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(54) **Washing machine drum cover**

(57) A drum cover has a body 7 with curved channel 1 in which a seal 5 is secured. The drum cover is put inside the drum 6 and pulled into position around the

porthole effectively sealing the drum so nothing can get out of the drum. The drum cover is secured to the drum by means of catches / clips

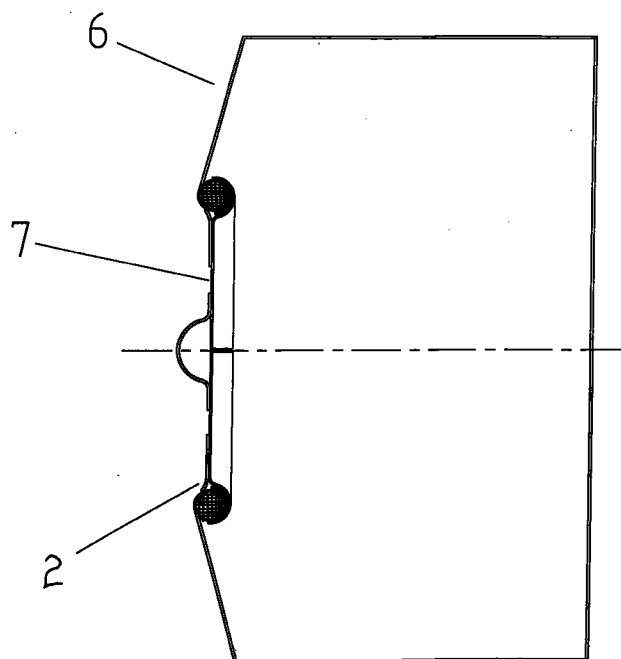


Fig. 3

EP 0 778 368 A1

Description

By necessity washing machines must have a gap between the drum and tub.

However this allows for small garments and objects such as coins which are inadvertently put in with garments to get underneath the drum during the wash causing blockage and damage to the drum, pump, hoses and other.

This invention shuts of the drum porthole so that everything that is put in the drum stays in the drum. So nothing can get out of the drum and through the gap between the drum and tub.

According to the present invention there is provided a flat round body with recessed curved channel around the circumference which seats a rubber seal along its full length. The drum cover is hinged along its diameter. On the body of the drum cover there is positioned three sliding clips /catches and a sliding handle in the centre, at the bottom of the drum cover there is a lip which extends over the flat part of the body.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which ;

Figure 1. Shows front of the cover with all its parts.

Figure 2. Shows cross section highlighting recessed curved channel and seal.

Figure 3. Illustrates typical washing machine drum with cover in position.

With reference to the drawings, the drum cover comprises a round flat body 7. with recessed curved channel 1. and rubber seal 5. which runs along the channel around the circumference of the drum cover.

The drum cover is hinged through its diameter to allow it to fold in half for easy insertion into the drum 6. after a load is put in.

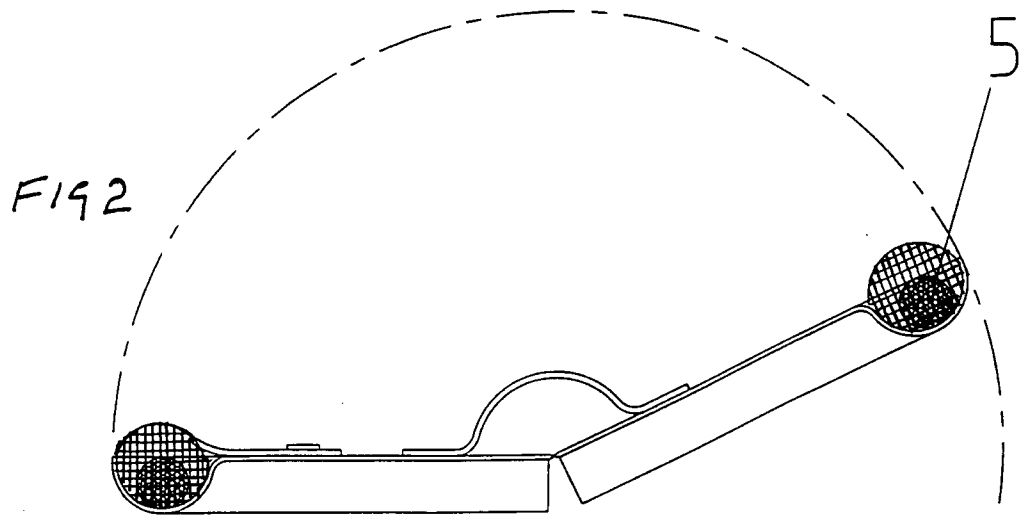
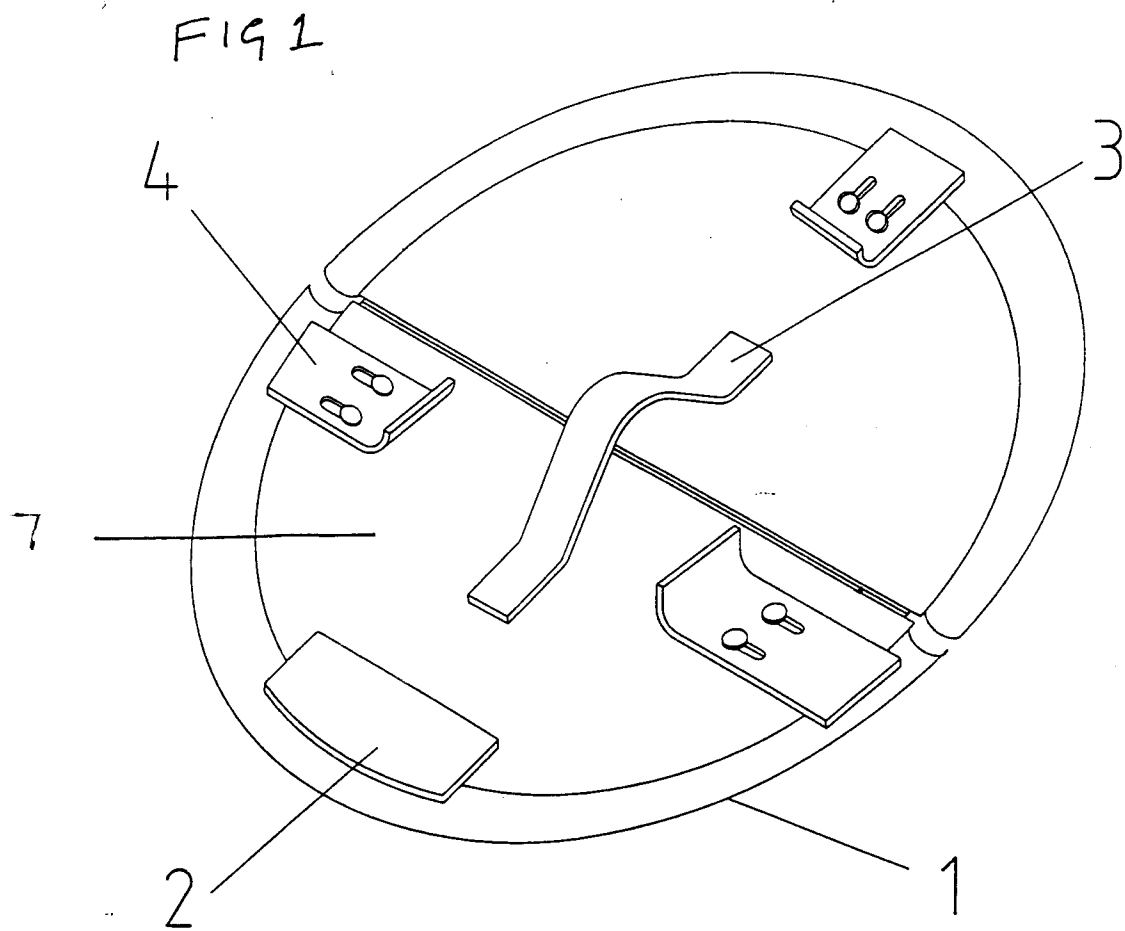
Once in the drum the cover is opened and pulled towards the front of the drum by means of a handle 3. which is pushed flat against the body as soon as drum cover is in position. Once in position the lip 2. clips /catches 4. fasten onto the rim of the drum porthole Fig.3. holding it in a fixed position on the drum.

Claims

1. A washing machine drum cover comprising a flat round body ,hinged, with a pressed recessed channel around the body and a means for securing body to drum.
2. A washing machine drum cover as claimed in claim 1. Wherein the pressed recessed channel is provided with a seal around its perimeter , which rests against the inner surface of the drum causing a seal around the porthole.
3. A washing machine drum cover as claimed in claim

1 & 2 wherein a hinge provided diametrically to the body allowing it to fold in half for easy insertion into drum.

4. A washing machine drum cover as claimed in claims 2 & 3 wherein catches or clips are provided on the body to secure it to the drum.
5. A washing machine drum cover as claimed in claim 4 where a lip adapted to assist in locating cover to drum.
6. A washing machine drum cover as claimed in claim 5 including a handle to assist in pulling cover into position on drum.
7. A washing machine drum cover as described above with reference to figures 1-3 of accompanying drawings



sheet 1

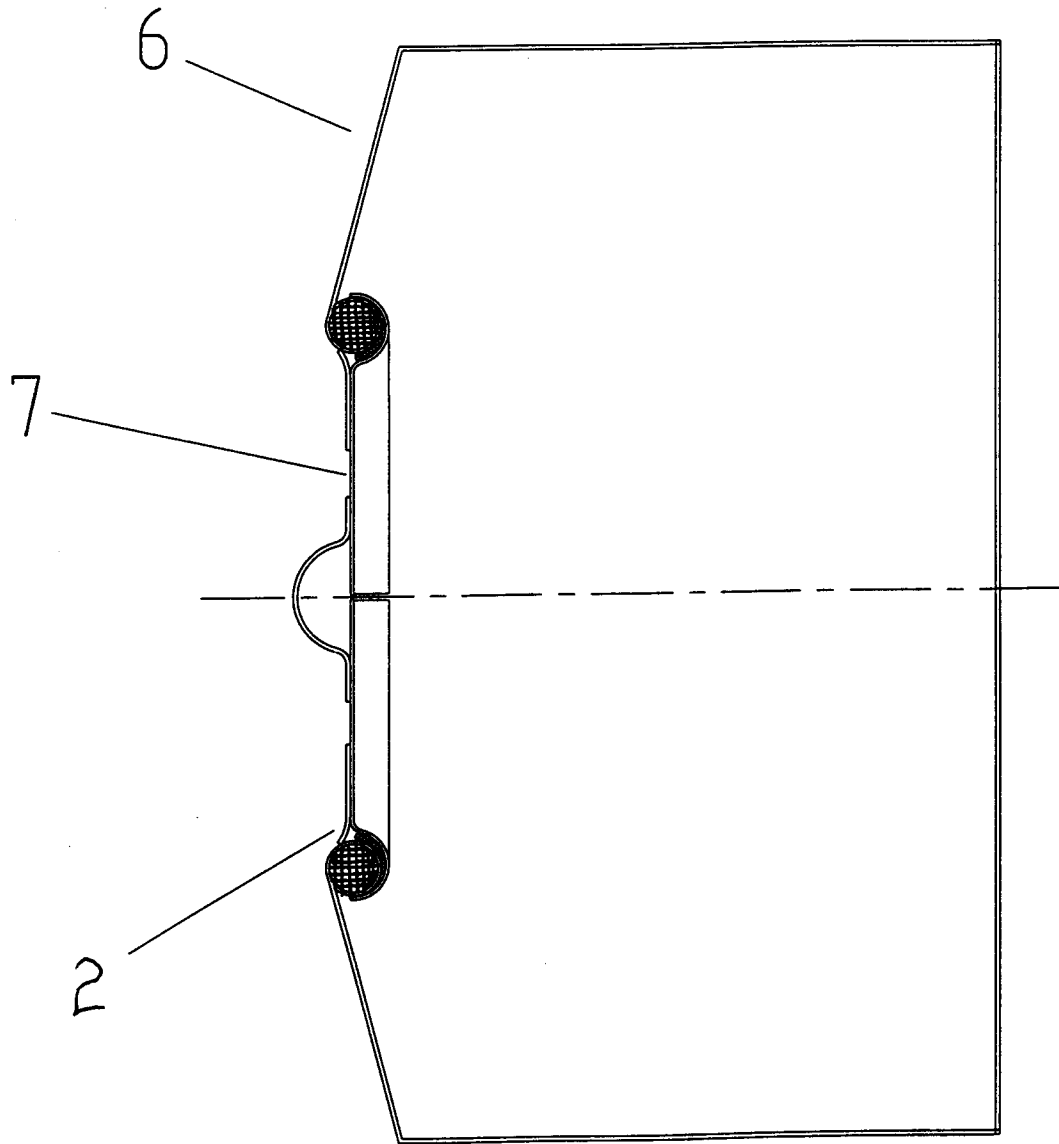


Fig. 3

sheet 2



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 8025

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)
A	GB 775 218 A (H. GEUER) * page 2, column 1, line 9 - line 13; figure 1 *	1	D06F37/10
A	FR 1 147 198 A (J. ESSWEIN & G. HENRY) * page 2, column 2, line 13 - line 16; figure 1 *	1	
A	US 1 636 192 A (G.F. MITCHELL & SON) * the whole document *	1,2,4,6	
A	US 2 332 186 A (THE PROSPERITY COMPANY) * page 2, column 1, line 22 - column 2, line 39; figures 1-5 *	1,3,4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			D06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 14 March 1997	Examiner Courrier, G
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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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