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(72) Inventors:
• **Balletti, Leonardo**
40068 San Lazzaro di Savena (IT)
• **Eusepi, Ivan**
40013 Castelmaggiore (IT)
• **Sgrignuoli, Vittorio**
40127 Bologna (IT)

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(74) Representative: **Jorio, Paolo et al**
Studio Torta S.r.l.
Via Viotti, 9
10121 Torino (IT)

(71) Applicant: **G.D SOCIETÀ PER AZIONI**
40133 Bologna (IT)

(54) **Cutting unit for cutting at least one continuous rod**

(57) A cutting unit (1), for cutting at least one continuous rod (2), has a rotary cutting drum (5) with at least one radial blade (7); a cutting block device (8) having at least one blade-guide bush (9), which is advanced a given distance together with and enclosing the continuous rod (2), and has a transverse through slit (10) engaged by the blade (7) of the cutting drum (5) during the cutting operation; a first electric motor (14) for rotating the cutting

drum (5) about a central axis of rotation (6); and an actuating system (11) for actuating and imparting to the blade-guide bush (9) a given cyclic law of motion synchronized with rotation of the cutting drum (5), and which has a second electric motor (15) mechanically independent of the first electric motor (14), and a control device (16) for controlling the second electric motor (15) to synchronize the second electric motor (15) with the first electric motor (14).

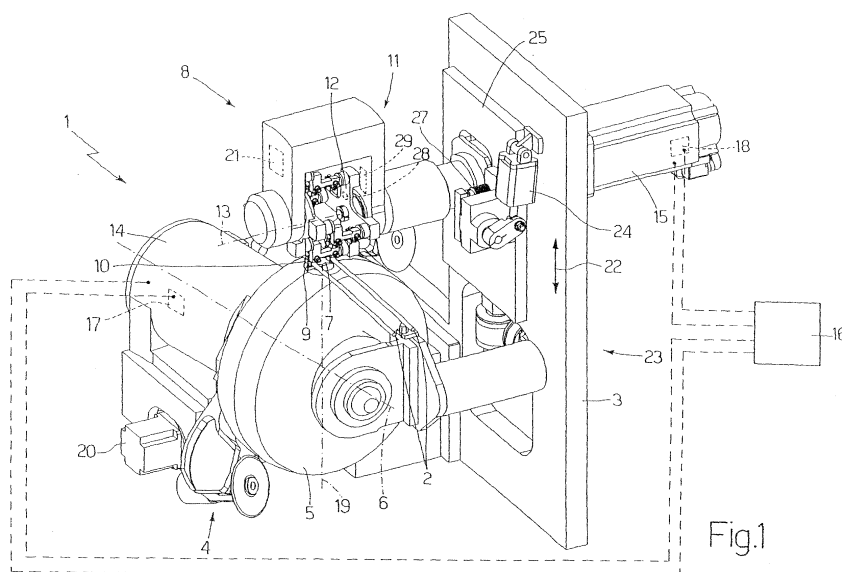


Fig.1



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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 63 of the European Patent Convention EP 07 11 7447 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)
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Y	* paragraphs [0018], [0030] - [0037]; figures 4,5 *	3,6,10,13,17,18	B26D3/16 B26D7/06 B26D1/56
D,Y	WO 2005/048746 A (GD SPA [IT]; DRAGHETTI FIORENZO [IT]; SEREN EMANUELE [IT]) 2 June 2005 (2005-06-02)	3,13,17	A24C5/31
A	* page 3 - page 9; claims 2,3; figures 1,2 *	14,15	
D,Y	WO 2005/089574 A (FOCKE & CO GMBH & CO KG [DE]; JESSEN THOMAS [DE]; POHL STEFFEN [DE]) 29 September 2005 (2005-09-29)	6,10,18	
	* page 3 - page 8; figures 1-9 *		
A	EP 0 780 060 A (GD SPA [IT]) 25 June 1997 (1997-06-25)	6	
	* the whole document *		
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INCOMPLETE SEARCH 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. Claims searched completely : Claims searched incompletely : Claims not searched : Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 14 March 2008	Examiner Maier, Michael
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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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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A	& US 4 463 766 A (ARTHUR HIGH M [GB] ET AL) 7 August 1984 (1984-08-07) * the whole document *		
A	& US 4 372 327 A (DYETT DEREK H [GB] ET AL) 8 February 1983 (1983-02-08) * the whole document *		

A	US 2004/118418 A1 (HANCOCK LLOYD HARMON [US] ET AL HANCOCK LLOYD HARMON [US] ET AL) 24 June 2004 (2004-06-24) * paragraphs [0059], [0138] *	3	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)

A	US 1 850 050 A (FREDERIC RUAU FELIX) 15 March 1932 (1932-03-15) * the whole document *	1	



Claim(s) not searched:
7-9, 11,12

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Claims 7 to 9 are directed to embodiments cursorily disclosed on page 10, lines 12 to 29, but without any relation to the publications WO-A-2005/089574 or US-A-3479913A, which are mentioned on page 6, lines 8 to 17, which relate to an embodiment which appears to correspond to what is claimed in claim 6. No further instruction is given in the application how to provide a cutting unit according to claim 1, comprising a number of interchangeable wheels, etc. Therefore claims 7 to 9, which are drafted as dependent from claim 6, refer to embodiments which are insufficiently supported by the description and insufficiently disclosed to an extent which renders a meaningful search impossible.

Claims 11 and 12 attempt to define subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved in a vague manner, which does not allow to determine, also when taking account of the corresponding portion of the description on page 7, lines 12 to 28, how in technical terms the desired result is intended to be achieved. Therefore claims 11 and 12 refer to embodiments which are insufficiently supported by the description and insufficiently disclosed to an extent which renders a meaningful search impossible.

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

EP 07 11 7447

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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14-03-2008

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