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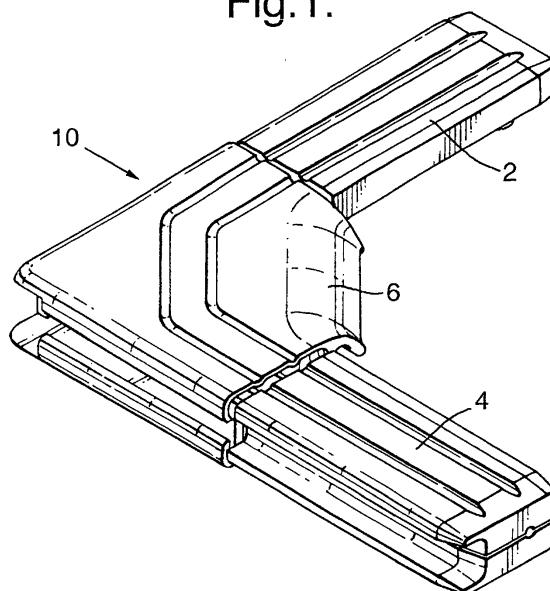
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(54) **Perimeter frame and flexible sheet assembly and corner assembly**

(57) Perimeter frame and flexible sheet assembly forming a substantially flat polygonal framed panel, said assembly including a plurality of elongate frame members, each having a generally rectangular tubular cross-section and an outwardly open longitudinal spline groove on an exterior side thereof; a plurality of nodal connectors, each engaging a longitudinal end of at least two adjacent ones of said plurality of elongate frame members to form a polygonal perimeter frame, with the longitudinal spline grooves positioned inwardly of the perimeter of said frame, a flexible sheet having a perimeter engaged in said spline grooves and at least one elongate flexible spline fitted in said spline grooves for retaining said flexible sheet, wherein said flexible spline is substantially U-shaped in cross-section, having yieldable sides and a detent edge, wherein said spline groove is inwardly contoured to offer an undercut edge and wherein said detent edge engages behind said undercut edge for retaining said flexible sheet and a corner assembly for joining elongate legs of a frame for mounting adjacent an architectural opening, the corner assembly including end portions for fitment to respective elongate legs, at least front and back surfaces extending between the end portions, walls defining an internal cavity for receiving an insert, and an aperture through at least one of the front and back surfaces allowing operation of the insert.

**Fig.1.**



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 02 25 0147

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 4 570 406 A (DIFAZIO JOSEPH) 18 February 1986 (1986-02-18) * column 3, line 53 - column 4, line 5; figures 1,2,5 *	1	E06B9/52
A	FR 1 011 979 A (SERGRAM) 2 July 1952 (1952-07-02) * page 2, paragraph 2 - paragraph [0004]; figure 3 *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			E06B
<del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 15 September 2003	Examiner Peschel, G
<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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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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:
- ☒ 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:

1-6,21



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**  
**SHEET B**

Application Number  
EP 02 25 0147

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: 1-6,21

Panel assembly

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2. claims: 7-20, 22

Corner assembly

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

EP 02 25 0147

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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15-09-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4570406	A	18-02-1986	NONE	
FR 1011979	A	02-07-1952	NONE	

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82