

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(21) Application number: **86100438.0**

(51) Int. Cl.³: **B 65 D 47/20**
F 16 K 21/00

(22) Date of filing: **15.01.86**

(30) Priority: **16.01.85 US 692357**

(43) Date of publication of application:
17.09.86 Bulletin 86/38

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report: **05.08.87**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI NL SE

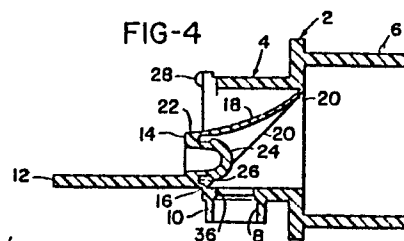
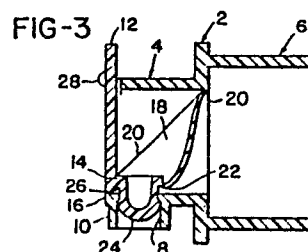
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(54) **Unitary spigot valve.**

(57) A unitary spigot valve for dispensing liquid, as from a container, includes a body (2) defining a dispensing opening (8), a rigid valve lever (12) having an inner end portion connected with the body at a rectilinear pivot hinge (16) for movement between dispensing and sealing positions, a spigot (24) on the valve lever inner end portion adjacent to the hinge and configured and arranged as to plug the dispensing opening upon movement of the valve lever into sealing position, a flexible diaphragm (18) connected to interior walls of the body and with the spigot at hinge lines (20), the diaphragm allowing liquid flow to the valve only via the dispensing opening, and first snap-fitting means on the body and the second snap-fitting means connected with the valve lever, these snap-fitting means being configured and sized for engagement to retain the spigot in sealing position and prevent disengagement from such position. The spigot may extend from a rigid base portion of the valve lever. The second snap-fitting means may be the outer end portion of the lever, and the first snap-fitting means may comprise dent projections on the body adjacent the valve lever when in its sealing position, the projections being resiliently deformed momentarily upon movement of the valve lever into sealing position, then engaging the lever to retain it in such position. The second snap-fitting means may be a radially extending annular portion of the spigot, the first snap-fitting means may be a radially inwardly extending portion of the opening wall, so that these annular portions interfere when a spigot is moved into the dispensing opening and are resiliently deformed, then engaged to retain the spigot in sealing position. The wall defining the dispensing opening and the spigot exterior configuration may be tapered radially inwardly in the direction of the insertion of the spigot for force-fitting sealing relation upon urging the spigot into the opening.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
D,A	US-A-4 386 720 (SPEEDIE) * figures 2, 4 *	1-8, 18	B 65 D 47/20 F 16 K 21/00
A	--- US-A-4 431 110 (ROTH) * figures 2, 3 *	1, 2, 5- 8, 10- 12, 18, 21	
A	--- US-A-3 045 880 (AKERS) * column 3, lines 61-68, figures 3, 5, 6 *	1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 12	
A	--- EP-A-0 130 942 (HOEHN) * page 11, lines 19-25, figures 2, 3, 5 *	1, 9, 10 , 13, 14	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4) B 65 D 47/00 F 16 K 21/00
A	--- US-A-3 972 452 (WELSH) * figures 5, 6 *	1	
D,A	--- US-A-4 169 548 (BOND) * figures 3, 4 *	9	
D,A	--- US-A-4 211 348 (SCHOLLE) -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 09-04-1987	Examiner SCHLABBACH M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	