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(11) **EP 1 283 177 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
23.04.2003 Bulletin 2003/17

(51) Int Cl.7: **B65D 71/06**

(43) Date of publication A2:
12.02.2003 Bulletin 2003/07

(21) Application number: **02014995.1**

(22) Date of filing: **10.07.2002**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

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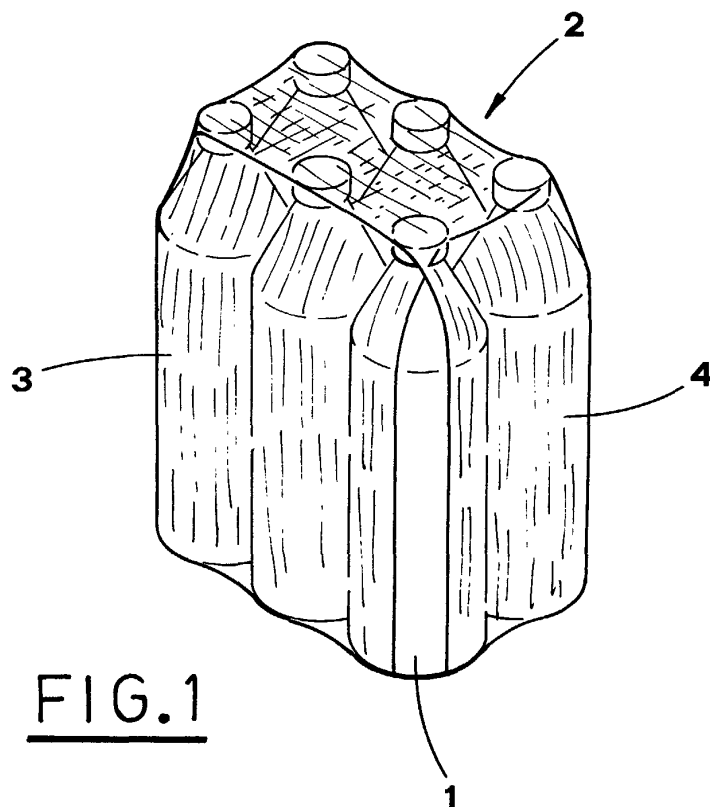
(30) Priority: **18.07.2001 IT BO20010455**

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(54) **Package and method for grouping articles**

(57) A package for two or more grouped articles, in particular bottles, includes two close-loop strips (3,4) of extendible elastic plastic material, wrapped around

grouped articles (1) and laying in planes oriented in different ways. The length of each strip (3,4) is smaller than the perimeter of the grouped articles (1) along which it is wrapped.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 01 4995

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 4 596 330 A (BENNO EDWARD L) 24 June 1986 (1986-06-24)	1-6	B65D71/06
Y	* column 2, line 50 - column 3, line 28; figures 1-5 *	7	
X	US 4 304 332 A (DANTI BERNARD R) 8 December 1981 (1981-12-08) * column 3, line 38 - line 61; figures 1,3 *	1-6	
Y	DE 299 15 989 U (SCHMIDT VERPACKUNGSTECHNIK GMB) 9 December 1999 (1999-12-09) * claim 1; figures *	7	
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
THE HAGUE		3 March 2003	Bridault, A
<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 82 (P04C01)

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

EP 02 01 4995

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03-03-2003

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