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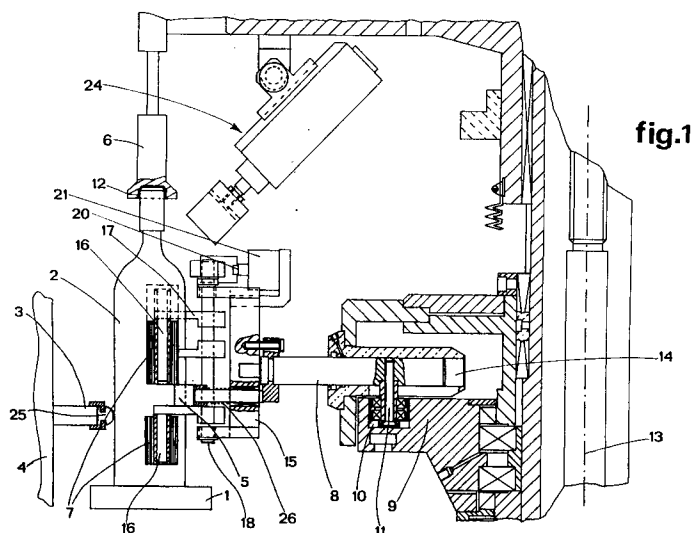
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07.01.93 Bulletin 93/01(71) Applicant: **ALFA COSTRUZIONE MECCANICHE
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BUGNION S.p.A. Via Emilia Est, 25
I-41100 Modena(IT)(54) **A device in labelling machinery for aligning glass containers and pressing labels onto containers thus aligned.**

(57) Designed for integration into a conventional glass bottle labeller, the device serves to position a speciality type bottle (2) (square, rectangular, triangular or oval in section) in readiness for application of a label, then to press and smooth the label onto the correctly aligned bottle; the initial alignment is brought about by means of a fixed guide rail (3) operating in conjunction with a movable locator (5)

mounted to a plate (15) and reciprocated by a cam-driven plunger (8), whereupon the label is flattened thoroughly over the glass by an assembly of pivoting rollers (7) carried by the same mounting plate (15). Simple and effective in design and operation, the device leads ultimately to a more compact machine and to better quality labelling.

**EP 0 497 081 A3**



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 83 0467

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	FR-A-2 507 566 (JAGENBERG WERKE) * page 6, line 21 - line 36; page 7, line 32 - page 8, line 36; figures 1-5 *	1,3-5	B 65 C 9/06 B 65 C 9/14 B 65 C 9/32
X	US-A-1 849 548 (OSLUND) * page 5, line 106 - page 6, line 34; figures 33-35 *	2,6,8	
X	FR-A-2 475 494 (BOEUF) * page 4, line 13 - page 5, line 7; figures 1-3 *	2,6	
A	US-A-3 126 309 (MANAS ET AL.) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 65 C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 08-09-1992	Examiner DEUTSCH J.P.M.
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	



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet -B-

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1,3-5,7: A device for aligning containers and pressing labels onto said containers characterized by the alignment means.
2. Claims 2,6,8: A device for aligning containers and pressing labels onto said containers characterized by the pressing means.

1. Document FR-A-2 507 566 describes a device for aligning containers and pressing labels onto containers thus aligned as described in the preamble of independent claims 1 and 2.
2. There are no special technical features defining a contribution the invention of claim 1 makes over the prior art as even its characterizing features are already known from the above mentioned prior art.
3. The special technical features defining the contribution the invention of claim 2 makes over the prior art consist in a plurality of rollers designed to flatten a label over the container following its contour.
4. Since there are no same or corresponding special technical features defining a contribution the inventions of claims 1 and 2 make to the prior art, there is no technical relation between the two inventions. Furthermore, since all the features of the subject matter of claim 1 are known from the previously mentioned prior art document, there cannot be, per definition, a single inventive concept between the subject matters of claims 1 and 2.

Therefore, the application lacks unity of invention.