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Jacobsen et al.

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[54] TAPE WINDER

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Related U.S. Application Data

- [60] Provisional application No. 60/046,353, May 13, 1997.
- [51] Int. Cl.⁶ **B65H 16/00**
- [52] U.S. Cl. **242/420; 242/538; 281/7; 40/437**
- [58] Field of Search 242/118.5, 420, 242/420.4, 538, 538.1, 538.2, 540; 281/7, 8; 40/347, 518

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[57] ABSTRACT

A tape winder including a supply spindle for supplying tape, a take-up spindle for taking up tape from the supply spindle, and opposing sidewalls with slots therein wherein the spindles are rotatably received. A drive mechanism located on the sidewalls engage the spindles when the spindles are fully inserted within the slots. The slots preferably include a narrow throat region near their openings so that the spindles may be snap-fit within the slots. The supply spindle is preferably driven with lesser torque than the take-up spindle so that the difference in relative torque between the spindles maintains tension in the tape and causes it to wind tightly.

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17 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

