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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑬ Application number: 88301937.4

⑮ Int. Cl.4: **B 65 D 6/16**
B 65 D 88/52

⑭ Date of filing: 04.03.88

⑯ Priority: 06.03.87 US 22996

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⑰ Date of publication of application:
07.09.88 Bulletin 88/36

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⑲ Designated Contracting States: DE FR GB IT

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⑳ Date of deferred publication of search report:
08.02.89 Bulletin 89/06

⑳ Collapsible container.

⑳ A foldable container assembly (10) includes a base (12) having a plurality of sides (14, 16, 18, 20). A wall hinge (24) interconnects each of the side walls (14, 16, 18, 20) to the base (12) with the wall hinge (24) for a first side wall (14) being in a vertically spaced horizontal plane from the wall hinge (24) for a second side wall (16) for folding the first and second side walls (14, 16) over the base (12) and into overlapping vertically spaced relationship to one another. The base (12) is generally convex and includes a rigid top member (80) and a corner support element (86) near each corner of the top member (80), perimeter support element (88) near the perimeter of the top member (80) about midway between adjacent pairs of corner support elements (86), and a center support element (90) near the center of the top member (80). The corner support element (86) and the perimeter support elements (88) define a pair of forked channels for receiving and guiding the forks of a forked lift for mechanically raising and lowering the container assembly (10). A strip member (94) interconnects the corner (86), perimeter (88) and center (90) support elements to form a bottom member. The strip member (94) includes a flange (96) along one edge thereof extending downwardly and outwardly from the strip member (94) for abutting the interior edge of the side walls (14, 16, 18, 20) in the vertical position for vertically stacking the container assemblies (10) one upon another.

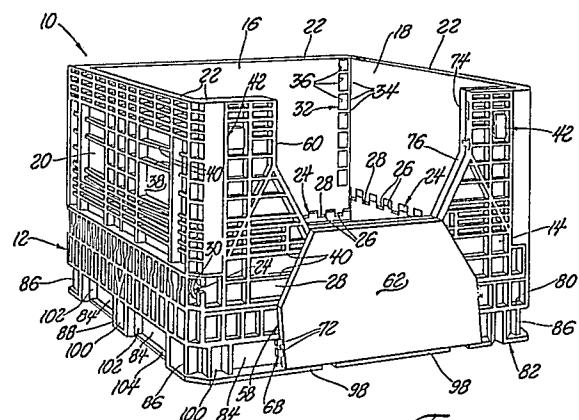


Fig. 2



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 88301937.4
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	DE - A1 - 3 500 427 (FRIEDRICH) * Totality; especially Fig. 1, 4,5,6,7 * --	1	B 65 D 6/16 B 65 D 88/52
A	EP - A2 - 0 211 116 (XYTEL PLASTICS INC.) * Totality; especially Fig. 1; page 7, lines 14-17 * -----	1	
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)			
B 65 D 6/00 B 65 D 19/00 B 65 D 88/00			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
VIENNA	30-11-1988	CZUBA	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			