



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 0 972 720 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**05.07.2000 Bulletin 2000/27**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>: **B65D 81/26**

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**19.01.2000 Bulletin 2000/03**

(21) Application number: **99304130.0**

(22) Date of filing: **27.05.1999**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU  
MC NL PT SE**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL LT LV MK RO SI**

(30) Priority: **14.07.1998 GB 9815296**

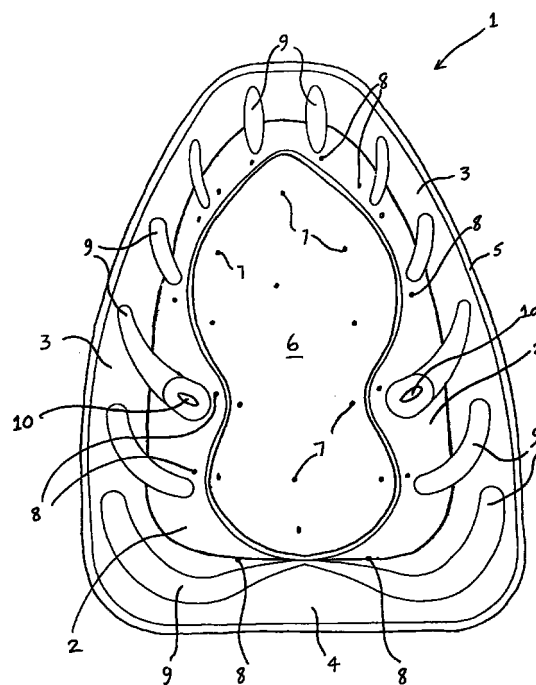
(71) Applicant:  
**Linpac Plastics Limited**  
**Nr. Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF7 5DE (GB)**

(72) Inventor: **Brady, Paul**  
**Arnadale, West Lothian EH48 2PZ (GB)**

(74) Representative:  
**Britter, Keith Palmer**  
**Britter & Co**  
**Barn West - Dixies**  
**High Street - Ashwell Hertfordshire SG7 5NT**  
**(GB)**

(54) **Product tray**

(57) A container (1) for use in the packaging of a product, such as a fresh meat product, with associated wrapping, comprising means (9) arranged to direct any liquid seeping or otherwise being released from the product when located upon the container (1), to a pre-determined area (2, 6) of the interior surface of the base of the container (1). The underside surface of the base of the container (1) includes a recess (6') in which any excess wrapping can be at least partially accommodated. The container (1) further comprises means (10) arranged to engage a product packaged upon the container (1), to retain the product in position with respect to the container (1).



**FIGURE 1**

**EP 0 972 720 A3**



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 30 4130

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.7)
X	US 3 253 762 A (GAUNT) 31 May 1966 (1966-05-31)	1-8,14	B65D81/26
Y	* column 2, line 12 - column 3, line 25; figures *	9,11,12	
	---		
X	US 4 685 274 A (GARWOOD ANTHONY J M) 11 August 1987 (1987-08-11)	1-5,10	
	* column 3, line 24 - column 5, line 15; figures 1-3 *		
	---		
X	US 5 705 213 A (GUILLIN FRANÇOIS) 6 January 1998 (1998-01-06)	1-5,14	
Y	* column 3, line 20 - column 4, line 67; figures *	9	
	---		
Y	FR 2 674 820 A (SAPLEST PRODUCTIONS) 9 October 1992 (1992-10-09)	11,12	
	* page 4, line 24 - page 6, line 19; figures *		
	---		
X	GB 2 003 836 A (MARX R) 21 March 1979 (1979-03-21)	1-8,14	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
	* page 2, left-hand column, line 60 - page 3, right-hand column, line 2; figures *		B65D
	---		
A	GB 813 415 A (KEYES FIBRE COMPANY) * page 2, right-hand column, line 4 - page 3, left-hand column, line 55; figures *	1	
	---		
A	GB 2 024 781 A (FAERCH PLAST AS S & J) 16 January 1980 (1980-01-16)	1	
	* page 2, left-hand column, line 19 - right-hand column, line 75; figures *		
	---		
A	US 3 986 655 A (RYNNING EIVIND PRYDZ) 19 October 1976 (1976-10-19)	1	
	-----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN		15 February 2000	Olsson, B
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</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 03.02 (P/0401)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 4130

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

15-02-2000

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3253762 A	31-05-1966	BE 645683 A	16-07-1964
		FR 1389876 A	11-06-1965
		GB 1015669 A	
		NL 6403221 A	28-09-1964
US 4685274 A	11-08-1987	AT 41128 T	15-03-1989
		AU 572175 B	05-05-1988
		AU 3154884 A	07-02-1985
		WO 8500339 A	31-01-1985
		BR 8407320 A	23-09-1986
		DE 3476990 D	13-04-1989
		EP 0176514 A	09-04-1986
		JP 60501805 T	24-10-1985
US 5705213 A	06-01-1998	EP 0732275 A	18-09-1996
		AT 143333 T	15-10-1996
		AU 693333 B	25-06-1998
		AU 5072396 A	31-10-1996
		DE 69500053 D	28-11-1996
		DE 69500053 T	30-04-1997
FR 2674820 A	09-10-1992	ES 2092919 T	01-12-1996
		NONE	
GB 2003836 A	21-03-1979	DE 7728046 U	19-01-1978
		FR 2402599 A	06-04-1979
GB 813415 A		DE 1051189 B	
		FR 1171509 A	27-01-1959
		NL 96996 C	
		NL 214017 A	
GB 2024781 A	16-01-1980	DK 309578 A	11-01-1980
		DE 2927106 A	24-01-1980
		FI 792146 A	11-01-1980
		NL 7905201 A	14-01-1980
		NO 792280 A,B,	11-01-1980
		SE 7905947 A	11-01-1980
US 3986655 A	19-10-1976	AU 500843 B	31-05-1979
		AU 2095976 A	06-07-1978
		BR 7700044 A	06-09-1977
		CA 1033328 A	20-06-1978
		DE 2703278 A	04-08-1977
		DK 42577 A	04-08-1977
		FR 2340247 A	02-09-1977

EPO FORM P0159

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 4130

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

15-02-2000

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3986655      A		GB    1531590 A	08-11-1978
		IT    1078003 B	08-05-1985
		JP    1152685 C	30-06-1983
		JP    52096175 A	12-08-1977
		JP    57042543 B	09-09-1982
		MX    144106 A	27-08-1981
		NO    764401 A,B,	04-08-1977
		NZ    182822 A	01-11-1979
		ZA    7607280 A	26-10-1977
-----			

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82