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(54) **Apparatus and method for upgrading the camera of a sorting / scanning system with backwards compatibility**

(57) A scanning camera upgrade adaptor system provides backwards compatibility when an existing scanning camera subsystem is replaced or upgraded in automated sorting equipment with a newer camera having a different data format. The adaptor system allows sorting equipment such as mail sorting equipment to be upgraded or repaired with a new camera while providing compatibility and optional fallback to a previous mode of operation of the existing equipment. The upgrade system enables legacy equipment and newly added sorting / processing equipment to be utilized in conjunction, while reducing cost of upgrade and necessity for completely new equipment as desirable features are added.

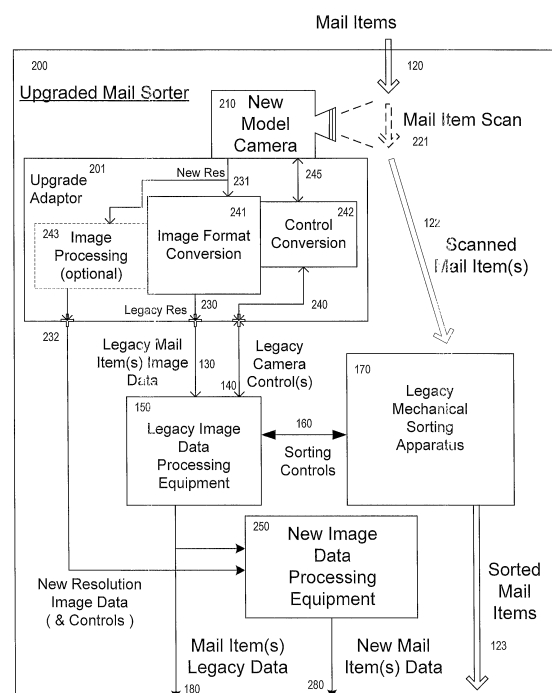


FIG. 2

**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 12 18 9918

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 03/066244 A1 (TRITEK TECHNOLOGIES INC [US]; MALATESTA JAMES [US]) 14 August 2003 (2003-08-14) * abstract *	1-7,15, 16	INV. B07C3/00
A	GB 2 433 172 A (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT [DE]) 13 June 2007 (2007-06-13) * abstract *	1-7,15, 16	
A	US 2008/117581 A1 (KUO YAN-LIN [TW] ET AL) 22 May 2008 (2008-05-22) * paragraph [0022] *	1-7,15, 16	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B07C

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

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	23 January 2015	Wich, Roland
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		

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**

Application Number

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Claim(s) completely searchable:
1-7, 15, 16

Claim(s) not searched:
8-14, 17-23

Reason for the limitation of the search:

The subject-matter of the claims contains multiple independent claims (Rules 62a and 43(2) EPC), namely system claims 8, 19, 20 and method claims 15, 17, 21, 22, and 23. According to the applicant's letter dated 13.11.2014 independent claims 1 and 15 as well as the respective dependent claims were subject of the search.

**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
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23-01-2015

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