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(30) Priority: **01.08.2006 US 496479**

(54) **Closure device for drinking vessel**

(57) A closure device (100) for use at the opening of a drinking vessel (10), comprises a body (110) for connection to the drinking vessel (10) at its opening (8), and a valve comprising a valve member (120) supported by the body (110) for movement relative thereto between an inner open position allowing flowing out of liquid from inside the drinking vessel (10) through its opening (8) and an outer closed position sealing off the opening (8). A spring (130) is included to resiliently bias the valve member (120) towards the closed position. The valve member (120) has an internal passage (X) through which liquid from inside the drinking vessel (10) may flow out when the valve member (120) is in the open position.

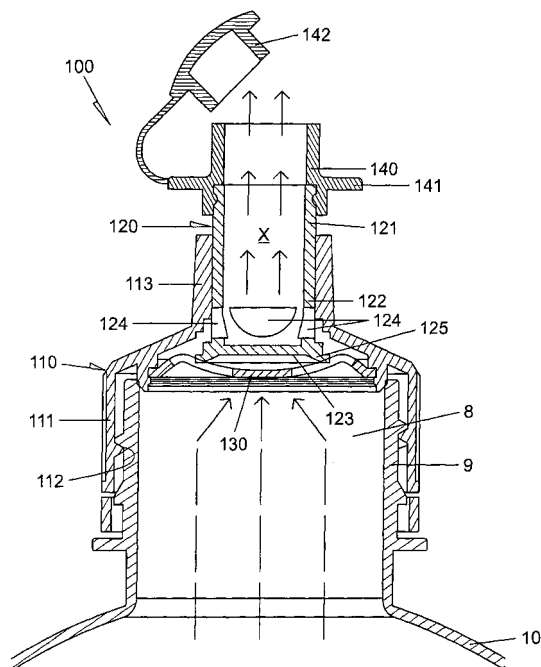


FIG. 4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 25 3027

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	WO 96/18552 A (EILERTSEN EDGAR [NO]) 20 June 1996 (1996-06-20)	1,3,4, 8-16	INV. B65D47/24
Y	* page 3 - page 5; figures 1-4 *	2,5	
Y	US 6 095 375 A (ADAMS BRIAN M [US] ET AL) 1 August 2000 (2000-08-01) * column 3, line 66 - line 67; figures 2,5 *	2,5	
A	DE 84 11 429 U1 (HENKEL KGAA [DE]) 11 April 1985 (1985-04-11) * figures 1-6 *	1-4	
A	NL 1 023 182 C2 (IDRESULT B V [NL]) 18 October 2004 (2004-10-18) * figures 1-3b *	1-4	
A	JP 10 175659 A (CROWN CORK JAPAN) 30 June 1998 (1998-06-30) * figure 1 *	2,5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		21 November 2007	Bevilacqua, Vincenzo
<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>			

2
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



European Patent
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EP 07 25 3027

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:
- 1-5,8-16
- ☐ 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).



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: 1-5,8-16

A closure device for use at the opening of a drinking vessel, comprising: a body for connection to said drinking vessel at said opening; a valve comprising a valve member supported by the body for movement relative thereto between an inner open position allowing flowing out of liquid from inside said drinking vessel through said opening and an outer closed position sealing off said opening; and spring means resiliently biasing the valve member towards the closed position; whereby the valve member has an internal passage through which liquid from inside said drinking vessel may flow out when the valve member is in the open position
further comprising a tear strip provided immediately behind the mouthpiece and retaining the valve member in the closed position.

2. claims: 6,7

A closure device for use at the opening of a drinking vessel, comprising: a body for connection to said drinking vessel at said opening; a valve comprising a valve member supported by the body for movement relative thereto between an inner open position allowing flowing out of liquid from inside said drinking vessel through said opening and an outer closed position sealing off said opening; and spring means resiliently biasing the valve member towards the closed position; whereby the valve member has an internal passage through which liquid from inside said drinking vessel may flow out when the valve member is in the open position
characterized in that it includes a closing member engageable upon the protruding part of the valve member to close the passage.

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

EP 07 25 3027

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.

21-11-2007

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 6095375	A	01-08-2000	NONE	
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