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(54) **HEARTH-FIRE SIMULATING APPARATUS**

(57) A hearth-fire simulating apparatus having a fire-bed simulation cover covering an internal space in its housing and having at least one open passage in the cover. In the housing a container bounding a nebulizing chamber for holding a liquid, an ultrasonic transducer having a transducing surface positioned in the container for generating mist above liquid in the container and a

mist distributor bounding an elongated mist distributing chamber for distributing mist in longitudinal direction of the mist distributing chamber are arranged. The mist distributing chamber communicates with the nebulizing chamber via a mist passage above the container. An inlet of means for causing a flow of air through the mist-distributing chamber is located above the mist passage.

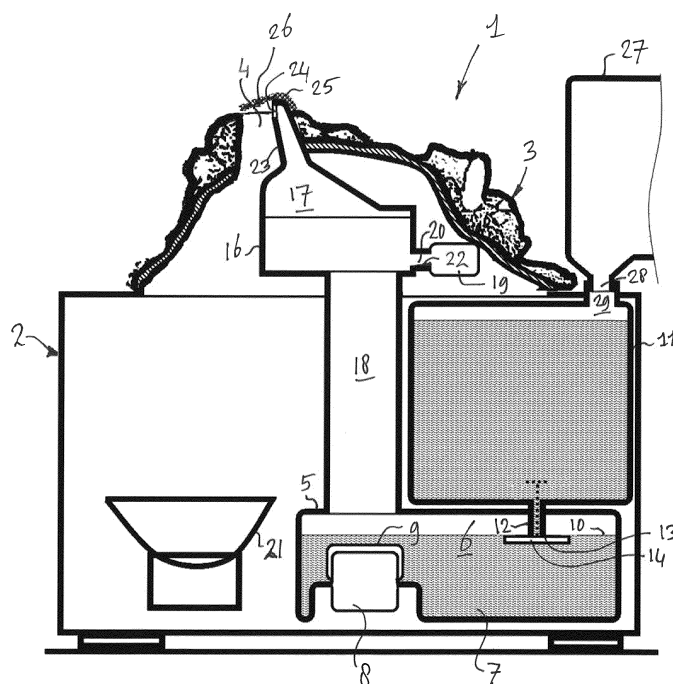


Fig. 3



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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 26 March 2018	Examiner Verdoodt, Luk
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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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 26 March 2018	Examiner Verdoodt, Luk
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:

☐ 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: 1-4

a heart-fire simulating apparatus wherein the inlet of the means for causing a flow of air through the mist-distributing chamber is located above the mist passage;

2. claims: 5-17

a heart-fire simulating apparatus wherein the mist-distributing chamber communicates with the environment via a nozzle having a downstream end in or above the fire-bed simulation cover.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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