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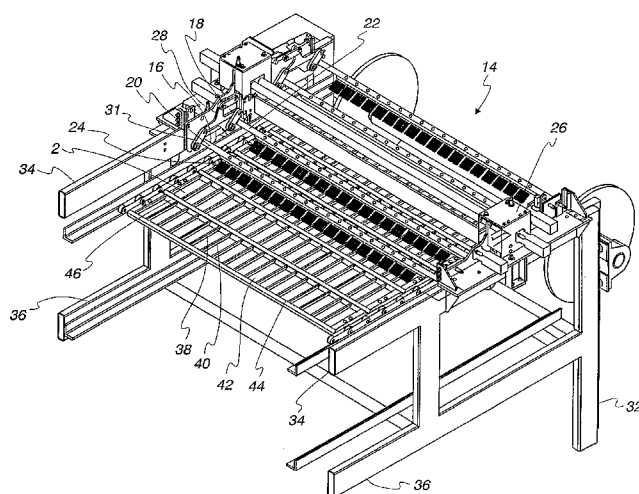
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FOLDING COOKED EGGS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method, system and apparatus for making egg patties which have been cooked, folded, frozen and which may be reheated to provide an egg patty which resembles an egg patty made from fresh eggs. The invention includes an egg folding apparatus, a method for folding cooked liquid whole egg and a system for cooking and folding a cooked egg composition. The egg folding apparatus includes an endless linear array of egg cooking pans (2) movable as an endless conveyor. One side of the pans has a ramp (46) which extends downward to the bottom pan. A plurality of spatulas (24) are disposed above the pans in an array above the pans. The spatulas are rotatable about an axis which is perpendicular to the linear array of pans, the pans movable upwardly away from the pans and downwardly toward the pans. As the pans move toward the spatulas, the spatulas move downwardly onto the ramp of the pan, move under the coagulated egg composition and rotate such that they fold cooked eggs in the pans onto themselves as the pans move past the spatulas. The invention also relates to a method of packaging, freezing and thawing packaged frozen folded egg patties.

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