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(54) **System including a shape-memory alloy device**

(57) System including at least one shape memory alloy based device (1) and at least one metal chain (6) assembled to each other in series, applicable in building

industry to thrusting structures, able to optimize the response of the above mentioned chain to thrusting loads and subjected to external undesirable thermal and/or seismic effects.

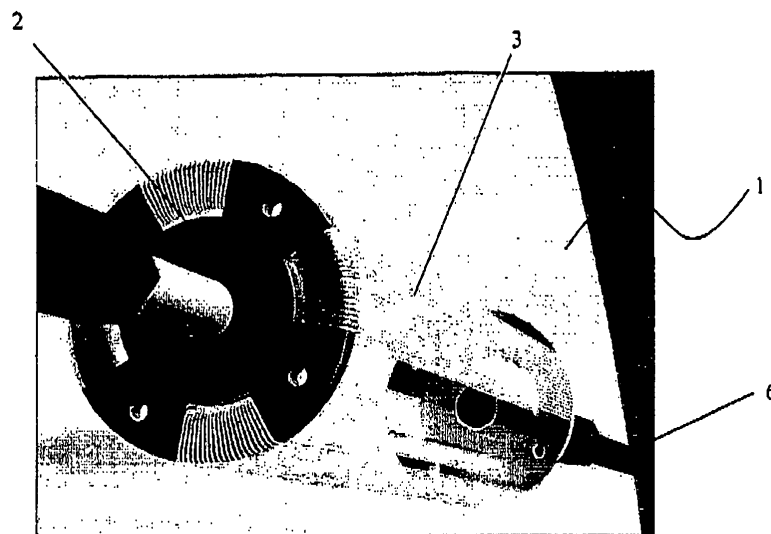


Figure 3

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**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 11 00 8881

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	WO 98/57014 A1 (DAVOODI HAMID [US]; JUST FREDERICK A [US]; SAFFAR ALI [US]; NOORI MOHA) 17 December 1998 (1998-12-17) * page 5, line 18 - page 6, line 14 * * page 9, lines 3-4; figures 1-3 * -----	1-5	INV. E04H9/02
A	WO 96/27055 A1 (KRUMME ROBERT C [US]; HODGSON DAREL E [US]) 6 September 1996 (1996-09-06) * page 1, lines 5-14 * * page 6, line 32 - page 7, line 12 * * page 34, lines 7-28; figures 14,15 * -----	1-5	
A	EP 1 016 765 A2 (FIP IND [IT]) 5 July 2000 (2000-07-05) * paragraphs [0001], [0006], [0011], [0014], [0015], [0027], [0037]; figures 5,6 * -----	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E04H E04B
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out. Claims searched completely : Claims searched incompletely : Claims not searched : Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 4 December 2013	Examiner Decker, Robert
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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EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04E07)

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**

Application Number

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Claim(s) completely searchable:
1-5

Claim(s) not searched:
6-8

Reason for the limitation of the search:

The application does not comply with the EPC to such an extent that it is impossible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of the subject-matter claimed in claims 6-8.

Claims 6-8 relate to excluded subject-matter, because these claims are directed to mathematical methods and as such contravene Art.52(2) (a) EPC.

Claim 8 is not searchable because of unclear subject-matter. No technical features of the claimed system are defined within the claim. In particular, this claim relates to method claims 7 and 8 and to a method of evaluating the SMA wire length using particular procedures rather than clearly defining the system in terms of its technical features. The intended limitations are therefore not clear from this claim, contrary to the requirements of Article 84 EPC.

**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.

04-12-2013

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			US	6170202 B1		09-01-2001
			WO	9857014 A1		17-12-1998

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