



(11) Publication number : **0 620 089 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(21) Application number : **94200624.8**

(51) Int. Cl.⁵ : **B28B 3/02, B28B 3/00**

(22) Date of filing : **11.03.94**

(30) Priority : **17.03.93 IT MO930028**
21.05.93 IT MO930068
29.09.93 IT MO930123
15.12.93 IT MO930159

(43) Date of publication of application :
19.10.94 Bulletin 94/42

(84) Designated Contracting States :
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :
15.03.95 Bulletin 95/11

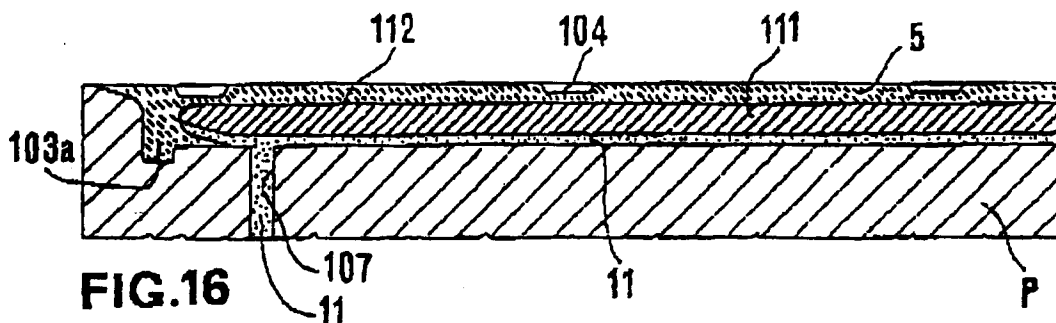
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(54) **Isostatic die, particularly for ceramic tiles and relative method.**

(57) The isostatic die for pressing items, in particular ceramic tiles, makes for greater uniformity of pressing by compensating for differences of density occurring when loading the matrix with the powders to be pressed ; said die consists of an elastic membrane (5), delimiting externally a cavity in the punch or in the matrix, the membrane being connected to elements (1 ; 3 ; 18 ; 103a ; 111 ; 128 ; 129 ; 208 ; 316) for controlling deformation, among which is a plate (18 ; 111) attached in a predetermined way to the membrane (5) and/or to the cavity of the matrix and/or of the punch ; its use is foreseen in establishments for the manufacture of ceramic items.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 20 0624

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)
A	US-A-4 937 025 (R. D. FOSTER) * the whole document * ---	1,2,22, 25,27,28	B28B3/02 B28B3/00
A	US-A-4 370 120 (R. D. FOSTER) * the whole document * ---	1,2,22, 27	
A	GB-A-1 160 590 (YUKEN INDUSTRY CO. , LTD.) * page 3, line 27 - page 3, line 51; figure 5 * ---	1	
A,P	EP-A-0 570 038 (MASS S.P.A.) * the whole document * ---		
A,P	EP-A-0 556 163 (SICHENIA GRUPPO CERAMICHE S.P.A.) * the whole document * ---		
A	EP-A-0 400 704 (MASS S.P.A.) * the whole document * -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			B28B B30B B29C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 July 1994	Examiner GOURIER, P
<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 I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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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 annex

- ☐ 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:

1-43



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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 1-43: Isostatic die with an elastic membrane and controlling means for controlling the deformation of the elastic membrane
2. Claims 44-47: Method for moulding ceramic items by means of a die comprising an elastic membrane by controlling the evacuation of an incompressible fluid during the pressing cycle