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(54) Soup vessel

(57) The invention relates to a soup vessel for serving and/or storing soup or the like, especially for use on board of aircrafts, comprising a bowl for receiving the

soup or the like. According to the invention an outer vessel (10) for receiving said bowl (4) is provided, said outer vessel (10) being constructed such that it is stackable.

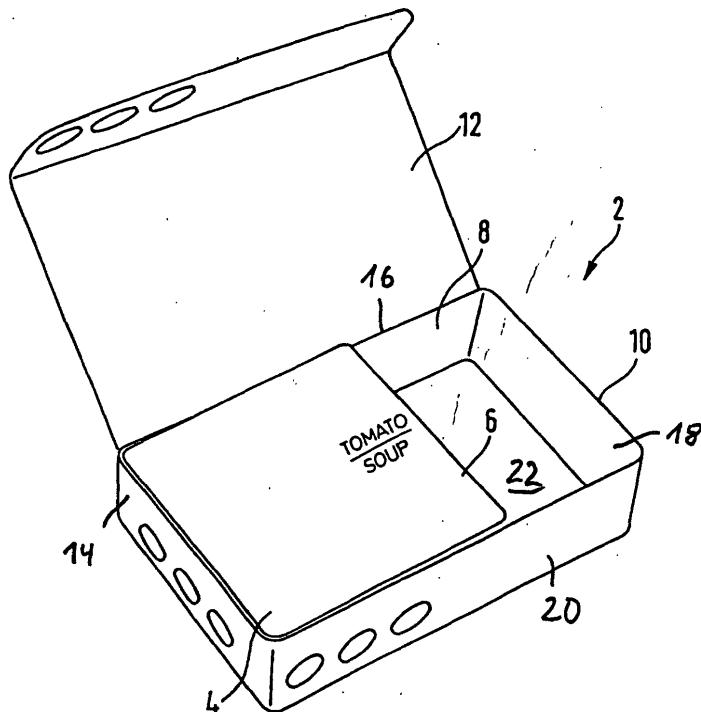


FIG. 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 03 00 2410

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 4 572 423 A (SPENCER AARON) 25 February 1986 (1986-02-25) * claims 1-3; figures 1-4,7 *	1,2,12, 13	B65D77/04 B65D5/00
X	US 4 925 035 A (HUENNINGHAUS WERNER) 15 May 1990 (1990-05-15) * claim 1; figure 1 *	1,2,12, 13	
X	US 4 821 884 A (GRIFFIN CHRISTOPHER ET AL) 18 April 1989 (1989-04-18) * column 2, line 22 - line 37; claims 1,6,14; figure 1 *	1,2, 12-17	
X	US 4 013 798 A (GOLTSOS COSTAS E) 22 March 1977 (1977-03-22) * claim 1; figure 1 *	1,2	
X	US 3 349 985 A (BRIAN SALWAY) 31 October 1967 (1967-10-31) * claim 1; figure 4 *	1,12,13, 17	
X	US 3 339 724 A (HICKIN ROBERT J) 5 September 1967 (1967-09-05) * column 3, line 4 - column 4, line 57; figures 1,2,5 * * column 6, line 15 - line 17 *	1,12,13, 22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) B65D A23L
X	US 3 476 282 A (MONACO FOSTER ET AL) 4 November 1969 (1969-11-04) * claims 1,4; figures 1-3 *	1,12-15	
X	US 5 588 587 A (LIQUORI KATHERINE S ET AL) 31 December 1996 (1996-12-31) * claims 1-3,6; figures 7,9 *	1,12,13, 17-19,22 24	
A	US 2 924 372 A (KIRKEBY DAVID H) 9 February 1960 (1960-02-09) * column 1, line 15 - line 28; figure 3 *	1,12-15, 22	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
MUNICH	13 August 2003		Groh, B
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	
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			

**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:

1,12-19,22,24

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:



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: 1-2

soup vessel as characterized in claim 1, comprising a bowl, additionally characterized by said bowl being sealed by a foil-like sealing member and further characterized as in dependent claim 2.

2. Claims: 1, 3, 5, 7, 8

soup vessel comprising a bowl, an outer vessel and further specified by claim 1; additionally characterized by: the outer vessel including an open end and a lid as specified in claim 3; possibly further specified by the dependent claims 5, 7 and 8.

3. Claim : 1 and 4

soup vessel comprising a bowl, an outer vessel and further specified by claim 1; further characterized by the bowl being constructed from plastics (see claim 4)

4. Claim : 1 and 5

soup vessel comprising a bowl, an outer vessel and further specified by claim 1; further characterized by the outer vessel being constructed from cardboard (see claim 5).

5. Claim : 1 and 6

soup vessel specified by claim 1 comprising a bowl, an outer vessel; wherein an outer wall of the bowl is shaped as defined in claim 6.

6. Claim : 1 and 9

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by the outer vessel being a box (see claim 9).

7. Claim : 1 and 10

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; whereby the outer vessel has the shape of a cube or a parallelepiped (see claim 10).



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:

8. Claim : 1 and 11

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by said outer vessel having the upper side and the bottom side substantially flat (see claim 11).

9. Claims: 1 and 12-19

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by said outer vessel having an upper wall with an opening as defined in claim 12; possibly further defined as in the dependent claims 13-19

10. Claim : 1 and 20

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by the outer vessel being formed by a single piece of material (see claim 20).

11. Claims: 1, 21 and 23

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by retaining means are provided for retaining the bowl in the outer vessel; possibly further characterized by the dependent claim 23.

12. Claims: 1, 22 and 24

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by positioning means are provided for positioning the bowl relative to the outer vessel (see claim 22); possibly further specified by dependent claim 24.

13. Claims: 1 and 25-27

soup vessel specified by claim 1, comprising a bowl and an outer vessel; further characterized by a circumferential rim element being provided as defined in claim 25; possibly further characterized by dependent claims 26 or 27.

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

EP 03 00 2410

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.

13-08-2003

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