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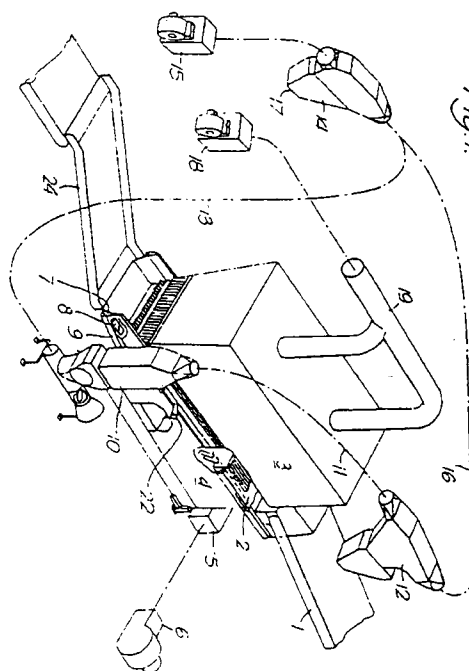
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54 **Method and apparatus for separation of heavy and light particles from particulate material.**

57 Apparatus for the separation of heavy and light particles from particulate material which includes means for fluidising and agitating the material to cause heavy particles to sink from the acceptable material and comprising a deck adapted to receive material at a reception end and means for vibrating said deck to cause the material to move longitudinally along it to a discharge end, said deck having a number of longitudinally extending troughs separated by peaks and providing an upwardly directed air flow in the troughs characterised by control means for causing the velocity of the upwardly directed fluidising air in each trough to initially increase to a point below the peaks and to then continue upwards at a reducing velocity.





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 31 1670

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)
D,A	EP-A-0 361 815 (ROTHMANS INT. TOBACCO (UK) LTD.) * the whole document * ---	1,6,12, 13,18,19	B03B4/00 B07B4/08 A24B1/04
A	WO-A-9 000 445 (GBE INT. PLC.) * page 1, line 1 - line 5 * * page 8, line 5 - page 12, line 21 * * page 13, line 16 - line 19; figures * ---	1,2,4,6, 12,13, 17-20	
A	US-A-3 655 043 (WOCHNOWSKI ET AL) * column 1, line 4 - line 10 * * column 3, line 5 - line 28 * * column 3, line 71 - column 4, line 41 * * column 5, line 21 - line 72; figures * -----	1,3,4, 6-8,12, 13,18,20	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B03B B07B A24B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 04 DECEMBER 1992	Examiner VAN DER ZEE W.T.
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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