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**United States Patent** [19]

DiGiulio et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** 5,252,353[45] **Date of Patent:** Oct. 12, 1993[54] **ENVELOPE FLAP MOISTENER HAVING APPLICATOR PRE-POSITIONING**[75] **Inventors:** Peter C. DiGiulio, Fairfield;  
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of Conn.[73] **Assignee:** Pitney Bowes Inc., Stamford, Conn.[21] **Appl. No.:** 796,501[22] **Filed:** Nov. 22, 1991[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>** ..... B05D 1/02[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... 427/8; 427/424;  
118/669; 118/680; 118/681; 118/323; 118/324[58] **Field of Search** ..... 427/8, 424; 118/669,  
118/323, 680, 681, 324[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**3,594,211 7/1971 Drum ..... 118/669  
4,873,941 10/1989 O'Dea ..... 118/324*Primary Examiner*—Shrive Beck*Assistant Examiner*—Katherine A. Bareford*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Charles G. Parks, Jr.; Melvin  
J. Scolnick[57] **ABSTRACT**

In a moistener for moistening a mixed succession of objects of a substantially limited number of different height profiles and having a nozzle, methods for controlling movement of the nozzle are presented. These methods include a nozzle initialization process, a nozzle pre-positioning process and a nozzle holding process.

**4 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**