



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 030 125 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
02.05.2002 Bulletin 2002/18

(51) Int Cl. 7: **F24F 1/00, F24F 13/22**

(43) Date of publication A2:
23.08.2000 Bulletin 2000/34

(21) Application number: **00102174.0**

(22) Date of filing: **09.02.2000**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **19.02.1999 JP 4139999**

(71) Applicant: **Daikin Industries, Limited**
Osaka-shi, Osaka 530-0015 (JP)

(72) Inventors:

- Imanaka, Toshiyuki, c/o Shiga-seisakusho of Kusatsu-shi, Shiga 525-0044 (JP)
- Oda, Kenichi, c/o Shiga-seisakusho of Kusatsu-shi, Shiga 525-0044 (JP)
- Katsuyama, Hiroyoshi, c/o Shiga-seisakusho of Kusatsu-shi, Shiga 525-0044 (JP)

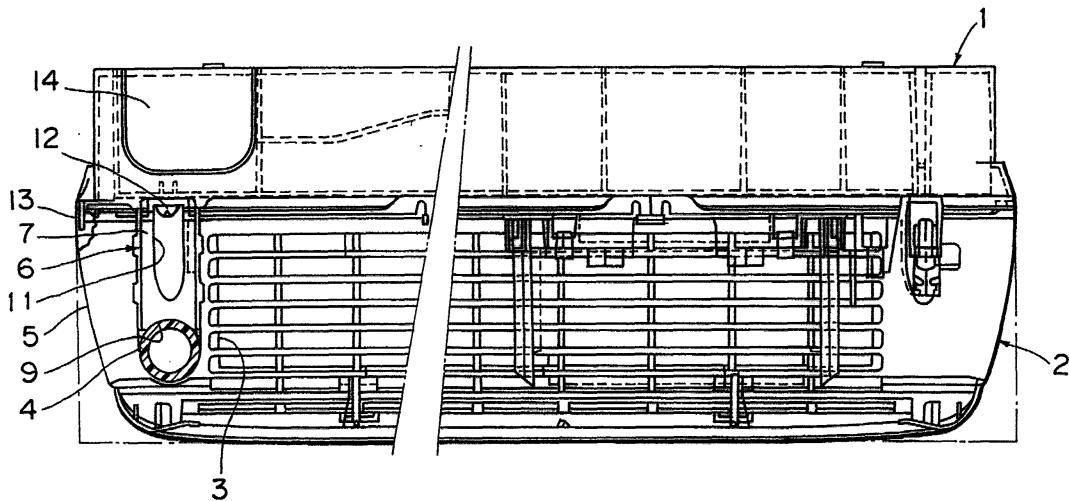
(74) Representative: **HOFFMANN - EITLE**
Patent- und Rechtsanwälte
Arabellastrasse 4
81925 München (DE)

(54) Front panel of air conditioner

(57) A front panel (2) has a suction opening (3) and is installed on a front surface of the body (1) of the air conditioner accommodating a fan and a heat exchanger. The front panel (2) has a front panel body (5) and a separable member (6) that can be cut off from the front panel body (5) to take out the drain hose (4) to the outside. The separable member 6 has a sealing portion (7) that extends from a portion thereof in contact with the body (1) and can be fixed to the body (1) with a screw (12)

and a hose-corresponding portion (8) forming a hole (9) into which the drain hose (4) is inserted when the hose-corresponding portion (8) is cut off from a front end of the sealing portion (7). Thus, indoor air is prevented from being sucked into the body (1) of the air conditioner from a drain hose (4) insertion portion and the front panel (2) is allowed to be removably installed on the body (1) of the air conditioner, with keeping the drain hose (4) connected with the body.

Fig. 1





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 07, 31 July 1996 (1996-07-31) & JP 08 075187 A (FUJITSU GENERAL LTD), 19 March 1996 (1996-03-19) * abstract * ---	1	F24F1/00 F24F13/22
A	US 4 410 033 A (WAWRO THADDEUS J ET AL) 18 October 1983 (1983-10-18) * column 4, line 3; figures * ---	1	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 09, 31 July 1998 (1998-07-31) & JP 10 103707 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 21 April 1998 (1998-04-21) * abstract * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			F24F
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
THE HAGUE	7 March 2002		Gonzalez-Granda, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

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

EP 00 10 2174

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

07-03-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 08075187	A	19-03-1996	NONE	
US 4410033	A	18-10-1983	NONE	
JP 10103707	A	21-04-1998	NONE	