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(54) **Sliding door mechanism for vehicles**

(57) The present invention relates to the operation of sliding doors. The invention provides a mechanism comprising two sub-mechanisms for opening and closing a sliding vehicle door of the type commonly found in vans, buses and commercial vehicles.

The invention provide a mechanism for electrically opening and closing a sliding door on the side of a ve-

hicle, the mechanism comprising a first and a second sub-mechanism, each of the sub-mechanisms being driven by its own electric motor, the first sub-mechanism being arranged to move the door in a direction parallel to the direction of vehicle motion, and the second sub-mechanism being arranged to move the door in a direction substantially perpendicular to the direction of vehicle motion for latching and unlatching of the door.

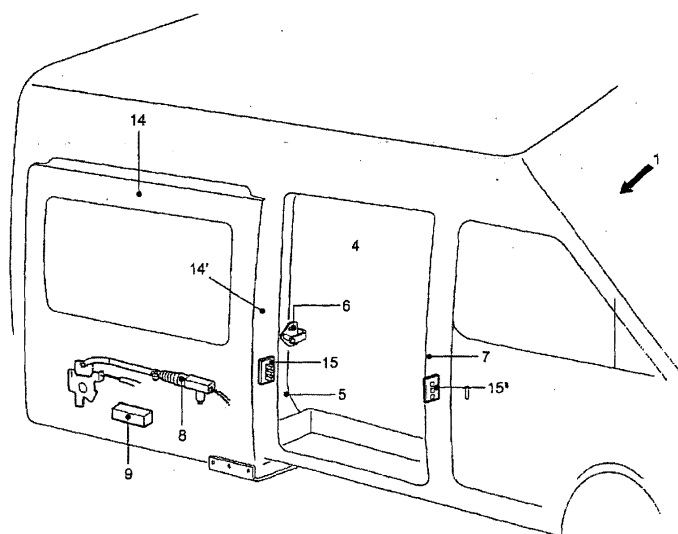


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 04 00 0605

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	US 5 239 779 A (DELAND ET AL) 31 August 1993 (1993-08-31) * column 9, line 29 - column 10, line 45 *	1-3,5, 7-9	E05F15/14
Y	* column 14, line 39 - column 15, line 52; figure 8 *	6	
X	US 5 813 282 A (AZUMA ET AL) 29 September 1998 (1998-09-29) * column 6, lines 43-58 * * column 7, lines 47-57 * * column 9, lines 22-27; figure 11 *	1-4,8	
Y	DE 34 01 842 A1 (POEHLMANN, ERICH) 1 August 1985 (1985-08-01) * page 7, paragraph 4 - page 8, paragraph 1 *	6	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			E05F E05B
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		8 November 2005	Witasse-Moreau, C
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
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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08-11-2005

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