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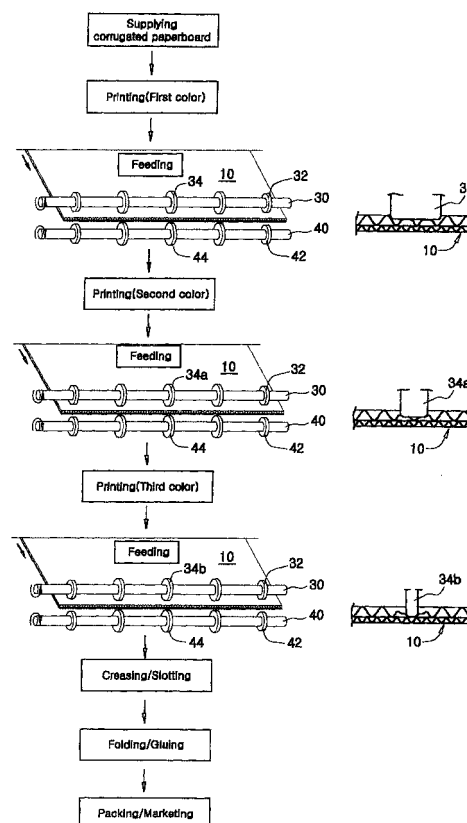
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(54) **Apparatus and method for producing corrugated-paperboard box**

(57) Disclosed are an apparatus and a method for producing a corrugated-paperboard box. The apparatus is characterized by: feeding means(30, 40; 32, 42) for feeding a corrugated paperboard (10); printing means for printing a predetermined pattern on the corrugated paperboard(10) which is fed by the feeding means(30, 40; 32, 42); creasing and slotting means for forming at least one main crease and at least one slot on the corrugated paperboard(10) which is printed with the predetermined pattern by the printing means; preliminary crease forming means(34, 44) disposed upstream of the creasing and slotting means, for forming a plurality of preliminary creases along the same linear region on the corrugated paperboard(10) in a multi-stepwise manner such that the plurality of preliminary creases are gradually decreased in their widths and each preliminary crease has a width which is no less than that of the main crease, the main crease being formed on the last preliminary crease of the plurality of preliminary creases; and folding and gluing means for folding and gluing a corrugated-paperboard box blank which is formed with the main crease and the slot by the creasing and slotting means, thereby enabling the production of the corrugated-paperboard box.

FIG 4





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.C1.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.C1.7)
			B31B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 14 May 2002	Examiner Pipping, L
<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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EP 00 10 4823

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