



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 621 514 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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

(51) Int Cl.:
B67D 1/04 (2006.01) B67D 1/14 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
01.02.2006 Bulletin 2006/05

(21) Application number: **05106022.6**

(22) Date of filing: **21.08.1998**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE ES FR GB IT

(30) Priority: **04.09.1997 NL 1006948**

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
01205037.3 / 1 213 258
98937716.3 / 0 935 585

(71) Applicant: **HEINEKEN TECHNICAL SERVICES**
B.V.
2382 PH Zoeterwoude (NL)

(72) Inventors:

- **Van der Meer, Sijtze**
2380 BB, Zoeterwoude (NL)
- **Timmermans, Sjoerd**
2380 BB, Zoeterwoude (NL)

(74) Representative: **van Westenbrugge, Andries et al**
Nederlandsch Octrooibureau
Postbus 29720
2502 LS Den Haag (NL)

(54) Beverage dispensing apparatus

(57) The invention relates to a beverage dispensing assembly comprising a beverage dispensing device (1) and a container (5) containing a carbonated beverage, the dispensing device comprises a chamber (3) having an opening for receiving the container (5) and a cover (4) for closing of the opening, a tapping device (6) being attached to the chamber (3) for receiving a flexible, exchangeable delivery line (7,34) and comprising a closing member (52,58,59) acting on the delivery line (7,34) and operable via an actuation handle (57), wherein the closing member and actuation handle (57) can be placed in an receiving position for insertion of the delivery line, wherein the container (5) cannot be placed in a dispensing position in the chamber (3) closed by the cover (4), when the closing member (52,58,59) and the actuation handle (57) are in the receiving position.

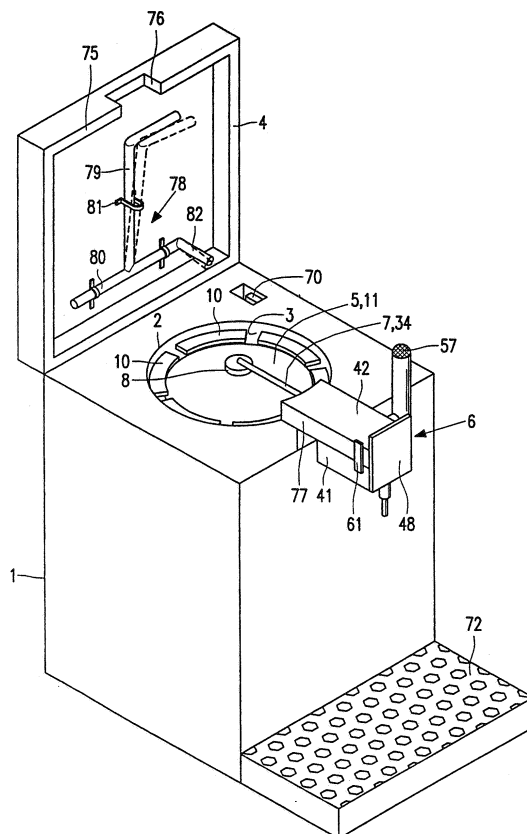


FIG. 1

EP 1 621 514 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 10 6022

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Y	US 3 424 346 A (DELMAR F. FRUEHLING) 28 January 1969 (1969-01-28)	8	B67D1/04
A	* column 3, line 59 - column 4, line 43; figures 1-7 *	1	B67D1/14 B67D1/04
Y	US 2 549 207 A (KESTENBAUM SAUL) 17 April 1951 (1951-04-17) * column 1, line 33 - line 37 * * column 4, line 38 - column 5, line 7 * * column 5, line 23 - line 31; figures 4-8 *	8	
A	DE 70 40 728 U (BOGAERT X) 5 January 1972 (1972-01-05) * page 12, line 7 - line 12; figures 1,2 *	1	
A	FR 1 255 526 A (E. GERODOLLE) 10 March 1961 (1961-03-10) * the whole document *	1	
A	US 4 162 030 A (ANTENORE, RONALD L ET AL) 24 July 1979 (1979-07-24)		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	EP 0 084 699 A (RICHARD MILLINGTON AND COMPANY LIMITED) 3 August 1983 (1983-08-03) * abstract; figure 5 *	8	B67D B67B B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 8 February 2006	Examiner Wartenhorst, F
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	

4
EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04C01)

**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:



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: 1-7

Beverage dispensing device in which the container cannot be displaced in a dispensing position in the chamber closed by the cover, when the closing member and the actuation handle are in a receiving position.

2. claim: 8

Beverage dispensing device having a cooling chamber and the spring member which urges the actuation handle into a vertically upright position.

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

EP 05 10 6022

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.

08-02-2006

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3424346	A	28-01-1969	NONE	
US 2549207	A	17-04-1951	NONE	
DE 7040728	U	05-01-1972	ES 161565 Y JP 49043146 B	16-04-1971 19-11-1974
FR 1255526	A	10-03-1961	NONE	
US 4162030	A	24-07-1979	NONE	
EP 0084699	A	03-08-1983	GB 2116294 A	21-09-1983