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(54) **Optically keyed dispenser**

(57) A dispensing system (10) comprising:
a reservoir containing material to be dispensed, the reservoir having an outlet opening for dispensing of material therefrom, an outlet member secured to the outlet opening substantially against removal from the reservoir, the reservoir aside from the outlet opening not having another opening by which material can be passed; the outlet member having a circumferential portion which extends circumferentially entirely about the outlet opening, wherein a waveguide (64; 184; 200) is carried on the outlet member, the waveguide having an inlet (62) and outlet (63) and providing a path for transmission of electromagnetic radiation from the inlet (62) to the outlet (63), a section of the circumferential portion of the outlet member forming a portion of the waveguide (64; 184; 200) which extends circumferentially about the outlet opening, the waveguide (64) including a frangible portion (220) wherein breaking of the frangible portion (220) changes the transmission characteristics of the waveguide (64; 184; 200), the frangible portion (220) comprising a portion of the section of the circumferential portion of the outlet member, wherein removal of the outlet member from the reservoir severs the frangible portion (220).

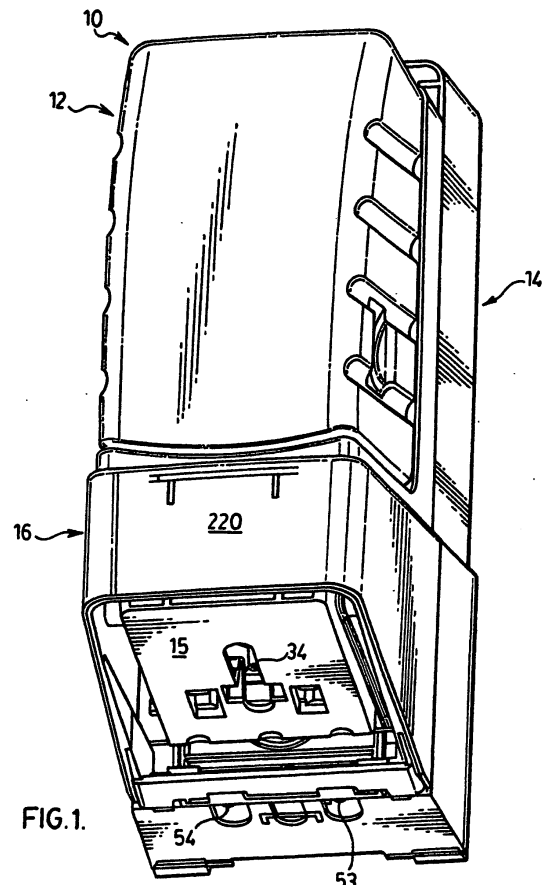


FIG. 1.



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B67D A47K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 31 January 2018	Examiner Geisenhofer, Michael
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 claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

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 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).



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. claim: 1

Reservoir with an outlet that comprises an outlet member rendering it difficult to refill the reservoir, whereby a frangible portion of a waveguide severs when the reservoir is removed.

2. claims: 2-7

Dispensing system with a reservoir assembly comprising an exchangeable reservoir, the system working only if the correct reservoir is present.

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

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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