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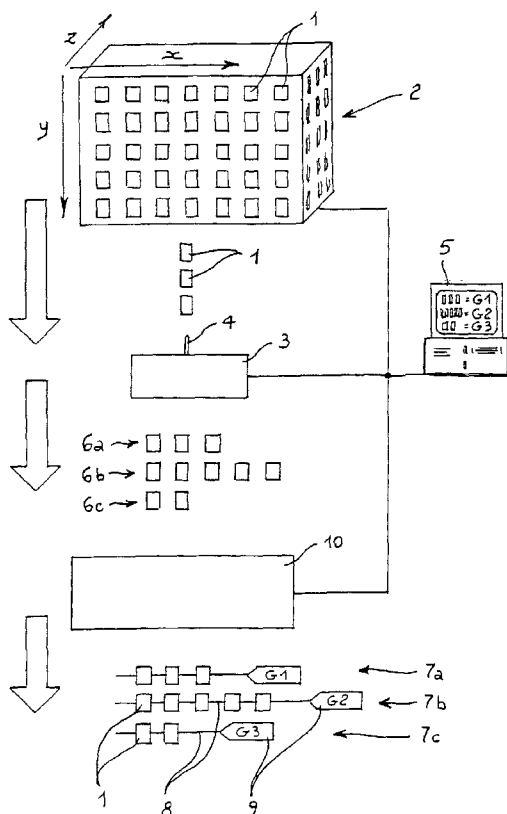
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(54) Title: AN AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND A METHOD FOR THE DELIVERY AND DISTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES IN GROUPS AND A DEVICE AND A METHOD FOR GROUPING ARTICLES TOGETHER



(57) Abstract: An automatic system for the delivery and distribution of articles in groups comprises a store (2) of articles (1), means (3) for the collection and delivery of articles from the store (2) and control means (5) associated with the collection and delivery means (3) in order to control the selective collection of articles (1) from the store (2) and their output as sets (6a, 6b, 6c) of articles logically grouped together. The system further comprises a grouping device (10) which receives the sets (6a, 6b, 6c) of articles logically grouped together as inputs and outputs corresponding packs, groups or bundles (7a, 7b, 7c) of articles physically connected to one another by restraining means (8).

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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