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(54) **Method and apparatus for forming ducting.**

(57) The present invention provides a method for forming polygonal ducting from an initially circular cross-section duct by radially expanding a mandrel within the duct so as to cause radial deformation of

the duct into the desired shape. The invention also provides a mandrel for use in the method of the invention.

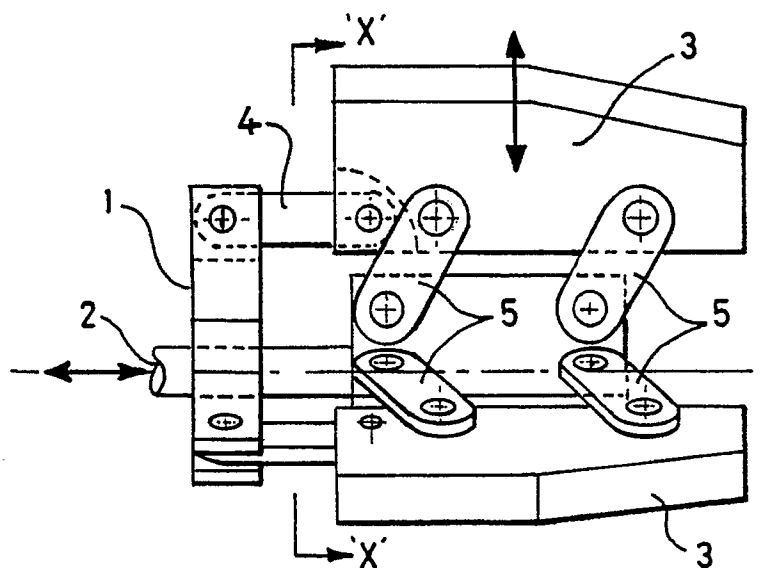


Fig.1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

EP 90 31 2319

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	GB-A-1 425 778 (OY NOKIA AB) * page 2, line 74 - page 3, line 76; figures 1-3 * - - -	1-9	B 21 D 15/02
Y	FR-A-7 322 96 (LEVY) * page 1, line 40 - page 2, line 37; figures 1-4 * - - -	1-9	
A	FR-A-2 125 149 (FUTS METALLIQUES GALLAY S.A.) * page 4, line 1 - page 8, line 6; figures 7-10 * - - -	1,8	
A	US-A-3 981 172 (HESS ET AL) * column 2, line 24 - column 3, line 44; figures * - - -	1	
A	US-A-4 004 444 (POLLART) * column 5, line 7 - column 6, line 10; figures 7, 8 * - - - - -	10	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 02 May 91	Examiner GARELLA M.G.C.D.
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			