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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/softener dispenser (10) which is located at the laundry loading/unloading opening (7a) and is structured to selectively drop a mixture of detergent/softener and water into the washing tub (3); the detergent/softener dispenser (10) comprises a substantially basin-shaped container (14) which is provided with at least one detergent/softener compartment (15,21) shaped/dimensioned to be fillable with a given amount of detergent/softener, and a corresponding siphon assembly (16, 22) which is shaped/structured for draining out of the basin-shaped container (14) the detergent/softener stored within the detergent/softener compartment (15,21) when a given amount of fresh water is channeled into the detergent/softener compartment (15,21) by a water supply circuit (11) of the laundry washing machine (1), structured to point/direct at least one jet of water at the siphon assembly (16,22), so that the at least one jet bumps/strikes against the siphon assembly (16,22). The siphon assembly (16,22) comprises a channeling system (19) adapted to channel towards the bottom of the detergent/softener compartment (15,21) at least part of the jet of water that strikes/bumps against the siphon assembly (16,22).

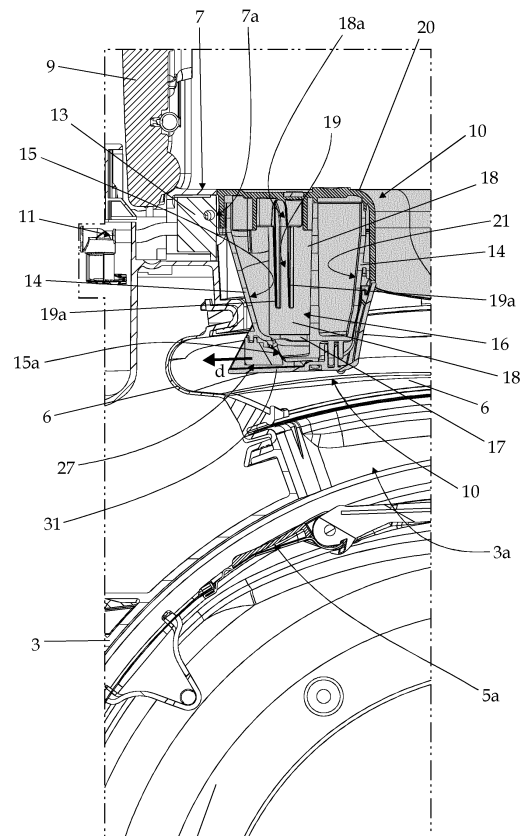


Fig. 2



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 11 19 3575

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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A	GB 2 165 555 A (ZANUSSI ELETTRODOMESTICI) 16 April 1986 (1986-04-16) * page 2, line 4 - page 2, line 100; figure 1 *	1	
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A	EP 1 760 187 A1 (SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO LTD [KR]) 7 March 2007 (2007-03-07) * paragraph [0048] - paragraph [0050]; figure 6 *	1	
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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04C01)



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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
EP 11 19 3575

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: 1-13

Group 1: claims 1-13

Claim 1, representative of the first group, concerns a washing machine having, i.a., a dispenser with a siphon assembly and at least a jet of water striking against it.

2. claims: 1, 14

Group 2: claims 1 and 14

Claim 14, representative of the second group, concerns a washing machine having, i.a., a dispenser with an opening with a manually operated closing member dimensioned for free outflow of detergent products.

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

EP 11 19 3575

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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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82