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(54) **Article of clothing with pocket**

(57) An article of clothing provided with at least one pocket or such storage space, wherein on the inside of the pocket fastening means are provided to fasten an article, in particular a pair of spectacles, in the pocket. The pocket is preferably provided with an insert opening, and the fastening means are arranged at some distance from the insert opening, preferably in an area near the middle between the insert opening and an opposite bottom of the pocket.

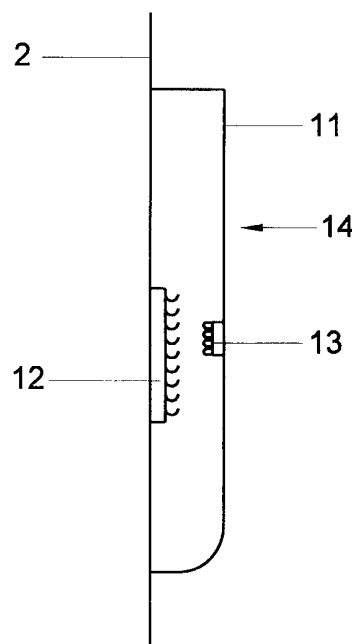


Fig. 3

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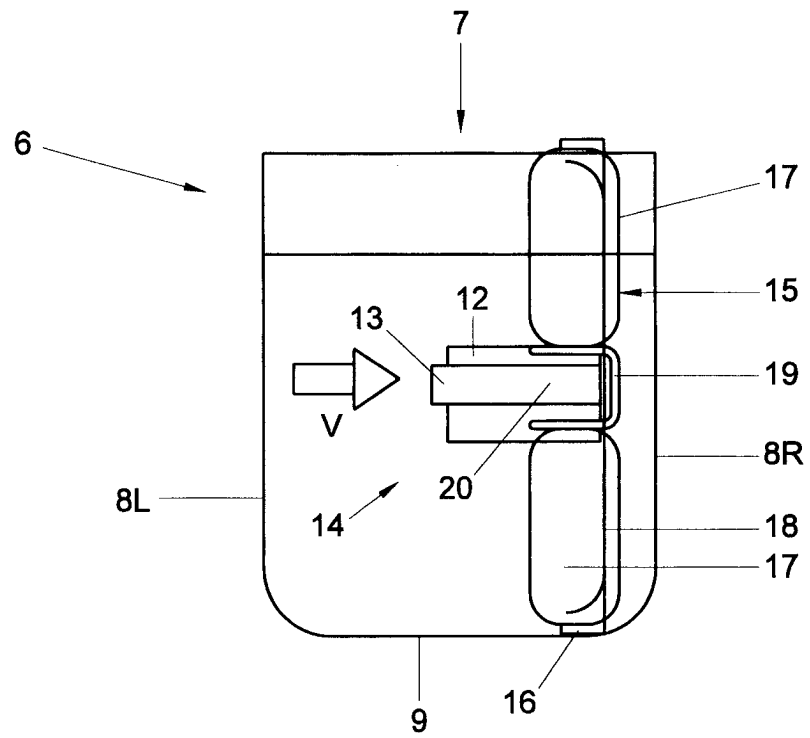


Fig. 4

Description

[0001] The invention relates to an article of clothing provided with at least one pocket or such storage space.

[0002] People wear things on them which they need during the day, for instance pens, a pair of spectacles and the like. When these articles are not in use, these have to be stored temporarily, in such a manner that they can be immediately gripped again for use. Thus, for instance, a pair of reading spectacles may be laid down by a user when it is not in use or may be suspended around the neck by a spectacle cord. It may also be put into a pocket of an article of clothing.

[0003] When a pair of spectacles is laid down, for instance on a table, there is the risk that it may be left behind by the user when leaving or that it may be damaged, for instance because the spectacles fall or because an article or a person lands on the spectacles. When the spectacles are worn around the neck by a spectacle cord, it may often impede the user during movement, while, furthermore, there is a risk that it may be damaged, for instance because it strikes something or get jammed. When the spectacles are put loose into a pocket, there is a great risk of loss or damage, for instance because the spectacles fall out of the pocket during movement by the user. Comparable drawbacks may arise with respect to other articles.

[0004] The object of the invention is the provision of an article of clothing provided with at least one pocket or such storage space, suitable for holding a pair of spectacles or such article, while avoiding the above drawbacks. In particular, the object of the invention is the provision of an article of clothing provided with a pocket in which a pair of spectacles or such article can be temporarily stored with very simple operations and can also be removed from this storage position again with simple operations, while in the storage position the spectacles or such article are secured against damage and loss. To this end, an article of clothing is characterized according to the present invention by the features of claim 1.

[0005] By providing fastening means on the inside of a pocket of an article of clothing for fastening the spectacles or such article, there is obtained the advantage that the relevant article, in particular the spectacles, can be put into the pocket in a simple manner and with one hand and can then be fastened therein, for instance with the same hand, without any intermediate danger that the article may fall. Moreover, after it has been fastened, it cannot come loose from the pocket, unless by first undoing the fastening means. Because the fastening means are arranged on the inside of the pocket, the appearance of the article of clothing is thereby not, at least not adversely, affected. Moreover, in the storage position the article is held by the fastening means and protected by the pocket towards the outside.

[0006] In a preferred embodiment, an article of clothing is characterized according to the invention by the

features of claim 2.

[0007] By positioning the fastening means at a distance from the insert opening of the pocket, preferably in an area near the middle between the insert opening and the opposite bottom of the pocket, there is obtained the advantage that when an article having a height approximately equal to the height of the pocket is inserted therein, this article can be fastened near the middle thereof. The distance between the fastening means and the bottom of the pocket is, for instance, chosen approximately equal to the width of a normal spectacle lens, that is to say, for instance between 1 and 8 cm, more in particular between 2 and 6 cm. There is thus obtained the advantage that the fastening means can engage in the space of a pair of spectacles with which, during normal use, it is supported on the nose, when the spectacles are nearly completely put into the pocket. Of course, other positions of the fastening means may also be chosen, depending on the intended use.

[0008] In a further embodiment, an article of clothing is further characterized according to the invention by the features of claim 5.

[0009] By using connecting elements arranged on two opposite textile parts of a pocket, which connecting elements can be simply releasably coupled, there is obtained the advantage that the use of an article of clothing according to the present invention becomes even more simple. In fact, the spectacles can be simply inserted between the two textile parts, after which the textile parts, at least the connecting elements are compressed for coupling thereof, while fastening the spectacles between the two textile parts, the fastening means and at least a portion of the longitudinal edge of the pocket.

[0010] In an advantageous embodiment, the fastening means are at least partly formed by adhering means or hook means, more in particular a burr fastener or the like.

[0011] It will be clear that the fastening means, however, may also be of different design, for instance a press-stud or the like.

[0012] Further advantageous embodiments of an article of clothing according to the present invention are given in the subclaims.

[0013] In explanation of the invention, a number of exemplary embodiments of an article of clothing according to the present invention will be further described with reference to the drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front view of an article of clothing according to the present invention, in particular a shirt;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged front view of a pocket of an article of clothing of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a schematic sectional side view of a pocket taken on the line III-III in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a schematic transparent front view of a pocket of Fig. 2 with inserted spectacles;

Fig. 5 is a schematic transparent front view of a pocket of an article of clothing according to the in-

vention, in an alternative embodiment;

Fig. 6 is a schematic sectional side view taken on the line VI-VI in Fig. 5 of a pocket; and

Fig. 7 is a schematic front view of a further alternative embodiment of a pocket according to the invention.

[0014] In this description, the same or corresponding parts have the same or corresponding reference numerals. Although as article of clothing a shirt or the like and as pocket a breast pocket is shown in this drawing, it will be clear that an article of clothing according to the present invention may also be of different design, for instance a coat, jacket, trousers, T-shirt or the like, in which the pocket may be positioned in different places, for instance the chest region, the abdominal region, on a sleeve or trouser-leg, as inner or outer pocket with a straight insert opening, as is the case with the breast pocket shown, or with a sloping or bent-cut insert opening, as is the case with, for instance, with a trouser pocket. The breast pocket of a shirt is only shown and described as an exemplary embodiment.

[0015] A shirt 1, as shown in Fig. 1, comprises, in the conventional manner, two front panels 2, a back panel 3, a collar 4 and sleeves 5. Sewn onto the front panel 2 is a breast pocket 6 with a, during use, upper insert opening 7. The longitudinal edges 8 adjacent to the insert opening 7 and the bottom seam 9 which connects the longitudinal seams 8, are stitched onto the front panel 2. As schematically shown, a pair of spectacles 10 or such article can be stored in the breast pocket 6 in such a manner that the spectacles 10 are completely or partly received in the inner space of the pocket 6. The breast pocket is, as appears more in particular from Fig. 3, built up from a first textile layer formed by the front panel 2 and a second textile part 11 sewn onto it, which will sometimes be referred to as pocket panel 11. Sewn onto the first textile part, the front panel 2, is the second textile part 11, as well as a first connecting element 12, in the form of a hook band of a strip of burr fastener. Sewn onto the inside of the second textile part 11, that is to say on the side facing the first textile part 2 and the first connecting part 12, is a second connecting part 13, in such a manner that, during use, this part overlaps the first connecting part 12 at least partly. The second connecting part 13 is formed by a strip of eye band of the burr fastener. The connecting parts 12 and 13, which form fastening means 14, therefore form a hook band together known as burr fastener. Such a burr fastener is, for instance, marketed under the name of velcro®.

[0016] As particularly appears from Figs. 2 and 3, the first connecting part 12 and the second connecting part 13 overlap each other, which second connecting part 13, in the embodiment shown, has a relatively great length L in relation to the width B of the insert opening 7. The first connecting part 12 has a somewhat smaller length. The fastening means 14 are arranged in a somewhat shifted position with respect to a line M in the middle

between the longitudinal edges 8, on the right-hand side of Fig. 2. Moreover, viewed with respect to the insert opening 7 and the bottom 9, the fastening means 14 are arranged near a middle region. The middle of the fastening means 14 is, for instance, situated at a distance D_1 from the insert opening 7 and at a distance D_2 from the bottom 9. The distance D_2 is, for instance, approximately equal to a conventional width of a spectacle lens, as will be further described with reference to Fig. 4.

[0017] It will be clear that when from the loose position shown in Fig. 1 the second textile part 11 and the first textile part 2 are moved towards each other, the first connecting part 12 will engage with the second connecting part 13, thereby coupling the fastening means. By at least partly pulling away the second textile part 11 from the first textile part 2, the fastening means 14 can be uncoupled again. The inner space of the pocket 6 is thereby released.

[0018] As shown in Fig. 4, a pair of spectacles 15 can be simply put into the pocket 6 via the insert opening 7, in such a manner that it can rest with a side joint 16 between a lens 17 and a side 18 on the bottom 9 of the pocket 6. The spectacles 15 can then be released, after which a hand can be passed over the pocket 6 in the direction V, from the longitudinal edge 8L on the left-hand side of Fig. 4 in the direction of the opposite right-hand longitudinal edge 8R. The first connecting part 13 is thereby coupled with the second connecting part 12 with a pressing, wiping movement, until, for instance, the first connecting part 13 strikes the bridge 19 of the spectacles 15 between the lenses 17. The spectacles 15 are thereby maximally pressed against the adjacent right-hand longitudinal edge 8R and are enclosed between the end 20 of the first connecting part 13 facing the spectacles, the right-hand longitudinal edge 8R, the bottom 9, the first textile part 2 and the pocket panel 11. The spectacles 17 cannot be pulled away upwards, that is to say in the direction of the insert opening 7, before the fastening means 14 are separated by pulling loose the second connecting part 13 from the first connecting part 12. There is thus simply obtained a securing of the spectacles in the breast pocket 6.

[0019] Because the first connecting part 12 has a relatively large surface with respect to the second connecting part 13, the connecting parts 12, 13 need not be positioned very accurately with respect to each other, before they can be coupled, while relatively little burr fastener is required notwithstanding. Of course, the connecting parts may have another form, for instance round, triangular, arrow-shaped or otherwise, while, moreover, the length and width may be varied at one's discretion, depending on, for instance, the dimensions of the pocket and the articles to be received therein. Although there is shown a preferred embodiment with which a pair of spectacles can be fastened in the pocket, other articles may of course also be fastened in a comparable manner, in particular when an article is, for instance, provided with a suitable notch, dent, profile or

the like, against which, at least in which one of the connecting parts can stick. Also, one of the textile parts may be of such design that it can directly function as one of the connecting elements 12 or 13 for cooperation with the other connecting element 13, 12.

[0020] In Figs. 5 and 6, an alternative embodiment of an article of clothing 101, at least of a breast pocket 106 thereof, is shown. This breast pocket 106 is sewn onto a front panel 102 with two longitudinal seams 108 and a bottom seam 109 connecting the longitudinal seams, to form a straight, upper insert opening 107. In the embodiment shown, two press-studs 114 are provided as fastening elements on the inside of the pocket 106. Of each press-stud 114, a first part 112 is sewn onto the front panel 102, while the mating second part 113 is sewn onto the inside of the pocket panel 111. The press-studs 114 are arranged again in a middle region of the pocket 106, at a distance from both the insert opening 107 and the bottom 109, which press-studs 114, in the embodiment shown, are placed beside each other approximately in the middle between the longitudinal seams 108. In this embodiment, for instance a pair of spectacles or such article can be put into the pocket 106 when the press-studs 114 have been undone, after which at least one of the two second parts 113 can be coupled with the mating first part 112, preferably in a space such as the space formed by a bridge 19, in such a manner that the spectacles are again enclosed in the pocket. Depending on, for instance, the width of the article to be enclosed, the distance T between each of the press-studs 114 and an adjacent longitudinal edge can be determined, while, moreover, depending on the dimensions and the form of the article to be enclosed, the press-stud 114, shown in the drawing on the left- or right-hand side, can be chosen. Of course, more or fewer press-studs may also be chosen in comparable or other positions, depending on the articles to be enclosed.

[0021] In a further alternative embodiment, as shown in Fig. 7, the breast pocket 206 is sewn onto a front panel 202 with two longitudinal seams 208 and a bottom seam 209, to form a straight, upper insert opening 207. Arranged on the inside of the pocket panel 211 is a first connecting part 212 in the form of a strip of burr fastener, while a second connecting part 213 is arranged on the front panel 202 in the form of a second strip of burr fastener. The strips of burr fastener 212, 213 make an angle with each other. From the bottom seam 209 extends, at a distance from both longitudinal seams 208, a further stitched seam 221, which attaches the pocket panel 211 to the front panel 202 over a relatively small distance. Preferably, the further seam 221 and the second strip of burr fastener 213 are approximately in line. By this second strip of burr fastener and the further stitched seam 221 some kind of compartment is formed in the pocket 206, which, in the manner described before, is at least partly closable by the cooperating strips of burr fastener 212, 213, to enclose, for instance, a pair of spectacles or another article.

[0022] The invention is in no way limited to the exemplary embodiments described in the specification and shown in the drawings. Many variations thereof are possible within the scope of the invention defined in the claims.

[0023] As indicated above, an article of clothing according to the invention can be of different design, such as a shirt, jacket, coat or trousers, while the pocket can also be arranged in all kinds of positions. Moreover, several pockets of the same article of clothing may of course be provided with fastening means. Also, one pocket may be provided in several positions with fastening means, as shown in the figures, in particular at different distances below the insert opening and/or beside the longitudinal edges. Furthermore, other fastening means may also be used, for instance adhering, in particular statically adhering means, while, moreover, the fastening means may have other forms. Also, in a comparable manner, other articles may be fastened, such as writing articles or medical aids. Moreover, a pocket according to the invention may optionally also be used on other textile products, such as in a bag or on a towel. These and many comparable variations are deemed to fall within the scope of the invention defined by the claims.

Claims

1. An article of clothing, provided with at least one pocket or such storage space, wherein on the inside of the pocket fastening means are provided to fasten an article, in particular a pair of spectacles, in the pocket.
2. An article of clothing according to claim 1, wherein the pocket has an insert opening and the fastening means are arranged at some distance from the insert opening, preferably in an area near the middle between the insert opening and an opposite bottom of the pocket.
3. An article of clothing according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the pocket has at least two opposite longitudinal edges, and the fastening means are arranged at some distance from the longitudinal edges, preferably in an area between the middle between the longitudinal edges and one of the longitudinal edges.
4. An article of clothing according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the fastening means comprise adhering means or hook band or such means.
5. An article of clothing according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the pocket comprises at least two opposite textile parts, on each of which textile parts at least one connecting element forming a fastening means is arranged on the inside fac-

ing the other textile part, which connecting elements can be mutually releasably connected with each other, to couple the two textile parts.

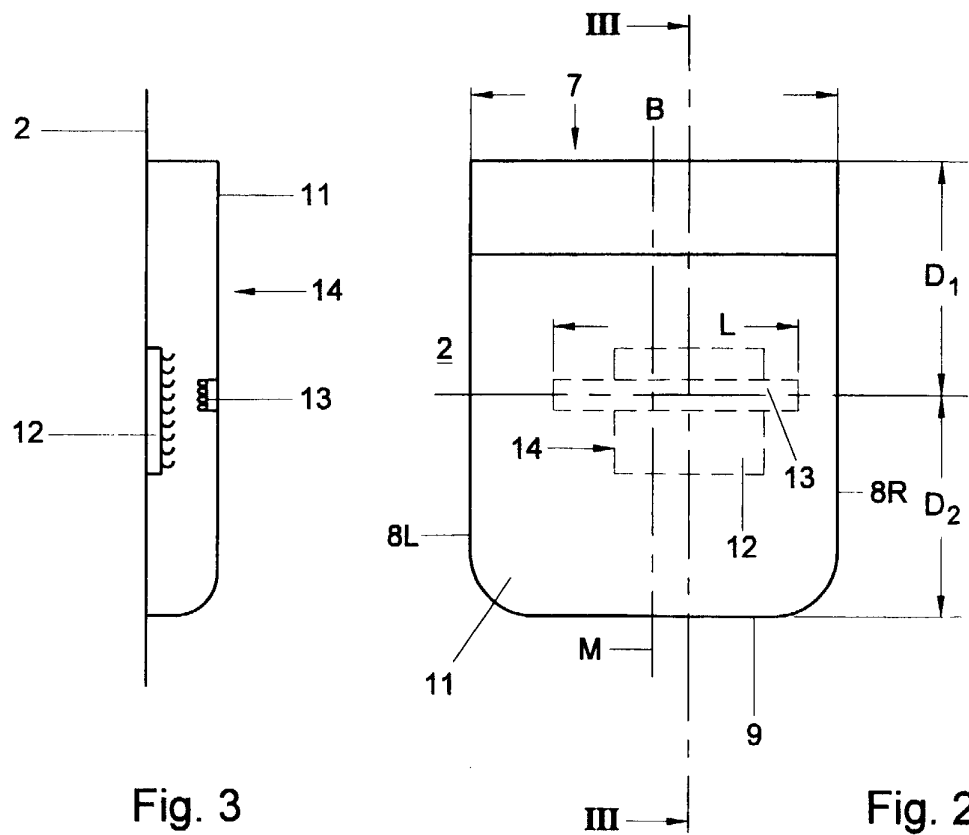
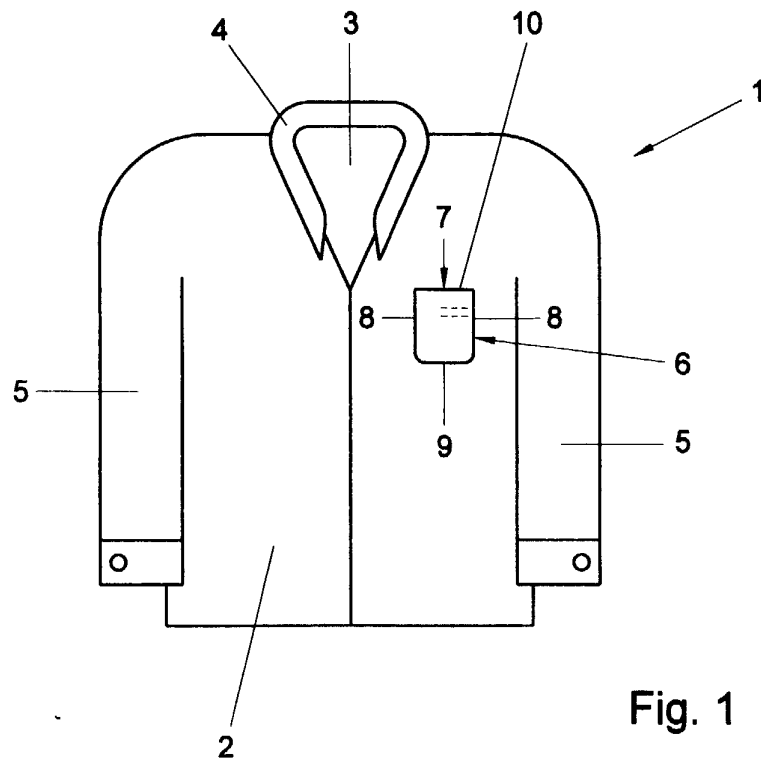
6. An article of clothing according to claim 5, wherein the connecting elements are designed as parts of a burr fastener. 5
7. An article of clothing according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the pocket has an insert opening, and the fastening means have a relatively great length with respect to the length of the insert opening, measured approximately parallel to the insert opening. 10
8. An article of clothing according to claim 7, wherein the connecting elements extend from near a longitudinal edge of the pocket in the direction of an opposite longitudinal edge. 15
9. An article of clothing according to any of claims 1 - 5, wherein the connecting elements are designed as pressure-stud elements or the like. 20
10. An article of clothing according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the pocket is arranged on a part extending, during use, near the chest region of the wearer or on a sleeve. 25
11. An article of clothing according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the pocket is provided with a further stitched seam which extends approximately between two opposite longitudinal seams from near a bottom seam, which further stitched seam mutually connects the pocket panel and the front panel over at least a relatively small distance. 30 35

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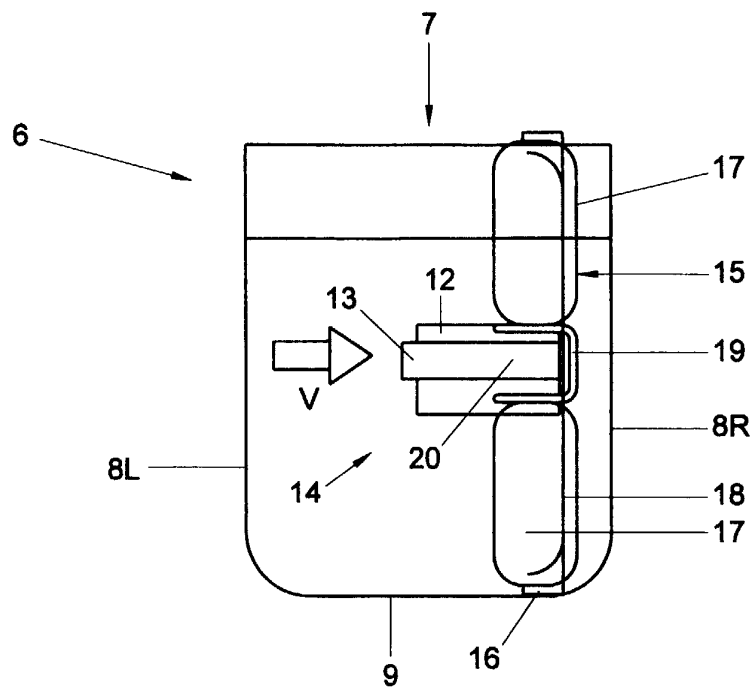


Fig. 4

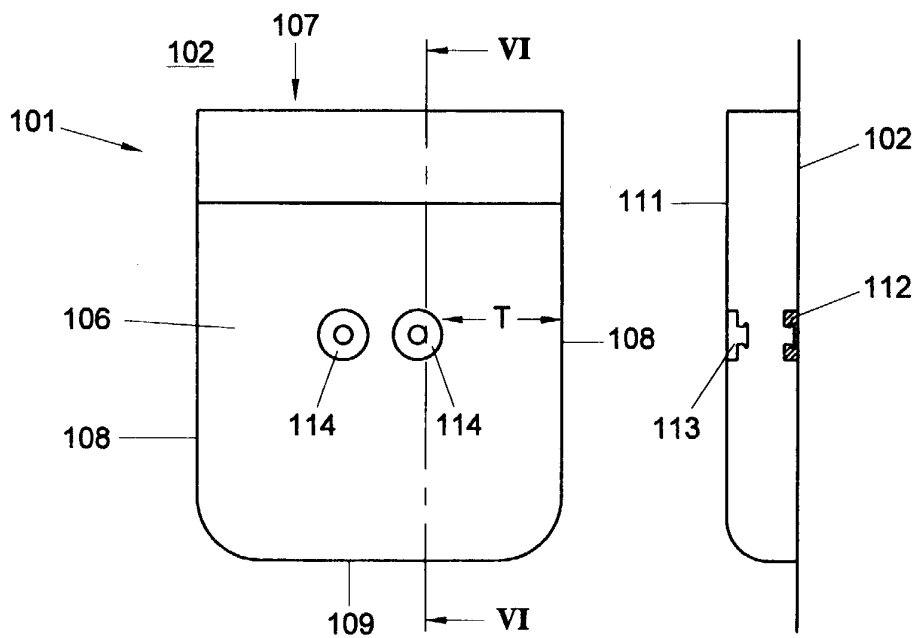


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

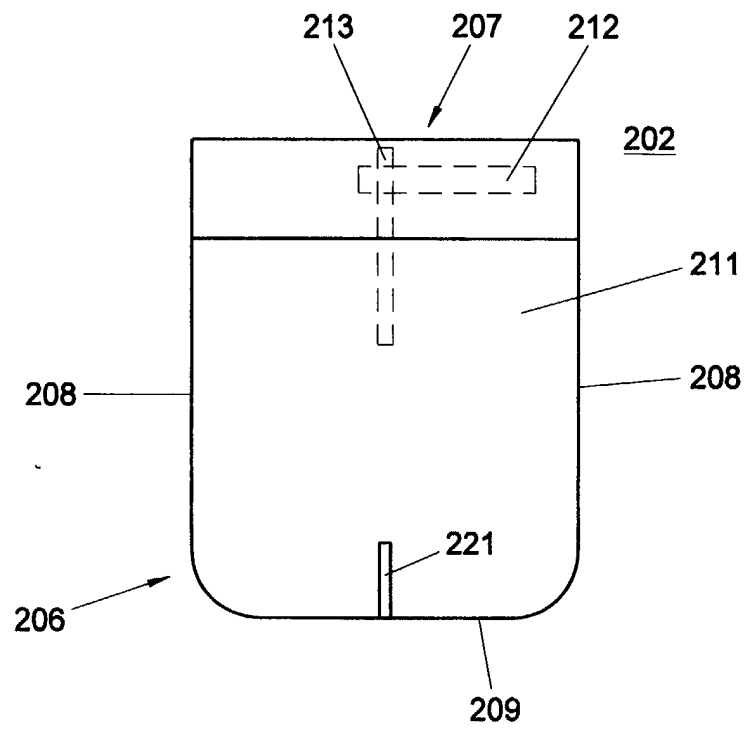


Fig. 7



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 20 4313

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 March 2000	Examiner Garnier, F
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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