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(54) Liquid container

(57) Reservoir container containing a first fluid, for example an ink, under pressure and adapted to feed that fluid to the ink flow system of an ink jet printer via a valved outlet to the container, characterised in that:

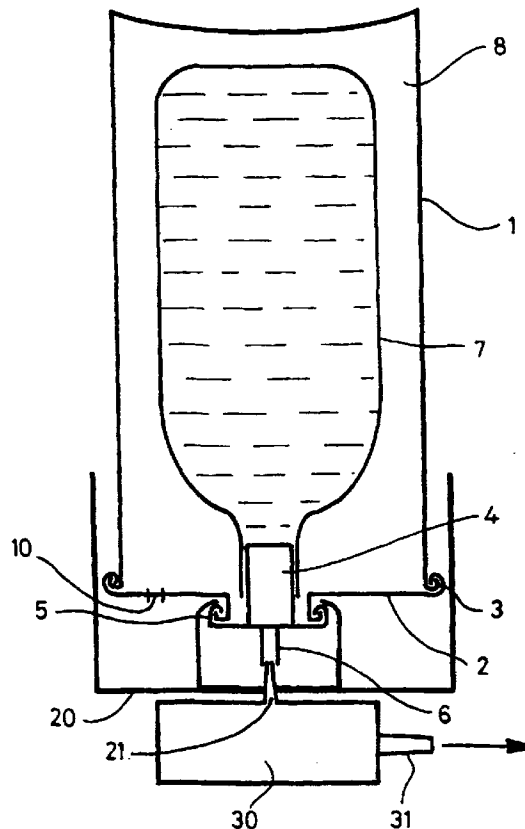
a. the container comprises a first compartment defined by a collapsible envelope (7) located within a second compartment (1) defined by an external pressure retaining envelope;

b. the collapsible envelope (7) contains a said first fluid, notably an ink, to be dispensed through the said valved outlet (4) of the reservoir container and suitable for use in the ink flow system of an ink jet printer;

b. the external pressure retaining envelope contains a pressurising fluid medium under pressure and acting upon the collapsible envelope (7) to urge the collapsible envelope (7) into its collapsed configuration so as to eject the first fluid through the said valved outlet (4).

The invention also provides an ink jet printer, characterised in that at least part of the ink or other fluid required for the operation of the printer is provided by a first fluid under pressure in a reservoir container of the invention.

The invention further provides a reservoir container of the invention mounted upon a support member, the support member having pressure regulation means for regulating the pressure at which the said first fluid is discharged to the ink flow system.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 11 1558

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 0 070 699 A (NITCHMAN HAROLD L ; CUNNINGHAM WILLIAM B (US); SPENER CHARLES J (US) * page 14, line 2 - page 20, line 37; figures 1-3 *	1	B41J2/175
A	---	2-10	
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A	US 4 120 424 A (ZYGIEL DECEASED ALFRED E) * column 2, line 8 - column 5, line 16; figures 1,2 *	1,2	B41J
A	US 5 270 739 A (KITANI MASASHI ET AL)		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25 November 1997	Examiner Adam, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 B : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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