

Title (en)  
CENTRALIZED VENDING METHOD USING CARTRIDGE-LOADED MACHINES

Title (de)  
ZENTRALISIERTES VERKAUFVERFAHREN MIT VERWENDUNG KASSETTEN-GELADENER MASCHINEN

Title (fr)  
PROCEDE DE DISTRIBUTION AUTOMATIQUE CENTRALISEE UTILISANT DES MACHINES CHARGEES DE CARTOUCHES

Publication  
**EP 1402488 A2 20040331 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 01973258 A 20010901**

Priority  
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• US 79452101 A 20010226

Abstract (en)  
[origin: WO0225552A2] A vending machine (1) is housed in a light, yet sturdy enclosure (2) made of an external sheet metal shell (18) and an internal seamless plastic liner (22) between which a volume of expanded synthetic foam material is injected. One or more good-holding magazines (3, 77) are removably held within the enclosure. A keypad, alpha-numerical display and card reader are packaged in the door (4) closing the front of the enclosure. A driving motor module (61) and a coin accetor (7) are removably mounted against the inside liner. Due to the absence of complex or delicate structure, the machine can be serviced, cleaned and sanitized within minutes. A pair of vending machine, one holding snack food, the other beverage can sare coupled to wrk together and dispense combinations of items from a single control panel. Both the beverage and snack food holding magazines are driven from the same type of motor module mounted inside the liner. The machines are used in connection with a centralized method for selling items through a plurality of such machines installed at various user's sites. The magazines are filled at the supply center and distributed along pre-established delivery routes. The servicing of each machine consists essentially of opening the machine, removing the previously installed magazine, substituting a new full magazine and securely locking the machine without any accounting of goods or currency or any other maintenance work.

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