



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
13.02.2008 Bulletin 2008/07

(51) Int Cl.:
B65D 5/48 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
07.06.2006 Bulletin 2006/23

(21) Application number: **06004616.6**

(22) Date of filing: **07.08.2001**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE TR
Designated Extension States:
LT LV RO

(30) Priority: **10.08.2000 GB 0019755**

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
01957482.1 / 1 309 488

(71) Applicant: **MeadWestvaco Packaging Systems LLC**
Glen Allen, VA 23060 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• **Auclair, Jean-Michel**
36000 Chateauroux (FR)
• **Daniel, Jean-Yves**
36000 Chateauroux (FR)

(74) Representative: **Baldwin, Mark et al**
Coulson & Associates
1st Floor Suite
5 Newbold Road
Rugby
Warwickshire CV21 2LQ (GB)

(54) **Carton and insert and blank for forming the same**

(57) A carton for packaging one or more articles comprising linear series of panels for forming a tubular structure comprising base panel, opposed side panels and a top panel, wherein the carton comprises an end closure panel hinged to one of said linear series of panels for at least partially closing one end of the tubular structure wherein said end closure panel comprises a hand aperture and wherein there further comprises an insert comprising a second hand aperture in registry with the first hand aperture, whereby the carton may be engaged by a user by the aperture formed in the carton by the first and second apertures.

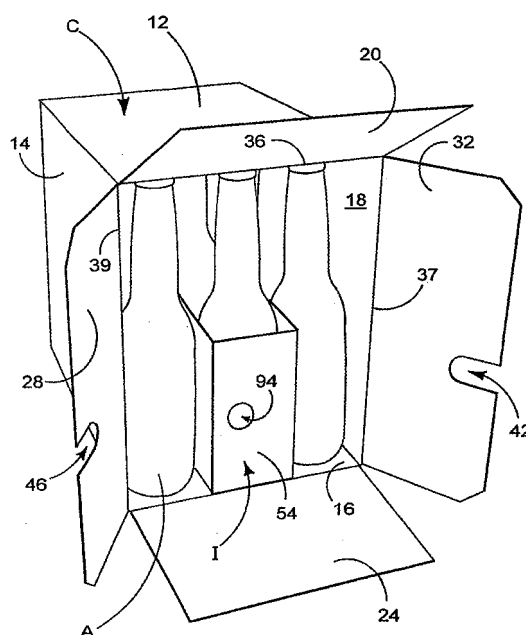


FIGURE 4



European Patent
Office

PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 63 of the European Patent Convention EP 06 00 4616
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent
proceedings, as the European search report

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 3 868 055 A (LANGEN MARINUS J M ET AL) 25 February 1975 (1975-02-25) * column 2, line 49 - line 51 *	8	INV. B65D5/48
Y	* figures 1-5 *	9,10	
X	US 5 518 111 A (STOUT JAMES T [US]) 21 May 1996 (1996-05-21) * column 6, line 19 - line 66 *	11-13	
Y	* figures 6,10 *	14	
Y	US 3 980 223 A (CURRAN JOHN J) 14 September 1976 (1976-09-14) * column 2, line 44 - column 4, line 7 *	9,10,14	
X	US 4 469 222 A (GRASER EARL J [US]) 4 September 1984 (1984-09-04) * column 3, line 10 - line 19 *	8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>see sheet C</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		5 September 2007	RODRIGUEZ GOMBAU, F
<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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

4
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)



Claims 1-7 and 17-19 infringe Article 76(1) EPC.

Claim(s) not searched:
1-7,17-19

Reason for the limitation of the search (non-patentable invention(s)):

Claims 1-7 and 17-19 infringe Article 76(1) EPC.

**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:
- 8-14
- ☐ The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



European Patent
Office

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 06 00 4616

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: 8-14

Insert secured to a carton

2. claims: 15,16

Blank having apertures suitable for engagement during
construction of an insert structure

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

EP 06 00 4616

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.

05-09-2007

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 3868055	A	25-02-1975	NONE		
US 5518111	A	21-05-1996	WO	9629261 A1	26-09-1996
US 3980223	A	14-09-1976	CA	1044659 A1	19-12-1978
US 4469222	A	04-09-1984	CA	1203209 A1	15-04-1986