



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
11.05.2005 Bulletin 2005/19

(51) Int Cl.7: **D06C 5/00, D06B 5/24**

(43) Date of publication A2:
09.07.2003 Bulletin 2003/28

(21) Application number: **02028910.4**

(22) Date of filing: **23.12.2002**

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

(72) Inventor: **Posniak, David Matec Spa**
50018 Scandicci (FI)

(74) Representative: **Celestino, Marco**
ABM, Agenzia Brevetti & Marchi,
Viale Giovanni Pisano, 31
56123 Pisa (IT)

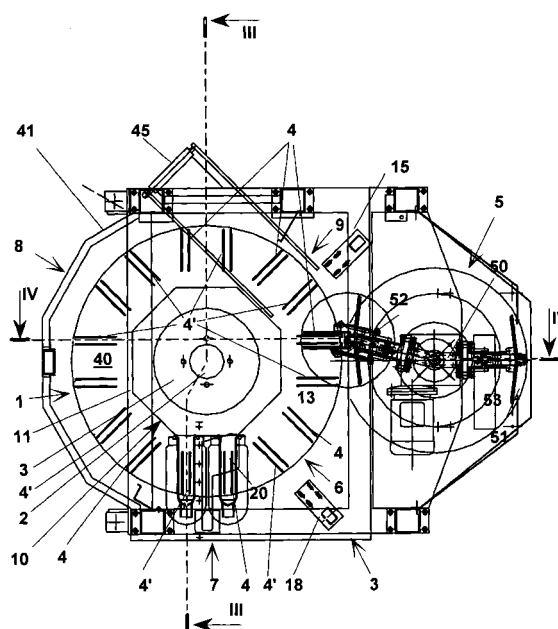
(30) Priority: **21.12.2001 IT PI20010093**

(71) Applicant: **MATEC S.p.A.**
50018 Scandicci (Firenze) (IT)

(54) **Method and apparatus for steaming on forms hosiery articles and the like**

(57) The apparatus comprises a carousel (1), rotatable about a central axis (2) with respect to a base frame (3). To the carousel (1) many couples of forms (4 and 4') are connected, cantilever mounted, which follow a circular trajectory indicated as dotted line. The couples of forms (4 and 4') can be arranged, radially or parallel to each other, on the carousel substantially according to the sides of a polygon. The forms have anatomical shape like a leg with foot end and are stiff enough from staying vertical oriented towards the above. The carousel moves through a loading station (5) of the stockings on the forms (4,4'), a station (6) for stretching the stockings on the forms; a steaming station (7), for steaming the stockings; an air drying station (8) and an outlet station (9) of the finished articles. At each station of the carousel the tights present on the couples of forms (4 and 4') are treated at the same time or in turn. The carousel (1) comprises a tubular body (10) having a prismatic wall (11), pivotally connected to the base frame (3). The wall (11) has the main function of rotating, and then to be the frame of the carousel (1), and it holds also radially the forms (4) arranged as cantilevers so that they do not extend from the bases. A steaming chamber (20,20') is provided that can move from an open position that allows the free rotation of the forms (4,4') to a closed position that embraces completely both couples of forms (4,4') sealingly contacts the wall (11).

Fig. 1





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 02 8910

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)
D,Y	WO 01/71082 A (S.R.A. S.R.L; MANINI, BENITO) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) * claim 1; figures 1-5 *	1,3	D06C5/00 D06B5/24
A	* the whole document *	2,4-8	
Y	GB 760 447 A (ETABLISSEMENTS MAURICE HELIOT) 31 October 1956 (1956-10-31) * page 2, lines 66-101; figure 2 *	1,3	
A	WO 96/19609 A (LAMEC-LAVORAZIONI MECCANICHE DI GUCCINI LUIGI & C; GUCCINI, LUIGI; GUC) 27 June 1996 (1996-06-27) * page 3, lines 9-16; claim 7; figure 2 *	1-8	
A	WO 97/35059 A (SALDATRICI ROTATIVE AUTOMATICHE S.R.A. S.R.L; MANINI, BENITO) 25 September 1997 (1997-09-25) * page 1, lines 25-34; figure 1 *	1-8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			D06B D06C
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		21 March 2005	Bichi, M
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

1
EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

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

EP 02 02 8910

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.

21-03-2005

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0171082	A	27-09-2001	IT P120000021 A1	21-09-2001
			AU 5829101 A	03-10-2001
			WO 0171082 A1	27-09-2001
			EP 1303662 A1	23-04-2003

GB 760447	A	31-10-1956	NONE	

WO 9619609	A	27-06-1996	IT B0940566 A1	21-06-1996
			AT 178960 T	15-04-1999
			DE 69509133 D1	20-05-1999
			EP 0803003 A1	29-10-1997
			WO 9619609 A1	27-06-1996

WO 9735059	A	25-09-1997	IT F1960056 A1	19-09-1997
			DE 69703440 D1	07-12-2000
			DE 69703440 T2	19-04-2001
			EP 0889986 A1	13-01-1999
			ES 2153182 T3	16-02-2001
			WO 9735059 A1	25-09-1997
