



- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
H01L 31/048 (2006.01) *F24J 2/52* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/GR2011/000027
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
27 July 2011 (27.07.2011)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
20110100192 24 March 2011 (24.03.2011) GR
- (71) **Applicant** (for all designated States except US): **ALU-MINCO S.A.** [GR/GR]; GR-320 11 Inofyta, Viotia (GR).
- (72) **Inventor; and**
- (71) **Applicant** : **KARRAS, Anargyros** [GR/GR]; GR-320 11 Inofyta, Viotia (GR).
- (81) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO,

DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(54) **Title:** SUPPORTING SYSTEM FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES ON TILE ROOFS OF ALUMINUM PROFILE

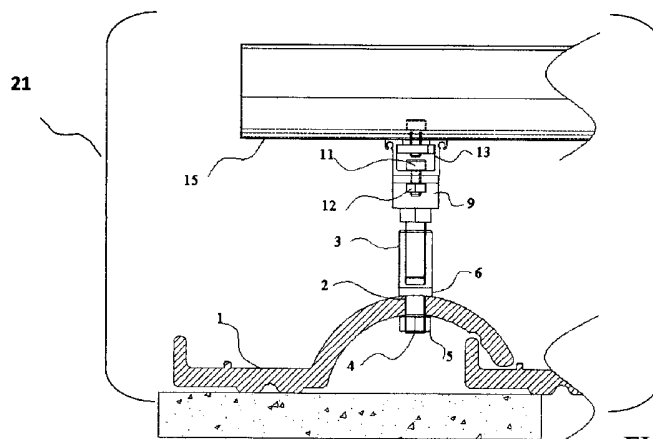


FIGURE 2

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a supporting system for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs of aluminum profile, consisting of roman type tile (1) or another type made of cast aluminum including a device for adjusting the degree orientation of the modules (19). On the surface area of the tile roof we replace in selected locations, some natural tiles with tiles of identical shape, made of cast aluminum to mount the guides (13) firmly with the aluminum tiles (1) and the tiles (1) with the wooden beams of the roof (19) with a special component (18), screw (17) and a special nut (16).

SUPPORTING SYSTEM FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES ON TILE ROOFS OF ALUMINUM PROFILE

The invention refers to a supporting system for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs of aluminum profile.

Until now, manufacturing technology of supporting systems for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs, has not shown any similar structure. It's limited to

- 5 conventional systems where the basic principle is based on the following technical rule: to mount the supporting guides over which the photovoltaic panels are placed, existing tiles are removed from selected areas, and on the wooden beams supporting the roof, metal components are mounted with screws, so their form follows the shape of the tile and creates an outlet for supporting the guides. This
- 10 technical standard has significant disadvantages, where the most important thing is the precise break of part of the tile, not always achieved, in order to achieve the output of the component on which the guide is mounted and generally this method is time and money consuming .

- The invention, as stated in the following, intends and succeeds in solving these
- 15 basic disadvantages in a way that creates a brand new technical rule in manufacturing technology of supporting systems for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs by replacing selected natural tiles, with roof tiles of cast aluminum and the support of the photovoltaic modules on these with supporting media providing the following advantages:

- 20 1) Strong support of the photovoltaic modules onto the roof.
2) Ability for automatic adjustment of the required degree orientation of the photovoltaic modules.
3) Significant reduction in construction time.
4) Reduce manufacturing costs.

- 25 Below is figured and analyzed a detailed example of applying the invention, that must not be treated as a rule, regarding the supporting media of the photovoltaic modules on the tile:

Figure 1 shows in perspective a Roman style tile made of cast aluminum with a regulating bearing, on which the guide is mounted (13).

- 30 Figure 2 shows a view of the guide (13) mounting on the regulating bearing of the aluminum tile (1)

Figure 3 shows a view of the support of the photovoltaic modules on the edge and

-2-

middle of the underlying guides, as well as the profile distal strut (20) .

Figure 4 shows a view of the regulating bearing mounting onto the aluminum tile (1)

The figures show a supporting system for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs of aluminum profile consisting of roman type tile (1) or another type, made of cast
5 aluminum that has a hole (2), in which the support media for the photovoltaic cells are mounted (21). Further, in the hole of the tile (1), a special nut (3) is placed, as shown in Figure 1, which has on its bottom part a threaded extension (4) and is steadily mounted with a nut (5). Among tile (1) and special nut (3) there is a sealing gasket (6) . Within the special nut (3) an adjusting screw is bolted (7), and on its top
10 a component supported of aluminum profile is mounted (9), with a nut (8). The component (9) has holes (10), on which are placed screws (11) who support the guide (13) with nuts (12). The guides (13) are placed parallel to the length of the tile, at least two, in proportional distances. Onto the guides (13) are placed and mounted guides (15) in similar positions who have cavities on which goes a special
15 nut (16) with screw (17) and by means of the component (18) is achieved the support of the modules (19) as shown in Figure 3. On the surface area of the tile roof we replace in selected locations, some natural tiles with tiles of identical shape, made of cast aluminum to mount the guides (13) firmly with the aluminum tiles (1) and the tiles (1) with the wooden beams of the roof.

20 These key components are assembled as shown in the attached drawings in such a basic construction and operation of theirs. Features of detailed modifications are not discussed in this description and drawings. For any construction need, the shapes of tiles or components can be modified, without changes in the basic principle of the invention with the aforementioned in paragraph 1 benefits.

25 For the mass production of these components and aluminum profiles are required:

- Manufacturing of aluminum casting molds for each type of tile, which may subsequently be dyed in the color of the remaining natural tiles.
- Manufacturing of matrices for profile production.

CLAIMS

1: A supporting system for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs, characterized by tile (1) made of cast aluminum in identical shape as the current shape of the natural tile roof, which has a hole (2) as a socket for supporting media for photovoltaic modules (21).

5

2: A supporting system for photovoltaic modules on tile roofs in accordance with claim 1, characterized by the means of support media (21) consists of the following: special nut (3) mounted firmly on the tile (1) with nut (5). In the thread of the nut (3) an adjusting screw is bolted(7), which in the upper part has a profile (9) mounted
10 firmly on the adjusting screw (7) with nut (8) and has holes (10) where with screws (11) and nuts (12), the guide (13) is firmly mounted ,on which is mounted the underlying driver (15), on which the photovoltaic panel (19) is supported by the component (18) with screws (17) and the special nuts (16).

1/2

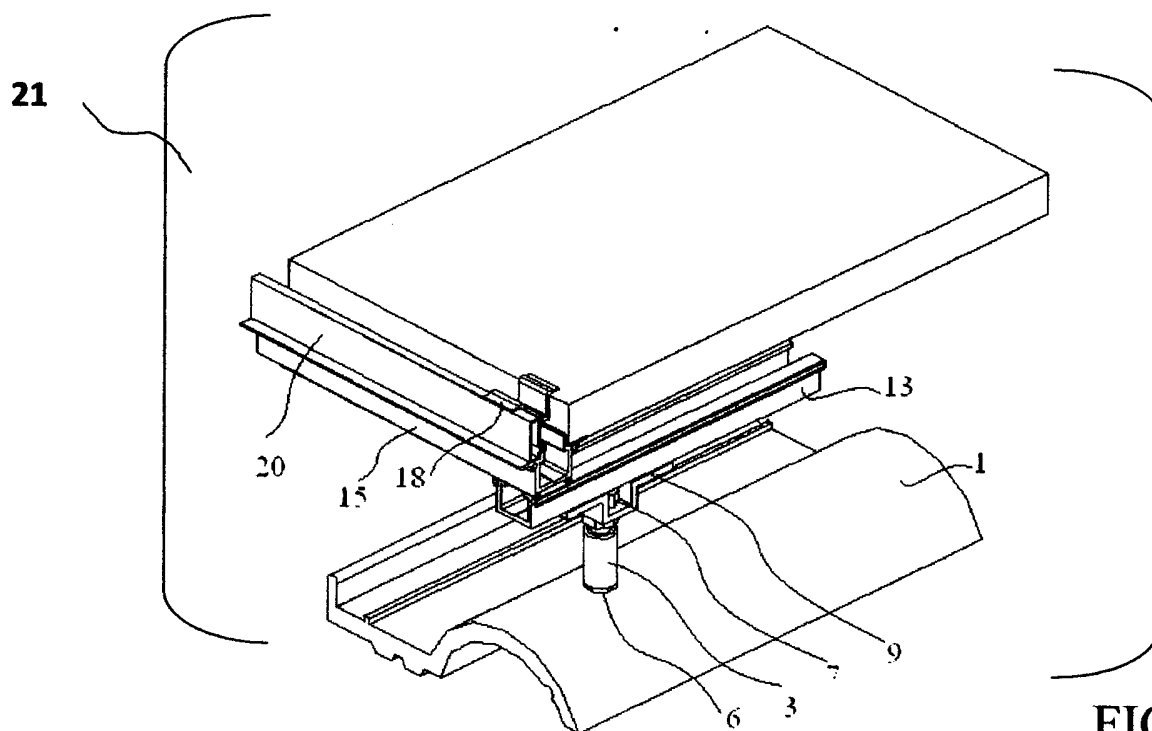


FIGURE 1

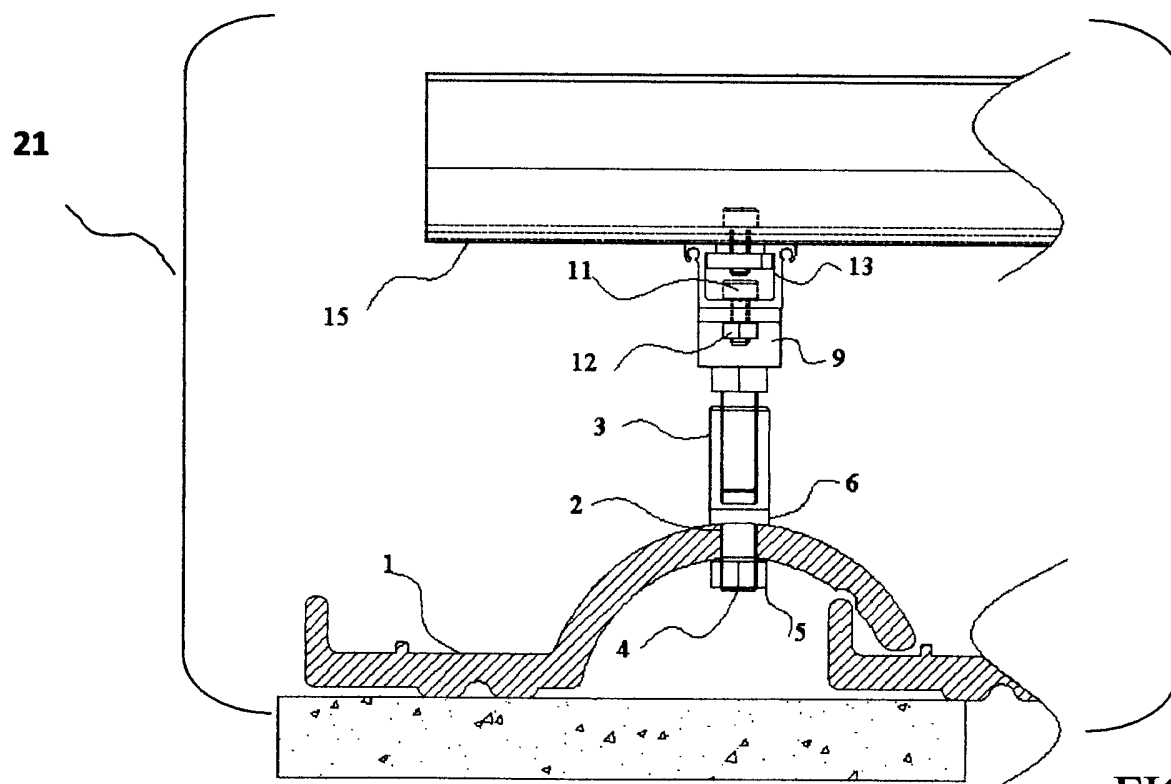


FIGURE 2

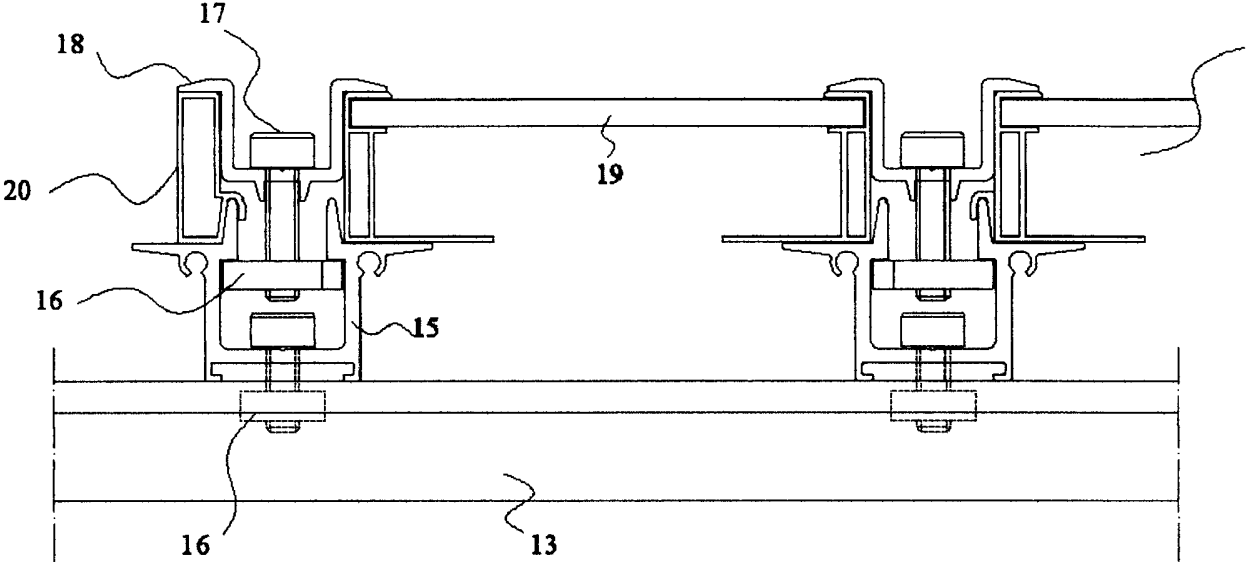


FIGURE 3

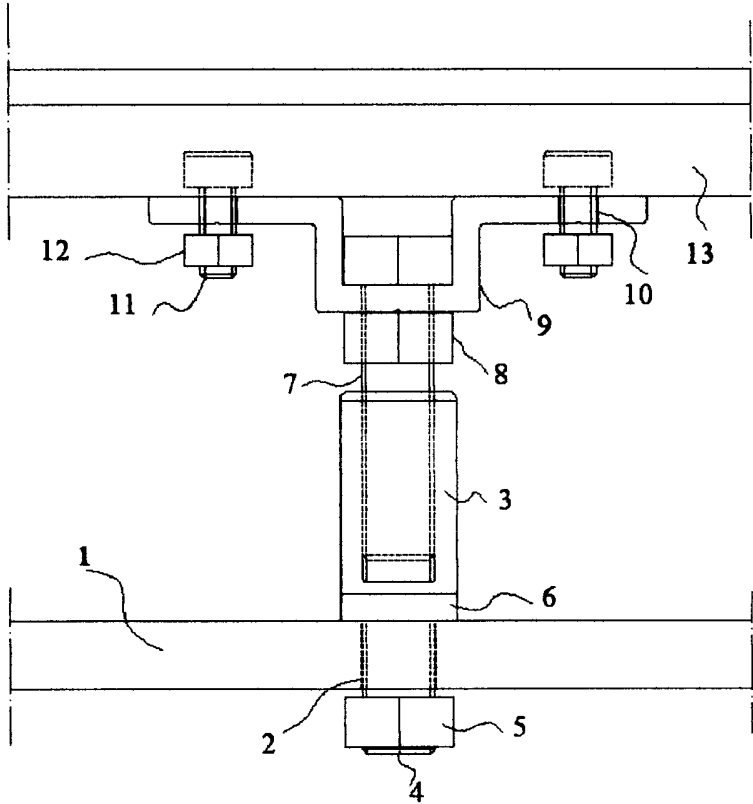


FIGURE 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GR2011/000027

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. H01L31/048 F24J2/52
ADD.

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)

H01L F24J E04D

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 practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Y | JP 2008 127866 A (YAMADE KK) 5 June 2008 (2008-06-05) figures ----- | 1,2 |
| Y | GB 1 389 025 A (POWEL AUTOMATION LTD) 3 April 1975 (1975-04-03) column 3, line 15 - column 3, line 22; figures ----- | 1 |
| Y | US 2006/118163 A1 (PLAISTED JOSHUA R [US] ET AL PLAISTED JOSHUA REED [US] ET AL) 8 June 2006 (2006-06-08) figures 3b,4a,4b,5b ----- | 2 |
| Y | JP 2008 231914 A (PANAHOME CORP) 2 October 2008 (2008-10-02) figures ----- -/- | 2 |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"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

12 July 2012

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/07/2012

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ferro Pozo, José

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GR2011/000027

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A | US 2008/053008 A1 (OHKOSHI YASUSHI [JP] ET AL) 6 March 2008 (2008-03-06) figures ----- | 1,2 |
| A | DE 101 32 557 A1 (ANTEC SOLAR GMBH [DE]) 6 June 2002 (2002-06-06) figures ----- | 2 |
| A | US 2010/170163 A1 (TARBELL BEN [US] ET AL) 8 July 2010 (2010-07-08) figures ----- | 1,2 |
| Y | US 2 482 835 A (BREMER WILLIAM S) 27 September 1949 (1949-09-27) column 1, line 54 - column 2, line 3; figures ----- | 1 |
| A | FR 2 926 312 A1 (EN ECONOMIES SYSTEMES SOC RESP [FR]) 17 July 2009 (2009-07-17) figures ----- | 1,2 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GR2011/000027

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| JP 2008127866 A | 05-06-2008 | NONE | |
| GB 1389025 A | 03-04-1975 | NONE | |
| US 2006118163 A1 | 08-06-2006 | US 2006118163 A1 | 08-06-2006 |
| | | US 2011174360 A1 | 21-07-2011 |
| JP 2008231914 A | 02-10-2008 | NONE | |
| US 2008053008 A1 | 06-03-2008 | JP 4447587 B2 | 07-04-2010 |
| | | JP 2008057279 A | 13-03-2008 |
| | | US 2008053008 A1 | 06-03-2008 |
| DE 10132557 A1 | 06-06-2002 | NONE | |
| US 2010170163 A1 | 08-07-2010 | NONE | |
| US 2482835 A | 27-09-1949 | NONE | |
| FR 2926312 A1 | 17-07-2009 | FR 2926311 A1 | 17-07-2009 |
| | | FR 2926312 A1 | 17-07-2009 |