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(54) **Weft stock detector for weft feeders**

(57) The weft stock detector is suitable for weft feeders provided with a stationary drum (12) having yarn loops wound thereon and forming a weft stock (RT). Three feeler arms (22, 24, 26) are hinged by side of the drum about respective axes (28, 30, 32) and are biased with their respective contact ends (34a) against the lateral surface of the drum by respective biasing means for

swinging in relation to the presence/absence of loops on the drum. The biasing means comprise a first magnet (42) supported on the feeler arm (34), and a second magnet (44) having equal polarity and supported at a fixed position in front of the first magnet. Each feeler arm is provided with a magnetic sensor (46) for detecting the movements of the respective feeler arm.

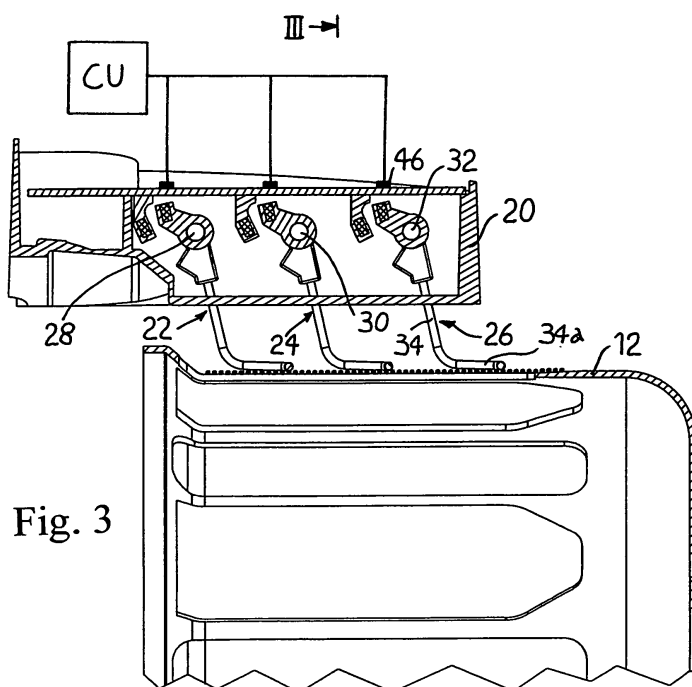


Fig. 3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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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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A	EP 1 577 246 A (LGL ELECTRONICS SPA [IT]) 21 September 2005 (2005-09-21) * paragraphs [0015] - [0017]; figures 2,3 *		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			D03D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		19 March 2009	Pussemier, Bart
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)

**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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