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(54) Loose leaf binding

(57) An insert 2 for a loose leaf binder has a hole pattern 4 of circular and elongate holes, which is asymmetrical about a centre line L of the pattern 4. The pattern fits a wide variety of ring binder configurations.

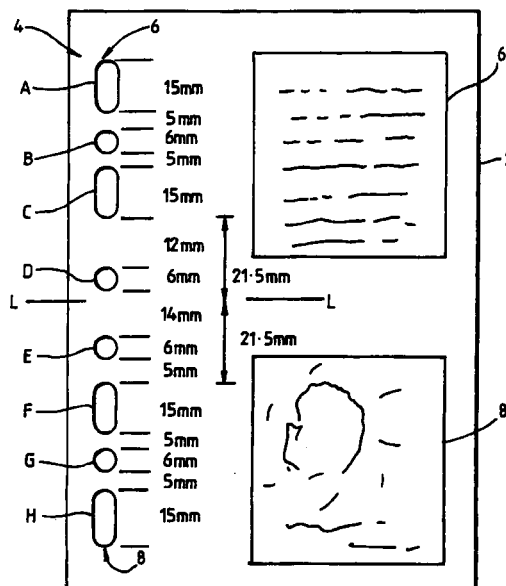


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 7834

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	CH 145 167 A (HARTMANN&MITTLER)	1,18	B42F5/00
Y	* the whole document *	2-13	B42F3/00

X	DE 39 40 086 A (LIANG KUAN) 6 June 1991	14,15, 17,18	
Y	* the whole document *	2-13	

X	FR 2 156 429 A (MAURICE) 1 June 1973	14,15, 17,18	
	* the whole document *		

X	DE 21 65 829 A (MEYER) 12 July 1973	14,15, 17,18	
	* the whole document *		

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B42F
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		20 July 1998	EVANS, A
<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>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04C01)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-15, 17, 18



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-15,17,18

An insert for a ring binder having a plurality of holes to fit different types of ring binders.

2. Claim : 16

A loose leaf insert for a loose leaf binder, having a first area containing information for use by the recipient, and a second area containing promotional or advertising material.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 97 30 7834

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

20-07-1998

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
CH 145167	A	NONE	
DE 3940086	A	06-06-1991	NONE
FR 2156429	A	01-06-1973	NONE
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