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- **Stuart, George**  
Kent, WA 98032 (US)
- **Halverson, Loern A.**  
Kent, WA 98032 (US)
- **Stanford, Dean A.**  
Kent, WA 98032 (US)
- **Van Olst, Kent B.**  
Kent, WA 98032 (US)
- **Hey, Julie W.**  
Kent, WA 98032 (US)

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(71) Applicant: **Sunstream Corporation**  
**Kent, Washington 98032 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Uexküll & Stolberg**  
**Partnerschaft von**  
**Patent- und Rechtsanwälten mbB**  
**Beselerstraße 4**  
**22607 Hamburg (DE)**

(72) Inventors:  
• **Hey, Kenneth E.**  
**Kent, WA 98032 (US)**

(54) **HIGH SPEED HYDRAULIC WATERCRAFT LIFT**

(57) A high-speed watercraft lift for raising and lowering a watercraft relative to a body of water, the lift comprising a cradle (102) configured to support the watercraft, a cable (124) suspending the cradle, a rotatable spindle (130) configured take up the cable, and a submergible rotary motor (136). The cradle comprises a number of interconnected beams (114) and a number of bunks (118) connected to at least some of the interconnected beams. The cable is liftably linked to at least one of the interconnected beams. The rotatable spindle is configured to coil portions of the cable to raise the cradle and uncoil the portions of the cable to lower the cradle. The submergible rotary motor is configured to rotate the spindle.

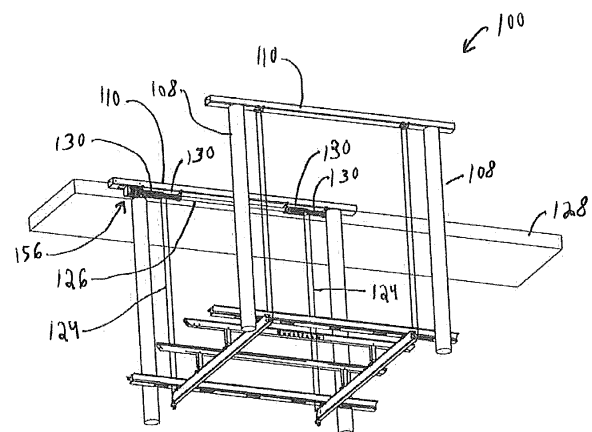


FIG. 3

**EP 4 454 990 A3**



## 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 24 17 2748

## 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        | US 5 390 616 A (ROTH HENRY [US])<br>21 February 1995 (1995-02-21)                                                           | 1-3,14            | INV.<br>B63C3/12                        |
| Y        | * column 3, line 66 - column 4, line 2;<br>figures 1-3 *<br>* column 5, lines 8-15 *                                        | 4-7,15,<br>16     |                                         |
| Y        | US 2012/263533 A1 (HELLER LONNIE D [US])<br>18 October 2012 (2012-10-18)<br>* paragraphs [0028], [0029]; figures<br>1,4-7 * | 4-7               |                                         |
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| A        | US 6 709 197 B1 (SARGENT CHARLES L [US] ET<br>AL) 23 March 2004 (2004-03-23)<br>* figures 1-7 *                             | 1-16,<br>19-21    |                                         |
| A,D      | US 8 777 513 B2 (DEVITT JON W [US];<br>MIDWEST IND INC [US])<br>15 July 2014 (2014-07-15)<br>* figures 3-6 *                | 8-13              | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (IPC)      |
|          |                                                                                                                             |                   | B63C<br>B63B                            |

## 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                                                                        | 31 January 2025                  | Székelly, Zsolt |
| 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                                 |                                  |                 |
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| L : document cited for other reasons                                             |                                  |                 |
| & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document                     |                                  |                 |

## Application Number

EP 24 17 2748

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |                                                                                                       |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC) |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Category                            | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                         | Relevant to claim |                                         |
| A,D                                 | US 6 408 776 B1 (MCLAUGHLIN SHAWN M [US] ET AL) 25 June 2002 (2002-06-25)<br>* figures 1-6 *<br>----- | 1,15,16           |                                         |
|                                     |                                                                                                       |                   | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)         |
|                                     |                                                                                                       |                   |                                         |
|                                     |                                                                                                       |                   |                                         |

INCOMPLETE SEARCH  
SHEET CApplication Number  
EP 24 17 2748

Claim(s) completely searchable:  
1-16, 19-21

Claim(s) not searched:  
17, 18, 22-33

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Claims 1, 17, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31 and 33 have been drafted as separate independent product 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: all these claims refer to a lift for raising and lowering a watercraft, the lift comprising a cradle, interconnected beams, bunks, at least one cable, and some sort of a lifting mechanism (spindle and motor, or hydraulic, or air pump, etc.).

In their reply to the invitation to clarify the claims dated 25.11.2024 the representative indicated that the search be carried out on the basis of original independent claims 1, 15, 16 and 19 and the respective dependent claims.

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

EP 24 17 2748

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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31-01-2025

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