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(54) **Variable-delivery pump**

(57) A variable-delivery pump (1) has a first compression stage (18) and at least one second compression stage (23) with respective inlet passages (21) (28) communicating with an inlet (6) of the pump (1), in use, and respective exhaust openings (22) (29) for communicating with a delivery outlet (7) of the pump (1) itself; the pump (1) further being provided with a valved selector unit (30) interposed between the inlet passages (21) (28) and the exhaust passages (22) (29) which can be actuated to connect the passages (21) (22) (28) (29) together and to select different operative conditions for the stages (18) (23) according to the pressure of the fluid directed to the delivery outlet (7).

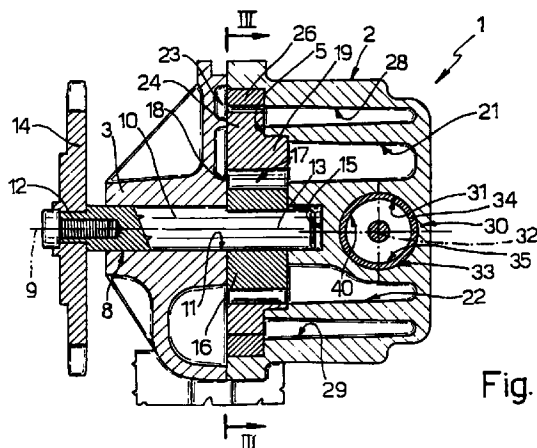


Fig. 2

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 96 10 8447

| 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | DE 38 37 599 A (DAIMLER-BENZ)                                                 | 1-4,6-11                         | F04C15/04                                    |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | * page 6 - page 9 *                                                           |                                  |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | * page 10, paragraph 1 *                                                      |                                  |                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | * page 12 - page 16, paragraph 1; figures 1-4 *                               |                                  |                                              |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                               |                                  | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                               |                                  | F04C                                         |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                               |                                  |                                              |
| Place of search                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                               | Date of completion of the search | Examiner                                     |
| THE HAGUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                               | 8 April 1997                     | Kapoulas, T                                  |
| <p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/> Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/> A : technological background<br/> O : non-written disclosure<br/> P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/> E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/> D : document cited in the application<br/> L : document cited for other reasons<br/> .....<br/> &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |                                                                               |                                  |                                              |

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