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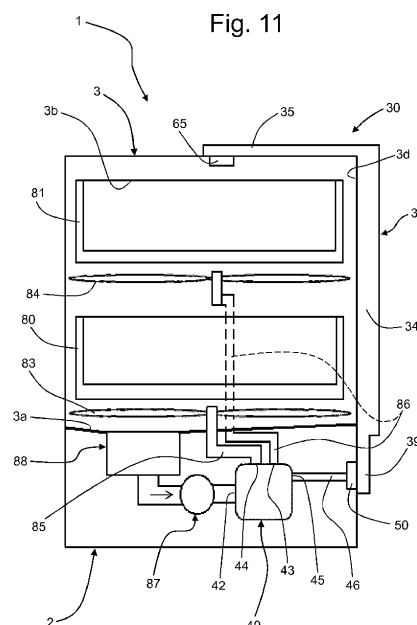
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(54) **Dishwashing machine**

(57) A dishwashing machine comprises a wash tub (3), an electric pump (87) for supplying water from a bottom (3a, 88) of the tub (3) to a sprinkler system (83-86), a switchable device (40), operatively set downstream of a delivery section of the electric pump (87), for controlling supply of water to the sprinkler system (83-86), a water-storage system (30, 45, 46, 50) comprising a tank (30) and a control system including control means for issuing a command for start-up of at least one program for treatment of the dishes that includes at least one step of charging water from the water mains to the tub (3), at least one step of treatment of the dishes, and at least one the step of filling of the tank (30). The switchable device (40) comprises a casing (41), mounted displaceable within which is a distributor member, which can be actuated by an actuator for assuming a plurality of operating positions, amongst which at least one position of opening a first outlet (44), for supplying a first sprinkler (83), and of simultaneously closing another outlet (43), for supplying a second sprinkler (84). The casing (41) of the switchable device (40) has a third outlet (45) that is always open; i.e., it is open irrespective of the operating position assumed by the distributor member. The third outlet (45) is connected via a third pipe (46) to a first opening (39a) of the tank (30) that functions alternatively as inlet and as outlet for the water with respect to the

cavity of the tank. Between the third outlet (45) and the first opening (39a) of the tank (30) valve means (50) operate, which can be controlled independently of the switchable device (40).

Fig. 11





## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

 Application Number  
 EP 12 18 7295

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| 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  | EP 2 315 546 A1 (BSH BOSCH SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE [DE]) 4 May 2011 (2011-05-04)<br>* page 16 - page 24; figures *<br>-----                   | 1-6,9,<br>13,14                  | INV.<br>A47L15/42                       |
| X  | EP 2 283 763 A2 (BSH BOSCH SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE [DE])<br>16 February 2011 (2011-02-16)<br>* paragraphs [0029] - [0053]; figures *<br>----- | 1-5,7,8,<br>13                   |   |
| A  | US 2011/114133 A1 (ROSENBAUER MICHAEL GEORG [DE]) 19 May 2011 (2011-05-19)<br>* paragraph [0008]; figures *<br>-----                      | 7,8                              |   |
|  |   |                                  | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)         |
|  |   |                                  | A47L                                    |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del></p> </div>   |   |                                  |   |
| Place of search  |   | Date of completion of the search | Examiner                                |
| Munich   |   | 4 December 2017                  | Lopez Vega, Javier                      |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS<br>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document<br>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |   |                                  |   |

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 EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 12 18 7295

**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:

1-9, 13, 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).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**  
**SHEET B**

Application Number  
EP 12 18 7295

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: 1-9, 13, 14

Dishwasher filling the water storage tank with clean water  
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2. claim: 10

Dishwasher in which the motor speed of the re-circulation  
pump can be controlled  
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3. claims: 11, 12

Dishwasher with water storage tank formed of two portions  
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 12 18 7295

5 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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04-12-2017

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|---|---------------------|--|--|
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