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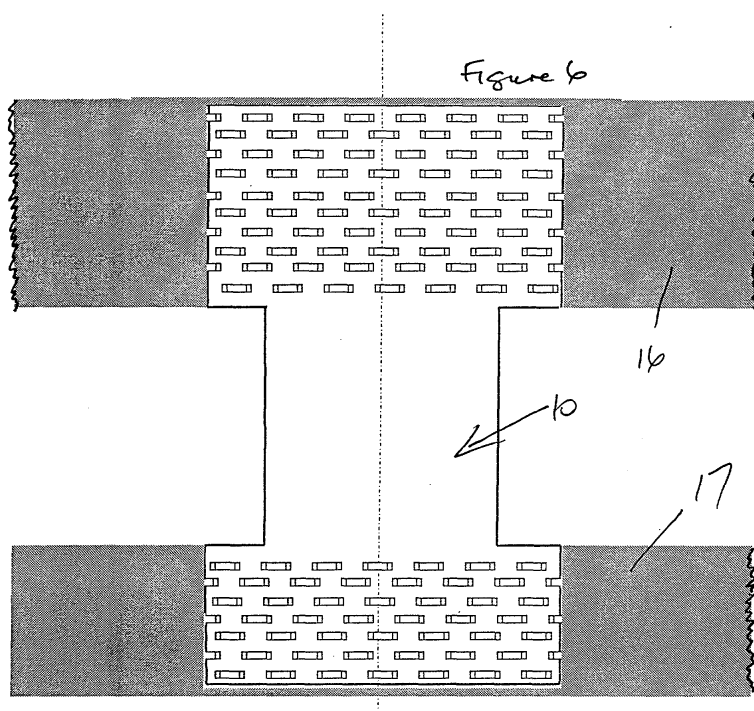
(54) **A beam and a method of making a beam**

(57) A method of making a beam (18) includes:-

- a) providing a nail-plate-applying station,
- b) positioning a pair of lengths of timber (16 & 17) in spaced parallel relationship,
- c) advancing the pair of lengths of timber (16 & 17) incrementally relative to the nail-plate-applying sta-

tion, and

d) attaching a nail plate (10) to each side of the pair of lengths of timber (16 & 17) at each of a plurality of spaced positions along the pair of lengths of timber (16 & 17) so as to join the two lengths of timber (16 & 17) together to form the beam (18).



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Y	* figures 1,30,31 * -----	7	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 19 April 2005	Examiner David, R.A.
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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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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