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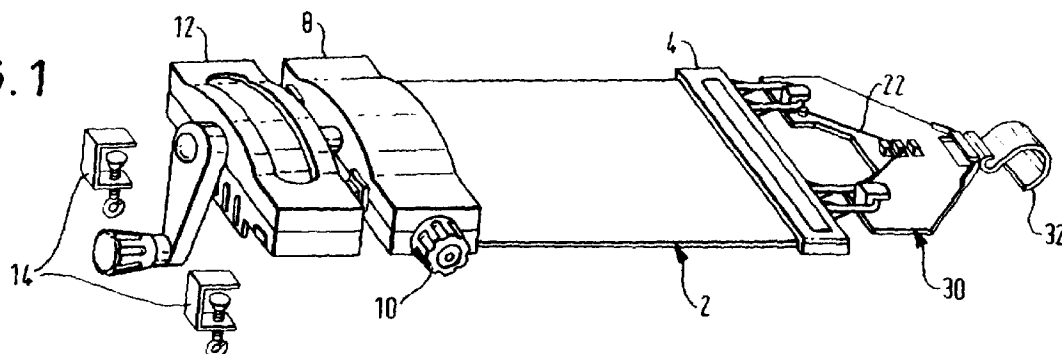
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(54) Improvements in or relating to apparatus for playing a game

(57) A track (2) extends between a winding mechanism (8, 12, 40) and resilient tensioning means (4, 22). Rotation of a handle (40) causes a track end housing carrying one end of the track (2) to be moved against the force of an elastic cord (22) of the resilient tensioning means. Further rotation of the handle (40) releases the track end housing (8) and allows the resilience of the cord (22) to return the track towards its initial position. The coefficient of friction of the track (2) is sufficiently high that model horses carried thereon generally move with the track. Thus, during the movement of the track

(2), the horses move first towards the winding mechanism (8, 12) and then back towards the resilient tensioning means (4, 22). However, the first movement towards the winding mechanism is much slower than the return, and the return movement is abruptly stopped. When the return movement ceases the horses continue to move, and therefore move relative to the track towards the resilient tensioning means. Thus, the horses are caused to move along the track (2). The movement of individual horses is at differing speeds so that the apparatus enables a horse racing game to be simulated.

FIG. 1**EP 0 821 985 A3**



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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	GB 659 875 A (THE CHAD VALLEY COMPANY) * the whole document * ---	1-13	A63F9/14
X	GB 302 220 A (GUEYDAN) * the whole document * -----	1-7, 11-13	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			A63F A63H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 March 1998	Examiner Raybould, B
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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