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(54) **Energy dampening arrangement for vehicle latch assembly**

(57) A vehicle latch assembly includes a housing. Also included is a frame plate operatively coupled to the housing. Further included is a backplate operatively coupled to the housing. Yet further included is an eccentric extending from a first end to a second end, the first end disposed in close proximity to the backplate and the second end disposed in close proximity to the frame plate. Also included is a fastener fixedly connected to the eccentric and disposed between an outer surface of the eccentric and the frame plate.

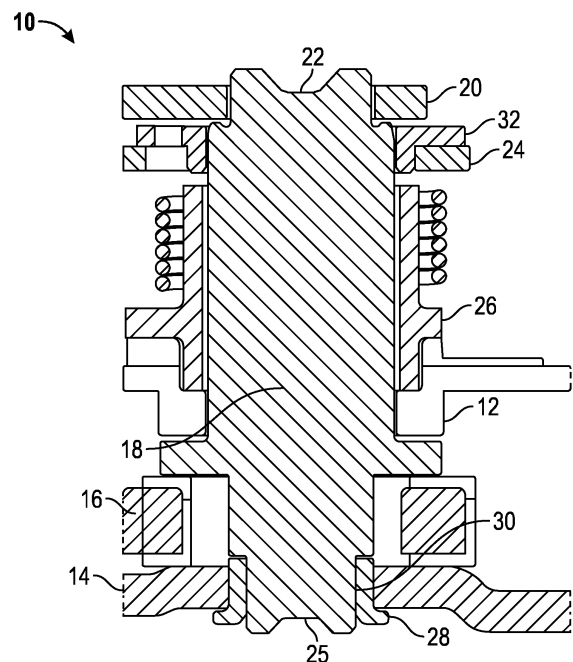


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 14 17 8607

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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 28 August 2015	Examiner Geerts, Arnold
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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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:

☒ 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:

1-8

☐ 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: 1-8

A vehicle latch assembly wherein a fastener is connected to the eccentric and disposed in-between the eccentric and a frame plate

2. claims: 9-15

A vehicle latch wherein a an aperture extends through an eccentric and a pin extends through the aperture fixedly connected to the eccentric and a method of manufacturing such a vehicle latch

**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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28-08-2015

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82