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### (54) A container for a roll

(57) The present invention relates to a container formed by a box (10) for housing a hollow roll (11), having rectangular side panels (10, 12, 14, 16) and one or more square or rectangular end panels (24, 28, 32) at each end of the box (10), wherein at least one of the end panels (24, 28) at each end has a flap (26, 34) partially cut therefrom which is folded inwardly and is received into the end of the hollow roll (11). In this way the roll (11) is rotatably secured within the box (10). When a lid

(18) of the box (10) is opened, the removal of sheet material from the roll (11) in the box (10) will tend to pull the roll (11) from the box (10), and the flaps (26, 30) prevent this. Preferably at least one of the flaps (26, 30) is eccentrically tapered. The box preferably has Y shaped valley creases (37) at each end of opposing side panels (10, 14) such that application of pressure to the creases (37) allows inward compression of the opposing side panels and the roll (11) in order to centralise the roll (11) within the box.

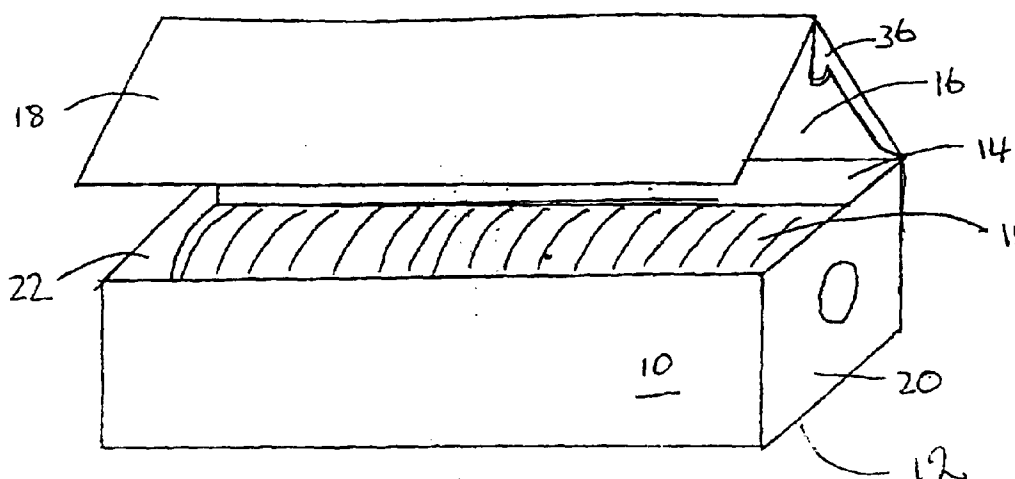


Fig. 1

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 96 30 1820

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.6)
X	EP 0 518 347 A (DOW ITALIA) 16 December 1992 * column 5, line 31 - line 44; figure 4 * ---	1-7, 11-13	B65D85/672
X	US 3 281 035 A (G.V.WOODLING) * figure 15 * ---	1-3,8,9, 11-13	
X	US 5 141 108 A (ROCCAFORTE HARRY I) 25 August 1992 * abstract; figures * ---	1-3,8, 11-13	
X	US 2 935 192 A (G.DE MILLION) * figures * -----	1,13	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 June 1996	Examiner ZANGHI, A
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></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  .....  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 01/92 (P4/C01)



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### 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 respects 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 **2-9, 11-13**



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#### 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 2-9, 11-13 : A container for a hollow roll where the end parts of the container are provided with at least one folding flap which is foldable between a withdrawn position clear of the roll and an operational position in which part of the flap is received within the roll.
2. Claim 10 : A container for a hollow roll wherein the sides of the container adjacent the ends thereof have creases for permitting deformation of the sides themselves.

The only feature common to both inventions is represented by the container according to claim 1.

However, the search has revealed that this feature is not novel since it is disclosed in document EP-A-0 518 347.

Furthermore, the 2 inventions attempt to solve different problems, thus the different features can not be considered as corresponding special technical feature.

Consequently it appears that the application as claimed does not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention.

The partial search has been carried out for claim 1 and for the first invention mentioned in the claims (i.e. claims 2-9, 11-13).