TAPE REEL TURRET APPARATUS FOR A TAPE AND REEL MACHINE

ABSTRACT

A tape reel turret apparatus for a tape and reel machine includes a central hub and a plurality of arms radially extending therefrom. A first actuator can collectively rotate the plurality of arms such that one arm rotates toward a feeding position simultaneous with rotation of the other arms away from the feeding position. Once a given arm resides at the feeding position, a second actuator can spin a tape reel carried by the arm such that a flexible linear tape carrying components can be loaded onto or offloaded from a tape reel carried by this arm. After tape reel loading or unloading, the first actuator collectively rotates the plurality of arms about the first axis of rotation to dispose a next arm at the feeding position, such that the flexible linear tape can be loaded onto or unloaded from a next tape reel carried by this arm. Arms disposed away from the feeding position can have tape reels decoupled / removed therefrom, and/or receive new tape reels, while a tape reel corresponding to the feeding position is spun.

FIG. 7