



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 101 574 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
11.09.2002 Bulletin 2002/37

(51) Int Cl.7: **B25H 3/02**

(43) Date of publication A2:
23.05.2001 Bulletin 2001/21

(21) Application number: **00122370.0**

(22) Date of filing: **25.10.2000**

(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

(72) Inventor: **Hu, Bobby
Taichung (TW)**

(74) Representative: **Casalonga, Axel et al
BUREAU D.A. CASALONGA - JOSSE
Paul-Heyse-Strasse 33
80336 München (DE)**

(30) Priority: **18.11.1999 US 442529**

(71) Applicant: **Hu, Bobby
Taichung (TW)**

(54) **Tool box**

(57) A toolbox includes a metal upper casing (10), a metal lower casing (20) including a first lateral side pivotally connected to a first lateral side of the metal upper casing (10) and a second lateral side releasably engaged with a second lateral side of the metal upper casing (10), and four end closures (30) made of plastic material and attached to the ends of the metal upper casing (10) and the ends of the metal lower casing (20), respectively. Each of the ends of the metal upper casing (10) and the metal upper casing (10) and the metal lower casing (20) has a plurality of engaging holes (13). Each

end closure (30) includes a mediate portion, two lateral walls, and an end wall (31). A plurality of stops (32) are extended from the end wall (31) to form a gap between each stop (32) and the mediate portion and the lateral walls of the end closure (30), the gap being sized to fittingly receive an associated end of one of the metal upper casing (10) and the metal lower casing (20). Each of the mediate portion and the lateral walls of the end closure (30) includes an inner side with a plurality of retainers (341) formed thereon. Each retainer (341) is securely engaged with an associated engaging hole (24).

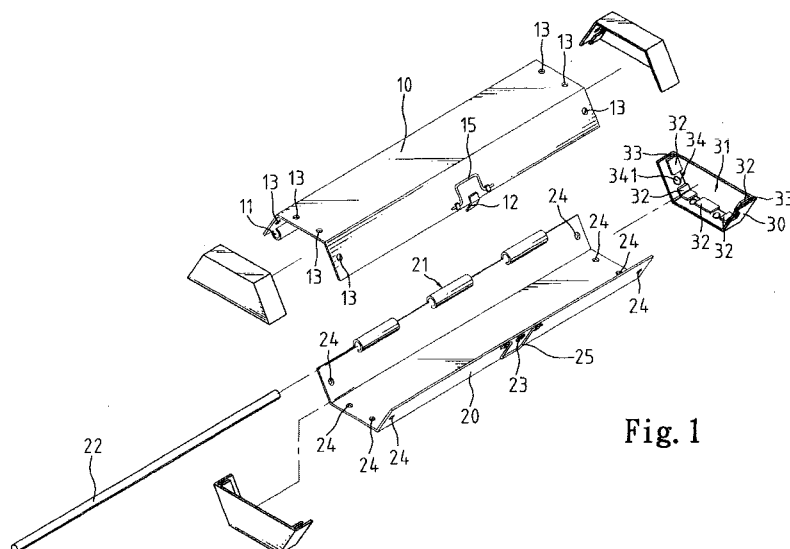


Fig. 1

EP 1 101 574 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 2370

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)
A	US 3 524 564 A (SCHURMAN) 18 August 1970 (1970-08-18) * column 1, line 10-34 * * column 4, line 69 - column 5, line 6 * * column 5, line 36-39; figures 1-6 * ---	1,2	B25H3/02
A	US 3 746 210 A (EVANS) 17 July 1973 (1973-07-17) * column 2, line 6-17; figures * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B25H A45C B65D A47B F16B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 July 2002	Examiner Matzdorf, U
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)

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

EP 00 12 2370

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.

11-07-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3524564	A	18-08-1970	NONE	

US 3746210	A	17-07-1973	NONE	

EPO FORM P0459

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