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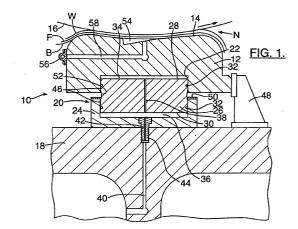
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### (54) Shoe press

A shoe press for applying pressure to a moving web (W) of paper or the like includes a press shoe extending along a full width of the web being carried through a nip (N) defined between the shoe and a backing member (16), a support (18) for the shoe, and a plurality of articulated hydraulic loading cylinders (20) arranged between the support and the shoe for urging the shoe toward the backing member (16) to apply pressure to the web. Each loading cylinder (20) includes a single piston (26) and first and second cylinders (22, 24) attached to the shoe and to the support, respectively. The opposite end portions of the piston are slidably received within the cylinders so as to define working chambers (34) in the cylinders which are pressurizable by hydraulic fluid for urging the two cylinders away from each other. The piston (26) engages the cylinders (22, 24) at seals (32) which enable the piston to pivot with respect to both cylinders about axes parallel to and perpendicular to the machine direction so as to enable the loading cylinders to accommodate deformations and thermal expansion of ,the shoe in the cross-machine direction and to allow the shoe to pivot about an axis perpendicular to the machine direction.





# **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number
EP 99 85 0014.4
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