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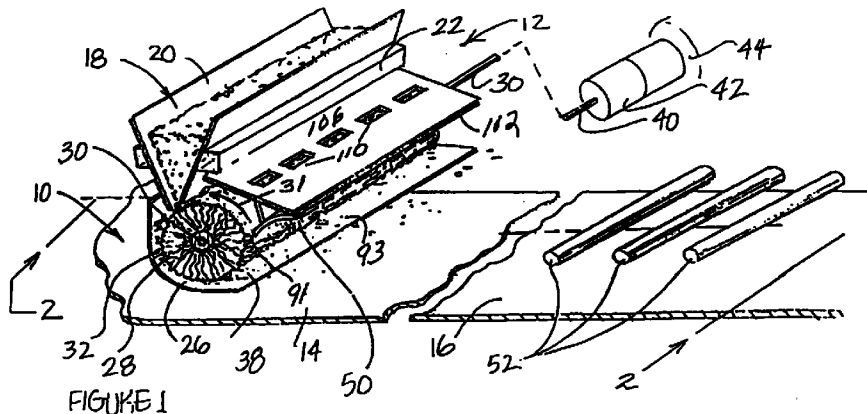
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(54) Powder atomizer

(57) An improved powder atomizer (10) comprising a cylindrical pan (26), a cylindrical resiliently deformable element (28), which is journaled for rotation about an axis (30) within the pan. The pan is mounted (26) coaxially of the element (28). The element (28) and pan (26) define a cylindrically shaped venturi (32) therebetween into which powder is fed. The venturi (32) has an inlet (34) and outlet (38) radially spaced apart. Means is provided for rotating the element (28) within the pan (26) at speeds in excess of that required to throw the powder from the element (28) by centrifugal force. The element (28) draws ambient air through the venturi (32) and atomizes and deagglomerates powder fed into the ven-

turi inlet (34) thereby forming a uniformly flowing cloud of particulate material which is uniform both longitudinally and laterally of said axis. The invention also provides an atomizer feeder (18) and an atomizer feeder combination deagglomerator combination with a feeder such as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,314,090 which is particularly useful in wide web coating applications to produce a particulate cloud which is uniform both laterally and longitudinally of the web and uniform in both particulate distribution and particulate size throughout the uniformly flowing cloud.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 11 1148

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)
D,A	US 5 314 090 A (ALEXANDER GEORGE R) * the whole document * ---	1,2,31	B05B7/14 B05B3/02 B05B5/047
A	US 3 299 853 A (WHITACRE) * column 3, line 14 - line 32 * ---	1,2,31	B05B5/04 B05B5/057
A	CH 180 010 A (SEIGNE ET ATELIERS H. CUNEOD) * the whole document * -----	1,2,31	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B05B B05C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 23 February 1998	Examiner Juguet, J
<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</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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