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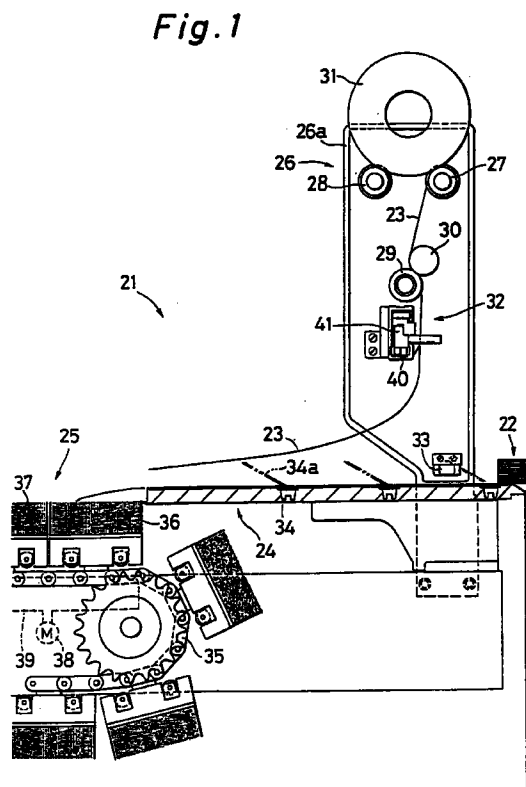
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(54) **Apparatus and method for feeding fabric covering sheet into cutting machine**

(57) A feeding apparatus (26) for automatically feeding an air-impermeable fabric covering sheet at the time of feeding a fabric into an automatic cutting machine (21) is provided above an air table (24) at the upstream side of a cutting table (25) of the cutting machine (21). On the air table (24), air is blown out from an air nozzle (34) to the cutting table (25) side. The cutting table (25) is capable of conveying a laminated sheet (22) of fabric to be put on a conveyor (35). A cutting support plane (37) of the surface of the conveyor (35) is formed of a front end of a bristle brush (36). The bristle brush (36) is air-permeable, and communicates with a suction chamber (39) inside the cutting table (25), and is sucked in vacuum. When the fabric laminated sheet (22) is delivered on the cutting support plane, it is detected by a fabric sensor (33), and a delivery roller (29) is driven to rotate, and fabric covering sheet (23) is let-out from a fabric covering sheet roll (31). When delivery of the fabric is completed, the fabric covering sheet (23) can be cut off by a cutting device (32).



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 10 1074

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)
X	EP-A-0 578 903 (B.K.R. ITALIA S.R.L.) 19 January 1994 * claims 13,14; figure 1 * * column 1, line 35 - line 57 * * column 6, line 20 - line 30 * * column 6, line 47 - column 7, line 6 * * column 8, line 13 - line 18 *	1,3,6,8,9	A41H43/00 B65H35/00 //B65H23/24
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A		7	
Y	US-A-3 949 918 (J.J. GOLDNER ET AL) 13 April 1976 * figure 1 * * column 1, line 50 - column 2, line 27 *	2,4	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 2 August 1996	Examiner Häusler, F.U.
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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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 2 August 1996	Examiner Häusler, F.U.
<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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