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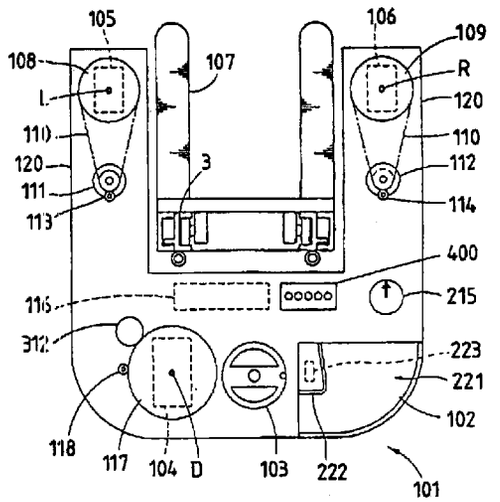
(54) Reach forklift

(57) A reach forklift comprises: a forklift body; left and right straddle arms; a pair of load wheels supported in a steerable manner in the vicinity of front ends of the left and right straddle arms, respectively; driving means for steering the load wheels, the load wheels and the driving means being housed in the straddle arms; a drive wheel disposed in a rear portion of the forklift body; and a steering wheel for steering the drive wheel; steering angle detecting means for detecting steering angles of the left and right load wheels and the drive wheel; a control device (116) for, in a first mode, determining a steering angle (θ_L,θ_R) of one of said load wheels (105,106) by multiplying a steering angle (θ_D) of said drive wheel (104) by a predetermined steering angle gain (G_L,G_R), for calculating a turning centre from a geometric relationship between said drive wheel (104) and said one load wheel, and for controlling the steering so that an extension line (H_R,H_L) of the rotation axis of the other load wheel passes through said turning centre.

FIG. 12



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 11 9390

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-5 014 802 (KNOLL JEFFREY G ET AL) 14 May 1991 * abstract; figures * ---	1,3,4	B66F9/075
A	EP-A-0 512 591 (GEN MOTORS CORP) 11 November 1992 * abstract; figures * ---	1,3,4	
A	DE-A-39 11 453 (MAZDA MOTOR) 26 October 1989 * abstract; figures * ---	1,3,4	
A	DE-A-39 42 494 (FUJI HEAVY IND LTD) 5 July 1990 * abstract; figures * ---	1,3,4	
A	GB-A-2 232 941 (FUJI HEAVY IND LTD) 2 January 1991 * abstract; figures * ---	1,3,4	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 16 no. 135 (M-1230) ,6 April 1992 & JP-A-03 295768 (NIPPON YUSOKI CO LTD) 26 December 1991, * abstract; figures * -----	6	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5) B66F B62D

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	16 February 1996	Guthmuller, J

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

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