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(54) **Removal device for stocking fixing machine**

(57) A removal device for machines for fixing stockings, which include a carousel (2) on which pairs of supports (3) are peripherally distributed, to support respective stockings. The removal device includes a guiding means (41) which is arranged vertically and peripherally with respect to the carousel (2), at a removal station (E) of a fixing machine. A carriage (53) can move with a reciprocating motion on the guiding means (41) under the actuation of a motor unit (47) which is controlled electronically by virtue of an encoder means (49). The carriage (43) supports a gripper assembly (50) provided with a clamp-type gripper means (51) which is suitable to grip the stockings fitted on the supports (3) in order to remove the stockings from the supports (3).

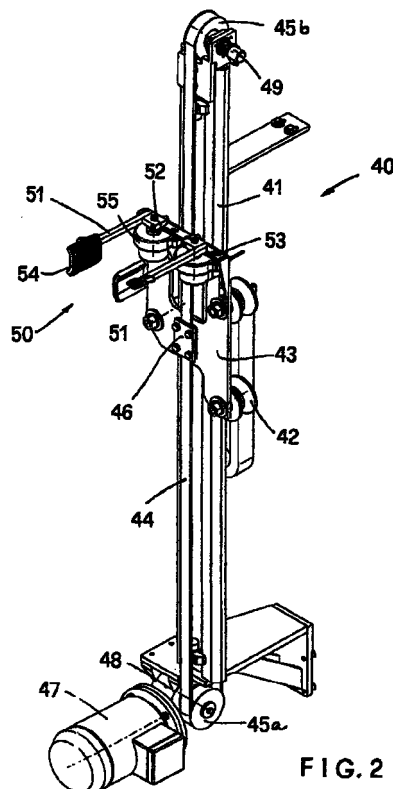


FIG. 2

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 10 4784

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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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A	EP 0 311 888 A (C.A. CORTESE) 19 April 1989 (1989-04-19) * column 5, line 34 - column 6, line 42; figures 3-7 * * column 7, line 32 - column 8, line 15 * -----	1,4,5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			D06C D06H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 14 April 2000	Examiner Goodall, C
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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

EP 99 10 4784

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14-04-2000

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