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(72) Inventor: **D'Ottavi, Vincenzo**
Castorano, (AP) (IT)

(74) Representative:
Raimondi, Alfredo, Dott. Ing. Prof. et al
Dott. Ing. Prof. Alfredo Raimondi S.r.l.,
Piazza le Cadorna 15
20123 Milano (IT)

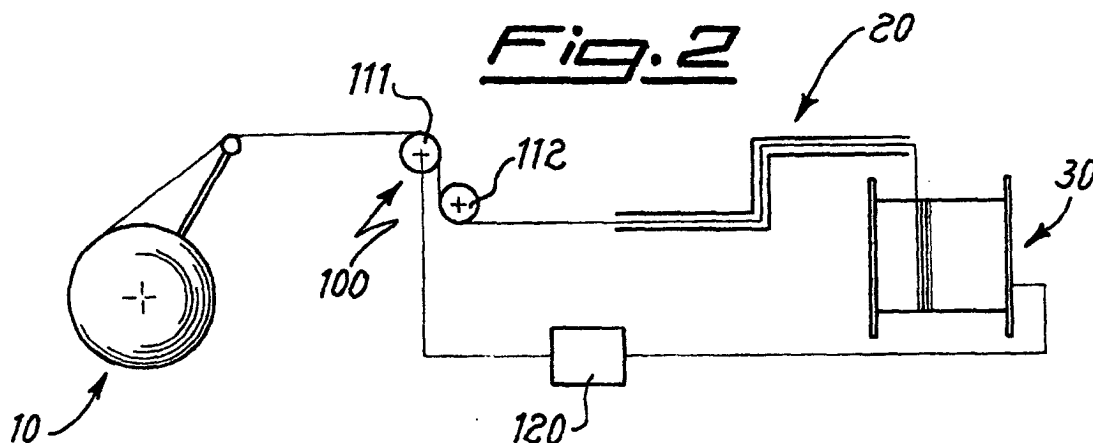
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(71) Applicant: **Leoni Felisi S.p.A.**
Milano (IT)

(54) **Method and associated apparatus for reducing the tension of wires during a strand production process**

(57) Method for reducing the tension of wires during a process for production of a strand using said wires, comprising the steps of unwinding at least one wire (1) from a supply reel, feeding the unwound wire (1) to a stranding machine which pulls the wire, winding it onto

a take-up reel (31) at a predetermined winding speed, said at least one wire being subjected to a pulling/pushing action in the same sense as the direction of feeding thereof, along the section of the travel path between the supply reel and the point of entry into the stranding machine.





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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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)
X A	EP 0 352 049 A (SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS) 24 January 1990 (1990-01-24) * column 2, line 40 - column 5, line 48; figures 1-4 * -----	1-3, 9, 20 4-8, 10-19, 21-28	H01B13/02
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H01B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 7 October 2003	Examiner Demolder, J
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 03 07 5183

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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