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(71) Applicant: ACO Technologies plc
Shefford,
Beds SG17 5TE (GB)

(72) Inventor: Mc Intyre, Walter Summerhill
Ayrshire, KA6 6QL (GB)

(74) Representative: Williamson, Brian
OLSWANG
90 High Holborn
London
WC1V 6XX (GB)

(54) Drainage system flow regulation

(57) A surface drainage system 1 comprises a drainage channel 2 and a plurality of flow regulators 3 arranged therein. The plurality of flow regulators 3 improves the storage capacity of the system 1.

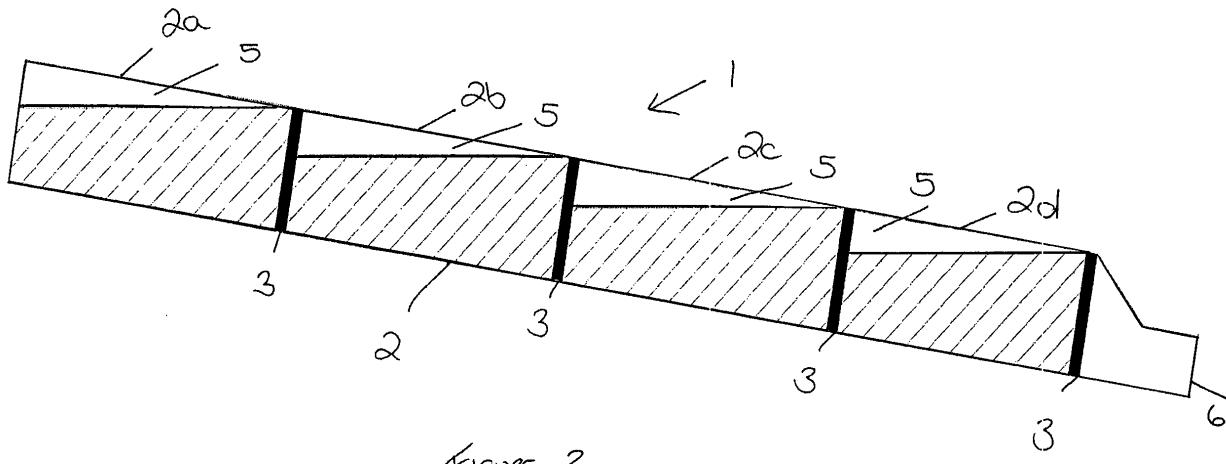


FIGURE 2



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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention EP 05 25 0859
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent
proceedings, as the European search report

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	US 6 164 869 A (GUTHLER ET AL) 26 December 2000 (2000-12-26) * column 15, line 19 - line 31; figures 10,14,66,67 *	1-13	INV. E03F3/02
Y	-----	14-23	
X	DE 42 20 880 A1 (DEDERLE, KLAUS, 4200 OBERHAUSEN, DE) 5 January 1994 (1994-01-05) * figures 9-14 *	1-3,8	
Y	----- US 2 642 723 A (REISMANN GEORGE) 23 June 1953 (1953-06-23) * column 1, line 49 - column 3, line 29; figures *	14-18, 21-23	
Y	----- FR 2 643 971 A (SIKORA BERNARD) 7 September 1990 (1990-09-07) * figure 1 *	18-20	
	-----		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E03F E02B F16K
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.			
Claims searched completely :			
Claims searched incompletely :			
Claims not searched :			
Reason for the limitation of the search:			
see sheet C			
1	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
	The Hague	23 August 2006	De Coene, P
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			



Claim(s) searched completely:
1-23

Claim(s) not searched:
24-30

Reason for the limitation of the search:

The present application contains 30 claims, of which 8 are independent. There is no clear distinction between the independent claims because of overlapping scope. There are so many claims, and they are drafted in such a way that the claims as a whole are not in compliance with the provisions of clarity and conciseness of Article 84 EPC, as it is particularly burdensome for a skilled person to establish the subject-matter for which protection is sought.

Furthermore, independent claims 27 and 30 contains a reference to the description and the drawings. According to Rule 29(6) EPC, claims should not contain such references except where absolutely necessary, which is not the case here (see the Guidelines, C-III, 4.10).

Furthermore, independent claims 24-26, 28 and 29 do not appear to address the problem underlying the invention described on page 3, paragraph 1. The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such an extent, that a meaningful search of the whole claimed subject-matter could not be carried out (Rule 45 EPC and Guidelines B-VIII, 3). The extent of the search was consequently limited.

The search was based on the subject-matter that, as far as can be understood, could reasonably be expected to be claimed later in the procedure, and the corresponding claims, namely claims 1-23

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 05 25 0859

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

23-08-2006

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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