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(54) **Split tank assembly with reinforcement in the region of a joint.**

(57) There are disclosed a split tank assembly with reinforcement in the region of a joint, and a method of making such a reinforced split tank assembly. Of particular interest is the possibility of releasably coupling tank section (11 and 12) formed by transversely splitting a bag-moulded, reinforced tank. The assembly includes external circumferential clamping flanges (13 and 14) which are conveniently provided by level winding a relatively narrow band of resin-impregnated filaments on the sidewall of the pressure vessel adjacent the midsection of the vessel. The resin in the filaments is cured and the band and vessel are cut into a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the vessel. A circumferential, inwardly facing recess (22) is machined in the band part (14) and a O-ring (28) is provided in the O-ring groove (19) machined in an outwardly facing recess of the band part (13). The band parts (13 and 14) are clamped together to form a pressure vessel with the O-ring (28) pressed between the recesses.

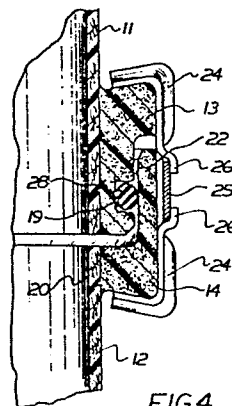


FIG.4



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0033598

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EP 81300174.0

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
	<u>US - A - 3 843 429</u> (JESSUP)	9	B 65 D 90/08
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	<u>US - B - 288 638</u> (BARTLOW)	9	
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D,A	<u>US - E - 25 241</u> (RANDOLPH)		
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D,A	<u>US - A - 3 388 823</u> (FLEMING)		
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D,A	<u>US - A - 3 138 507</u> (WILTSHIRE)		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)
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	<u>US - A - 3 700 512</u> (PEARSON)	9	B 29 D 23/00
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D	<u>US - A - 4 133 442</u> (WILTSHIRE)	1-3,5, 7-10	B 65 D 45/00
	+ Fig. 1-10 +		B 65 D 88/00
	--		B 65 D 90/00
A	<u>US - A - 3 655 085</u> (ALECK)		F 17 C 1/00
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A	<u>US - A - 4 005 233</u> (DRITT)		

			CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS
			X: particularly relevant A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: conflicting application D: document cited in the application L: citation for other reasons
			&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document
X	The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 06-04-1981	Examiner MELZER