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(54) **Laundry washing machine**

(57) Laundry washing machine (1) comprising an outer boxlike casing (2) provided with a laundry loading/unloading opening (7a) provided on the top wall (7) of the boxlike casing (2) and allowing the access to a hollow washing tub (3) arranged inside the casing (2), and a detergent dispenser (10) which is located at the laundry loading/unloading opening (7a) and is structured to selectively drop a mixture of detergent and water into the washing tub (3); the detergent dispenser (10) comprises a substantially basin-shaped container (14) which is provided with at least one detergent compartment (15) shaped/dimensioned to be manually fillable with a given amount of detergent, and a corresponding siphon assembly (16) which communicates with the detergent compartment (15) and is shaped/structured for draining out of the basin-shaped container (14) a liquid-type detergent stored within the detergent compartment (15) when a given amount of fresh water is channeled into the detergent compartment (15). The basin-shaped container (14) is provided with a pass-through opening (15a) shaped/dimensioned so to allow the free outflow, out of the basin-shaped container (14), of a powder-type detergent stored within the detergent compartment (15) when a given amount of fresh water is channeled into the detergent compartment (15); the detergent dispenser (10) comprises a hand-operated, movable closing member (17) which is attached to the basin-shaped container (14) and is movable between a closing position in which the movable closing member (17) seals up in watertight manner said pass-through opening (15a), and an opening position in which the movable closing member (17) does

not close the pass-through opening (15a) thus allowing the free outflow of the detergent stored within the detergent compartment (15) through the pass-through opening (15a).

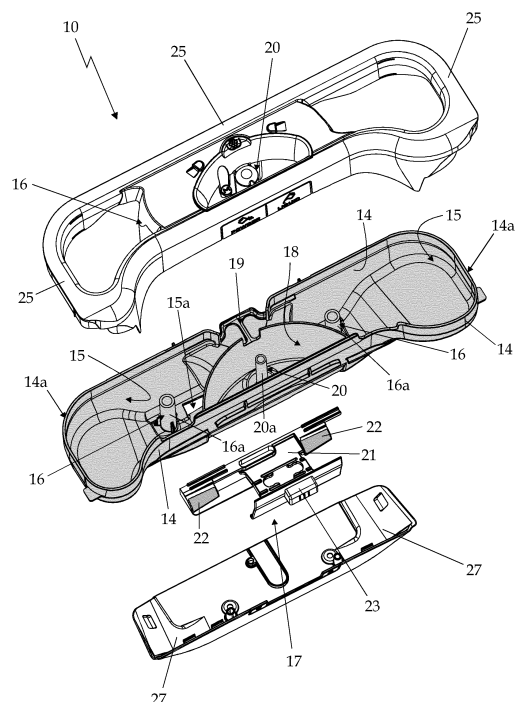


Fig. 3



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 11 19 3571

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Y	EP 2 048 275 A1 (ELECTROLUX HOME PROD CORP [BE]) 15 April 2009 (2009-04-15) * paragraph [0019] - paragraph [0023]; figures 1-4 *	1,2,10,11	INV. D06F39/02
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A	GB 2 187 764 A (BOSCH SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE BOSCH SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE [DE]) 16 September 1987 (1987-09-16) * page 2, line 31 - page 2, line 79; figure 1 *	1,11,12	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 25 September 2013	Examiner Fachin, Fabiano
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 03.82 (P04C01)



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 11 19 3571

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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Y	----- EP 2 377 987 A1 (WHIRLPOOL CO [US]) 19 October 2011 (2011-10-19) * paragraph [0023] - paragraph [0025]; figure 5 * -----	1,11	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 25 September 2013	Examiner Fachin, Fabiano
<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 ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

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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. claims: 1-10

Claim 1, representative of the first group, concerns a top loading washing machine with a detergent dispenser having a pass-through opening and a hand-operated movable closing member.

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2. claims: 1, 11-15

Claim 11, representative of the second group, concerns a top loading washing machine with a detergent dispenser having a siphon assembly provided with a longitudinal surface channel extending downwards for channeling downwards fresh water bumping against the outer portion of the siphon.

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**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. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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25-09-2013

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