



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
13.04.2005 Bulletin 2005/15

(51) Int Cl.7: **B28B 13/02**

(43) Date of publication A2:
05.11.2003 Bulletin 2003/45

(21) Application number: **03425254.4**

(22) Date of filing: **24.04.2003**

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

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(30) Priority: **29.04.2002 IT FI20020071**

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(54) **Device for loading moulds in a press to produce tiles and method of loading**

(57) The device comprises: a carriage (17) equipped with an alternate loading movement along a sliding surface (19); on said carriage, a main grid (23) which receives a base powder material from a first loading means (33) and transfers said base powder material to a cavity of said mould; on said carriage, in front of the main grid, an auxiliary tray (29) for loading an additional

powder material, such as a coloured enamel or the like. The auxiliary tray is at a distance from the main grid, in the direction of movement of the carriage, notwithstanding the dimension that the mould cavity has in said direction and preferably less than this. Moreover, the auxiliary tray has a bottom closing component controlled in synchronism with the movement of the carriage in relation to said mould.

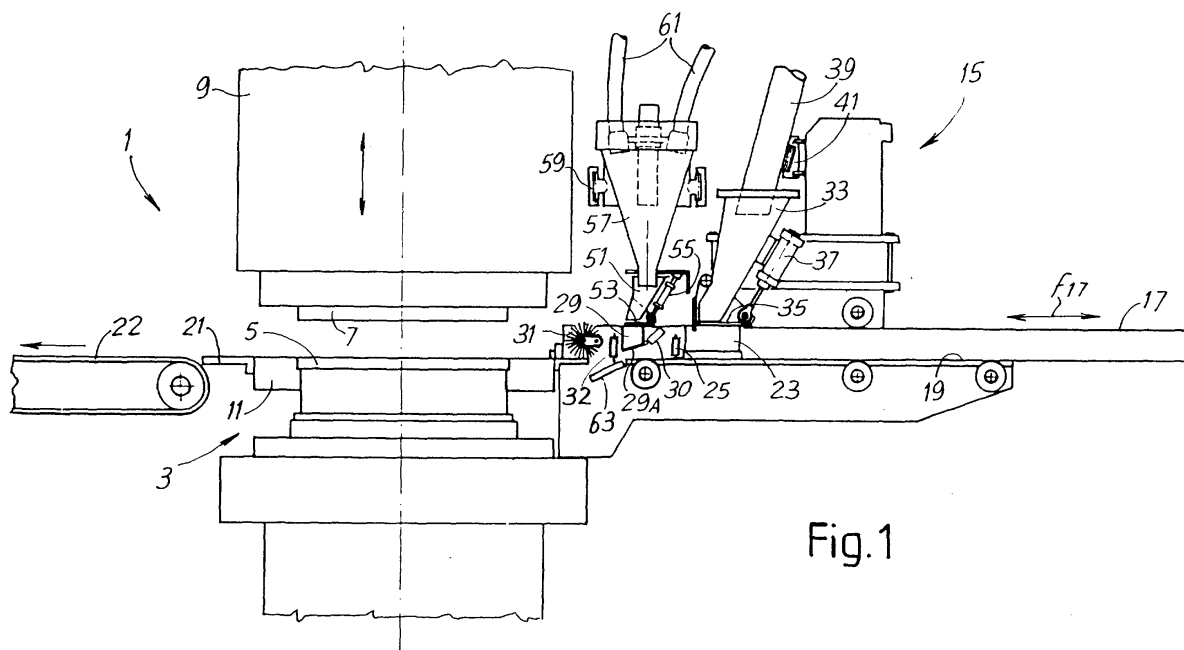


Fig.1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 42 5254

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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Y	* column 2, line 40 - column 3, line 4; figure 1 * * column 4, line 26 - line 34 *	6	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 12, 26 December 1996 (1996-12-26) & JP 08 207037 A (INAX CORP), 13 August 1996 (1996-08-13) * abstract *	1,5,7-9	
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A	* page 8, last paragraph - page 13, paragraph 2; figures 1,2 *	3,4,7-9	
Y	EP 1 074 361 A (L.B. OFFICINE MECCANICHE S.P.A) 7 February 2001 (2001-02-07) * column 3, line 47 - column 4, line 6; claim 1; figures 1,1a,1b * * column 5, line 44 - column 6, line 5 *	6	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.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 21 February 2005	Examiner Orij, J
<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>			

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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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