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(54) Indication system of the colour inside paint spray containers

(57) Indication system of the colour inside paint spray containers, characterised because it has a transparent cover (46) and a ring (1) provided with two openings (2, 3) to enable it to be attached by pressure on the

upper end of the container (4), with its outer surface (11) remaining visible and painted in the colour contained inside the container (4), both from the side and from above the container (4), even though the cover is on.

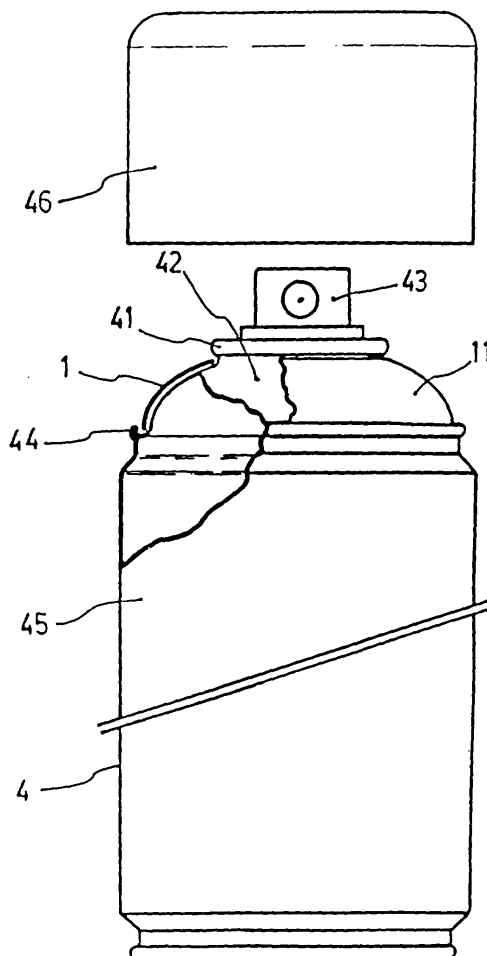


FIG. 2

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Description

PURPOSE OF THE INVENTION

[0001] This invention refers to a system to indicate the colour of paint contained in a spray container, consisting of a transparent cover and ring joined to the upper part of the container. The outer surface of this ring is the same colour as the paint contained inside the spray container.

BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION

[0002] Paint spray containers currently consist of a pressure container containing the paint, a spray valve and a removable cover. As the materials used to manufacture these containers are opaque, the colour of the paint inside is indicated by sticking a label with the corresponding colour of the paint onto the side surface of the container or on the cover.

[0003] These labels are not practical when they are stuck to the side surface of the container, as when there are several containers, they have to be turned one by one until the colour indication label is found, which leads to a significant time loss.

[0004] The problem is greater when the label is stuck to the cover as, when the container is used, the lid is often placed on a different container, with chaotic results.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0005] To solve the aforementioned problems, a colour indication system has been designed which is the purpose of this invention. It consists of a transparent cover and a ring. The ring has two openings of different diameter and height and means to attach by pressure on the upper end of the container. Apart from protecting the spray valve of the container when not in use, the transparent cover also enables the user to know the colour of paint in the container even when the cover is on.

[0006] The shape of the ring is the approximate result of cutting a toroidal ring through its equatorial plane, and then to cut the resulting figure by the maximum circumference of the resulting semi-toroid leaving aside the inner surface.

[0007] Both the ring and the transparent cover can have different shapes and proportions depending on the specific shape of the container concerned.

[0008] Three advantages of this colour indication system are:

- once it is placed on the container, it is not necessary to remove the cover to know the colour of the contents,
- even though covers of several containers are removed and mixed up, the colour of the contents will always be on view,

- the colour of each of several containers can be identified without having to turn them one by one until the colour indication label is located. It can be seen from any side angle and also from the above.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009]

Figure 1: perspective view of an example of the ring of the colour indication system that is the purpose of the invention.

Figure 2: elevation view of the paint spray container, on which the ring of the previous figure is placed, having partially sectioned both elements. Transparent cover in the valve access position.

PREFERENTIAL MANUFACTURE OF THE INVENTION

[0010] The colour indication system has a transparent cover (46) and a ring (1) that is provided with two openings: (2) large and (3) small.

[0011] The outer surface (11) of the ring (1) is the same colour of the paint inside the container (4).

[0012] The ring (1) is made of a normal industrial-use, flexible material such as metal, plastic, paper board, rubber, etc. The small opening (3) has a slightly smaller diameter than the reinforcement (41) formed by the upper surface join (42) of the container (4) and the valve (43), so that on placing the ring (1) on the upper end of the container (4), the opening (3) is elastically deformed as the aforementioned reinforcement (41) passes inside. Once it is correctly positioned, the geometry of the unit makes it impossible to remove the ring (1), unless it is broken.

[0013] A large opening (2) is provided with a diameter slightly less than the reinforcement (44) defined by the join of the side surface (45) and the upper surface (42) of the container (4), so that the indication ring (1) does not obstruct the attachment of the transparent cover (46) on the periphery of the reinforcement (44), even when the container is in use.

[0014] Once the ring (1) is placed on the container (4) as shown in figure (2), it remains fixed between the reinforcements (41 and 44) and visible from any side or above the container (4), enabling a colour to be quickly located. The transparent cover (46) does not obstruct the easy identification of the colour of paint, as although it is placed on the container, the colour can equally be viewed by the ring (1).

Claims

1. Indication system of the colour inside paint spray containers, **characterised** because it has a trans-

parent cover (46) and a ring (1), the outer surface (11) of which is the same colour as the paint inside the container (4), and which is provided with two openings: (2) large and (3) small which is at a greater height than the former.

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2. Indication system according to claim 1, **characterised** because the ring (1) is made in a flexible material.

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3. Indication system according to claim 1, **characterised** because the larger opening (2) of the ring (1) has a slightly smaller diameter than the reinforcement (44) defined by the join of the side surface (45) and the upper surface (42) of the container.

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4. Indication system according to claim 1, **characterised** because the smaller opening (3) of the ring (1) has a slightly smaller diameter than the reinforcement (41) formed by the join of the upper surface (42) of the container (4) and the valve (43).

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5. Indication system according to claim 1, **characterised** because the ring (1) is placed between the inside of the reinforcement (44) and the inside part of the reinforcement (41).

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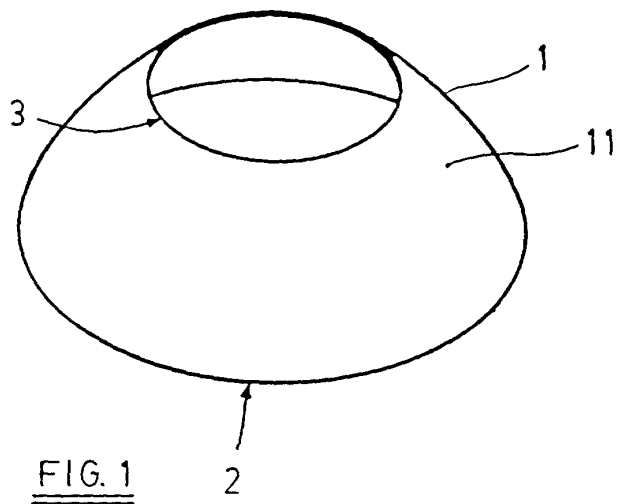
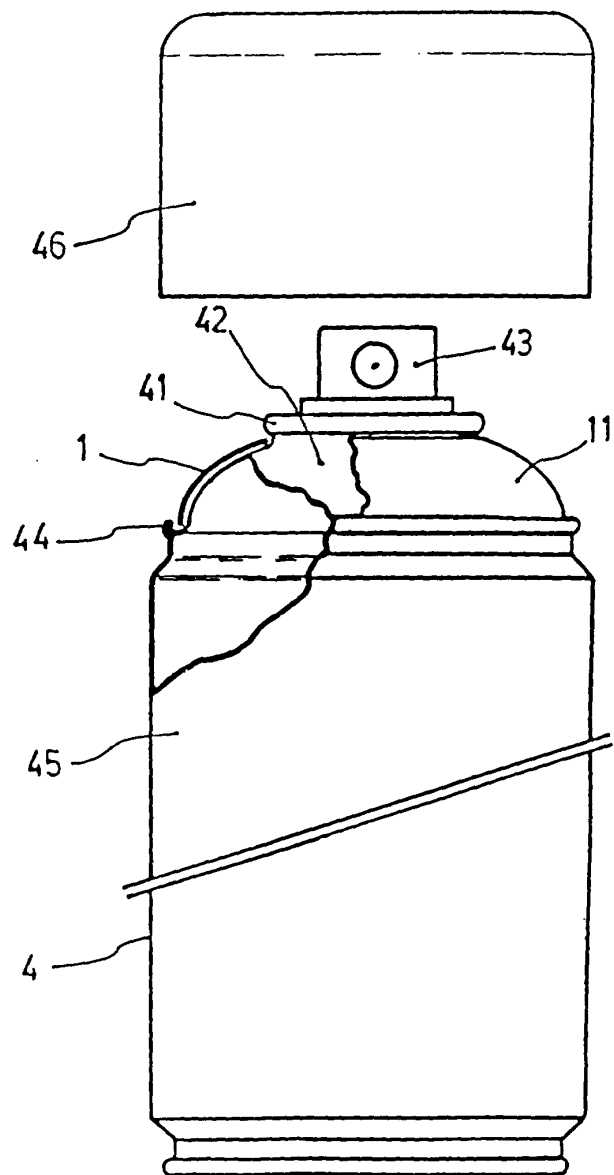


FIG. 2





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 2269

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	DE 21 32 384 A (MEPAG AG) 11 January 1973 (1973-01-11)	1	B65D83/14
A	* page 4, paragraph 1; figures * ----	2-5	
X	US 3 075 673 A (J.H.FREDETTE) 29 January 1963 (1963-01-29) * column 1, line 24; figure 2 * * column 2, line 37 - line 48 * ----	1-5	
A	US 1 828 682 A (F.G. ROBINSON) 20 October 1931 (1931-10-20) * the whole document * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20 March 2001	Examiner Martin, A
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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EP 00 12 2269

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
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20-03-2001

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