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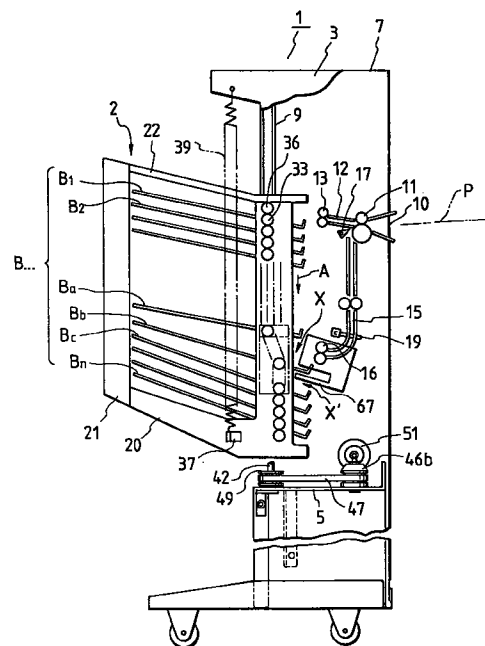
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(54) Sheet sorter

(57) The present invention provides a sheet sorting apparatus comprising plural bins trays; bin tray moving means for moving said bin trays stepwise to cause each of the bin trays to face a sheet receiving position; and control means for controlling the operating speed of said bin tray moving means according to sheet transporting information of an image forming apparatus to be connected to said sorting apparatus, in such a manner that said bin tray moving means can be operated in continuous manner even during the discharge of a sheet into a bin tray.

FIG. 4





European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 97114485.2
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 6)
X	<p><u>US 4854571 A</u> (CANON) 08 August 1989 (08.08.89), column 5, line 54 - column 6, line 37, fig. 7,8,12,14. --</p>	1	B 65 H 39/11 B 65 H 31/24
A	<p><u>EP 0301595 A</u> (CANON) 01 February 1989 (01.02.89), the whole document. --</p>	1	
A	<p><u>US 4512565 A</u> (MATSUMOTO) 23 April 1985 (23.04.85), fig. 7a,7b,21c,21d,14. --</p>	1	
A	<p><u>US 4214746 A</u> (XEROX CORP.) 29 July 1980 (29.07.80), fig. 4. ----</p>	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 6)
			B 65 H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
VIENNA	21-11-1997	LOSENICKY	
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 I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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