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(54) **Method and unit for stacking articles, in particular paper bags or similar**

(57) A method and unit for stacking groups of articles, the method being characterized by including the steps of:

- successively forming a number of groups (13) at an input station (6);
- feeding a group (13) from the input station to a stacking station (27);
- turning the group (13) over in a first direction about

an axis (A) of substantially symmetry;

- stacking the group (13) at the stacking station (27);

and so on, turning one group (13) after another over in the opposite direction to the preceding group (13) and the following group (13), so as to form a stack (37) of articles (2) of substantially the same thickness on all sides.

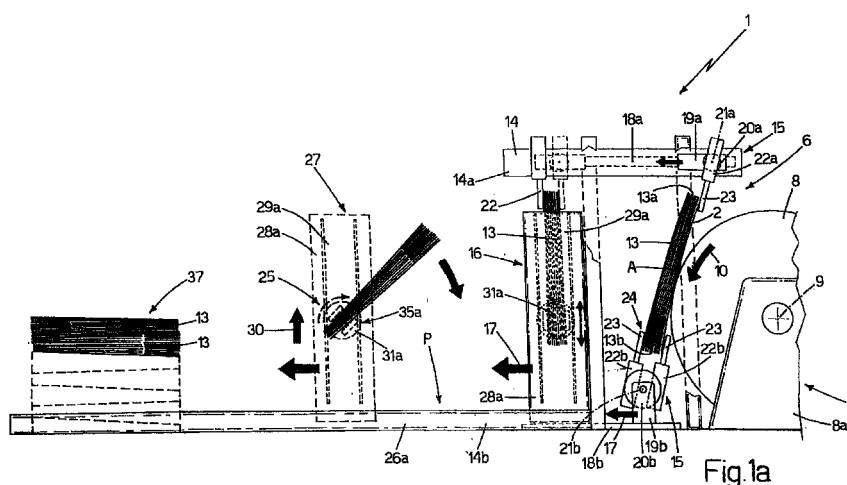


Fig. 1a



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 10 8953

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.7)
			B65H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 March 2001	Examiner Pussemier, B
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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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
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82