



EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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Adjustable packaging machine.

A packaging machine comprising a container conveyor 12 mounted on a bed 11, and a group of devices mounted on the bed 11 and successively arranged along the path of transport of the conveyor, the group of devices including at least a filling device 15 and a sealing device 17. The bed 11 comprises a pair of side frames 24 extending in parallel to the direction of transport of the conveyor, and a plurality of holders 31-37 connected between the frames 24 and corresponding in number to the number of the devices, the holders respectively having the devices attached thereto. At least one of the holders, 34, is movable longitudinally of the side frames 24, and is releasably fixed at a desired position along the length of the side frames 24 by fixing means.

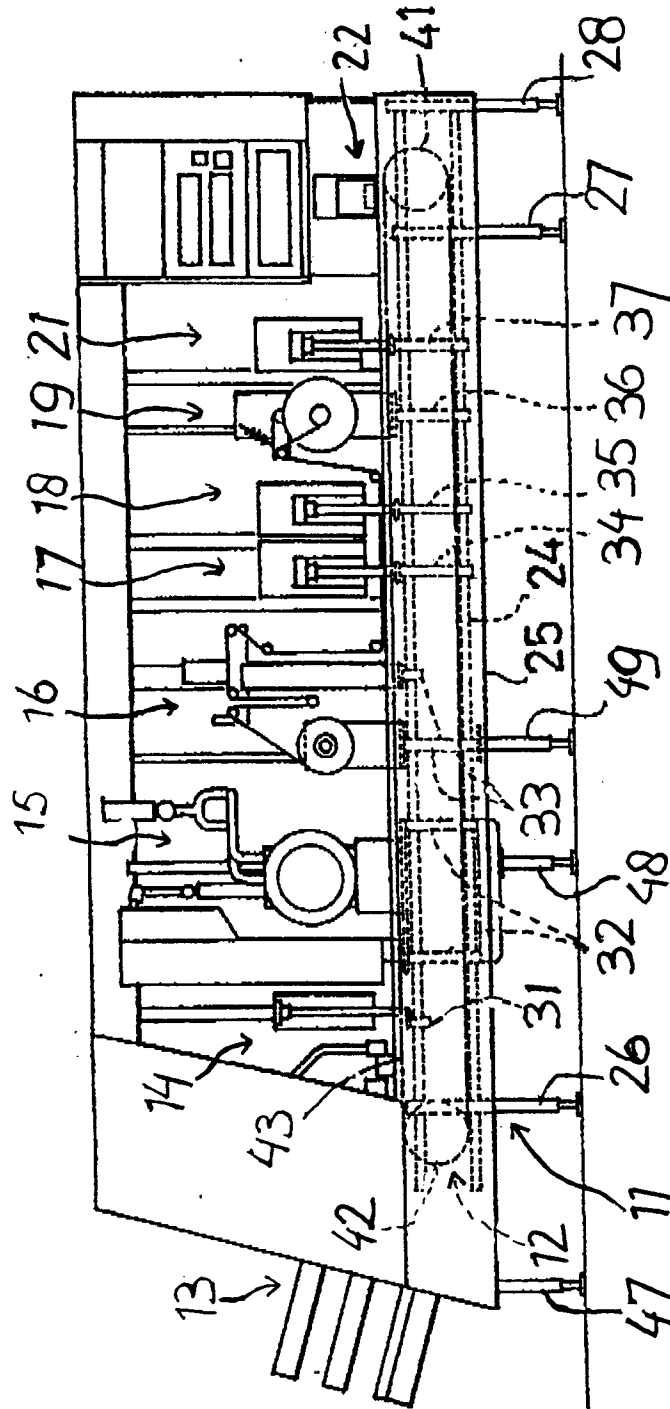


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 93 20 2117

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-1 330 730 (OLLIER) * page 2, column 2, paragraph 6; figures 1,2 *	1	B65B59/00 F16M5/00
A	----	2	
A	FR-A-1 414 231 (HASSIA) * the whole document *	1	
A	----		
A	DE-U-91 12 617 (NATEC) * page 6, line 13 - line 27; figure 1 *	3	
A	FR-A-2 496 226 (ALSTHOM) ----		
A	DE-A-24 58 287 (MUNZ) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			B65B B23Q F16M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 January 1994	Examiner CLAEYS, H
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:



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION A POSTERIORI

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. Claim 2: A packaging machine with devices which are longitudinally adjustable through guide rails and cooperating fixing means
2. Claims 3-5: A packaging machine with longitudinally adjustable support legs

Because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel (see FR 1 330 730), the dependent claims 2 and 3 become independent.

This results in the fact that the aforementioned groups of claims have no technical features in common which could form a contribution over the above prior art (lack of unity a posteriori).

The search has been directed to claims 1 and 2.