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(54) **Washing appliance**

(57) A washing appliance that uses a washing liquid comprises: a washing tank (2) suitable for containing the washing liquid used for the washing treatment; a pipe (3) for draining out the washing liquid and in fluid communication with the washing tank (2); a drainage pump (6) operatively connected to the drainage pipe (3); means (4) for detecting a free surface level of a column of the washing liquid, said column being located immediately upstream of the drainage pump (6) relative to the direction in which the washing liquid flows out of the washing tank (2) during its drainage. The washing appliance 1 comprises means (5), operatively connected to the detecting means (4), for controlling the drainage pump (6), said means (4) detecting a first condition where the water level is less than or equal to a first predetermined level. At least during a predetermined part of the washing cycle, if the drainage pump (6) is in operation, the control means (5) inhibit the operation of the drainage pump (6) upon occurrence of the first condition sensed by the detecting means (4).

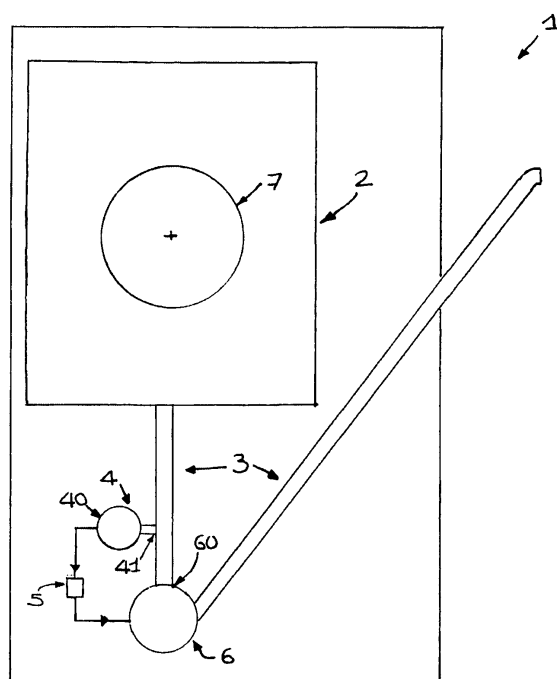


Fig. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 08 00 4756

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 19 January 2010	Examiner Fachin, Fabiano
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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