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(54) **Method and apparatus for treating synthetic playing surfaces having particulate material spread on it**

(57) A device for treating synthetic playing surfaces having particulate material spread on it, is provided with a frame, which frame is movable in a direction of propulsion. An air block connected to the frame substantially transverse to the direction of propulsion, has an inlet for compressed air and downwardly directed air exhaust means (2;12) longitudinally spaced along the length of the air block, the air exhaust means being adapted to be displaced as to their operation in longitu-

dinal direction of the air block and therefore transverse to the direction of propulsion with the aid of operating means (3,4;13,14,17;24,30,31). The air block is substantially stationary and the operating means (3,4;13,14;24,30,31) are equipped with passage means (4;14,17;24,31) for alternatively, in transverse direction, opening and closing of different parts of the air exhaust means (2;12) transverse to the direction of propulsion. The invention also includes a method of treating synthetic playing surfaces.

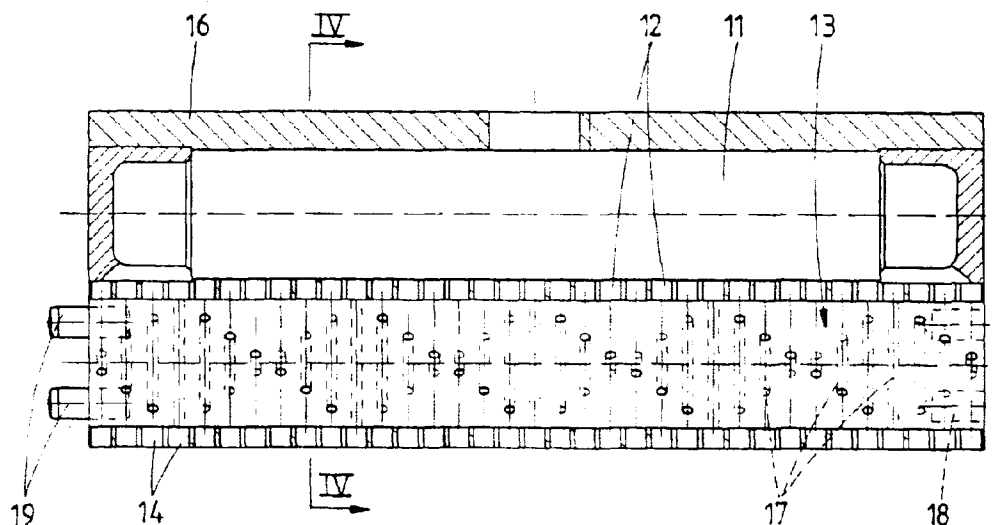


fig. 3

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 20 1927

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 A	AT 387 139 B (BRANIMIR) * the whole document *	1-4,8,9 5	E01H1/08
A	US 4 594 749 A (WATERMAN DALE G) * the whole document *	1-5,8,9	
A	WO 92 20272 A (AIR FORCE LTD) * abstract; figures 1,2 *	1,8	
A	US 4 207 650 A (CRISE W PAUL) * the whole document *	1,8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			E01H A47L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 March 1998	Examiner Dijkstra, G
<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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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