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(54) **Loading device for a ceramic press**

(57) A loading device (6) for a ceramic press (1) comprises a feeding means (10) capable of feeding at least two types of ceramic material in powder, granules or flakes into a containment means (18, 18a, 18b) containing said ceramic material which is able to move between a loading position in which it receives said ceramic material from said feeding means (10) and an unloading position in which it transfers said material to said press (1), and a transfer means (8) for transferring said containment means (18, 18a, 18b) to said unloading position, said containment means (18, 18a, 18b) being capable of rotating in a plane substantially perpendicular to said loading plane.

The loading method comprises introducing at least a first type and a second type of ceramic material by gravity into said containment means (18, 18a, 18b), placing it in at least a first layer and at least a second layer, one above the other, transferring said containment means (18) to a position for unloading the material into a press (1), and subjecting said containment means (18, 18a, 18b) to a rotation in a plane perpendicular to the press loading plane.

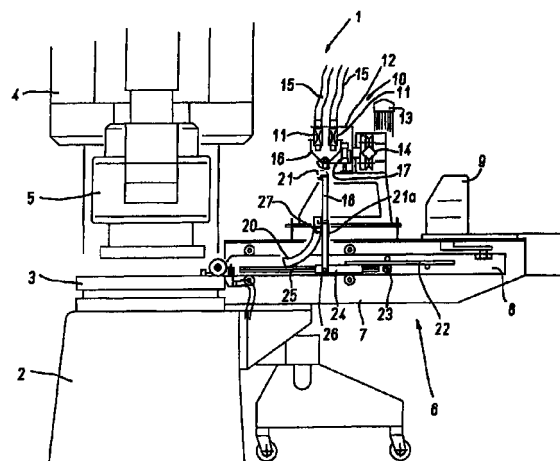


Fig. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 99 10 7573

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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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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 July 2000	Examiner Gourier, P
<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
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