

B07 SEPARATING SOLIDS FROM SOLIDS; SORTING (separation in general B01D; wet separating processes, sorting by processes using fluent material in the same way as liquid B03; using liquids B03B, B03D; sorting by magnetic or electrostatic separation of solid materials from solid materials or fluids, separation by high voltage electric fields B03C; centrifuges or vortex apparatus for carrying out physical processes B04; sorting peculiar to particular materials or articles and provided for in other classes, see the relevant classes)

B07C POSTAL SORTING; SORTING INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES, OR BULK MATERIAL FIT TO BE SORTED PIECE-MEAL, E.G. BY PICKING (specially adapted for a specific purpose covered by another class, see the relevant place, e.g. A43D 33/06, B23Q 7/12)

This subclass covers sorting of materials or articles by hand or by devices actuated, manually or automatically, as a result of inspection or of detection or measurement of some feature of the material or articles.

SORTING CHARACTERISED BY THE

METHOD 5/00, 7/00,
9/00

SORTING ACCORDING TO DESTINATION 1/00, 3/00

Postal sorting; Similar sorting of documents, e.g. cheques (tube mail systems B65G 51/04; sorting information records, e.g. punched cards, G06F 7/10)

1/00 Measures preceding sorting according to destination

- 1/02 . Forming articles into a stream; Arranging articles in a stream, e.g. spacing, orientating
- 1/04 . . Forming a stream from a bulk; Regulating the stream, e.g. spacing the articles
- 1/06 . . Orientating; Aligning
- 1/10 . Sorting according to size or flexibility
- 1/12 . . Separating letters from parcels
- 1/14 . . Sorting according to length or width
- 1/16 . . Sorting according to thickness or stiffness
- 1/18 . Orientating articles other than in a stream
- 1/20 . Sorting according to orientation, e.g. according to position of stamp

3/00 Sorting according to destination

- 3/02 . Apparatus characterised by the means used for distribution
- 3/04 . . Drum-type sorting machines
- 3/06 . . Linear sorting machines in which articles are removed from a stream at selected points
- 3/08 . . using arrangements of conveyers
- 3/10 . Apparatus characterised by the means used for detection of the destination (methods or arrangements for reading and recognising printed or written characters or geometric figures G06K 9/00)
- 3/12 . . using electric or electronic detecting means (B07C 3/14 takes precedence)
- 3/14 . . using light-responsive detecting means
- 3/16 . . using magnetic detecting means
- 3/18 . Devices or arrangements for indicating destination, e.g. by code marks
- 3/20 . Arrangements for facilitating the visual reading of addresses, e.g. display arrangements

5/00 Sorting according to a characteristic or feature of the articles or material being sorted, e.g. by control effected by devices which detect or measure such characteristic or feature; Sorting by manually actuated devices, e.g. switches (sorting by hand only B07C 7/00; separating solids from solids by sieving, screening, or sifting or by using gas currents or other separating by dry methods applicable to bulk material B07B; sorting of coins G07D) [3]

- 5/02 . Measures preceding sorting, e.g. arranging articles in a stream, orientating
- 5/04 . Sorting according to size
- 5/06 . . measured mechanically
- 5/07 . . . by calipering using relatively moving article-engaging means, e.g. clamps [2]
- 5/08 . . measured electrically or electronically (B07C 5/10 takes precedence)
- 5/10 . . measured by light-responsive means
- 5/12 . . characterised by the application to particular articles, not otherwise provided for (sorting eggs A01K 43/00)
- 5/14 . . . Sorting timber or logs
- 5/16 . Sorting according to weight (sorting eggs A01K 43/00; weighing apparatus per se G01G)
- 5/18 . . using a single stationary weighing mechanism
- 5/20 . . . for separating articles of less than a predetermined weight from those of more than that weight
- 5/22 . . using a plurality of stationary weighing mechanisms
- 5/24 . . using moving weighing mechanisms, e.g. moving along a circular path
- 5/26 . . . wherein the counterbalancing effect of the weighing mechanisms is varied during such movement
- 5/28 . . using electrical control means
- 5/30 . . with associated counting means
- 5/32 . . with associated check-weighing means
- 5/34 . Sorting according to other particular properties
- 5/342 . . according to optical properties, e.g. colour

B07C

- 5/344 . . according to electric or electromagnetic properties
- 5/346 . . according to radioactive properties
- 5/36 . Sorting apparatus characterised by the means used for distribution
- 5/38 . . Collecting or arranging articles in groups

7/00 Sorting by hand only

- 7/02 . Compartmented furniture, e.g. pigeon-holes (storage racks B65G)
- 7/04 . Apparatus or accessories for hand picking

9/00 Sorting, with or without orientating, not otherwise provided for