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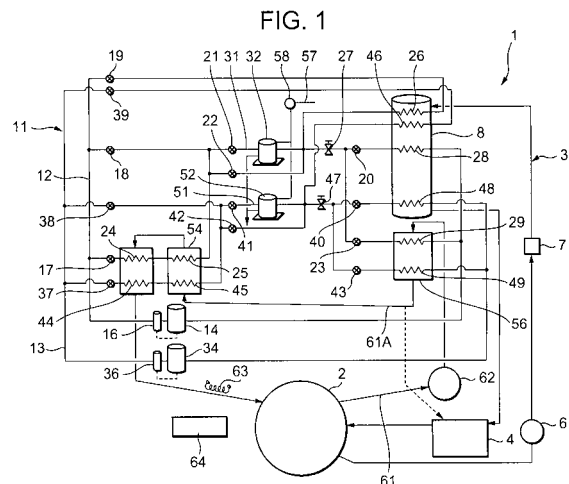
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(54) **Dry cleaner and corresponding drying machine**

(57) An object is to provide a dry cleaner (1) in which an installing operation is facilitated and in which environments are taken into consideration, and the dry cleaner (1) rotates a drum (2) containing clothing and successively executes a washing step using a washing liquid, a dewatering step, and a drying step. Heating and cooling units for executing the respective steps comprise a heat pump device (11), the washing liquid is heated by the heat pump device (11) using carbon dioxide as a refrigerant of a refrigerant circuit constituting the heat pump device (11), the washing liquid is cooled by the heat pump device (11), air supplied to the drum (2) in the drying step is heated by the heat pump device (11), and the air discharged from the drum (2) in the drying step is cooled by the heat pump device (11).



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

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)  
D06F

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04/C01)

Place of search <b>The Hague</b>	Date of completion of the search <b>2 October 2007</b>	Examiner <b>D'hulster, Etienne</b>
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<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</p> <p>.....                  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>
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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 (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>The Hague</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>2 October 2007</b>	Examiner <b>D'hulster, Etienne</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> 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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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**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:
- 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:



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: 1-12

A dry cleaner with a washing, dewatering and a drying step, the heating and cooling means for executing the respective step comprising a heat pump device

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2. claims: 13-17

A drying machine with a heat pump device for cooling and heating the air being circulated during drying, a water-cooling heat exchanger and control means for controlling the circulation or the storage of the cooling water are added to the circuit of the heat pump device.

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

EP 05 00 5498

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  
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