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(54) **An exercise machine**

(57) An exercise machine comprises: a mounting frame (1); at least two user positions (18, 181, 205); power transmission means (2) designed to connect corresponding machine actuators (3) in such a way that the power applied by the users to the actuators (3) and transmitted by the transmission means (2) reciprocally and alternately produces an active force and a resistant force.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 42 5407

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)
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~~The present search report has been drawn up for all claims~~

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	23 November 2004	Squeri, M

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
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EP 04 42 5407

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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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)
A	US 2003/100413 A1 (HUANG CHIN-LIEN) 29 May 2003 (2003-05-29) * the whole document * -----	11	
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~~The present search report has been drawn up for all claims~~

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	23 November 2004	Squeri, M

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

1-7,11-17,20,29

☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-4,20,29

Document US-A-4627617 (D1) discloses an exercise machine comprising a mounting frame, at least two user positions, power trasmission means designed to connect corresponding machine actuators, the relationship among these parts being the same as the one disclosed in claim 1. Consequently, claim 1, the only independent claim, is not novel over this document (Art. 54 EPC).
The special technical features of claim 2 over D1 are upper rest for each user, which is in the form of rollers.
These features solve the technical problem of facilitating the positioning of a user respect to the machine.

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2. claims: 1,5-7,11-17

The common special technical features of claims 5 and 11 over D1 are the curved arms mounted crossways relative to each other, which can be rotated towards each other by the user.
The special technical features of claim 12 over D1 are the upright and the at least two handles fitted at the ends of the cable on each side of the upright.
The special technical features of claim 13 over D1 are two pairs of handles available at two respective user work positions.
These features solve the technical problem of training together, independently, different limbs.

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3. claims: 1,8-10

The special technical features over D1 are the actuators rotating simmetrically in such a way as to resist the spreading out movement of the legs of the user.
These fautures solve the technical problem of providing training for the upper part of the legs.

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4. claims: 1,18,19,22,23,27

The special technical features of the claims 18,22,23 and 27 are the load sensor and the display.
These features solve the technical problem of monitoring the load applied by the users.

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5. claims: 1,24-26

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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

The special technical features of claim 24 are the additional means for applying a resistance force.
These features solve the technical problem of compensating different performances of the users.

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6. claims: 1,21,28

The special technical features of the claims 21 and 28 are the damping means.
These features solve the technical problem of smoothing the transient effects at the change of direction of movement during the training with the machine.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 04 42 5407

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