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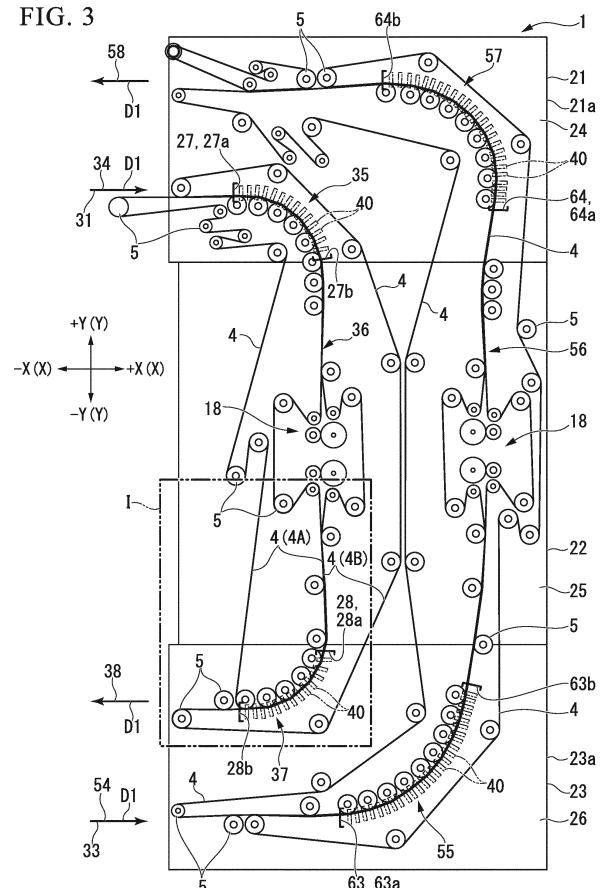
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(54) **DELIVERY PROCESSING APPARATUS**

(57) According to one embodiment, a delivery processing apparatus includes a conveying mechanism and a plurality of accumulators. The conveying mechanism includes a conveyor, at least a pair of conveying belts (4), and a driver. The conveyor is provided with a conveying route including a direction change path (35, 37, 55, 57) configured to change a conveying direction of a delivery object. The pair of conveying belts is configured to sandwich the delivery object from both sides to convey the delivery object along the conveying route. The driver is configured to drive the conveying belts. The delivery object conveyed by the conveying mechanism is to be accumulated in the plurality of accumulators. One of the pair of conveying belts is an inner periphery conveying belt provided in the direction change path. The other of the pair of conveying belts is an outer periphery conveying belt which is extendable greater than the inner periphery conveying belt and faces an outer peripheral surface of the inner periphery conveying belt. The direction change path includes one or a plurality of rotating supports (40) that are configured to come into contact with the delivery object and are rotatable around an axis intersecting the conveying direction.

FIG. 3





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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	US 2009/166959 A1 (ITO SHINICHI [JP]) 2 July 2009 (2009-07-02) * paragraph [0001] - paragraph [0040]; figures 1-5 *	1-7	INV. B65H5/02 B65H29/12 B07C1/04
A	WO 99/62805 A1 (SIEMENS AG [DE]; SCHERERZ HOLGER [DE]; VOSS FRANK [DE]; PRASSER MATTHI) 9 December 1999 (1999-12-09) * page 3, line 15 - page 5, line 2; figure 1 *	1-7	
A	US 5 109 987 A (DABOUB HENRY A [US] ET AL) 5 May 1992 (1992-05-05) * column 3, line 17 - column 5, line 60; figures 1-7 *	1-7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65H B07C B65G
<p>2 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		21 September 2017	Henningsen, Olle
<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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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:

1-7

☐ 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**

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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: 1-7

special direction change path for a delivery processing
apparatus"

2. claim: 8

Delivery processing apparatus with special identification
and sorting means

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

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5 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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21-09-2017

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