



(19)

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(11)

EP 0 665 122 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
04.09.1996 Bulletin 1996/36

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: **B42C 19/02**, B42C 1/12,
G03G 15/00

(43) Date of publication A2:
02.08.1995 Bulletin 1995/31

(21) Application number: **95103678.9**

(22) Date of filing: **08.11.1990**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE GB

(30) Priority: **09.11.1989 JP 290107/89**
09.11.1989 JP 290108/89

(62) Application number of the earlier application in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC: **90121430.4**

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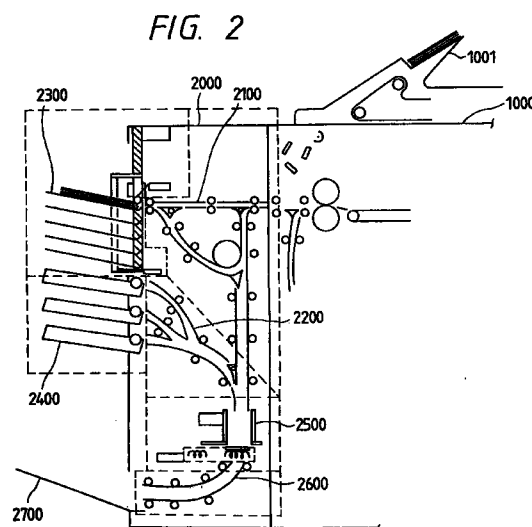
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(54) Image forming apparatus with book binding mechanism

(57) An image forming apparatus (1000) has a book binding mechanism (2000) for performing a book bind operation using front sheets of a plurality of sizes which can bind a bundle of sheet members recorded by said image forming apparatus (1000), and have limitations on the numbers of recorded sheet members to be bound. The image forming apparatus (1000) further has output means for outputting sheet number data according to a bundle of sheet members; judge means for judging whether or not the sheet number data output from said output means is larger than a range of the limitation; detect means for, when the judged result from said judge means is affirmative, dividing the sheet number data, and detecting a divided sheet number value which falls within the range of the limitation; and control means for controlling to perform a book bind operation in units of the sheet numbers detected by said detect means.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 10 3678

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.6)
A	US-A-4 828 645 (VAN BORTEL) 9 May 1989 * the whole document * -----	1	B42C19/02 B42C1/12 G03G15/00
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B42C G03G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 10 July 1996	Examiner Evans, A
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)