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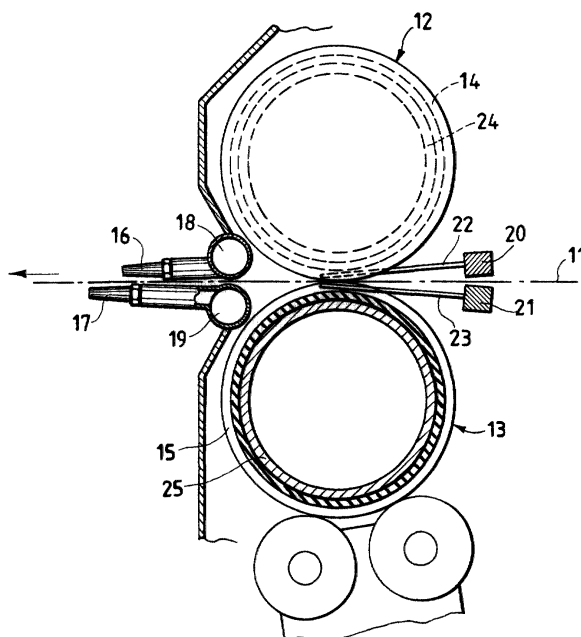
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(54) **Feeding unit for plastic material or the like in a welding machine**

(57) A feeding unit for plastic material or the like in a welding machine, in particular adapted to promote a high-speed operation, of the type comprising a pair of upper (12) and lower (13) feeding rollers, superimposed to one another and provided with transversal slots or grooves (14, 15) that are staggered between the upper roller (12) and the lower roller (13), there being provided a blower unit above and below a plastic feeding material

(11), wherein the blower unit comprises air feeding upper (16) and lower (17) nozzles, exiting from a respective header (18, 19), arranged downstream of said upper roller (12) and lower roller (13) and adapted to favour the flat laying of the fed material (11) passing into the rollers (12, 13). In particular, upstream of the rollers (12, 13) there are provided transversal supports (20, 21) for guiding lattens (22, 23) that insert into the slots (14, 15).





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 20 0737

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	EP 0 408 944 A (WINDMOELLER & HOELSCHER) 23 January 1991 (1991-01-23)	1, 3, 4	B65H20/02
Y	* abstract; figures 1, 2 *	2	
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A	* abstract; figure 5 *	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B65H
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		6 February 2003	Janssens, G
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
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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