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(11)

EP 1 617 036 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
25.01.2006 Bulletin 2006/04

(51) Int Cl.:
E06B 9/32 (2006.01) E06B 9/76 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
18.01.2006 Bulletin 2006/03

(21) Application number: **05023187.7**

(22) Date of filing: **20.11.2002**

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

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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
02258004.7 / 1 422 377

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(54) Apparatus and method for controlling blind

(57) A blind control apparatus (20) is disclosed to include a linking mechanism (21), which has a driving force input unit (22) and a driving force output portion (23) and is installed in a headrail (11) of a blind and is controlled to move a blind body (12) of the blind to regulate the light, air, etc., and an independent operating device (25) de-

tachably connected to the driving force input unit (22) of the linking mechanism (21). The operating device (25) has an operating portion (26) for enabling the user to hold and an actuating portion (27) for connecting the operating device (25) to the driving force input unit (22) and rotating the driving force input unit (22) upon operation of the operation portion (26).

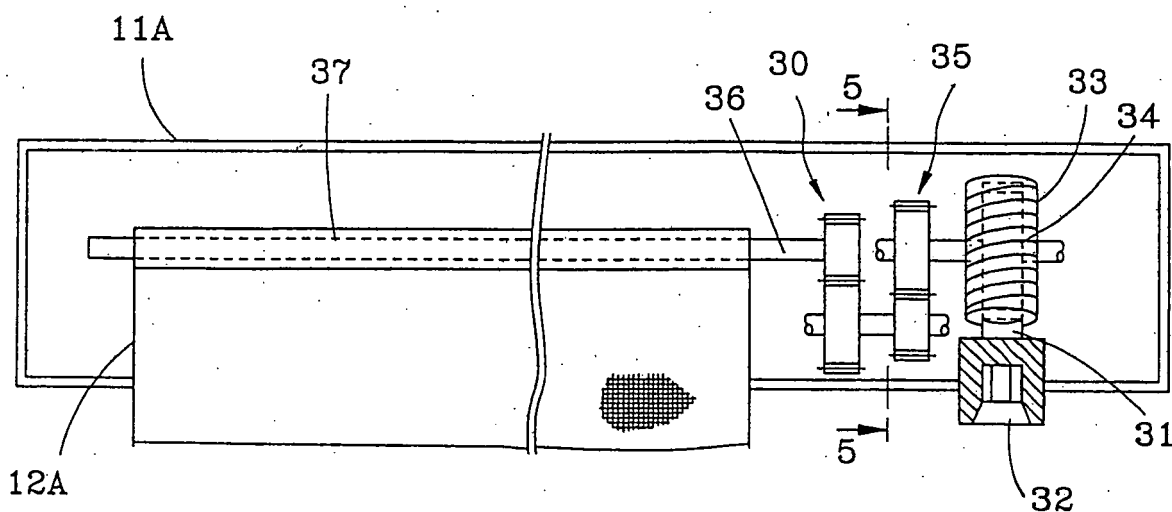


FIG. 4

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 02 3187

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 4 628 979 A (HSU ET AL) 16 December 1986 (1986-12-16) * the whole document *	1,3-6,10	E06B9/32 E06B9/76
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X	FR 2 141 534 A (RIOU JEAN) 26 January 1973 (1973-01-26) * the whole document *	1-3,10	
X	FR 2 692 002 A (MAURIN PATRICK) 10 December 1993 (1993-12-10) * the whole document *	7-9	
A		6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E06B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		23 November 2005	Geivaerts, D
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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EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)



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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:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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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: 1-6,10

Apparatus for controlling a blind having a worm and wormgear transmission and a transmission gear set.

2. claims: 7-9

Method to operate a blind using a detachable operating device

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

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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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23-11-2005

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