



(51) International Patent Classification:
B43M 3/04 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2009/030538

(22) International Filing Date:
9 January 2009 (09.01.2009)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
12/231,753 5 September 2008 (05.09.2008) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KERN INTERNATIONAL, INC.** [US/US]; 3940 Gantz Road, Suite A, Grove City, OH 43123 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **KERN, Peter** [GB/GB]; K.I.C.M., . Nerine House, P. O. Box 434, St. George's Place, St. Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 3ZG (GB). **BURI, Reinhard** [DE/DE]; Donaueschingen/Pföhren, An Der Halde 25, 78166 Donaueschingen/Pföhren (DE).

(74) Agents: **STALLARD, David S.** et al.; Wood, Herron & Evans, L.L.P., 441 Vine Street, 2700 Carew Tower, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).

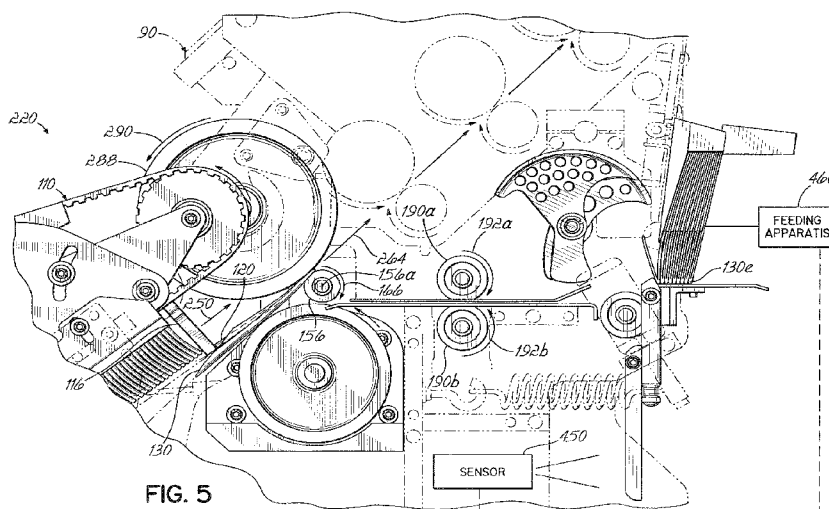
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) Title: INSERTING APPARATUS FOR DISCRETE OBJECTS INTO ENVELOPES AND RELATED METHODS



(57) Abstract: An apparatus (100) for inserting a paper or film object (120) or a stack of such objects (120) into an envelope (130). A feeding apparatus (110) moves the object (120) toward an insertion station and a vacuum drum (150) has a surface (170) adapted to engage and move the envelope (130) toward the insertion station. A ramp element (210) is coupled to the vacuum drum (150) and is adapted to support a leading portion (130f) of the envelope (130) as the envelope (130) moves with the vacuum drum (150).