

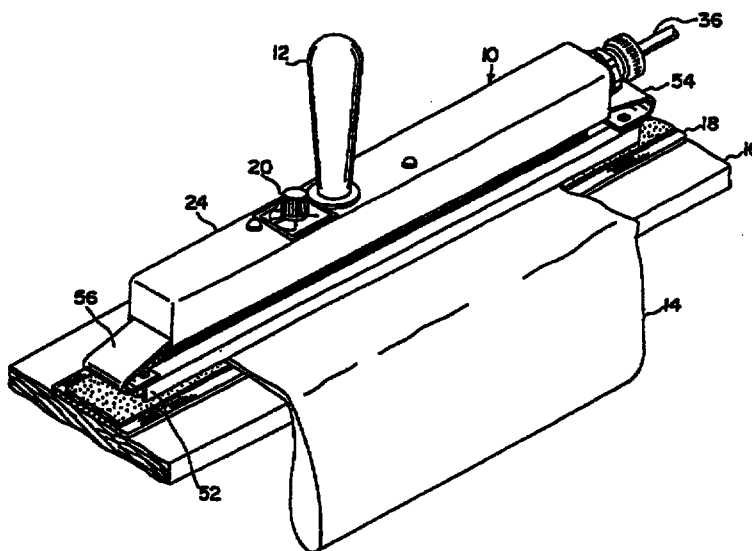
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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : B30B 15/34	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/01289
		(43) International Publication Date: 15 January 1998 (15.01.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/11511 (22) International Filing Date: 30 June 1997 (30.06.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/677,535 10 July 1996 (10.07.96) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: HUTCHINSON, Harold, D. [US/US]; 221 Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030 (US). (74) Agent: O'REILLY, David; Suite 200, 1800 Bridgegate Street, Westlake Village, CA 91361 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KP, KR, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: HEAT SEALING APPARATUS FOR PLASTIC BAGS



(57) Abstract

An improved plastic bag sealing apparatus (10) comprised of an improved heater (28) formed of a heating wire (62) embedded in a silicon rubber material (58, 60). The heater (28) is shaped to conform to the flat planar surface (42) of a T-bar shaped heating element (26), and clamped in place with insulators (32, 34) to provide maximum transfer of heat to the heating edge (46) formed by the web portion (44) of the T-bar. The containment of heat and transfer of maximum heat to the T-bar (26) permits a substantial improvement in thermal efficiency and a substantial reduction of power consumption. The heating edge (46) of the T-bar (26) is covered with an easily replaceable TEFLON™ coated (49) heating channel (48).