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(54) **Scaffolding shore**

(57) The invention relates to a scaffolding shore for a scaffolding construction comprising at least two vertical elements, wherein the scaffolding shores each com-

prise two telescopic tubes which can be fixed in position relative to each other by means of a mortise and tenon joint.

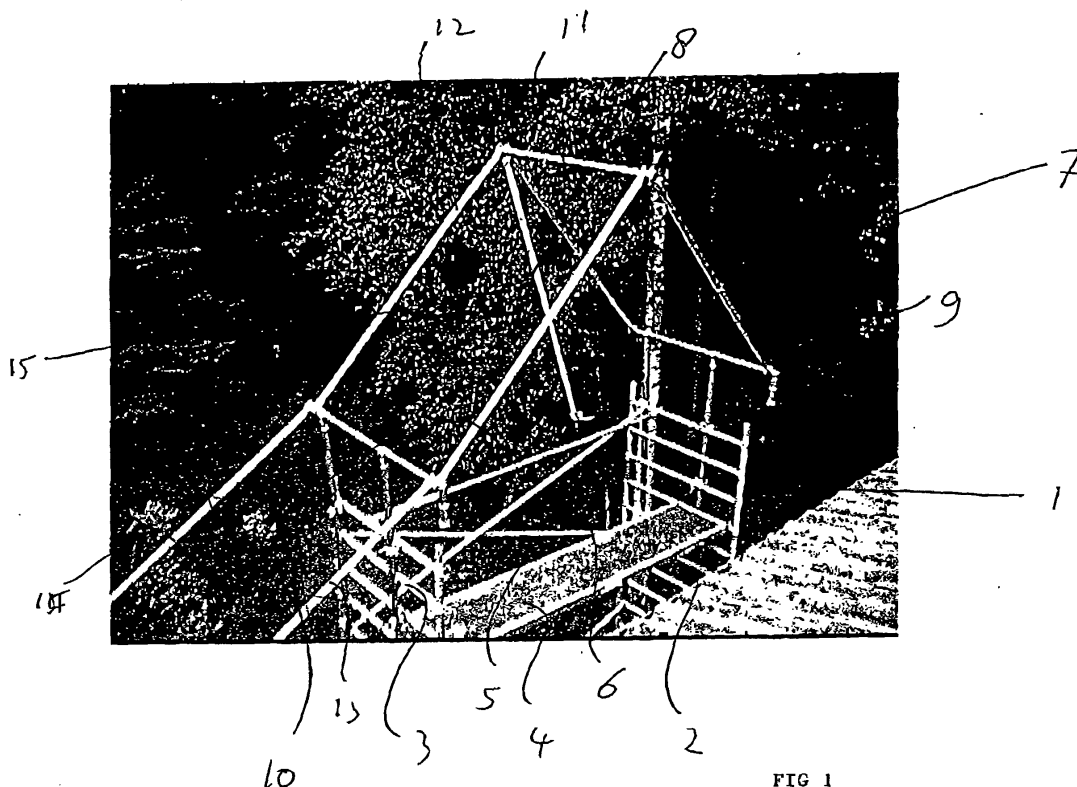


FIG 1

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Description

[0001] The invention relates to a scaffolding shore.

[0002] Scaffolding shores are generally known. They are made up of obliquely extending elements within a scaffolding construction, which function to prevent the scaffolding from tilting. They are also used for supporting ridge trestles of a scaffolding construction. A ridge trestle is used, for example, when work is to be carried out on a high-pitched gable and the weather conditions render it necessary to provide protection against the environment while the work is being carried out. In that case a scaffolding construction is provided with a ridge trestle and a tarpaulin or a plastic sheet is draped over the ridge trestle. A ridge trestle is made up of a girder extending transversely to the gable, which is connected to the rest of the scaffolding by means of scaffolding shores to which the present invention relates.

[0003] It is pointed out that from DE-A-19631233 an obliquely extending element is known for supporting a scaffolding bridge construction. One side of this scaffolding bridge construction is supported against the gable on which work is to be carried out, whilst the other side is supported on the obliquely extending elements. In order to enable proper adjustment of the height, use is made of oblique elements which can be adjusted by means of mortise and tenon joints.

[0004] The scaffolding shores must be adjustable so as to make it possible to shore the scaffolding structure in dependence on the type of scaffolding being used, whilst in the case of ridge trestles the scaffolding shores need to be adjustable in order to enable precise adjustment of the height of the ridge trestle for the purpose of adapting the workplace under the tarpaulin as well as possible to the available space.

[0005] The present invention provides a scaffolding shore which is provided with two telescopic tubes which can be fixed in position relative to each other by means of a mortise and tenon joint. According to a first preferred embodiment, the spacing between the holes in one of the tubes is different from that between the holes in the other tubes. In this manner a kind of nonius effect is obtained, which enables a precise adjustment.

[0006] According to another embodiment, the holes in at least one of the tubes are spaced apart by at least two mutually different distances. In this manner the degree of adjustability is enhanced even more.

[0007] Other attractive preferred embodiments will become apparent from the other claims.

[0008] The present invention will now be explained in more detail with reference to the appended drawing, which shows a scaffolding construction comprising a number of scaffolding shores according to the present invention.

[0009] The figure shows a scaffolding construction, as a whole indicated by reference numeral 1, which is made up of two vertical ladder elements 2 and 3, respectively, in which a working platform 4 is placed. Two scaffolding shores 5, 6 are provided for shoring the scaffolding construction 1. According to the invention, said scaffolding shores are each made up of two telescopic tubes, which can be fixed in position relative to each other by means of a mortise and tenon joint. This makes it possible to select the suitable dimension for the scaffolding shore in dependence on the width of the scaffold being used.

[0010] Furthermore a ridge trestle 7, which is in essence made up of a girder 8, is provided on the scaffolding construction, which girder is connected to two scaffolding shores 9, 10 and 11, 12, respectively, at each of its ends. Said scaffolding shores 9-12 are connected to the scaffolding construction 1 at their lower ends. The adjustability of the length of the scaffolding shores 9-12 renders it possible not only to adjust the height of the girder 8 but also, for example in the case of oblique roof constructions, to actually use a ridge trestle. Furthermore it is possible, as can be seen in the figure, to extend the ridge trestle with scaffolding shores 13, 14 to a next scaffolding construction, which is attractive when carrying out work on a so-called broken roof construction.

[0011] The drawing finally shows a loose scaffolding shore 15, which is connected to the girder 8 and which can be used for anchoring the ridge trestle, for example by connecting it to the gable structure.

Claims

1. A scaffolding shore for a scaffolding construction comprising at least two vertical elements, **characterised in that** the scaffolding shores each comprise two telescopic tubes which can be fixed in position relative to each other by means of a mortise and tenon joint.
2. A scaffolding shore according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the spacing between the holes in one of the tubes is different from that between the holes in the other tubes.
3. A scaffolding shore according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the holes in at least one of the tubes are spaced apart by at least two mutually different distances.
4. A scaffolding shore according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the scaffolding shore is suitable for constructing a ridge trestle on a scaffold.
5. A ridge trestle for a scaffolding construction, comprising a substantially horizontally extending girder and scaffolding shores according to any one of the preceding claims, which extend obliquely downwards from said girder.

6. A ridge trestle according to claim 5, **characterised in that** the scaffolding shores are each pivotally connected in a vertical plane to the girder and to a scaffolding construction.

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7. A ridge trestle according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** a tarpaulin is draped over said ridge trestle.

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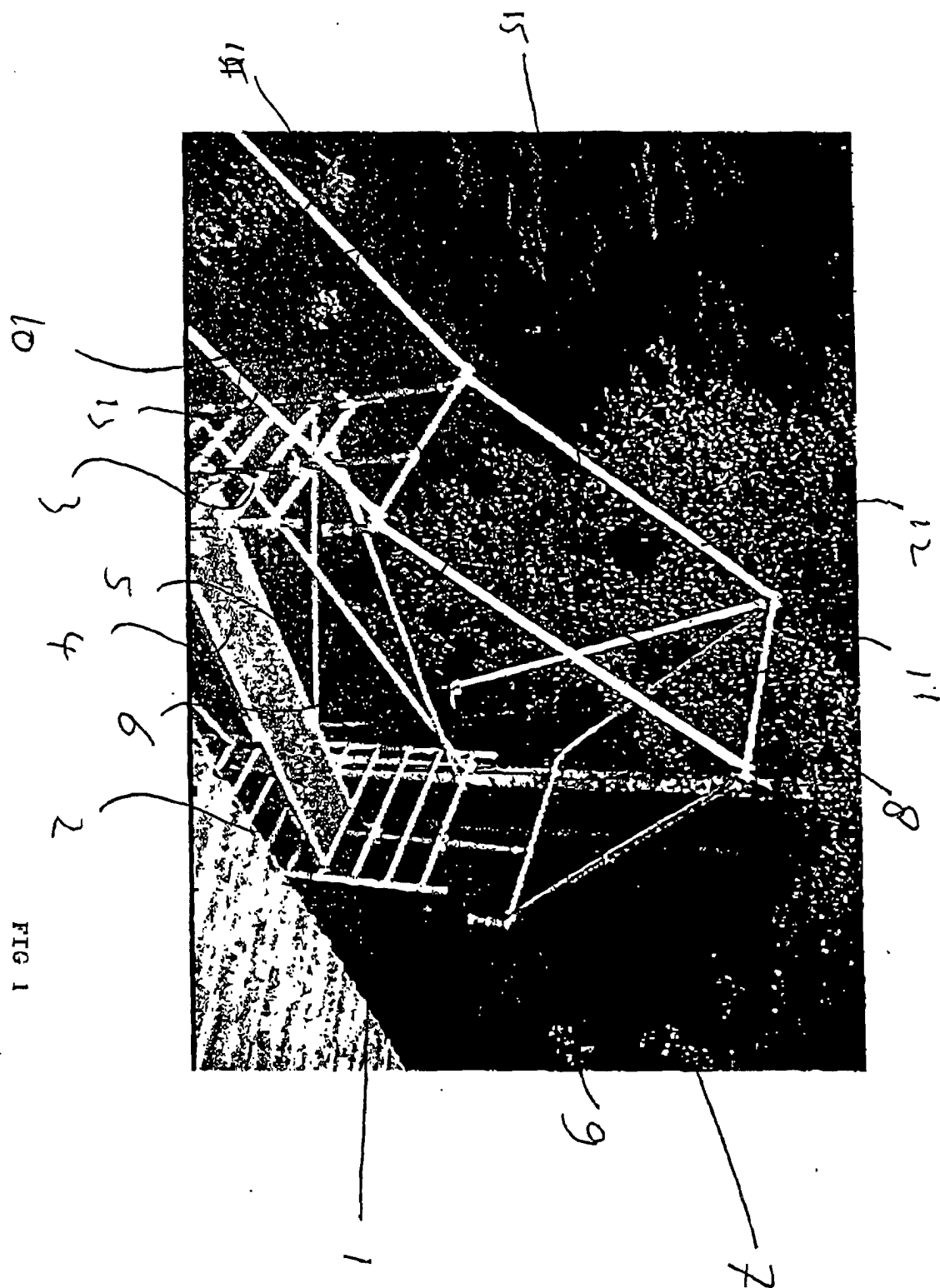


FIG 1



European Patent
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DECLARATION

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention EP 02 07 5033 shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

The Search Division considers that the present application, does not comply with the provisions of the EPC to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all claims

CLASSIFICATION OF THE
APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)

E04G25/06

Reason:

For the following reasons the Search Division considers that the European patent application does not comply with the provisions of the Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all or some of the claims.

1. The claims 1-7 are not clear (Article 84 EPC):

1.1 Independent Claim 1:

According to the designation (Rule 29(1)(a) EPC) of claim 1:

"A scaffolding shore ..."

only one "shore" is claimed, whereas several "shores" are mentioned in the characterising part of claim 1:
"... the scaffolding shores each comprise ..."

Therefore it cannot be precisely defined whether the subject matter of claim 1 covers a single shore or a plurality of shores.

1.2 Dependent claim 2:

a) Claim 2 does not contain any feature permitting to overcome the lack of clarity present of claim 1, so that claim 2 contains the same problem of clarity as claim 1 from which it depends.

b) Claim 2 is not clear because it refers to claim 1 and cites the "holes" although there are no such holes in claim 1

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EPO FORM 1504 (P04C37)

Place of search

MUNICH

Date

29 May 2002

Examiner

Festor, E



European Patent
Office

DECLARATION

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Application Number

The Search Division considers that the present application, does not comply with the provisions of the EPC to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all claims

CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)

Reason:

(article 84 and rule 29(4) EPC).

1.3 Dependent claim 3:

Claim 3 does not contain any feature permitting to overcome the lack of clarity present of claim 1 or 2, so that claim 3 contains the same problems of clarity as claim 1 or 2 from which it directly or indirectly depends.

1.4 Dependent claim 4:

a) Claim 4 does not contain any feature permitting to overcome the lack of clarity present of claim 1, 2 or 3, so that claim 4 contains the same problems of clarity as claim 1, 2 or 3 from which it directly or indirectly depends.

b) Furthermore, claim 4 does not fulfill the requirements of Rule 29 EPC, because its characterising part is merely a statement of intended function or application and seeks to define the claimed shore(s) by reference to features relating to the shore's use, introducing thereby a lack of clarity in the claim. The additional features contained in this characterising part do not define the claimed shore(s) per se (Rule 29(3) and (4) EPC) but rather its/their relationship to a ridge trestle which is not claimed in the group of claims 1-4.

1.5 Independent claim 5 and dependent claims 6, 7:

a) The subject matter of this group of
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Place of search MUNICH	Date 29 May 2002	Examiner Festor, E
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The Search Division considers that the present application, does not comply with the provisions of the EPC to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all claims

CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)

Reason:

claims 5-7 concerns a ridge trestle comprising scaffolding shores according to any one of the claims 1-4.

Claims 5-7 are not clear because none of them contains at least one feature permitting to overcome the lack of clarity of the claims 1-4 (see the paragraphs above), so that the exact subject matter of these claims 5-7 cannot be correctly defined and no meaningful search can be carried out into the state of the art, even with due regard to the description and the drawing which is a black and white copy of a photograph.

In particular, the drawing can hardly be considered because its quality is so insufficient that it is difficult or even impossible to recognize where the reference lines have their extremities.

b) The additional features of claim 7 seek to define the claimed trestle by reference to features relating to the trestle's use, introducing thereby a lack of clarity in the claim. These additional features do not define the claimed trestle per se but rather its relationship to the tarpaulin which is not claimed.

2. Remark:

On 04.01.2002, the applicant filed the European patent application in Dutch, which is an official language of a Contracting State, the Netherlands in the present case (Article 14(2) EPC; first sentence).

The translation in English of the description and the claims has been filed

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MUNICH	29 May 2002	Festor, E



European Patent
Office

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Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present application, does not comply with the provisions of the EPC to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all claims

Reason:

by fax on 04.02.2002 (Article 14(2) EPC; second sentence).
According to Article 70(2) EPC, the original text in Dutch constitutes the basis for determining whether the subject-matter of the application or patent extends beyond the content of the application as filed (Article 123(2) EPC.

It appears that the translation of the originally claims filed by fax on 04.02.2002 introduces subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as filed, contrary to Article 123(2) EPC.

The amendment concerned is the translation of the Dutch expression "pen-gat-verbinding" by "mortise and tenon" instead of "pin and hole".

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that a search may be carried out during examination following a declaration of no search under Rule 45 EPC, should the problems which led to the declaration being issued be overcome (see EPC Guideline C-VI, 8.5).

CLASSIFICATION OF THE
APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)

EPO FORM 1504 (P04C37)

Place of search

MUNICH

Date

29 May 2002

Examiner

Festor, E