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(72) Inventor: **Badenhop, Wilhelm**
7555 WN Hengelo (NL)

(74) Representative: **Winckels, Johannes Hubertus F. et al**
Vereenigde,
Johan de Wittlaan 7
2517 JR Den Haag (NL)

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(71) Applicant: **N.V. Nederlandsche Apparatenfabriek NEDAP**
7141 DC Groenlo (NL)

(54) **Electronic article surveillance system and method**

(57) An electronic shoplifting detection system, provided with a number of electronic labels, wherein the system is provided with first detection means to detect the presence of an electronic label in at least one detection zone to be passed by, for instance, persons, wherein the detection zone can be passed in at least one first and one second passage direction, wherein the detection system is arranged to produce an alarm upon detection of an electronic label, wherein the detection system is provided with second detection means which are arranged to determine in which passage direction the persons and/or electronic labels pass the at least one detection zone, wherein the detection system is further provided with data processing means arranged to couple a detection of an electronic label to a determined passage direction for distinguishing a label detection when said detection zone has been passed in the first passage direction and a label detection when said detection zone has been passed in the second passage direction.

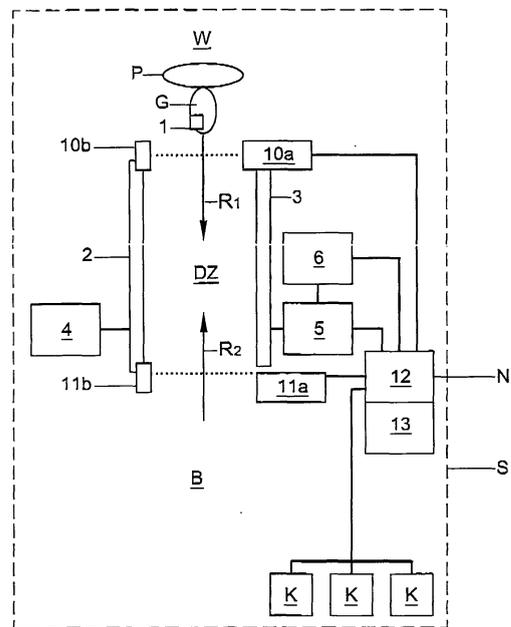


Fig. 1



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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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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
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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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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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