



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
13.06.2007 Bulletin 2007/24

(51) Int Cl.:
B65B 19/22 (2006.01) **B65B 61/18** (2006.01)
B65B 61/02 (2006.01) **B65B 57/04** (2006.01)
B65B 19/28 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
04.04.2007 Bulletin 2007/14

(21) Application number: **06121382.3**

(22) Date of filing: **27.09.2006**

(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 LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR

Designated Extension States:
AL BA HR MK YU

(30) Priority: **28.09.2005 IT BO20050586**

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(54) **Method and device for producing a cigarette packet**

(57) A method and device (1) for producing a cigarette packet (2) having an inner wrapping (3), which is defined by a sheet (3') of heat-seal material folded about

a group (G) of cigarettes, and has an opening closed by an adhesive patch (7); the correct position of the patch (7) is determined after the patch (7) is applied to the sheet (3') of heat-seal material.

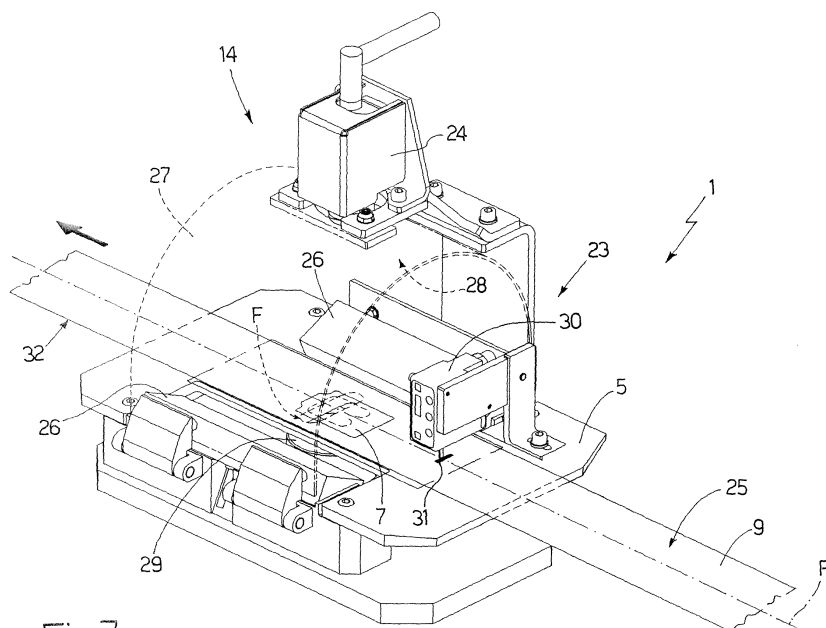


Fig.7



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 12 1382

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	EP 0 967 161 A (GD SPA [IT]) 29 December 1999 (1999-12-29) * column 4, line 42 - column 7, line 21; figures *	1,22	INV. B65B19/22 B65B61/18 B65B61/02 B65B57/04 B65B19/28
A	EP 0 895 946 A1 (FOCKE & CO [DE] FOCKE & CO GMBH & CO KG [DE]) 10 February 1999 (1999-02-10) * column 4, line 44 - column 8, line 30; figures *	1,22	
A	EP 0 677 444 A1 (GD SPA [IT]) 18 October 1995 (1995-10-18) * column 2, line 13 - column 3, line 23; figures *	1,22	
A	EP 0 589 289 A2 (FOCKE & CO [DE]) 30 March 1994 (1994-03-30) * column 2, line 25 - column 4, line 27; figures *	1,22	
A	WO 01/60715 A2 (GD SPA [IT]; DRAGHETTI FIORENZO [IT]; LI VIGNI ANGELO [IT]) 23 August 2001 (2001-08-23) * claims; figures *	1,22	
A	EP 1 026 082 A (FOCKE & CO [DE]) 9 August 2000 (2000-08-09) * claims; figures *	1,22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) B65B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		6 February 2007	Jagusiak, Antony
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:

1-17; 22-38



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: 1-17;22-38

Controlling the correct positioning of a patch applied onto a slit in a strip of heat-seal material for producing the inner wrapping of a cigarette packet.

2. claim: 18;39

Checking of the presence of the patch.

3. claim: 19;40

Application of the patch on a strip fed by a suction belt.

4. claim: 20;41

Sealing by electromagnetic induction of the superimposed portions of a sheet folded about a group of cigarettes.

5. claim: 21;42

Application of the patch to the strip by air jet.

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

EP 06 12 1382

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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06-02-2007

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