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United States Patent [19]

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Grace

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[54] METHOD OF MOLDING PLASTIC-BACKED CARPET

[75] Inventor: **Ronald R. Grace, Hamilton, Ohio**

[73] Assignee: **Nifty Products, Inc., Hamilton, Ohio**

[21] Appl. No.: **219,358**

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[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **B29C 51/08; B29C 51/32; B29L 31/58**

[52] U.S. Cl. **264/163; 264/257; 264/291; 264/322; 264/324; 264/325; 264/DIG. 65; 425/186; 425/195; 425/510; 425/397; 425/400; 425/403.1; 425/DIG. 39**

[58] Field of Search **264/322, 324, 325, 291, 264/292, 257, 258, 241, 243, 135, 136, 137, 134, DIG. 65, DIG. 73, 320, 163; 425/400, 397, 501, 502, 327, 339, 402, 403.1, DIG. 38, DIG. 39, DIG. 41, DIG. 201, 388, 384, 186, 195, 510; 72/361, 364**

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Primary Examiner—Jeffery Thurlow
Assistant Examiner—Mathieu Vargot
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Charles R. Wilson

[57] ABSTRACT

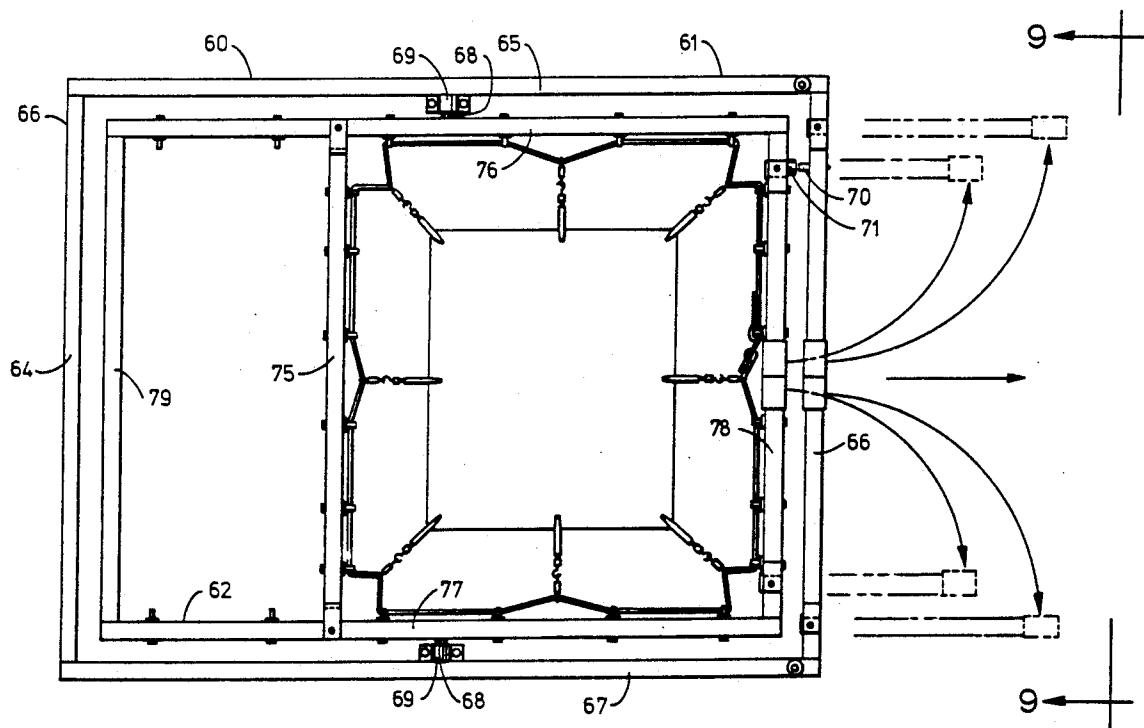
A method of molding a plastic-backed carpet blank to a desired shape uses a minimum of work force and carpet material. The method utilizes a portable frame assembly having an open rack with yieldable holding clamps. The holding clamps are used to suspend a plastic-backed carpet blank in the rack. The frame assembly has a set of wheeled legs which allows it to be readily transported between work stations such as a heating zone and a molding zone. The yieldable holding clamps maintain the carpet under constant tension during the molding zone to result in a high quality molded carpet.

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23 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



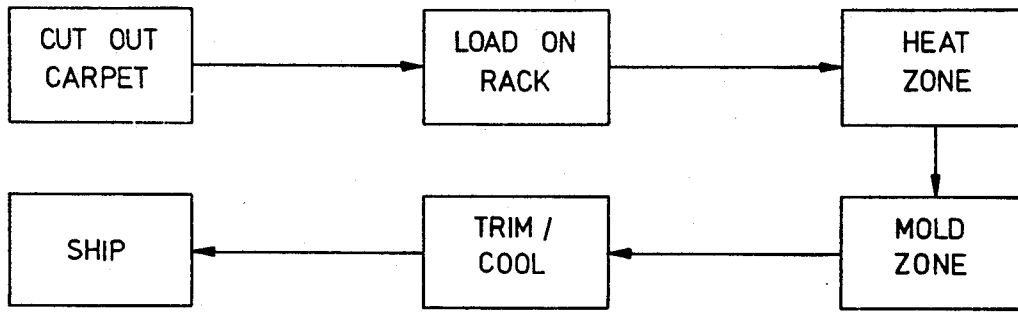


FIG. 1

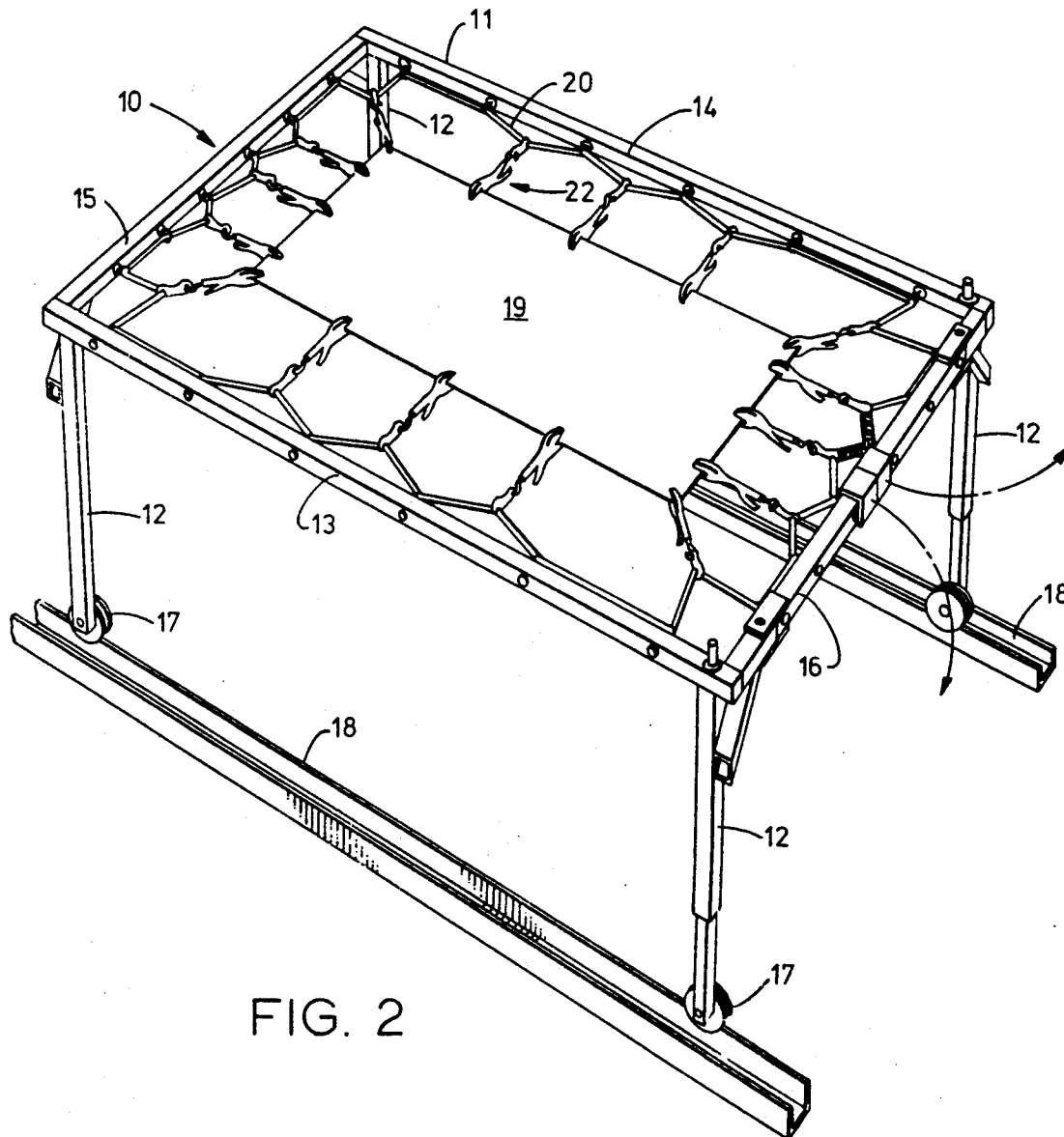


FIG. 2

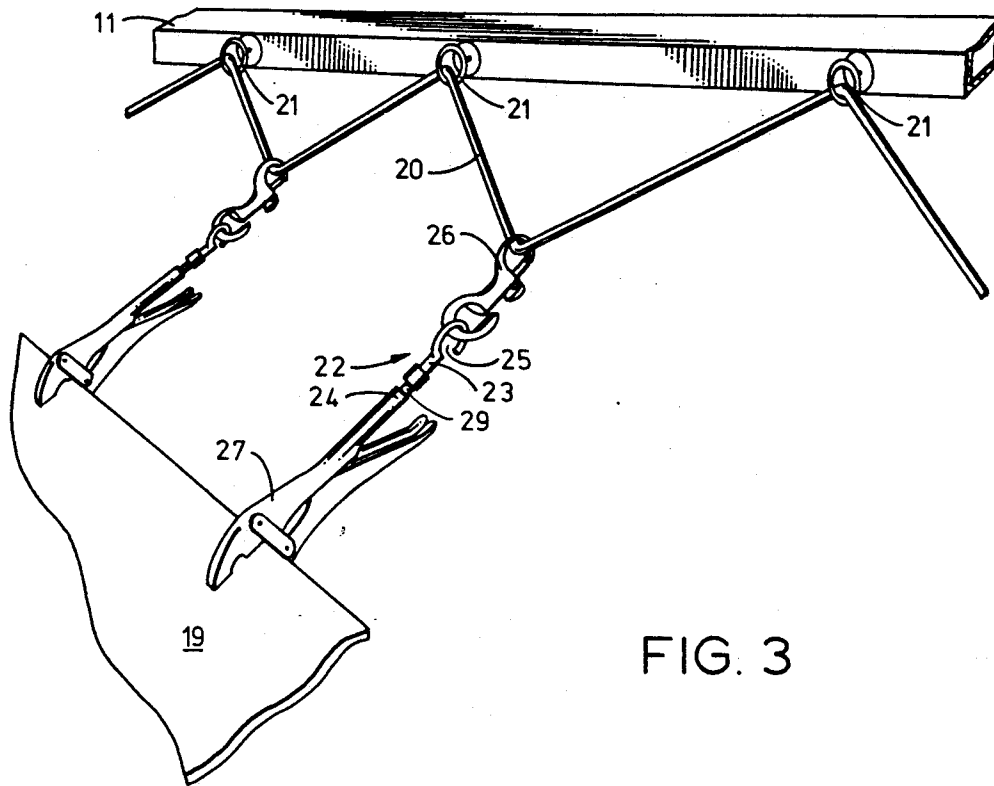


FIG. 3

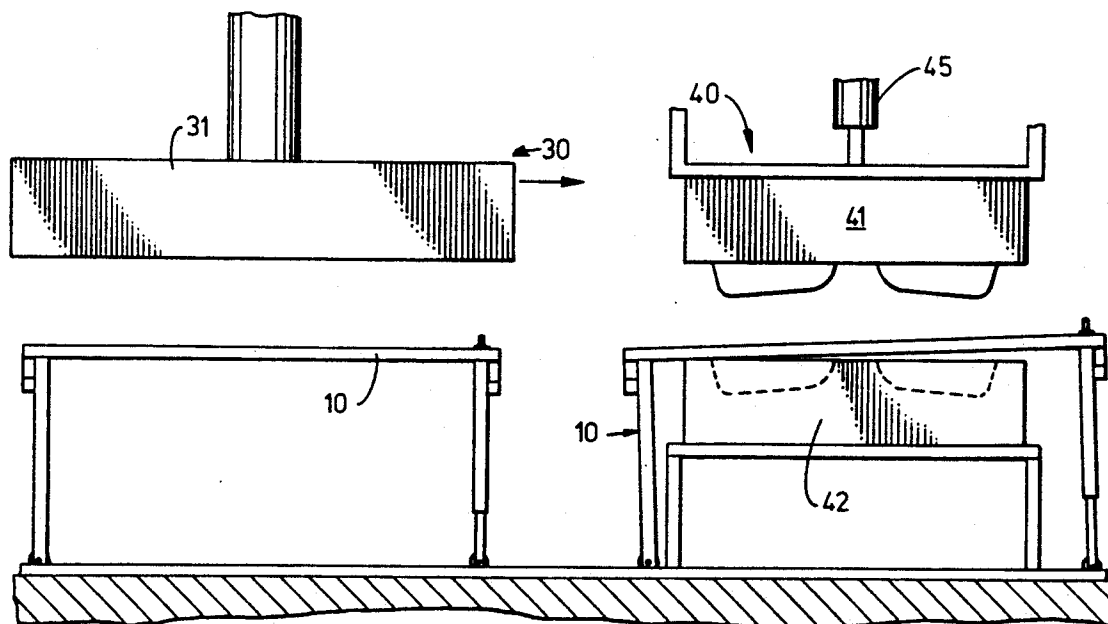


FIG. 4

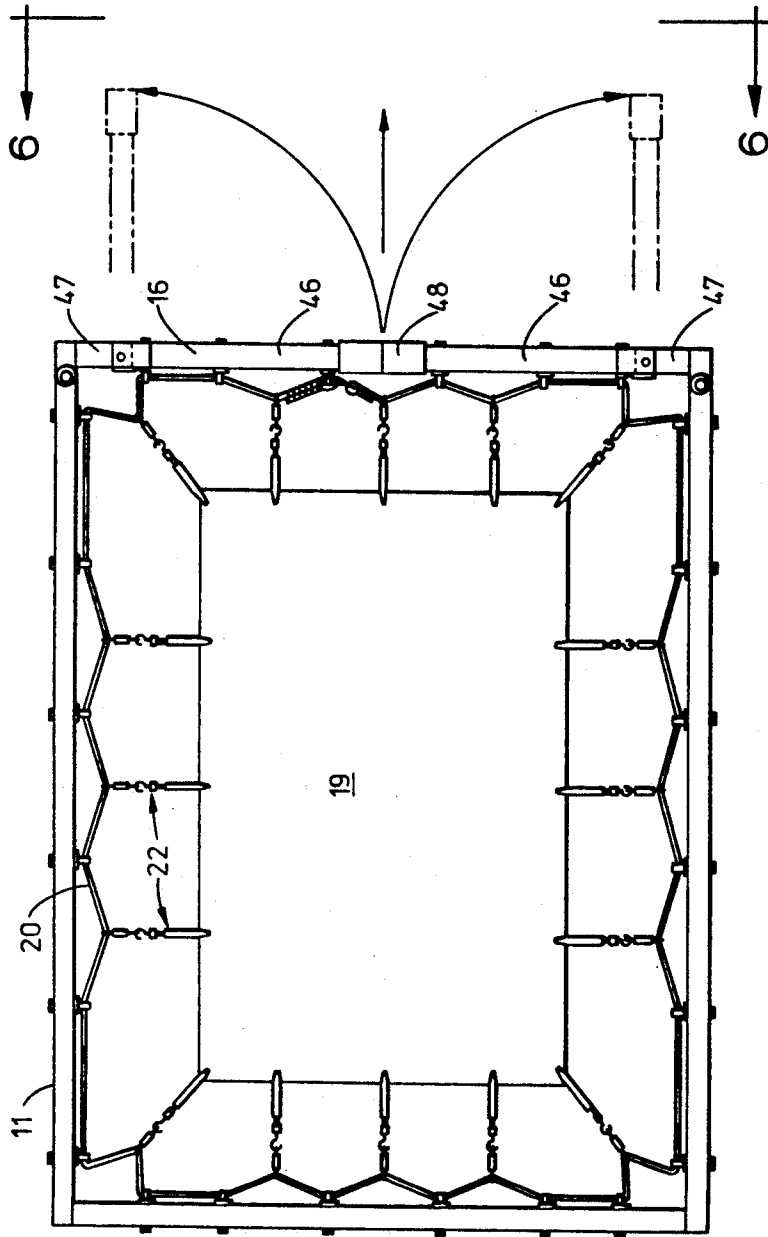


FIG. 5

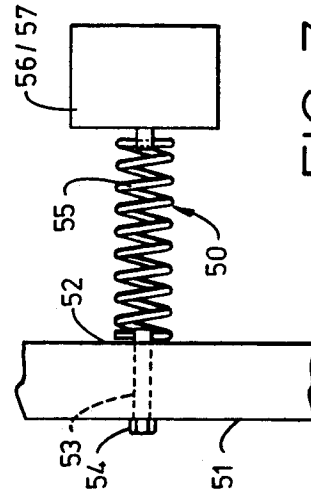


FIG. 7

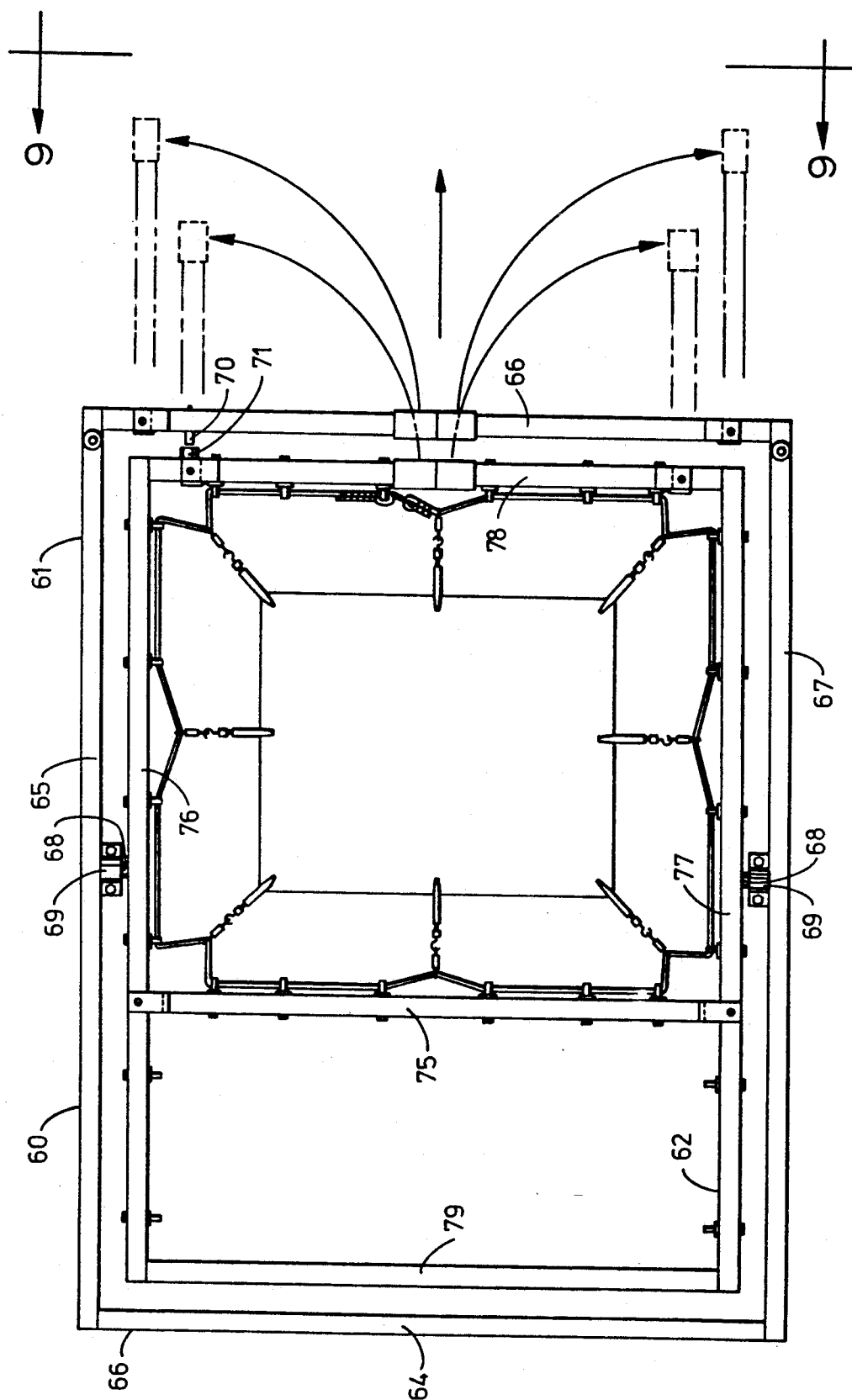


FIG. 8

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