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(54) **Carton having a strap handle**

(57) A carton including inner (26) and outer (24) top panels that are secured together to form a composite top wall of the carton. The carton having a base wall (14), and side walls (16, 18) interconnecting the top and base walls and having pairs of inner (40, 42) and outer (36, 38) end closure panels, joined to end edges of the inner and outer top panels respectively, for closing the ends of the carton. The carton also having a strap handle (200) formed in part from the inner top panel (26) and in part from the inner end closure panels (40, 42). The strap handle comprising a medial grip portion (202) and two wider portions (204, 206) each wider portion extending away from the medial portion and being contiguous with a forked-end portion (208, 210) formed in the adjacent inner end closure panel (40, 42). The outer top panel (26) having handle access means, aligned with the medial grip portion of the strap handle (200) such that the medial grip portion can be moved into a position of use. The forked-end portions of the strap handle being free of restraint of said outer end flaps to facilitate movement of the strap handle (200), so that the carton can be carried.

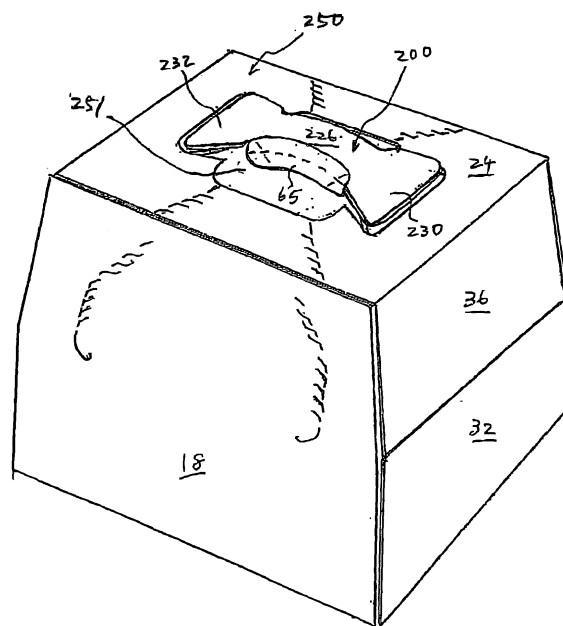


FIG. 6

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 05 01 4760

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
D,X	CA 1 243 987 A1 (SOMERVILLE BELKIN INDUSTRIES LIMITED) 1 November 1988 (1988-11-01) * the whole document *	1-8	B65D71/00
X	EP 0 203 806 A (THE MEAD CORPORATION) 3 December 1986 (1986-12-03) * column 3, line 10 - column 6, line 14 * * figures 1,8 *	1-8	
X	EP 0 754 631 A (THE MEAD CORPORATION) 22 January 1997 (1997-01-22) * column 3, line 50 - column 5, line 54 *	1-3,7	
A		6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
<p><del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del></p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Berlin		15 November 2005	Kakoullis, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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 &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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### 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:

see annex



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: 1-8

A carton comprising an outer top panel having a handle access opening.

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2. claims: 9-16

A carton comprising an inner top panel having a relief notch.

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3. claims: 17-21

A carton comprising side end flaps having yielding flaps.

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

EP 05 01 4760

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.

15-11-2005

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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EP 0203806	A	03-12-1986	CA 1270232 A1 12-06-1990 DE 3671423 D1 28-06-1990 US 4588084 A 13-05-1986
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