



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 191 488 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
19.11.2003 Bulletin 2003/47

(51) Int Cl.7: **G07D 1/00**

(43) Date of publication A2:
27.03.2002 Bulletin 2002/13

(21) Application number: **01307902.5**

(22) Date of filing: **17.09.2001**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(72) Inventor: **Palmer, Chris
Tyldesley, Manchester M29 7JQ (GB)**

(74) Representative: **Wilson Gunn M'Caw
41-51 Royal Exchange,
Cross Street
Manchester M2 7BD (GB)**

(30) Priority: **20.09.2000 GB 0023165**

(71) Applicant: **IGT-UK Limited
Lancashire OL7 0QQ (GB)**

(54) **Coin dispensing mechanism**

(57) A coin dispensing device for an entertainment machine has a passageway (46) between an outlet (8) and a coin store (19). Dispense of coins from the store (19) is effected by a motor-driven feed device (50). A controller (40) which controls operation of the feed device (50) is located within the coin store (19) and is connected to a coin sensing arrangement (42, 44) in the passageway. The sensing arrangement has a transmitter (42) which produces a modulated light beam which is detected by a receiver (44). The beam is interrupted by a dispensed coin and operation of the feed device (50) is then arrested for a time period. The feed device (50) can only resume operation after this time period if the receiver (44) again detects the correctly modulated light beam.

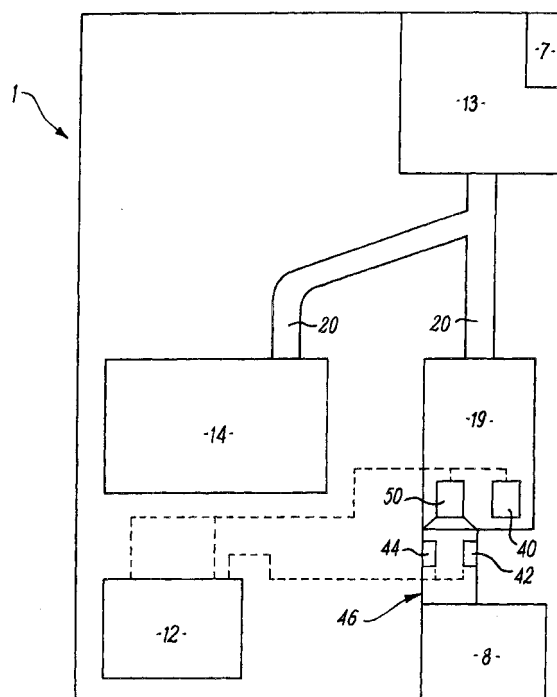


Fig 3

EP 1 191 488 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 30 7902

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	US 5 516 293 A (HEIDEL ET AL.) 14 May 1996 (1996-05-14)	1-8,12	G07D1/00
A	* column 1, line 58 - column 2, line 10 * * column 2, line 26 - column 3, line 1; figures 1-4 * * column 4, line 40 - line 56 *	9-11	
X	US 6 003 651 A (WALLER ET AL.) 21 December 1999 (1999-12-21)	1-12	
	* column 2, line 41 - column 8, line 39; figures 1-8 *		
X	US 5 780 842 A (MURPHEY) 14 July 1998 (1998-07-14)	1,12	
A	* column 2, line 23 - line 41 * * column 2, line 60 - column 4, line 48 * * column 5, line 11 - line 36; figures 1-3 *	2-11	
X,P	NL 1 013 145 C (SUZO INTERNATIONAL B.V.) 29 March 2001 (2001-03-29)	1,12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A,P	* page 1, line 11 - line 33 * * page 3, line 3 - line 25 * * page 4, line 1 - page 5, line 12; figures 1-3A *	2-11	G07D G07F
A	US 6 098 777 A (HOFFMAN ET AL.) 8 August 2000 (2000-08-08)	1,12	
	* column 4, line 48 - column 8, line 38; figures 1-3B *		
A	US 3 998 309 A (MANDAS ET AL.) 21 December 1976 (1976-12-21)	1,12	
	* column 2, line 47 - column 4, line 13; figures 1-3 *		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 30 September 2003	Examiner Rivero, C
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03 B2 (P04C01)



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 30 7902

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)
A	US 5 651 443 A (GAUDETTE) 29 July 1997 (1997-07-29) * column 2, line 44 - column 4, line 5; figures 1-4 * -----	1,12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		30 September 2003	Rivero, C
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03 B2 (P04C01)

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

EP 01 30 7902

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

30-09-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5516293	A	14-05-1996	AU 691875 B2	28-05-1998
			AU 1621695 A	19-10-1995
			DE 19512988 A1	12-10-1995
			FR 2718551 A1	13-10-1995
US 6003651	A	21-12-1999	NONE	
US 5780842	A	14-07-1998	NONE	
NL 1013145	C	29-03-2001	NL 1013145 C2	29-03-2001
US 6098777	A	08-08-2000	AU 6432299 A	08-05-2000
			WO 0023951 A1	27-04-2000
			AU 4742097 A	24-04-1998
			WO 9814910 A1	09-04-1998
US 3998309	A	21-12-1976	AU 500561 B2	24-05-1979
			AU 1732676 A	09-03-1978
			BE 846382 A1	17-01-1977
			CA 1039140 A1	26-09-1978
			DE 2648183 A1	04-08-1977
			DK 449376 A	24-07-1977
			ES 453846 A1	01-11-1977
			FR 2337382 A1	29-07-1977
			GB 1562502 A	12-03-1980
			IT 1192130 B	31-03-1988
			JP 52091500 A	01-08-1977
			NL 7614229 A	26-07-1977
			SE 421253 B	07-12-1981
			SE 7611017 A	24-07-1977
US 5651443	A	29-07-1997	NONE	