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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FEEDING TUBULAR BLANKS TO A PACKAGING MACHINE

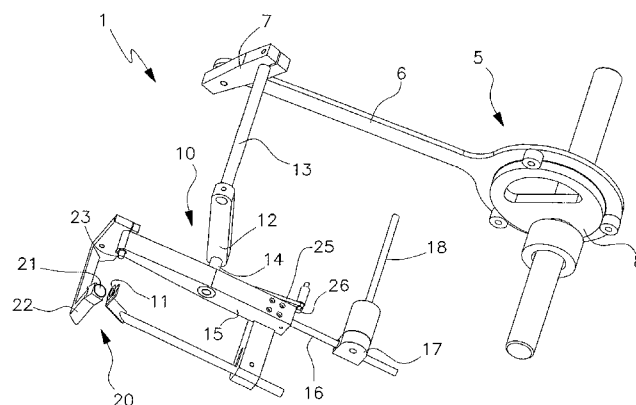


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: The apparatus for feeding tubular blanks to a packaging machine comprises a collecting group (10) provided with first gripping means (11), suitable to grip single flat-folded tubular blanks (2) at a first face, and an opening group (20) provided with second gripping means (21), suitable to grip said blanks (2) at a second face. The collecting group (10) comprises a drive mechanism (12, 15) provided with a first arm (12) tilting under control of motor members (5), and with a second arm (15), carrying said first gripping means (11), which is mounted tilting on said first arm (12), and which is axially slidable for imparting to said first gripping means (11) an alternated rototranslation motion. The opening group (20) comprises support means (22) of the second gripping means (21) pivoted on said second arm (15) of the collecting group (10) and constrained to pulling means (25) suitable to determine an alternated angular rotation of said second gripping means (21) for performing the gripping and erecting of said tubular blanks (2).

