



EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

Application number : **93303219.5**

Int. Cl.⁵ : **B65B 25/00**

Date of filing : **26.04.93**

Priority : **13.05.92 US 882198**

Date of publication of application :
18.11.93 Bulletin 93/46

Designated Contracting States :
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE**

Date of deferred publication of search report :
05.01.94 Bulletin 94/01

Applicant : **KRAFT GENERAL FOODS, INC.**
250 North Street
White Plains New York 10625 (US)

Inventor : **Chordash, Richard Andrew**
12 Berwick Court
Fishkill, New York 12524 (US)
Inventor : **DiMaiolo, Anthony Vincent**
11 Forge Court
Fishkill, New York 12524 (US)
Inventor : **Fioriti, Frank Rocco**
5 Davis Court
Hopewell Junction, New York 12533 (US)

Representative : **Eyles, Christopher Thomas**
W.P. THOMPSON & CO. High Holborn House
52-54 High Holborn
London WC1V 6RY (GB)

Process for aseptically packaging a multi-component food product.

A process for aseptically packaging a food product containing discrete pieces of a solid food component and a fluid food component comprises: depositing solid food component into an open container; contacting the open container and its contents with steam for a period of time sufficient to sterilize both; depositing a sterilized fluid food component into the container; and sealing the container under aseptic conditions. In a preferred embodiment, fully-cooked pasta is placed in a plastic container and sterilized therein prior to depositing a sterilized, cooled cheese sauce thereover and aseptically sealing.



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 93 30 3219

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	EP-A-0 462 532 (BENEDICT)	1,3	B 65 B 25/00
Y	* column 8, line 10 - column 10, line 7; figure 1 *	2,5,6	
A	---	7	
Y	GB-A-1 135 240 (CRYODRY) * page 3, paragraph 5; figure 1 *	2	
Y,P	WO-A-9 215 207 (MEYER) * page 7, line 35 - page 8, line 2 *	5,6	
A,P	-----	7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 65 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18-08-1993	Examiner CLAEYS H C M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P0401)



European Patent
Office

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:

see sheet -B-

- ☐ 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: 1-9



European Patent
Office

EP 93 30 3219 -B-

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION A POSTERIORI

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 2-9 : Details of the packaging process .
2. Claim 10 : A container used in the process.

Because the subject-matter of claim 1 is known from the prior art (see EP 0 462 532), the dependent claims become independent. This results in the afore mentioned groups of claims which, between each other, miss a unity forming combination, and consequently are to be considered as independent. (lack of unity a posteriori). The search has been directed to claim 1 and group 1.