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(54) **MEDIUM ISSUING APPARATUS USING PAPER ROLL MEDIUM AND AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE USING THE APPARATUS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A medium issuing apparatus using at least a paper roll medium and an automatic teller machine including the apparatus are disclosed, in which the operation of changing the width of the paper rolls for issuing a medium, the maximum diameter of the paper rolls, the printing surface and the tandem arrangement or juxtaposition of the paper rolls is performed with a single apparatus. The medium issuing apparatus is so configured that the paper rolls are held on a replaceable holding frame, the roll paper from the desired paper roll is transported and printed in a common printing mechanism. The printed roll paper is cut off and a predetermined number of cut pieces are stored and bundled in a temporary storage section. The roll paper cut off and bundled are transported to a common ejection opening by a transport mechanism, and ejected from the same common ejection opening by another transport mechanism. The outer diameter, width and winding direction of the paper rolls can be changed by the holding frame.

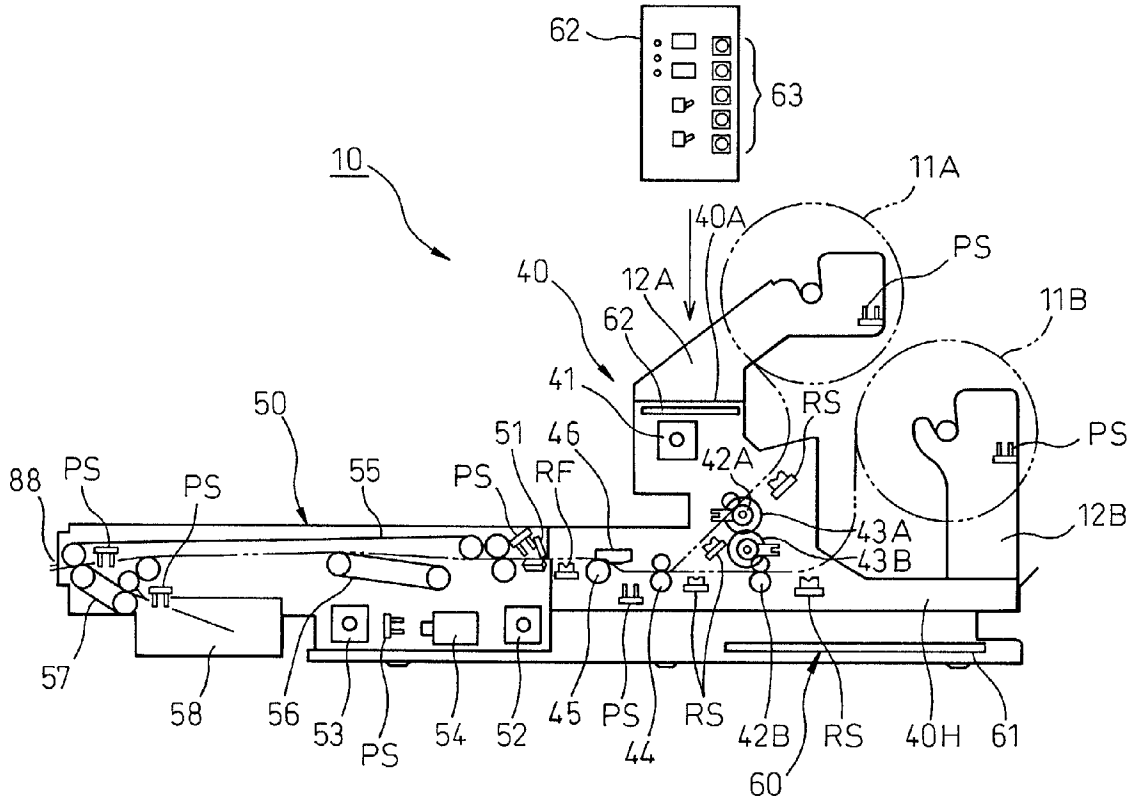


Fig. 1

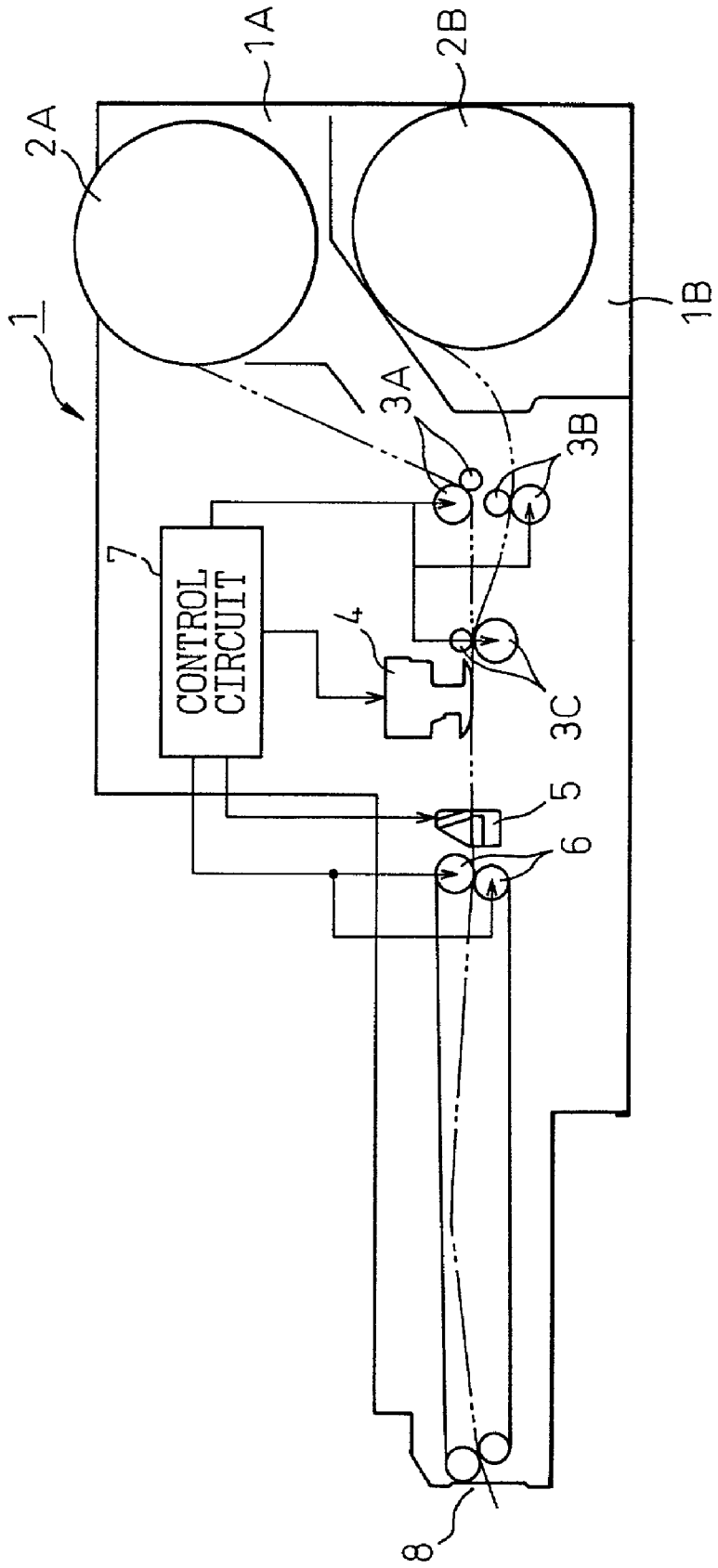
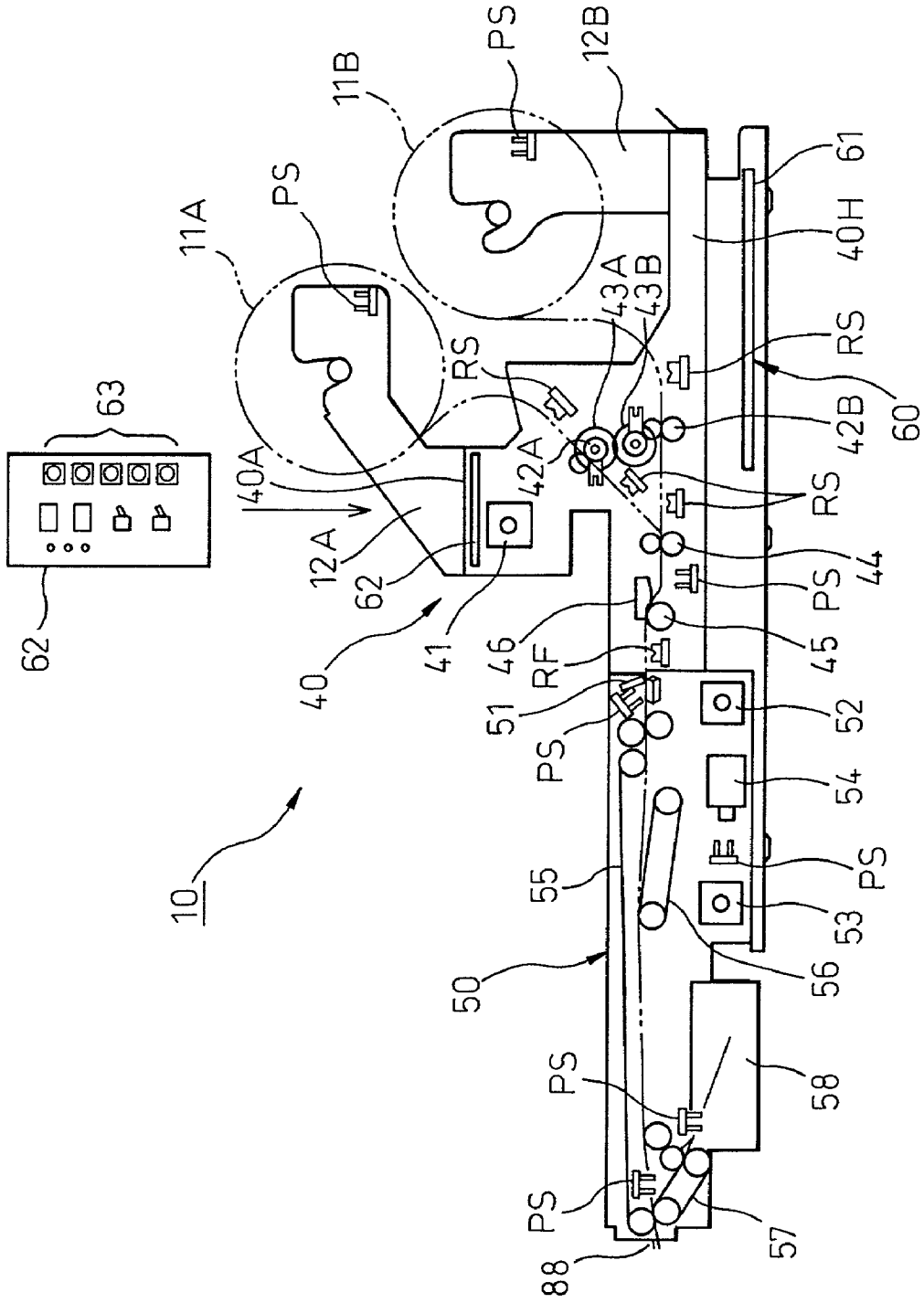


Fig.2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11A
11B
12A
12B
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40A
40H
41
42A
42B
43A
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PS
RS
RF

Fig.3A

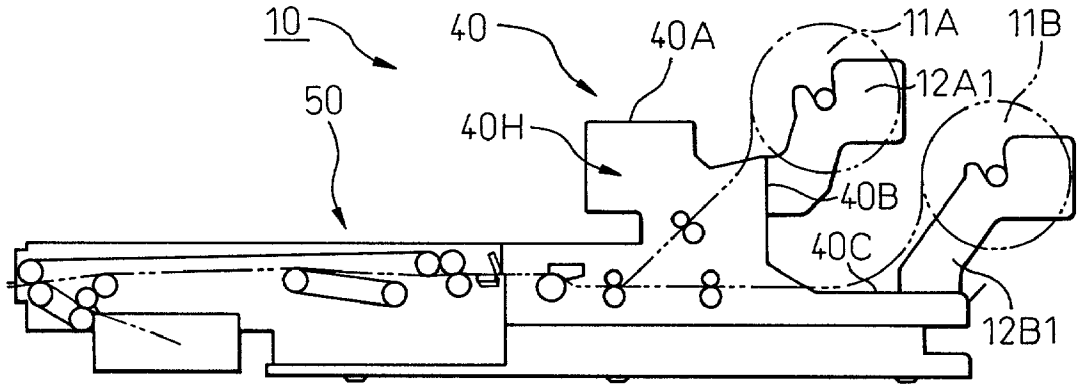


Fig.3B

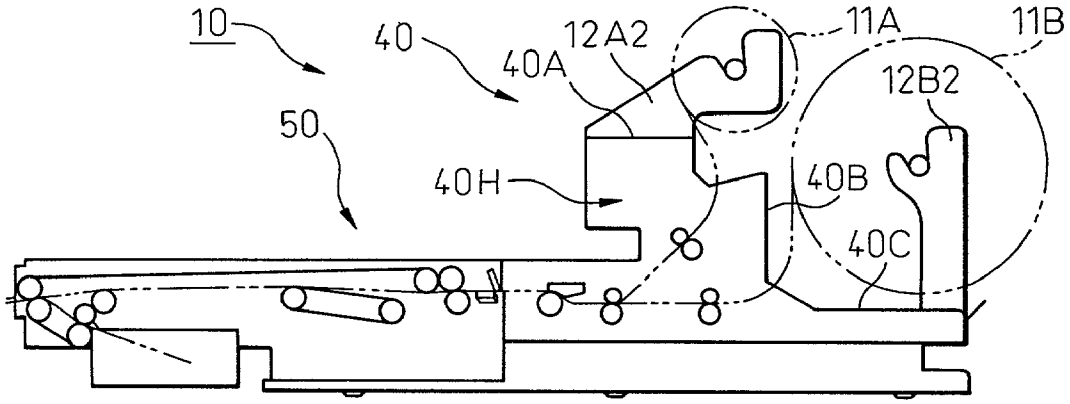


Fig.3C

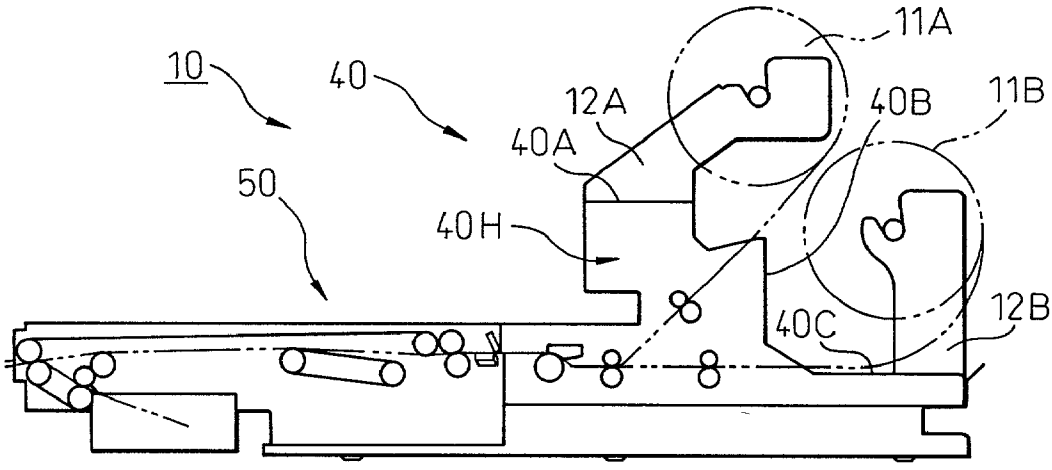


Fig.4A

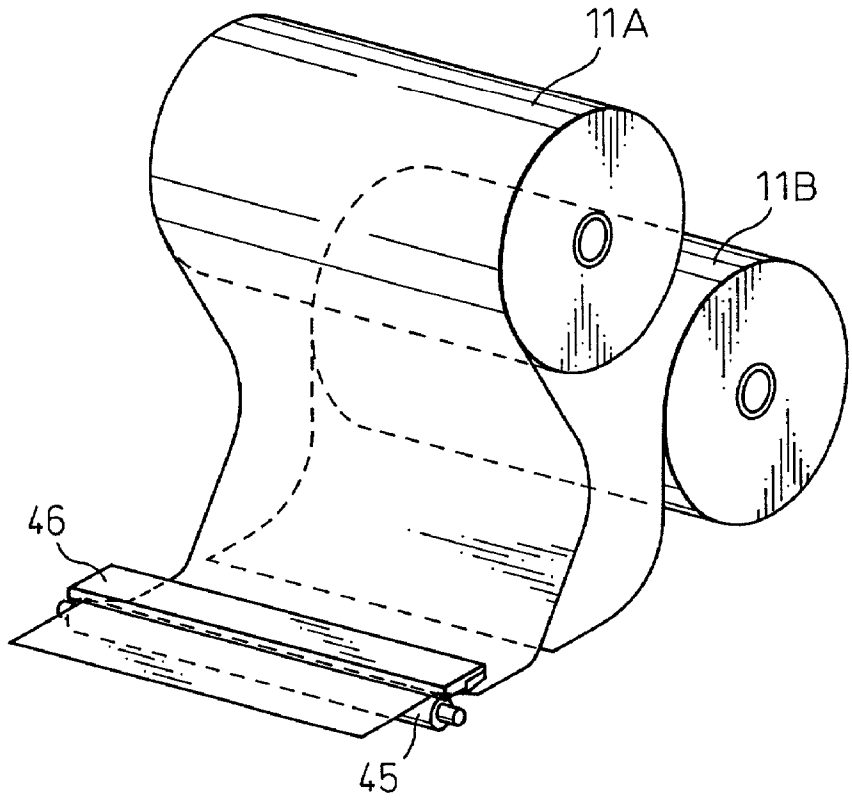


Fig.4B

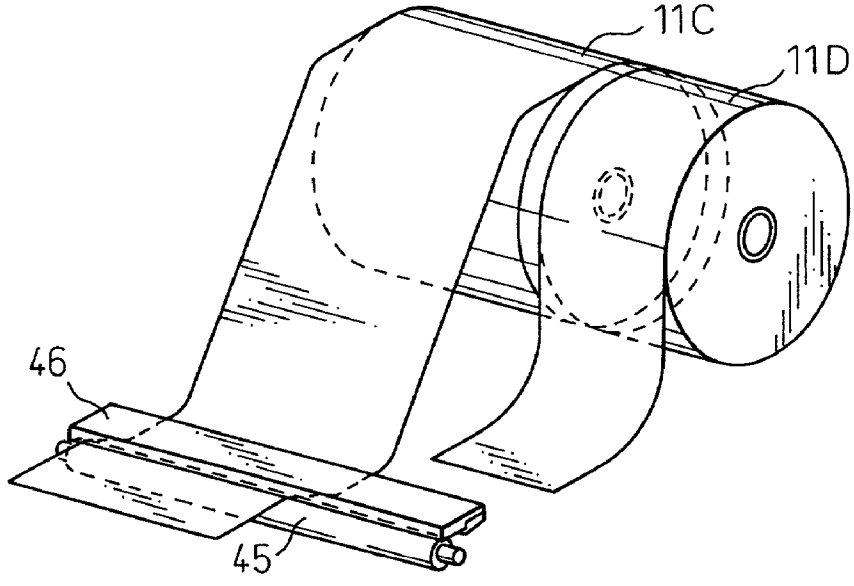
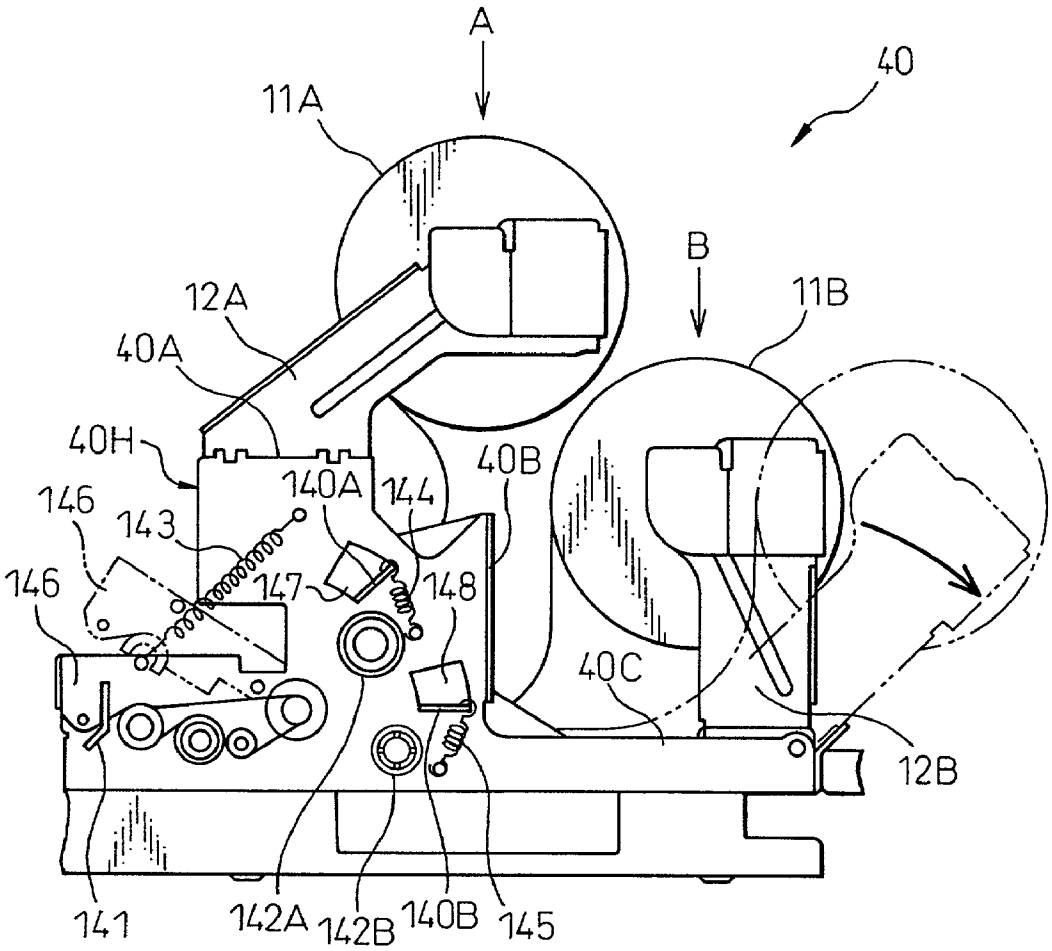


Fig.5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11A
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11B
12A
40A
40H
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40C
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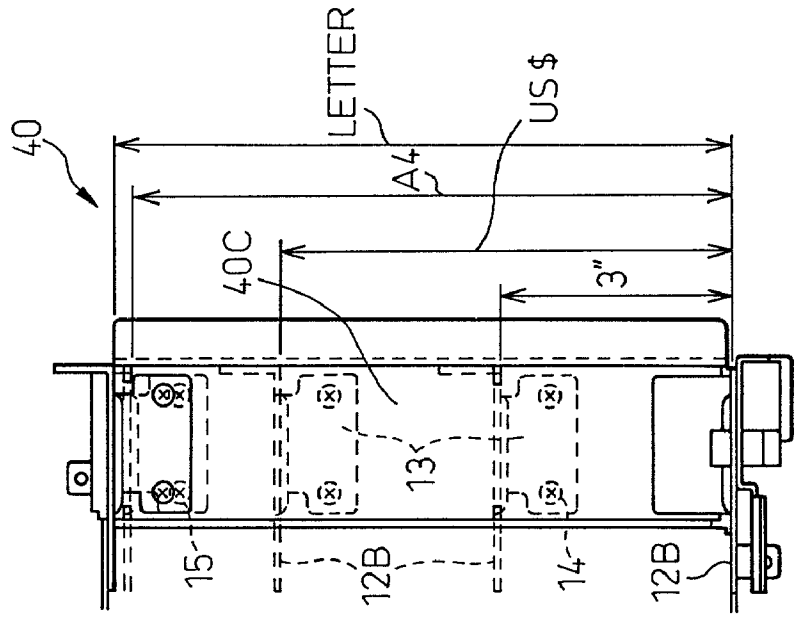
142B
140B
145

Fig.6B


40
LETTER
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US$
40C
3"
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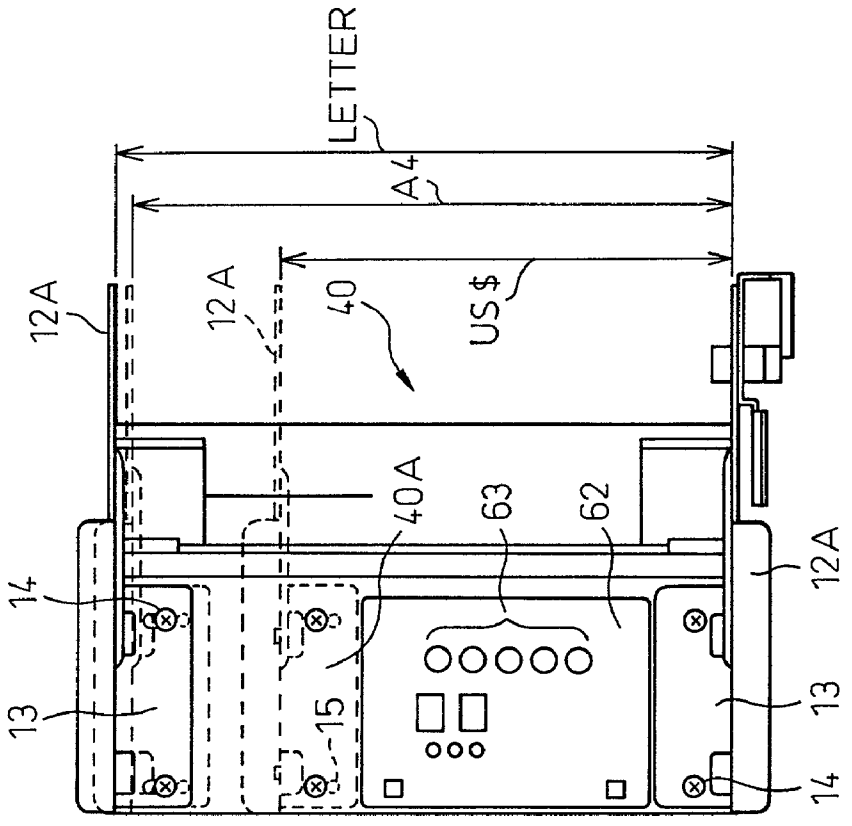
12B
14
12B

Fig.6A


LETTER
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12A
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Fig.7A

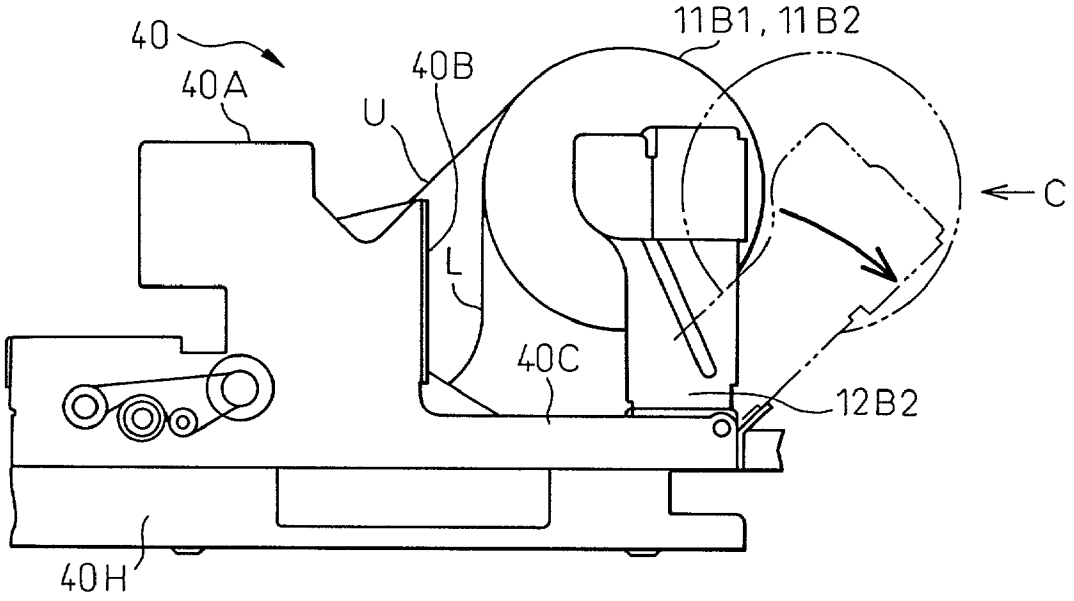


Fig.7B

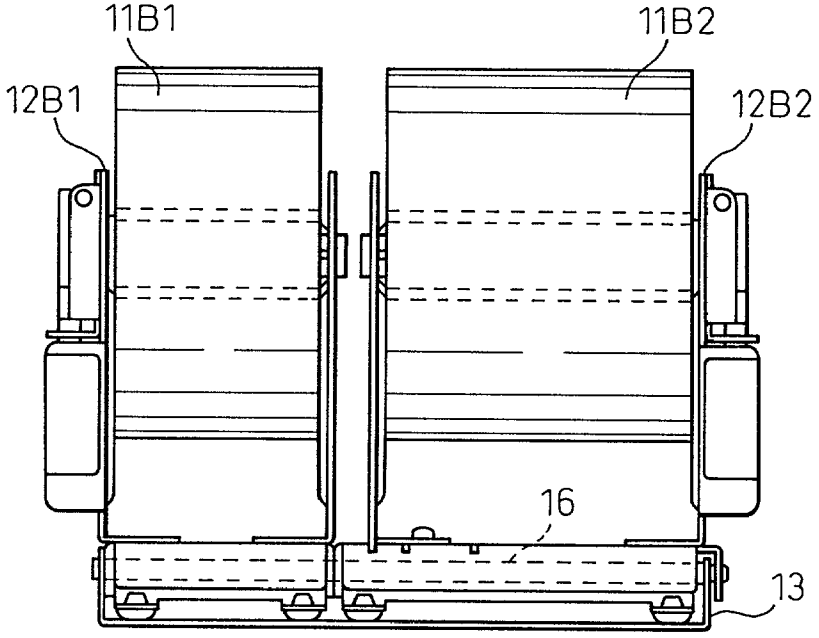
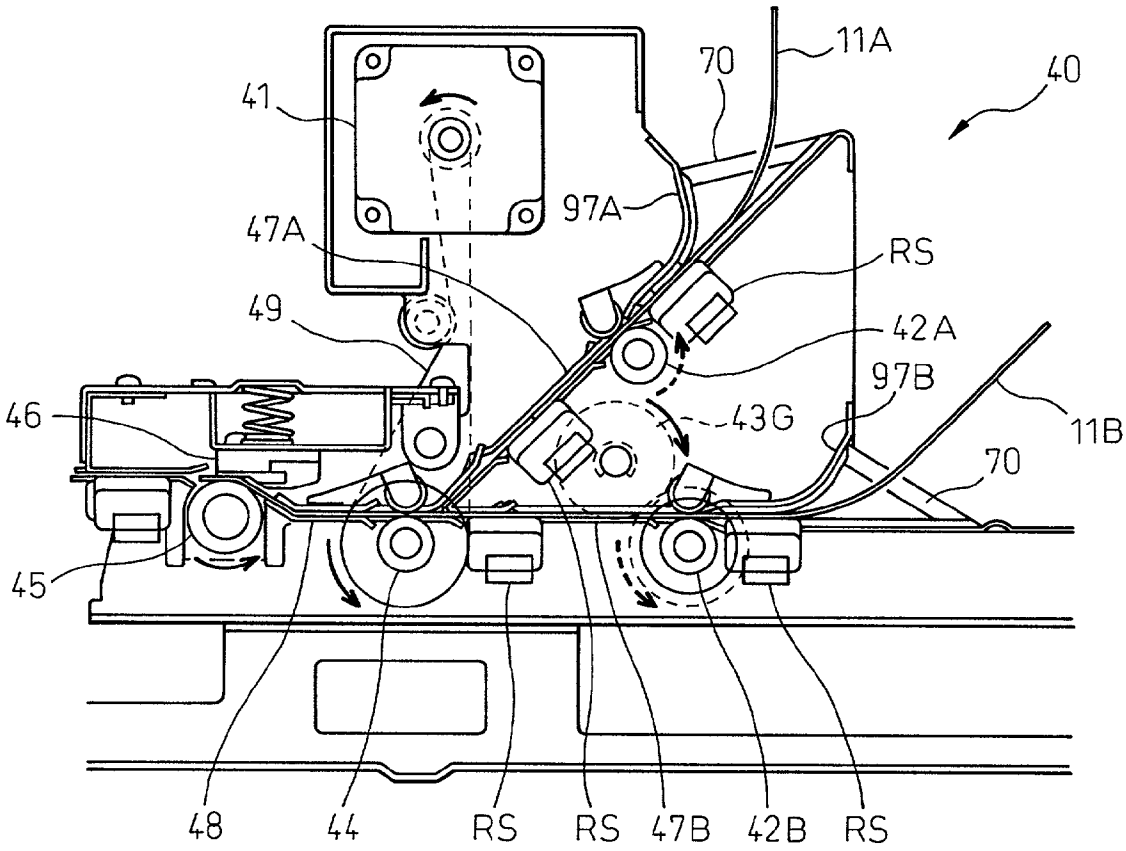


Fig.8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97A
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48
44
RS
RS
47B
42B
RS

Fig.9A

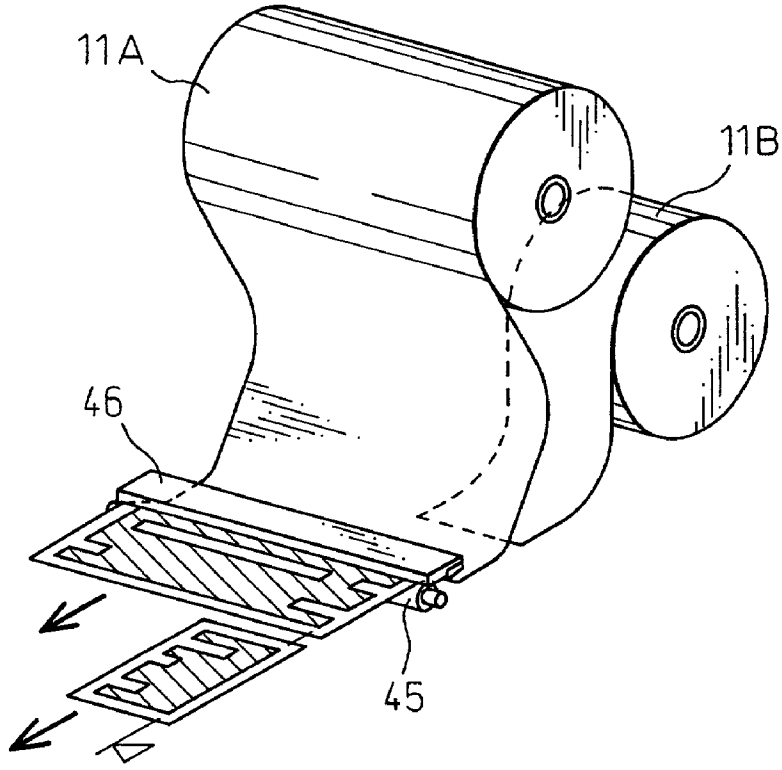


Fig.9B

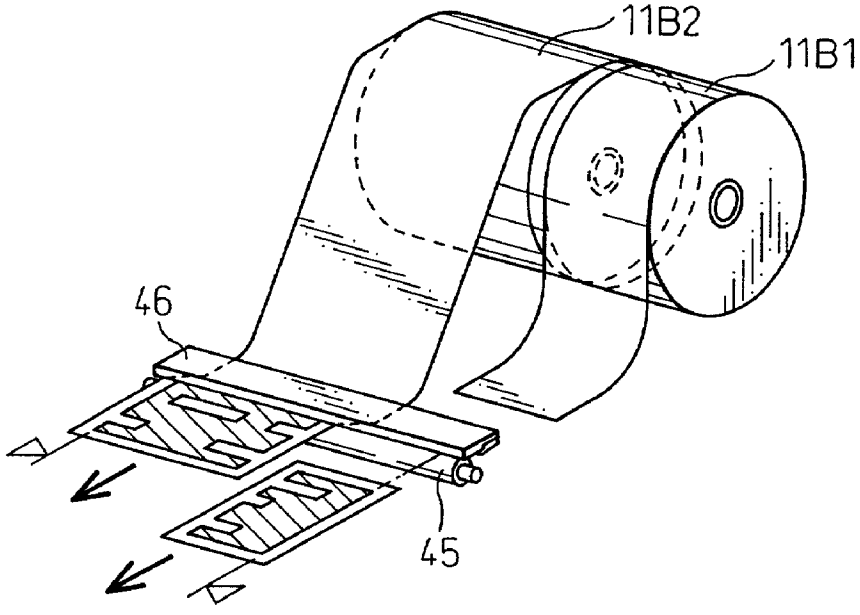


Fig. 10A

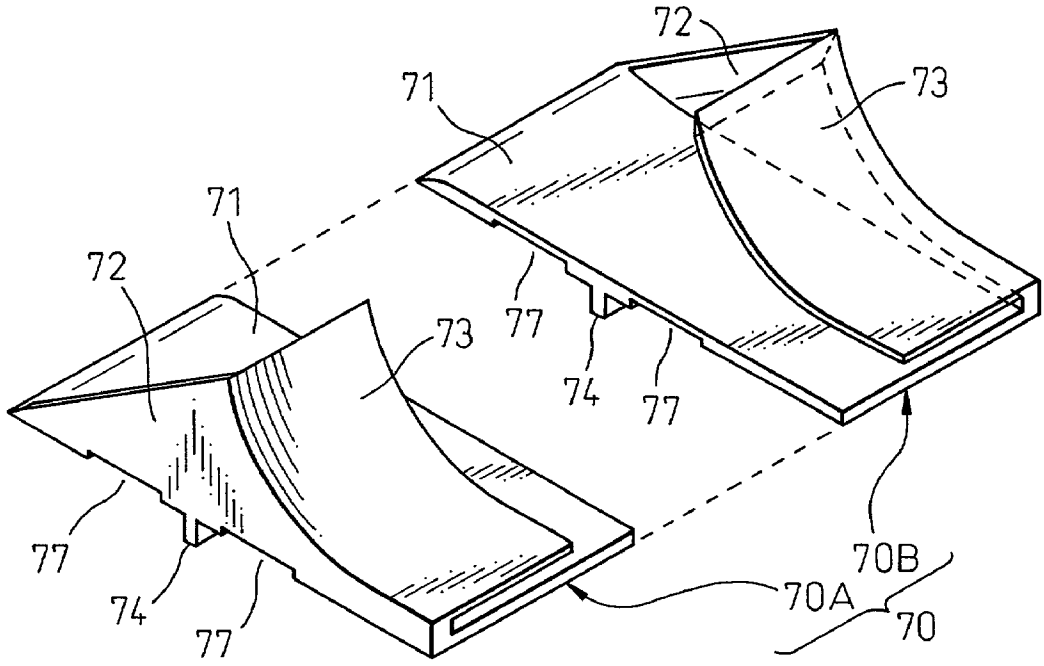


Fig. 10B

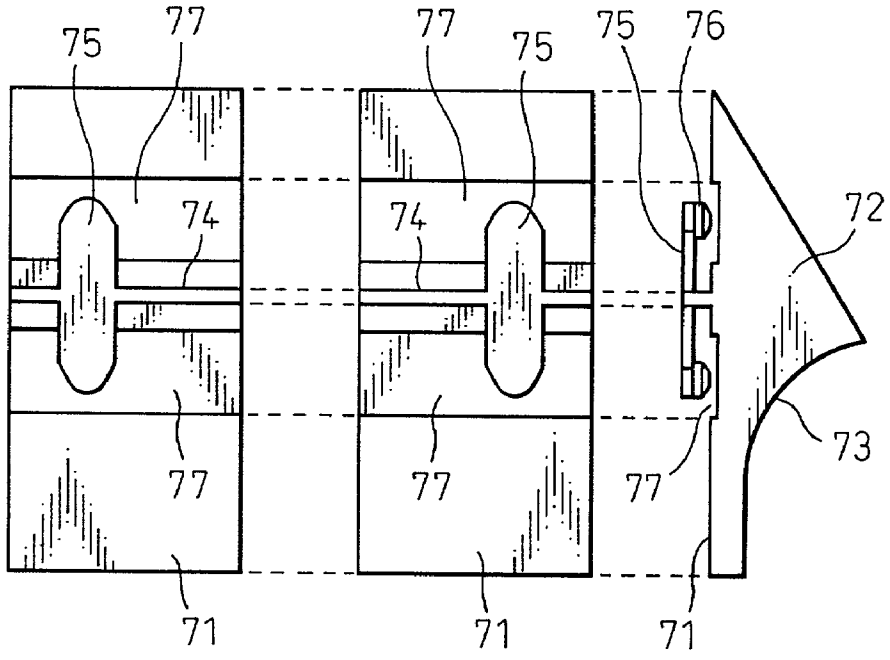


Fig.11A

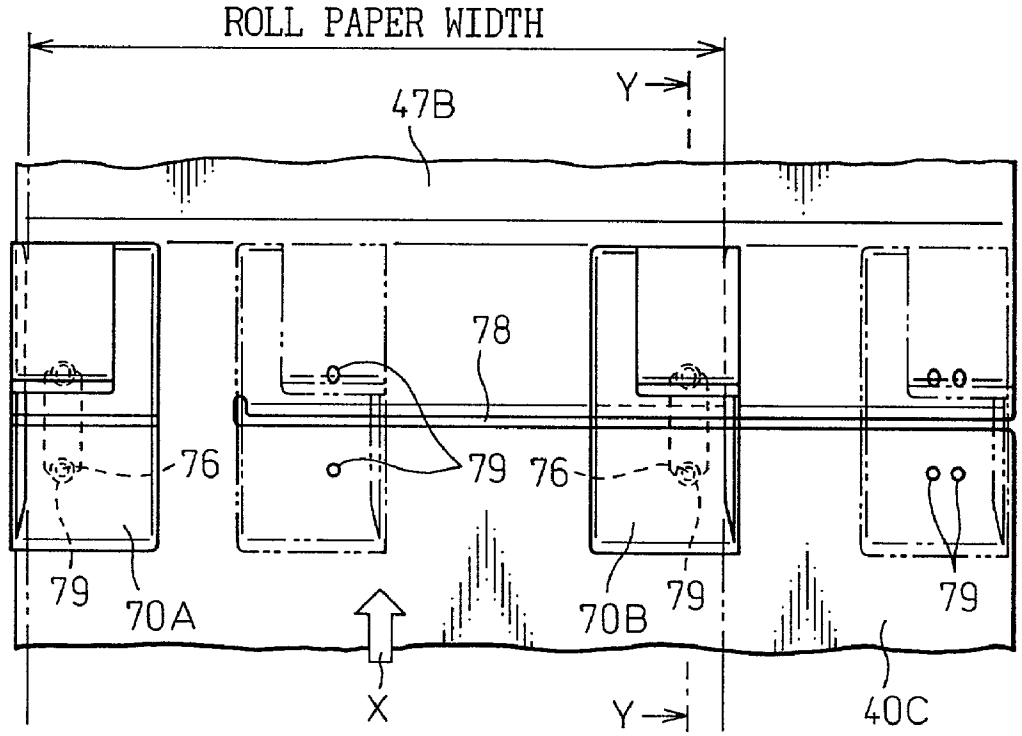


Fig.11B

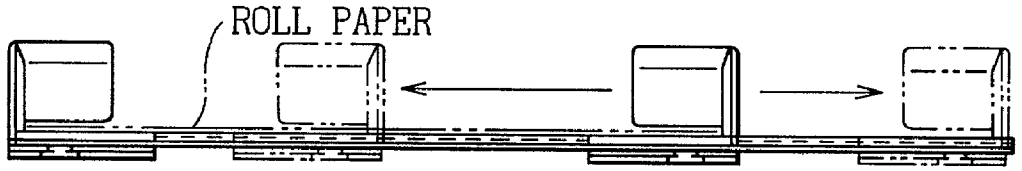


Fig.11C

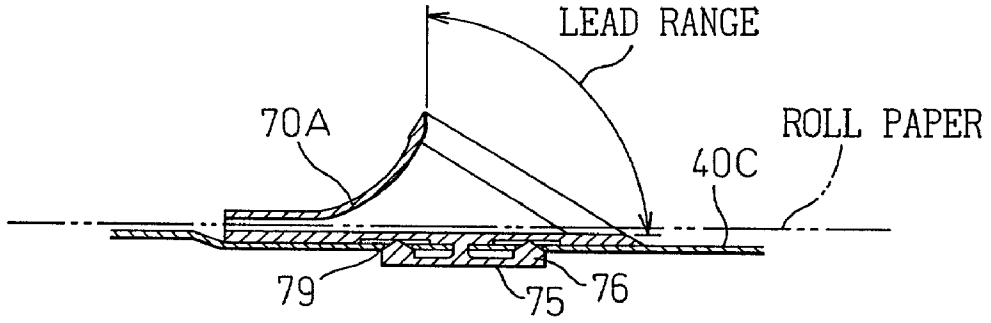


Fig. 12A

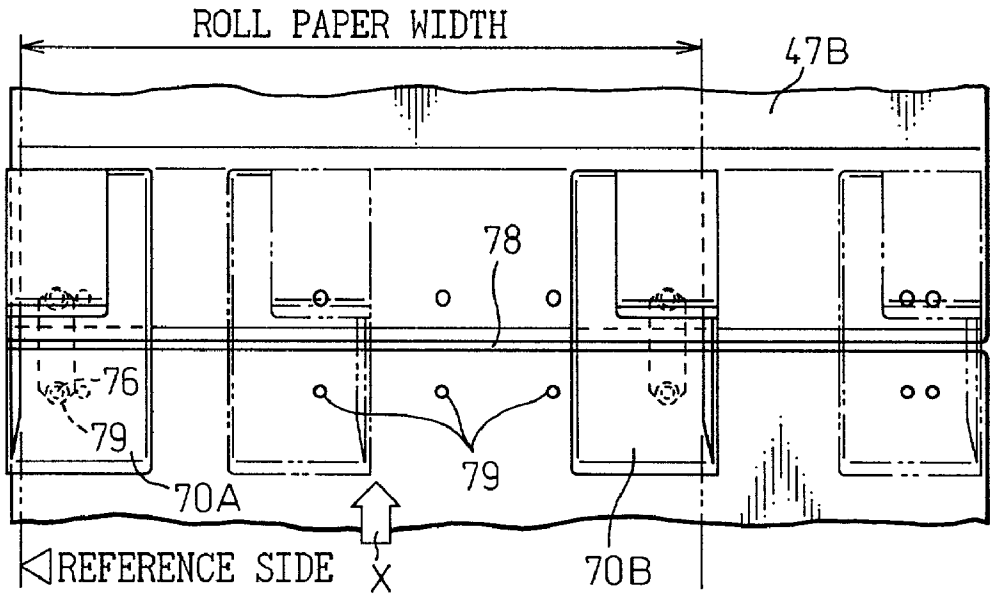


Fig. 12B

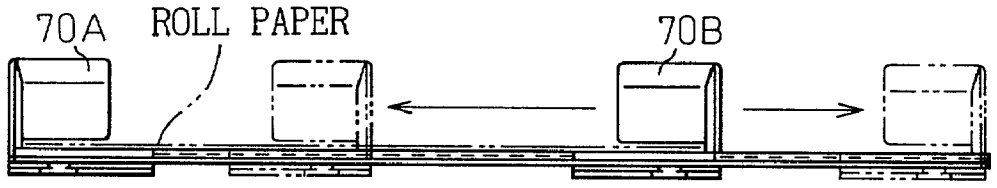


Fig.12C

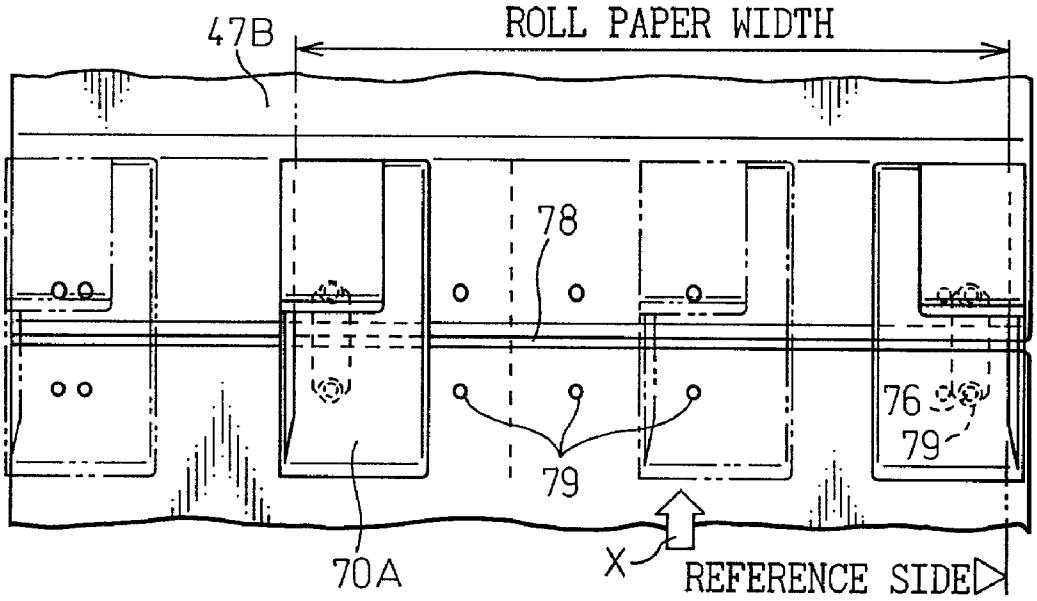


Fig.12D

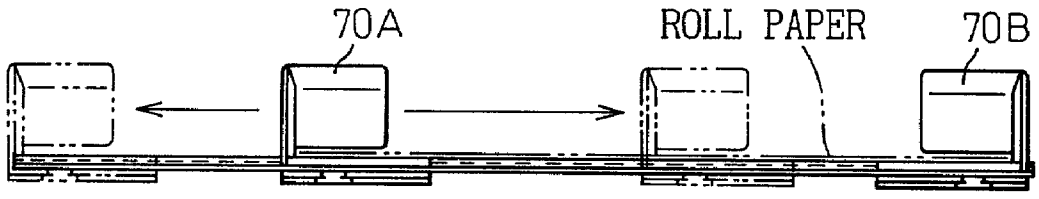


Fig. 13

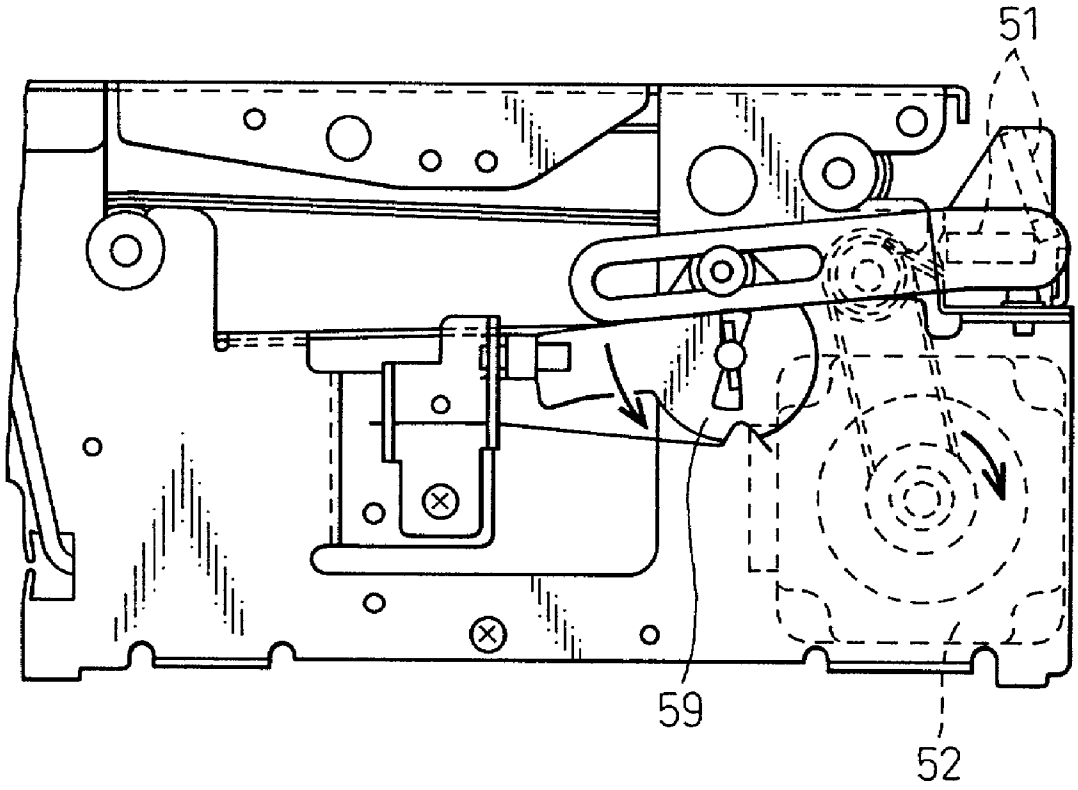


Fig. 14

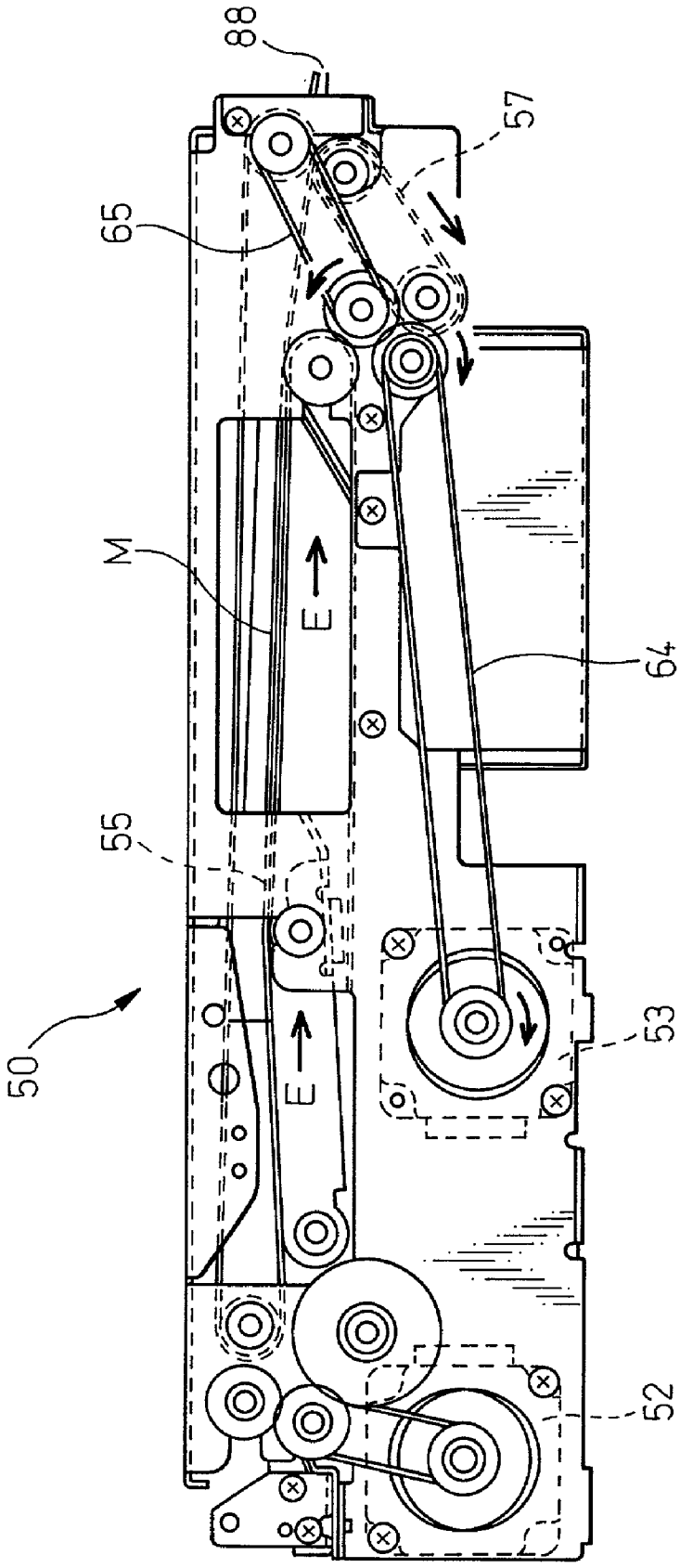


Fig.15

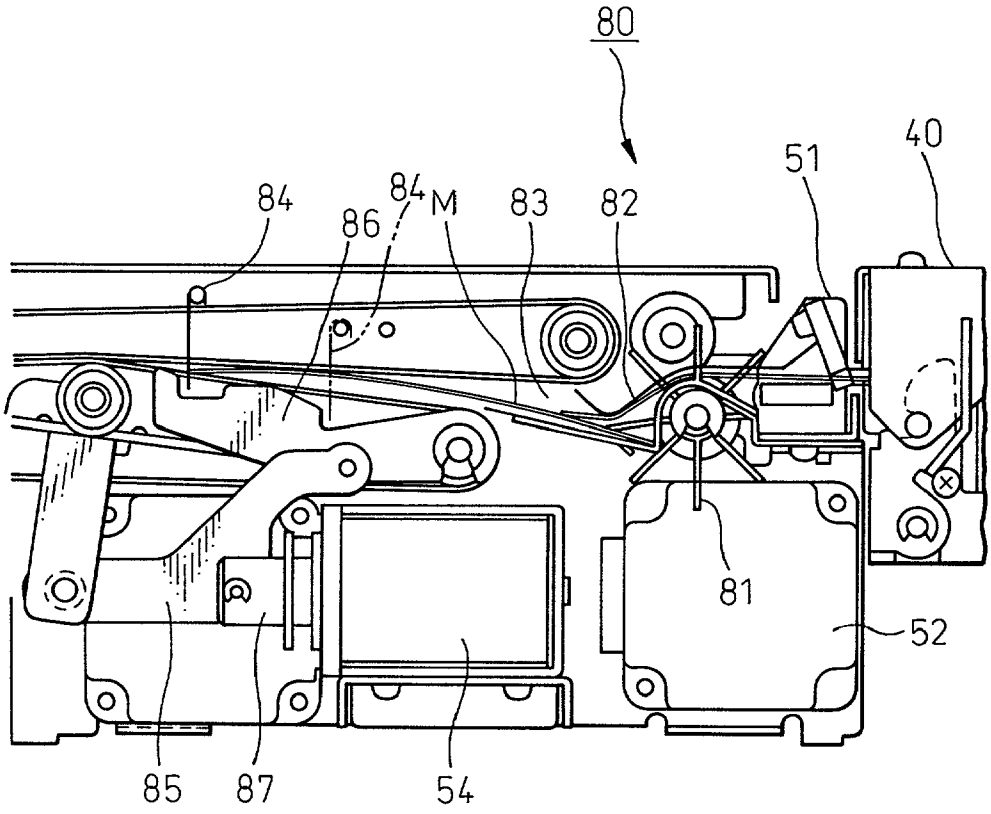


Fig. 16A

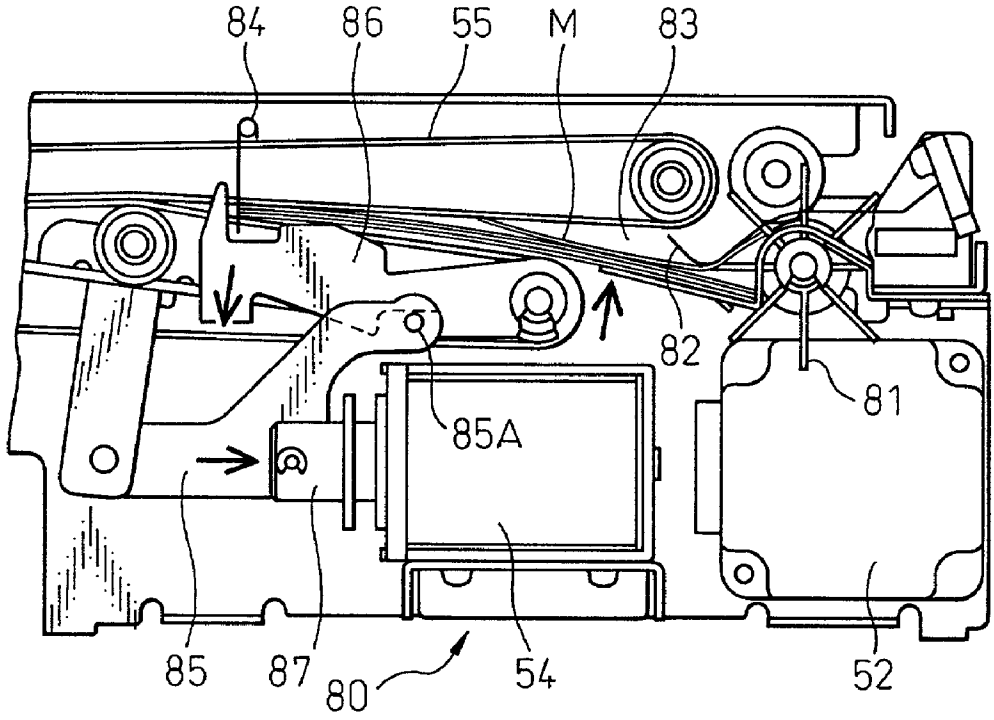


Fig. 16B

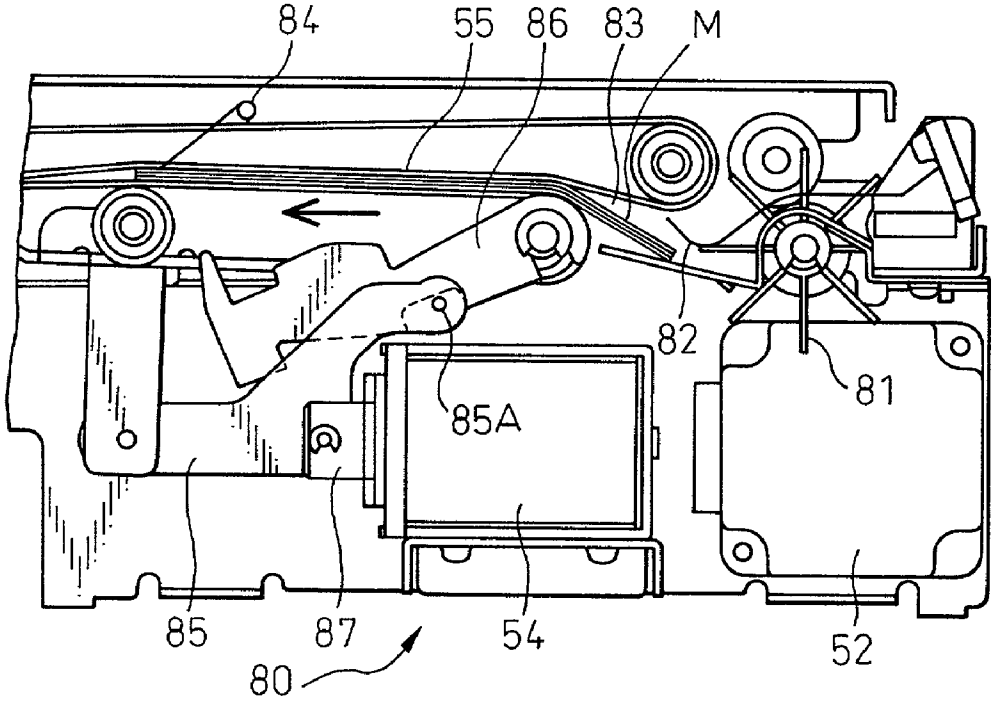


Fig. 17A

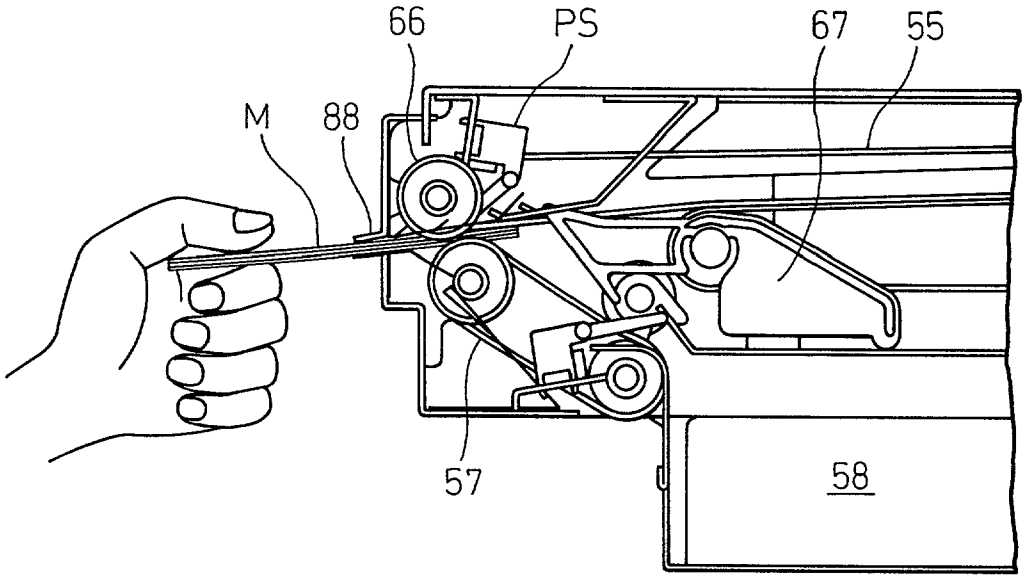


Fig. 17B

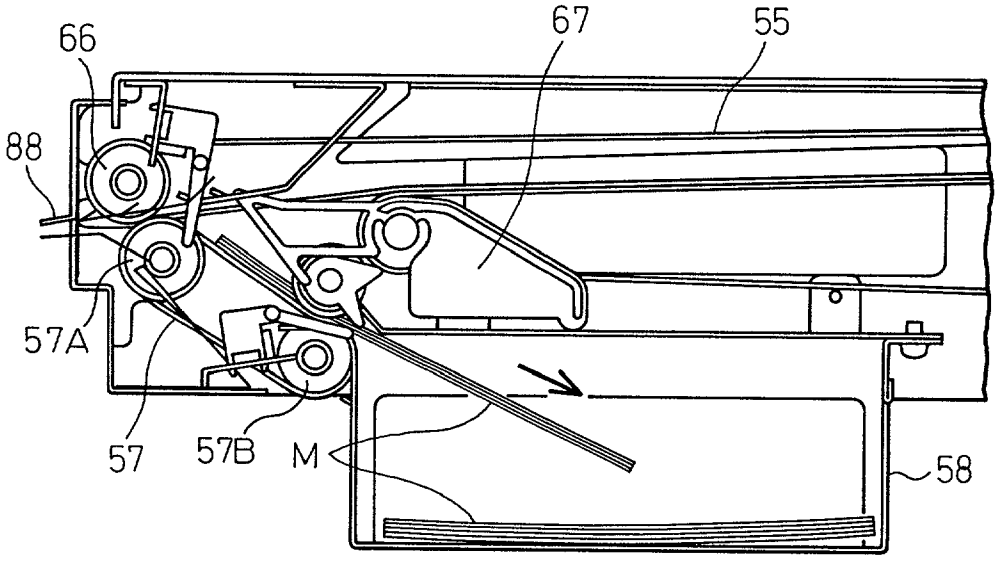


Fig. 18A

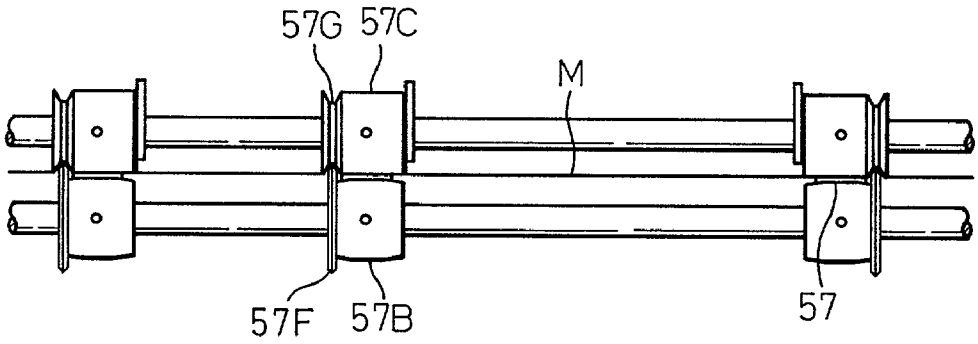


Fig. 18B

Fig. 18C

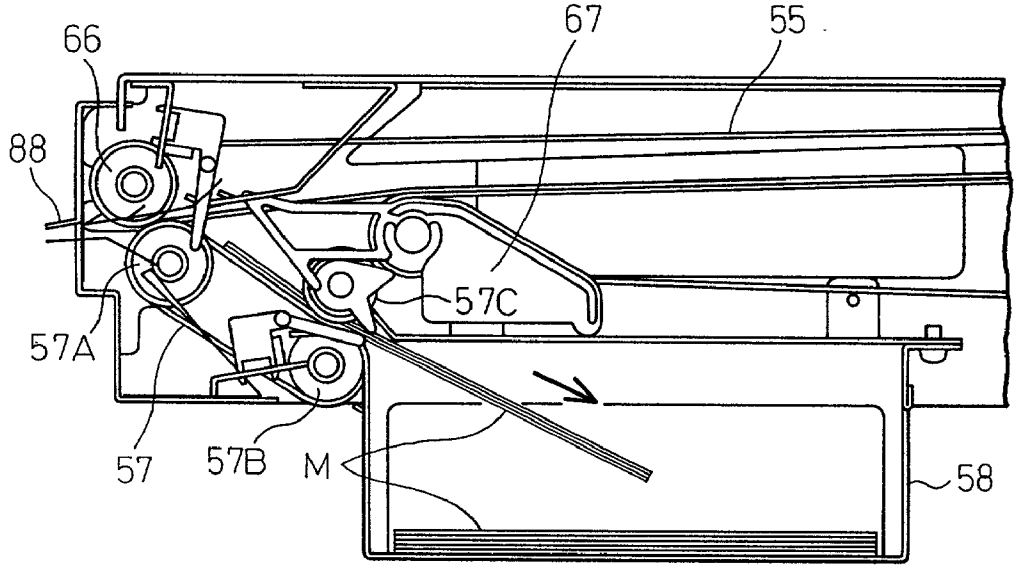


Fig.19A

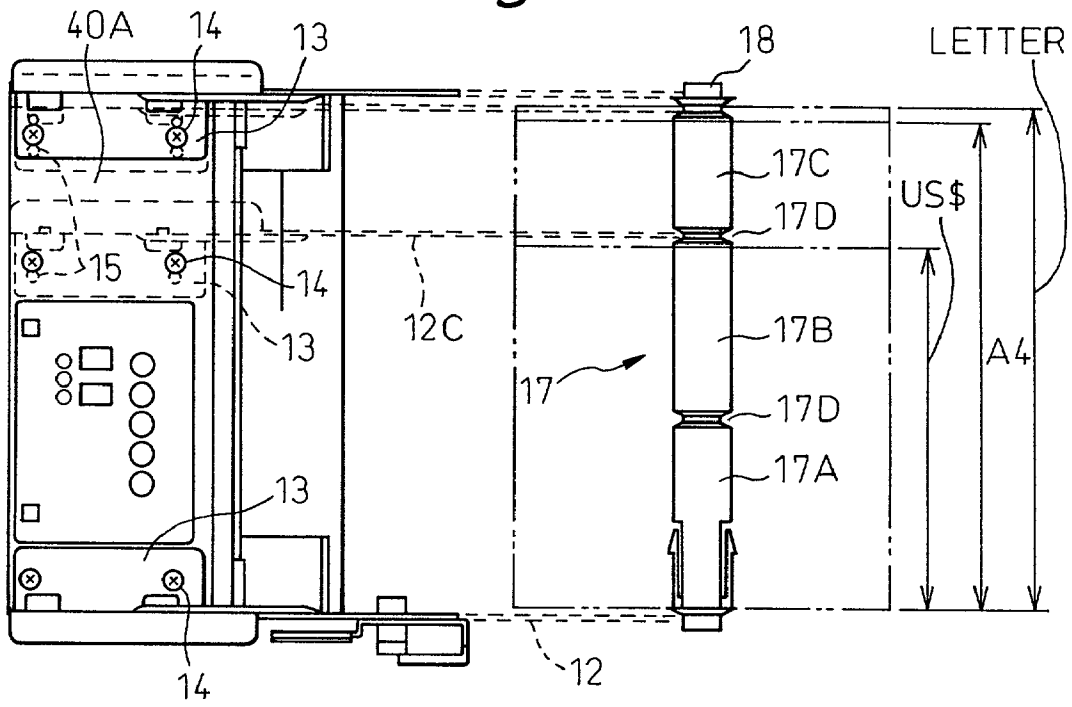


Fig.19B

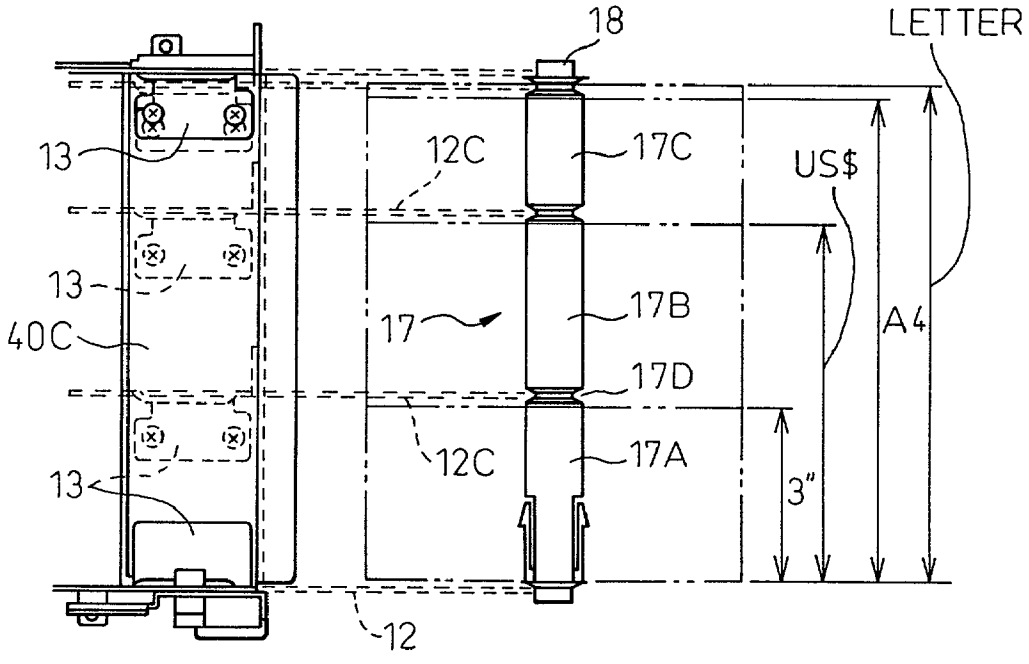


Fig.20

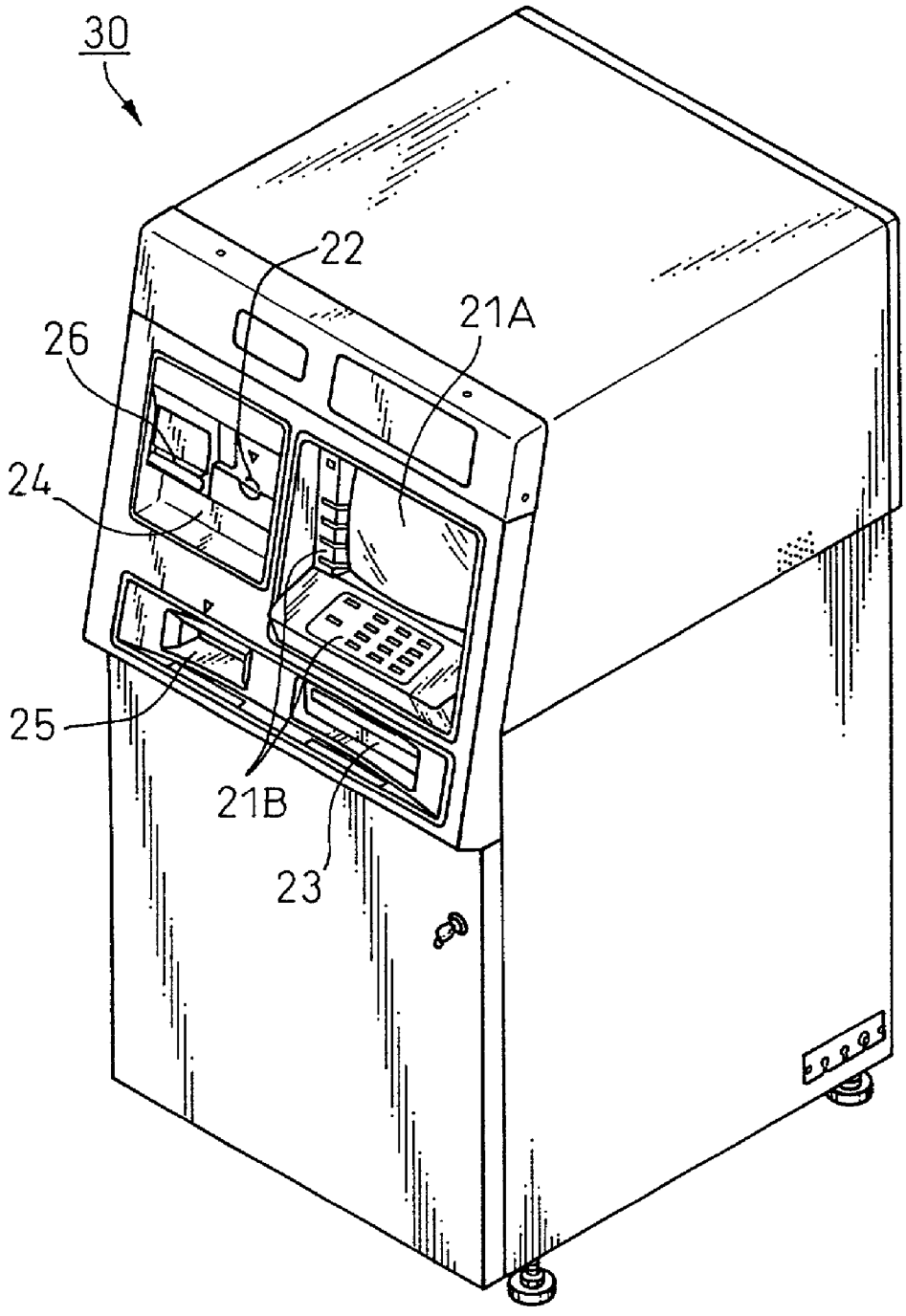
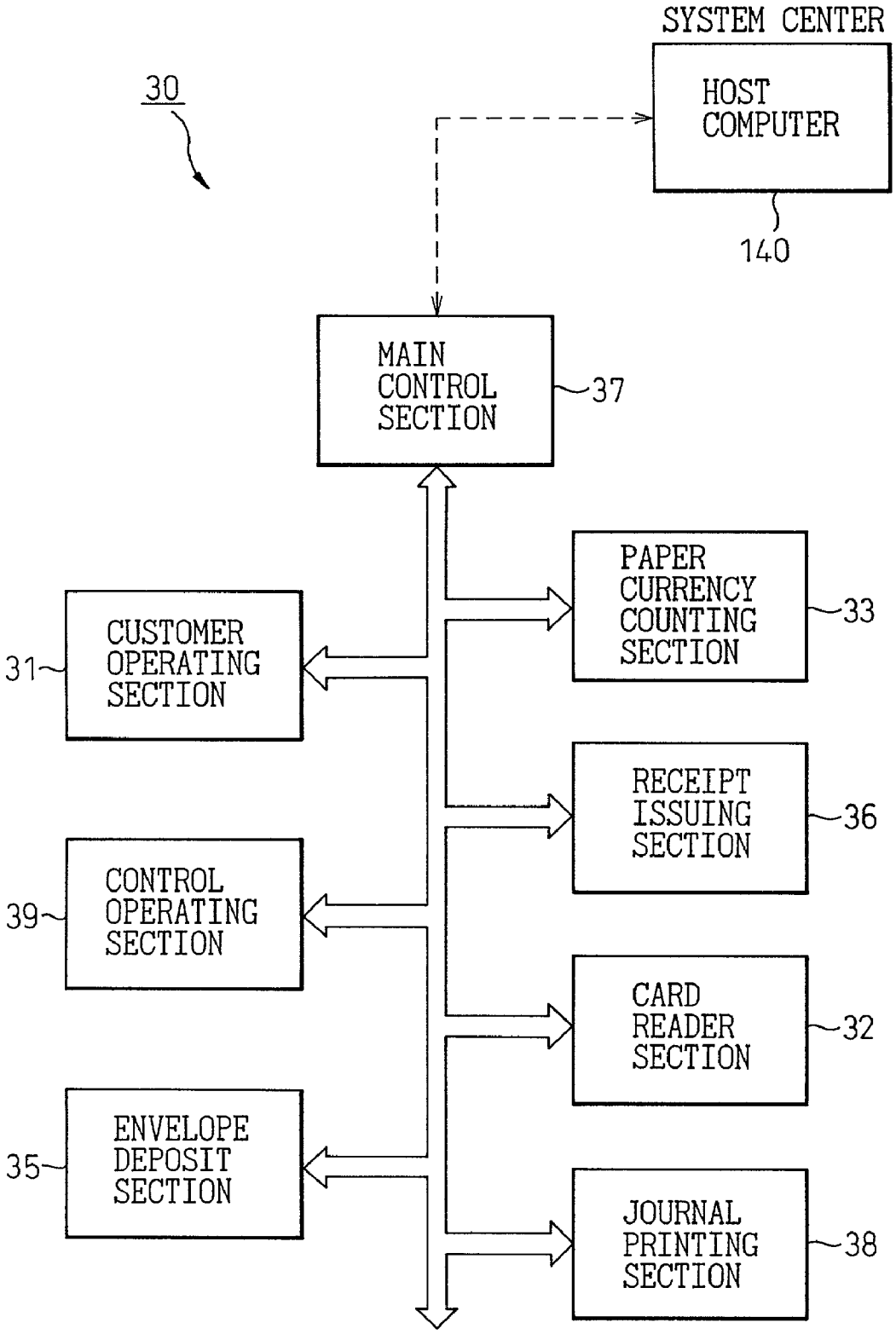


Fig.21


SYSTEM CENTER
30
HOST COMPUTER
140
MAIN CONTROL SECTION
37
PAPER CURRENCY COUNTING SECTION
33
CUSTOMER OPERATING SECTION
31
RECEIPT ISSUING SECTION
36
CONTROL OPERATING SECTION
39
CARD READER SECTION
32
ENVELOPE DEPOSIT SECTION
35
JOURNAL PRINTING SECTION
38

MEDIUM ISSUING APPARATUS USING PAPER ROLL MEDIUM AND AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE USING THE APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] 1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to a medium issuing apparatus using a paper roll medium and an automatic teller machine using the apparatus or, in particular, to a medium issuing apparatus for issuing a medium such as a ticket or a receipt and an automatic teller machine, installed in a financial institution or the like outlet with a medium issuing apparatus, into which the customer inserts a card or the like to conduct transactions such as deposit and withdrawal.

[0003] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0004] Generally, an automatic teller machine, installed in a financial institution or the like outlet, issues a receipt printed with the specifics of the transaction conducted by the customer. As part of the services offered to the customer, on the other hand, there is a demand for a medium issuing apparatus using a paper roll medium, and an automatic transaction machine using the apparatus, which can readily output and present, together with the receipt, a multiplicity of supplementary information including the transaction history of the customer, information on the services offered by the financial institution, information from the internet, etc.

[0005] The medium issuing apparatus using the paper roll medium for application to the automatic teller machine described in Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 8-153143 filed by the present applicant is configured to hold a plurality of paper rolls and comprises two paper roll holding sections with paper rolls set therein. In this medium issuing apparatus, the paper rolls are fed and rewound by paper roll drive mechanisms. The fed paper rolls are printed in a common printing mechanism and the paper rolls thus printed are cut off in a common cutting mechanism. The roll paper thus cut off (a cut piece) is transported by a common transport mechanism and ejected from a single common ejection opening **8**.

[0006] The technology incorporated in this medium issuing apparatus for supplying the supplementary information to the customer is such that when a plurality of paper rolls or normally two paper rolls of the same width are set, one of the paper rolls is used to issue a receipt while the supplementary information is printed on the other paper roll in a common printing mechanism **4**.

[0007] The method employed in the conventional medium issuing apparatus cannot use paper rolls, making up the medium, having different widths but uses a plurality of paper rolls having a single width, and thus fails to meet the requirement of individual customers such as banks desiring to issue a plurality of types of media having different widths.

[0008] Especially, the printing area of the conventional medium for receipts has a width of only about 15 cm which is insufficient to hold the supplementary information containing a great amount of data. In other words, the medium having the width of an A4 or letter size sheet, which can accommodate a greater number of printing lines, cannot be used. Further, a single sheet of paper is not sufficient to issue a great amount of information at a time. The method in which a sheet of the roll paper having a single width is issued a plurality of times is both complex and low in processing speed and imposes a considerable burden on the customer.

[0009] The fact that the shape of the paper roll holding unit is fixed, on the other hand, makes it difficult to freely design the medium issuing apparatus for other applications. Another factor forming a stumbling block to different applications of this apparatus is the arrangement of switches and a manual operating mechanism for maintenance of the printing mechanism (refilling the medium, removing a jam, etc.) on one side of the medium issuing apparatus.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0010] Accordingly, the object of the present invention is to provide a medium issuing apparatus, and an automatic teller machine using the apparatus, in which the operation of appropriately changing the width and the maximum diameter, the printing surface, etc. of the paper roll for issuing a medium, and changing the tandem arrangement or juxtaposition of the paper rolls can be performed with a single apparatus to meet the various customer requirements.

[0011] In order to achieve the object described above, according to one aspect of this invention, there is provided a medium issuing apparatus, using a paper roll medium, comprising a paper roll holding section for holding a plurality of paper rolls, a plurality of paper roll drive mechanisms for feeding out or rewinding the paper rolls, respectively, a common printing mechanism for printing the roll paper fed out from each paper roll drive mechanism, a common cutting mechanism for cutting off each roll paper to a predetermined length, a first common transport mechanism for transporting pieces of the roll paper cut by the common cutting mechanism, a temporary storage section for storing a plurality of cut pieces transported by the first common transport mechanism and capable of compressing the cut pieces into a bundle, a second common transport mechanism for transporting a plurality of cut pieces, in a bundle accumulated in the temporary storage section, a common ejection opening for ejecting a plurality of cut pieces in a bundle transported by the second common transport mechanism, a common receiving section for receiving a plurality of the cut pieces in a bundle remaining at the common ejection opening and a control unit for controlling the whole operation of the apparatus.

[0012] The holding member for holding the paper rolls in the paper roll holding section can be replaced on the apparatus as required, so that a plurality of the paper rolls may be arranged in tandem, or the juxtaposition with respect to the apparatus, or the width of a plurality of the paper rolls may be changed. Also, a plurality of paper roll drive mechanisms each may include a paper roll insertion guide member having a curved slope in an opposed relation to the base surface to widen the angle for receiving the paper rolls arriving from many directions. Further, in the case where a plurality of paper rolls are arranged in juxtaposition, the reference printing position of the common printing mechanism can be reversed laterally in accordance with the width of the paper rolls.

[0013] In a pair of upper and lower medium transport rollers arranged in the medium transport mechanism of the common receiving section, a circumferential groove having a trapezoidal section may be formed at a predetermined

position of at least one of the medium transport rollers, and a flange having a wedge-shaped section with the forward end thereof adapted to enter the circumferential groove may be formed on the other medium transport roller at a position opposed to the circumferential groove. Then, a rib-shaped portion for preventing the medium from curling can be formed in the medium after it has passed through the transport rollers.

[0014] According to another aspect of the invention, in order to achieve the object described above, there is provided an automatic teller machine, using the medium issuing apparatus and operable by the customers, comprising a control unit connected on-line to a host computer, a customer operating section, a card operating section, a cash processing section, a deposit processing section, a medium issuing section and a host line processing section, wherein the medium issuing section includes a medium issuing apparatus described in any one of claims 1 to 5.

[0015] According to still another aspect of the invention, there are provided a medium issuing apparatus, using a paper roll medium, and an automatic teller machine using the apparatus, wherein the roll holding member built into the printing unit body and meeting various requirements is replaceable, and an insertion guide member having a curved guide wall is introduced to allow the insertion of the paper roll over a wider angle. Thus, it is possible to change the position of the paper roll, the maximum outer winding diameter of the paper roll, the tandem arrangement or juxtaposition of the paper rolls, the width of the paper roll and the winding direction of the paper roll (upward or downward). In this way, many variations can be provided in accordance with the customer requirements.

[0016] In addition, the use of the temporary storage section makes it possible to release a plurality of sheets of paper in bundle at a time.

[0017] Further, the freedom of design of the shape of the housing permits the maintenance work to be carried out from both sides of the apparatus, thus facilitating free design for different applications.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0018] The present invention will be more clearly understood from the description as set forth below with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

[0019] **FIG. 1** is a diagram showing a configuration of a conventional medium issuing apparatus;

[0020] **FIG. 2** is a diagram showing a general configuration of a medium issuing apparatus using a paper roll medium according to an embodiment of the invention;

[0021] **FIGS. 3A** to **3C** show examples of the operation for replacing the paper roll holding member, in which **FIG. 3A** is a diagram showing an embodiment with a small winding outer diameter of the rolls, **FIG. 3B** is a diagram showing an embodiment with the roll winding outer diameter considerably differentiated in accordance with whether the paper roll is used frequently or not, and **FIG. 3C** is a diagram showing an embodiment with the roll wound in the opposite direction;

[0022] **FIGS. 4A and 4B** show a three-dimensional arrangement of a plurality of paper rolls, in which **FIG. 4A** is a perspective view showing an embodiment with the paper rolls arranged in tandem, and **FIG. 4B** is a perspective view showing an embodiment with the paper rolls arranged in juxtaposition;

[0023] **FIG. 5** is a side view showing the printer unit in detail with a plurality of paper rolls arranged in tandem;

[0024] **FIG. 6A** is a partial plan view of the paper roll holding section of **FIG. 5** from the direction of arrow A;

[0025] **FIG. 6B** is a partial plan view of the paper roll holding section of **FIG. 5** from the direction of arrow B;

[0026] **FIG. 7A** is a detailed side view showing the paper roll holding section with a plurality of paper rolls arranged in juxtaposition;

[0027] **FIG. 7B** is a side view of the paper roll holding section of **FIG. 7A** from the direction of arrow C;

[0028] **FIG. 8** is a side sectional view showing a detailed configuration of the printer of the printer unit;

[0029] **FIGS. 9A and 9B** are diagrams for explaining a paper roll arrangement and the printing reference for the paper roll, in which **FIG. 9A** is a perspective view showing the printing reference and the printing area for each paper roll with the paper rolls arranged in tandem, and **FIG. 9B** is a perspective view showing the printing reference and the printing area for each of the paper rolls arranged in juxtaposition;

[0030] **FIG. 10A** is a perspective view showing a configuration of the paper roll insertion guide members used in pair;

[0031] **FIG. 10B** is a bottom view and a side view of the insertion guide member of **FIG. 10A**;

[0032] **FIG. 11A** is a partial plan view showing the manner in which the paper roll insertion guide member is used;

[0033] **FIG. 11B** is a side view of **FIG. 11A**;

[0034] **FIG. 11C** is a sectional view for explaining a lock mechanism for the insertion guide member;

[0035] **FIG. 12A** is a partial plan view showing the manner in which the paper roll insertion guide member is used in another way;

[0036] **FIG. 12B** is a side view of **FIG. 12A**;

[0037] **FIG. 12C** is a partial plan view showing the manner in which the paper roll insertion guide member is used in still another way;

[0038] **FIG. 12D** is a side view of **FIG. 12A**;

[0039] **FIG. 13** is a side view showing the cutter section in detail;

[0040] **FIG. 14** is a diagram showing a general configuration of the feeder section;

[0041] **FIG. 15** is a side view showing the temporary storage section in detail;

[0042] **FIGS. 16A and 16B** show the operation of the temporary storage section, in which **FIG. 16A** is a diagram showing the manner in which cut roll paper are stored in the temporary storage section, and **FIG. 16B** is a diagram

showing the manner in which the medium stored in the temporary storage section is sent in a bundle to the ejection side;

[0043] **FIG. 17A** is a diagram for explaining the manner in which the medium transported in a bundle from the temporary storage section is recovered from the common ejection opening;

[0044] **FIG. 17B** is a diagram for explaining the manner in which the medium left at the common ejection opening is recovered in the recovery box;

[0045] **FIG. 18A** is a diagram partially showing the shape of a roller for the recovery belt and an opposed roller;

[0046] **FIG. 18B** is a diagram showing the shape of the medium that has passed between the rollers of **FIG. 18A**;

[0047] **FIG. 18C** is a diagram for explaining the manner in which the medium is recovered at the common receiving section having the recovery belt and the rollers shown in **FIG. 18A**;

[0048] **FIGS. 19A and 19B** are diagrams for explaining a configuration of the roll support bar supporting the paper roll and the variations of the paper rolls mounted on the roll support bar;

[0049] **FIG. 20** is a perspective view showing the appearance of the automatic teller machine with the medium issuing apparatus using the paper roll medium according to the invention; and

[0050] **FIG. 21** is a block diagram showing the internal configuration of the automatic teller machine of **FIG. 19**.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0051] Before describing the preferred embodiments, an explanation will be given of the conventional medium issuing apparatus using a paper roll medium and the conventional automatic teller machine using the apparatus of **FIG. 1**.

[0052] **FIG. 1** shows a general configuration of a medium issuing apparatus **1** using a paper roll medium for an automatic teller machine described in Kokai No. 8-152143 filed by the present applicant. The apparatus **1** is configured to hold a plurality of paper rolls. A paper roll **2**A is set in a paper roll holding section **1**A and a paper roll **2**B is set in a paper roll holding section **1**B of the apparatus **1**. Reference numerals **3**A, **3**B, and **3**C designate paper roll drive mechanisms each operating to feed out or rewind the paper roll. Specifically, the drive mechanism **3**A feeds out and rewinds the paper roll **2**A, and the drive mechanism **3**B feeds out and rewinds the paper roll **2**B. The drive mechanism **3**C, which is located at a point where the paper rolls **2**A and **2**B merge, feeds out and rewinds both the paper rolls **2**A and **2**B. Numeral **4** designates a common printing mechanism for printing the paper roll fed out by each of the paper roll drive mechanisms. The paper roll thus printed is cut off by a common cutting mechanism **5**, and the cut paper roll (cut piece) is transported by a common transport mechanism **6** and ejected from a single common ejection opening **8**. Numeral **7** designates a control circuit for controlling the drive of the whole apparatus **1**.

[0053] In this medium issuing apparatus **1**, a plurality of paper rolls or, normally, the two paper rolls **2**A and **2**B of the same width, are set for providing supplementary information to the customers. One of the paper rolls **2**A and **2**B is used for receipts, and the other medium is printed with the supplementary information in the common printing mechanism **4**.

[0054] The conventional medium issuing apparatus, however, cannot use different widths of paper rolls, making up media, and uses a plurality of paper rolls having a single width as described above. The problem, therefore, is that it is impossible to meet the desire of individual bank customers to acquire many types of media of different widths.

[0055] Especially in the case where supplementary information containing a great amount of data is output, the printing area of the conventional medium for receipts having a width of about 15 cm is insufficient to meet such a customer desire. Specifically, a medium having a width of A4 or letter size, which can contain more printing lines, cannot be used. Further, a piece of paper is not sufficient to supply a great amount of information at a time. The repeated issue using the paper rolls of the same width and the resulting complexity and low processing speed poses a considerable burden on customers.

[0056] On the other hand, in view of the fact that shape of the housing for holding the paper rolls is fixed, the medium issuing apparatus cannot be easily and freely designed for other applications. Another factor limiting the freedom of design for other applications is that switches and a manual operating mechanism are arranged on one side of the medium issuing apparatus to perform the maintenance operation (refilling of the medium and removal of a jam).

[0057] The present invention obviates these problems. First, the configuration of a medium issuing apparatus using paper rolls according to this invention will be explained, and then the configuration of an automatic teller machine using the medium issuing apparatus will be described.

[0058] **FIG. 2** is a diagram showing a general configuration of a medium issuing apparatus **10** using paper rolls **11**A and **11**B according to an embodiment of the invention. The medium issuing apparatus **10** according to this embodiment comprises a printer unit **40**, a feeder unit **50** and a controller **60**.

[0059] The printer unit **40** includes a paper roll drive motor **41**, rollers **42**A and **42**B driven by a motor **41** to move each of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B, electromagnetic clutches **43**A and **43**B for switching the rotation and stop of the rollers **42**A and **42**B, a main roller **44** arranged downstream of the merging point of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B, a platen **45** and a printing head **46**. The paper roll **11**A and the paper roll **11**B are mounted on a housing **40**H of the printer unit **40** through a holding frame **12**A and a holding frame **12**B, respectively. The holding frame **12**A and the holding frame **12**B are replaceable on the housing **40**H of the printer unit **40** in accordance with the width and diameter of the paper rolls, as described later.

[0060] The feeder unit **50** includes a cutter blade **51** for cutting the rolled paper, a cut feed motor **52** for transporting and stopping the paper roll at a cutting position, a receipt delivery motor **53**, a solenoid **54**, transport belts **55** and **56**, a recovery belt **57** and a recovery box **58**. The medium M is

transported on the transport belts **55** and **56**, and ejected from the common ejection opening **88** by the recovery belt **57**. Characters PS designate optical sensors, and characters RS reflected light sensors.

[**0061**] The controller **60** includes a control board **61** arranged in the neighborhood of the bottom surface of the printer unit **40**, and a switch board **62** manually operable by the customer is arranged in upright position in the neighborhood of the mounting section **40**A of the holding frame **12**A of the paper roll **11**A. A plurality of setting switches **63** are arranged on the switch board **62** so that the operation of the switches may not be limited to the left or right side.

[**0062**] Now, a detailed explanation will be given of the configuration of each part of the medium issuing apparatus **10** described above.

[**0063**] (A) Replacing the paper roll holding frame of a printer unit

[**0064**] As explained with reference to **FIG. 2**, the holding frame **12**A and the holding frame **12**B are replaceable on the housing **40**H of the printer unit **40** in accordance with the width and diameter of the paper roll. This will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 3A** to **4**B.

[**0065**] **FIGS. 3A** to **3**C show various examples of positions at which the holding frame **12**A and the holding frame **12**B for holding the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B described in **FIG. 2** are replaced on the housing H. The housing **4**H of the printer unit **40** includes, as shown in **FIG. 3A, a** first mounting section **40**A formed on the upper surface of the housing **40**H, a second mounting section **40**B formed on the back surface of the first mounting section **40**A, and a third flat mounting section **40**C adjoining the rear side of the second mounting section **40**B. In the embodiment shown in **FIG. 2**, the L-shaped holding frame **12**A is mounted on the first mounting section **40**A, and the I-shaped holding frame **12**B is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C.

[**0066**] Also, in the embodiment shown in **FIG. 3**A, the L-shaped holding frame **12A1** is mounted on the second mounting section **40**B, and the L-shaped holding frame **12B1** is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C. According to this embodiment, the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B having a small winding diameter are mounted on the holding frames **12A1** and **12B1**, respectively. This embodiment is so configured that the outer winding diameter of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B is reduced to lower the height of the medium issuing apparatus **10**.

[**0067**] **FIG. 3B** shows an embodiment in which the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B are used with different frequencies, the paper roll **11**B being used more frequently. According to this embodiment, the L-shaped holding frame **12A2** is mounted on the first mounting section **40**A, and the I-shaped holding frame **12B2** is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C. Also, the paper roll **11***a* small in winding diameter is mounted on the holding frame **12A2**, and the paper roll **11**B large in winding diameter is mounted on the holding frame **12B2**. In this embodiment, the frequency with which the paper rolls replaced upon depletion of the medium on the medium issuing apparatus **10** can be reduced.

[**0068**] The configuration of the holding frames **12**A and **12**B in **FIG. 3C** is the same as that shown in **FIG. 2**, except that the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B are wound in the opposite direction to that of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B of **FIG. 1**. In this embodiment, the reverse side of the rolled paper can also be printed.

[**0069**] **FIGS. 4A and 4B** show a three-dimensional state in which the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B are mounted on the holding frames **12**A and **12**B (not shown) according to the embodiments shown in **FIGS. 3A** to **3**C. When arranging the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B as shown in **FIG. 3**A, for example, it is the common practice to mount one of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B of predetermined width on each on the holding frames **12**A and **12**B. According to this invention, in contrast, two paper rolls **11**C and **11**D can be mounted in juxtaposition using one holding frame or two as shown in **FIG. 4B** at the mounting positions of the holding frames **12**A and **12**B. The two paper rolls **11**C and **11**D may have the same or different widths. Although **FIG. 4B** shows the paper rolls **11**C and **11**D mounted in juxtaposition on one of the holding frames, the paper rolls can be mounted on each of the two holding frames in juxtaposition. Numeral **45** designates a platen, and numeral **46** designates a printing head.

[**0070**] As described above, with the medium issuing apparatus **10** according to the invention, the issuing section proper is formed in small size and the mounting position of the paper roll holding frames can be easily changed in accordance with the application and the holding space of the paper piece supplied from the paper rolls. Also, since a plurality of paper rolls can be mounted in juxtaposition in each of the first to third mounting sections **40**A to **40**C, a plurality of types of paper rolls can be conveniently used in a limited space. Thus, the medium issuing apparatus according to the invention can meet a multiplicity of customer requirements in versatile way.

[**0071**] (B) Mounting paper rolls of various sizes on holding frames

[**0072**] In the medium issuing apparatus **10** according to the invention, paper rolls of various sizes can be mounted in accordance with the applications, as explained with reference to FIGS. **5** to **7**.

[**0073**] **FIGS. 5, 6A**, and **6**B are detailed side views showing the paper roll holding section with the paper rolls held by the holding frames **12**A and **12**B in tandem along the length of the printer unit **40**. **FIG. 5** is a side view showing the essential parts of the printer unit **40**, **FIG. 6A** is a view taken from the direction of arrow A in **FIG. 5**, and **FIG. 6B** a view taken in the direction of arrow B in **FIG. 5**.

[**0074**] In the embodiment shown in **FIG. 5**, the paper roll **11**A is mounted on the first mounting section **40**A by the holding frame **12**A, and the paper roll **11**B is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C by the holding frame **12**B.

[**0075**] As a protective measure against the jamming of paper which may be caused by the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B in the housing **40**H, a manual operating mechanism is arranged on each of the two sides of the housing **40**H having the first to third mounting sections **40**A to **40**C. The manual operating mechanisms are each configured with knobs **142**A and **142**B for manually turning the transport rollers arranged in the housing **40**H, levers **140**A and **140**B for pulling up the paper guide plate in the housing **40**H, and an open lever **141** for opening the printing head housing to the position indicated by two-dot chain for checking the printing head

housing. Numerals **143**, **144**, and **145** designate springs, and numerals **147** and **148** guide holes through which the levers **140**A and **140**B are moved.

[**0076**] As shown in **FIG. 6**A, the holding frame **12**A is mounted on the first mounting section **40**A by screws **14** through brackets **13** at the base of the holding frame **12**A. A switch plate **62** having setting switches **63** at the central portion thereof is mounted on the first mounting section **40**A, and a mounting hole **15** for inserting the screws **14** therethrough is arranged on each side of the switch plate **62**. In this embodiment, the mounting holes **15** are formed at positions corresponding to the widths of the paper rolls of predetermined sizes held by the holding frame **12**A.

[**0077**] As a result, the switch plate **62** can be operated either from the left or right (or upper or lower) side of the medium issuing apparatus. This makes it possible to freely change, in accordance with the customer requirements, the position at which the medium issuing apparatus is built in the automatic teller machine.

[**0078**] The mounting holes **15** include a reference hole arranged on one side of the first mounting section **40**A, and a sized hole corresponding to the holding frame **12**A which may take various sizes. The holding frame **12**A, on the other hand, has a width corresponding to the US dollar (indicated as US$ in the drawing), an A4 size or a letter size sheet. The first mounting section **40**A, therefore, is formed with the sized holes **15** corresponding to the holding frame for the US dollars, the sized hole **15** corresponding to the width of the paper roll of letter size and the sized hole **15** corresponding to the width of the paper roll of A4 size. The reference hole is circular, while the sized hole **15** is generally elongated in a way to accommodate the dimensional error of the holding frame **12**A. A single elongated sized hole **15** satisfies the requirement of the paper rolls of both A4 size and letter size between which the width difference is small.

[**0079**] **FIG. 6B** shows the manner in which the holding frame **12**B is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C according to an embodiment. The holding frame **12**B is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C through the brackets **13** formed on the base of the holding frame **12**B. The holding frame **12**B mounted on the third mounting section **40**C has a shape corresponding to the width of the paper roll of predetermined size held therein, and secured to the mounting holes **15** of the third mounting section **40**C by the screws **14** at the brackets **13**.

[**0080**] One of the brackets **13** of the holding frame **12**B of each size is always mounted at an end of the printer unit **40**, while the other bracket is mounted in the mounting holes **15** of a size corresponding to the holding frame **12**B of various sizes arranged on the third mounting section **40**C. The holding frame **12**B, like the holding frame **12**A, is of a type corresponding to the paper roll having the width of the US dollars (described as US$ in the drawing), the paper roll having the width of A4 size, the paper roll having the width of letter size or the paper roll having the width of 3 inches. Thus, the third mounting section **40**C has the sized holes **15** corresponding to the various widths of the holding frame **12**B.

[**0081**] The holding frame **12**B, as shown in **FIG. 5**, includes a rotation mechanism capable of falling to the position indicated by dashed line. This rotation mechanism is for facilitating the replacement of the paper roll in the holding frame **12**A or **12**B.

[**0082**] **FIGS. 7A and 7B** are detailed side views showing the holding section of the paper rolls held by the holding frame in juxtaposition along the length of the printer unit **40**. Specifically, **FIG. 7A** is a side view of the essential parts of the printer unit **40**, and **FIG. 7B** a view in the direction of arrow C in **FIG. 7A**.

[**0083**] The manual operating mechanism described with reference to **FIG. 5** is not shown in **FIG. 7A**.

[**0084**] According to this embodiment, two holding frames **12**B1 and **12**B2 are mounted in juxtaposition only on the third mounting section **40**C of the housing **40**H. A narrow paper roll **11**B1 is mounted on the holding frame **12**B1 and a wide paper roll **11**B2 is mounted on the holding frame **12**B2 of the third mounting section **40**C.

[**0085**] The holding frames **12**B1 and **12**B2, as in the embodiment described above, are mounted on the third mounting section **40**C by screws through the bracket **13** at the base of the holding frames **12**B1 and **12**B2, respectively. Also, a rotary shaft **16** making up a rotation mechanism is mounted on the bracket **13** as shown in **FIG. 7**B, so that the holding frame **12**B1 and the holding frame **12**B2 can be rotated independently of each other to the position indicated by dashed line in **FIG. 7A** about the rotary shaft **16**. This rotation mechanism is also for facilitating the setting of both the paper rolls **11**B1 and **11**B2 on the holding frames **12**B1 and **12**B2, respectively.

[**0086**] According to this embodiment, as shown in **FIG. 7**A, the path U through which the paper roll **11**B1 held by the holding frame **12**B1 is transported to the print mechanism is different from the path L through which the paper roll **11**B2 held in the holding frame **12**B2 is transported to the print mechanism. This is for the purpose of supplying the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B independently of each other to the printer unit **40**. In the case where there are two paper roll transport paths in the printer unit **40**, therefore, the holding frame is not mounted on the other mounting sections **40**A and **40**B.

[**0087**] (C) Configuration of print mechanism and printing reference

[**0088**] Now, the configuration of the printing section of the printer unit **40** and the printing reference will be explained with reference to FIGS. **8** to **9**B.

[**0089**] As shown in **FIG. 8**, the printing section of the printer unit **40** includes a paper roll drive motor **41** configured with a stepping motor. With the rotation of the paper roll drive motor **41** in the direction of arrow, the belt **49** moves in the direction of arrow and the main roller **44** rotates. The main roller **44** is arranged in the neighborhood of the merging point **48** of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B for transporting the two paper rolls. A first transport path **47**A tilted upward and a second transport path **47**B extending horizontally are arranged upstream of the main roller **44**. The first transport path **47**A includes a transport roller **42**A, and the second transport path **47**B includes a transport roller **42**B, each rotated in the direction of the dashed arrow for transporting a medium.

[**0090**] A manual knob **142**A described in **FIG. 5** is for manually rotating the transport roller **42**A arranged on the first transport path **47**A. A manual knob **142**B, on the other

hand, is for manually rotating the transport roller **42**B arranged in the second transport path **47**B.

[**0091**] The platen **45**, arranged in an opposed relation to the printing head **46**, is also rotated in the direction of arrow by the belt **49** moved with the rotation of the paper roll drive motor **41**. The roller **42**A of the first transport path **47**A and the roller **42**B of the second transport path **47**B are selectively rotated by a pulley (not shown) driven by the belt **49**, a gear **43**G and an electromagnetic clutch (not shown), thereby transporting the medium located on the first transport path **47**A or the second transport path **47**B, as the case may be.

[**0092**] The members designated by characters RS in the diagram are optical sensors for detecting the presence or absence of a medium, the position of the medium and a black mark for position detection printed on the medium. The functions of these sensors, however, are not directly related to the present invention and therefore will not be described any further.

[**0093**] Further, the sections for receiving the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B in the first transport path **47**A and the second transport path **47**B include an insertion guide member **70** and guide plates **97**A and **97**B for guiding the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B inserted into the first transport path **47**A and the second transport path **47**B. The configuration of this insertion guide member **70** will be described later.

[**0094**] The lever **140**A described in **FIG. 5** is for manually opening the guide plate **97**A forming the first transport path **47**A. The lever **140**B, on the other hand, is for manually opening the guide plate **97**B forming the second transport path **4**B. These guide plates **97**A and **97**B are opened by the levers **140**A and **140**B when a jam occurs on the first transport path **47**A or the second transport path **47**B.

[**0095**] Now, the printing reference for the printing section of the printer unit **40** described above will be explained. **FIG. 9A** shows the printing reference and the printing area of each of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B arranged in tandem along the length of the medium issuing apparatus **10** as explained with reference to **FIG. 2**. An explanation will be given here of the case in which the paper roll **11**A is wide and the paper roll **11**B is narrow.

[**0096**] The roll paper **11**A passes through the first transport path **47**A described with reference to **FIG. 8** and arrives at the platen **45** and the printing head **46** in an opposed relation to the platen **45**. The roll paper **11**B, on the other hand, passes through the second transport path **47**B and arrives at the platen **45** and the printing head **46** in opposed relation to the platen **45**. In spite of the fact that the paper roll **11**A is wide and the paper roll **11**B is narrow, the roll paper **11**A and **11**B have a common print reference position on the left side along the direction of transport of the roll paper **11**A and **11**B as indicated by triangular marks. The areas of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B printed by the printing head **46** and the platen **45** are hatched and correspond to the width of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B, respectively.

[**0097**] In the case where the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B are arranged in juxtaposition with respect to the length of the medium issuing apparatus **10** as described with reference to **FIG. 7**, on the other hand, the print reference position and the printing area of the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B are as shown in **FIG. 9B**. An explanation will be given here of the case in which the paper roll **11B1** is narrow and the paper roll **11B2** is wide.

[**0098**] The paper from the paper roll **11B1** passes through the second transport path **47**B described with reference to **FIG. 8** (the transport path L in **FIG. 7**) and arrives at the platen **45** and the printing head **46** in opposed relation to the platen **45**. The paper from the roll paper **11B2** , on the other hand, passes through the first transport path **47**A (the transport path U in **FIG. 7A**) and arrives at the platen **45** and the printing head **46** in opposed relation to the platen **45**. In this embodiment, the wide paper roll **11B2** is located on the right side and the narrow paper roll **11B1** is located on the left side as viewed in the direction of transportation. In such a case as this, the print reference position of the paper roll **11B1** is preset on the left side and that of the paper roll **11B2** is present on the right side as viewed in the direction of transportation as indicated by triangular marks. The areas of the paper rolls **11B1** and **11B2** printed by the printing head **46** and the platen **45** are hatched and correspond to the width of the paper rolls **11B1** and **11B2**, respectively.

[**0099**] (D) Configuration of paper roll insertion guide and example application The paper roll insertion guide members **70** used for inserting the roll paper smoothly into the printer unit **40** and an application thereof will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 10A** to **12**D.

[**0100**] **FIGS. 10A and 10B** show a detailed configuration of the roll paper insertion guide members **70** of **FIG. 8**. As shown in **FIG. 10**A, the insertion guide members **70** are configured with two insertion guide members **70**A and **70**B symmetric about a plane with respect to each other, which guide members are always used as a pair.

[**0101**] The insertion guide members **70** each include a rectangular base plate **71** having a predetermined thickness, a side wall **72** protruded toward one side along the length of the base plate **71**, a guide plate **73** protruded toward the base plate **71** from one of the ridges of the side wall **72**, a slide wall **74** having a uniform thickness protruded along the width on the reverse side of the base plate **71**, two arms **75** protruded toward the two sides of the slide wall **74**, a stopper **76** protruded toward the base plate **71** at the forward end of each arm **75**, and two grooves **77** formed in parallel to the slide wall **74** on the two sides of the slide wall **74**. Each side wall **72** is configured with a bottom side, a linear sloped side and a gently curved side from the top of the slope toward the bottom side. The guide plate **73** is arranged over the whole length of the curved side, and has a width smaller than that of the base plate **71**. Also, a large opening is formed on the side of the guide plate **73** nearer to the top of the side wall **72**, while the bottom side of the side wall **72** has a slit of a size allowing the medium to pass through.

[**0102**] **FIGS. 11**A to **12**D are diagrams for explaining the manner in which the paper roll insertion guide member **70** is used in the third mounting section **40**C and a lock mechanism for the insertion guide member **70**. In the diagrams, the arrow X indicates the direction in which the paper rolls are inserted, and the two-dot chains indicate the position of the paper rolls. As explained with reference to **FIG. 8**, the insertion guide members **70** are arranged at the inlets of the first transport path **47**A and the second transport path **47B1**. Thus, the angle at which the paper rolls are introduced from many directions is increased, and the range

of leading the medium (paper rolls) is set to, say, about 90 degrees as shown in **FIG. 11**C, thereby permitting the paper rolls to be inserted into the first transport path **47**A and the second transport path **47**B without any jamming.

[**0103**] In the example shown in **FIGS. 11A and 11B**, the insertion guide member **70**A is fixed at an end of the third mounting section **40**C, and the other insertion guide member **70**B is adapted to move in accordance with the width of the medium inserted into the second transport path **47**B. For this purpose, a slit **78** is formed on the third mounting section **40**C for sliding the insertion guide member **70**B. The insertion guide member **70**B is mounted on the third mounting section **40**C with the slide wall **74** thereof inserted in the slit **78**. As a result, the insertion guide member **70**B can be moved to the position indicated by two-dot chain from the position indicated by solid line as shown in **FIGS. 11A and 11B**.

[**0104**] The insertion guide members **70**A and **70**B are fixed on the third mounting section **40**C by inserting the stoppers **76** of the insertion guide members **70**A and **70**B into the lock holes **79** formed in the third mounting section **40**C, as shown in **FIG. 11C**. The lock holes **79** are formed in the third mounting section **40**C in a size conforming with the medium size.

[**0105**] Unlike in the embodiment shown in **FIG. 11A** in which the slit **78** is formed only in a range where the insertion guide member **70**B is movable, the slit **78** may alternatively be formed over the whole width of the second transport path **47**B as shown in **FIGS. 12A and 12C**. The provision of the lock holes **79** at appropriate positions in the third mounting section **40**C permits the insertion guide member **70**A to be fixed on the left side of the medium as viewed in the direction of insertion as shown in **FIG. 12**A and the insertion guide member **70**B to move to the position indicated by two-dot chain in accordance with the medium size as shown in **FIGS. 12A and 12B**. As another alternative, the insertion guide **70**B can be fixed on the right side of the medium in the direction of insertion as shown in **FIG. 12C** on the one hand, and the insertion guide member **70**A can be adapted to move up to the position indicted by two-dot chain in accordance with the medium size as shown in **FIGS. 12C and 12D** on the other hand.

[**0106**] Also, various combinations of the tandem arrangement and juxtaposition of the paper rolls are rendered possible by a configuration in which the positions of the reference insertion guide members **70**A and **70**B can be changed to the right and left sides as viewed in the direction of paper roll insertion as explained with reference to **FIGS. 12A** to **12**D.

[**0107**] It is also possible to employ the configuration of the embodiment explained with reference to **FIGS. 11A and 11B** as a configuration of the second transport path **47**B, and the configuration of the embodiment explained with reference to **FIGS. 11A** to **11**D as a configuration of the first transport path **47**A.

[**0108**] (E) Configuration of cutter section

[**0109**] The configuration of the cutter section at the inlet of the feeder unit **50** will be explained. **FIG. 13** shows the cutter section in detail. A cutter blade **51** of the cutter section is driven by a cut feed motor **52** arranged at the inlet of the feeder unit **50**. The cut feed motor **52** also drives the medium transport mechanism described later.

[**0110**] With the rotation of the cut feed motor **51** in the direction opposite to the arrow, a unidirectional clutch not shown is coupled to move the transport belt and thus transport the medium toward the outlet. When the cut feed motor **51** is rotated in the direction of arrow, by contrast, another unidirectional clutch not shown is coupled to rotate a cam **59** in the direction of arrow and activate the cutter blade **51** for cutting the medium.

[**0111**] (F) Configuration of feeder unit

[**0112**] **FIG. 14** shows a configuration of the feeder unit **50** as viewed from the opposite side of the same unit **50** shown in **FIG. 2**. Thus, the medium M is transported rightward on the page and a common ejection opening **88** of the medium M is located at the right end. This diagram shows the relative positions of the cut feed motor **52**, a receipt delivery motor **53**, a transport belt **55**, a recovery belt **57** and relay belts **64** and **65**.

[**0113**] The transport belt **55** is driven by the rotation of the cut feed motor **52**, so that the medium M is transported along the direction of arrow E. The turning effort of the receipt delivery motor **53**, when rotated in the direction of arrow, is transmitted to the recovery belt **57** as the relay belts **64** and **65** rotate in the direction of the arrow. The recovery belt **57** causes the medium M transported by the transport belt **55** to be ejected out of the common ejection opening **88** or recovered in the recovery box described later.

[**0114**] (G) Configuration and operation of temporary storage section

[**0115**] The medium M printed by the printer unit **40** and cut off by the cutter blade **51** can be ejected collectively in a bundle by the medium issuing apparatus **10** according to the present invention. For bundling the medium M thus cut, the medium issuing apparatus **10** includes a temporary storage section **80**. This temporary storage section **80** will be explained with reference to FIGS. **15** to **16**B.

[**0116**] **FIG. 15** shows a configuration of the temporary storage section **80** which is located downstream of the cutter blade **51**. An impeller **81** and a guide member **51** are arranged at the inlet of the temporary storage unit. The medium M cut off by the cutter blade **51** is transported by the impeller **81** and stored in the temporary storage space **83** along the guide member **82**. A stopper **84** is arranged at the outlet of the temporary storage space **83**. The medium M that has been transported to the temporary storage space **83** is blocked from farther transportation by the stopper **84**. Thus, the medium M cut off by the cutter blade **51** comes to be stored and bundled in the temporary storage section **83**.

[**0117**] The mounting position of the stopper **84** can be changed in accordance with the length of the medium M. The stopper **84** indicated by the solid line in **FIG. 15** corresponds to the A4-sized medium M. In the case where the medium M is of dual length, the stopper **84** can be relocated to the position indicated by two-dot chain. The stopper **84** can secured by an E ring. The lever **86** can be used as it is.

[**0118**] A solenoid **54** is arranged under the temporary storage space **83** of the temporary storage section **80**. The solenoid **54** includes a lever **86** and a link mechanism **85** for

unlocking the stopper **84**. The link mechanism **85** engages the plunger **87** of the solenoid **54**.

[**0119**] Once the medium M is stored to a predetermined amount in the temporary storage space **83**, the solenoid **54** is energized in response to an instruction from a control circuit not shown. The energization of the solenoid **54** moves a plunger **87** in the direction of arrow shown in **FIG. 16A**. The lever **86** is supported on a rod **85**A protruded from the link mechanism **85**. When the rod **5**A is moved by the motion of the plunger **87**, the lever **86** naturally drops in such a way as to rotate in the direction of arrow. As shown in **FIG. 16**B, as long as the plunger **87** is contained in the solenoid **54** as shown in **FIG. 16**B, the stopper **84** thus far locked by the lever **86** is unlocked. Then, the transport mechanism **55** operates in such a manner that the bundle of the medium M stored in the temporary storage space **83** rotates the stopper **84** and is ejected from the temporary storage space **83**.

[**0120**] Once the plunger **54** is turned off, the plunger **87**, the link mechanism **85** and the lever **86** are restored to the state shown in **FIG. 15**, and the stopper **84** is locked again by the lever **86**. Then, the medium M cut off is stored and bundled again in the temporary storage space **83**. The expression "bundle" indicates the state in which cut media M are stacked but not the state in which the media M are bundled with a band.

[**0121**] (H) Configuration of common ejection opening and medium recovery operation

[**0122**] A bundle of the medium M ejected from the temporary storage section **80** is transported to a point before the common ejection opening **88** by the transport belt. The medium M, however, is not ejected as it is but by the operation of the recovery belt **57**. The medium M not collected by the customer, on the other hand, is recovered into the recovery box **58** by the recovery belt **57**. The configuration of the supply/ejection opening **88** and the neighborhood thereof and the medium ejection and recovery operation will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 17A** to **18**C.

[**0123**] **FIG. 17A** is a diagram for explaining the manner in which the bundle of the medium M transported from the temporary storage section **80** is collected from the common ejection opening **88**. The medium M transported from the temporary storage section **80** by the transport belt **55** stops before the common ejection opening **88**, after which the forward end of the medium M is protruded from the common ejection opening **88** by the rotation of the ejection roller **66** and the recovery belt **57**. Under this condition, the customer can collect the bundled medium M protruded from the common ejection opening **88**. An optical sensor PS is arranged upstream of the ejection roller **66** for detecting whether the medium M has been pulled out by the customer or remains uncollected.

[**0124**] In the case where the medium M is not collected by the customer at the common ejection opening **88**, as shown in **FIG. 17**B, the ejection roller **66** and the recovery belt **57** rotate in the opposite direction, so that a free gate **67** opens thereby making it possible to recover the medium M into the recovery box **58**.

[**0125**] In the embodiment shown in **FIG. 17**B, the recovery belt **57** is suspended between the rollers **57**A and **57**B. These rollers are a simple roller. With the rotation of the two rollers **57**A and **57**B and the resulting movement of the belt **57**, therefore, the medium M is recovered as it is into the recovery box **58**.

[**0126**] The size of the recovery box **58** for recovering the forgot medium M is limited by the space occupied by the apparatus and may not be sufficiently large. In many cases, therefore, the recovery box **58** has a minimum size, and as much media as possible is required to be recovered in this limited space. However, the medium M, when produced by cutting off the roll paper, is often curled as shown in **FIG. 17B**. The medium M, once curled, fails to advance smoothly into the recovery box **58** or further reduces the number of the media A that can be held in the recovery box **58**.

[**0127**] **FIGS. 18A** to **18**C show a configuration of the recovery belt **57** used to eliminate the curling of the medium M according to this embodiment. In this embodiment, a circumferential groove **57**G as shown in **FIG. 18A** is formed on the roller **57**C opposed to the roller **57**B located on the recovery box **58**. The sectional shape of the circumferential groove **57**G is trapezoidal in the embodiment. On the other hand, a flange **57**F is protruded at the portion of the roller **57**B facing the roller **57**C and opposed to the circumferential groove **57**G. The flange **57**F has a wedge-shaped section, and can have such a height that the forward end of the medium M held between the roller **57**B and the roller **57**C is fitted in the circumferential groove **57**G.

[**0128**] In the case where the roller **57**B and the roller **57**C are formed in this way, a rib-shaped portion R is formed at predetermined places of the medium M, as shown in **FIG. 18**B, after the bundled medium M passes between the roller **57**B and the roller **57**C. This rib-shaped portion R is formed in parallel to the direction in which the medium is transported, i.e. such a direction as to prevent the medium M from curling. This rib-shaped portion R makes it more difficult for the medium M to curl and assures a fixed, steady direction in which the medium M advances into the recovery box **58**.

[**0129**] As a result, the medium M formed with the rib-shaped portion R, as shown in **FIG. 18**C, is held in an orderly manner in the recovery box **58**. The rib-shaped portion R has only a small height, and the protrusion of the rib-shaped portion R of a medium M is inserted in the recess formed in the rib-shaped portion R of another medium M located above. As a result, the total height of a multiplicity of the media M having the rib-shaped portion R recovered in the recovery box **58** is lower than the total height of the curled media M recovered in the recovery box **58**. Thus, a greater number of the media M can be held in the limited internal space of the recovery box **58**.

[**0130**] (I) Configuration of roll support bar

[**0131**] The configuration of the roll support bar suspended between the holding frames **12**A and **12**B to hold the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 19A and 19B**.

[**0132**] **FIGS. 19A and 19B** are diagrams for explaining the configuration of the roll support bar **17** for supporting the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B and variations of the paper rolls mounted on the roll support bar **17** according to the invention. As shown in **FIG. 19A, a** plurality of rollers **17**A, **17**B, and **17**C capable of holding a plurality of paper rolls of different widths are rotatably mounted on the roll support bar **17** for supporting the paper rolls **11**A and **11**B. The rollers

17A, 17B, and 17C are adapted to rotate independently of each other on the support shaft **18**. Each boundary between the rollers 17A, 17B, and 17C is formed with a circumferential groove 17D to permit the rollers to be mounted on the holding frames.

[0133] In the case where two types of paper rolls 11B1 and 11B2 having different widths are mounted on the holding frames 12B1 and 12B2 explained with reference to **FIGS. 7A and 7B**, for example, the two types of the holding frames 12B1 and 12B2 are prepared. According to this embodiment, on the other hand, one holding frame **12** having a width determined by taking the width of the largest medium into consideration is prepared. A roll support bar **17** having the rollers 17A, 17B, and 17C and the circumferential groove 17D is supported on the holding frame **12**. At least one partitioning frame 12C separate from the holding frame **12** is prepared. The partitioning frame **12** has the same shape as the frames on the sides of the holding frame **12**. A bracket **13** similar to the one for the holding frame **12** is arranged at the base of the partitioning frame 12C.

[0134] In the case where paper currency in US dollars is supported on the holding frame **12** as a paper roll, for example, the holding frame **12** is mounted by screws **14** on the first mounting section **40A**, and then the forward end of the partitioning frame 12C is inserted into the circumferential groove 17D between the rollers 17B and 17C as shown in **FIG. 19A**. Under this condition, the bracket **13** at the base thereof is secured by the screws **14** to the mounting hole **15** formed on the first mounting hole **40A**. By doing so, the holding frame **12** can support the paper roll of the paper currency in US dollars. Specifically, by inserting the forward end of the partitioning frame 12C into the circumferential groove 17D in accordance with the width of the paper roll, the provision of the holding frame **12** and at least one partitioning frame 12C can hold media of various widths on the holding frame **12**.

[0135] **FIG. 19B** shows an example in which two partitioning frames 12C are mounted on the holding frame **12**. In this case, paper rolls of three different widths can be set on a single holding frame **12**. In addition, economy is achieved since more than one holding frame is not required for different widths of the paper roll.

[0136] (J) Configuration of automatic teller machine using medium issuing apparatus

[0137] The medium issuing apparatus **10** having the aforementioned configuration can be used when built into the automatic teller machine **30**. Such an example will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 20 and 21**.

[0138] **FIG. 20** is a perspective view showing the outer appearance of the automatic teller machine **30**, having the medium issuing apparatus **10**, using paper rolls as a medium. Numeral 21A designates a display screen to offer an operation guide to the operator. Numeral 21B designates input keys. The customer can proceed with his transaction by operating the keys 21B in accordance with the guide displayed on the display screen 12A. Numeral **22** designates a card insertion/ejection opening, through which the card is inserted by the customer intending to start a transaction and the card is delivered upon completion of the transaction. Numeral **23** designates a cash payout opening from which cash is paid in an account-settling transaction. Numeral **24** designates an envelope receiving opening in which envelopes for the envelop deposit are stored. The customer wanting to conduct an envelop deposit transaction takes out an envelope from the envelope receiving opening **24**, and puts cash in the envelope for the envelope deposit transaction. Numeral **25** designates a cash deposit opening through which cash put in the envelope described above is inserted at the time of the envelope deposit transaction. Numeral **26** designates a receipt ejection opening through which a receipt, describing the specifics of the transaction conducted by the customer, is delivered.

[0139] **FIG. 21** is a diagram showing an internal block configuration of the automatic teller machine **30** of **FIG. 20**. Numeral **31** designates a customer operating section for guiding the customer in the operation. The customer operates this section in accordance with the guide. The display screen 21A and the input keys 21B of **FIG. 20** are included in the customer operating section **31**. Numeral **32** designates a card reader section for reading the customer information recorded on the card inserted by the customer. The card insertion/ejection opening **22** of **FIG. 20** is included in the card reader section **32**. Numeral **33** designates a paper money counting section for storing the paper money to be paid out and releases the paper money at the time of a payout transaction. The cash payout opening **23** of **FIG. 20** is included in the paper money counting section **33**. Numeral **35** designates an envelope deposit unit for holding the paper money in the envelope at the time of a deposit transaction, and customer information read by the card reader section **32** is printed on this envelope. The cash deposit opening **25** of **FIG. 20** is included in the envelope deposit unit **35**.

[0140] Numeral **36** designates a receipt issuing section for issuing a receipt containing the prints of the specifics of the transaction conducted by the automatic teller machine **30**. The receipt ejection opening **26** of **FIG. 20** is included in the receipt issuing section **36**. The receipt issuing section **36** has the function of issuing a medium printed with the service information in addition to the receipt. Numeral **37** designates a main control section for controlling the automatic teller machine **30** as a whole. The main control section **37** is connected to a host computer **140** of a system center through a communication line **34**. Numeral **38** designates a journal printing section for storing the printing specifics of the transaction conducted by the automatic teller machine **30**. Numeral **39** designates a control operating section for displaying the state of the automatic teller machine **30**. Based on the displayed information, maintenance workers, including bank employees, perform the control operation. This control operating section **39**, though arranged on the rear side of the automatic teller machine **30**, can double as the customer operating section **31**.

[0141] (K) Operation of automatic teller machine

[0142] The basic operation of the automatic teller machine **30** will be explained with reference to **FIGS. 20 and 21**.

[0143] (K-1) Withdrawal transaction

[0144] First, the customer inserts the card and, by use of the keys 21B, selects the withdrawal transaction from the transaction select screen displayed on the display screen 21A, and inputs his password. The main control section **37** substantiates the legitimacy of the customer by exchanging the password information input by the customer with the host computer **140** in the system center.

[0145] Once the legitimacy of the customer is substantiated, the main control section **37** causes the withdrawal amount screen to be displayed on the display screen **21**A, and the customer inputs the withdrawal amount by operating the keys **21**B. Then, the withdrawal amount input by way of the keys **21**B and the customer information read by the card reader section **32** are transmitted by the main control section **37** to the host computer **140** of the system center thereby to determine the advisability of the designated withdrawal.

[0146] In the case where withdrawal is possible, the main control section **37** feeds out the paper money of the designated amount from the paper currency counting section **33** and ejects it from the cash payout opening **23**. In the process, the control section **37** causes the transaction specifics to be printed by the receipt issuing section **36**, and ejected as a receipt from the receipt ejection opening **26**.

[0147] The customer information is sent to the host computer **140** of the system center, and at the time point when the withdrawal information indicates that the proposed transaction is possible, the account of the customer managed in the host computer **140** of the system center is updated to the contents after withdrawal.

[0148] (K-2) Envelope deposit transaction

[0149] The customer inserts the card and selects the envelope deposit transaction by the keys **21**B from the transaction select screen displayed on the display screen **21**A while at the same time inputting his password. The password input by the customer is notified by the main control section **37** to the host computer **140** of the system center to check the legitimacy of the customer, after which the cash withdrawal opening **25** is opened. The customer takes out the envelope from the envelope receiving opening **24**, putting the paper money of the amount desired to be deposited and puts the envelope in the cash deposit opening **25**. The main control section **37** closes the cash deposit opening **25** and causes the display screen **1**A to display a screen making an inquiry about the deposit amount.

[0150] Once the deposit amount is input by way of the customer operating keys **21**B, the main control section **37** transmits the deposit amount and the customer information read by the card reader section **32** to the system center. After checking the advisability of the deposit, and the customer information read by the card reader section **32** is printed and the envelope is closed. At the same time, the control section **37** prints the transaction specifics at the receipt issuing section **36** and causes it to be ejected from the receipt ejection opening **26** as a receipt.

[0151] Before the customer information is sent to the host computer **140** of the system center and it is determined that the deposit transaction is possible, the customer account managed by the host computer **140** of the system center is not updated. This is by reason of the fact that, in an envelope deposit, it cannot be determined whether the amount in the envelope coincides with the designated deposit amount. It is therefore only after the person in charge confirms the deposit, at the end of the working day, is the account of the customer updated. In the envelope deposit transaction, it is not necessarily cash that is put in the envelope, but checks or the like. The automatic teller machine **30** can handle transfer transaction as well as withdrawal and deposit transactions.

[0152] According to this embodiment, the service information can of course be printed and issued in addition to the receipt by the receipt issuing section **36**.

[0153] As described above, according to the present invention, there are provided a medium issuing apparatus handling a paper roll medium, and an automatic teller machine using the apparatus, wherein the paper roll holding frames built in the printing unit and meeting various requirements can be replaced. Further, a paper roll insertion guide member is introduced, which is formed into the shape allowing the paper rolls to be inserted in wide directions. As a result, many variations meeting the customer conditions can be supplied by making it possible to change the paper roll position, the maximum winding outer diameter of the paper roll, the tandem arrangement or juxtaposition of the paper rolls, the paper roll width and the winding direction of the paper roll (up or down winding).

[0154] In addition, the introduction of the bundle release mechanism permits a plurality of paper pieces to be bundled and collectively released. Further, the freedom of the housing shape makes it possible to perform the maintenance operation on the two sides of the apparatus. Thus, the free design makes it possible to meet the customer demand when the medium issuing apparatus is built into the automatic teller machine.

What is claimed is:

1. A medium issuing apparatus using a paper roll medium, comprising:

a paper roll holding section for holding a plurality of paper rolls;

a plurality of paper roll drive mechanisms for performing the feed-out and rewinding operation for each of said paper rolls;

a common printing mechanism for printing the roll paper fed out by each of said paper roll drive mechanisms;

a common cutting mechanism for cutting each of said roll paper into a predetermined length;

a first common transport mechanism for transporting the pieces of the roll paper cut off by said common cutting mechanism;

a temporary storage section for storing a plurality of cut pieces transported by said first common transport mechanism and capable of compressing the cut pieces into a bundle;

a second common transport mechanism for transporting a plurality of the bundled cut pieces stored in said temporary storage section;

a common ejection opening for ejecting a plurality of the cut pieces transported in bundle by said second common transporting mechanism;

a common receiving section for receiving a plurality of the cut pieces in bundle remaining at the common ejection opening; and

a control section for controlling the operation of the apparatus as a whole.

2. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the holding member for holding each of said paper rolls in said paper roll holding section can be replaced in accordance with the requirement of said apparatus, and a plurality of said paper rolls can be arranged in tandem or juxtaposition in said apparatus.

3. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the holding member for holding each of said paper rolls in said paper roll holding section can be replaced in accordance with the requirement of said apparatus, and the width of a plurality of said paper rolls can be changed.

4. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of said paper roll drive mechanisms each include paper roll insertion guide members with a curved slope in an opposed relation to the base surface of said apparatus in order to widen the angle for receiving the roll paper arriving from many directions.

5. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said control section causes said common printing mechanism to laterally reverse the printing reference position in accordance with the width of said paper rolls in the case where a plurality of said paper rolls are arranged in juxtaposition.

6. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said medium transport mechanism of said common receiving section includes a pair of upper and lower medium transport rollers, a circumferential groove having a trapezoidal section is formed at least at a predetermined position on one of said rollers, a flange having a wedge-shaped section with the forward end thereof advancing into said circumferential groove is formed at a position on the other roller opposed to said circumferential groove, and said medium is formed with a rib-shaped portion for preventing the curling of said medium after passing through said transport rollers.

7. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of said paper roll holding sections are each replaceable as required, and the remaining issuing section proper is small in size to facilitate the change of shape in accordance with the application and the holding space.

8. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of said paper roll holding sections are each replaceable as required, and the maximum outer winding diameter of a plurality of said paper rolls is changeable.

9. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of said paper roll holding sections are each replaceable as required, and the winding direction of a plurality of said paper rolls can be changed.

10. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 4,

wherein said insertion guide members are paired and slidable independently of each other transversely of the paper rolls to permit the use with a plurality of paper rolls of different widths, said reference surface being changeable as required.

11. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein said insertion guide members are rendered slidable transversely of the paper rolls by a slide guide arranged on the back of each of said insertion guide members and a slide slit is formed transversely on the mounting surface of said insertion guide members.

12. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein at least one of a plurality of said paper roll drive mechanisms includes a mounting surface of said insertion guide members having a slide slit over the whole width thereof, and the reference surface of a plurality of said paper rolls can be changed as required.

13. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein said insertion guide members each include an arm and a lock protruded from the slide guide, and a hole for engaging said protruded lock corresponding to the size of the paper roll is formed in the neighborhood of the slide slit in the mounting surface of said insertion guide members.

14. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the transverse printing range of said common printing mechanism can be changed as required to handle a plurality of paper rolls having different widths.

15. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a part of said second transport mechanism is opened/closed by an opening/closing mechanism, and said temporary storage space is formed when the inlet of said second transport mechanism is closed, said second transport mechanism being operated when said inlet is opened.

16. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a part of said second transport mechanism is opened/closed by an opening/closing mechanism, and said temporary storage space is formed when the inlet of said second transport mechanism is closed by said opening/closing mechanism, so that a plurality of cut pieces are compressed in bundle, said cut pieces in said temporary storage space being ejected collectively when the inlet of said temporary storage space is opened by said opening/closing mechanism.

17. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 15,

wherein the forward end of said temporary storage space has a wedge-shaped section in order to couple the forward ends of a plurality of cut pieces to each other.

18. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 15,

wherein the rear end of each of said cut pieces is pushed down by a push-down mechanism in order to hold the sequence in which a plurality of said cut pieces stored in said temporary storage section are issued.

19. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 15,

wherein the forward ends of a plurality of said cut pieces are set in order by a stopper member formed at the sharp forward end of said temporary storage section.

20. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein said stopper member is fixed in position when said temporary storage space is closed by said opening/closing mechanism, and said stopper member is rotatable about a pivot support when said temporary storage space is opened.

21. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein the mounting position of said stopper member can be changed in accordance with the size of a plurality of cut pieces having a single length.

22. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a single control circuit arranged on the upper surface of the apparatus, wherein two manual operating mechanisms having the same function are arranged on the two sides of the printer unit, respectively, so that the maintenance operation can be performed from the two sides.

23. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a single control circuit, wherein a plurality of paper rolls can be arranged in tandem or juxtaposition, and the reference position for printing can be laterally convertible by said single control circuit.

24. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a single control circuit arranged on the upper surface of the apparatus, wherein the transverse printing range of a plurality of the paper rolls can be changed by said single control circuit.

25. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a single control circuit arranged on the upper surface of the apparatus, wherein the reference position for printing a plurality of said paper rolls can be finely adjusted individually by said single control circuit.

26. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a paper roll holding section of each of a plurality of paper rolls arranged in juxtaposition can fall independently of each other when replacing the paper roll.

27. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said paper roll holding section can hold a plurality of paper rolls of different widths using a single roll support bar having a plurality of grooves engaging said paper roll holding sections.

28. An automatic teller machine adapted to be operated by customers, comprising a control section connected on-line to a host computer, a customer operating section, a card operating section, a cash processing section, a deposit processing section, a medium issuing section and a host line processing section, wherein said medium issuing section is configured with the medium issuing apparatus comprising:

a paper roll holding section for holding a plurality of paper rolls;

a plurality of paper roll drive mechanisms for performing the feed-out and rewinding operation for each of said paper rolls;

a common printing mechanism for printing the roll paper fed out by each of said paper roll drive mechanisms;

a common cutting mechanism for cutting each of said roll paper into a predetermined length;

a first common transport mechanism for transporting the pieces of the roll paper cut off by said common cutting mechanism;

a temporary storage section for storing a plurality of cut pieces transported by said first common transport mechanism and capable of compressing the cut pieces into a bundle;

a second common transport mechanism for transporting a plurality of the bundled cut pieces stored in said temporary storage section;

a common ejection opening for ejecting a plurality of the cut pieces transported in bundle by said second common transporting mechanism;

a common receiving section for receiving a plurality of the cut pieces in bundle remaining at the common ejection opening; and

a control section for controlling the operation of the apparatus as a whole.

29. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim 28,

wherein the relative positions of the medium issuing apparatus and other input/output sections in the automatic teller machine are changeable in accordance with the desire of the customer.

30. A medium issuing apparatus according to claim **28**,

wherein the relative positions of a plurality of paper roll holding sections replaceable as required and other input/output sections in the automatic teller machine are changeable in accordance with the desire of the customer.

* * * * *