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### (54) Vehicle supporting surface for a level crossing

(57) A vehicle-supporting surface incorporating at least one rail (102). The surface includes first and second panels (106A, 312) of compressible material that are arranged to be fitted together such that a surface of the first panel at least partially abuts a corresponding surface of the second panel. The first and second panels each

include respective interengagable formations (126A, 310) at least partially embedded within them and located at their abutting surfaces. The interengagable formations are configured to at least partially counteract forces resulting from the compression of the panels in the region of the abutment.

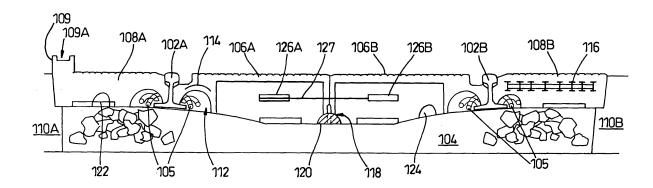


Fig. 1

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# **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number EP 06 25 2526

Category	Citation of document with inc of relevant passag		Relevant to claim	t CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)	
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X : part Y : part docu A : tech	ATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ioularly relevant if taken alone cularly relevant if combined with another iment of the same category nological background written disclosure	T : theory or principle E : earlier patent door after the filling date D : document cited in L : document cited fo	underlying the i ument, but publi the application r other reasons	invention shed on, or	



Application Number

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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:
1-14,16
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:



### 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: 1-4,10-14,16

A vehicle supporting surface including first and second panels of compressible material with respective interengageable formations at their abutting surfaces, the interengageable formations being configured to, when engaged, counteract forces resulting from the compression of the panels. One of the formations includes a generally upwardly projecting portion and the other formation a generally downwardly projecting portion.

2. claims: 1,5-9,14,16

A vehicle supporting surface including first and second panels of compressible material with respective interengageable formations at their abutting surfaces, the interengageable formations being configured to, when engaged, counteract forces resulting from the compression of the panels. One of the formations includes a member having a slot, channel or groove and the other formation includes a portion that engages the slot, channel or groove.

3. claims: 1,15,16

A vehicle supporting surface including first and second panels of compressible material with respective interengageable formations at their abutting surfaces, the interengageable formations being configured to, when engaged, counteract forces resulting from the compression of the panels, the vehicle supporting surface further including a device for assisting with holding a rail against a side of the panel.

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

EP 06 25 2526

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 The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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