

F01B

MACHINES OR ENGINES, IN GENERAL OR OF POSITIVE-DISPLACEMENT TYPE, e.g. STEAM ENGINES (of rotary-piston or oscillating-piston type [F01C](#); of non-positive-displacement type [F01D](#); internal-combustion aspects of reciprocating-piston engines [F02B 57/00](#), [F02B 59/00](#); crankshafts, crossheads, connecting-rods [F16C](#); flywheels [F16F](#); gearings for interconverting rotary motion and reciprocating motion in general [F16H](#); pistons, piston rods, cylinders, for engines in general [F16J](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Machines or engines, in general or of positive-displacement type

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Rotary-piston or oscillating-piston type	F01C
Non-positive-displacement type	F01D

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Steam engine plants	F01K
Cyclically operating valves for machines or engines	F01L
Lubrication of machines or engines in general	F01M
Internal combustion engines	F02B
Internal combustion aspects of reciprocating piston engines	F02B 57/00 ; F02B 59/00
Crankshafts, crossheads, connecting-rods	F16C
Flywheels	F16F
Gearings for interconverting rotary motion and reciprocating motion in general	F16H
Pistons, piston rods, cylinders for engines in general	F16J

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the following abbreviations are often used:

Engine	a device for continuously converting fluid energy into mechanical power, Thus, this term includes, for example, steam piston engines or steam turbines, per se, or internal-combustion piston engines, but it excludes single-stroke devices.
Machine	a device which could equally be an engine and a pump, and not a device which is restricted to an engine or one which is restricted to a pump.

Pump	a device for continuously raising, forcing, compressing, or exhausting fluid by mechanical or other means. Thus, this term includes fans or blowers;
Positive displacement	Means the way the energy of a working fluid is transformed into mechanical energy, in which variations of volume created by the working fluid in a working chamber produce equivalent displacements of the mechanical member transmitting the energy, the dynamic effect of the fluid being of minor importance, and vice versa ;
Non-positive displacement	means the way the energy of a working fluid is transformed into mechanical energy, by transformation of the energy of the working fluid into kinetic energy, and vice versa ;
Oscillating-piston machine	means a positive-displacement machine in which a fluid-engaging work-transmitting member oscillates. This definition applies also to engines and pumps
Rotary-piston machine	means a positive-displacement machine in which a fluid-engaging work-transmitting member rotates about a fixed axis or about an axis moving along a circular or similar orbit. This definition applies also to engines and pumps
Rotary piston	means the work-transmitting member of a rotary-piston machine and may be of any suitable form, e.g., like a toothed gear;
Free piston	means a piston of which the length of stroke is not defined by any member driven thereby;
Cylinders	"cylinders" means positive-displacement working chambers in general. Thus, this term is not restricted to cylinders of circular cross-section;
Main shaft	means the shaft which converts reciprocating piston motion into rotary motion or vice versa ;
Plant	means an engine together with such additional apparatus as is necessary to run the engine. For example, a steam engine plant includes a steam engine and means for generating the steam
Working fluid	means the driven fluid in a pump or the driving fluid in an engine. The working fluid can be in a compressible, gaseous state, called elastic fluid, e.g. steam; in a liquid state; or in a state where there is coexistence of an elastic fluid and liquid phase.

F01B 1/00

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines characterised by number or relative disposition of cylinders or by being built-up from separate cylinder-crankcase elements ([F01B 3/00](#), [F01B 5/00](#) take precedence)

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

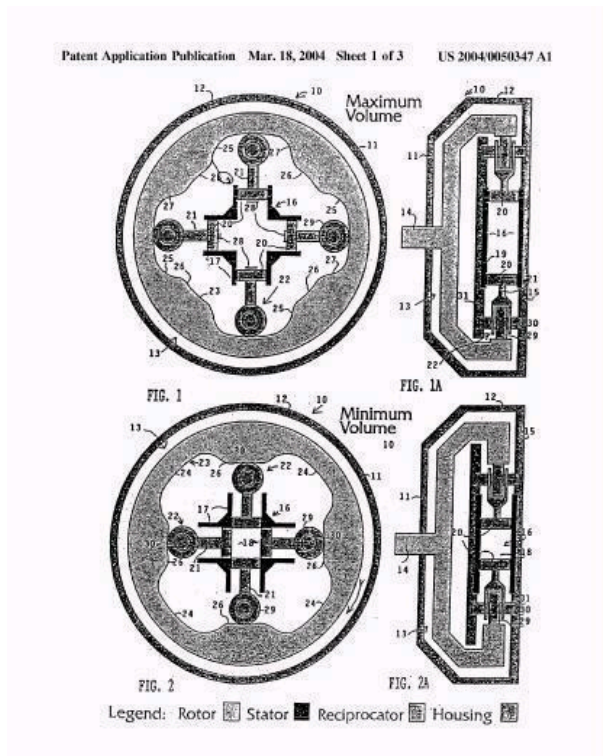
Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with cylinder axes coaxial with, or parallel or inclined to, main shaft	F01B 3/00
Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with cylinder axes arranged substantially tangentially to a circle centred on main shaft axis	F01B 5/00

F01B 1/0603

{the connection of the pistons with an element being at the outer ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 1/0603](#)

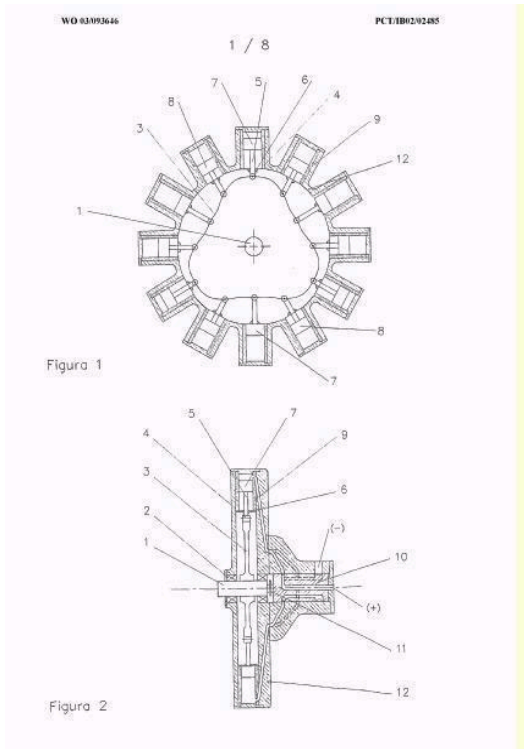


F01B 1/062

{the connection of the pistons with an actuating or actuated element being at the inner ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 1/062](#)



F01B 3/00

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with cylinder axes coaxial with, or parallel or inclined to, main shaft axis

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/00](#)

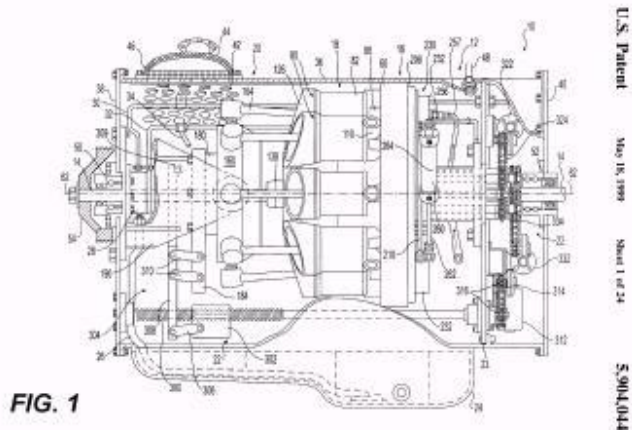


FIG. 1

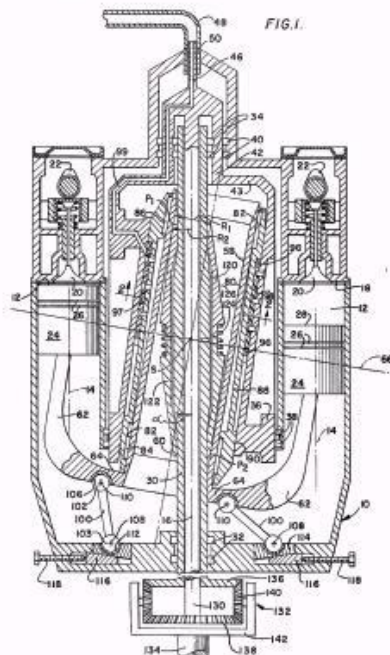
F01B 3/0002

{having stationary cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0002](#)

U.S. Patent July 18, 1978 Sheet 1 of 3 4,100,815

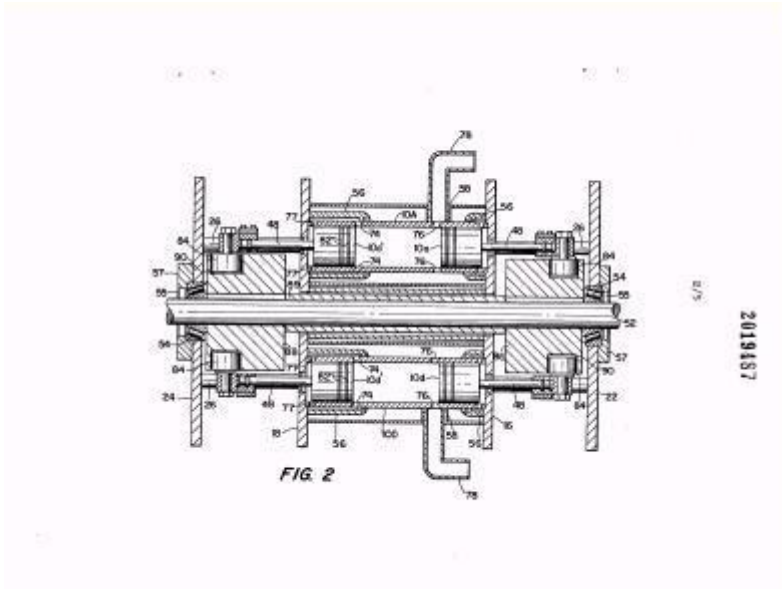


F01B 3/0005

{having two or more sets of cylinders or pistons}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0005](#)

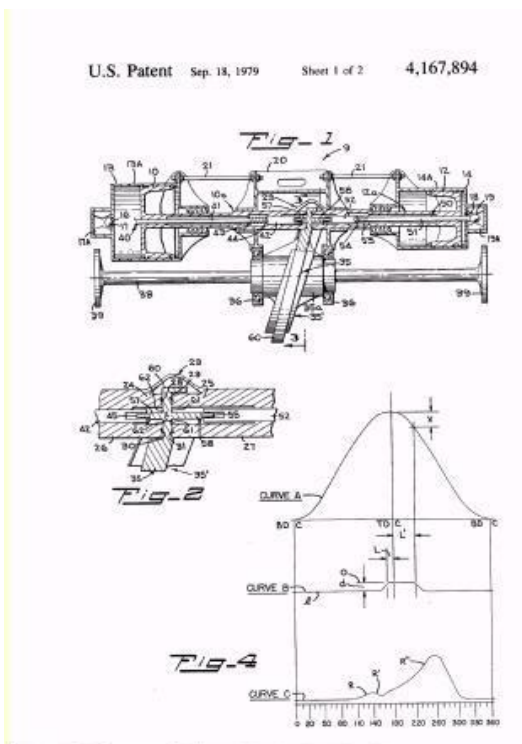


F01B 3/0008

{having self-acting distribution members, e.g. actuated by working fluid}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0008](#)

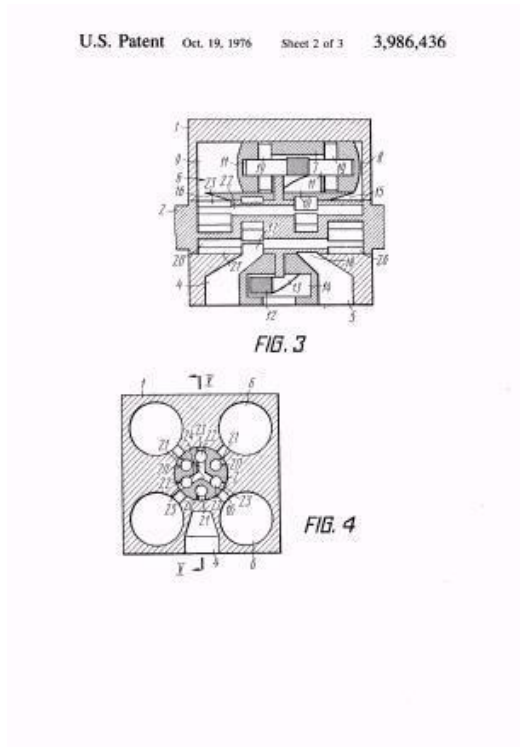


F01B 3/0011

{Cylindrical distribution members}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0011](#)

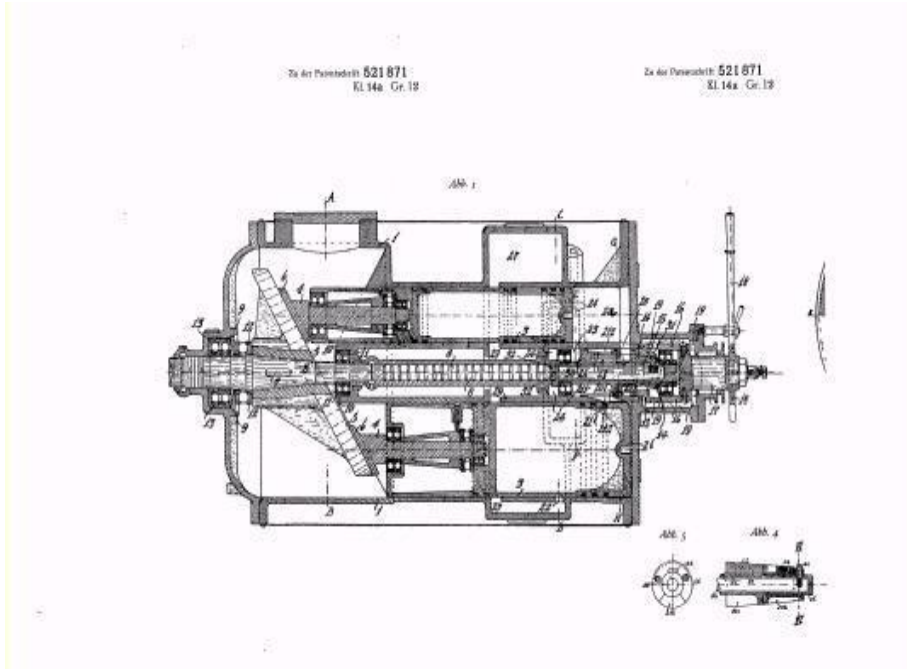


F01B 3/0014

{Conical distribution members}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0014](#)

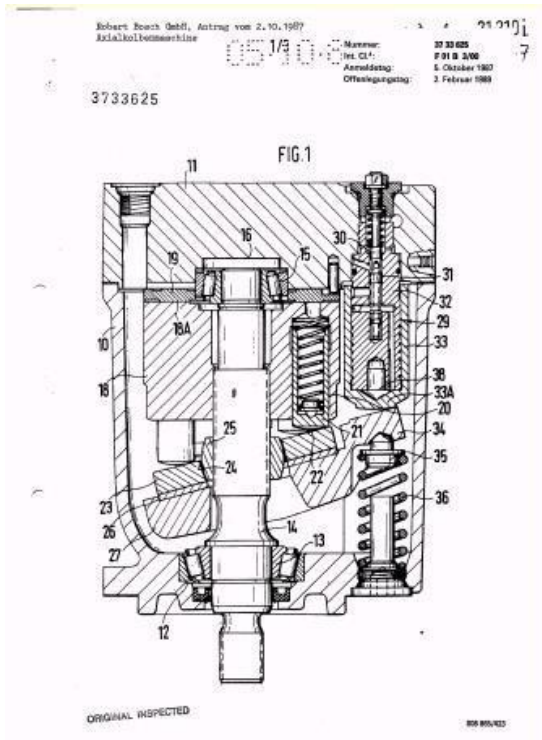


F01B 3/0032

{having rotary cylinder block}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0032](#)

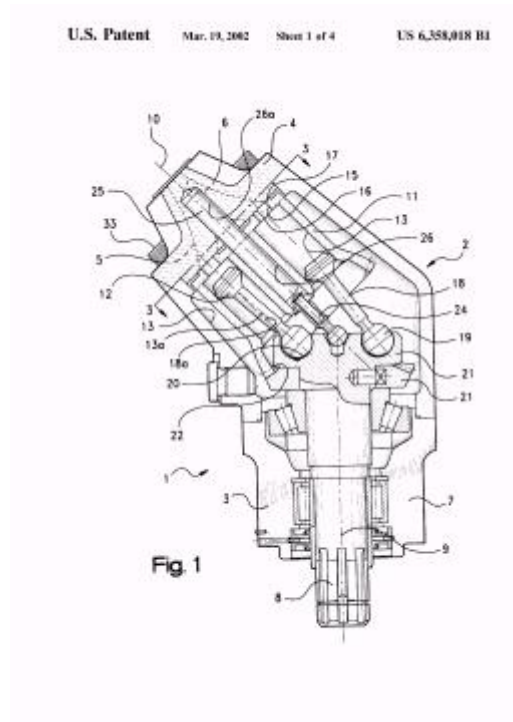


F01B 3/0038

{inclined to main shaft axis}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0038](#)

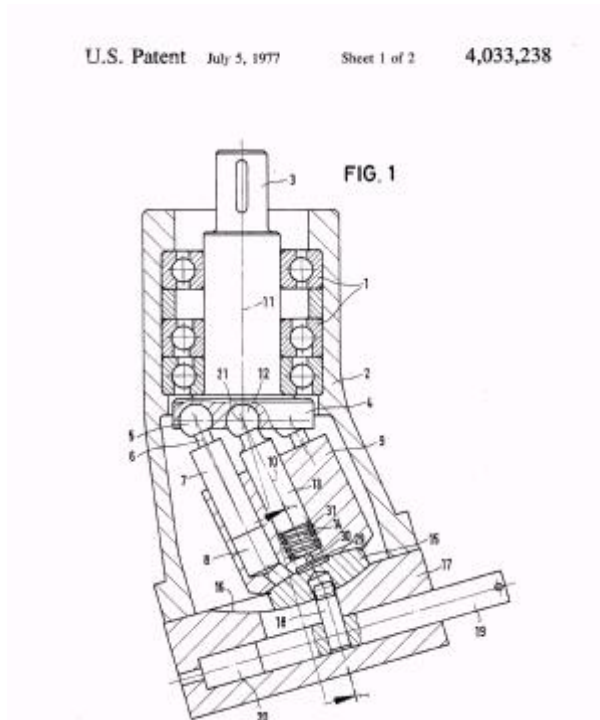


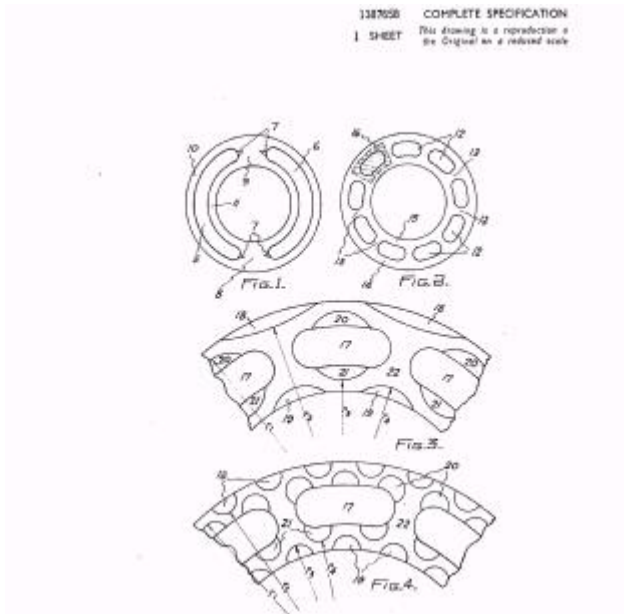
F01B 3/0041

{Arrangements for pressing the cylinder barrel against the valve plate, e.g. fluid pressure}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0041](#)



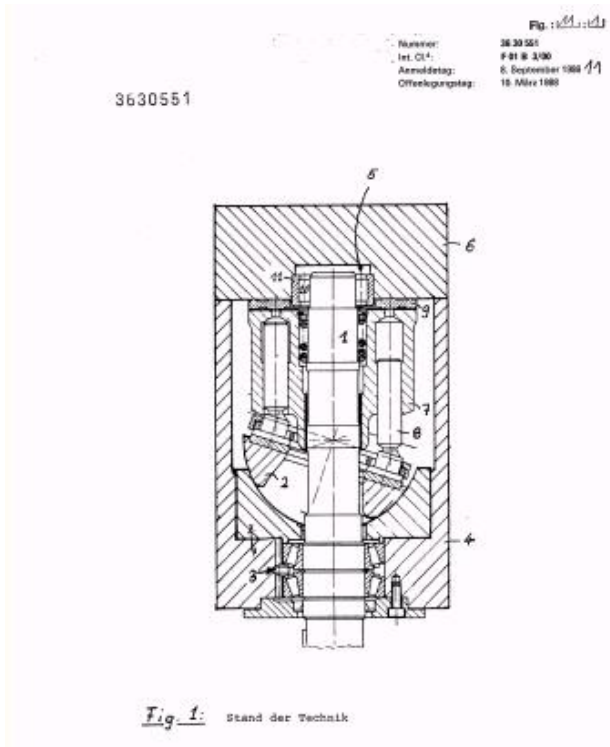
F01B 3/0047**{Particularities in the contacting area between cylinder barrel and valve plate}****Special rules of classification**Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0047](#)

F01B 3/005

{Bearing arrangements}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/005](#)

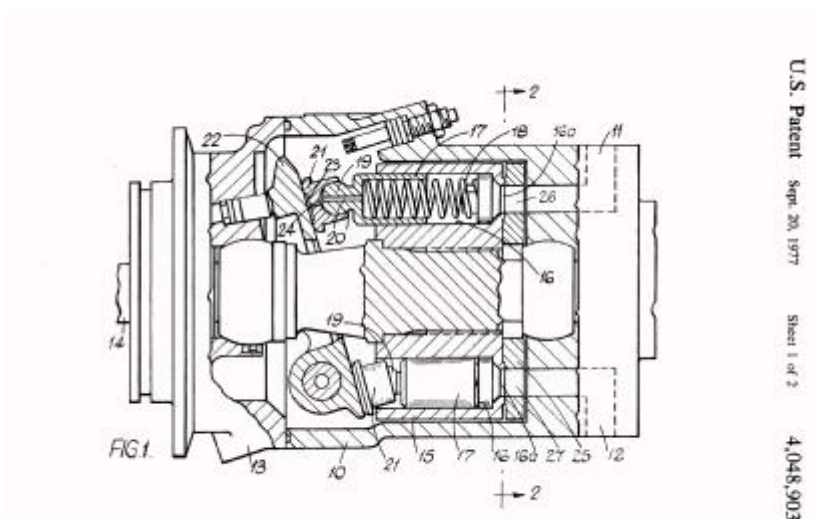


F01B 3/0052

{Cylinder barrel}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0052](#)

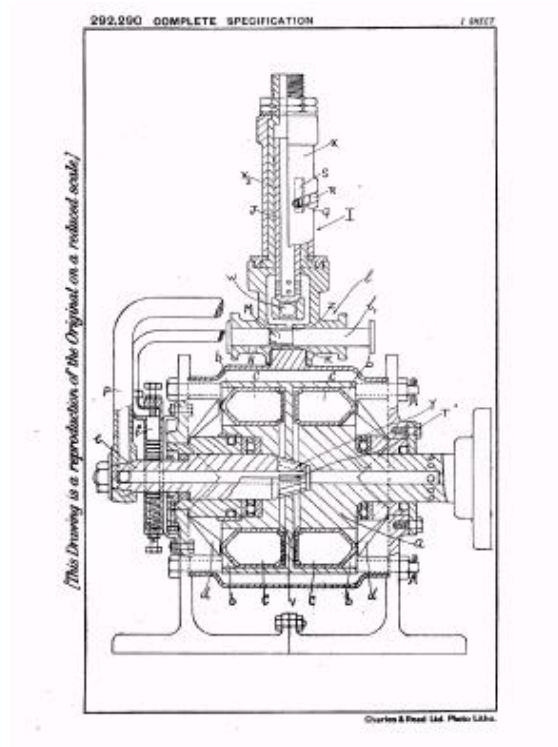


F01B 3/0061

{Conical valve means}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0061](#)

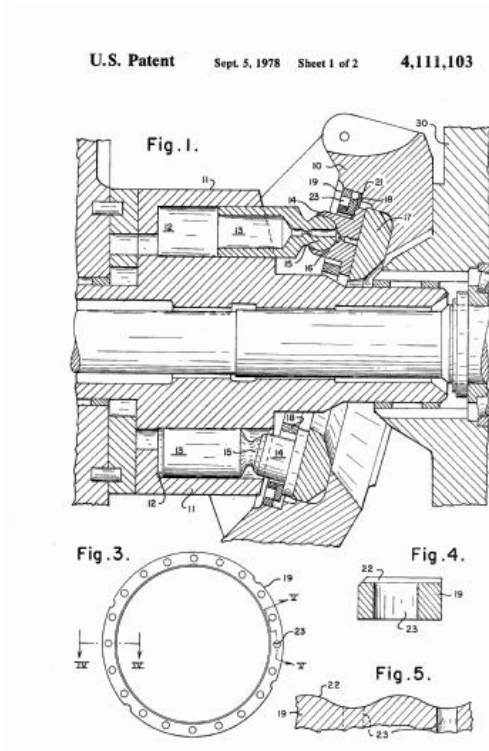


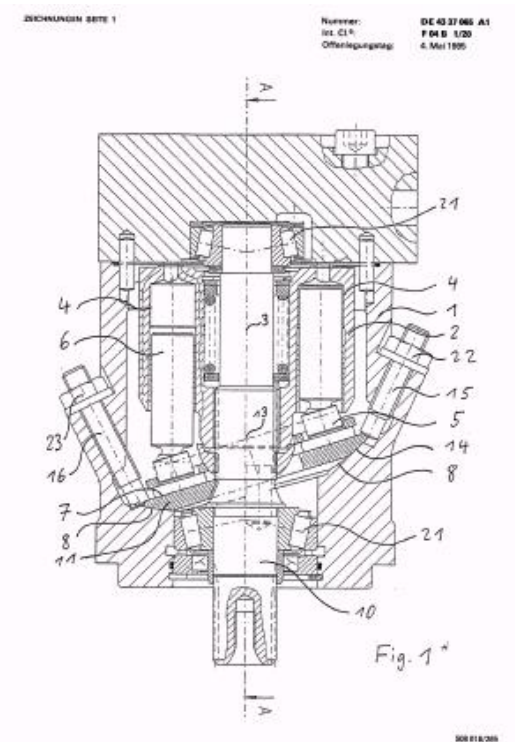
F01B 3/007

{Swash plate}

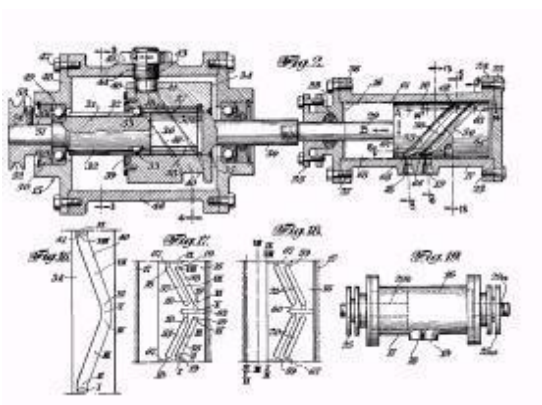
Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/007](#)



F01B 3/0076**{Connection between cylinder barrel and inclined swash plate}****Special rules of classification**Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/0076](#)**F01B 3/0079****{having pistons with rotary and reciprocating motion, i.e. spinning pistons}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

having pistons with rotary and reciprocating motion, i.e. spinning pistons. The piston reciprocates and e.g. by means of a curved groove on the outer circumference will also rotate, (spin) along its longitudinal axis.



References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

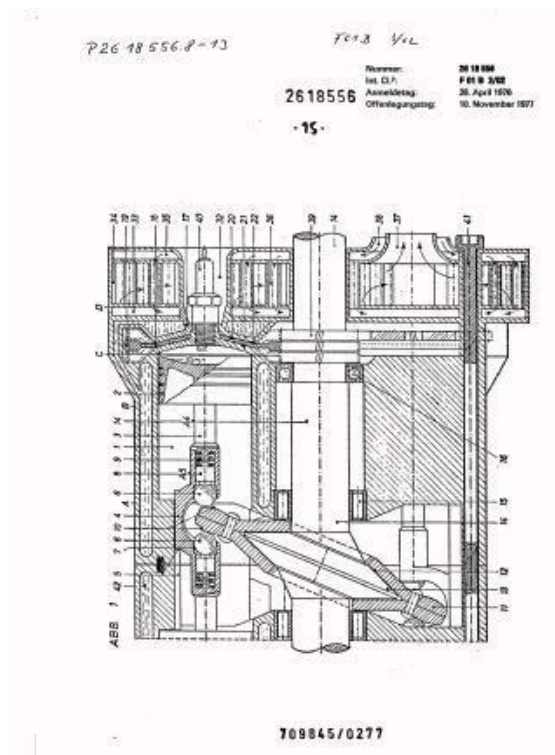
Piston motion being transmitted by curved surfaces, e.g. by cams or grooves	F01B 3/04 .
Piston machines or pumps in which the valving is performed by pistons and cylinders coaxing to open and close intake or outlet ports, the pistons and cylinders being relatively reciprocated and rotated	F04B 7/06

F01B 3/02

with wobble-plate

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/02](#)

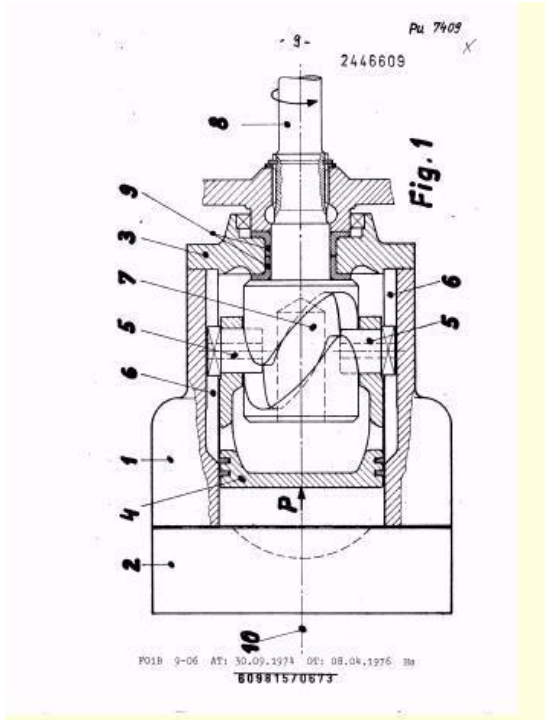


F01B 3/04

the piston motion being transmitted by curved surfaces

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/04](#)

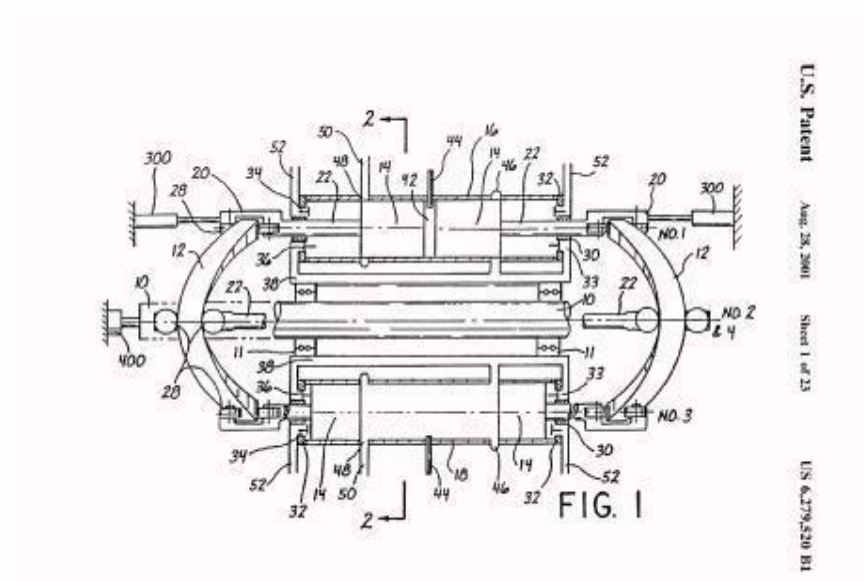


F01B 3/045

{by two or more curved surfaces, e.g. for two or more pistons in one cylinder}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/045](#)

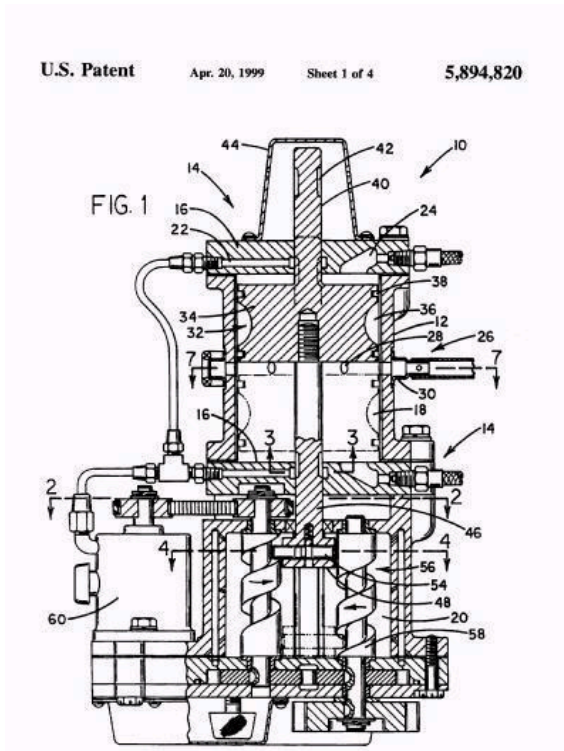


F01B 3/06

by multi-turn helical surfaces and automatic reversal

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/06](#)

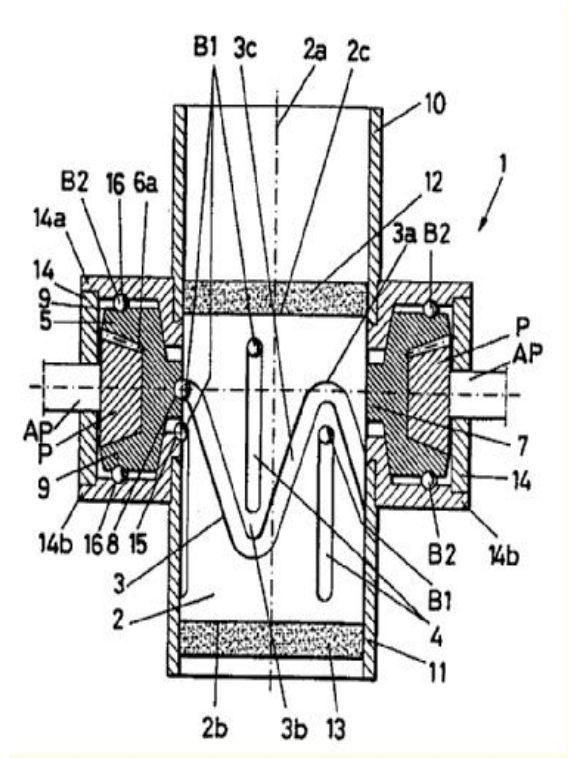


F01B 3/08

the helices being arranged on the pistons

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/08](#)

**F01B 3/10**

Control of working-fluid admission or discharge peculiar thereto (suitable for more general application [F01L](#))

References**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

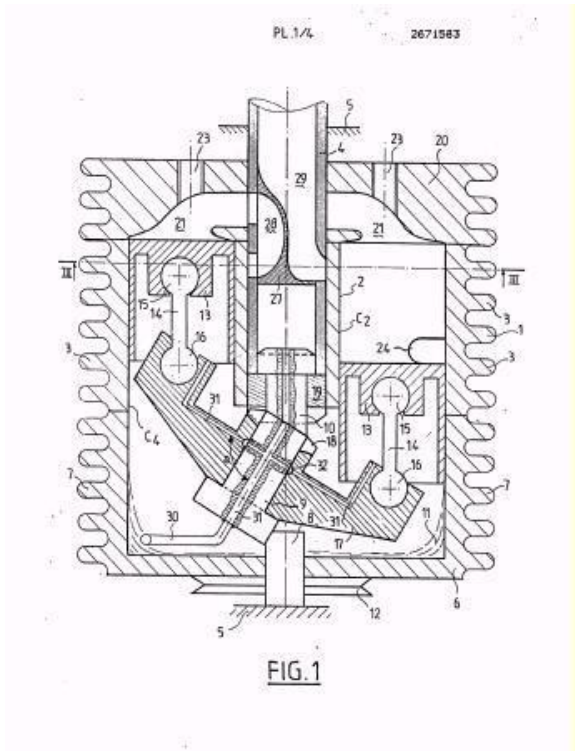
Cyclically operating valves for machines or engines	F01L
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F01B 3/103

{for machines with rotary cylinder block}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/103](#)

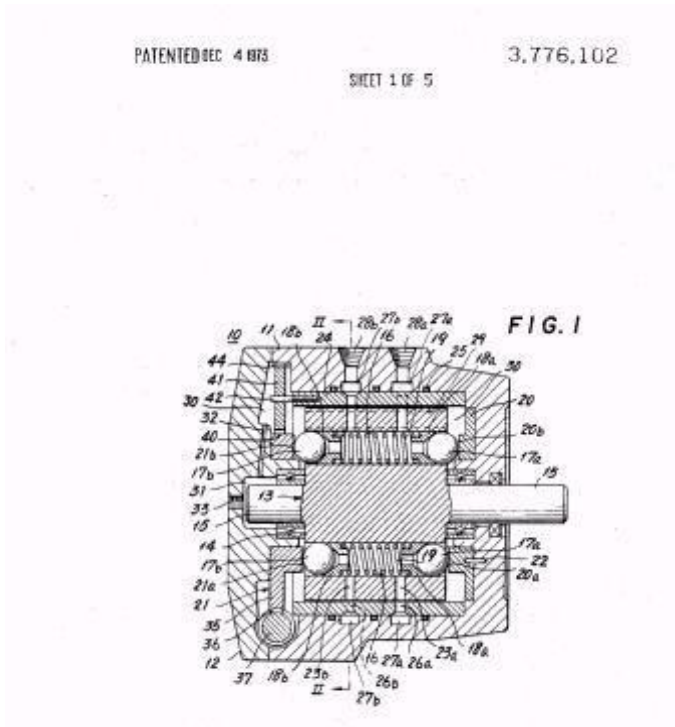


F01B 3/104

{by turning the valve plate}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/104](#)

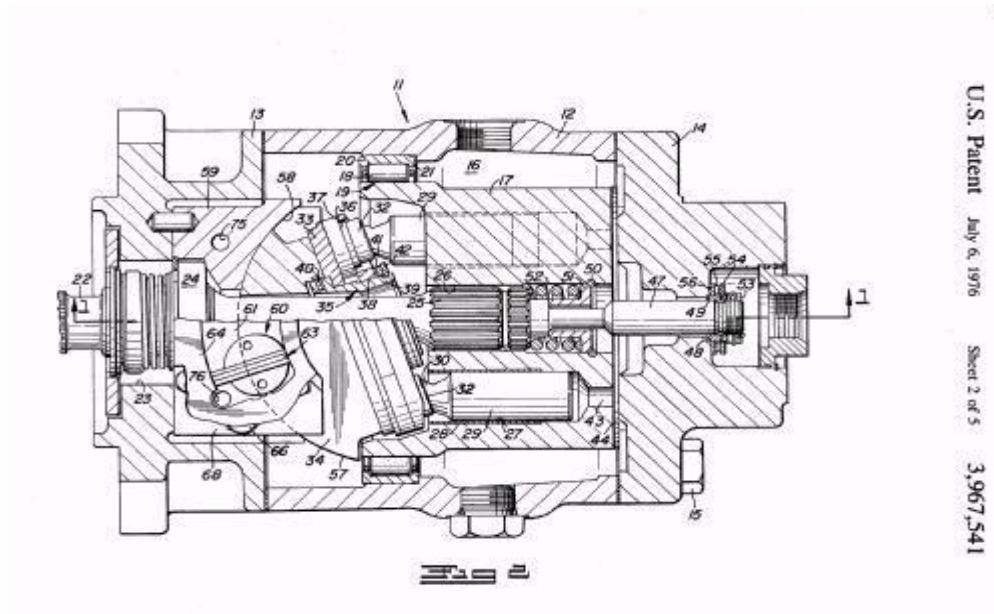


F01B 3/106

{by changing the inclination of the swash plate}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/106](#)

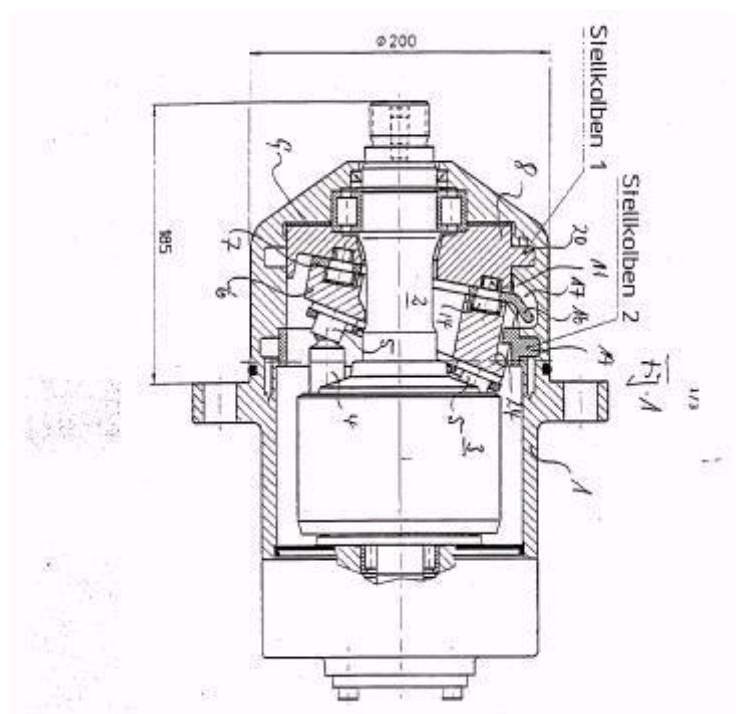


F01B 3/108

{by turning the swash plate (with fixed inclination)}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/108](#)



F01B 3/109

{by changing the inclination of the axis of the cylinder barrel relative to the swash plate ([F01B 3/106](#) takes precedence)}

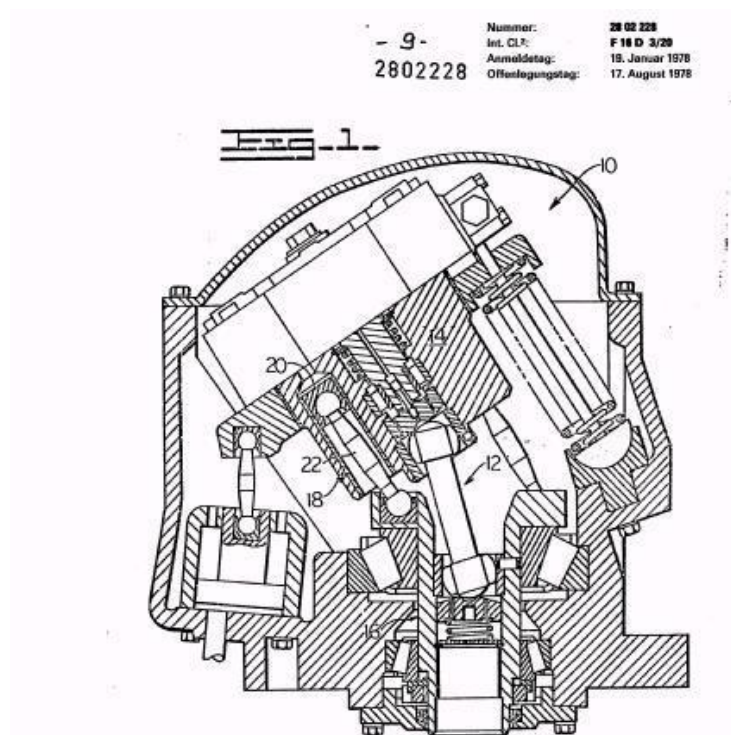
References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

By changing the inclination of the swash plate	F01B 3/106
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Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 3/109](#)

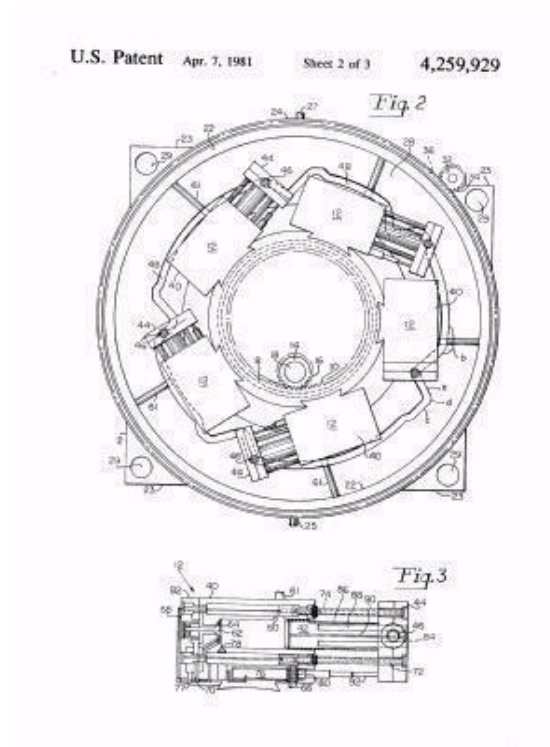


F01B 5/00

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with cylinder axes arranged substantially tangentially to a circle centred on main shaft axis

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 5/00](#)

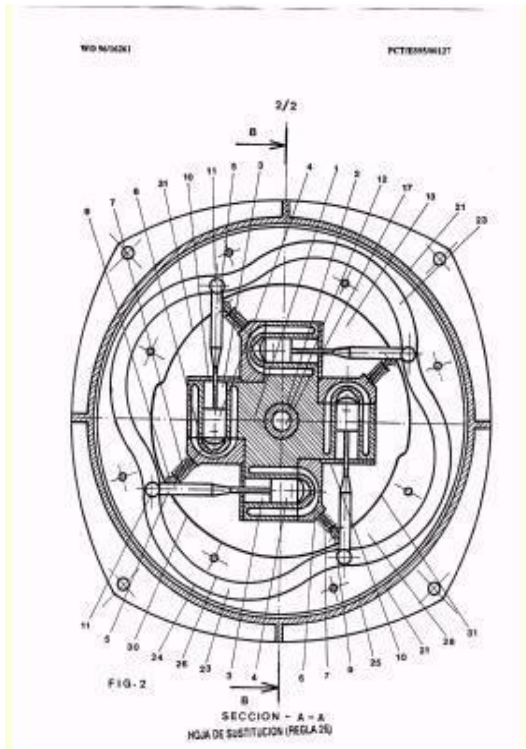


F01B 5/003

{the connection of the pistons with an actuated or actuating element being at the outer ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 5/003](#)

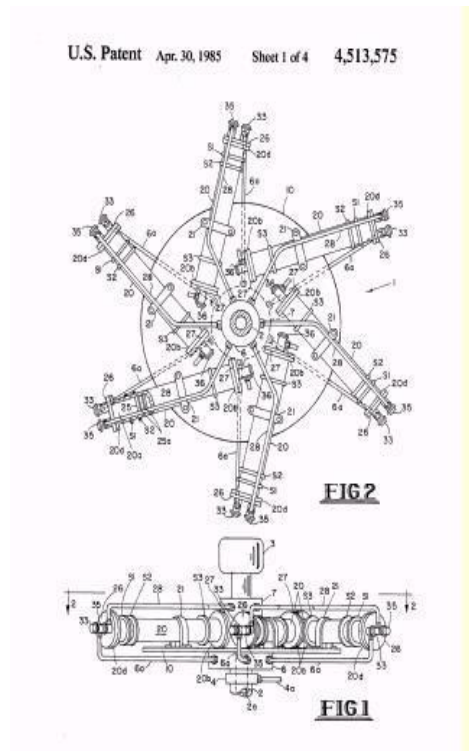


F01B 5/006

{the connection of the pistons with an actuated or actuating element being at the inner ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 5/006](#)

**F01B 7/00**

Machines or engines with two or more pistons reciprocating within same cylinder or within essentially coaxial cylinders (in opposite arrangement relative to main shaft [F01B 1/08](#))

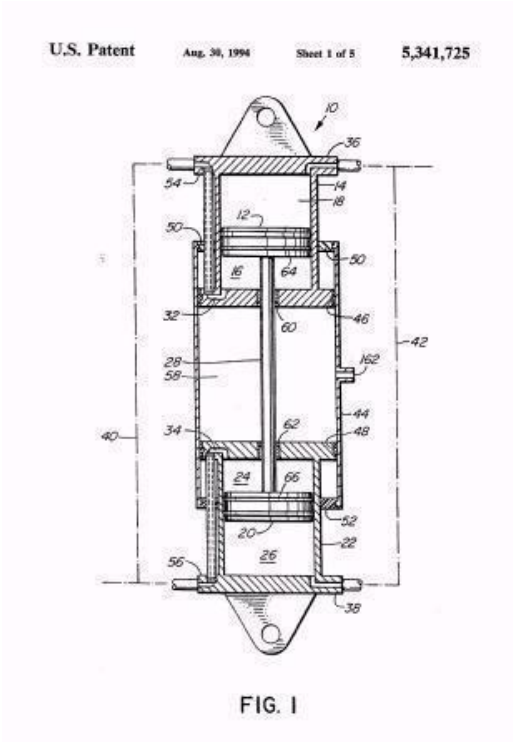
References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Coaxial cylinders in opposite arrangement relative to main shaft	F01B 1/08
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Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/00](#)



F01B 7/02

with oppositely reciprocating pistons

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/02](#)

Patent Application Publication Nov. 10, 2011 Sheet 9 of 13 US 2011/0271932 A1

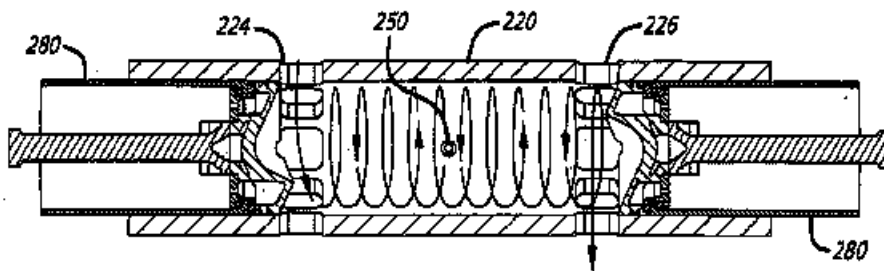


FIG. 12

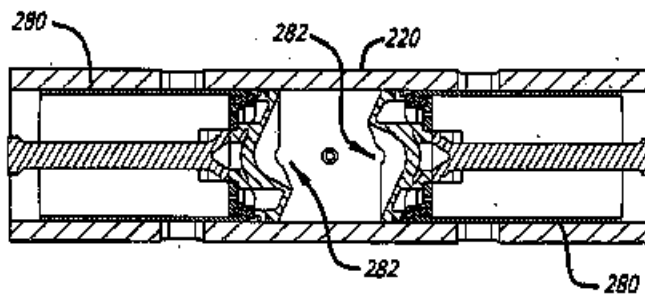


FIG. 13

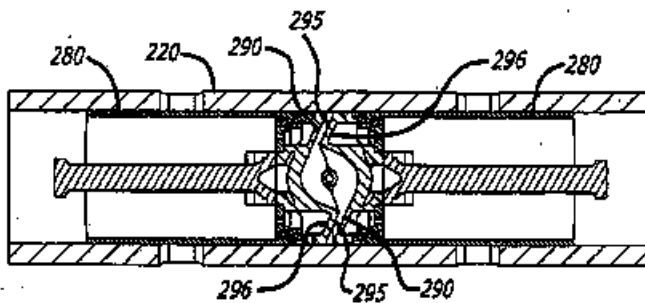


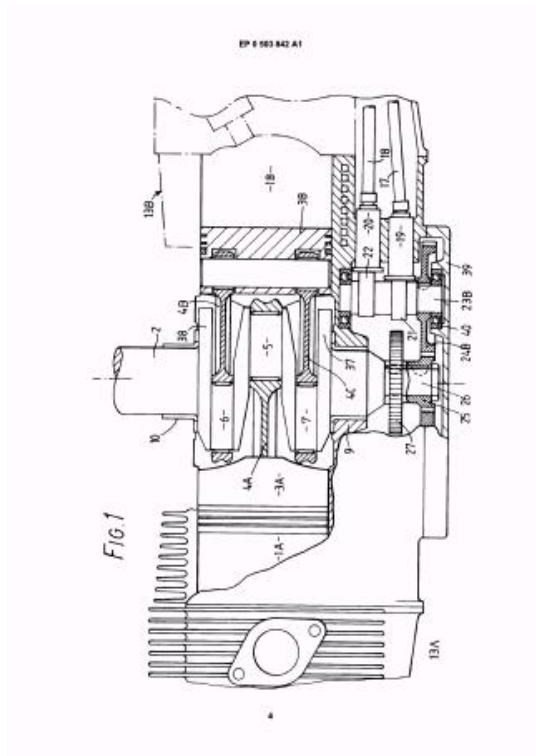
FIG. 14

F01B 7/06

using only connecting-rods for conversion of reciprocatory into rotary motion or vice versa

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/06](#)



F01B 7/08

with side rods

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/08](#)

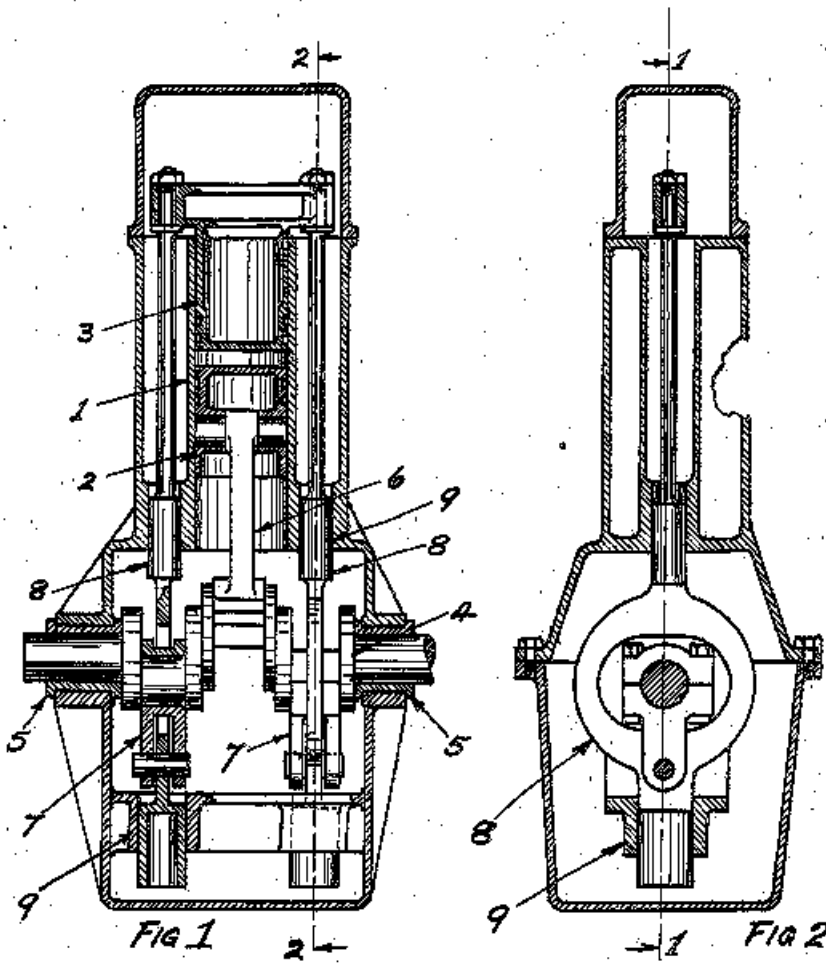
Dec. 21, 1937.

S. J. WATERS

2,103,103

INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

Filed Aug. 17, 1934



F01B 7/10

having piston-rod of one piston passed through other piston

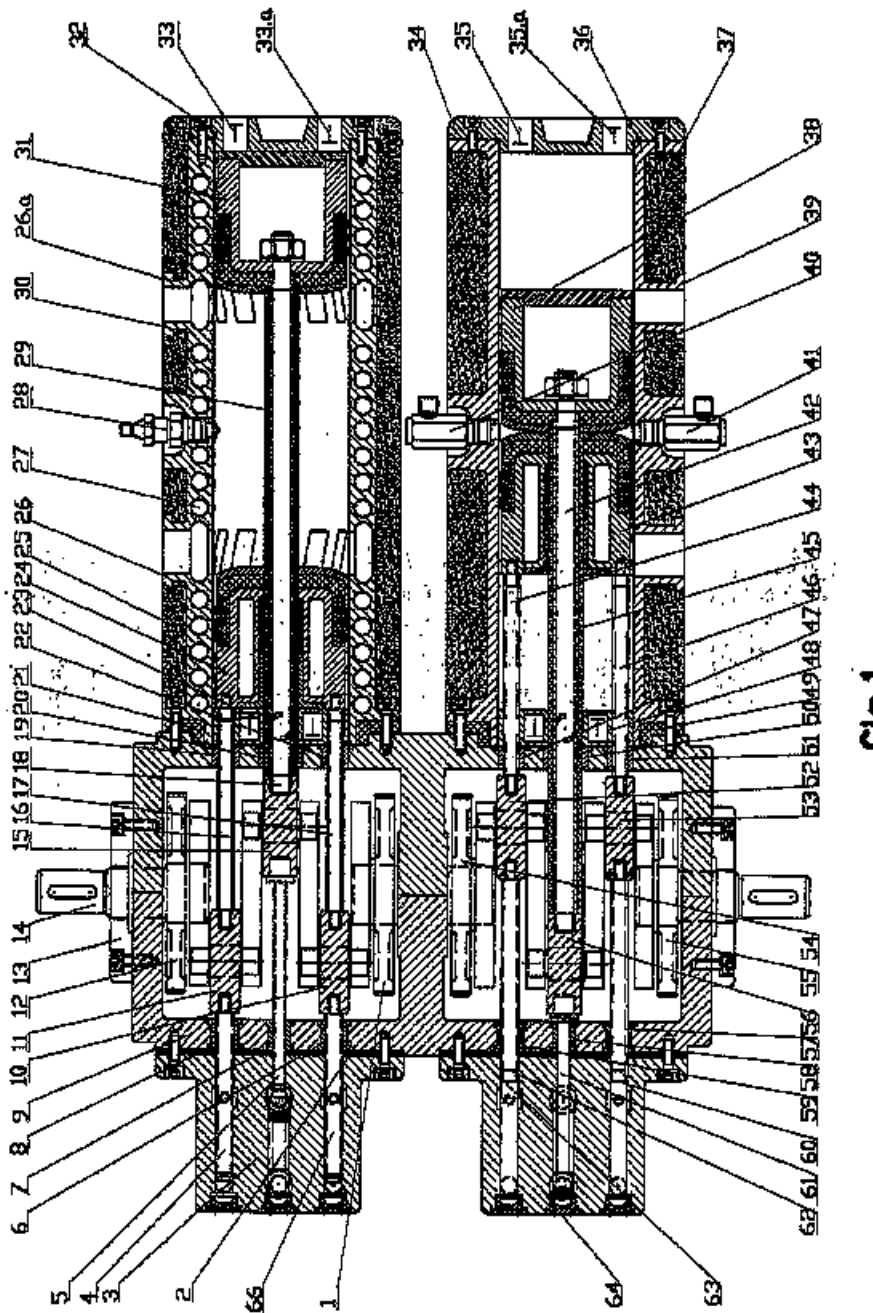
Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/10](#)

WO 03/016701

1/13

PCT/BG02/00021



F01B 7/12

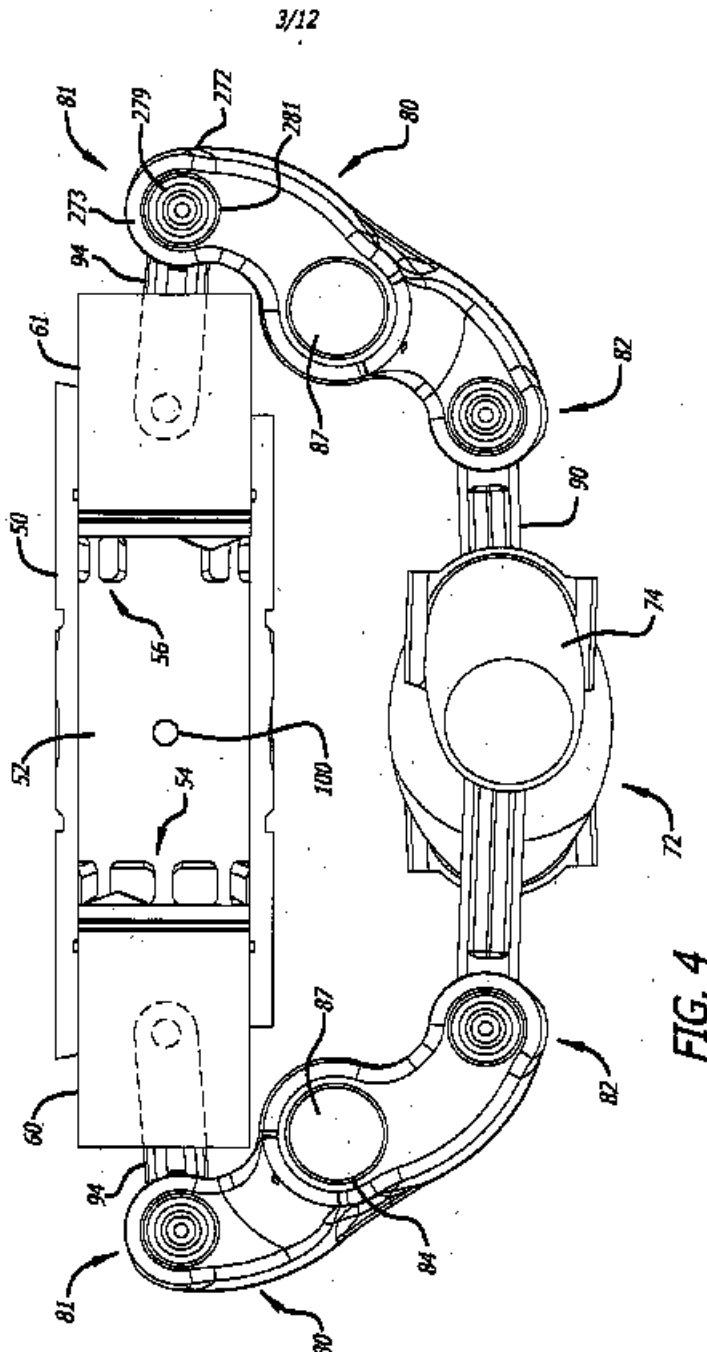
using rockers and connecting-rods

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/12](#)

WO 2012/023971

PCT/US2011/001430

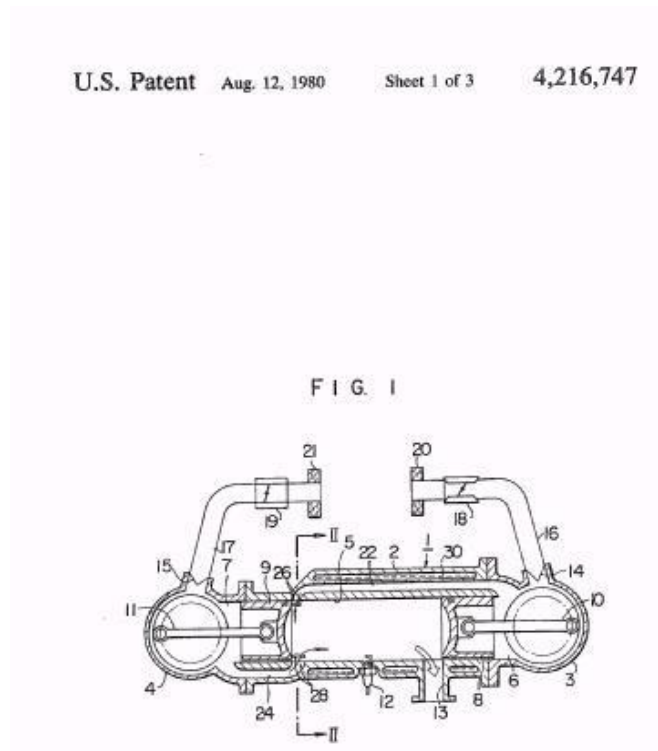


F01B 7/14

acting on different main shafts

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/14](#)

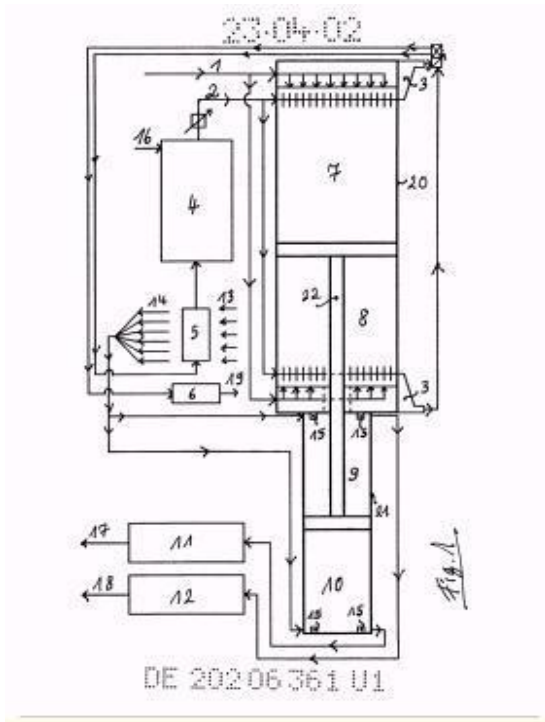


F01B 7/16

with pistons synchronously moving in tandem arrangement

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 7/16](#)

**F01B 7/18**

with differential piston ([F01B 7/20](#) takes precedence)

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

With two or more pistons reciprocating one within another	F01B 7/20
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F01B 9/00

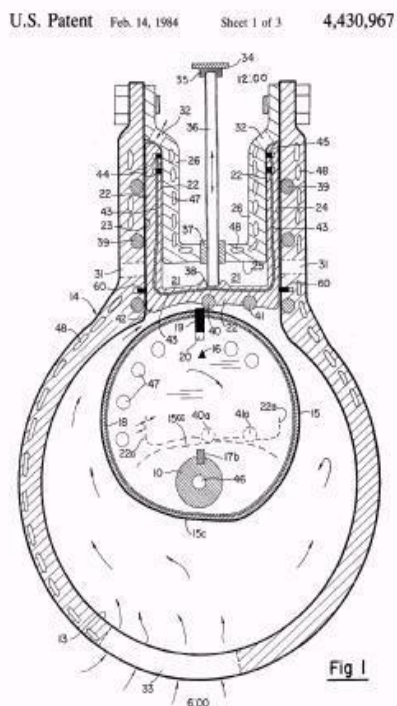
Reciprocating-piston machines or engines characterised by connections between pistons and main shafts and not specific to preceding groups (connections disengageable during idling [F01B 31/24](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines characterised by connections between pistons and main shafts and not specific to preceding groups.

E.g. when no recognisable crank shaft is present or the main shaft is a cam shaft:

**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

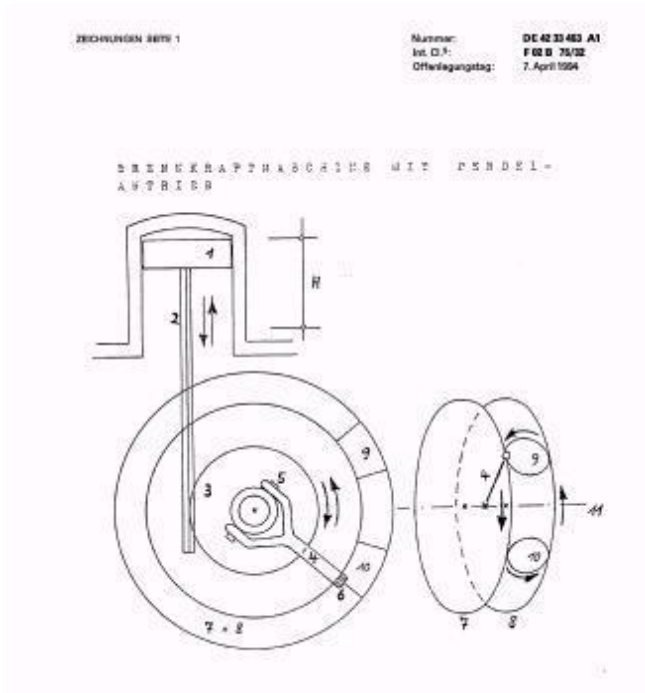
Idling devices characterised by disengagement of connections between pistons and main shafts during idling	F01B 31/24
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F01B 9/02

with crankshaft

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/02](#)

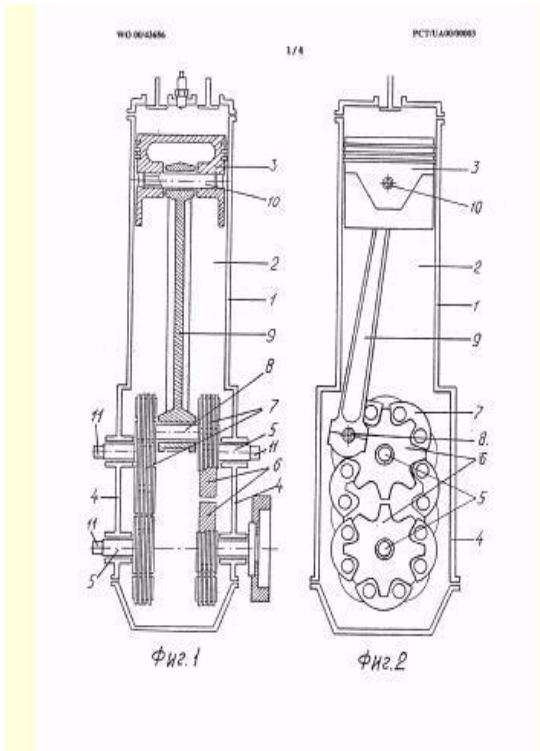
F01B 9/04**with rotary main shaft other than crankshaft****Special rules of classification**Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/04](#)

F01B 9/042

{the connections comprising gear transmissions}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/042](#)

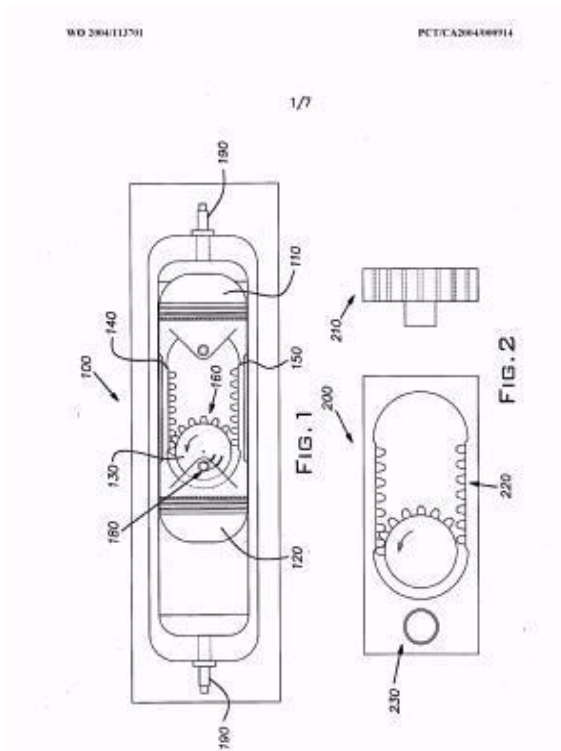


F01B 9/047

{with rack and pinion}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/047](#)

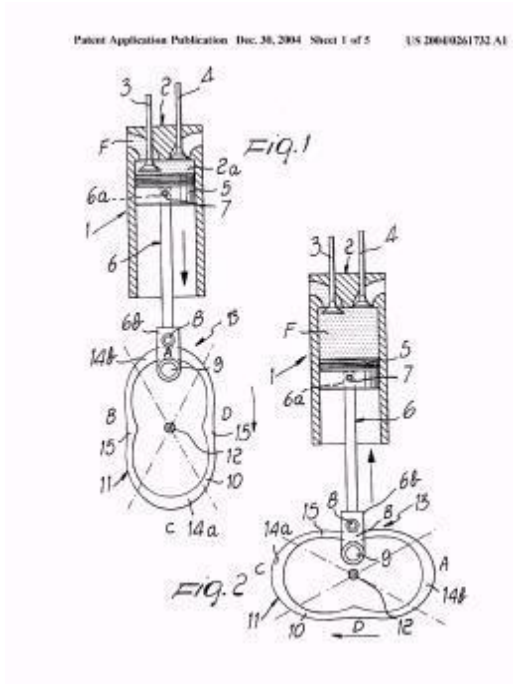


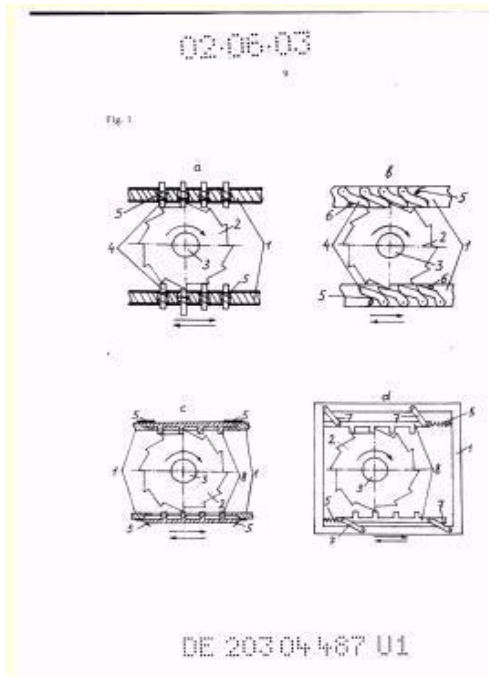
F01B 9/06

the piston motion being transmitted by curved surfaces

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/06](#)



F01B 9/08**with ratchet and pawl****Special rules of classification**Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 9/08](#)**F01B 11/00****Reciprocating-piston machines or engines without rotary main shaft, e.g. of free-piston type****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

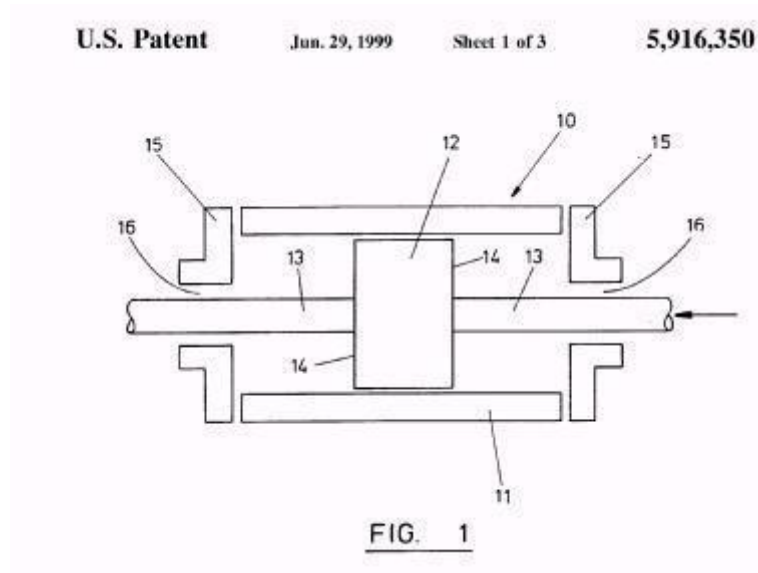
Free-piston combustion engines	F02B 71/00
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F01B 11/001

{in which the movement in the two directions is obtained by one double acting piston motor}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/001](#)

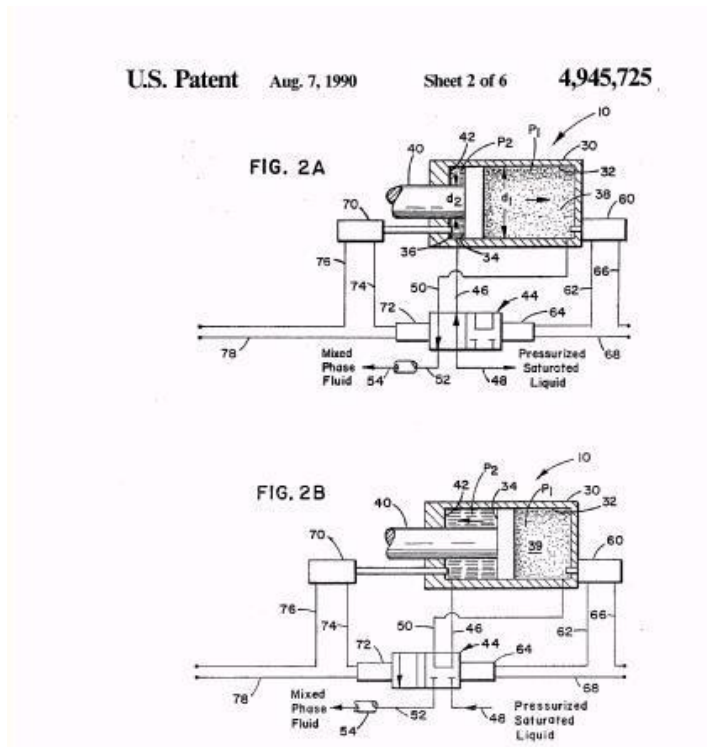


F01B 11/002

{one side of the double acting piston motor being always under the influence of the fluid under pressure}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/002](#)



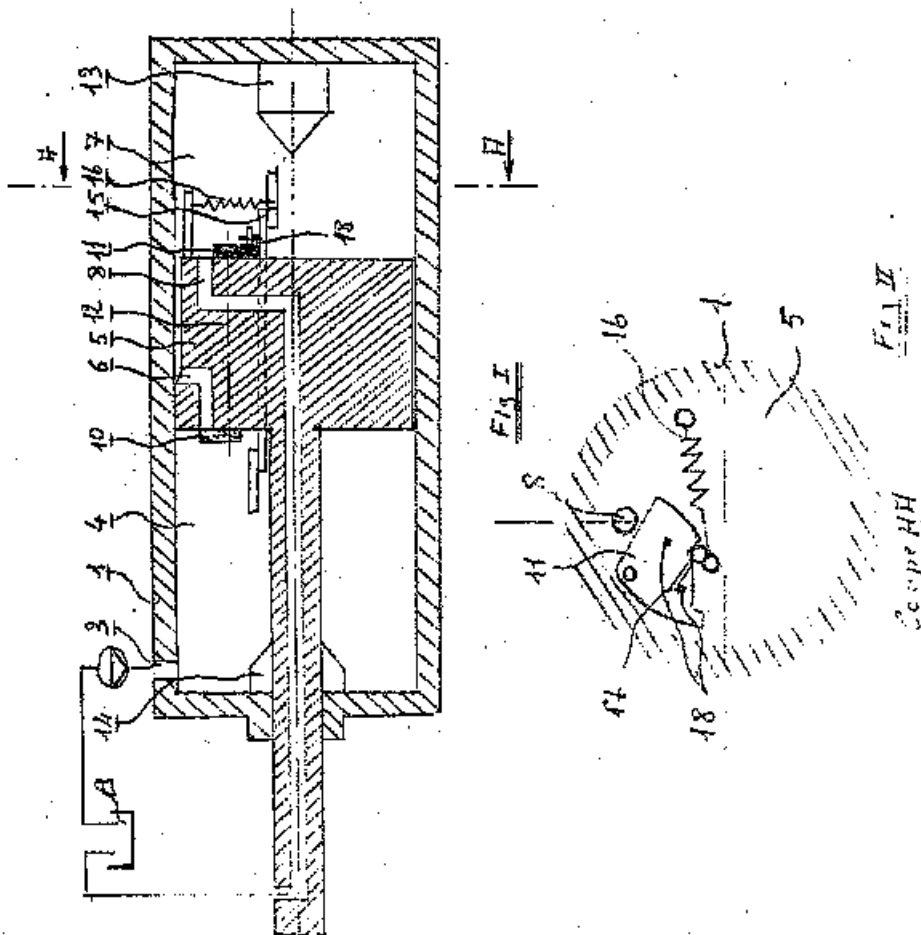
F01B 11/003

{the fluid under pressure being continuously delivered to one motor chamber and reacting the other chamber through a valve located in the piston, to bring the piston back in its start-position}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/003](#)

2508568



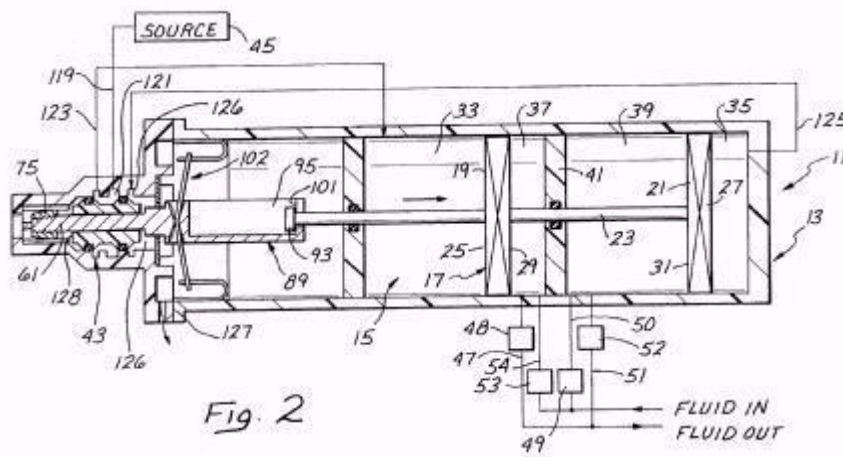
FR2508568 A1

F01B 11/004

{in which the movement in the two directions is obtained by two single acting piston motors, each acting in one direction}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/004](#)



U.S. Patent

Apr. 9, 1996

Sheet 2 of 4

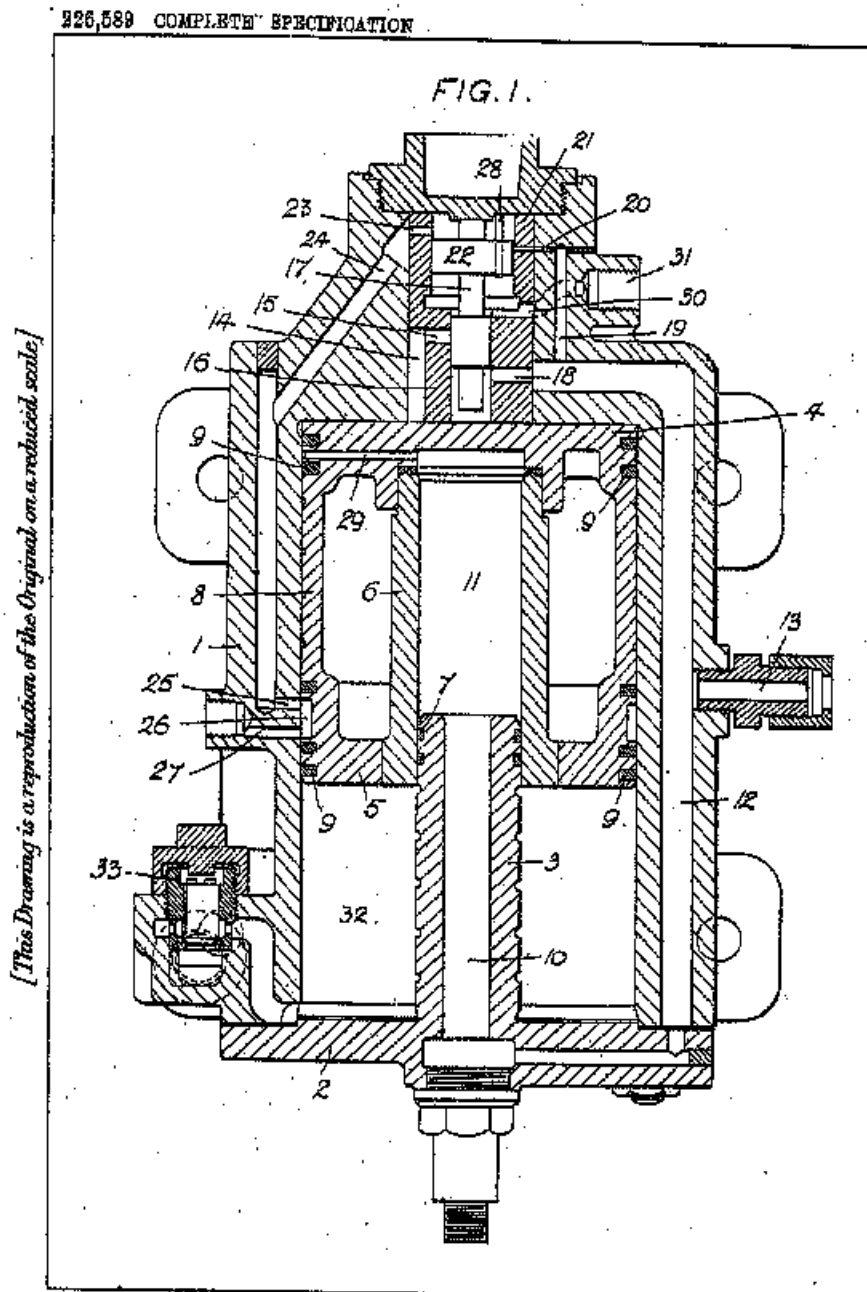
5,505,593

F01B 11/006

{one single acting piston motor being always under the influence of the fluid under pressure}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/006](#)



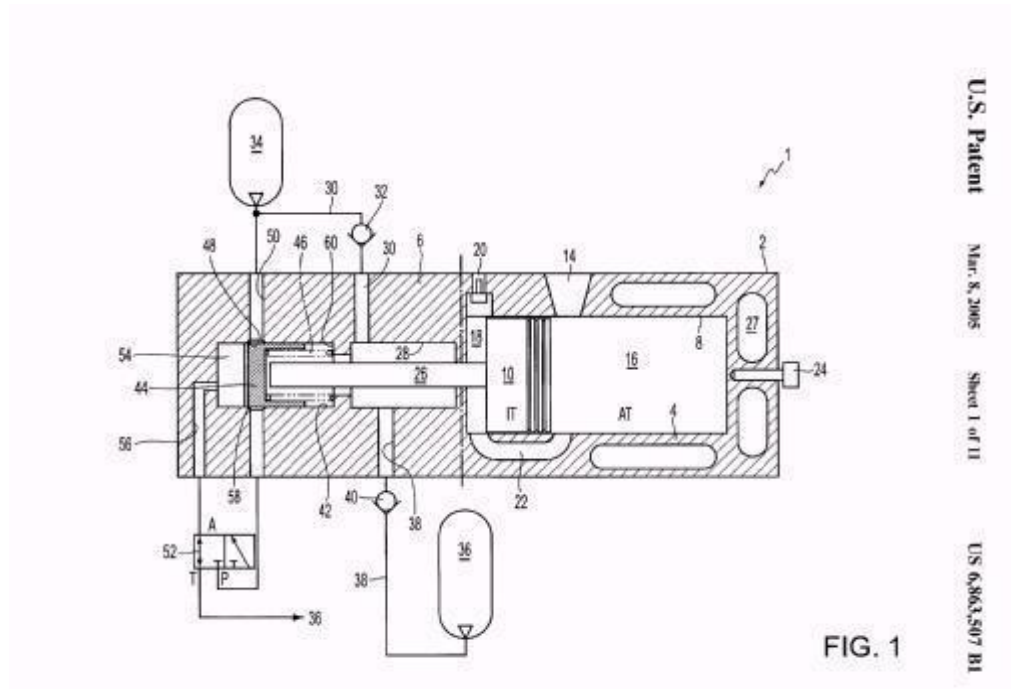
"...the steam supplied through the inlet 13 and the passage 12 enters the port 18, and acting upon the 1 upper face of the element 4 of the double piston (4,5), causes the latter to move downwards against the opposing action of the steam continuously supplied to the space 11...

F01B 11/007

{in which the movement in only one direction is obtained by a single acting piston motor, e.g. with actuation in the other direction by spring means}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/007](#)

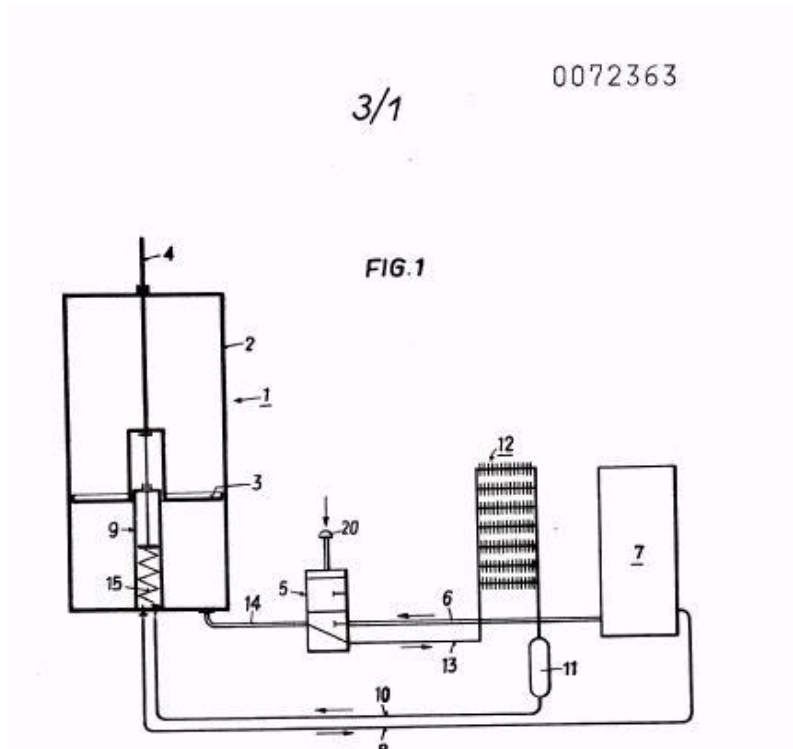


F01B 11/008

{with actuation in the other direction by gravity}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/008](#)

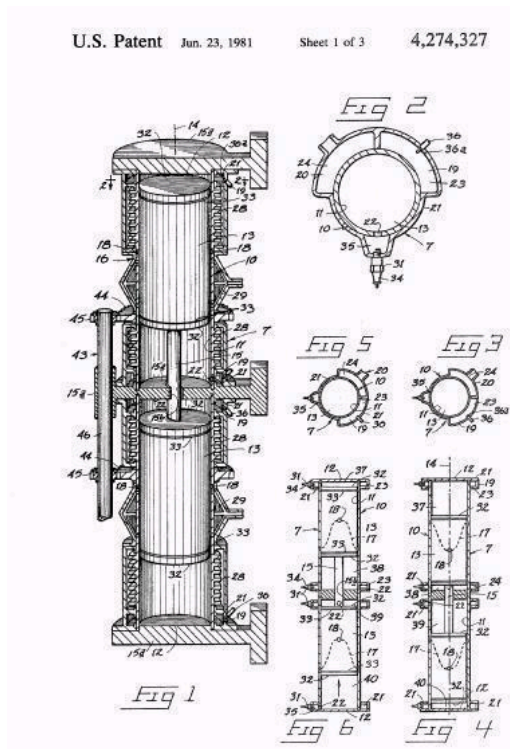


F01B 11/009

{in which the movement in two directions is obtained by two or more double acting piston motors}

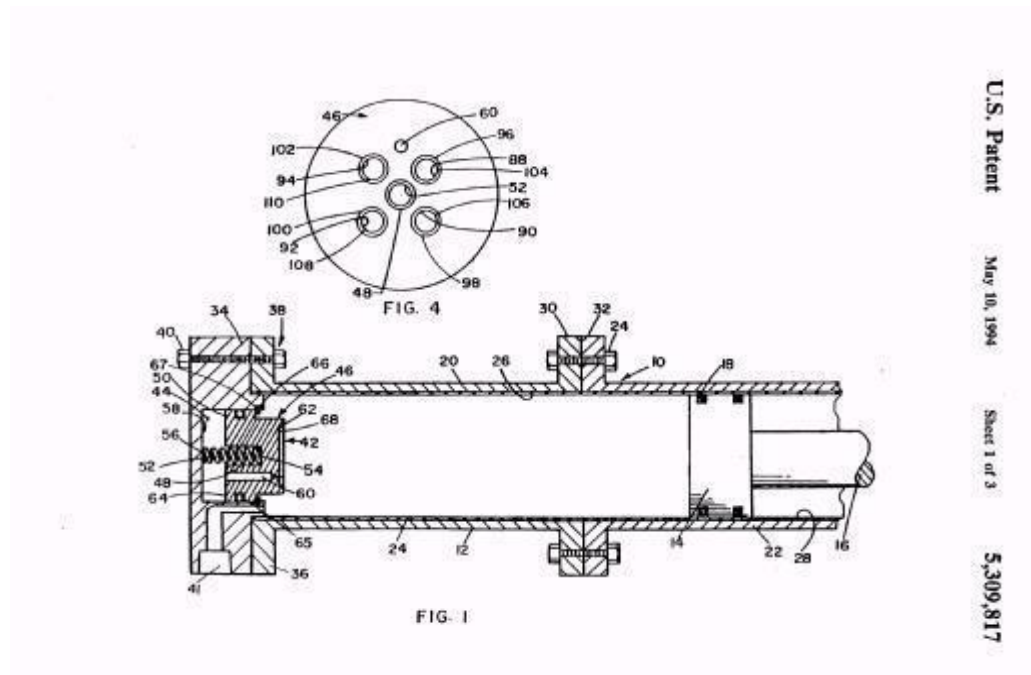
Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/009](#)



F01B 11/02**Equalising or cushioning devices****Special rules of classification**

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/02](#)

**F01B 11/04**

Engines combined with reciprocatory driven devices, e.g. hammers (with pumps [F01B 23/08](#))

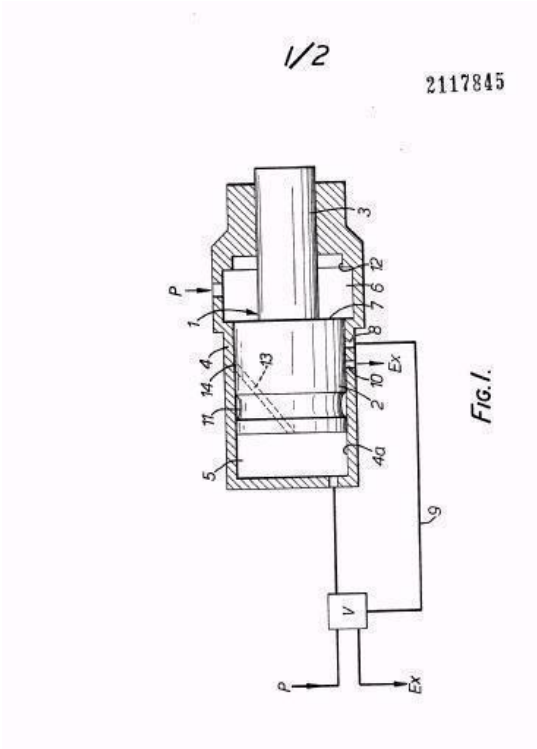
References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Adaptations of engines for driving, or combinations with, pumps	F01B 23/08
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Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/04](#)



F01B 11/06

for generating vibration only

Special rules of classification

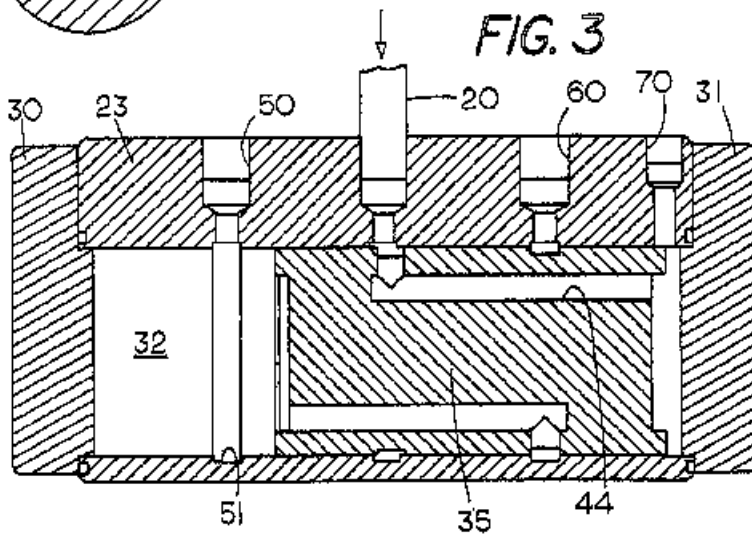
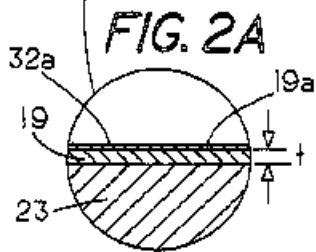
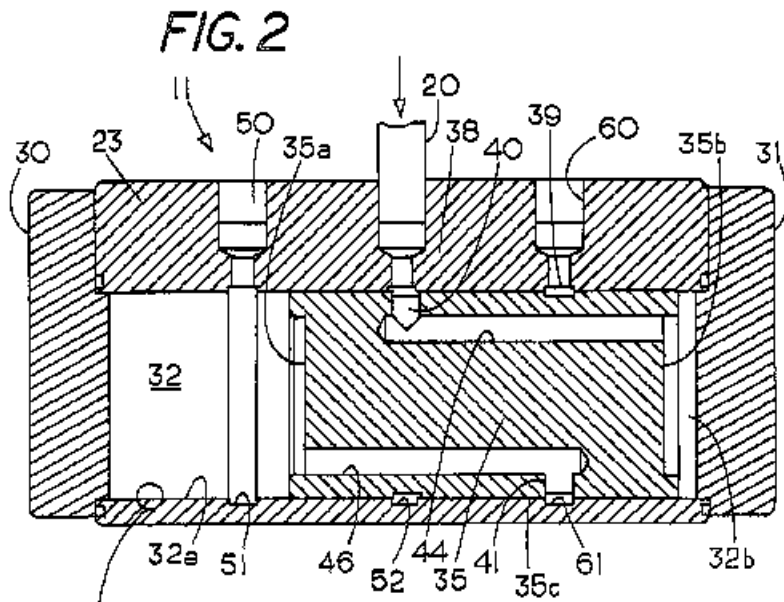
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/06](#)

U.S. Patent

Aug. 16, 2011

Sheet 2 of 3

US 7,997,184 B2



F01B 11/08

with direct fluid transmission link ([F01B 11/02](#) takes precedence)

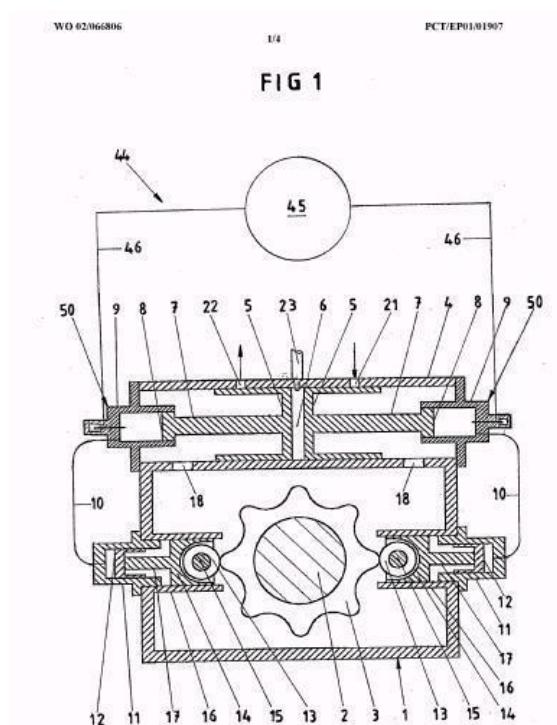
References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Equalising or cushioning devices	F01B 11/02
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Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 11/08](#)

**F01B 13/00**

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with rotating cylinders in order to obtain the reciprocating-piston motion (machines or engines of flexible-wall type [F01B 19/00](#))

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Machines or engines of flexible-wall type	F01B 19/00
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Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

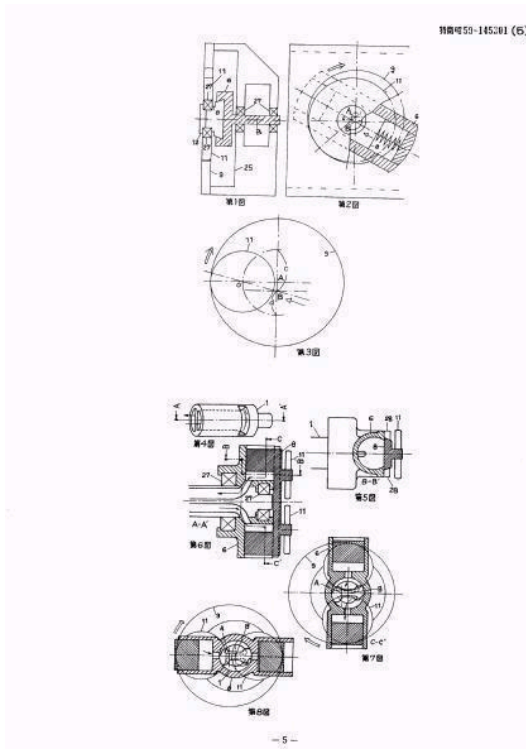
Internal combustion engine aspects	F02B 57/00
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F01B 13/04

with more than one cylinder {(F01B 3/0032 takes precedence)}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 13/04](#)

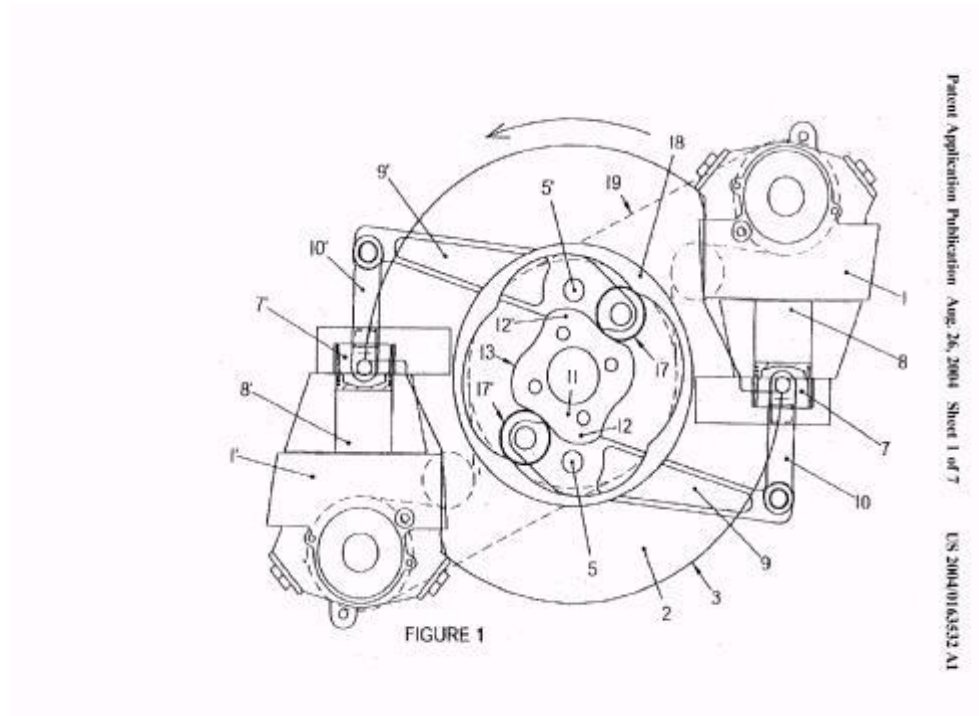


F01B 13/045

{with cylinder axes arranged substantially tangentially to a circle centred on main shaft axis}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 13/045](#)

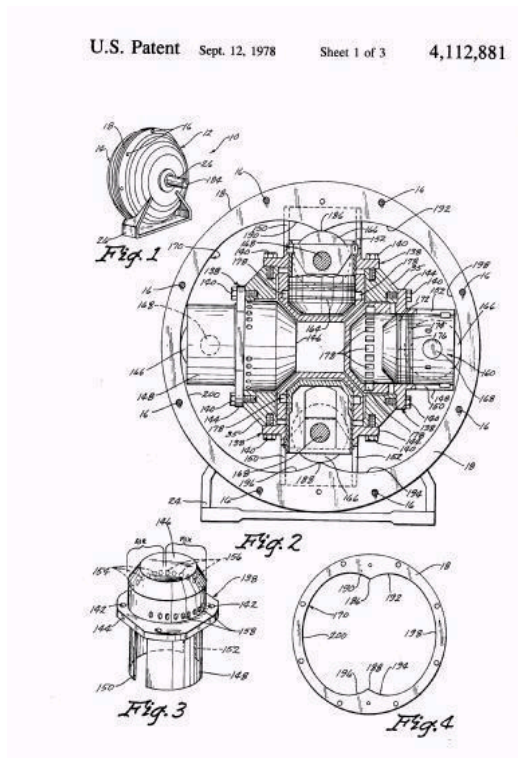


F01B 13/061

{the connection of the pistons with the actuated or actuating element being at the outer ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 13/061](#)

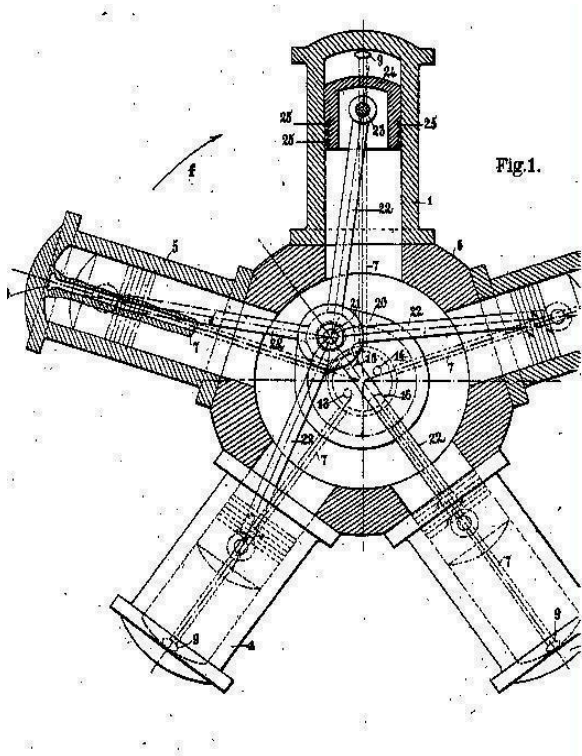


F01B 13/068

{the connection of the pistons with an actuated or actuating element being at the inner ends of the cylinders}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 13/068](#)

**F01B 15/00**

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with movable cylinders other than provided for in group [F01B 13/00](#) (with movable cylinder sleeves for working fluid control [F01L](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines with movable cylinders other than provided for in group [F01B 13/00](#).

E.g. reciprocating-piston machines or engines having reciprocating cylinders or pivoting and oscillating cylinders.

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Movable cylinder sleeves for working fluid control	F01L
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F01B 17/00

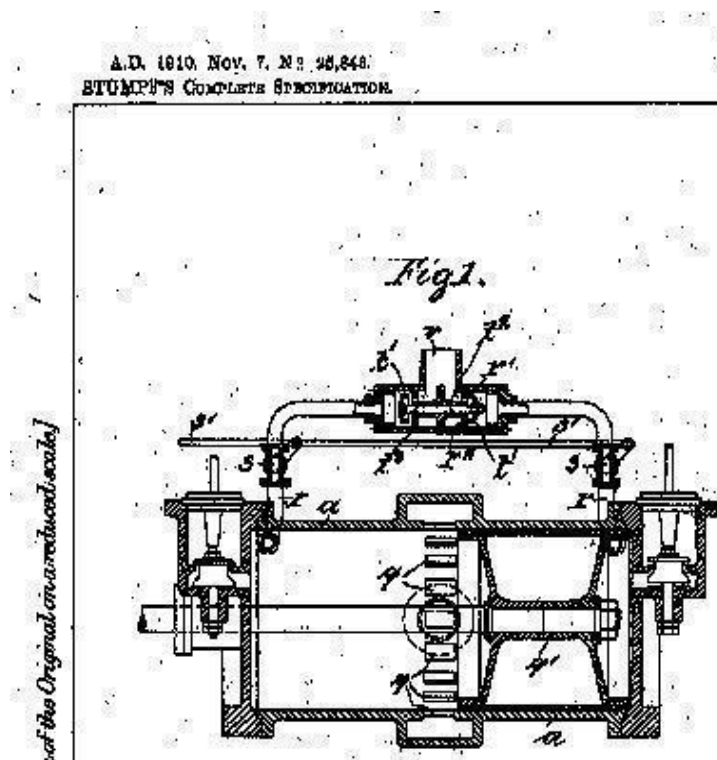
Reciprocating-piston machines or engines characterised by use of uniflow principle

Definition statement

This place covers:

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines characterised by use of uniflow principle:

E.g. compressed gas engines where the working fluid enter a working cylinder, expands and then exits the cylinder.



Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

In patent document the word "uniflow" is often used with the meaning "open circuit where gas enters cylinder, expands, and is then released"

F01B 17/02

Engines

Definition statement

This place covers:

Compressed gas engines.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

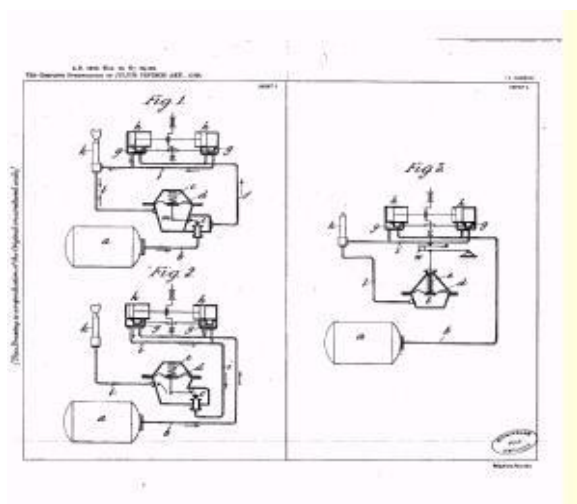
Arrangement or mounting of steam or gaseous-pressure propulsion units of the piston type in vehicles	B60K 3/02
Arrangement or mounting of plural diverse prime-movers for mutual or common propulsion, prime movers comprising combustion engines and a chargeable fluidic accumulator	B60K 6/12
Ultra-small engines, e.g. for driving models	F02B 75/34

F01B 17/022

{with fluid heating}

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 17/022](#)



F01B 17/027

{using separators}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Separators for separating liquid or oil from compressed gas for gas engines.

F01B 17/04

Steam engines

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Steam engine plants	F01K
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Informative references

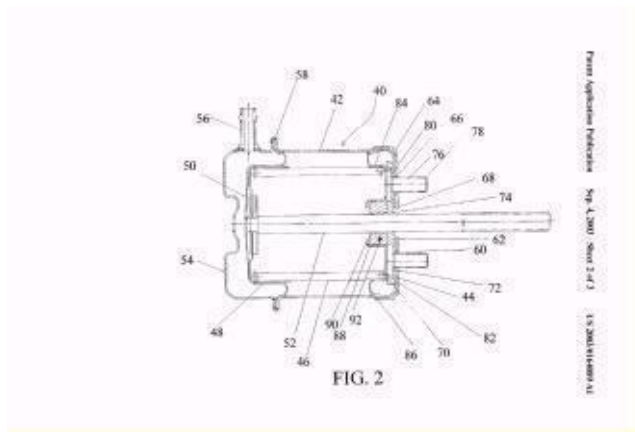
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Toys	A63H
Ultra small engines:	F02B 75/34

F01B 19/00**Positive-displacement machines or engines of flexible-wall type****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Positive-displacement machines or engines of flexible-wall type. E.g. where the piston is made of a diaphragm or bellows.

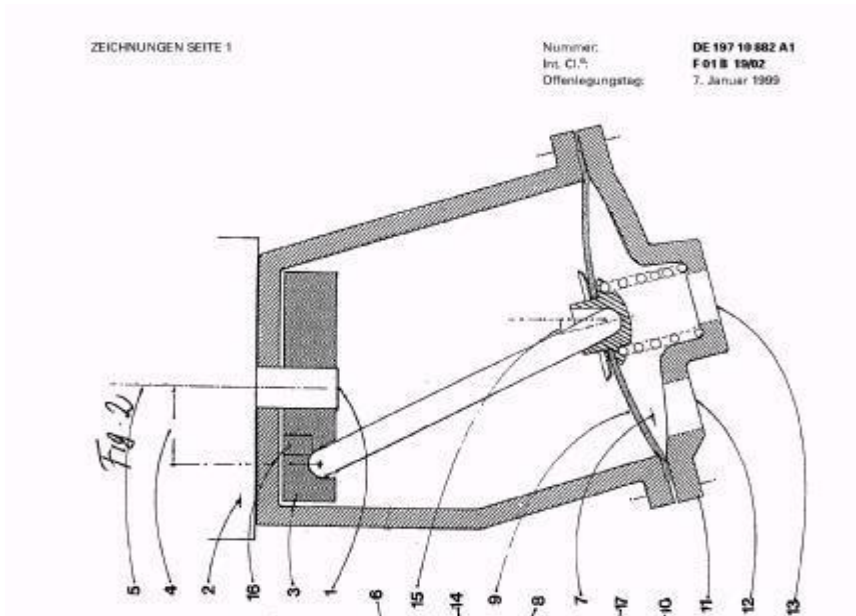


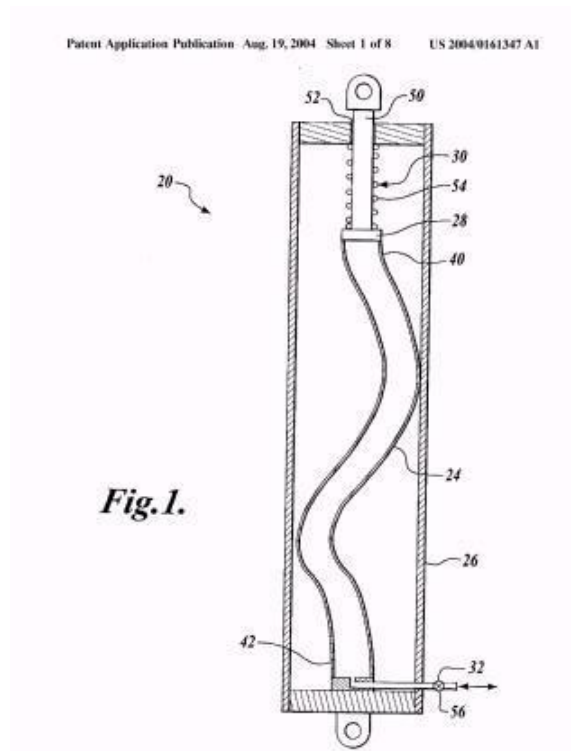
F01B 19/02

with plate-like flexible members

Special rules of classification

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 19/02](#)



F01B 19/04**with tubular flexible members****Special rules of classification**Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [F01B 19/04](#)**F01B 21/00**

Combinations of two or more machines or engines ([F01B 23/00](#) takes precedence; combinations of two or more pumps [F04](#); fluid gearing [F16H](#))

Definition statement*This place covers:*

Combinations of two or more machines or engines. E.g. a combined internal combustion engine and steam engine.

References**Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Combinations of engines with devices driven thereby	F01B 23/00
Combinations of two or more pumps	F04

F01B 23/00

Adaptations of machines or engines for special use; Combinations of engines with devices driven thereby ([F01B 11/00](#) takes precedence; fluid gearing [F16H](#))

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Reciprocating-piston machines or engines without rotary main shaft, e.g. of free-piston type	F01B 11/00
Adaptations of combustion engines for driving vehicles or for driving propellers	F02B 61/00
Adaptations of combustion engines for driving pumps, hand-held tools or electric generators; portable combinations of engine with engine-driven devices, e.g. with non driven apparatus	F02B 63/00

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Controlling combustion engines	F02D
Fluid gearing	F16H

F01B 25/00

Regulating, controlling, or safety means (regulating or controlling in general [G05](#))

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Controlling internal combustion engines	F02D
Controlling and regulating in general	G05

F01B 27/00

Starting of machines or engines (starting combustion engines [F02N](#))

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Starting combustion engines	F02N
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F01B 31/00

Component parts, details, or accessories not provided for in, or of interest apart from, other groups (machine or engine casings, other than those peculiar to steam engines, [F16M](#))

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Machine or engine casings, other than those peculiar to steam engines	F16M
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