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(54) Apparatus for tying a knot in one or more cords

(57) An apparatus for tying a knot on one or more cords comprises a knotting channel that is continuous in an active mode of the apparatus, the cord or cords being transported through said channel by an air drive so as to form a loose knot. The apparatus comprises two rigid end parts (19, 22), each comprising a slotted portion of the knotting channel and a connection (20) for the air drive, and furthermore a rigid intermediate part (26) that, in the active mode, closes off said slotted portions between the end parts so as to form portions of the knotting channel, making the knotting channel continuous by means of a recess in the intermediate part. A mechanism is further provided for moving the respective parts away

from one another into an inactive mode, such that the slotted portions become exposed and the loose knot can be tightened by a force applied to the cord or cords.

In particular, the end parts are arranged in an axial direction, and the intermediate part (26) extends in forward direction between said end parts (19, 22) transversely to said axial direction up to an end line in the active mode, said end parts substantially merging into one another at the location of said end line. Furthermore, the intermediate part widens from the end line transversely to the axial direction, and the inactive mode is achieved through a substantially non-rotational movement of at least two of said parts of the apparatus from the active mode in a direction away from said end line.

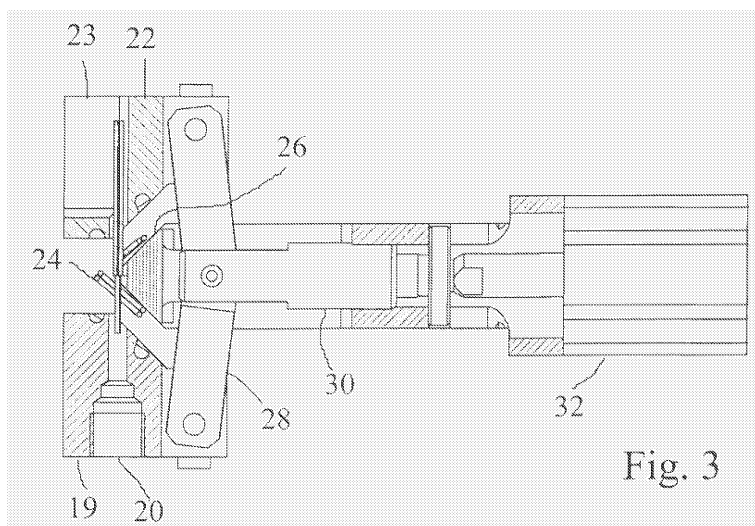


Fig. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			B65H A01G B65B A22C D03J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		7 April 2006	D'Hulster, E
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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