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ABSTRACT

WATER SUPPLYING APPARATUS FOR AN AUTOMATIC ICE MACHINE

A water supplying apparatus for an automatic ice machine disposed in an ice making compartment 52 supplies water to an ice making tray 56 in the ice making compartment 52. The water supply apparatus comprises a water tank 59 disposed in an accommodating chamber different from the ice making compartment 52 and located above the latter with a measuring unit 60 incorporated therein. The measuring unit 60 includes a valve assembly comprising an inflow valve 66 and an outflow valve 68 arranged to close an outflow hole 67 at a time when water flows in and close the inflow valve 66 at a time when water flows out; and driving means 57 disposed below the water tank 59 to drive the valve assembly in order to open the outflow valve 68 and close the inflow valve 66 when the water stored in a measuring chamber of the measuring mechanism is supplied to the ice making tray in the ice making compartment. The driving means may include sealing means 61 adapted to come in contact with the valve assembly so as to prevent the driving means from being wetted with water. The water supplying apparatus includes no water receiving section which allows exposure of the water to the environmental air, thereby preventing bacilli from entering the water.

Fig. 2B.