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(72) Inventor: **Le Bras, Philippe**
Chateauroux Cedex (FR)

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

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(71) Applicant: **MeadWestvaco Corporation**
Glen Allen, VA 23060 (US)

(54) **Carton for packaging articles and carton blank**

(57) A carton for packaging one or more articles each having a laterally protruding upper portion. The carton comprises opposed top and bottom wall panels connected by opposed side wall panels and an upper retention arrangement provided within at least one of the side wall panels for engaging the laterally protruding upper portion of an article. The carton also comprises an aperture formed in the bottom wall panel through which a lower portion of that same article is receivable and a tab formed at least in part from material taken from the bottom wall panel to form that aperture. The tab provides an extension of a side wall and extends between the bottom wall and a plane containing the base of said article. The tab separates the bottom wall panel from the plane containing the base of said article, preferably by a distance generally equal to the length of said tab.

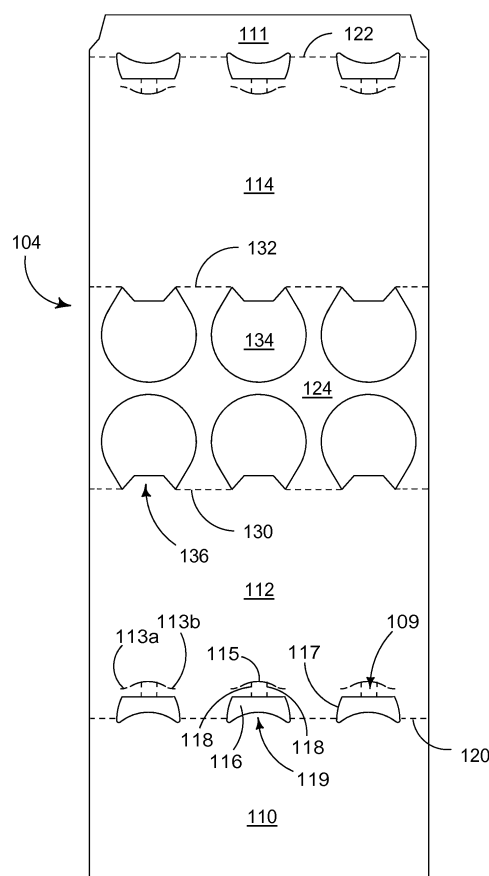


FIGURE 4

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 12 2637

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 5 624 024 A (MIESS KENNETH [US]) 29 April 1997 (1997-04-29)	1-3,9	INV. B65D71/20
Y	* figures 3,4 *	4-7,10, 11,14,15	
X	FR 1 307 326 A (SOURCE PERRIER S A) 26 October 1962 (1962-10-26) * page 1, column 2, lines 14-20; figures 1,2 *	1-3,9	
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Y	WO 96/03328 A (RIVERWOOD INT CORP [US]) 8 February 1996 (1996-02-08) * figure 3 *	6,7	
A	DE 18 04 117 A1 (GRAPHIA GUNDLACH GMBH HANS) 30 April 1970 (1970-04-30) * figure 2 *	1-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		31 March 2008	Jervelund, Niels
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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EPO FORM 1503 (03.02) (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:
- 1-11, 14, 15
- ☐ 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).



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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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: 1-11,14,15

A carton for packaging one or more articles comprising tabs extending below the bottom wall panels.

2. claims: 12,13

A carton for packaging one or more articles comprising tabs extending below the bottom wall panels, whereby the carton is made from two-parts.

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

EP 07 12 2637

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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