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(71) Applicant: **Amigo Estrada, Raul**
08005 Barcelona (ES)

(72) Inventor: **Amigo Estrada, Raul**
08005 Barcelona (ES)

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(74) Representative: **Toro Gordillo, Ignacio Maria**
Viriato, 56-1o izda.
28010 Madrid (ES)

(54) **Casing for vehicle replacement lamps**

(57) This casing comprises an outer body (1) and an inner body (2) of tubular cylindrical configuration, coaxially assembled with relative rotational capability and laterally having respective windows (11, 21) which are arranged in an angularly offset manner in the closed position of the casing and facing one another in the opened position, allowing in this opened position access to the

replacement lamps (4) and fuses placed in an inner pad. The outer body (2) is closed by the base (22) corresponding to one of the ends of the casing defining an end grip portion (23), and the inner body (1) is closed by the base (12) corresponding to the other end of the casing, defining a grip area (13). The bodies (1 and 2) have coupling means (15, 25) for the guiding thereof towards the opened and closed positions.

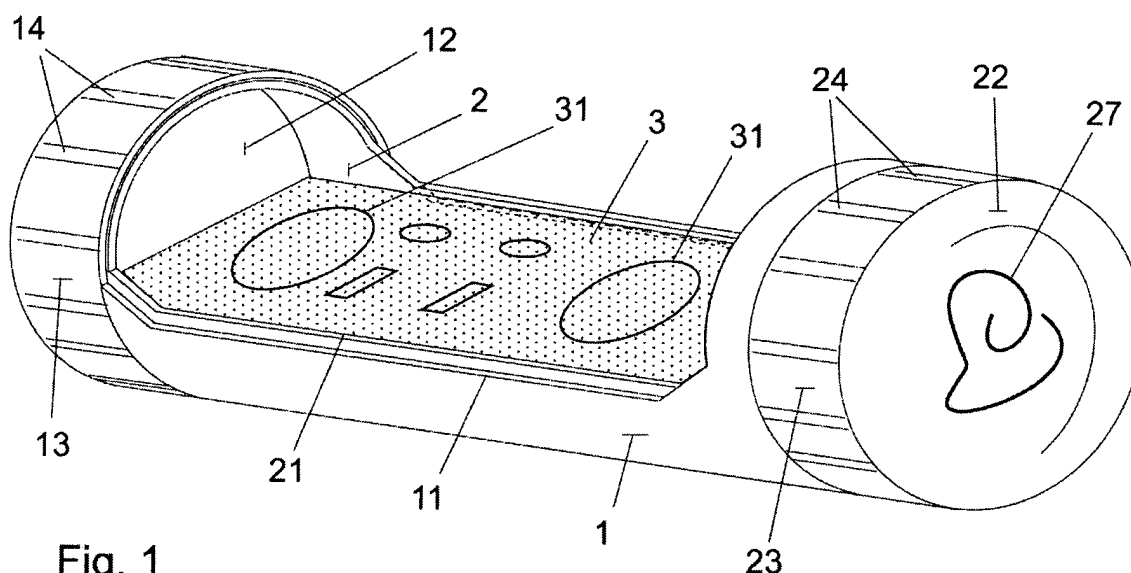


Fig. 1

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Description

Object of the Invention

[0001] The present invention refers to a casing for vehicle replacement lamps, said casing being of the type internally having a sponge pad or the like provided with housings for inserting the vehicle replacement lamps and fuses.

Background of the Invention

[0002] There are different casings currently on the market intended for housing vehicle replacement lamps and fuses. These casings, carried in the vehicle, are generally made up of a plastic or metal recipient in which a foam pad is housed provided with preformed housings for housing the replacement lamps and fuses. The pad is intended to immobilize the lamps inside the casing and protect them from possible impacts. Said casings have a cover which is fitted on the mouth of the recipient, thus forming the closure thereof.

[0003] However these recipients have certain drawbacks in use, worth highlighting is the frequent accidental release of the cover caused by the continuous vibrations and movements of the vehicle, with the subsequent risk of the replacement lamps falling out and breaking and of the cover being lost, the casing thus having no closure means.

Description of the Invention

[0004] The casing for vehicle replacement lamps object of the invention has constructive peculiarities aimed at providing suitable protection for the replacement lamps housed therein and at forming a compact structure in which the closure means can be arranged in an opened or closed position, remaining associated to the casing, and therefore preventing accidental loss thereof.

[0005] According to the invention, this casing comprises an outer body and an inner body, both of a cylindrical tubular configuration, coaxially assembled with rotational capability and laterally having respective windows which are arranged in an angularly offset manner in the closed position of the casing, and facing one another in the opened position, allowing in this opened position access to the replacement lamps and fuses positioned in the inner pad.

[0006] In order to achieve an effective retention of the pad inside the casing, it has been provided that the outer body is closed by the base corresponding to one of the ends of the casing and the inner body closed by the base corresponding to the other end of the casing, the casing being able to incorporate at the end areas formed by said bases advertising graphics or graphics identifying a certain vehicle brand for which the replacement parts housed in the casing in question are intended.

[0007] The inner body has at the end corresponding to the closed base an end portion of greater diameter which is maintained outside of the outer body. On one hand this end portion forms an assembly stop when it frontally comes into contact with the open end of the outer body, and on the other hand it forms a grip area which allows holding on to the inner body while rotating the outer body in either direction so as to open or close the container.

10 [0008] Once the casing is placed in the opened or closed position, it remains in the same position due to the assembly fit between the inner and outer bodies.

[0009] It has been provided that the inner and outer bodies have anti-slip projections in the grip areas defined in the opposite ends of the casing.

15 [0010] Said inner and outer bodies have coupling means on the facing surfaces for guiding both bodies during their relative rotation towards the opened and closed positions, said coupling means further being responsible for retaining the inner and outer bodies in the assembly position.

20 [0011] In order to achieve easy positioning of the casing in the extreme opened and closed positions, the inner body has a projection on its outer surface and close to one of the sides of the window which acts as an opening and closing stop of the casing when coming into contact with the opposite ends of the window of the outer body.

25 [0012] According to the invention, the inner pad is housed tightly in the inner body of the casing and diametrically facing the side window of said inner body, such that when carrying out the opening of the casing, the side windows of the inner and outer bodies facing one another, a wide mouth for accessing the lamps located in the housings of said pad is defined.

Description of the Figures

[0013] To complement the description being made and for the purpose of aiding in understanding the features of the invention, a set of drawings is attached to the present specification in which the following is represented with an illustrative and non-limiting character:

45 Figure 1 shows a perspective view of the casing object of the invention in the opened position.

Figure 2 shows a perspective view of the casing of the previous figure, in a position close to the closed position.

50 Figure 3 shows a side view of the casing in the opened position and sectioned at a vertical mid-plane.

Figure 4 shows a side view of the casing in the closed position and sectioned at a vertical mid-plane.

55 Figure 5 shows an elevational view of the inner and outer bodies, disassembled and longitudinally facing one another.

Figure 6 shows a view similar to the previous one, with the inner and outer bodies vertically sectioned at their longitudinal midplane.

Preferred Embodiment of the Invention

[0014] As can be observed in the figures, the casing of the invention comprises an outer body (1) in which the inner body (2) is housed in a tight manner and with rotational capability, both bodies (1 and 2) being of a cylindrical tubular configuration and made of a plastic material

[0015] The bodies (1 and 2) have respective side windows (11, 21) and each one of them is closed by the bases (12, 22) forming the opposite ends of the casing, at least one of the bases (12, 22) having embossed advertising or identifying graphics (27).

[0016] Housed inside the casing there is a foam pad (3) with housings (31) for placement of the replacement lamps (4).

[0017] The bodies (1 and 2) have end portions (13, 23) forming grip areas and provided with anti-slip projections (14, 24).

[0018] The bodies (1 and 2) have a perimetral projection (15) and groove (25) on facing surfaces thereof which, once coupled, form guide means for the relative rotation of said bodies (1, 2) towards the opened and closed positions, additionally retaining said bodies in the assembly position. Pulling on the bodies (1, 2) in longitudinal and opposite directions can achieve the release of the projection (15) from the groove (25) and the disassembly of the casing.

[0019] The inner body (2) has a projection (26) on its outer surface and close to one of the sides of the window which, when coming into contact with the opposite sides of the window (11) of the outer body, acts as an opening and closing stop of the casing.

[0020] By means of the relative rotation of the bodies (1 and 2), the windows (11, 21) can be arranged facing one another in an opened position of the casing, or angularly offset in the closed position of the casing.

[0021] Having sufficiently described the nature of the invention as well as a preferred embodiment thereof, it is hereby stated for all intents and purposes that the materials, shape, size and arrangement of the described elements may be modified provided this does not imply an alteration of the essential features of the invention which are claimed below.

Claims

1. A casing for vehicle replacement lamps, said casing being of the type intended for containing vehicle replacement lamps and fuses and internally having a sponge pad (3) or the like provided with housings (31) for inserting the replacement parts, **characterized in that** it comprises an outer body (1) and an

inner body (2) of cylindrical tubular configuration, coaxially assembled with relative rotational capability and laterally having respective windows (11, 21) which are arranged in an angularly offset manner in the closed position of the casing and facing one another in the opened position, allowing in this opened position access to the replacement lamps (4) and fuses placed in the inner pad.

2. A casing according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the outer body (2) is closed by the base (22) corresponding to one of the ends of the casing and the inner body (1) is closed by the base (12) corresponding to the other end of the casing.

3. A casing according to the previous claims, **characterized in that** the inner body (2) has at the end corresponding to the closed base (22), an end portion (23) of greater diameter which is kept outside of the outer body (2) forming an assembly stop when assembling the inner body (2) in the outer body (1), and a grip area for gripping the inner body (2) during opening and closing of the casing.

4. A casing according to the previous claims, **characterized in that** the inner body (1) and the outer body (2) have coupling means (15, 25) on the facing surfaces for guiding both bodies during the relative rotation thereof towards the opened and closed positions, and for the retention thereof in the assembly position.

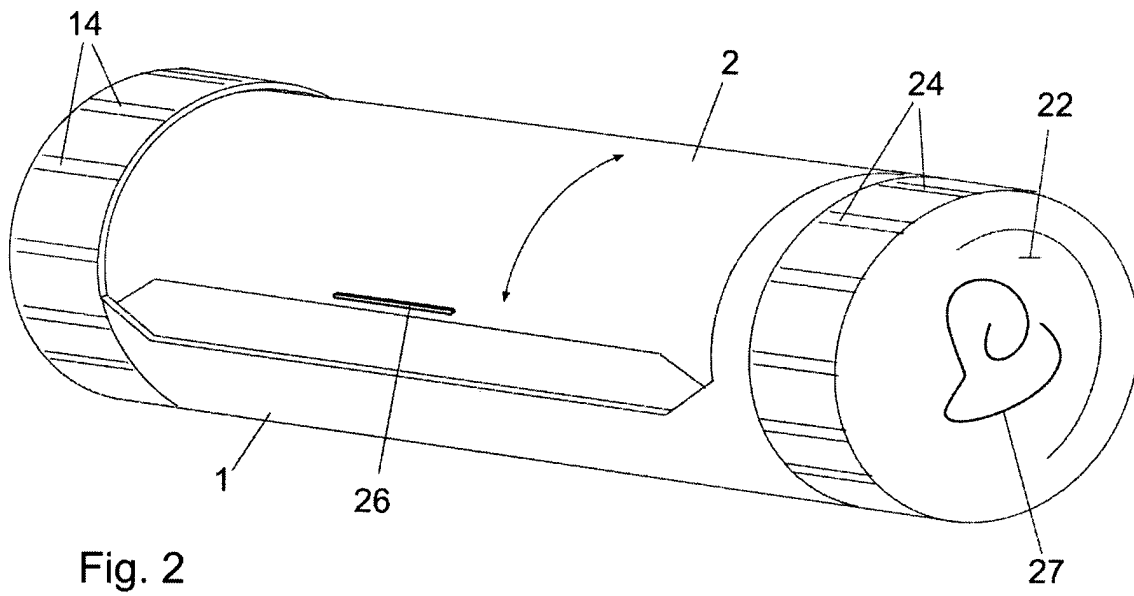
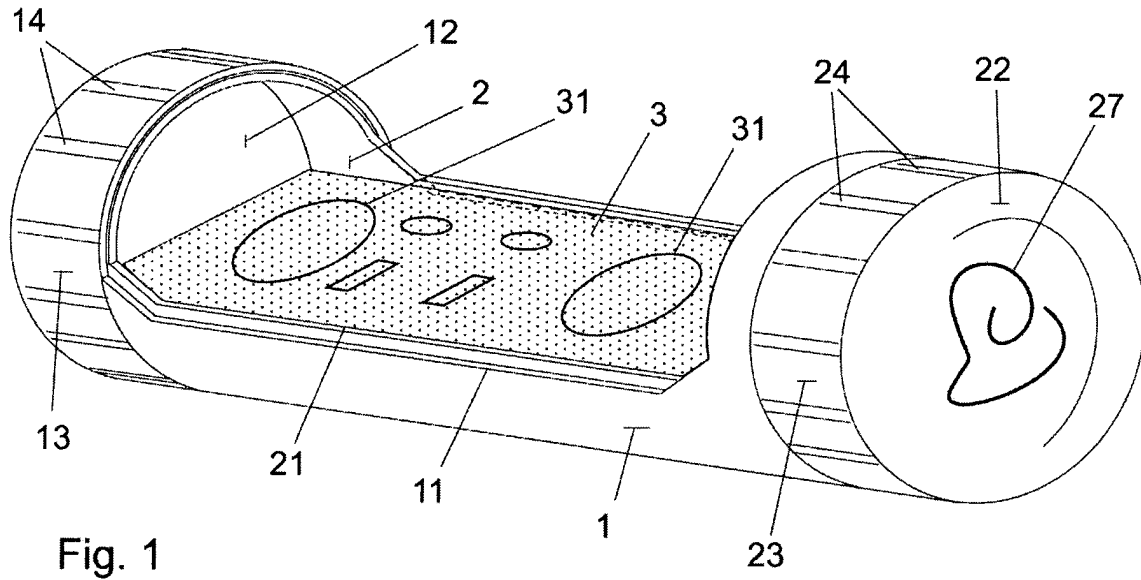
5. A casing according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the bodies (1, 2) have grip areas (13, 23) on the opposite ends of the casing, provided with anti-slip projections (14, 24).

6. A casing according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the inner body (2) has a projection (26) on its outer surface and next to one of the sides of the window (21) which acts as an opening and closing stop of the casing when coming into contact with the opposite ends of the window (11) of the outer body (1).

7. A casing according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the inner pad (3) is housed tightly in the inner body (2) of the casing and facing the side window (21) of said inner body.

8. A casing according to claim 2, **characterized in that** it has embossed advertising or identifying graphics (27) on at least one of the closed bases (12, 22).

9. A casing according to any previous claim, **characterized in that** the bodies (1 and 2) are of a plastic material.



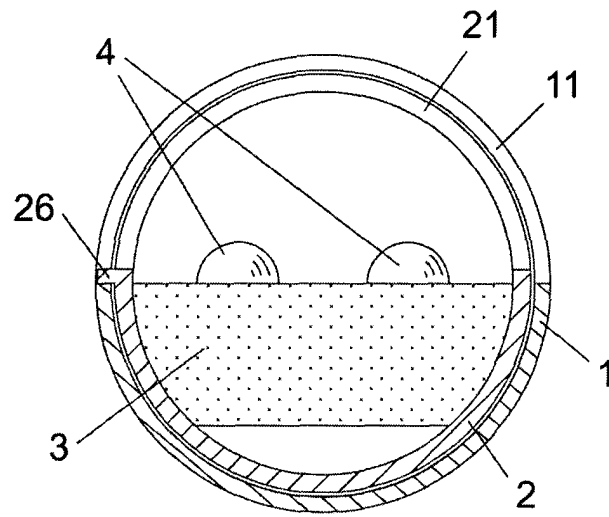


Fig. 3

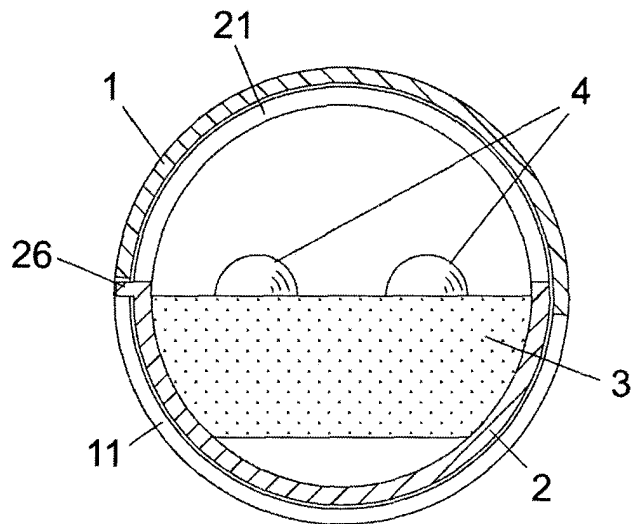


Fig. 4

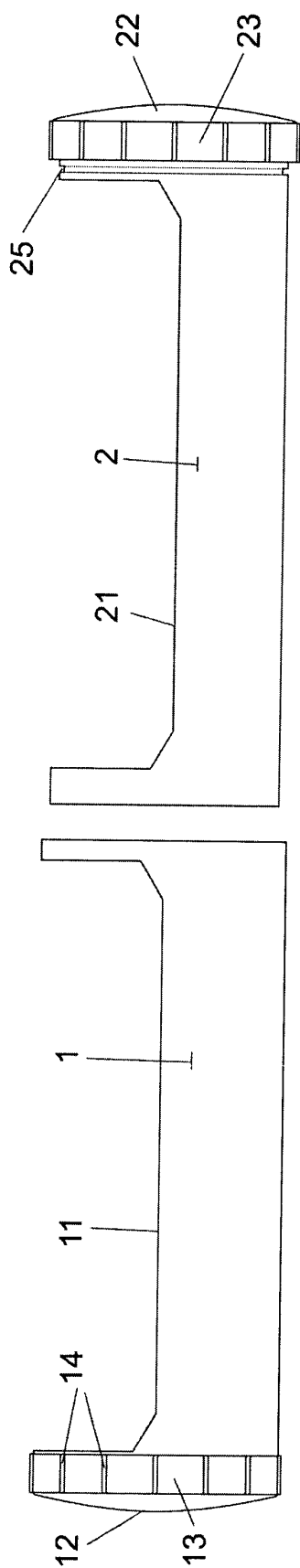


Fig. 5

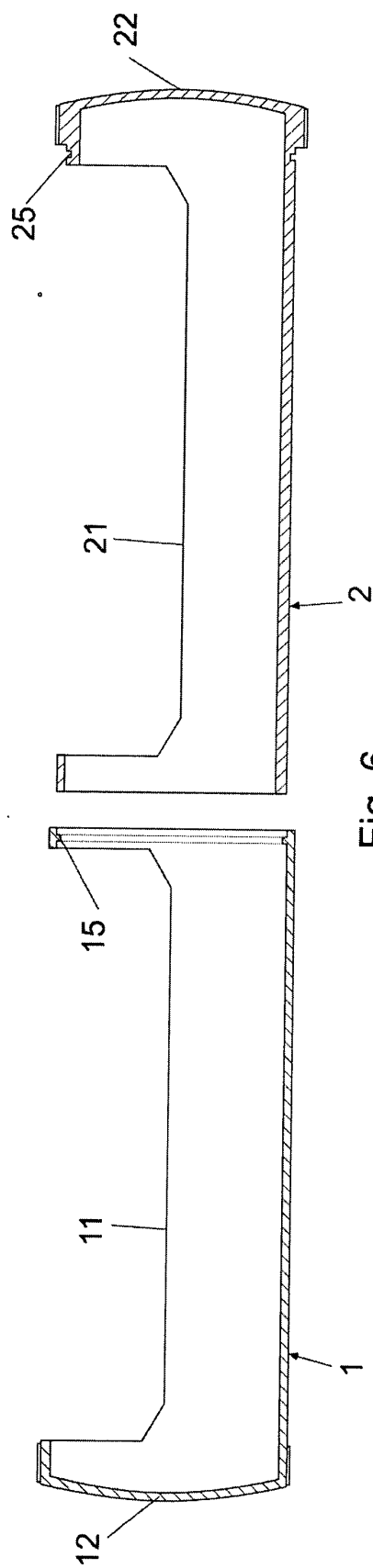


Fig. 6



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 38 0048

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)
Y	NL 7 313 307 A (BEGHIN-SAY S.A. TE THUMERIES, FRANKRIJK) 2 April 1975 (1975-04-02)	1-4,8,9	B65D43/14
A	* figures 1-4 *	5-7	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 9 June 2005	Examiner Appelt, L
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EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04001)

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

EP 05 38 0048

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
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09-06-2005

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