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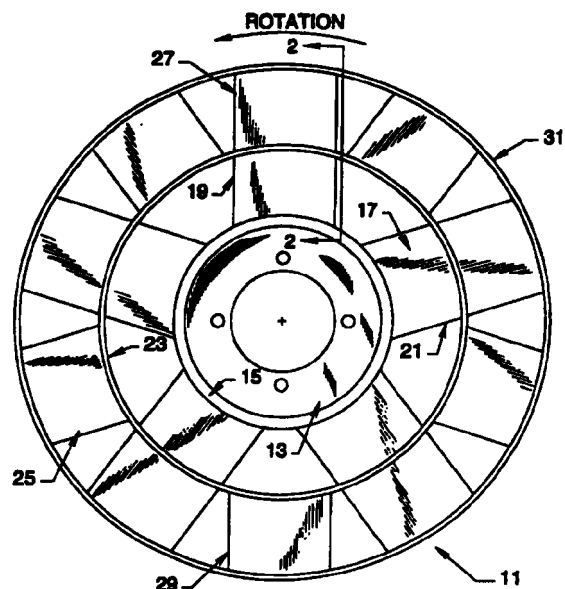
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(54) **Fan assembly having increased fan blade area**

(57) A fan assembly (11) is adapted to be driven by an input drive (V), and comprises an annular hub (15) fixed to rotate with the input drive, the fan assembly further comprising a plurality of fan blades. The plurality of fan blades includes a plurality of inner fan blades (17) fixed relative to the annular hub (15) and extending radially outward therefrom, and an annular ring member (23) disposed about the plurality of inner fan blades (17) and fixed to the radially outer extent thereof. A plurality of outer fan blades (25) is fixed relative to the annular ring member (23) and extends radially outward. There is a greater number of outer fan blades (25) than inner fan blades (17), thus increasing the air flow capability of the fan, as well as the efficiency thereof.



**FIG. 1**

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Application Number  
EP 97 11 9447

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>4 January 1999</b>	Examiner <b>Ingelbrecht, P</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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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Application Number  
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<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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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