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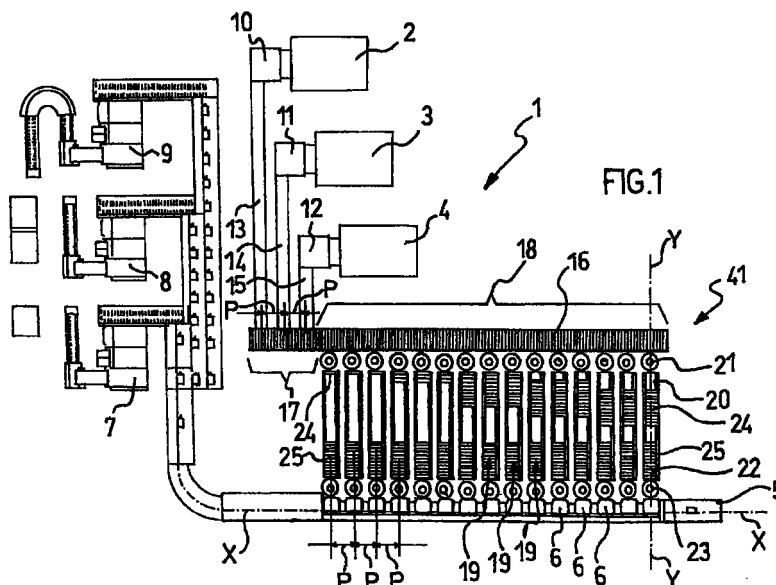
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(54) **Apparatus for feeding a signature collator**

(57) An apparatus (41, 62) for feeding sets of signatures, supplied by signature stacking machines (10, 11, 12), to a signature collator (5) having a predetermined large number of compartments (6), in such a way that automatic book production can be achieved, comprises, for each compartment (6) of the collator (5), two trains of boxes (24, 25) movable along a forward travel line (26), the boxes (31, 32) of each train of boxes (24, 25) being capable of being positioned initially at a first end of the

forward travel line (26), in synchronization with a first manipulator (21), to receive sets of signatures, and being capable of being positioned subsequently at a second end of the forward travel line (26), in synchronization with a second manipulator (23), to transfer the sets of signatures to the compartment (6) of the collator (5).



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 20 2681

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)
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			B65H B42C
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>19 August 1999</b>	Examiner <b>Henningsen, O</b>
<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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