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(54) SPOUT FOR A REFILL CONTAINER AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A SPOUT

(57) A spout (10) for being connected to a refill container comprises connection means (12), which comprise a flow pipe (22) for communicating with the interior of the refill container, and a valve type closure (14) for opening and/or closing the flow pipe. An axially displaceable plug (18) seals the flow pipe (22) in a closing position and comprises at least one lateral connection opening (26) for communicating with an outlet orifice (28) of the closure

(14) and the flow pipe (22) in an opening position. An operating assembly connected to the closure and the plug allows axial blocking of the closure in the closing position, and unblocking it by rotation, after which the closure (14) is reversibly axially moveable towards an opening position. Thus repeated opening and secure sealing of the spout is possible.

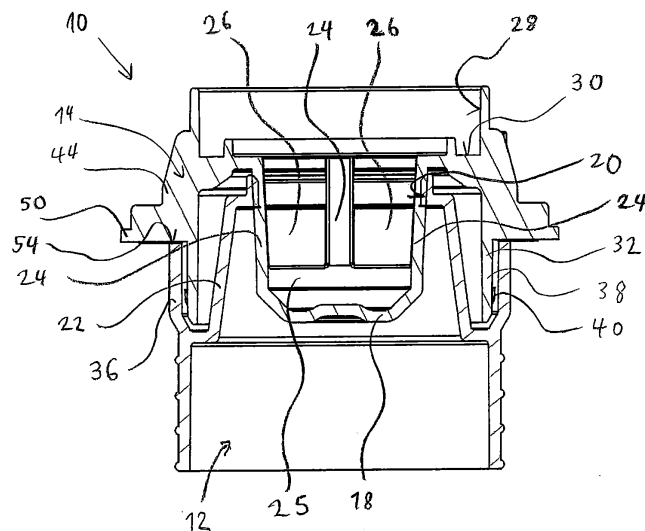


Fig. 4

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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A	EP 1 884 482 A2 (SHEK TAT KIT [CN]) 6 February 2008 (2008-02-06) * abstract; claims; figures *	1-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	JP H10 147335 A (DAINIPPON PRINTING CO LTD) 2 June 1998 (1998-06-02) * abstract; figures *	13	B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 26 June 2017	Examiner Dederichs, August
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:

1-13

☐ 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: 1-13

Spout for a refill container comprising a closure which is movable between a closed and an open position and which can be blocked in the closed position by an operating assembly which is manually rotatable for unblocking the closure and enabling the linear movement thereof into the opened position, and bag container provided with such a spout

2. claims: 14, 15

Kit and method for manufacturing a spout, involving a first closure mounted on a refill container and a second closure mounted on another container to be refilled, respective outlet orifices of the first and the second spout differently shaped and being adapted to each other for enabling connecting the two spout openings for a refilling process

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