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(54) **Top-loading clothes washing and drying machine with substantially horizontal-axis rotating drum**

(57) Clothes washing and drying machine having an oscillating tub (9) which is substantially formed by a cylindrical enclosure and a pair of vertical head pieces, and which encloses a single perforated drum (7) capable of being loaded from the top and rotating about a sensibly horizontal axis. One of said head pieces (10) consists substantially of a first portion (11) and a second

portion (12) that are separably joined to each other so as to form, on the outside of the seat (30) provided for at least a bearing of the drum (7), a channel (28) for the drying air, in which there are accommodated all means (15, 22, 25, 29, 31) needed to create a flow of heated drying air in a closed-loop circuit through the rotating drum (7).

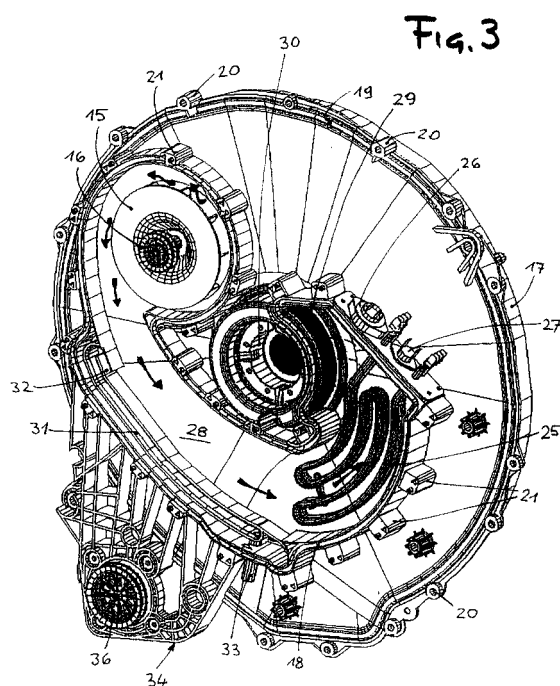


Fig. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 01 10 5746

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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 27 November 2002	Examiner Debard, M
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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