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(71) Applicant : **Ohno, Ietatsu**
7-26, 3-chome, Nishi-Shinjuku
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo (JP)

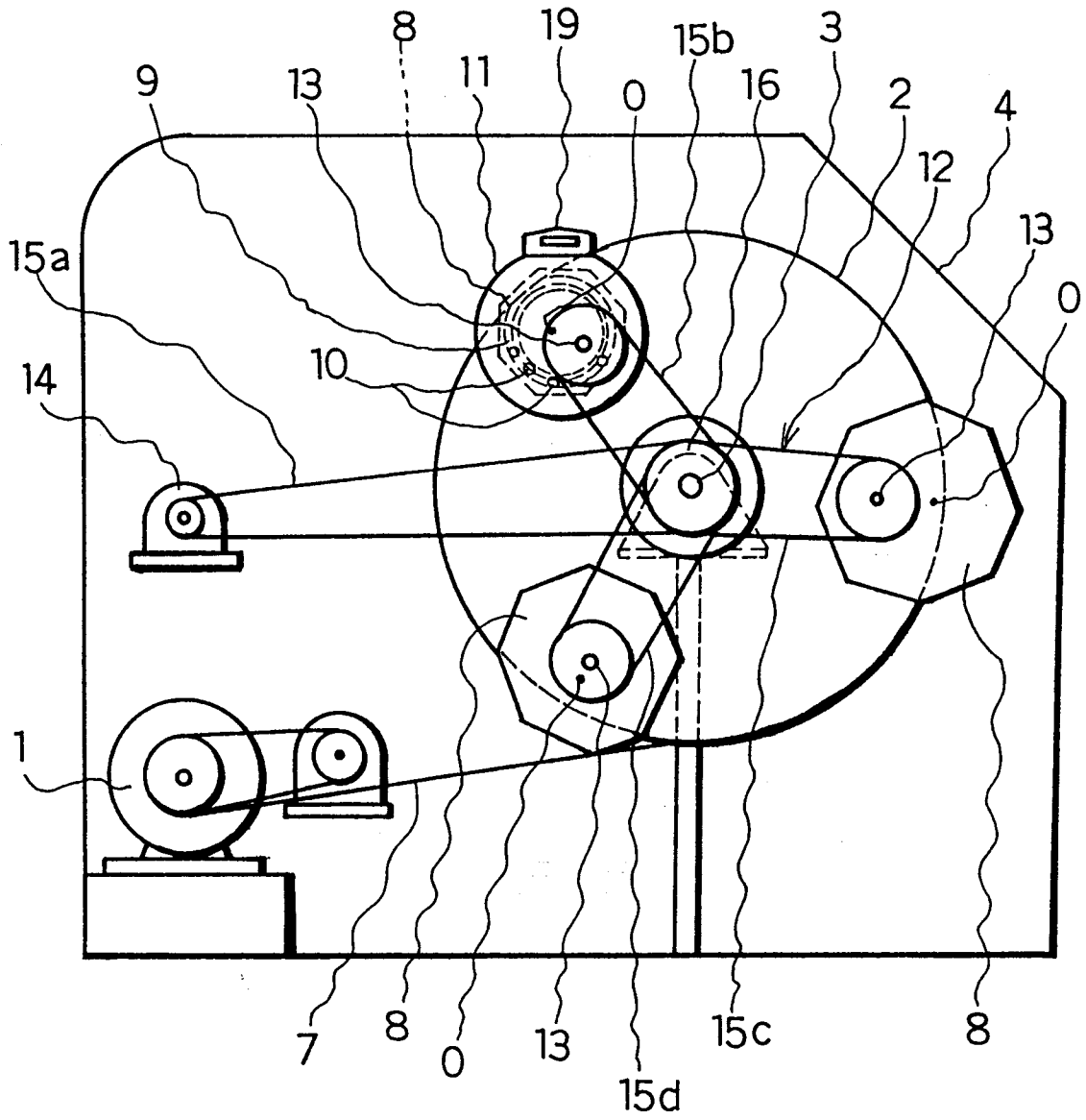
(72) Inventor : **Ohno, Ietatsu**
7-26, 3-chome, Nishi-Shinjuku
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo (JP)

(74) Representative : **Hall, Graeme Keith et al**
Frank B. Dehn & Co. Imperial House 15-19
Kingsway
London WC2B 6UZ (GB)

(54) **Grinding method and apparatus.**

(57) A grinding method is provided which is capable of uniformly and precisely grinding objects in a short time, softening shocks produced when the rotation of a grinding barrel is changed between the forward direction and the backward direction to thereby eliminate bruises of the surface of grounded objects, coping with grinding for a large number of objects to be ground in a small quantity or a heavy-weight or a large-size object to be ground, and preventing contacts and collisions between objects to be ground. The grinding method comprises the steps of rotatably mounting not less than one grinding barrel (8) at locations away from the central axis (3) of a rotary drum (2), enclosing a grinding material and objects to be ground in the grinding barrels (8), rotating the grinding barrels (8) in the directions identical to and opposite to the direction in which the rotary drum (2) is rotated, and grinding the objects to be ground. A grinding apparatus for implementing the above-mentioned method is also provided.

FIG 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 91305712.1
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	DE - A - 1 966 474 (OHNO) * Fig. 1,2,3,4; page 2, lines 1-3; page 9, line 9 *	1,2,3, 4,5,6, 7,10, 18 11	B 24 B 31/033
A	--		
X	DE - A - 3 711 944 (TAKADA) * Fig. 2,4,5,8 *	1,2,3, 4,5,6, 7 11,13, 14	
A	--		
X	DE - A - 3 828 756 (BAREIS) * Fig. 3; column 2, lines 26,37-50 *	1,2,5, 6,7, 10,11, 13	
A	DE - A - 3 514 175 (TIPTON) * Fig. 10; page 26, line 35 *		
A	DE - A - 2 113 495 (HANS KÜBLER) * Fig. 1,2,4; page 3, lines 8-9; page 4, line 15 *	1,2,5, 6,7,8, 10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) B 24 B F 16 H F 26 B
A	DE - A - 1 816 133 (KABUSHIKI) * Fig. 2,3,4; page 12, lines 20-23; claim 3 *	1,2,5, 7,10, 18	
A	GB - A - 2 177 955 (HARPER) * Fig. 3,4; claim 1 *	1,2,5, 6,7	
A	CH - A - 294 446 (BASEK) * Page 1, line 5 *	1,2	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
VIENNA		06-12-1991	GLAUNACH
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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