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(54) **Element to maintain the gas in bottled drinks**

(57) Element to maintain the gas in drinks (16) contained in bottles (11) or containers in general, the element being used in cooperation with the opening (13) of the bottle (11) to limit the escape of gas present in the drinks (16) after the original stopper has first been removed, the element to maintain the gas consisting of a metallic bar (12) substantially flat in shape whose transverse dimension ("t") narrows continuously from the upper end (12a) to the lower end (12b), the transverse dimension ("t") in correspondence with the lower end (12b) being suitable to be inserted into the opening (13) of the bottle (11), the metallic bar (12) including at least an operating position wherein it is clamped by the contact between its own lateral profiles (15a, 15b) and the perimeter edge (14) of the opening (13) without completely closing the opening (13) of the bottle (11), in which operating position a terminal segment of the metallic bar (12) is located inside the bottle (11).

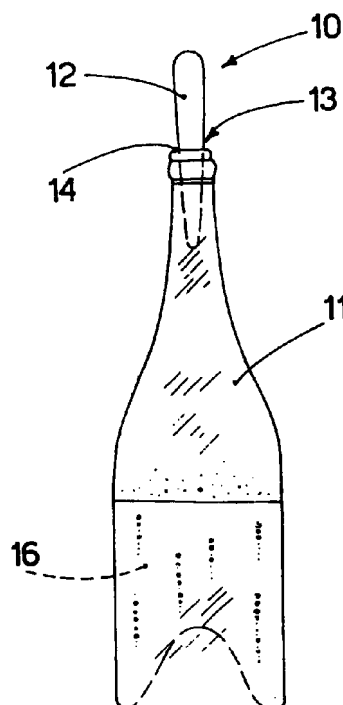


fig.3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 10 5763

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) A47G
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 February 1999	Examiner Lepretre, F
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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