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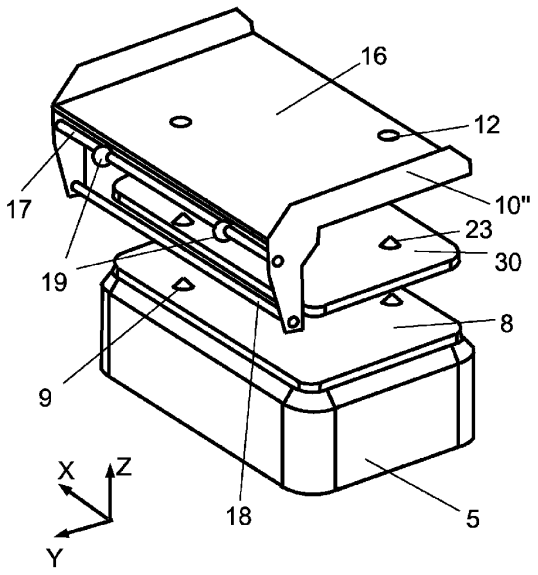


FIG. 8

(57) Abstract: A pallet system, in which single pallets carrying SMT material may be carried by an AGV, and mechanically located at an SMT machine as required. In particular, no additional lifting mechanisms are required other than that provided as standard in conventional AGVs (i.e. the above-mentioned vertically-drivable lifting platform). The pallet may be left in situ at the machine, drawing any required power from it, and so effectively becomes part of that machine.

[Continued on next page]

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