



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
26.12.2007 Bulletin 2007/52

(51) Int Cl.:
A47L 9/24 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
14.12.2005 Bulletin 2005/50

(21) Application number: **05356033.0**

(22) Date of filing: **14.02.2005**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR
 Designated Extension States:
AL BA HR LV MK YU

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(30) Priority: **09.06.2004 KR 2004042028**

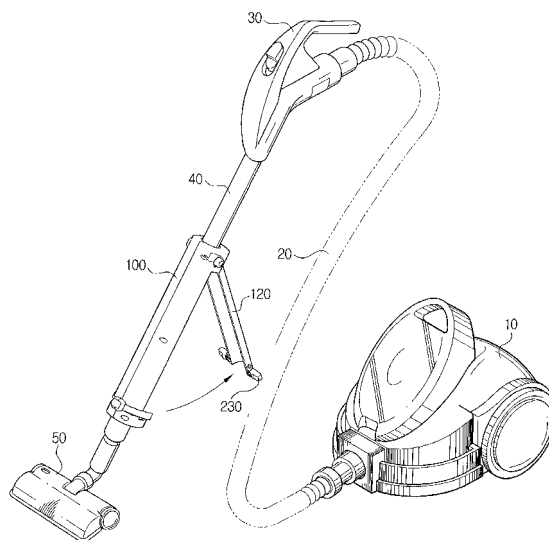
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(54) **Extension pipe supporting apparatus and a vacuum cleaner having the same**

(57) An extension pipe supporting apparatus (100) is pivotally attached to a vacuum cleaner extension pipe (40) so as to be retractable into a storage position. The extension pipe supporting apparatus (100) provides an included support (120) for a vacuum cleaner extension pipe (40) by which a vacuum cleaner extension pipe (40) can be independently supported in a substantially upright position. The extension pipe supporting apparatus (100) comprises a shell member mounted to an extension pipe of the vacuum cleaner, and a supporting member (120) engaged with the shell member and pivoting between a first position and a second position, the first position in which the extension pipe is supported in a standing posture on a floor and the second position in which the supporting member is folded to be in contact with the extension pipe. Accordingly, the user can keep the extension pipe in a standing posture on a floor, and therefore, the user does not have to bend over to pick up the extension pipe from the floor when restarting the cleaning work.

FIG. 4





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 35 6033

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 8 November 2007	Examiner Clarke, Alister
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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