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(54) **Frame**

(57) A frame (1) for mounting to a manhole chamber liner (6) and supporting one or more manhole covers (26). The frame (1) comprises one or more formations (4) for receiving one or more packing pieces (7) via which the frame (1) can be supported on the manhole chamber liner (6) thereby enabling the vertical position of the frame (1) relative to the manhole chamber liner (6) to be adjusted. The or each formation (4) may comprise an aperture or slot in the frame (1). The frame (1) may additionally comprise one or more packing pieces (7) which, together with the or each formation (4), are configured, respectively, so that a packing piece (7) received by a formation (4) is retained relative to the formation (4).

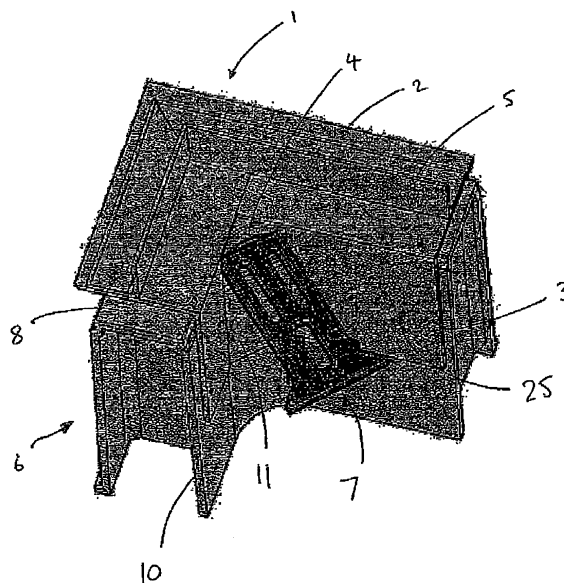


Figure 3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 25 1366

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2004/071508 A1 (NADASDE WAYNE JOHN [CA]) 15 April 2004 (2004-04-15) * paragraph [0007] - paragraph [0037]; figure 4 *	1-6	INV. E02D29/14
X	US 2002/166291 A1 (CAMPBELL LUCKY [US] ET AL) 14 November 2002 (2002-11-14) * paragraph [0025] - paragraph [0037]; figures 6,7 *	1-6	
X	EP 1 793 049 A (ATLANTA IMPEX LTD [GB]; WREKIN WELDING & FABRICATION E [GB]) 6 June 2007 (2007-06-06) * figure 5 *	1,2	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E02D
<p>3 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 19 January 2011	Examiner Geiger, Harald
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

1-6

☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1, 2

A frame for mounting to a manhole chamber liner with formations comprising aperture or slot for receiving one or more packing pieces for adjusting vertical position of the frame relative to chamber liner;

2. claims: 3-6

A frame for mounting to a manhole chamber liner comprising packing pieces;

3. claims: 7-14

A frame for mounting to a manhole chamber liner comprising a sheet like portion via which it is supported and a skirt depending therefrom;

4. claim: 15

A packing piece for use with a frame.

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

EP 09 25 1366

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.

19-01-2011

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 2002166291	A1	14-11-2002	NONE	
EP 1793049	A	06-06-2007	GB 2432868 A	06-06-2007