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(30) Priority: **12.06.2001 CN 01114789**

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(54) **Easy-Open film bag, dispensing arrangement and method of manufacture for same**

(57) A manufacturing method for plastic bags recombines a layer of plastic (1) to the outside surface of the bag (2) to provide a portion of the outside surface with a lower melting point than the inside surface of the bag. The bags are arranged in stacks and heat is applied to bond the low melting point layer. A relatively weak bond is formed between adjacent outside bag surfaces while the bag inside surfaces remain free of each other. The weak bond is positioned along the median of the

bag and near the bag opening. A second bag is drawn open by the bond during retrieval of a first bag. A flexible separation tab (14) is arranged to maintain the separation between the inside surfaces of the open bag. The separation tab may also be made conspicuous to present an obvious retrieval point for the top bag in a hanging bag dispensing arrangement.

**EP 1 270 429 A3**



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 01 30 6843

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 6 105 780 A (NGUYEN TAI H) 22 August 2000 (2000-08-22) * column 3, line 44 - line 48 * * column 6, line 20 - line 25 * * column 7, line 24 - line 65 *	1,2,4-9, 13-15	B65D33/00
X	US 5 845 779 A (FLETCHER WADE D ET AL) 8 December 1998 (1998-12-08) * column 1, line 39 - line 55 * * column 3, line 35 - line 47 *	8,9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B65D
<p><del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del></p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		5 January 2005	Augustin, W
<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>			

2  
EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04/C01)



European Patent  
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Application Number

EP 01 30 6843

### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-9, 13-16



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B

Application Number  
EP 01 30 6843

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-9, 13-16

bag, method of manufacturing the bag, dispensing arrangement with features which result in the bonding together of the outside surfaces of adjacent bags and avoiding bonding of the inside surfaces of the bag

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2. claims: 10-12

dispensing arrangement comprising a separation tab

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

EP 01 30 6843

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.

05-01-2005

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			US 5363965 A	15-11-1994
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