

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 March 2006 (23.03.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/029469 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **D21B 1/00**,
D21H 11/12, D21F 13/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/AU2005/001410

(22) International Filing Date:
15 September 2005 (15.09.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2004905315 16 September 2004 (16.09.2004) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **PAPYRUS AUSTRALIA LIMITED** [AU/AU]; Ground Floor, Elizabeth House, 231 North Terrace, Adelaide, S.A. 5000 (AU).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **AZER, Ramy, Abraham** [AU/AU]; 35-37 Stirling Street, Thebarton, South Australia 5031 (AU).

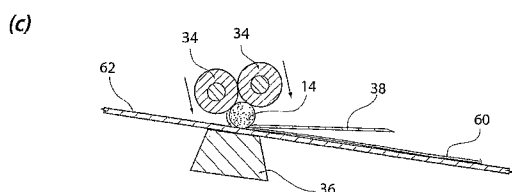
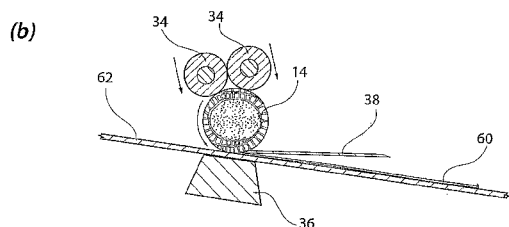
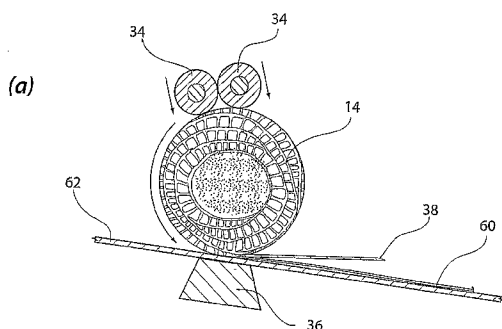
(74) Agent: **PHILLIPS ORMONDE & FITZPATRICK**; Levels 21 & 22, 367 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING SHEETS OF FIBRES FROM BANANA PLANTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PAPER PRODUCTS



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for producing sheets from the pseudostems of banana plants in the family Musaceae, each pseudostem having a longitudinal axis. The method includes the steps of feeding a pseudostem (14) into a workstation, supporting (62, 34) the pseudostem for rotation thereof about its longitudinal axis within the workstation, and contacting the rotating pseudostem along substantially its entire length with a fibre-separating device (38), whereby a continuous sheet of fibre (60) is removed from the pseudostem by the fibre-separating device during rotation. Raw paper may also be made by laminating two or more of these sheets together such that the direction of the generally parallel fibres in at least two adjacent sheets is not aligned and then curing the sheets to form raw paper.



RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.