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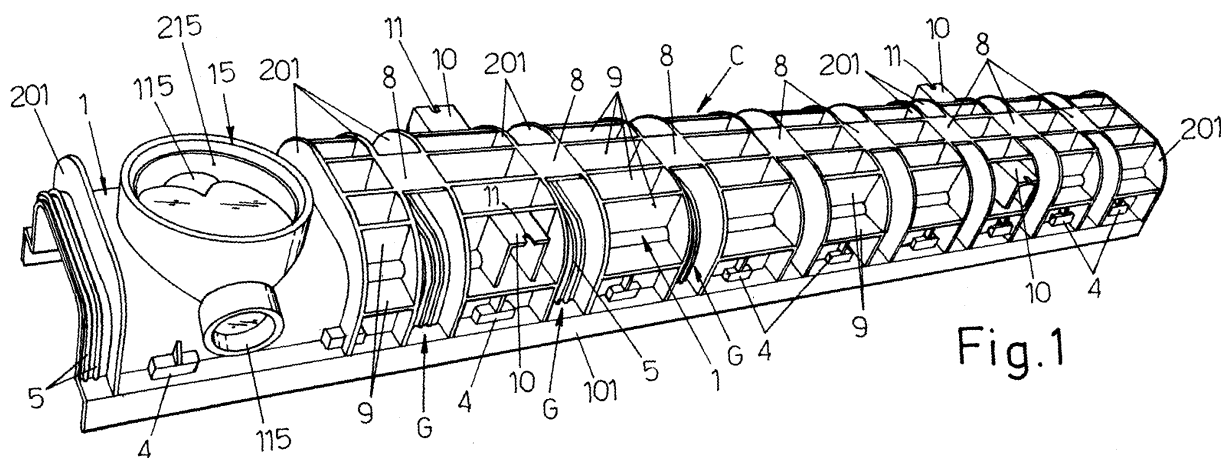
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(54) **Reinforced sectional gutter**

(57) The invention describes a reinforced sectional and modular gutter (C), with improved male (5) and female (6) joints at its extremities and with improved male joints (5) in the intermediate zones (G) for the formation of submultiples of gutter always with male and female joints at the extremities. It is also described the formation externally provided with ribs of a modular gutter, which improves its rigidity, its resistance to mechanical stresses and which improves the anchoring of the poured cement or concrete inside which it will be embedded. Each mod-

ular gutter is provided at one end with joints (15, 115) for pipes for the inlet or discharge of water, which are in origin closed but can be opened easily. It is also described an improved head element (S) for the shutter closure of the extremities of the gutter or for the closure of the not utilised parts of a cross joint (X) which can be associated with sectional and modular gutters in order to increase their flexibility of employment in the formation of linear drainage channels or with interconnection of the L-, T- or cross- type.



**Fig.1**



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 07 11 0549

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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Y	US 2006/072971 A1 (SUAZO KENNETH L [US] ET AL) 6 April 2006 (2006-04-06) * abstract; figures 1,2 *	1-3	
Y	EP 0 542 701 A1 (FIRST PLAST SRL [IT]) 19 May 1993 (1993-05-19) * the whole document *	3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E01C E03F
<p>2 <del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del></p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		25 January 2011	Kerouach, May
<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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 07 11 0549

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

**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:

see additional sheet(s)

☐ 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).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 07 11 0549

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: 1-6

Modular gutter with a specific connection profile for increasing the watertightness of the connection between two gutter modules.

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2. claims: 7-12

Modular gutter with transverse fins for reinforcing the rigidity and resistance to mechanical stresses of the gutter.

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3. claims: 13, 14

Modular gutter comprising a double-diameter pipe connector to increase the flexibility of connection of the gutter to external water pipes.

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4. claims: 15-18

Modular gutter comprising a cross joint to increase the flexibility of forming gutter having L-, T- or cross shaped configurations.

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

EP 07 11 0549

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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25-01-2011

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82