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Inventor: **Silva, James J.**
23795 River Manor Blvd.
EIkhart, IN 46516(US)
Inventor: **Wogoman, Frank W.**
50939 Redstone
Granger, IN 46530(US)

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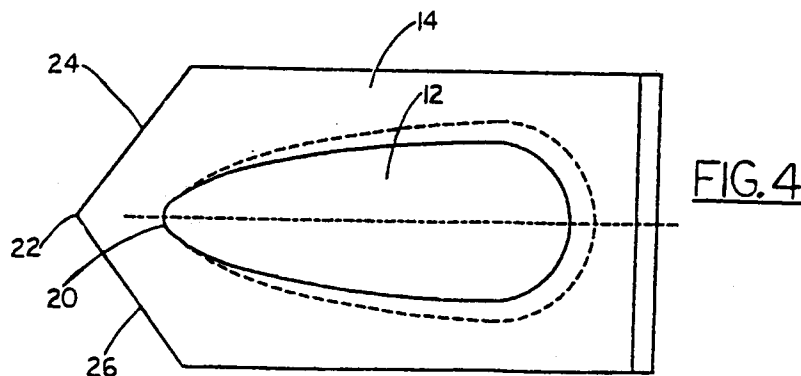
Applicant: **MILES INC.**
1127 Myrtle Street

Representative: **Dänner, Klaus, Dr. et al**
c/o Bayer AG Konzernverwaltung RP
Patentabteilung
W-5090 Leverkusen 1 Bayerwerk(DE)

Reagent containment and delivery tray.

A high-precision liquid reagent delivery system is provided for convenient and efficient gravity flow delivery of substantially the entire volume of reagent contained within a sealed formed tray. The delivery system comprises a formed tray (10) defining a curved cavity (12) for holding a predetermined amount of liquid, and a substantially planar ledge surface (14) defined around the cavity opening. The surfaces of the cavity are non-porous, uniform and smoothly converging to a point (20) of liquid discharge at an intersection of the cavity and the ledge surface (22). The ledge surface further defines an apex extending longitudinally from the point of liquid discharge and defines a guide path for the delivery

of liquid contained within the tray (10). The system also includes a flexible cover (40) removably affixed to the ledge surface of the tray for forming a sealed chamber between the cavity (12) and the affixed cover (40) for containment of liquid. The cover (40) extends beyond the apex (22) of the ledge surface (14) to define a tab portion (42) which can be grasped and pulled from the ledge surface (14) to remove the cover (40). Removal of the flexible cover (40) in such a manner with the tray (10) positioned in an upstanding manner with the point of liquid discharge (20) directed downward provides gravity flow delivery of all liquid contained within the tray (10) with a low coefficient of variation.



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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)
A	US-A-3 505 031 (F.C. MOORE ET AL.) * column 2, line 31 - line 59 * ---	1	B01L3/00 A61J1/00
A	DE-A-3 446 093 (K.A. SONNTAG) * page 5, line 1 - page 6, line 6 * ---	1,6	
P,D, A	EP-A-0 407 827 (MILES INC) * page 5, line 32 - line 47 * ---	1-8	
A	EP-A-0 352 689 (J. GUIGAN) * column 4, line 28 - column 5, line 57; figures 1,2,19 * ---	1,8	
A	US-A-3 705 000 (J.P. GUERRA) * column 1, line 64 - column 2, line 38 * -----	1,6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B01L B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 07 APRIL 1992	Examiner BINDON C. A.
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			