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(54) **Signature conveyor system with automatic phase adjustment**

(57) A signature conveyor system with automatic phase adjustment capability includes a conveyor for conveying a plurality of sheets in a conveyance direction wherein the conveyor is subdivided into a plurality of conveyor spaces and a motor (18) for causing the conveyor to move at a speed in the conveyance direction. Packer boxes (34) are spaced along the conveyor and

each packer box periodically releases one of the sheets above the conveyor at a release time as the conveyor moves past the packer box. A phase changer (26) is operatively coupled between the conveyor and the packer boxes and adjusts the release time based upon the speed of the conveyor.

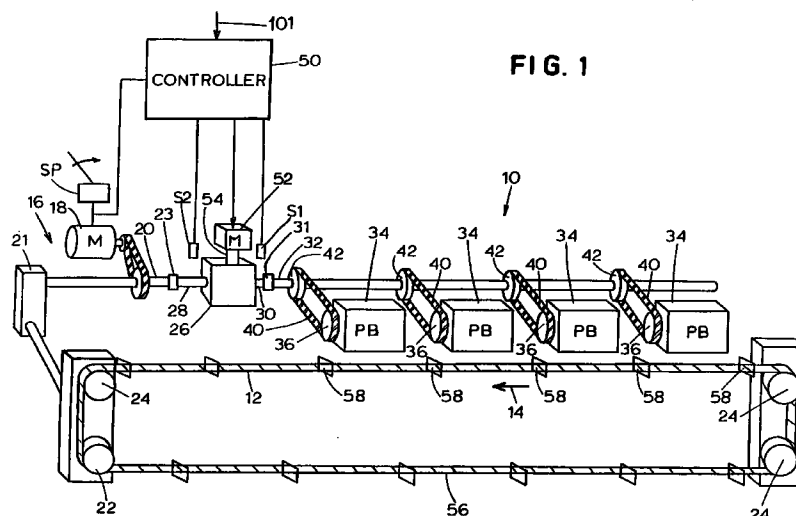


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 1071

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	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 17, no. 59 (M-1363), 5 February 1993 & JP-A-04 269594 (DAINIPPON PRINTING), 25 September 1992, * abstract *	1-19	B65H39/043
X	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 11, no. 74 (M-568) [2521] , 6 March 1987 & JP-A-61 229771 (HITACHI), 14 October 1986, * abstract *	1,3,10,12	
X A	--- US-A-3 825 247 (FERNANDEZ-RANA ET AL.) * column 5, line 1 - column 9, line 67; figures *	1,2 3,10,11	
A,D	--- US-A-4 869 484 (HASTIE) * figures * -----	1,10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B65H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN		14 August 1996	Fuchs, 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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