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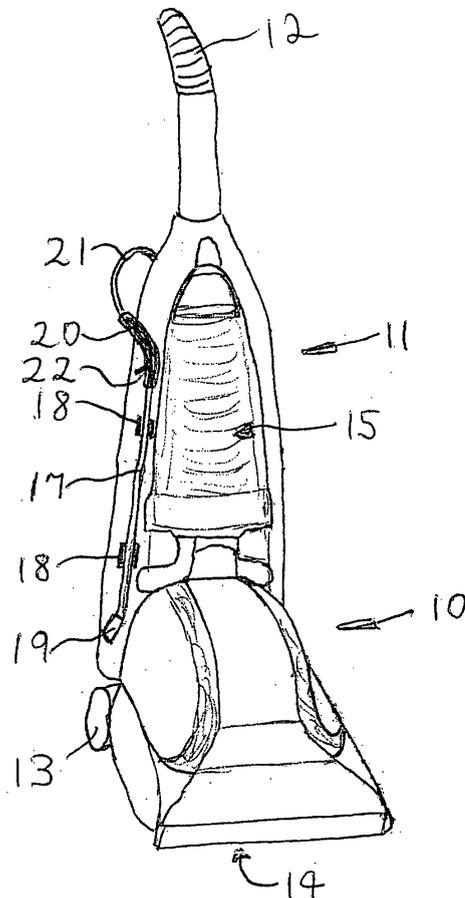
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(54) **Machine for cleaning a surface e.g. a floor surface**

(57) A machine (10), for example a carpet cleaning machine, for cleaning a surface by application of a cleaning liquid thereto and removal of the liquid therefrom, is additionally provided with a manually controllable means for applying fluid to the surface. This may comprise a wand (17) with a spray nozzle (19), manually usable to deliver extra cleaning liquid or some other treatment material to the surface.



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European Patent Office

PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 63 of the European Patent Convention EP 06 02 5027 shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 6 206 980 B1 (ROBINSON ROBERT S [US]) 27 March 2001 (2001-03-27) * column 3, lines 30-38 * * column 5, line 26 - column 6, line 28 * * column 9, lines 43-52; figures 1-4 *	1-7,9-14	INV. A47L11/34
Y	-----	8	
Y	US 4 621 770 A (SAYEN MICHAEL D [US]) 11 November 1986 (1986-11-11) * column 3, lines 31-33; figure 2 *	8	
X	US 2002/092117 A1 (KASPER GARY A [US] ET AL) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18) * paragraphs [0003], [0056], [0075], [0084], [0087] - [0091]; figures 1-4,23 *	1-3,9,11-13	
X	US 6 073 300 A (ZAHURANEC TERRY L [US] ET AL) 13 June 2000 (2000-06-13) * column 1, paragraph 1-4 * * column 2, lines 43-63 * * column 5, lines 9-24 * * column 14, line 48 - column 15, line 8; figures 1,3,22 *	1,2,13	
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INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C</p>			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 6 February 2008	Examiner PAPADIMITRIOU, S
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p>		<p>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</p>	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	US 4 956 891 A (WULFF RICHARD F [US]) 18 September 1990 (1990-09-18) * column 4, lines 16-25; figures 4,10 * -----	1	
X	US 4 809 397 A (JACOBS PAUL G [US] ET AL) 7 March 1989 (1989-03-07) * column 3, lines 16-31; figure 4 * -----	1	
X	US 2003/217430 A1 (MONTGOMERY JOHN E [US]) 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27) * paragraphs [0011], [0040]; figure 1 * -----	1	
A	EP 1 060 800 A (LAVORWASH S R L [IT]) 20 December 2000 (2000-12-20) * abstract; figures 1,2 * -----	4-8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	US 3 904 116 A (JONES JOHN E ET AL) 9 September 1975 (1975-09-09) * column 2, lines 34-45; figures 1,2 * -----	4-8	



Claim(s) not searched:
15,16

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Independent claims 15 and 16 do not define clearly and unambiguously the subject-matter for which protection is sought, contrary to the provisions of Art. 84 EPC.

**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:
- The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



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: 1,2,13 (when appendant on claim 1)

a surface cleaning machine with localised fluid application and especially suitable for carpet cleaning.

2. claims: 1,3,9-12

a surface cleaning machine with improved cleaning fluid supply means.

3. claims: 1,4-8,13,14 (claims 13 and 14 when appendant on claim 6)

a surface cleaning machine with improved fluid supply regulation and suitable for treating carpets.

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

EP 06 02 5027

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.

06-02-2008

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