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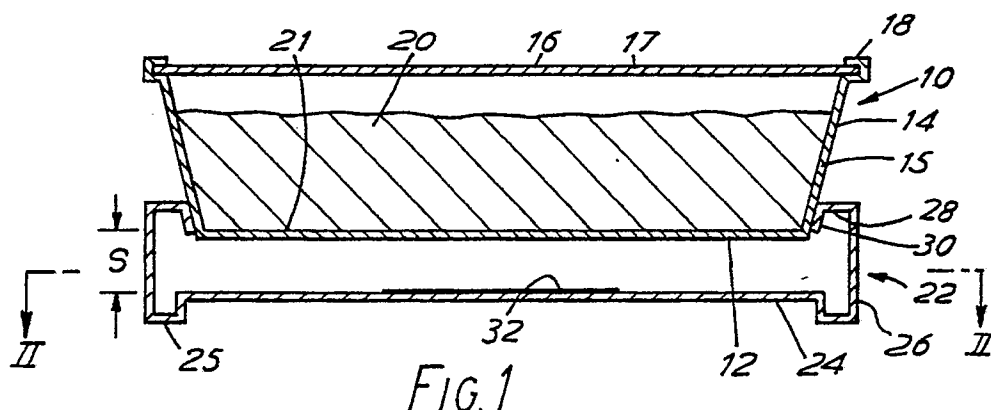
**0 348 156 A3**

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**27.11.91 Bulletin 91/48**(71) Applicant: **ALCAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
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**Montreal Quebec H3A 3G2(CA)**(72) Inventor: **Hewitt, Bryan Cobley**  
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**London EC4Y 1LL(GB)**(54) **Improvements relating to microwave heating.**

(57) A container (10) for heating a substance, e.g. food, in a microwave oven has a bottom (12) transparent to microwave energy. The container is supported on a stand (22) that contains one or more electrically conductive plates (32) (or apertures in an electrically conductive sheet) that generate at least one mode of microwave energy of higher order than the fundamental modes. The stand (22) also serves to support the container (10) above the higher order mode generating plates (or apertures) so that the undersurface of the substance is spaced from them

by a uniform predetermined distance. The arrangement has the known features of "bottom heating", i.e. taking advantage of the natural heat flow in the substance, while achieving more uniform heating of the substance by virtue of the higher order mode or modes. As an alternative to or in addition to the generation of higher order modes, the stand may embody elements that modify the microwave pattern in a manner that enhances the coupling of microwave energy into the undersurface of the substance to be heated.

**FIG. 1****EP 0 348 156 A3**



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 89 30 6233

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.5)
X,Y,A	US-A-4 642 434 (D.H.COX ET AL.) * column 1, line 11 - line 40; figures 1,3 ** column 2, line 64 - column 3, line 53 ** column 4, line 4 - column 5, line 6 *	1,16-18, 24,30,34, 2-15, 25-29, 31-33,19, 20	B 65 D 81/34 H 05 B 6/64
D,Y	EP-A-0 206 811 (ALCAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.) * page 6, line 17 - page 7, line 25; figures 3,5,9,10A ** page 10, line 1 - line 35 ** page 18, line 5 - page 19, line 22 *	2-8, 25-29, 31-33	
Y	US-A-2 600 566 (F. W. MOFFETT) * column 3, line 40 - column 4, line 11; figures 1,2 ** column 4, line 29 - column 5, line 25 *	13-15	
Y,D	EP-A-0 271 981 (ALCAN INTERNATIONAL LTD) * page 13, line 55 - page 15, line 14; figures 11-16 *	9-12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 65 D H 05 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 02 October 91	Examiner PERNICE,C.
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>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</div> <div>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons ----- &amp;: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div>			