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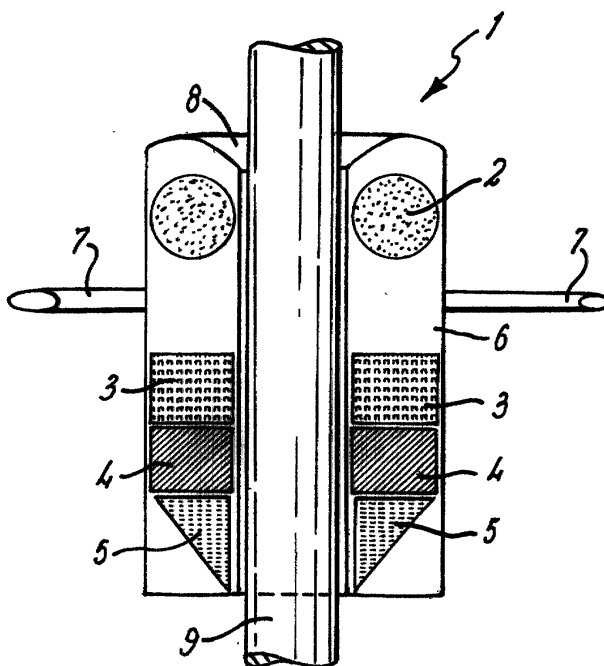
(30) Priority: **25.08.1999 GB 9920036**

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(54) Piling system

(57) A piling system consisting of both methods and apparatus, which in one embodiment is for use installing building foundations and in a second embodiment is for

use as a soil sampler. There is provided driving apparatus for inserting ground piles (1), wherein a rod (9) is inserted into the channel (8) of the driver (1) and the rod (9) is then driven into the ground.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 7327

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	FR 2 576 938 A (BLOCH CHRISTIAN) 8 August 1986 (1986-08-08) * page 3 - page 4; figure 3 *	1-4	E02D1/04 E02D7/04 E02D27/14
X	DE 715 314 C (GRÜN & BILFINGER AG) 18 December 1941 (1941-12-18) * page 2, line 20 - page 3, line 5; figure 1 *	1,2,5	
X	GB 866 244 A (VINCENT ESME VINCENT) 26 April 1961 (1961-04-26) * claim 1; figures 1,2 *	1,2,5	
X	US 5 174 386 A (CROVER STEPHEN E) 29 December 1992 (1992-12-29) * abstract; figure 2 *	6-8	
Y		9-12	
Y	US 1 931 249 A (EMIL BURKHARDT) 17 October 1933 (1933-10-17) * page 1, line 61 - page 2, line 33 *	9-12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			E02D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 November 2002	Examiner De Neef, K
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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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
6-12
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-5

A piling method comprising a plurality of elongated members supporting a base structure.

2. Claims: 6-12

Apparatus for inserting ground piles or soil sampler.

3. Claims: 13-14

A method for driving ground piles with a conventional hammer.

4. Claims: 15-17

Apparatus for driving ground piles.

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

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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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13-11-2002

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