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(54) **Checkout system**

(57) A check-out system (1) is described, for application in for instance a supermarket or the like, comprising:

- at least one recognition station (10) for identifying articles;
- a secure area (40) associated with the at least one recognition station;
- at least one payment machine (50) arranged within the secure area, designed for issuing a payment receipt (59);
- wherein the recognition station (10) has a passage (30) for users, with an entrance (31) for a user who offers articles to the recognition station, and an exit (32) which exclusively leads to the said secure area;
- wherein the secure area has at least one normally closed exit gate (42), wherein each exit gate of the secure area is provided with control means (60) for checking payment receipts (59), which control means are designed for releasing the exit gate concerned in case of an established validity of a payment receipt.

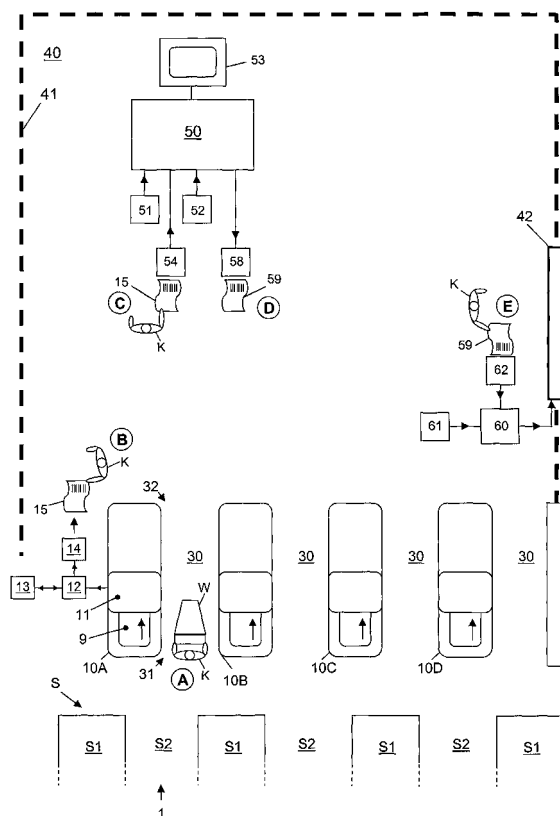


FIG. 1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 07 7944

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G06K G07G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 29 November 2006	Examiner Mennerun, Steeve
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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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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