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(71) Applicant: **MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI
KAISHA**
Tokyo 100-8310 (JP)

(72) Inventors:
• **Koizumi, Hideaki,**
Mitsubishi Electric Company Ltd.
Tokyo 100-0004 (JP)

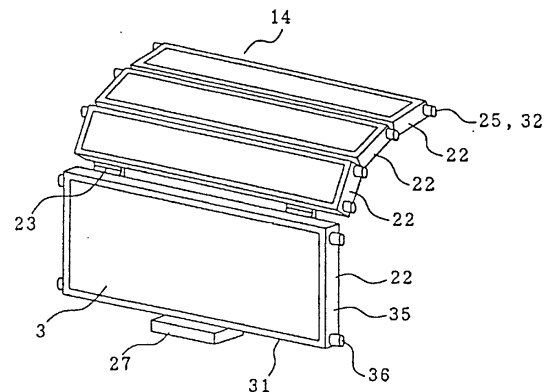
• **Tanikawa, Yoshinori**
c/o Mitsubishi Elec.Eng.Cy Ltd
Tokyo 100-004 (JP)
• **Kojima, Kazuhito Mitsubishi Elec.Eng. Cy Ltd**
Tokyo 100-0004 (JP)
• **Ooishi, Kazuhiro Mitsibishi Elec. Eng. Cy Ltd**
Tokyo 100-0004 (JP)
• **Hotta, Toshihiro c/o Mitsubishi Elec. Eng. Cy Ltd**
Tokyo 100-8310 (JP)
• **Tazawa, Tetsuya Mitsubishi Elec. Eng. Cy. Ltd**
Tokyo 100-0004 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Mouteney, Simon James**
MARKS & CLERK,
57-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3LS (GB)

(54) **Air filter and air conditioner**

(57) An air filter (14) having a plurality of unit filter frame members (22) each of which includes a filter piece (3) and which are coupled foldably through hinge portions (23). A guide portion (32) is provided to have at least a pair of boss portions (25) made to project from each of opposite side surfaces (35) of the unit filter (14), so that the guide portions (32) are provided on the opposite side surfaces (35), and are respectively inserted into and guided by guide grooves (26) provided at the place where the air filter (14) is to be installed.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		16 April 2003	Gonzalez-Granda, 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			

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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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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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.

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☐ 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:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

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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: 1-8

Air filter having filter pieces coupled through hinges with guide portions to be inserted into guide grooves

2. Claims: 9-16

Air conditioner having an air filter located in the front and top air inlets

**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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16-04-2003

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