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(54) Drop bag fitting

(57) The invention provides a drop bag fitting (10) which comprises a frame (11) for receiving a mail bag so as to hold the bag in such a manner that items can be deposited in the bag, and a movable platform (23) which is biased upwardly by springs (24,25,26). The platform (23) is arranged to move downwardly when the bag and the items deposited therein reach a predetermined weight. One end of a rod (28) is attached to the platform (23) and the other end of the rod (28) has a portion (30,31) which is visible to a user of the fitting until the platform (23) moves, thereby to indicate when the predetermined weight has been reached.

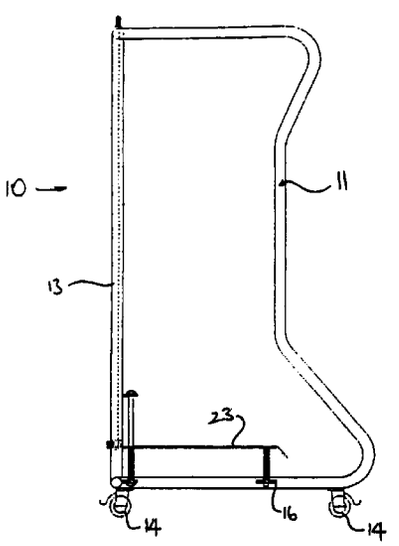


Fig. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 4560

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 Y	FR 913 112 A (MORTREUIL) * the whole document * ---	1 2,3,8	B65B67/12
Y	DE 156 942 C (KOCH) * the whole document * ---	2,3	
Y	CH 557 462 A (THELIN) * the whole document * ---	2,3	
Y	FR 2 343 669 A (LAUNAY) * the whole document * -----	8	

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
B65B

~~The present search report has been drawn up for all claims~~

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	17 February 1998	CLAEYS, H

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

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

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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 requirements 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 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 invention first mentioned in the claims,

namely claims: 1-8

European Patent Office

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
EP 97 30 4560

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-8

   drop bag fitting with a support and weight-indication means

2. Claims: 9,10

   support structure for a drop bag fitting

the above mentioned inventions try to solve different problems, and consequently are to be considered as independent from each other (NON-UNITY a priori).