

Title (en)

METHOD AND MACHINE FOR PREPARING BOTTLES FOR FILLING, AND METHOD OF FILLING BOTTLES

Title (de)

VERFAHREN UND MASCHINE ZUM VORBEREITEN VON FLASCHEN FÜR EINE BEFÜLLUNG UND BEFÜLLEN DER FLASCHEN

Title (fr)

PROCEDE ET MACHINE POUR PREPARER DES BOUTEILLES EN VUE D'UNE OPERATION DE REMPLISSAGE ET PROCEDE DE REMPLISSAGE DESDITES BOUTEILLES

Publication

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Application

**EP 98902978 A 19980105**

Priority

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Abstract (en)

[origin: WO9830491A1] The invention concerns a method and machine for preparing bottles (11), in particular PET bottles, which are moved forwards along a conveying path in order to be filled. The invention also concerns a method of filling the bottles with a drink-forming filling material, the bottles (11) being grouped successively in rows transversely to the conveying direction (6) with their openings directed upwards, and then being aligned at spacings and centred. The bottles (11) are then pivoted in transverse rows into an at least approximately vertical position with their openings directed downwards, and are jointly rinsed on the interior with a cleaning agent. In a first drying station the rinsed bottles (11) are then dried on the interior and, after passing through the first drying station, are channelled into a sterile region (17b). After entering said sterile region, the bottles (11) are sterilized on the interior with a sterilizing agent, residues of said sterilizing agent being expelled from the sterilized bottles (11) in a second drying station. When the bottles (11) are to be filled with CO<sub>2</sub> and/or N<sub>2</sub>-containing filling material, they are subsequently wetted on the interior with sterile water and, after drying, are pivoted in a second turning process into a filling position in which their openings are directed upwards. The bottles (11) are then filled with the stipulated amount of filling material and sealed at least temporarily in a sealing station with a sealing part. Finally the sealed bottles (11) are channelled out of the sterile region (17b).

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