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(54) **Ratchet wrench**

(57) A one-way wrench includes an annular head, an annular gear, a pawl and an elastic element. The annular head includes a circular space defined therein and a crescent space defined in the wall of the circular space. The annular gear is put in the circular space. The annular gear includes teeth extending from an external face. The pawl is put in the crescent space. The pawl includes teeth extending from a side for engagement with the teeth of the annular gear and first and second protrusions both extending from an opposite side. The elastic element is compressed between the pawl and the wall of the crescent space. The wall of the crescent space pushes the first protrusion as the annular head drives the annular gear in a direction through the pawl. The wall of the crescent space pushes the second protrusion so as to pivot the pawl from the annular gear as the annular head rotates relative to the annular gear in an opposite direction.

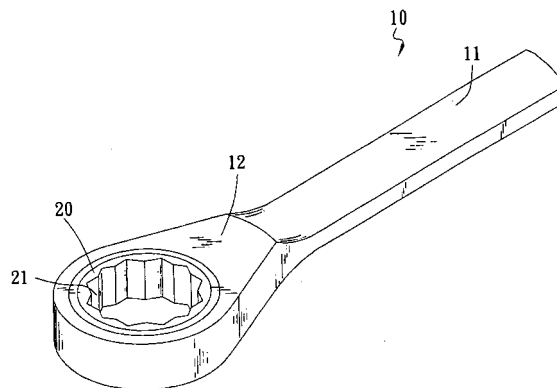


Fig. 1



European Patent  
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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 THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 15 March 2004	Examiner Carmichael, Guy
<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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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