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(54) **Title:** ICE DISPENSING SYSTEM

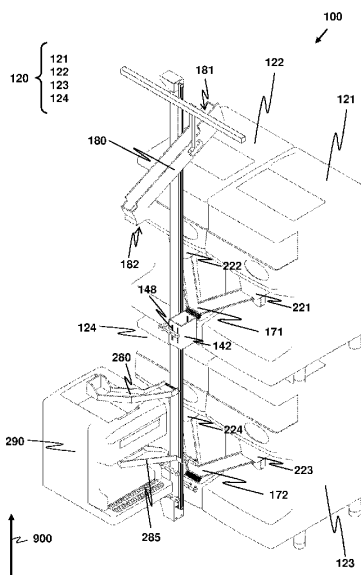


FIG. 1A

(57) **Abstract:** In an ice dispensing system (100), ice produced by ice producing machines (121, 122, 123, 124) is delivered to a user through an ice transferring subsystem (140). In the ice transferring subsystem (140), an ice container (142) is vertically moved to reach a selected machine for receiving ice therefrom. Advantageously, a vertical position of the ice container (142) is adjusted for adjusting an inner depth thereof allowable for storing ice such that a selected quantity of ice for delivery to the user is loaded into the ice container (142). The loaded ice container (142) is vertically moved to an ice dispensing channel (180) and unloads the ice thereto for dispensing to the user. In particular, the loaded ice container (142) is elevated to the ice dispensing channel (180) when the selected machine is positioned lower than the ice dispensing channel (180), thereby providing user convenience in procuring the ice from the ice dispensing channel (180) without installing the selected machine at a higher position than the ice dispensing channel (180) in utilizing gravity for ice delivery.

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