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(54) **Thermal physical exercise cabin**

(57) The invention relates to a thermo physical method cab, comprising a base (2) which is provided for carrying out gymnastic and/or muscular exercises by a user

(3), whereby the base (2) is provided with elastic resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user (3), wherein the elastic resistance means consist of elastic ropes (4).

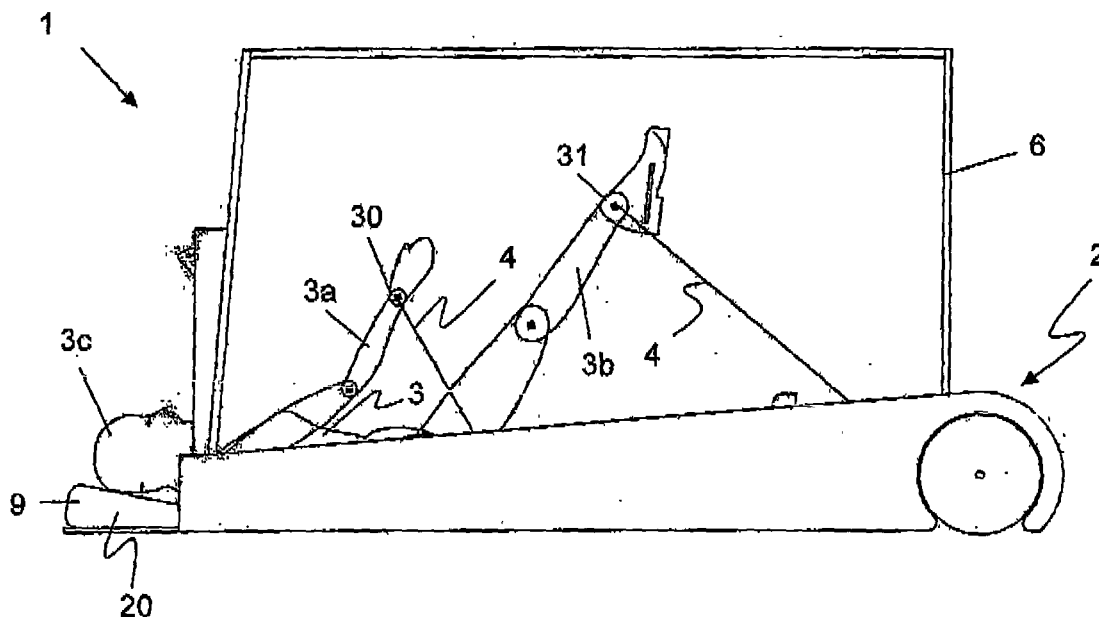


FIG. 1

Description

[0001] The invention relates to a thermo physical method cab, comprising a base which is provided for carrying out gymnastic and/or muscular exercises by a user, whereby the base is provided with elastic resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user.

[0002] A thermo physical method cab consists of a base which is provided for carrying out gymnastic exercises by a user, and a cover which is preferably made out of a transparent Plexiglas. The cab is heated to a temperature of approximately 37 °C. At this temperature, muscular pain caused by the gymnastic exercises is prevented. The heating is preferably done by infrared lamps. Through the use of resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user, the gymnastic exercises are more intensive through which there is a slimming effect on the desired places. The combination of heat and intensive muscular activity are responsible for a larger production of glucose glycogen, because the body needs more fuel. When there is not enough glucose, the fats are drawn on, through which the fat bums and the user slims. There is also a better blood circulation and a better removal of the waste products of the body.

[0003] Already different cabs of that kind are known. In EP 6 066 087, a bed for motor activity for aesthetic and slimming treatments is described, comprising at least a base on which the user can rest and a cover in the shape of a dome with an opening associated with closing and insulating means. The bed has means to carry out gymnastic and muscular exercises of the upper and/or lower limbs.

[0004] The means to do exercises to extend and contract the muscles of the upper and lower limbs can for instance exist of elastic resistance elements in the form of spiral springs which oppose the pulling force exerted by the user.

[0005] However, the disadvantage of such spiral springs is that they easily break through which they very often have to be replaced.

[0006] Instead of elastic resistance elements, also weights can be used. However, weights have the disadvantage that they cause a lot of friction and consequently a lot of wear of the cables they are hang on to, through which these cables have to be replaced very frequently. Furthermore, it is a complex training system because of three cable pulleys, a mass block and five rollers. Another disadvantage of a system with weights is that it is difficult to maintain. Cable pulleys and rollers have to be sprayed with a silicone spray in order to avoid noise disturbance and in order to guarantee a good functioning of the cable pulleys. When there is a defect to the weights, the parts are difficult to replace because of the fact that they are very difficult to reach.

[0007] In EP 1 514 582, an improved device for slimming down is described, which mainly consists of a bed above which are provided infrared lamps and of means for training the muscles. These means consist of a mass

provided in an upward guide and suspended onto a cable which is guided over at least on cable pulley.

[0008] Also here, a disadvantage of such a training system is that they cause a lot of friction and consequently a lot of wear.

[0009] It is a purpose of the invention to provide a thermo physical method cab as described in the preamble of claim 1, wherein the elastic resilient means do not very often have to be replaced, and when they have to be replaced, they are easy to reach. Furthermore, the maintenance of the elastic resistance means have to be easy.

[0010] The purpose of this invention is achieved by providing a thermo physical method cab, comprising a base which is provided for carrying out gymnastic and/or muscular exercises by a user, whereby the base is provided with elastic resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user, wherein the elastic resistance means consist of elastic ropes.

[0011] By providing elastic ropes, the elastic resistance means are less sensitive to wear through which they can be used for a very long time without the need to replace them. Furthermore, a training system with elastic ropes is easy to maintain, and the elastic ropes are easy to reach and to replace.

[0012] In a preferred embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, the base is provided with brass fittings for sliding the elastic ropes therein.

This has the advantage that also the fittings wherein the elastic ropes slide do not often have to be replaced and have only sporadically to be replaced.

[0013] In an advantageous embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, at least one of its side edges in width direction, the base is provided with one or more elastic ropes such that the user is able to do exercises with the arms.

[0014] In an advantageous embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, at its bottom part in length direction, the base is provided with one or more elastic ropes such that the user is able to do exercises with the legs.

[0015] In a preferred embodiment according to the invention, the base is provided with several elastic ropes next to each other in order to obtain a different pulling resistance.

[0016] Another problem of the known thermo physical method cabs as described above using weights is that only one resistance element is possible.

[0017] An additional purpose of the invention is to provide a thermo physical method cab with one or more of the characteristics of the invention, but wherefore furthermore a user can train at different power levels.

[0018] This purpose is achieved by providing a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, in which the base is provided with several elastic ropes next to each other in order to obtain a different pulling resistance,

[0019] In a preferred embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, the elastic ropes

consist of an elastic core surrounded by fine braiding in polyamide.

[0020] In an advantageous embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, the elastic ropes have a diameter of approximately 6 mm.

[0021] In a favourable thermo physical method cab according to the invention, the elastic ropes have a weight per 100 m of approximately 2,60 kg/100m and a breaking strength of approximately 50 daN.

[0022] In a preferred embodiment of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention, at at least one side in the width direction and/or at its bottom part in length direction, the base comprises a space wherein the elastic ropes are provided

[0023] In a more preferred thermo physical method cab according to the invention, one or more of the spaces are closed off by means of a downwardly or upwardly foldable closing member.

[0024] This has the advantage that the replacement of the elastic ropes when they are worn or when there is a defect, can be easily done.

[0025] The characteristics and particularities of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention are further explained hereafter on the basis of an implemented example, with reference to the drawings enclosed. It should be noted that specific aspects of this example are described as preferred examples only of what is meant in the scope of the general description of the invention mentioned above and on no account may be interpreted as a restriction of the scope of the invention as such and as expressed in the following claims.

[0026] In the drawings enclosed,

- **figures 1 and 2** are a side view of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention wherein gymnastic and/or muscular exercises are done by the user in different positions;
- **figure 3** is an elevated view of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention;
- **figure 4** is a detailed view of part A of figure 3;
- **figure 5** is a front view of a thermo physical method cab according to the invention.

[0027] A thermo physical method cab (1) according to the invention, as shown in figures 1 and 2, comprises a base (2) which is provided for carrying out gymnastic and/or muscular exercises by a user (3). The base (2) comprises a bed (20) which is provided for the user (3) to lie down or to kneel when doing the gymnastic and/or muscular exercises. Above the bed (20), a cover (6), preferably made of Plexiglas, is provided. As shown in figure 5, the cover (6) is closed off by means of a curtain (7), in order to keep the heat into the cab (1) and consequently to obtain a constant temperature in the cab (1). The curtain (7) is preferably provided with an opening (8) or with incisions (not shown on the figure) for keeping the head (3c) of the user (3) outside the cab (1) when the user (3) is lying down onto the bed (20). Preferably, the bed (20)

is provided with a raised head end (9) and/or with a pillow (not shown on the figure) to rest the head (3c) of the user (3) when this user (3) is lying down onto the bed (20). The cab (1) is preferably provided with one or more infrared lamps (not shown on the figures) and a (heating) convector (17) in order to obtain a substantially constant temperature of 37 °C within the cab (1).

[0028] The base (2) is provided with elastic resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user (3) in order to do muscular exercises, the elastic resistance means consisting of elastic ropes (4). In order to slidably mount the elastic ropes (4) in the base (2), the base (2) is provided with brass fittings (5) (see figure 4). As shown in figure 2, at at least one of its side edges in width direction (10), the base (2) is provided with one or more elastic ropes (4) such that, as shown in figure 1, the user (3) is able to do exercises with the arms (3a). At the bottom part in length direction (11), the base (2) is provided with one or more elastic ropes (4) such that the user (3) is able to do exercises with the legs (3b), as shown in figures 1 and 2. In order to obtain a different pulling resistance, the base (2) can be provided with several elastic ropes (4) next to each other (not shown on the figures). At at least one side in the width direction (10) and/or at its bottom part (11) in length direction, the base (2) comprises a space (12) wherein the elastic ropes (4) are provided. One or more of the spaces (12) are closed off by means of a downwardly or upwardly foldable closing member (13). The closing member (13) can easily be folded up and down by means of a handle (23). In the thermo physical cab as shown in figure 3, in width direction two spaces (12) are provided, which both can be closed off by means of a downwardly or upwardly foldable closing member (13). The elastic ropes (4) are mounted onto a pulley system (14) which is mounted into the one or more spaces (12). The elastic ropes (4) are fixed in the spaces (12) by means of a clamp (15), as can be seen in figures 3 and 4. On the other side of the elastic ropes (4) which extend through the brass fittings (5) into the space within the cover (6) of the cab (1), a hook (16) is provided for attaching a belt (not shown in the figure) which are provided for being placed around the wrist (30) and/or the ankle (31) of the user (3) (see figures 1 and 2).

[0029] The elastic ropes (4) consist of an elastic core surrounded by fine braiding in polyamide. The elastic ropes (4) have a diameter of approximately 6 mm. a weight per 100 m of approximately 2,60 kg/100m and a breaking strength of approximately 50 daN. An example of an elastic rope (4) which preferably is used is Sandow M-S 619 of the firm Meyer-Sansboeuf Groupe Meister SA - France.

Claims

1. Thermo physical method cab, comprising a base (2) which is provided for carrying out gymnastic and/or muscular exercises by a user (3), whereby the base

(2) is provided with elastic resistance means for opposing a pulling force exerted by the user (3), **characterised in that** the elastic resistance means consist of elastic ropes (4).

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2. Thermo physical method cab according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the base (2) is provided with brass fittings (5) for sliding the elastic ropes (4) therein.

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3. Thermo physical method cab according to claim 1 or 2, **characterised in that** at at least one of its side edges in width direction (10), the base (2) is provided with one or more elastic ropes (4) such that the user (3) is able to do exercises with the arms (3a).

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4. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 3, **characterised in that** at its bottom part in length direction (11), the base (2) is provided with one or more elastic ropes (4) such that the user (3) is able to do exercises with the legs (3b),

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5. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 4, **characterised in that** the base (2) is provided with several elastic ropes (4) next to each other in order to obtain a different pulling resistance.

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6. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 5, **characterised in that** the elastic ropes (4) consist of an elastic core surrounded by fine braiding in polyamide.

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7. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 6, **characterised in that** the elastic ropes (4) have a diameter of approximately 6 mm.

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8. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 7, **characterised in that** the elastic ropes (4) have a weight per 100 m of approximately 2,60 kg/100m and a breaking strength of approximately 50 daN.

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9. Thermo physical method cab according to any one of claims 1 to 8, **characterised in that** at at least one side in the width direction (10) and/or at its bottom part in length direction (11), the base (2) comprises a space (12) wherein the elastic ropes (4) are provided

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10. Thermo physical method cab according to claim 9, **characterised in that** one or more of the spaces (12) are closed off by means of a downwardly or upwardly foldable closing member (13).

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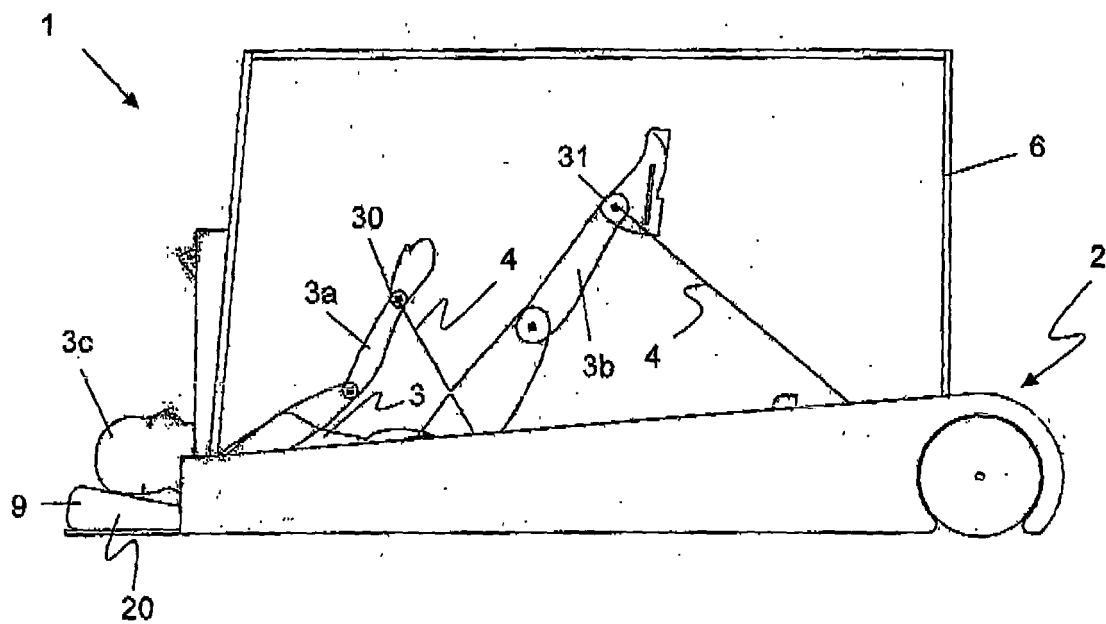


FIG. 1

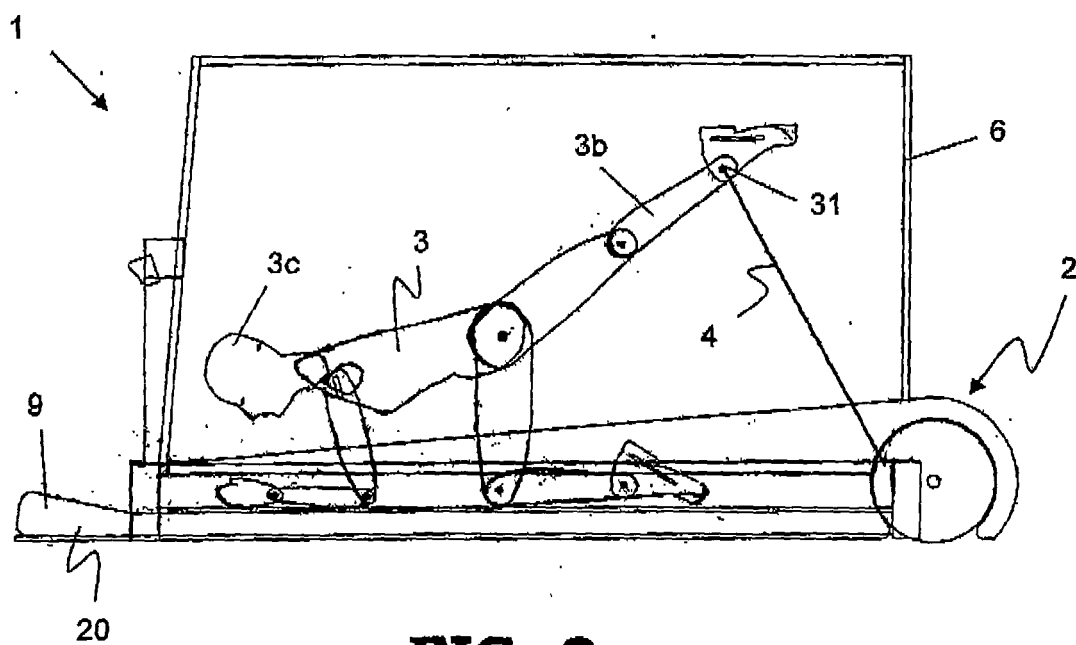


FIG. 2

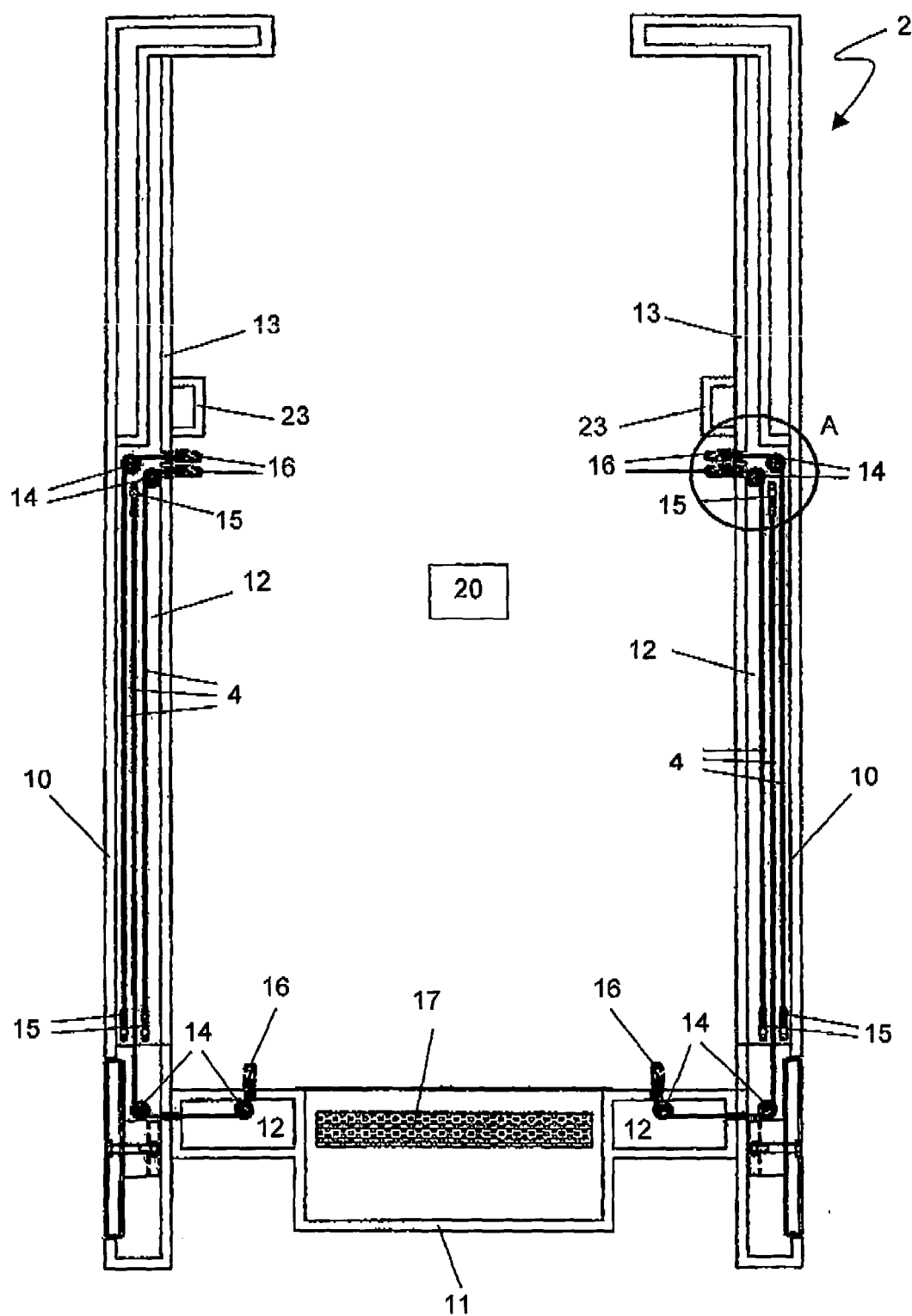


FIG. 3

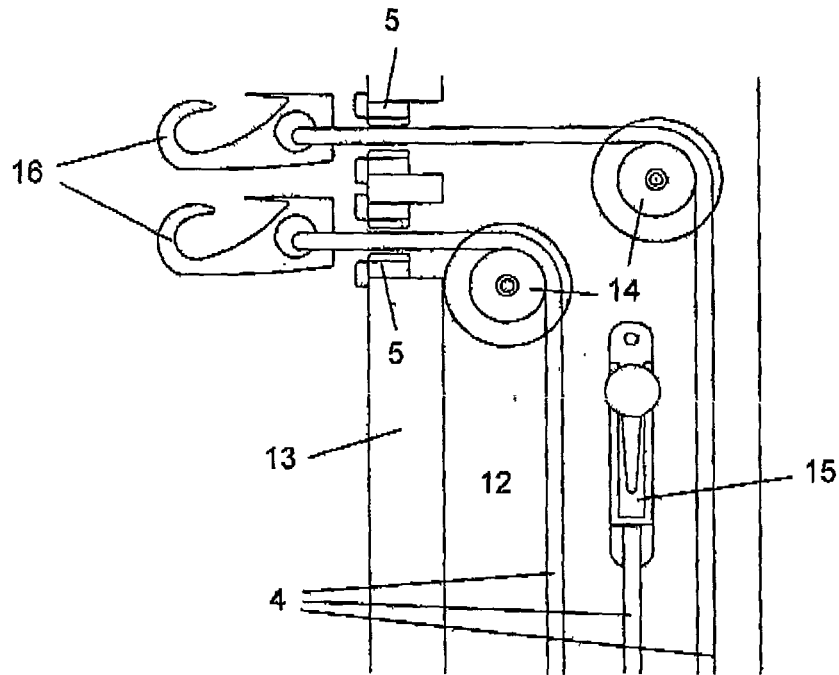
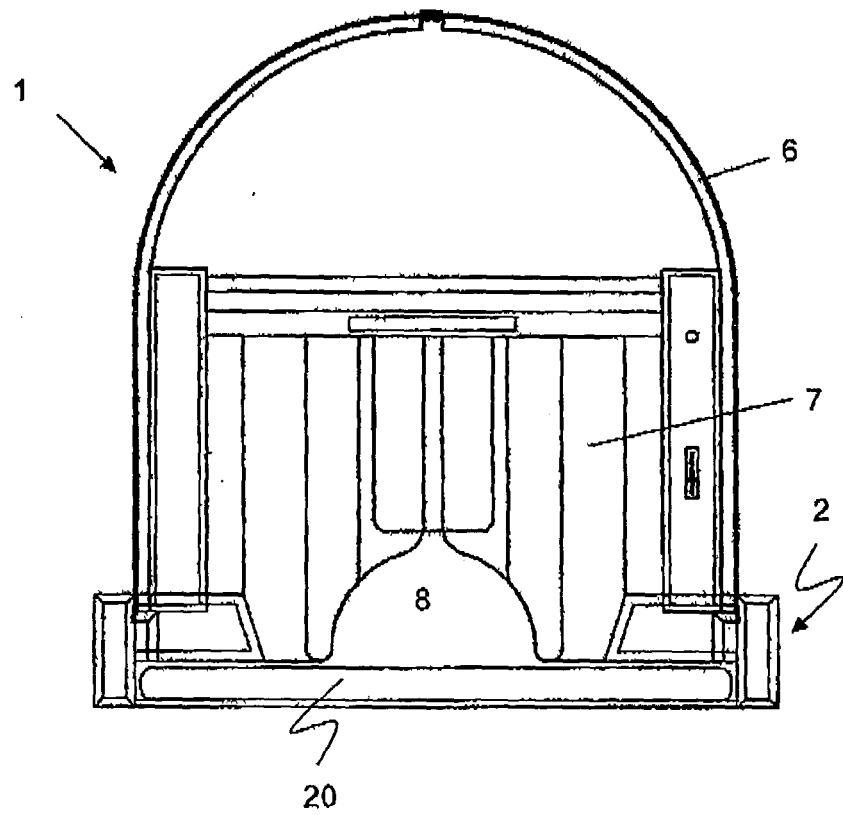


FIG. 4

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FIG. 5





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 07 6603

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		16 January 2006	Knoflacher, N
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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**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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