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(54) **Sport's shoe box**

(57) A sports shoe box comprises a receptacle (10) having a lid (12) and serves to store a pair of shoes, stood on the floor of the receptacle, with a storage tray (14) positioned over the toes of the shoes at one end of

the box. Each end wall of the receptacle is formed with an indentation (32) the roof of which is recessed to form a handle for lifting the box, the indentation (32) being formed with ventilation apertures (34).

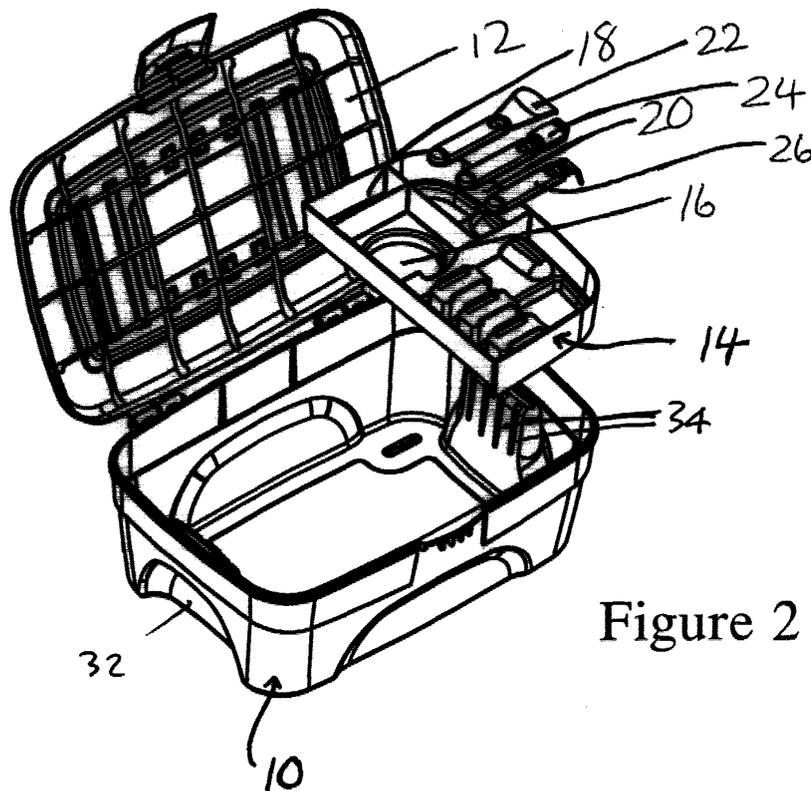


Figure 2

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Description

[0001] This invention relates to a shoe box, and in particular, to a shoe box for storing and transporting sports shoes, such as golf shoes, football boots and the like both before and after use.

[0002] Particularly after use, the soles of sports shoes will carry mud or dirt which will transfer to the carpet or upholstery of the car in which the owner transports them.

[0003] In accordance with present invention, there is provided a shoe box for storing and/or transporting shoes, comprising a receptacle for receiving a pair of shoes on the floor thereof, a lid for closing said receptacle, and a tray for receiving other objects to be stored, said tray being mounted at one end of the said receptacle between opposing side walls thereof so as to at least partially cover end portions of said shoes, each end wall of the receptacle being formed with an indentation the roof of which is recessed to form a handle for lifting the box, the wall of said indentation being formed with ventilation apertures.

[0004] Preferably the shoe box is arranged to prevent movement of the tray within the receptacle during transport. In particular, preferably the roof of the indentation, in each end wall of the receptacle, forms an upstanding projection for engagement in a recess in the underside of the tray.

[0005] The shoe box may be provided with additional ventilation holes in the walls and/or floor and/or lid of the box.

[0006] The tray is preferably provided with a well for receiving and holding shoe polish or the like, preferably with a sponge or other application means on top. The tray may include any one or more of a compartment for storing a duster or cloth, a compartment for storing spare laces, a compartment for storing spare studs or the like, one or more retaining means for holding tools, such as a brush/scrapper, shoe horn, welt and stud scrapper and the like. The receptacle may have space for shoe trees to be fitted alongside shoes.

[0007] An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe box according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the shoe box of Figure 1 showing the tray and shoe cleaning tools removed;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the receptacle of the shoe box of Figure 1, with the lid open;

Figure 4 is a front view of the shoe box of Figure 1 with the lid closed;

Figure 5 is a side view of the shoe box of Figure 1 with the lid closed;

Figure 6 is a plan view of the shoe box of figure 1 with the lid closed; and

Figure 7 is a schematic cross-sectional side view of

the box of Figure 1 illustrating the handle and tray securing means.

[0008] Referring to Figure 1 of the drawings, a sports shoe box according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention comprises a generally rectangular receptacle 10 having a lid 12 hingedly connected thereto along its rear side. The receptacle 10 and the lid 12 are formed of moulded plastic or the like. The box includes an open-top tray 14 which is divided into a number of separate compartments: the tray is mounted adjacent the top of the receptacle 10 and extends from front to rear of the receptacle, adjacent one end.

[0009] Referring to Figure 2 of the drawings, the tray 14 is removable from the receptacle 10, and has a well 16 for storing shoe polish with a sponge or the like on top. A compartment 18 is provided to store a duster or the like, and another compartment 20 provides space to store spare studs for sports shoes. A plurality of upwardly projecting members 22 with spaces therebetween provide means for receiving and retaining shoe cleaning tools. In the embodiment shown, such tools comprise a shoe horn 22, a combined shoe brush and scrapper 24, and a welt and stud scrapper 26.

[0010] Referring now to Figures 3, 5 and 7 each end of the receptacle 10 is provided with an indentation. Thus, each end wall has a cut-away portion 30 which is generally arch-shaped. The indentation comprises a wall 32, inset from the end wall 28 of the receptacle, which extends upwardly from the floor of the receptacle, to a point above the top of the cut-away portion 30 of the end wall, then curves over and down towards the end wall 28, to form a recess 33, in the roof of the indentation, into which the user can insert his fingers: the recess 33 thus forms a handle for use in lifting the box. The wall 32 is formed with a plurality of elongate, substantially parallel, vertical ventilation holes 34 which extend across the recess 33 and part-way down towards the floor of the receptacle.

[0011] Referring to Figure 4 of the drawings, each of the front and rear walls of the receptacle 10 is formed with an elongate, generally arch-shaped indent 36, and the lid 12 is provided with a clasp or locking means 38 to retain the lid 12 in a closed position over the top of the receptacle 10 (see also Figure 6).

[0012] Referring to Figure 7 of the drawings, the curved top of the wall 32 at each end of the receptacle forms an upstanding projection 35: the bottom of the tray 12 is formed with a recess 36 which engages over the upstanding projection 35, to retain the tray 12 securely within the receptacle 10.

[0013] It will be appreciated that, in use of the box, a pair of shoes may be stood side-by-side on the bottom of the receptacle 10, then the tray 12 fitted into the receptacle at one end thereof, to overlies the toe-ends of the pair of shoes, before the lid is closed. The box accordingly encloses the shoes and avoids the risk of wet mud and dirt on the soles of the shoes transferring to

the carpet or upholstery of the car or to other articles being transported. However, the ventilation apertures ensure that the shoes are properly ventilated whilst stored in the box.

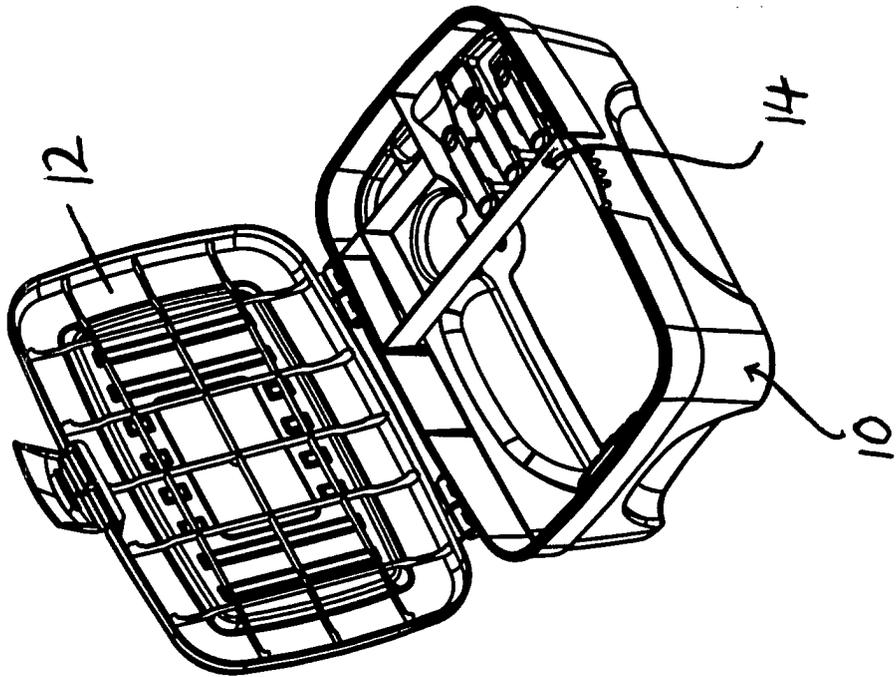
[0014] An embodiment of the invention has been described herein by way of example only and many variations and modifications which can be made without departing from the scope of the invention will be apparent to persons skilled in the art.

brush/scrapper, shoe horn, welt and stud scraper and the like.

10. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the receptacle has space for shoe trees to be fitted alongside shoes.

Claims

1. A shoe box for storing and/or transporting shoes, comprising a receptacle for receiving a pair of shoes on the floor thereof, a lid for closing said receptacle, and a tray for receiving other objects to be stored, said tray being mounted at one end of the said receptacle between opposing side walls thereof so as to at least partially cover end portions of said shoes, each end wall of the receptacle being formed with an indentation the roof of which is recessed to form a handle for lifting the box, the wall of said indentation being formed with ventilation apertures.
2. A shoe box according to claim 1, arranged to prevent movement of the tray within the receptacle during transport.
3. A shoe box according to claim 2, in which the roof of each said indentation forms an upstanding projection for engagement in a recess on the underside of said tray.
4. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein additional ventilation holes are provided in the walls and/or floor and/or lid of the box.
5. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the tray is provided with a well for receiving and holding shoe polish or the like, preferably with a sponge or other application means on top.
6. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the tray includes a compartment for storing a duster or cloth.
7. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the tray includes a compartment for storing spare laces.
8. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the tray includes a compartment for storing spare studs or the like.
9. A shoe box according to any preceding claim, wherein the tray includes one or more retaining means for holding shoe cleaning tools, such as a



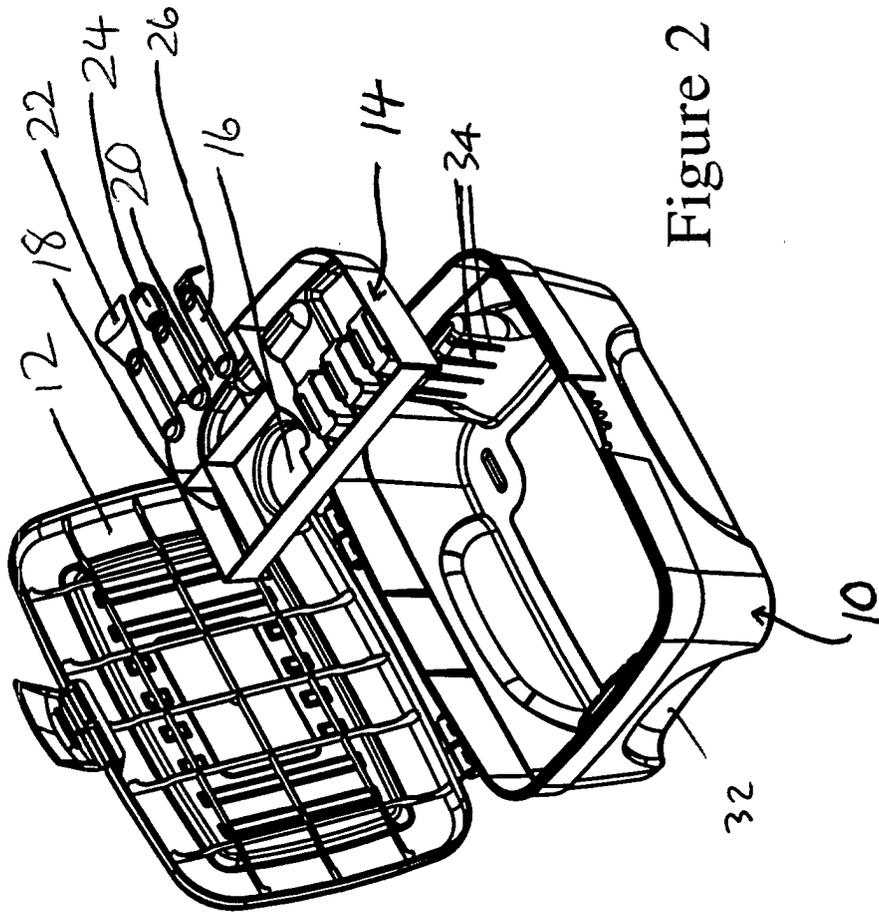


Figure 2

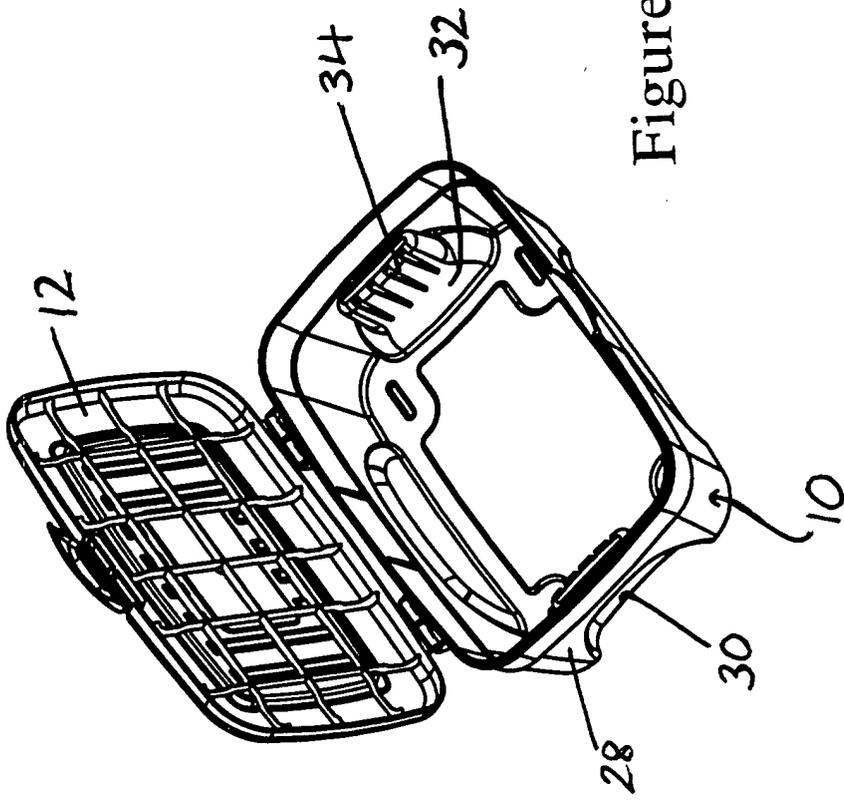
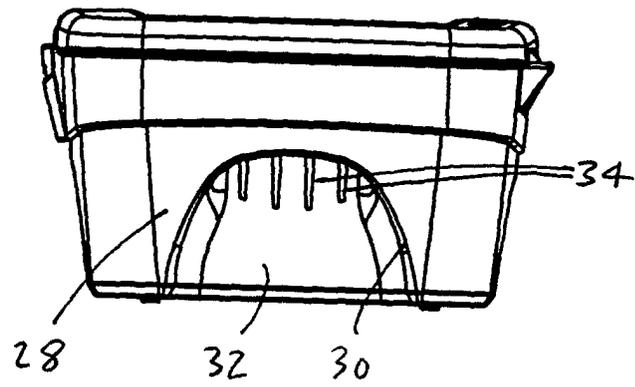
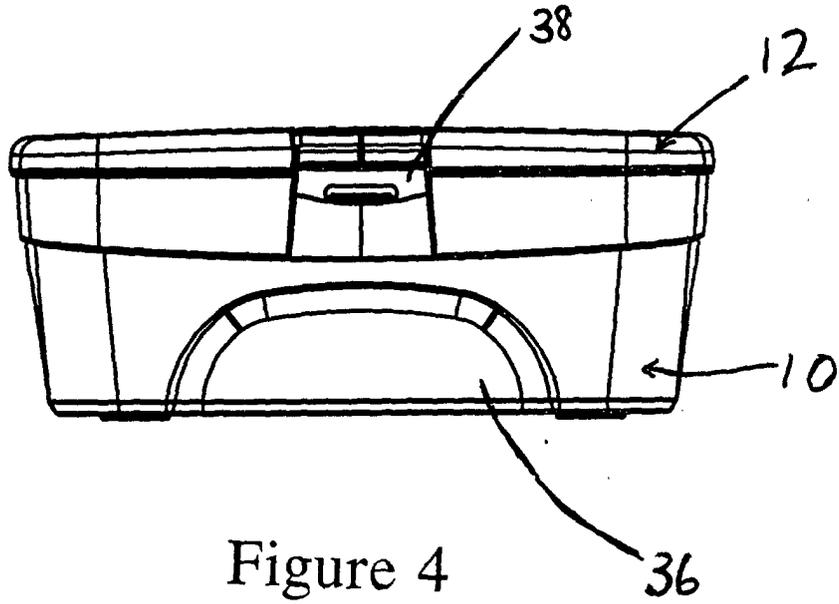


Figure 3



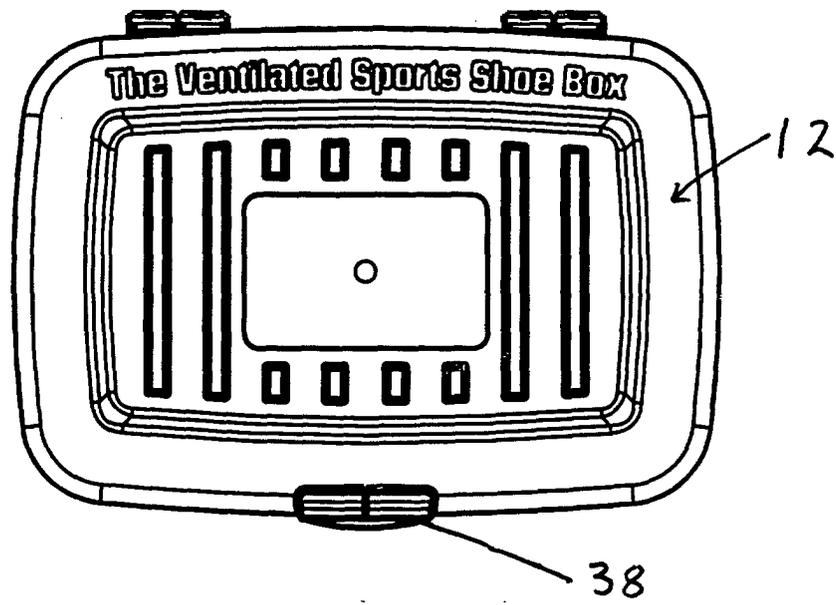


Figure 6

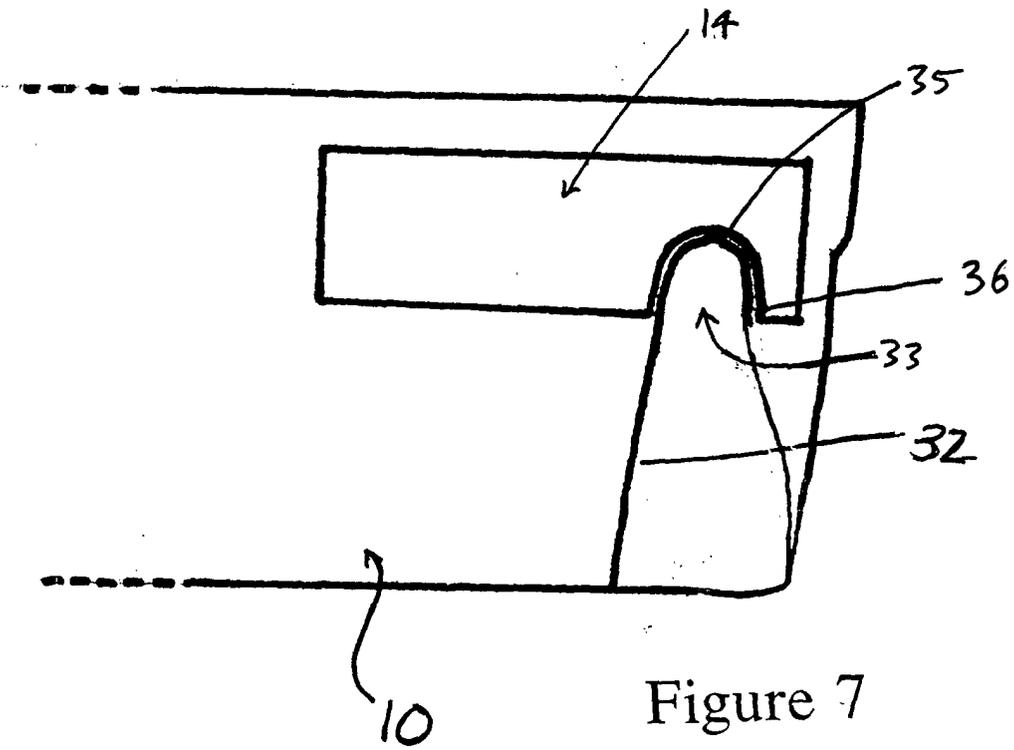


Figure 7



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 30 6242

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 5 509 170 A (LOFARO DOMENIC ET AL) 23 April 1996 (1996-04-23) * column 1, paragraph 1; figures 1-5 * ---	1	B65D85/18 B65D25/28
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A	FR 2 759 062 A (PAPCART) 7 August 1998 (1998-08-07) * claim 4; figures * -----	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B65D
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
BERLIN	2 November 2001	Spettel, J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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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EP 01 30 6242

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