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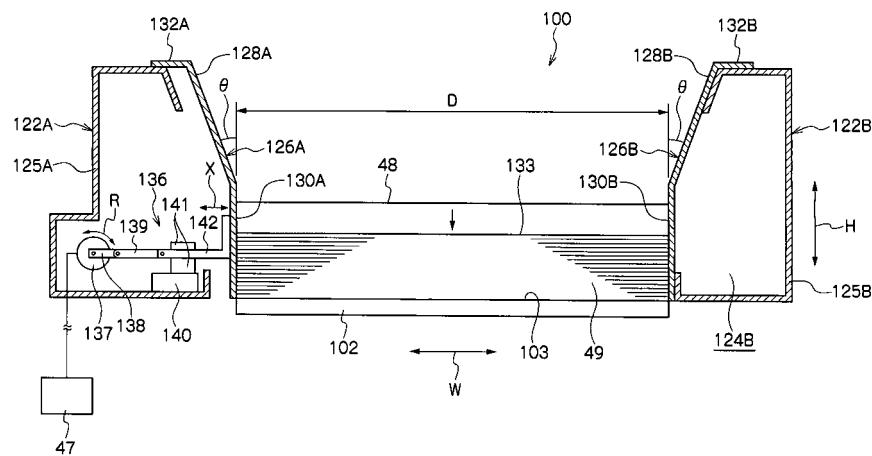
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(54) **Sheet material stacking apparatus and method of stacking sheet material**

(57) The present invention provides a sheet material stacking apparatus (100) that includes a sheet material stacking base (102) on which sheet materials (49) induced by a sheet material conveying unit (36) are stacked, a first guide member (122A) disposed along the conveyance direction of the sheet materials to the sheet material stacking base (102) and sorts the end surfaces at one end with respect to the width direction (W) thereof, a second guide member (122B) which is disposed in parallel and opposite to the first guide member (122A) having

the sheet material stacking base (102) therebetween, a pusher (126A) that constitutes at least a portion of the first guide member (122A) and is displaced between a reference position in which the distance (D) to the second guide member (122B) is equal to the width of the sheet material and a separating position in which the distance to the second guide member is larger than the width of the sheet material, and a driving unit (136) that displaces the pusher (126A) and places side by side both ends of the sheet materials (49) in the axis direction.

FIG. 4





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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Y	* abstract; figures 1, 2 * * column 2, lines 53-68 * * column 3, lines 43-68 * -----	23,27,28	
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2 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		29 June 2012	Piekarski, Adam
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			

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

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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. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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