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(54) **Method of operating document feeding mechanism to detect and recover from a multi-feed condition and an apparatus therefor**

(57) A method is provided of operating a document feeding mechanism having a document feed path which extends through a nip defined between an advance roller (32) disposed on one side of a document feed path and a retard roller (36) disposed on an opposite side of the document feed path. The method comprises detecting a multi-feed condition in which a first document (60) and a second document (62) overlapping the first document

have been fed through the nip from an upstream end of the document feed path to a downstream end of the document feed path, and controlling operation of the advance roller (32) and the retard roller (36) such that the second document (62) is driven backwards through the nip to allow the first document (60) to be fed through the nip by itself in a non-overlapping manner without any human intervention.

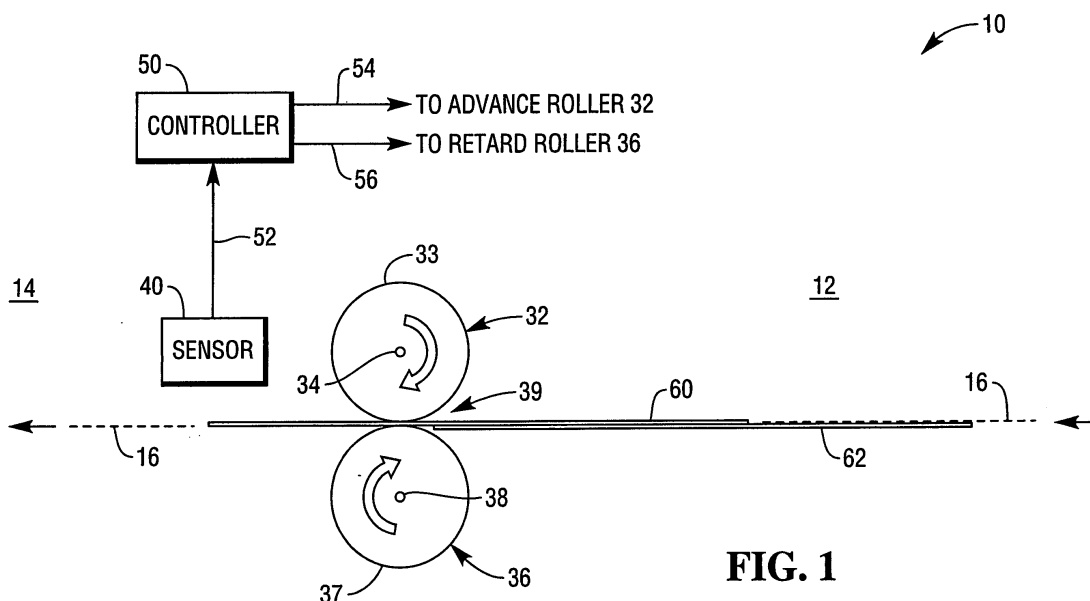


FIG. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 08 25 1381

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 26 November 2010	Examiner Athanasiadis, A
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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