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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/18872 (22) International Filing Date: 9 September 1998 (09.09.98) (30) Priority Data: ① 08/925,780 ✓ 9 September 1997 (09.09.97) ✓ US ✓ ② (71) Applicant: SPINTEKNOLOGY, INC. ✓ [US/US] Suite B, 901 Grier Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119 (US). ✓ (72) Inventors: ① COULTER, Gary, L.; Apartment 621, 650 Whitney Ranch Road, Henderson, NV 89014 ✓ (US) ② FILIBERTI, Peter, L.; 3923 Avila Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103 (US). ✓ (74) Agents: ALBERT, Philip, H. et al.; Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP, 8th floor, Two Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111 (US).		(81) Designated States: BR, CN, IS, KR, MX, NO, RU, SG Published <i>With international search report. ✓ Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> 1 PD. 1 appl. 2 Invs. IPC: G07D 9/04 IPER 2/4/99
(54) Title: COIN HOPPER WITH PREVENTIVE FILL DETECTOR ✓		
(57) Abstract		
The present invention provides a weighing apparatus for weighing coins accumulated in a coin hopper (10) using a load cell (12) and automatically taking a periodic reading of the number of coins accumulated in the hopper (10). By periodically monitoring the number of coins in the hopper (10), preventive fills and automatic inventorying can be effected. Knowing the coin count and being able to transmit coin counts to a central location allows for central accounting. Monitoring the coin count locally or centrally allows for "preemptive fills" where a hopper (10) running low on coins is filled during periods of inactivity prior to the hopper being completely empty. The number of coins in the hopper (10) at any given time is determined from the combined weight of the hopper (10) and the coins accumulated in the hopper (10).		