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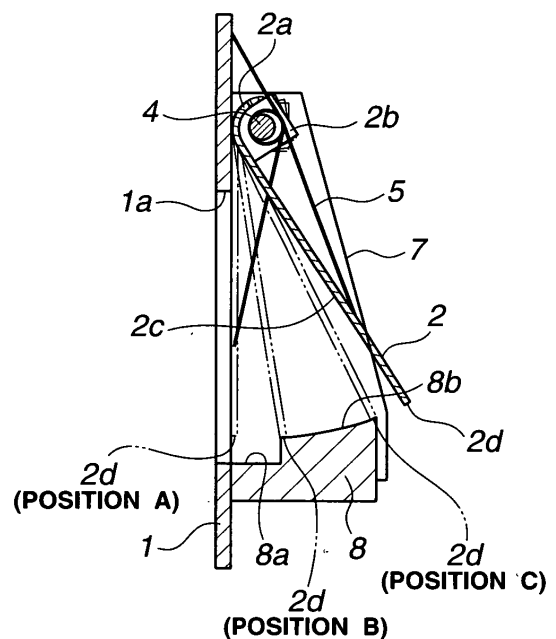
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(54) **Method and apparatus for controlling engine exhaust sound for vehicles**

(57) An exhaust sound controlling method including reducing a flow rate of exhaust gas that passes through an exhaust path, to a first flow rate in accordance with increase in engine speed in a first engine speed region, and increasing the flow rate of exhaust gas to a second flow rate in accordance with increase in engine speed in a second engine speed region higher in engine speed than the first engine speed region. An exhaust sound controlling apparatus including a baffle plate and a valve that is operated to open a communication passage that communicates upstream and downstream sides of the baffle plate in an engine starting region, close the communication passage in an idling region and a low engine speed region, and open the communication passage and increase an opening of the valve as the engine speed rises in a high engine speed region.

FIG.3





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 08 00 5826

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	* abstract; figures 1,5 *	10-15	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			F01N F02D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 26 August 2009	Examiner Jucker, Chava
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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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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