

CLAIMS

1. A cleaner head for a cleaning appliance, comprising a housing having a suction  
 5 opening through which dirt-bearing air enters the cleaner head, an air outlet, and a  
 rotary brush bar assembly located within a chamber of the housing, the chamber being  
 in fluid communication with the suction opening and comprising a first section, a  
 second section and an air outlet in fluid communication with the air outlet of the  
 housing, the air outlet extending between and into both sections of the chamber, the  
 10 cleaner head further comprising a motor for driving the brush bar assembly, a drive  
 mechanism connecting the motor to the brush bar assembly, the drive mechanism  
 extending into the chamber between side walls of the chamber, wherein the brush bar  
 assembly comprises a first, relatively long brush bar located within the first section of  
 the chamber between the drive mechanism and a first side wall of the chamber, and a  
 15 second, relatively short brush bar located within the second section of the chamber  
 between the drive mechanism and a second side wall of the chamber, and the air outlet  
 of the chamber comprises a slot having an aspect ratio of at least 3:1.

2. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aspect ratio is at least 5:1.  
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3. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the air outlet of the  
 housing comprises a substantially circular aperture.

~~4. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 1, wherein the motor is located centrally  
 25 above the air outlet of the chamber.~~

5. A cleaner head as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the cleaner  
 head comprises a sole plate comprising the suction opening, and a flexible annular seal  
 located between the sole plate and the housing for allowing relative movement between  
 30 the housing and the sole plate.

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65. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 64, wherein the flexible annular seal surrounds the brush bar assembly.
76. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 64 or claim 65, wherein the flexible annular seal is formed from resilient material.
87. A cleaner head as claimed in any of claims 64 to 76, wherein the flexible annular seal comprises a bellows seal element.
98. A cleaner head as claimed in any of claims 64 to 87, comprising guide means for guiding movement of the sole plate relative to the housing.
109. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 98, wherein the guide means are arranged to inhibit relative movement between the sole plate and the housing in the direction of movement of the cleaner head across the floor surface.
110. A cleaning appliance comprising a cleaner head as claimed in any one of the preceding claims.
111. A cleaner head for a cleaning appliance substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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