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(54) **DISPENSING APPARATUS**

(57) Aspects of the present invention relate to a dispensing apparatus (1) for cutting sheets (S) from a length of towel. The dispensing apparatus (1) includes a supply roller (33) rotatable about a central axis (X). The dispensing apparatus (1) having at least one first cutting member (45A, 45B) having a first cutting edge (51A, 51B) with a first profile. The dispensing apparatus (1) having at least one second cutting member (55A, 55B) having a second cutting edge (61A) having a second profile. The second profile of the second cutting edge (61A) includes or consists of a curved profile. The at least one first cutting member (45A, 45B) or the at least one second cutting member (55A, 55B) is mounted to the supply roller (33) for rotation with the supply roller (33). In use, the at least one first cutting member (45A, 45B) and the at least one second cutting member (55A, 55B) cooperate with each other as the supply roller (33) rotates to cut the towel.

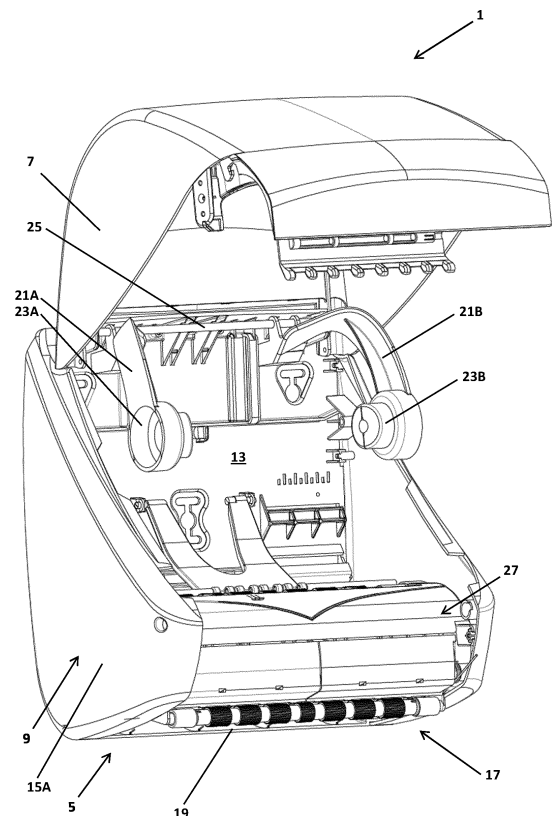


FIG. 1

**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 21 16 8456

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	EP 0 693 268 A1 (JAMES RIVER PAPER CO [US]) 24 January 1996 (1996-01-24) * abstract; claims 1-14; figures 1-7 *	1-8,10,12,13	INV. A47K10/36
X	EP 0 629 372 A1 (JAMES RIVER PAPER CO [US]) 21 December 1994 (1994-12-21) * abstract; claims 1-20; figures 1-7 *	1-3,5-9,11,13	
X	US 2018/162677 A1 (MORAND MICHEL [CA]) 14 June 2018 (2018-06-14) * abstract; claims 1-25; figures 1-8 *	1-3,5,10,12,13	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A47K

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

1

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	24 November 2021	Oliveras, Mariana
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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**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**

Application Number

EP 21 16 8456

Claim(s) completely searchable:
1-13

Claim(s) not searched:
14-16

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Claims 1 and 14 have been drafted as separate independent claims. Under Article 84 in combination with Rule 43(2) EPC, an application may contain more than one independent claim in a particular category only if the subject-matter claimed falls within one or more of the exceptional situations set out in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of Rule 43(2) EPC. This is not the case in the present application, however, for the following reason(s):

Re exception (a): It is clear from the description that the apparatuses described in claims 1 and 14 are not intended to cooperate with each other in the manner of a plug and socket, emitter and receiver etc..

Re exception (b): The claims describe devices, as opposed to describing or involving different uses of a device.

Re exception (c): The features that by their presence and absence distinguish the subject matter of these claims from each other do not all address the same problem. Furthermore, nothing in the description suggests that they all are intended to be implemented as alternatives to each other.

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

EP 21 16 8456

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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24-11-2021

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0693268	A1	24-01-1996	NONE
EP 0629372	A1	21-12-1994	NONE
US 2018162677	A1	14-06-2018	CA 2835750 A1 04-04-2013
			EP 2760773 A1 06-08-2014
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			US 2018162677 A1 14-06-2018
			WO 2013044385 A1 04-04-2013