

ABSTRACT**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR JOINING AND SUPPLYING
SEPARATED DOUGH BLOCKS**

An apparatus is provided to join dough blocks to each other to make a long and continuous dough sheet. It comprises horizontally and oppositely positioned pairs of rollers being provided in a plurality of tiers. The rollers are rotatable and arranged such that the distances between the upper roller pairs are sequentially greater than the distances between the lower roller pairs. The distances between the roller pairs are increased or decreased when dough blocks are supplied between the roller pairs, so that the rollers provide pressure to or release pressure from the dough blocks as they are impelled below by the pressing and releasing effects and the rotations of the rollers. Thus, the growth of gluten and the joining of gel structures of the dough blocks are accelerated, and a long and continuous dough sheet is made.

Drawing for publication : Figure 1