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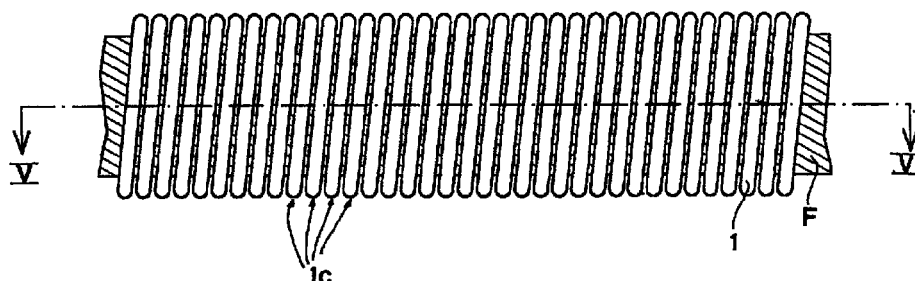
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(54) **Protected cable device for the safe lifting and handling of materials**

(57) Protected cable device comprising a stranded load-bearing cable (F) provided with eyelets at its ends and covered by a thick and longitudinally flexible reinforcement sheathing of metallic material with a substantially continuous external surface, such as a cylindrical spiral spring element (1) concentric with said cable por-

tion. In one embodiment, suitable for demanding applications, it is also envisaged providing a continuous layer (2) of plastic or elastomeric material formed on the cable (F), adhering thereto and including said metal reinforcement.

FIG.4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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 6 March 2001	Examiner Van den Berghe, E
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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