

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 481 843 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
05.04.2006 Bulletin 2006/14

(51) Int Cl.:
B60P 3/07 (2006.01)

B60P 3/08 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
01.12.2004 Bulletin 2004/49

(21) Application number: 04251618.7

(22) Date of filing: 22.03.2004

(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: 28.05.2003 GB 0312183
12.11.2003 GB 0326327

(71) Applicant: Adaptainer Ltd
Ipswich IP4 1JX (GB)

(72) Inventors:
• Clark, Jonathan
Ipswich IP4 1JX (GB)
• van Donge, Arie
2970 Schilde (BE)

(74) Representative: Copp, David Christopher et al
Dummett Copp,
25 The Square,
Martlesham Heath
Ipswich,
Suffolk, IP5 3SL (GB)

(54) Transport apparatus for cars

(57) The invention provides transport apparatus for transporting a plurality of cars. The apparatus comprises a container (1) and a plurality of removable lifting trays (34). The apparatus includes a plurality of reinforced side regions (22) at or adjacent the side walls (2,4), the reinforced regions (22) include a plurality of mounting means (30). The apparatus also comprises at least two removable lifting trays (34) for supporting a car thereon, each tray being suitable for supporting either front or rear

wheels of a car. Each tray (34) includes locating means (40) on opposite sides thereof. The reinforced side regions (22) and trays (34) are arranged such the trays can be secured between reinforced side regions using by engaging the locating means (40) and mounting means (30) of the reinforced regions (22) to secure the tray (34) relative to the container (1) such that a car supported on said trays may be suspended off the floor during transport of said container.

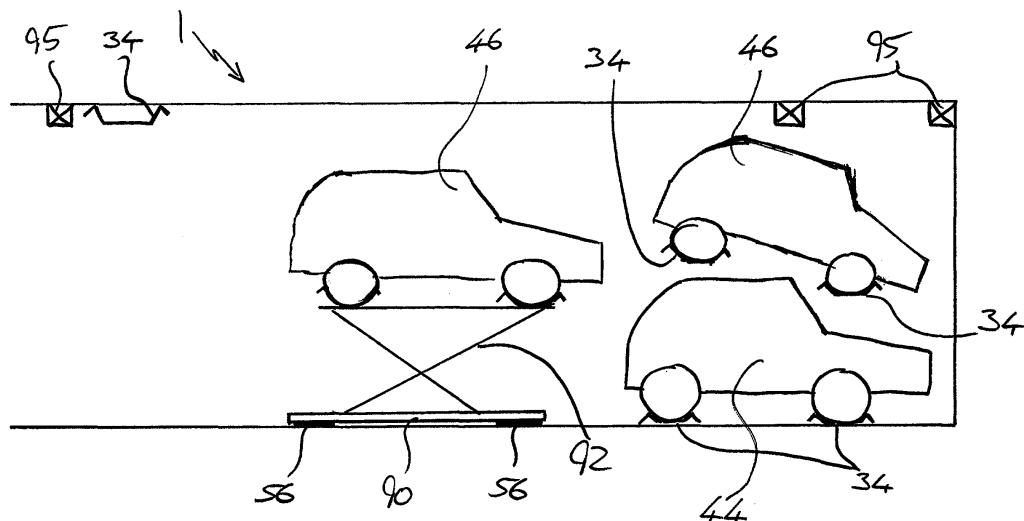


Fig. 9



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
Y	US 5 445 278 A (GEARIN ET AL) 29 August 1995 (1995-08-29) * column 1, lines 21-30 * * column 8, lines 10-42 * * figures 1,20,21 * -----	1,2,6,8, 9	B60P3/07 B60P3/08
A	EP 0 274 882 A (G & G INTELLECT PROPERTIES; G & G INTELLECTUAL PROPERTIES, INC) 20 July 1988 (1988-07-20) * column 1, lines 4-11 * * column 4, line 49 - column 5, line 28 * * column 6, lines 12-42 * * figures 1,7 * -----	1-10	
Y	WO 99/30989 A (SEA CONTAINERS LTD; CLIVE-SMITH, MARTIN; BOTHAM, DALE) 24 June 1999 (1999-06-24) * abstract * -----	1,2,6,8, 9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B60P B65D
<p>2 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
2	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
	Munich	7 February 2006	Christensen, J
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:

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:

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

EP 04 25 1618

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.

07-02-2006

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5445278	A	29-08-1995		NONE		
EP 0274882	A	20-07-1988		AU 594277 B2 AU 8254987 A CA 1285238 C DE 3771476 D1 GR 3002738 T3 HK 15892 A JP 2617066 B2 JP 5238305 A JP 2610079 B2 JP 5193411 A JP 2610080 B2 JP 5193412 A JP 1974798 C JP 7005052 B JP 63212140 A KR 9500582 B1 MX 160087 A SG 492 G US 4768916 A		01-03-1990 23-06-1988 25-06-1991 22-08-1991 25-01-1993 06-03-1992 04-06-1997 17-09-1993 14-05-1997 03-08-1993 14-05-1997 03-08-1993 27-09-1995 25-01-1995 05-09-1988 26-01-1995 23-11-1989 16-04-1992 06-09-1988
WO 9930989	A	24-06-1999		NONE		