

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 469 256 A3

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:  
05.01.2005 Bulletin 2005/01

(51) Int Cl. 7: F24C 3/08, F23D 14/06

(43) Date of publication A2:  
20.10.2004 Bulletin 2004/43

(21) Application number: 04101576.9

(22) Date of filing: 16.04.2004

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

(30) Priority: 18.04.2003 IT MI20030829

(71) Applicant: SMEG S.p.A.  
I-42016 Guastalla (IT)

(72) Inventors:  
• Dallaglio, Carmelo  
42024 Castelnovo di Sotto (IT)  
• Dall'Oglio, Alberto  
46029 Suzzara (IT)

(74) Representative: Jorio, Paolo et al  
STUDIO TORTA S.r.l.,  
Via Viotti, 9  
10121 Torino (IT)

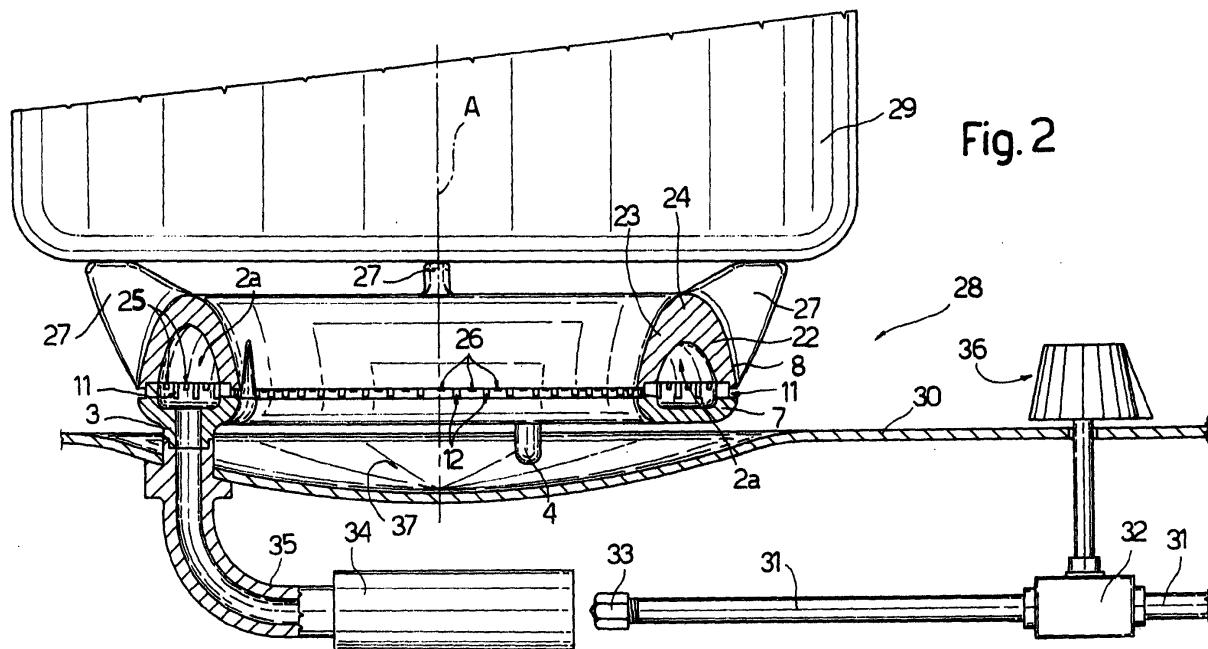
### (54) Gas ring for a cooking range

(57) A gas ring (1), used in combination with pans (29) for cooking food, has a gas fitting (3); a gas distribution chamber (2a); and a number of nozzles (11,12,25,26;12,26) communicating with the gas distribution chamber (2a), which is located solely inside a pipe (2) extending along a path (P); and the nozzles

(11,12,25,26;12,26) are distributed solely along the pipe (2).

The path may have different shapes: a ring, circular or elliptical, C-shaped or S-shaped.

The gas ring (1) may have top protrusions (27) for support of a pan or a pot, and bottom protrusions (4) for transmitting the forces of pan and ring onto the range.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim			
X	GB 2 223 302 A (TIAO HO YEN) 4 April 1990 (1990-04-04) * pages 3-5; figures 5,7 *	1-5,7,8, 12-20	F24C3/08 F23D14/06		
P,A	----- WO 03/036168 A (OHG DEFENDI S R L ; PAESANI CARLO (IT)) 1 May 2003 (2003-05-01) * figures 2,7 *	2			
A	----- DE 39 18 722 A (KUZSELKA OEDOEN GYOERGY DIPL I) 22 November 1990 (1990-11-22) * figure 2 *	12-14, 17,18			
A	----- US 3 830 216 A (DODD E) 20 August 1974 (1974-08-20) * column 6, line 1 - line 6; figure 5 * * column 10, line 7 - line 9 *	12-19			
A	----- US 4 679 544 A (KOZIOL WALTER) 14 July 1987 (1987-07-14) * figures 10,12 *	12-19			
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)		
			F24C F23D		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims					
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner			
Munich	6 August 2004	von Mittelstaedt, 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					

**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, 12-22

European Patent  
OfficeLACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET BApplication Number  
EP 04 10 1576

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, 12-22

A gas ring for a cooking range, with top projections acting as support for a pan, the projections being offset slightly laterally from the nozzles, and with bottom projections. The resulting effect is, that the weight of the pan is directly transmitted to the range via thesee projections.

---

## 2. claim: 10

A gas ring for a cooking range, the gas fitting being located directly beneath the gas pipe. The resulting effect is, that there is a larger amount of mounting possibilities of the flame rings on the range, and manufacturing cost can be reduced.

---

## 3. claim: 11

A gas ring for a cooking range, the cross section of the gas distribution chamber varying gas fitting being located directly beneath the gas pipe. The resulting effect is, that the gas discharge is equal at every nozzle, independent on how far it is located from the gas inlet into the distribution ring.

---

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

EP 04 10 1576

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.

06-08-2004

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
GB 2223302	A	04-04-1990	NONE		
WO 03036168	A	01-05-2003	IT VE20010043 A1 WO 03036168 A1 EP 1459012 A1	24-04-2003 01-05-2003 22-09-2004	
DE 3918722	A	22-11-1990	DE 3918722 A1		22-11-1990
US 3830216	A	20-08-1974	CA 946695 A1 DE 2211961 A1 FR 2130180 A5 IT 952082 B US 3773027 A	07-05-1974 21-09-1972 03-11-1972 20-07-1973 20-11-1973	
US 4679544	A	14-07-1987	US 4478205 A US 4488534 A CA 1330755 C CA 1225921 A1 US 4773384 A CA 1206864 A1	23-10-1984 18-12-1984 19-07-1994 25-08-1987 27-09-1988 01-07-1986	