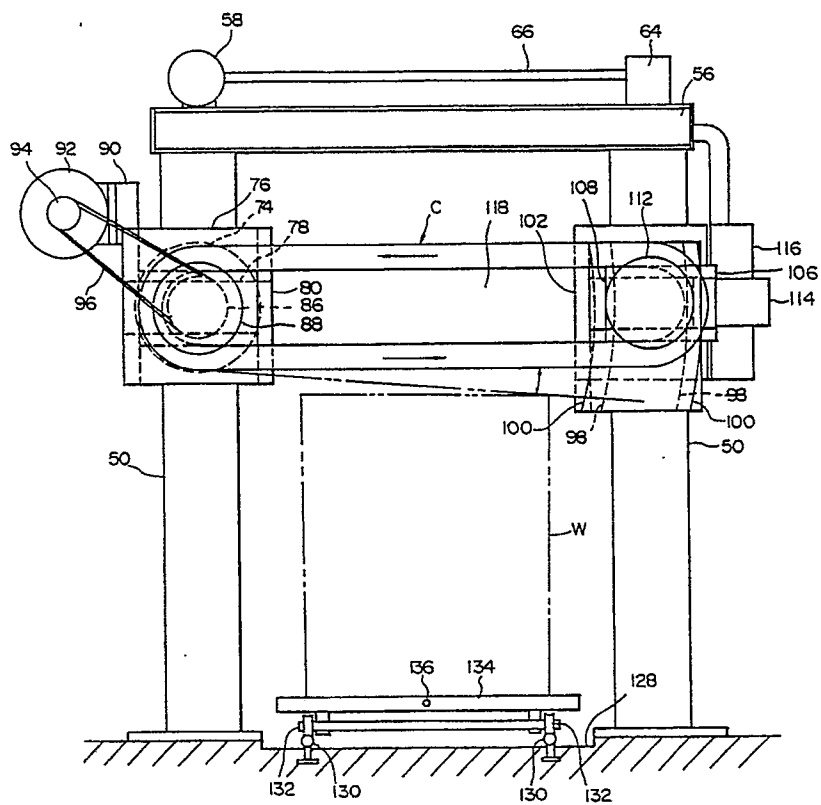
(54) **Cutting apparatus.**

(57) The invention relates to a cutting apparatus comprising an endless chain body (2) having a plurality of plate-like links (1) connected to each other for angular movement in a common plane. Each link (1) has an end face on an inner peripheral side of the chain body (2), and at least a part of the links (1) are provided with a cutting device (4) at the end face thereof. The apparatus further comprises a plurality of sprockets (88,112) supporting the chain body (2) in tension, and defining a common plane of cut effected by the combination of the chain body (2) and the sprockets (88,112). The chain body (2) is supported by a rigid backplate (118), of thickness

not greater than the thickness of the links (1). It provides a firm support to the rotating chain body (2) to permit sliding movement of the chain body (2) within the common plane of cut. The apparatus further comprises a means (92) for activating the rotational movement of the sprockets in cooperation with the chain body (2), and a means (58) for moving an object (W) or the chain body (2) toward each other to effect removal of a material disposed within the extended plane of the common plane of cut to effect separation of an object (W) into severed sections.

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FIG.1





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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)
Y	BE-A-5 181 64 (C. DE TENA Y TENA) * ÜPge 2, lines 40-51; figure 1 *	1,2	B 28 D 1/08
A	---	3,5,18	
Y	US-A-6 140 03 (J. JOHNSON) * Page 1, lines 60-78; page 2, lines 9-23; figures 1,3,4 *	1,2	
A	---	8-11,15	
A	US-A-1 363 171 (C.P. SLY) * Page 1, lines 84-95; figure 5 *	1-3,7	
A	---	1,13	
A	FR-A-5 950 55 (L.F. MAUNY) * Page 2, lines 5-12; figures 1-4 *	1,14	
A	---	1,16,17	
A	US-A-2 869 534 (A. STIHL) * Column 3, lines 26-43; figures 1,7 *	1,6	
A	---		
A	DE-A-3 416 712 (L. JÄGERS) * Summary; page 9, lines 4-14; figures 1-3 *		
A	---		
A	BE-A-5 052 03 (O.W. BURKHARDT) * Page 4, lines 44-52; figure 13 *		

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		28 May 91	SOEHNLEN T.J.E.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone		E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date	
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