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(54) **Apparatus and method for winding fabric rolls with or without automatic elimination of fabric scraps and splicing of the pieces forming the roll**

(57) An apparatus and method for winding a fabric web (6) into fabric rolls (A) either with or without an automatic rejection of the defective fabric (6C) and joining of the fabric pieces forming the roll (A), in which, in the fabric (6) feeding path under the winding station (5) are provided a substantially horizontal cutting portion (7) comprising a swinging belt (11), and a following substantially vertical guide portion (8), comprising a vertical belt (17). Under the winding station (5) a swinging arm (21) is moreover provided. The fabric (6) for forming the fabric roll (A) is performed with the fabric (6) in a stretched condition, whereas the cutting for separating the defective portion (6C) pre-wound on the fabric roll (A), after having unwound it from the fabric roll (A), is carried with the fabric (6) locked between said swinging belt (11) and said swinging arm (21) in a position thereof raised for supporting the tail portion (6B) of the fabric roll (A) during the cutting for separating the tail portion (6B) of the fabric roller and the defective fabric portion. The front edge (6A) of the fabric (6) is guided to the winding station (5) along the vertical guide portion (8) in a sandwich form between said vertical belt (17) and tail portion (6B) of the fabric during its winding on the fabric roll (A). With the winding station (5) a receiving station (10) for temporarily receiving the finished fabric roll (A) is associated. By associating with the winding station (5) a second analogous winding station (36) it is possible to also form retree fabric rolls (B).

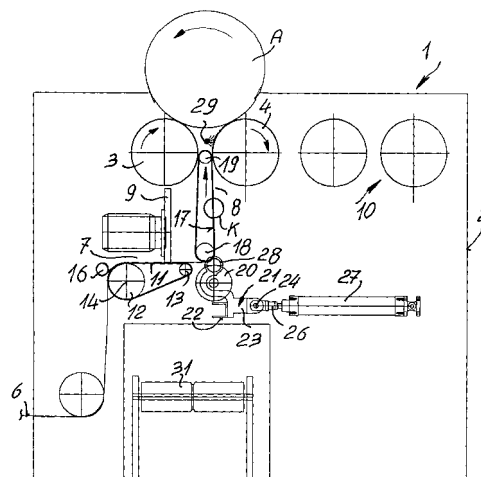


Fig. 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 05 00 9809

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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)
			B65H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 17 July 2008	Examiner De Rijck, Freddy
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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EP 05 00 9809

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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