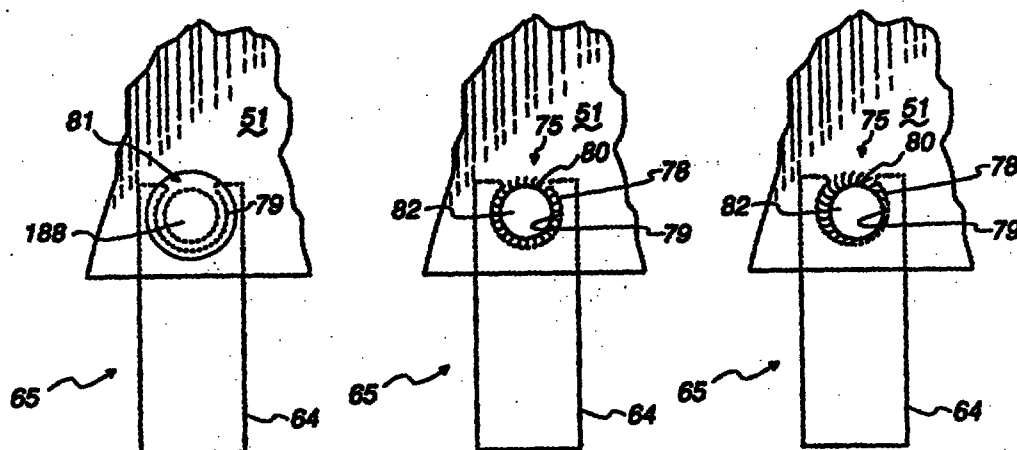




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(54) Title: MULTI-WEB CARRIER



(57) Abstract

An apparatus (31) and a method are disclosed for performing an operation upon multiple webs (51, 53), including the provision of a carrier (65) for assisting in moving the webs (51, 53) along a predetermined path (82), the performance of an operation (69) upon the webs, the insertion of a carrier (65) between the webs (51, 53), and the provision of a device (71) for sealing the webs together to form a sealed portion (75) to cooperate with the carrier (65) for assisting in moving the webs (51, 53). The carriers (65) are mounted on a conveyor (83) and each carrier (65) pushes against the sealed portion (75) to pull the webs (51, 53), and the packages (41) formed therefrom in the direction of conveyor travel. The preferred carrier (65) has a shaped head end of a flat plastic blade. The shaped head may have an opening (81) therein of a smaller size than the sealer (188) inserted into the opening such that the fused plastic may extrude outwardly to abut the edge (79) of the carrier defining the opening.

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