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(54) **Containers**

(57) The present invention relates to containers 36 having a plurality of walls 6,10,12 wherein at least one 12 of the plurality of walls comprises an inner 4 and an outer 12 panel. The inner panel 4 comprises a line of weakness defining a closure member 32. The outer panel

12 comprises an edge 34. The edge 34 is arranged such that outer panel 12 covers substantially all of line of weakness such as to protect this line of weakness from outside forces during transport and obscures an edge created along the line of weakness after separating closure member 32 from panel 4 from view.

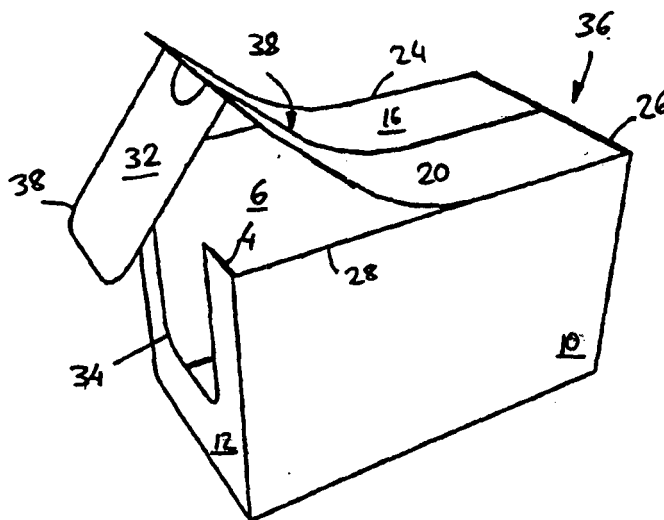


Fig. 2-3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 25 5964

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 3 258 156 A (SMITH LLOYD D) 28 June 1966 (1966-06-28)	1-5,7, 10-15, 27,28, 40,41	INV. B65D5/54 B65D5/02 B65D5/16 B65D5/70
Y	* column 2, lines 37-66; figure 2 *	6,8-10	
Y	US 2003/146130 A1 (KANTER ALLEN ET AL) 7 August 2003 (2003-08-07) * figures 1,2 *	6,8,9	
Y	GB 1 520 806 A (BPB INDUSTRIES LTD) 9 August 1978 (1978-08-09) * page 2, line 10; figure 1 *	10	
X	EP 0 773 170 A (SCA PACKAGING LIMITED) 14 May 1997 (1997-05-14)	1-4,7, 16-22, 25,26	
Y	* column 2, lines 9-53; figures 4,5 *	23,24	
Y	EP 0 818 393 A (BOXMORE HEALTHCARE PACKAGING LIMITED; FIELD BOXMORE BELFAST LIMITED) 14 January 1998 (1998-01-14) * column 3, line 24 - column 4, line 22; figures 1-3 *	23,24	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) B65D
A	EP 0 483 444 A (MONSANTO EUROPE S.A) 6 May 1992 (1992-05-06) * figures 1-3 *	1-28,40, 41	
A	EP 0 780 311 A (THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY) 25 June 1997 (1997-06-25) * column 2, line 29 - column 3, line 51; figures 1-4 *	1-28,40, 41	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 4 May 2006	Examiner Jervelund, N
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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**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:
1-28, 40, 41
- ☐ 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: 1-15,27,28,40,41

A container comprising at least one wall having an inner panel and an outer panel, the outer panel having an aperture formed therein, and the inner panel having a line of weakness that lies behind the outer panel and defines a section of said inner panel that can be removed to provide an opening in said inner panel in alignment with the aperture in the outer panel. And a blank for such a container.

2. claims: 16-26

A container with an aperture in a wall and a removable part positioned such that it can be pulled through said aperture, whereby the removable part comprises a fold line enabling it to deform as it is pulled through said aperture.

3. claims: 29-39

A container comprising a plurality of walls, of which at least one wall is a double wall comprising an outer panel and an inner panel, whereby the inner panel is hingedly connected towards the bottom of the container.

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

EP 05 25 5964

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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04-05-2006

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