



**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

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**A process for operating in safety conditions in the maintenance and reclamation of containers of flammable substances.**

Process for operating in safety conditions in the maintenance or reclamation of containers of flammable substances comprising the steps of: generating fire-fighting foam; filling with the fire-fighting foam a container on which intervention is required; cutting the container defoaming the foam for its subsequent disposal.



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 11 7626

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	CA-A- 994 574 (JOHN KERR & CO. (MANCHESTER) LTD) * Page 2, lines 11-20; page 4, lines 7-26; page 7, line 17 - page 8, line 8; claims 1-5,7 *	1-3,5,7	A 62 D 3/00 A 62 C 5/00 A 62 C 5/02
Y	---	6	
Y	EP-A-0 206 548 (3M'S) * Page 4, line 13 - page 6, line 18; page 41, lines 17-24 *	1,6	
X	---	8	
X	FR-A-2 412 322 (NEVE) * Page 2, line 26 - page 3, line 35; figure *		
A	---		
A	FR-A-2 093 638 (JOHN KERR) ---		
A	GB-A-1 352 847 (JOHN KERR) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			A 62 D A 62 C B 23 K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12-12-1991	Examiner KAPOULAS T.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b>			
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	



### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

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- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-7: Process for operating in safety conditions in the maintenance and reclamation of containers of flammable substances.
2. Claim 8: Device for generating fire-fighting foam.