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(54) **Separating adhered plys**

(57) A method of separating first and second flexible elongate plys (4,6) adhered together by adhesive force overcomable to allow the plys to be peeled apart comprising constraining the adhered plys (8) to follow a path leading to a turn at or adjacent to which turn the first ply (4) on the inside of the turn peels away from the second ply (6) on the outside thereby causing the plys to sepa-

rate.

A force may be applied to one of the first or second plys (4,6), which compels the ply to move along its path. The remaining ply is preferably allowed to fall away from the turn. The turn may be substantially 90°, or greater or less than this.

An apparatus to separate the first and second flexible elongate plys (4,6) is also provided.

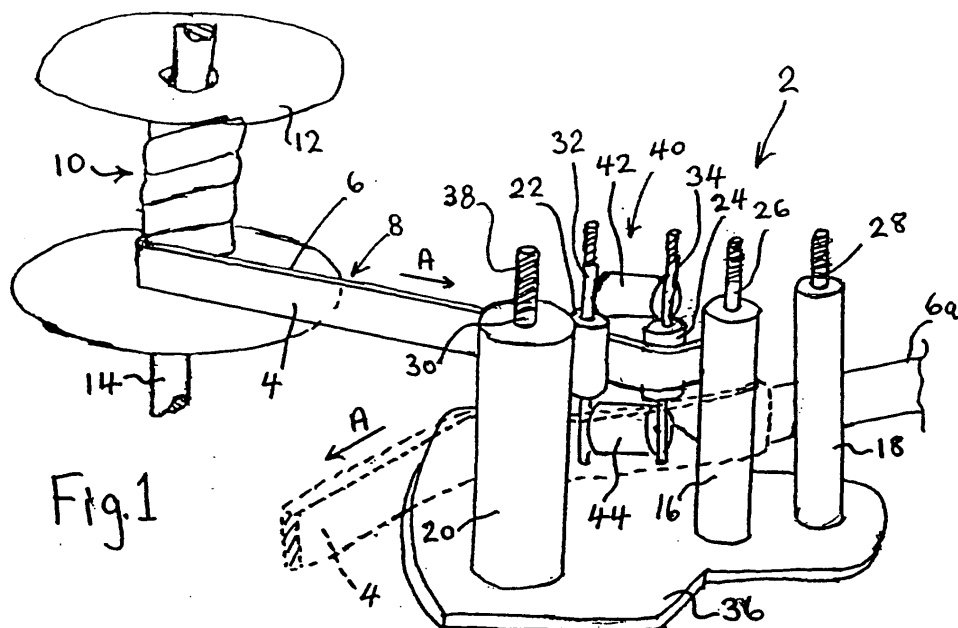


Fig. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 16 May 2000	Examiner David, P
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 P : 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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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