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(54) **TOTE WITH SIDE WALL DRAIN HOLES**

(57) A tote with a drainage system for evenly distributing water through all four sides is provided. The tote includes a first end wall, a second opposing end wall, a first side wall, a second opposing side wall, and a bottom wall. A bumper extends outward around the periphery of

the tote. A plurality of drain holes are positioned a first distance above the upper surface of the bottom wall which allow liquid in the tote to drain evenly out of the tote through the bumper.

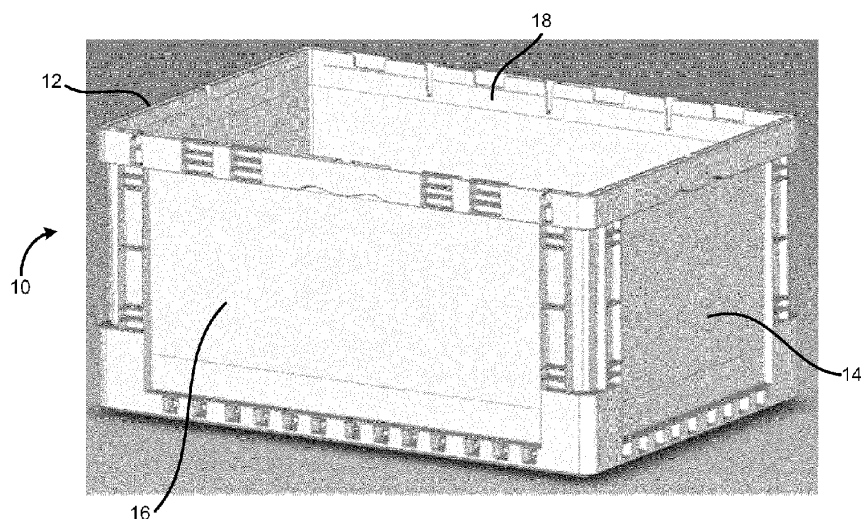


FIG. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 22 21 3791

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	* paragraphs [0001], [0004], [0025], [0028], [0030], [0031], [0039]; figures 1-5 *	1-4, 11-14	B65D25/04 B65D81/26 B65D1/22 B65D25/06
Y	DE 18 40 375 U (HENNINGER KARL [DE]) 26 October 1961 (1961-10-26)	2, 3	
A	* page 5, paragraph 3; figures 1-5 *	1, 15	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			

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EPO FORM 1503 03:82 (P04C01)

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	17 July 2023	Gabrich, Katharina
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:

1-4, 7-15

☐ 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: 1-4, 15

A tote with a drainage system for enabling even flow of liquid comprising:
 a container body having a first end wall, an opposing second end wall, a first side wall and an opposing second side wall extending upwards from a bottom wall;
 a bumper extending outward from the first end wall, second end wall, first side wall and second side wall around a lower portion of the container body;
 a first drain hole in the first end wall spaced a first distance above a top surface of the bottom wall allowing liquid from an interior of the container body to exit through the bumper;
 a first drain hole in the second end wall spaced the first distance above the top surface allowing liquid from the interior of the container body to exit through the bumper;
 a first drain hole in the first side wall spaced the first distance above the top surface allowing liquid from the interior of the container body to exit through the bumper;
 a first drain hole in the second side wall spaced the first distance above the top surface allowing liquid from the interior of the container body to exit through the bumper, wherein the tote is configured to accumulate liquid in a bottom portion of the container body below the first distance before drainage occurs;
 a plurality of ribs extending upward from the top surface of the bottom wall; and
 wherein the plurality of ribs comprises a plurality of spaced apart parallel ribs extending from proximate the first end wall to proximate the second end wall.

2. claims: 1, 2, 5, 6

The tote, wherein each of the plurality of ribs extends upward a second distance that is less than the first distance.

3. claims: 1, 2, 7-12

The tote, wherein each of the drain holes is D-shaped having a flat segment and an arcuate segment connected at a first end to a first end of the flat segment and at a second end to a second end of the flat segment.

4. claims: 1, 2, 7-10, 13, 14

The tote, wherein the bumper includes a first horizontal



**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:

**upper wall extending outward from the container body and a
second lower horizontal wall extending outward from the
container body and wherein the drain holes are between the
first wall of the bumper and the second wall of the bumper.**

**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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