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(54) **Improvement in the surface finishing method for aesthetical component parts of transportation means**

(57) Improved method for applying coatings, generally known as "metallized" surface finishes, on to component parts adapted to be used as decorative or aesthetical parts on outer surfaces of transportation means, such as radiator grilles for motor cars. A prior-art process calls for, after the application of corrosion-inhibiting metal layers, the application, again by a galvanic process, of a metal layer adapted to impart the desired combination of colour and brightness, such as

for instance a so-called "gun barrel" finish. The present invention provides for the addition of a galvanic chromium-plating phase followed by a phase in which the part is held at a temperature not in excess of 30°C for at least 24 hours, and then by a further phase in which the same chromium layer is removed and the more external layer of corrosion-inhibiting metal is activated in a traditional manner.

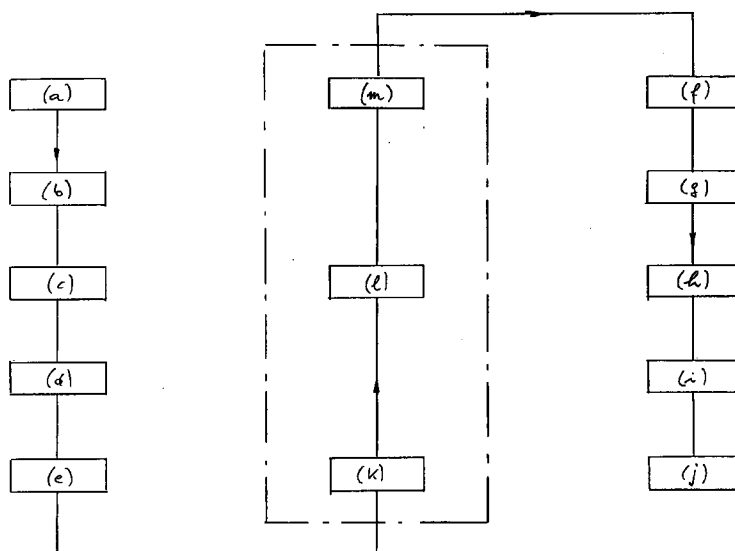


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 11 9529

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)
A	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 7933 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class M11, AN 79-60411B XP002068651 & JP 54 083 638 A (KAWASAKI HEAVY IND LTD) * abstract * ----		C25D5/56 C25D5/12 C25D5/48
A	US 4 429 020 A (LUCH DANIEL) 31 January 1984 -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) C25D C23F
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 19 June 1998	Examiner Van Leeuwen, R
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 F : 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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