BANK NOTE STACKING AND SORTING DEVICE AND BANK NOTE STACKING AND SORTING SYSTEM

A bank note stacking and sorting device (100), comprising a bank note feeding unit (110), a bank note stacking unit (120), and a bank note sorting unit (130); the bank note feeding unit (110) comprises a bank note guiding table (112), and a wind wheel (114) sleeved on the bank note guiding table (112); the bank note stacking unit (120) comprises a bank note stacking rack (124), and a bank note baffle plate (126) disposed on the bank note stacking rack (124); the bank note baffle plate (126) is perpendicular to the bottom surface of the bank note stacking rack (124); the bank note stacking rack (124) is disposed in the bank note feeding direction of the bank note feeding unit (110) for stacking bank notes; the bank note sorting unit (130) comprises a limiting plate (131); the limiting plate (131) is disposed on the bank note stacking unit (120), and is perpendicular to the bank note baffle plate (126). Compared to prior art, the bank note stacking and sorting device can limit in the vertical direction the bank notes fluttering out from the wind wheel, and sort the short sides of the bank notes so as to orderly stack the bank notes on the bank note stacking rack.
The present application claims the benefit of priority to Chinese Patent Application No. 201210279637.X titled "BANKNOTE STACKING AND ARRANGING DEVICE AND SYSTEM" and filed with the State Intellectual Property Office on August 07, 2012, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present application belongs to the field of financial apparatus, and relates to a stacking and arranging device for sheet mediums, and specifically to a banknote stacking and arranging device and a banknote stacking and arranging system.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

With the development and progress of science and technology, in some occasions that need to handle large amounts of cash, conventional manual procedures, such as sorting and counting, hundred separating, and bundling, have been gradually replaced by various types of advanced automatic processing systems. In the process of handling cashes, it is required to stack and arrange the banknotes.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In order to overcome the disadvantages or deficiencies in the prior art, an object of the present application is to provide a stacking and arranging device which is capable of stacking the banknotes tidily.

The present application is implemented via the following technical solutions. A banknote stacking and arranging device is provided, including a banknote conveying unit, a banknote stacking unit and a banknote arranging unit. Specifically, the banknote conveying unit includes a banknote guide platform and a conveying wheel provided on the banknote guide platform. The banknote stacking unit includes a banknote stacking shelf and a banknote baffle plate arranged on the banknote stacking shelf. The banknote baffle plate is perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf, and the banknote stacking shelf is arranged along the direction in which the banknotes are conveyed by the banknote conveying unit such as to facilitate stacking of banknotes. The banknote arranging unit includes a position-limiting plate arranged above the banknote stacking unit and being perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate.

Further, the banknote arranging unit further includes a fixed plate and a locating plate. The fixed plate is fixedly arranged on the banknote stacking unit, and is perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf. The locating plate is arranged on and parallel to the fixed plate, and is movable up and down along the fixed plate in the direction perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf. The position-limiting plate is arranged on the locating plate.

Further, the banknote arranging unit further includes a position-limiting rotating shaft, and a locating gear provided on the position-limiting rotating shaft. The locating plate is provided with locating teeth in the direction perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf. The locating gear is engaged with the locating teeth.

Further, the banknote arranging unit further includes a position-limiting motor. The position-limiting motor drives the position-limiting rotating shaft to rotate.

Further, the banknote arranging unit further includes a top plate arranged at the top of the fixed plate and being perpendicular to the fixed plate.

Further, the position-limiting plate is arranged under the locating plate via a retractable portion.
The present application further provides a stacking and arranging system capable of stacking the banknotes tidily and automatically, which is implemented via the following technical solutions.

A banknote stacking and arranging system is provided, including a controller and a banknote stacking and arranging device, with the controller controlling the operation of the banknote stacking and arranging device. Specifically, the banknote stacking and arranging device includes a banknote conveying unit, a banknote stacking unit, and a banknote arranging unit. Specifically, the banknote conveying unit includes a banknote guide platform and a conveying wheel provided on the banknote guide platform. The banknote stacking unit includes a banknote stacking shelf and a banknote baffle plate arranged on the banknote stacking shelf. The banknote baffle plate is perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf, and the banknote stacking shelf is arranged along the direction in which the banknotes are conveyed by the banknote conveying unit such as to facilitate stacking of the banknotes. The banknote arranging unit includes a position-limiting plate arranged on the banknote stacking unit and being perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate.

Further, the controller includes a central control module, and an image acquisition module, a data processing module, a storage module and an execution module which are electrically connected to the central control module. The central control module controls the image acquisition module to acquire banknote image information, and to transmit the banknote image information to the data processing module and to store the banknote image information in the storage module. The data processing module invokes a conversion formula stored in the storage module according to the banknote image information to perform data processing, generates a controlling parameter and sends the controlling parameter to the execution module. The execution module generates servo signals for execution elements so as to drive the position-limiting motor to rotate.

Further, the banknote stacking and arranging system also includes a detection module electrically connected to the central control module. The central control module controls the detection module to detect position information of the position-limiting plate, to transmit the position information to the data processing module and to store the position information in the storage module. The data processing module invokes a conversion formula stored in the storage module according to the banknote image information and the position information of the position-limiting plate to perform data processing, generates a controlling parameter and sends the controlling parameter to the execution module. The execution module generates servo signals for the execution elements so as to drive the position-limiting motor to rotate.

As compared with the techniques in the prior art, the banknote stacking and arranging device according to the present application is provided with a banknote stacking unit. The banknotes flying out from the conveying wheel are limited in the vertical direction by the position-limiting plate of the banknote arranging unit, and short edges of the banknotes are tidied, so that the banknotes may be tidily stacked on the banknote stacking shelf, which facilitates the next bundling process of the banknotes.

As compared with the techniques in the prior art, according to the banknote stacking and arranging system in the present application, the controller controls the banknote stacking and arranging device to press the edges of the banknotes and arrange the banknotes automatically and periodically. Different locating and arranging functions can be realized according to different banknote specifications.

In order to better understand the present application more clearly, specific embodiments of the present application will be set forth hereinafter in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a schematic perspective view of a banknote stacking and arranging device in the prior art.

Figure 2 is a right view of the banknote stacking and arranging device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a schematic perspective view of a banknote stacking and arranging device according to the present application.

Figure 4 is a schematic perspective view of a banknote arranging unit of the banknote stacking and arranging device shown in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is another schematic perspective view of the banknote arranging unit of the banknote stacking and arranging device shown in Figure 3.

Figure 6 is a right view of the banknote stacking and arranging device shown in Figure 3.

Figure 7 is a structural block diagram of a controller of a banknote stacking and arranging system according to the present application.

Figures 8-1, 8-2 and 8-3 are schematic views showing the various steps at which the banknotes are tidied by the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 according to the present application.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please refer to Figure 3, which is a schematic perspective view of a banknote stacking and arranging
device according to the present application. The banknote stacking and arranging device 100 includes a banknote conveying unit 110, a banknote stacking unit 120, and a banknote arranging unit 130. The banknote conveying unit 110 conveys the banknotes onto the banknote stacking shelf of the banknote stacking unit 120, and the banknotes being conveyed are stopped and tidied by the banknote arranging unit 130.

Specifically, the banknote conveying unit 110 includes a banknote guide platform 112 and a conveying wheel 114. The upper surface of the banknote guide platform 112 is a banknote guide platform surface 1122 with a wavy arc. The conveying wheel 114 is provided on the banknote guide platform 112 at the protruding arc-shaped portion of the banknote guide platform surface 1122. The conveying wheel 114 includes multiple banknote guide vanes 1142. Banknotes are conveyed onto the banknote guide platform surface 1122 of the banknote guide platform one by one in sequence by a conveying device, and slidingly fall between two banknote guide vanes 1142 of the conveying wheel 114. When the conveying wheel rotates, the banknotes are brought to rotate therewith so as to be conveyed to the banknote stacking unit 120.

The banknote stacking unit 120 includes a fixing frame 122, a banknote stacking shelf 124 and a banknote baffle plate 126. The fixing frame 122 serves for supporting and fixing other parts or components. The banknote stacking shelf 124 is an "L"-shaped frame and is fixed on the fixing frame 122, and is adapted for the stacking and placement of banknotes A thereon. The banknote baffle plate 126 is arranged on the banknote guide platform surface 1122 of the banknote guide platform 112 and perpendicular to the bottom part of the banknote stacking shelf 124, and is located behind the conveying wheel 124 such that the banknotes stand against the banknote baffle plate 126. The banknote baffle plate 126 is at an angle of 60 degrees with respect to the horizontal direction.

Referring to Figure 4 together with Figure 5, Figure 4 is a schematic perspective view of a banknote arranging unit 130 of the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 shown in Figure 3, and Figure 5 is another schematic perspective view of the banknote arranging unit 130 of the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 shown in Figure 3. The banknote arranging unit 130 includes a position-limiting plate 131, a locating plate 132, a position-limiting motor 133, a position-limiting rotating shaft 134, a locating gear 135, a fixed plate 136, a top plate 137 and a retractable portion 138. The position-limiting plate 131 is flexible to move up and down via the retractable portion 138. The locating gear 135 is provided on the position-limiting rotating shaft 134, and is engaged with the locating teeth 1322 on the locating plate 132. The position-limiting motor 133 drives the position-limiting rotating shaft 134 to rotate, so that the locating gear 135 is rotated, which in turn brings the locating teeth 1322 to move up and down, so as to drive the locating plate 132 to move up and down along the fixed plate 136 and further drive the position-limiting plate 131 to move up and down. The top plate 137 is arranged at the top portion of the fixed plate 136 and is perpendicular to the fixed plate 136. When the locating plate 132 moves up and down along the fixed plate 136, the top plate 137 limits the maximum height of movement of the locating plate 132.

The operation principle of the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 according to the present application will be described in detail hereinafter.

Please also refer to Figure 6, which is a right view of the banknote stacking and arranging device shown in Figure 3. The banknote conveying device (not shown) conveys the banknotes one by one in sequence onto the banknote guide platform surface 1122 of the banknote guide platform, and the banknotes slidingly fall between two banknote guide vanes 1142 of the conveying wheel 114. When the conveying wheel 14 rotates, the vanes of the conveying wheel 14 carry the banknotes on the banknote guide platform surface 1122 and rotate therewith in direction B. Due to the action of centrifugal force, the banknotes are thrown towards the banknote stacking shelf 124 while rotating. Here, the banknotes move both at a first velocity component V1 in the direction perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate 126 and at a second velocity component V2 perpendicular to the first velocity component V1. The movement of the banknotes in the direction of the first velocity component V1 is blocked by the banknote baffle plate 26, and the movement of the banknotes in the direction of the second velocity component V2 is limited and blocked by the position-limiting plate 131, so that the banknotes may rest on the banknote stacking shelf 124 tidily.

The position-limiting motor 133 drives the position-limiting rotating shaft 134 to rotate clockwise or anticlockwise, and the locating gear 135 provided on the position-limiting rotating shaft 134 rotates along with the position-limiting rotating shaft 134. The locating teeth
1322 engaged with the locating gear 135 move up and
down as the locating gear 135 rotates, and further drives
the locating plate 132 to move up and down along the
fixed plate 136. The position-limiting plate 131 arranged
on the locating plate 132 moves as the locating plate 132
moves, so as to set the limit position of the position-lim-
iting plate 131 actually according to different banknote
specifications. Further, when a certain number (e.g. 10
pieces) of the banknotes are stacked, the position-limit-
ing motor 133 drives the position-limiting plate 131 to
press down the banknotes such that the spring 1384 may
be compressed by 2mm. Therefore, the banknotes are
stacked on the banknotes stacking shelf 124 tidily.

[0028] Further, the position-limiting plate 131 may also
correct the angle of the stacking of the banknotes con-
veyed from the conveying wheel 114. Please refer to Fig-
ures 8-1, 8-2 and 8-3, which are schematic views showing
the various steps at which the banknotes are tidied by
the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 accord-
ing to the present application. Taking the banknotes hav-
ing a width of 85mm as an example, the banknote baffle
plate 126 is at an angle of 60 degrees with respect to the
horizontal plane; the bottom face of the banknote stack-
ing shelf 124 is perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate
126; and the position-limiting plate 131 has a distance of
88mm from the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf
124. The outer diameter of the conveying wheel 114 intersects the terminal end of the banknote guide
platform 112 at point "a". The point "a" is also the starting
point from which the banknotes just exit the conveying
wheel 114, and has a distance of 4.4mm from the bottom
face of the banknote stacking shelf 124. The straight line
"ac" is perpendicular to the primary baffle plate 131a of
the position-limiting plate 131, and point "c" is located on
the primary baffle plate 131a. The length of a straight line
"ab" is equal to the width of the banknotes of 85mm, and
point "b" is located on the secondary baffle plate 131b of
the position-limiting plate 131, and the distance between
the point "b" and the point "c" is 2.4mm. The angle be-
tween the primary baffle plate 131a and the secondary
baffle plate 131b of the position-limiting plate 131 is set
to be 30 degrees, and the secondary baffle plate 131b has a length of 10.8mm. The secondary baffle plate 131b
guides the banknotes downwards onto banknote stacking
shelf 124, so as to avoid the banknotes to be caught.

[0029] In Figure 8-1, when the conveying wheel 114
rotates clockwise, and the banknote rotates along with the
conveying wheel 114, one end of the banknote is
firstly stopped by the end of the secondary baffle plate
131b of the position-limiting plate 131. At this time, the
banknote is at an angle of 70 degrees with respect to the
horizontal plane. The conveying wheel 114 keeps on ro-
tating clockwise, and the end of the banknote slides
downwards along the secondary baffle plate 131b of the
position-limiting plate 131. In Figure 8-2, the end of the
banknote located on the conveying wheel 114 rotates to
point "a" so as to just exit the conveying wheel 114. Since
the point "a" has a distance of 4.4mm from the bottom
face of the banknote stacking shelf 124, the distance "ac"
between the point "a" and the primary baffle plate 131a of
the position-limiting plate 131 is 83.6mm, which is less
than the width of the banknote of 85mm. Thus, when the
end of the banknote on the conveying wheel 114 rotates
to point "a", the other end of the banknote still abuts
against the secondary baffle plate 131b of the position-
limiting plate 131. At this moment, the banknote is at an
angle of 69 degrees with respect to the horizontal plane.
As the conveying wheel 114 keeps on rotating clockwise,
the end of the banknote located on the conveying wheel
114 completely move away from the conveying wheel
114, and the other end of the banknote continues to slide
downwards along the secondary baffle plate 131b of the
position-limiting plate 131. In Figure 8-3, the banknote is
at an angle of 67 degrees with respect to the horizontal
plane.

[0030] Because of the angle between the banknote and
the horizontal plane less than 90 degrees, as well
as the gravity of the banknote itself and the pushing force
generated from the movement of the next banknote, the
banknote finally is stacked on the banknote stacking shelf
124 at an angle of 60 degrees with respect to the hori-
zontal plane, and leans plainly against the banknote baf-
kle plate 126.

[0031] Compared with the techniques in the prior art,
the banknote stacking and arranging device according
to the present application is provided with a banknote
arranging unit. The banknotes flying out from the con-
veying wheel are limited in position in the vertical direction
via the position-limiting plate of the banknote arranging
unit, and the movement angle of the banknote is correct-
ed by the secondary baffle plate of the position-limiting
plate. Besides, short edges of the banknotes may be ti-
died further, so that the banknotes may be tidily stacked
on the banknote stacking shelf, which facilitate the next
process of bundling the banknotes.

[0032] Further, in order to achieve the automatic de-
tection and control functions of the banknote stacking
and arranging device, the present application further pro-
vides a banknote stacking and arranging system. The
banknote stacking and arranging system 300 includes a
controller 200 and a banknote stacking and arranging
device 100. Please refer to Figure 7, which is a structural
block diagram of a controller 200 of a banknote stacking
and arranging system according to the present applica-
tion. The controller 200 includes a central control module
210, an image acquisition module 220, a detection mod-
ule 230, a storage module 240, a data processing module
250, and an execution module 260.
The detection module 230 includes a position sensor and a counting sensor. The position sensor is arranged on the fixed plate 136 of the banknote arranging system 300 to detect the position of the position-limiting plate 131 or the locating tooth 1322 and to store the detected information in the storage module 240. The counting sensor is arranged on the banknote stacking shelf 124 or the banknote guide platform 112 to count the number of the banknotes.

The storage module 240 stores image information of the banknotes, physical property information of the banknotes (including the width value of banknotes), the width value of the initial position of the position-limiting plate 131, a conversion formula for width adjustment, a conversion formula for converting the width adjustment value into the amount of movement of elements, or the like.

According to the image information acquired by the image acquisition module 220, the initial position of the position-limiting plate 131 detected by the detection module 230, and the number of the stacked banknotes detected by the counting sensor, the data processing module 250 invokes a conversion formula for adjusting the corresponding width and a conversion formula for the conversion amount of movement of the elements stored in the storage module 240 to perform data processing, so as to achieve a position parameter for adjusting the position-limiting plate 131 or the locating tooth 1322 and a drive parameter for driving the position-limiting motor 133.

The execution module 260 generates servo signal for the execution elements according to the drive parameter of the data processing module 250, so as to drive the position-limiting motor 133 of the banknote stacking and arranging device 100 to rotate, and further adjust the current position of the position-limiting plate 131.

The operation process of the banknote stacking and arranging system 300 is described in detail hereinafter.

1) When the conveying wheel 114 rotates, the central control module 210 controls the photoelectric sensor of the image acquisition module 220 to acquire the image information of the banknotes and to transmit the information to the data processing module 250 and to store the information in the storage module 240.

2) Meanwhile, the central control module 210 controls the position sensor of the detection module 230 to detect the current initial position of the position-limiting plate 131, and to transmit the data to the data processing module 250, and to store the data in the storage module 240.

3) The central control module 210 controls the data processing module 250 to invoke the conversion formulas stored in the storage module 240 for adjusting the width and for converting the amount of movement of the elements according to the current banknote image information and the current initial position of the position-limiting plate 131 to perform data processing, so as to generate a position parameter for adjusting the position-limiting plate 131 or the locating tooth 1322 and a drive parameter for driving the position-limiting motor 133.

4) The central control module 210 controls the execution module to generate servo signal for the execution elements according to the drive parameter from the data processing module 250, so as to drive the position-limiting motor 133 to rotate, and further adjust the upward or downward movement of the position-limiting plate 131.

Taking the banknotes having a width of 85mm as an example, the controller 200 controls the position-limiting motor 133 to rotate, so as to drive the position-limiting plate 131 to move such as to be 88mm apart from the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf 124.

5) Central control module 210 also controls the counting sensor of the detection module 230 to monitor the number of the banknotes on the banknote stacking shelf 124. When a certain number of banknotes have been stacked, for example 10 pieces, the central control module 210 controls the execution module 260 to drive the position-limiting motor 133 to rotate. As such, the position-limiting plate 131 is driven to press the banknotes downwards until causing an interference of 2mm with respect to the banknotes, and then returns, thereby arranging the short edges of the banknotes.

6) The central control module 210 also controls the counting sensor of the detection module 230 to monitor the number of the banknotes on the banknote stacking shelf 124. When a certain number of banknotes have been stacked, for example 100 pieces, the central control module 210 controls the execution module 260 to drive the position-limiting motor 133 to rotate. As such, the position-limiting plate 131 is driven to press the banknotes downwards until causing an interference of 2mm with respect to the banknotes, and then returns. Then, the banknote stacking shelf 124 is further driven to bring the whole stack of the banknotes to move downwards, and to send the banknotes to a clamping mechanism (not shown) which sends the banknotes to a bundling mechanism for being bundled.

As compared with the techniques in the prior art, according to the banknote stacking and arranging
system in the present application, the controller controls the banknote stacking and arranging device to press the edges of the banknotes and arrange the banknotes automatically and periodically. Different locating and arranging functions may be implemented according to different banknote specifications. The stacking and arranging system and the stacking and arranging device according to the present application are applicable for stacking and arranging other sheet mediums in addition to banknotes.

[0041] The present application is not limited to the above embodiments. If various variations or modifications to the present application do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present application, and if these variations and modifications fall within the scope of the claims and equivalent techniques of the present application, it is intended that the present application includes those variations and modifications.

Claims

1. A banknote stacking and arranging device, comprising:

   a banknote conveying unit comprising a banknote guide platform and a conveying wheel provided on the banknote guide platform;

   a banknote stacking unit comprising a banknote stacking shelf and a banknote baffle plate arranged on the banknote stacking shelf, with the banknote baffle plate being perpendicular to a bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf, and the banknote stacking shelf being arranged along a direction in which banknotes are conveyed by the banknote conveying unit such as to facilitate stacking of the banknotes thereon; and

   a banknote arranging unit comprising a position-limiting plate which is arranged above the banknote stacking unit and is perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate.

2. The banknote stacking and arranging device according to claim 1, wherein the banknote arranging unit further comprises a fixed plate and a locating plate, the fixed plate is fixedly arranged on the banknote stacking unit and is perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf, the locating plate is arranged on and parallel to the fixed plate and is movable up and down along the fixed plate in a direction perpendicular to the bottom face of the banknote stacking shelf, and the position-limiting plate is arranged on the locating plate.

3. The banknote stacking and arranging device according to claim 2, wherein the position-limiting plate is arranged under the locating plate via a retractable portion.

4. The banknote stacking and arranging device according to claim 3, wherein the position-limiting plate comprises a primary baffle plate and a secondary baffle plate angled by 30 to 45 degrees with respect to each other, the primary baffle plate is perpendicular to the banknote baffle plate.

5. A banknote stacking and arranging system, comprising a controller and the banknote stacking and arranging device according to claim 4, wherein the controller controls operation of the banknote stacking and arranging device.

6. The banknote stacking and arranging system according to claim 5, wherein the controller comprises a central control module, and an image acquisition module, a data processing module, a storage module and an execution module which are electrically connected to the central control module; and wherein the central control module controls the image acquisition module to acquire banknote image information and to transmit the banknote image information to the data processing module and to store the banknote image information in the storage module; and wherein the data processing module invokes a conversion formula stored in the storage module according to the banknote image information to perform data processing, generates a controlling parameter and sends the controlling parameter to the execution module; and wherein the execution module generates servo signals for execution elements so as to drive the position-limiting motor to rotate.

7. The banknote stacking and arranging system according to claim 6, further comprising a detection module electrically connected to the central control module, wherein the central control module controls the detection module to detect position information of the position-limiting plate and to transmit the position information to the data processing module and to store the position information in the storage module; and wherein the data processing module invokes a conversion formula stored in the storage module according to the banknote image information and the position information of the position-limiting plate to perform data processing, generates a controlling parameter and sends the controlling parameter to the execution module; and wherein the execution module generates servo signals for the execution elements so as to drive the position-limiting motor to rotate.

8. The banknote stacking and arranging system according to claim 7, wherein the image acquisition
module comprises a photoelectric sensor arranged on the banknote conveying unit.

9. The banknote stacking and arranging system according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the detection module comprises a position sensor arranged on the fixed plate of the banknote arranging unit.

10. The banknote stacking and arranging system according to claim 9, wherein the detection module further comprises a counting sensor arranged on the banknote stacking shelf or the banknote guide platform.
Fig. 7
### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

#### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

See the extra sheet

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: B65H 31; B65H 29; G07D 13

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI, EPDOC, CNPAT, CNKI: cash, banknote, paper, sheet, align+, limit+, plate?, guid+, springs+, order+, control+, display+, prevent+

Image, model

#### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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* Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  
See patent family annex.

- “A” document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- “E” earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- “L” document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- “O” document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- “P” document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
- “T” later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- “X” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- “Y” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- “&” document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
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Name and mailing address of the ISA  
State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China  
No. 6, Xitucheng Road, Jiemianqiao  
Haidian District, Beijing 100088, China  
Facsimile No. (86-10) 62019451

Authorized officer  
FENG, Yan  
Telephone No. (86-10) 62412889

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