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(54) **Continuous web of pre-opened medical bags**

(57) A continuous of pre-opened bags adapted for use with an automated bagging machine. The web (10) of bags is formed from an elongated strip of base material (22) exhibiting deadfold properties and an elongated strip of plastic film (24). The plastic film (24) is adhered to the base material (22) along an adhesive strip defining a pair of side seals (26,28), a bottom seal (30) and an open end (34). A die-cut (36) is formed in the base material near the open end such that product can be inserted into each of the individual bags through the die-cut formed in the base material. Once the product is inserted into the bag (14), a heat seal (70) is formed across the bag (14) beneath the die-cut opening. Once sealed, each of the individual bags is separated from the continuous web along a series of perforations. The series of perforations extend from the die-cut to the side edge of the continuous web (10) such that the width of the die-cut can be increased by automated mechanical means.

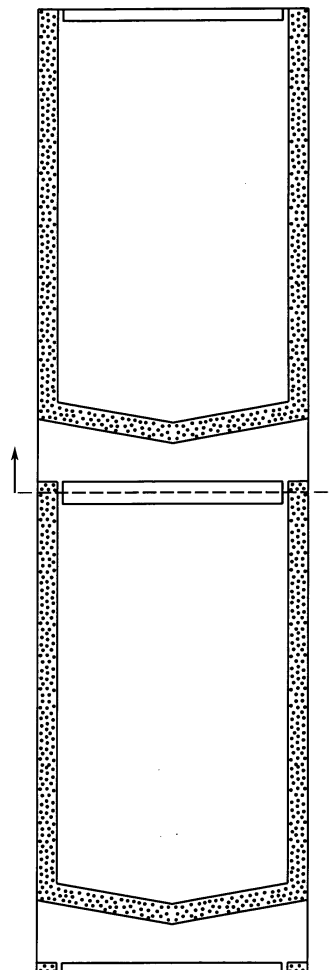


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
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| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
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| A,D | US 6 419 392 B1 (BAKER TONY D) 16 July 2002 (2002-07-16) * the whole document * | 1,12 | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) B65D B65B B31B |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search The Hague | | Date of completion of the search 9 March 2005 | Examiner Grentzius, W |
| 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 | |

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

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