CPC       COOPERATIVE PATENT CLASSIFICATION

B       PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING
        (NOTES omitted)

SEPARATING; MIXING

B07       SEPARATING SOLIDS FROM SOLIDS; SORTING

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)

NOTE
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

WARNING
In this subclass non-limiting references (in the sense of paragraph 39 of the Guide to the IPC) may still be displayed in the
scheme.

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 (transport of
sheets B65H)

1/025 . . . (Devices for the temporary stacking of objects
provided with a stacking and destacking device
(interstack device))

1/04 . . . Forming a stream from a bulk; Controlling the
stream, e.g. spacing the articles

1/06 . . . Orientating; Aligning (Aligning to one edge)

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, e.g.
        turning, deflecting or changing direction

1/20 . . . Sorting according to orientation, e.g. according to
        position of stamp

3/00       Sorting according to destination (collating the
        pages of a book B42C 1/00)

3/001 . . . (Code converters for keyboards in coding stations
        (code converters in reading devices B07C 3/10))

3/003 . . . (Destination control; Electro-mechanical or electro-
        magnetic delay memories)

3/005 . . . (the transport holders of objects being
        provided with means for storing the destination
        signals (sorting devices for transport holders
        B07C 3/082))

3/006 . . . (Electric or electronic control circuits, e.g.
        delay lines (delay devices per se H03H 7/30,
        H03H 11/26))

3/008 . . . (Means for collecting objects, e.g. containers
        for sorted mail items (pile receivers in general
        B65H 31/00))

3/02 . . . Apparatus characterised by the means used for
distribution

3/04 . . . Drum-type sorting machines [or having circularly
        arranged sorting compartments]

3/06 . . . Linear sorting machines in which articles are
        removed from a stream at selected points

3/065 . . . (construction of switches therefore)

3/08 . . . using arrangements of conveyors (transport of
        sheets B65H; transport in general B65G)

3/082 . . . (In which the objects are carried by transport
        holders and the transport holders form part of
        the conveyor belts (conveyors with carriers
        B65G 47/00))

3/085 . . . (making use of transport holders in the form
        of clamps or grips (cable post B65G))

3/087 . . . (the objects being taken up in transport files
        or holders which are not part of the conveyor
        belts (cable post B65G))

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 {(for
        information carriers G06K 7/14)}

3/16 . . . using magnetic detecting means {(for information
        carriers G06K 7/08)}

3/18 . . . Devices or arrangements for indicating destination,
        e.g. by code marks (applying data to information
        carriers G06K 1/12)

3/20 . . . Arrangements for facilitating the visual reading of
        addresses, e.g. display arrangements (coding
        stations)
Postal sorting; Similar sorting of documents, e.g. cheques

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 7/006; 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)

5/02 . Measures preceding sorting, e.g. arranging articles in a stream orientating (\*sorting and transport of caps B07B 3/066)

5/04 . Sorting according to size (\*sorting devices as a component of the automatic supply and removal of workpieces B23Q 7/126)

5/06 . measured mechanically (\*sorting of cartridges F42B 35/026)

5/065 . . with multiple measuring appliances adjusted according to different standards, for example for length or thickness, which detect the shape of an object so that if it conforms to the standard set by the measuring appliance, it is removed from the conveyor, e.g. by means of a number of differently calibrated openings)

5/07 . . by caliperising using relatively moving article-engaging means, e.g. clamps

5/08 . . measured electrically or electronically (B07C 5/10 takes precedence \*; sorting according to electric or electromagnetic properties B07C 5/344; measuring size in general using electric or magnetic means G01B 7/00; testing coins G07D 5/00, G07F 3/026)

5/083 . . (Mechanically moved sensing devices, the movement of which influences the electric contact members)

5/086 . . [Magnetic sensing devices]

5/10 . . measured by light-responsive means (\*sorting according to colour B07C 5/3426)

5/12 . . characterised by the application to particular articles, not otherwise provided for (B07C 9/00 takes precedence \*; sorting eggs A01K 43/00 \*; measuring and sorting devices for shoe components A43D 119/00; sorting cartridges F42B 35/026)

5/122 . . \*for bottles, ampoules, jars and other glassware (\*sorting and transport of caps B07B 3/066)

5/124 . . . [by means of mechanical measuring devices which may also control electrical contacts]

5/126 . . . [by means of photo-electric sensors, e.g. according to colour (\*sorting according to optical properties B07C 5/342; material testing with the aid of optical means G01N 21/006)

5/128 . . . [by means of electric, for example electronic measurement]

5/14 . . Sorting timber or logs \* (\*e.g. tree trunks, beams, planks or the like)

5/16 . . Sorting according to weight (\*sorting eggs A01K 43/00; weighing apparatus per se G01G)

5/165 . . \*[of letters]

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 (\*check-weighing per se G01G 15/00)

5/34 . Sorting according to other particular properties (\*material testing per se G01N; quality control G07C 3/14)

5/3404 . . [according to properties of containers or receptacles, e.g. rigidity, leaks, fill-level (control devices for cigarette or cigar packaging B65B 19/28; investigation of fluid-tightness of structures G01M 3/006)

5/3408 . . \*[for bottles, jars or other glassware (\*according to size B07C 5/1226)

5/3412 . . [according to a code applied to the object which indicates a property of the object, e.g. quality class, contents or incorrect indication (\*sorting according to size measured by light-responsive means B07C 5/10; sorting according to optical properties B07C 5/342; for packages B65D 79/026; for information carriers G06K 7/006)

5/3416 . . \*[according to radiation transmissivity, e.g. for light, x-rays, particle radiation (detecting hidden objects G01Y)

5/342 . . according to optical properties, e.g. colour (\*according to radiation transmissitivity B07C 5/34166)

5/3422 . . \*[using video scanning devices, e.g. TV-cameras]

5/3425 . . \*[of granular material, e.g. ore particles, grain (\*investigation moving fluids or granular solids using optical means G01N 21/856)

5/3427 . . \*[by changing or intensifying the optical properties prior to scanning, e.g. by inducing fluorescence under UV or x-radiation, subjecting the material to a chemical reaction]

5/344 . . according to electric or electromagnetic properties (\*sorting according to size measured electrically or electronically B07C 5/08; material testing by magnetic means G01N 24/00, G01N 27/006; by electrical means G01N 27/00; electrical measuring devices in general G01K; coin testing G07D 5/00, G07F 3/026)

5/346 . . according to radioactive properties (\*material testing G01N 23/00; radiation measurement G01T)

5/36 . . Sorting apparatus characterised by the means used for distribution (\*sorting according to destination B07C 3/003, B07C 3/026)

5/361 . . \*[Processing or control devices therefor, e.g. escort memory]

5/362 . . \*[Separating or distributor mechanisms (switches for postal sorting B07C 3/065; particular discharging devices B65G 47/746]

5/363 . . \*[by means of air]
Postal sorting; Similar sorting of documents, e.g. cheques

5/365 . . . [using a single separation means]
5/366 . . . . [during free fall of the articles]
5/367 . . . . [using a plurality of separation means]
5/368 . . . . [actuated independently]
5/38 . . Collecting or arranging articles in groups

7/00 Sorting by hand only [e.g. of mail]
7/005 . . [Computer assisted manual sorting, e.g. for mail]
7/02 . Compartmented furniture, e.g. pigeon-holes
   ([B07C 7/005 takes precedence; furniture per se
    A47B]; storage racks B65G)
7/04 . . Apparatus or accessories for hand picking

9/00 [Sorting, with or without orientating, not
otherwise provided for, e.g. sorting of table
equipment (washing and rinsing machines for
tableware A47L 15/00, A47L 15/02; machines for
polishing table equipment A47L 21/02)]

2201/00 Measures preceding sorting according to
destination
2201/003 . Cancellation, e.g. stamps by stamping, printing
2201/006 . Hazardous Substances, e.g. checking for
   contamination, explosives, anthrax

2301/00 Sorting according to destination
2301/008 . Electronic Devices, e.g. keyboard, displays
2301/0016 . RFID-tags
2301/0025 . Recipient identification providing a unique ID for a
   mail recipient
2301/0033 . Returning of unsold articles, e.g. magazines
2301/0041 . Sequencing items to a carrier walk sequence or
   delivery order
2301/005 . Redirection or forwarding of mail pieces
2301/0058 . Verification for the correct postage amount
2301/0066 . Check for destination address in a database or list
2301/0075 . Packaging or wrapping of sorted mail pieces
2301/0083 . Merging of mail pieces of different categories, e.g.
   letters with flats
2301/0091 . Creating a signature of fingerprint based on graphic
   appearance of the mail piece, e.g. to avoid barcode
   printing

2501/00 Sorting according to a characteristic or feature of
the articles or material to be sorted
2501/009 . Sorting of fasteners, e.g. screws, nuts, bolts
2501/0018 . Sorting the articles during free fall
2501/0027 . Sorting the articles according to a sound
2501/0036 . Sorting out metallic particles
2501/0045 . Return vending of articles, e.g. bottles
2501/0054 . Sorting of waste or refuse
2501/0063 . Using robots
2501/0072 . Sorting of glass
2501/0081 . Sorting of food items
2501/009 . Sorting of fruit