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(54) **Web cutting apparatus and method**

(57) A web cutting apparatus comprises an up-stream web drive (18) for continuously feeding a web (16) to be cut into a web buffer (24). A downstream web drive (38) intermittently feeds the web (16) from the web buffer (24) to a cutting station (44). Measuring devices (36, 38) measure the length of the web (16) fed into and

from the web buffer (24), and the length (L_b) of web in the buffer is calculated therefrom. A control device (28) responsive to information received from this calculation controls operation of the downstream web drive (38) and of the cutting station (44). Accurate cutting of the web is thereby possible irrespective of any variations in the speed of the web arriving at the cutting apparatus.

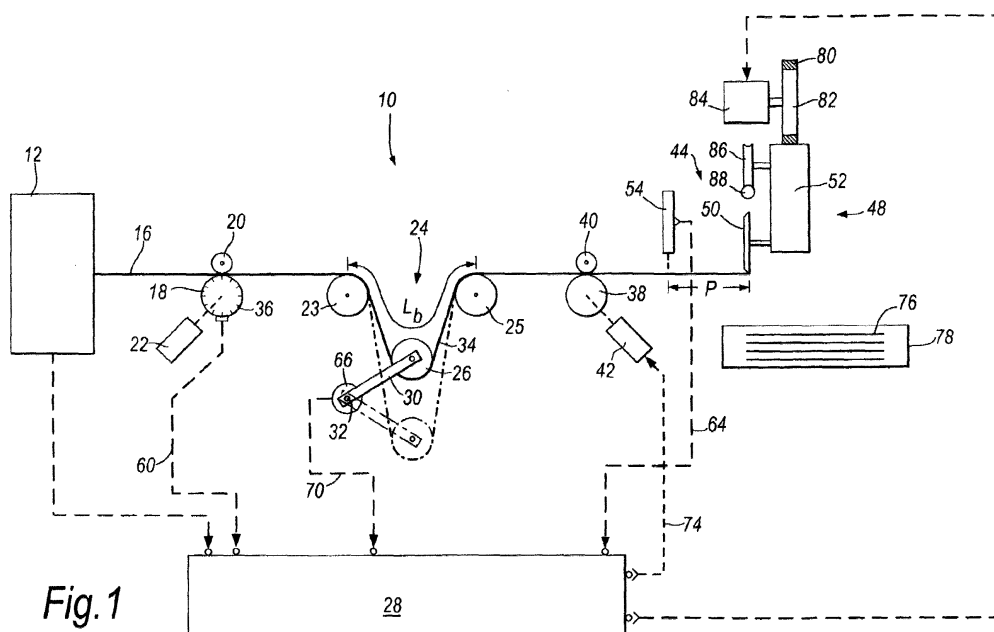


Fig. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
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| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) |
| | | | B65H |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search MUNICH | | Date of completion of the search 8 April 2002 | Examiner Stroppa, G |
| <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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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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