

(19)



(11)

EP 4 491 536 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
15.01.2025 Bulletin 2025/03

(51) International Patent Classification (IPC):
B65D 61/00 ^(2006.01) **B65D 73/00** ^(2006.01)
B65D 75/02 ^(2006.01)

(21) Application number: **24188190.3**

(52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC):
B65D 61/00; B65D 73/0078; B65D 75/02;
B65D 2585/6815

(22) Date of filing: **12.07.2024**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB
GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC ME MK MT NL
NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR
Designated Extension States:
BA
Designated Validation States:
GE KH MA MD TN

(71) Applicant: **Vitrinor, Vitrificados del Norte S.A.L.**
39788 Guriezo Cantabria (ES)

(72) Inventor: **Sicilia Espuny, Francisco**
39788 GURIEZO (ES)

(74) Representative: **Capitán García, Maria Nuria**
ARS Privilegium, S.L.
Felipe IV no. 10, bajo iz.
28014 Madrid (ES)

(30) Priority: **14.07.2023 ES 202331288 U**

(54) **ENSAMBLAJE PARA UTENSILIO DE COCCIÓN**

(57) Assembly for a cooking utensil, consisting of a container and a lid, which is suitable for keeping the lid attached to the container, where said assembly consists of a laminar element that comprises a central retaining section and two end fixing sections arranged on opposite sides of the central retaining section, the end fixing sections are adapted to be folded along folding lines that join

them to the central retaining section, in such a way that, in use, the end fixing sections form respective side flaps that are adapted to be fixed between a handle and an upper edge of the container, so that the lid is retained between the upper edge of the container and the central retaining section of the laminar element.

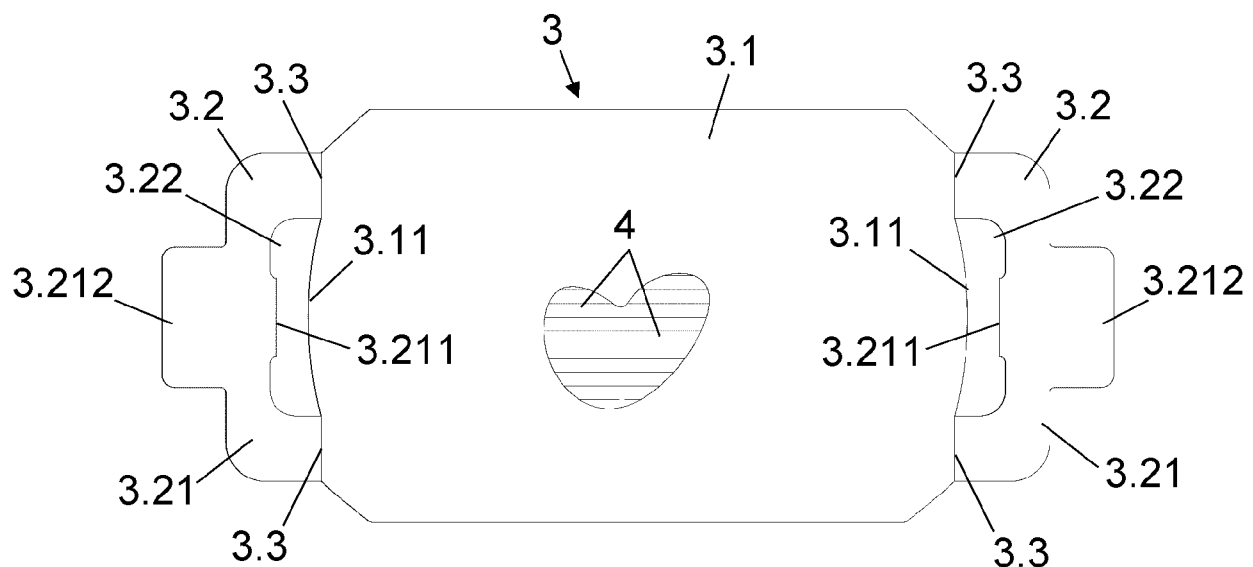


Fig. 1

Description

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention is encompassed in the field of packaging elements that facilitate the transportation, storage and handling in the marketing of products, in particular, cooking utensil that includes a casserole dish, saucepan, pan, pot or similar container, and a lid, from the basic parts used in the kitchenware sector.

[0002] The invention relates to an assembly, used as packaging, for a cooking utensil, which consists of a laminar element that is suitable for holding together the lid and the container that make up the cooking utensil.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Various packaging solutions for cooking utensils, which include a container and a lid, are known. One of these known solutions consists of wrapping the container together with the lid with plastic, a material that, once discarded by the buyer of the cookware because they find no value or use in it, constitutes an important source of environmental pollution due to its long life not being biodegradable. As is known, a large part of these plastic materials that we throw away end up in landfills, where they can take up to 1000 years to decompose, releasing potentially toxic substances into the soil and water.

[0004] Other packaging solutions consist of wrapping the cooking utensil (container and lid) in cardboard sheets, which, in the end, also use plastic means for fixing them, or imply a high consumption of a material that is obtained, fundamentally, from the superposition of layers of paper coming, in turn, from cellulose fibres extracted directly from wood, implying consumption of natural resources, and in the best of cases, from recycled paper, which also requires energy consumption.

[0005] With this, it is necessary to provide a simple and economical solution to said disadvantages in the application or use of known packaging solutions for cooking utensils.

[0006] On the part of the applicant, the existence of assembly means, used as packaging, for cooking utensil that show similar characteristics to those presented by the invention recommended here is unknown.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The present invention is established and characterised in the independent claim, while the dependent claims describe other characteristics thereof.

[0008] The object of the invention is an assembly for a cooking utensil, which consists of a casserole dish, saucepan, pan, pot or similar container, and a lid, where said assembly is suitable for keeping the lid attached to the container, which make up the cooking utensil.

[0009] The assembly consists of a laminar element

that comprises a central retaining section and respective end fixing sections, which are arranged on opposite sides of the central retaining section. The end fixing sections are adapted to be folded along folding lines that join them to the central retaining section, in such a way that, in use, that is, when the assembly is coupled to the cooking utensil, the end fixing sections of the laminar element form lateral flaps that are adapted to be fixed between a handle (in all its possible varieties, that is, metal/stainless steel handle, bakelite or plastic handle with trim, etc.) and an upper edge of the container, so that the lid is retained between the upper edge of the container and the central retaining section of the laminar element.

[0010] Thus, there is an assembly for cooking utensil that, with a single laminar element, achieves to hold together the lid and the container that make up said cooking utensil, with a view to facilitating its marketing during its transport and handling, as well as its storage, by facilitating the stacking of the cooking utensils having it.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0011] The present specification is complemented by a set of figures which illustrate a preferred embodiment, and which in no way limit the invention.

Figure 1 represents the development of a first embodiment of the assembly for cooking utensil.

Figure 2 represents a perspective view of the assembly of Figure 1 coupled to a cooking utensil made up of the container and its lid.

Figure 3 represents the development of a second embodiment of the assembly for cooking utensil.

Figure 4 represents a perspective view of the assembly of Figure 3 coupled to a cooking utensil made up of the container and its lid.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE INVENTION

[0012] The present invention is an assembly means for a cooking utensil consisting of a casserole dish, saucepan, pan, pot or similar container, and a lid, where said assembly is suitable for keeping the lid attached to the container.

[0013] As shown in Figures 1 and 3, the assembly consists of a laminar element (3), which comprises a central retaining section (3.1) and respective end fixing sections (3.2) arranged on opposite sides of the central retaining section (3.1). The end fixing sections (3.2) are adapted to be folded along folding lines (3.3) that join them to the central retaining section (3.1), in such a way that, in use, as shown in Figures 2 and 4, the end fixing sections (3.2) form respective side flaps (3.21) that are adapted to be fixed between a handle (1.1) and an upper edge (1.2) of the container (1), so that the lid (2) is

retained between the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) and the central retaining section (3.1) of the laminar element (3).

[0014] Thus, there is an assembly for cooking utensil that, with a single laminar element (3), achieves to hold together the lid (2) and the container (1) that make up said cooking utensil, with a view to facilitating its marketing during its transport and handling, as well as its storage, by facilitating the stacking of the cooking utensils having it.

[0015] Advantageously, as shown in Figures 1 and 3, each end fixing section (3.2) can comprise an oblong window (3.22) formed transversely in said end fixing section (3.2) between the folding lines (3.3), so that, in use, that is, when the laminar element (3) that makes up the assembly is coupled to the cooking utensil (container (1) and lid (2)), Figures 2 and 4, the oblong window (3.22) is adapted to house first and second portions (1.21, 2.1) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) and of the lid (2) respectively.

[0016] Likewise, it is preferred that the side flap (3.21) comprises a hooking tab (3.211), extended internally in the oblong window (3.22), and at least one locking tab (3.212), extended externally on the side flap (3.21) towards a direction opposite to the oblong window (3.22), so that, in use, the hooking tab (3.211) is adapted engage below the first portion (1.21) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) which is housed in the oblong window (3.22), and the locking tab (3.212) is adapted to be locked by the handle (1.1) of the container (1).

[0017] Advantageously, in the laminar element (3), the folding lines (3.3) can be formed at a distance, measured from the centre of the central retaining section (3.1), slightly shorter than the external diameter of the lid (2) of the cooking utensil, in such a way that, when folding the laminar element (3) along the folding lines (3.3), to be coupled to said cooking utensil, the hooking tabs (3.211) of both side flaps (3.21) can be slightly deformed and engage snugly below the respective first portions (1.21) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1). Once the hooking tabs (3.211) of the corresponding side flaps (3.21) have engaged, the lid (2) is retained on the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1).

[0018] For their part, the locking tabs (3.212) of the side flaps (3.21), once the respective hooking tabs (3.211) have engaged below the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1), prevent said side flaps (3.21) from opening accidentally, that is, any of the hooking tabs (3.211) becoming disengaged from the corresponding first portion (1.21) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1). In other words, the side flaps (3.21) are configured such that the only way to decouple the assembly from the cooking utensil having it is by unlocking one of the hooking tabs (3.211), deforming the corresponding side flap (3.21) so that the depth of the hooking tab (3.211) to be disengaged is exceeded towards the oblong window (3.22), thus freeing itself from the first portion (1.21) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1).

[0019] The locking tabs (3.212) can be adapted to the

different types of handles (1.1) used in the cooking utensil containers (1), whether made of metal, Bakelite, stainless steel, etc. For example, in a first embodiment of the assembly, shown in Figures 1 and 2, the side flap (3.21) comprises a single locking tab (3.212), which is adapted to be locked inside a hole (1.11) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1).

[0020] In a second embodiment of the assembly, shown in Figures 3 and 4, the side flap (3.21) comprises two locking tabs (3.212), which together form a slot (3.213) that is adapted to be mounted or coupled on an extension element (1.12) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1) and the locking tabs (3.212) are adapted to be locked by an internal end (1.13) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1).

[0021] In any case, it is preferred that the central retaining section (3.1) of the laminar element (3) comprises respective support tabs (3.11) extended internally in the respective oblong windows (3.22), where, the support tabs (3.11) comprise dimensions that correspond to at least the external diameter of the lid (2) of the cooking utensil, with a view to improving the support of the laminar element (3) on the lid (2), increasing the rigidity of the assembly, in case of stacking several cooking utensils having said assembly.

[0022] Likewise, it is preferred that the laminar element (3) be manufactured from corrugated cardboard, in such a way that channels (4) of corrugated intermediate layer of the corrugated cardboard are arranged longitudinally extended in the laminar element (3), that is, oriented from one of the end fixing sections (3.2) to the other, in this way, it is achieved that said laminar element (3) does not bend when it is coupled to the cooking utensil, making the assembly more robust when stacking several cooking utensils having it.

Claims

1. Assembly for cooking utensil, consisting of a container (1) and a lid (2), which is suitable for keeping the lid (2) attached to the container (1), **characterised in that** it consists of a laminar element (3) that comprises a central retaining section (3.1) and respective end fixing sections (3.2) arranged on opposite sides of the central retaining section (3.1), the end fixing sections (3.2) are adapted to be folded along folding lines (3.3) that join them to the central retaining section (3.1), in such a way that, in use, the end fixing sections (3.2) form respective side flaps (3.21) that are adapted to be fixed between a handle (1.1) and an upper edge (1.2) of the container (1), so that the lid (2) is retained between the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) and the central retaining section (3.1) of the laminar element (3).
2. Assembly according to claim 1, wherein each end fixing section (3.2) comprises an oblong window

(3.22) formed transversely in said end fixing section (3.2) between the folding lines (3.3), so that in use, the oblong window (3.22) is adapted to house first and second portions (1.21, 2.1) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) and the lid (2) respectively. 5

3. Assembly according to claim 2, wherein the side flap (3.21) comprises a hooking tab (3.211), extended internally in the oblong window (3.22), and at least one locking tab (3.212), extended externally on the side flap (3.21) towards a direction opposite to the oblong window (3.22), so that, in use, the hooking tab (3.211) is adapted to engage below the first portion (1.21) of the upper edge (1.2) of the container (1) which is housed in the oblong window (3.22), and the locking tab (3.212) is adapted to be locked by the handle (1.1) of the container (1). 10 15
4. Assembly according to claim 3, wherein the side flap (3.21) comprises a locking tab (3.212) that is adapted to be locked inside a hole (1.11) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1). 20
5. Assembly according to claim 3, wherein the side flap (3.21) comprises two locking tabs (3.212) that together form a slot (3.213) that is adapted to be coupled onto an extension element (1.12) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1) and the locking tabs (3.212) are adapted to be locked by an internal end (1.13) of the handle (1.1) of the container (1). 25 30
6. Assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central retaining section (3.1) of the laminar element (3) comprises respective support tabs (3.11) extended internally in the respective oblong windows (3.22), where, the support tabs (3.11) comprise dimensions that correspond to at least one external diameter of the lid (2). 35
7. Assembly according to claim 1, wherein the laminar element (3) is manufactured from corrugated cardboard, in such a way that channels (4) of corrugated intermediate layer of the corrugated cardboard are arranged longitudinally extended in the laminar element (3). 40 45

50

55

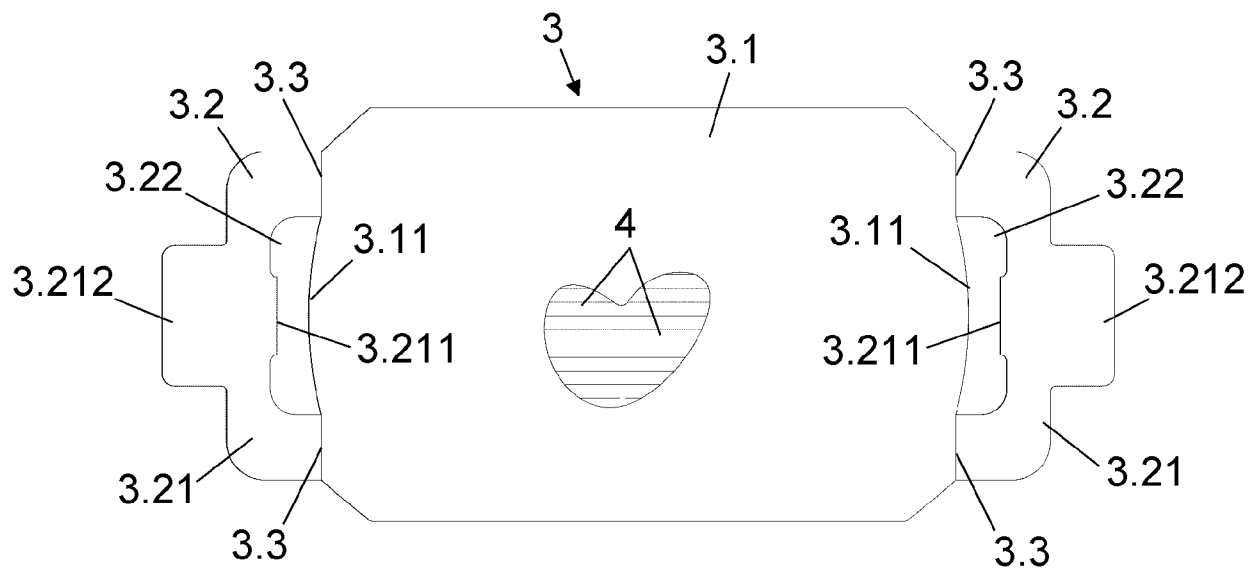


Fig. 1

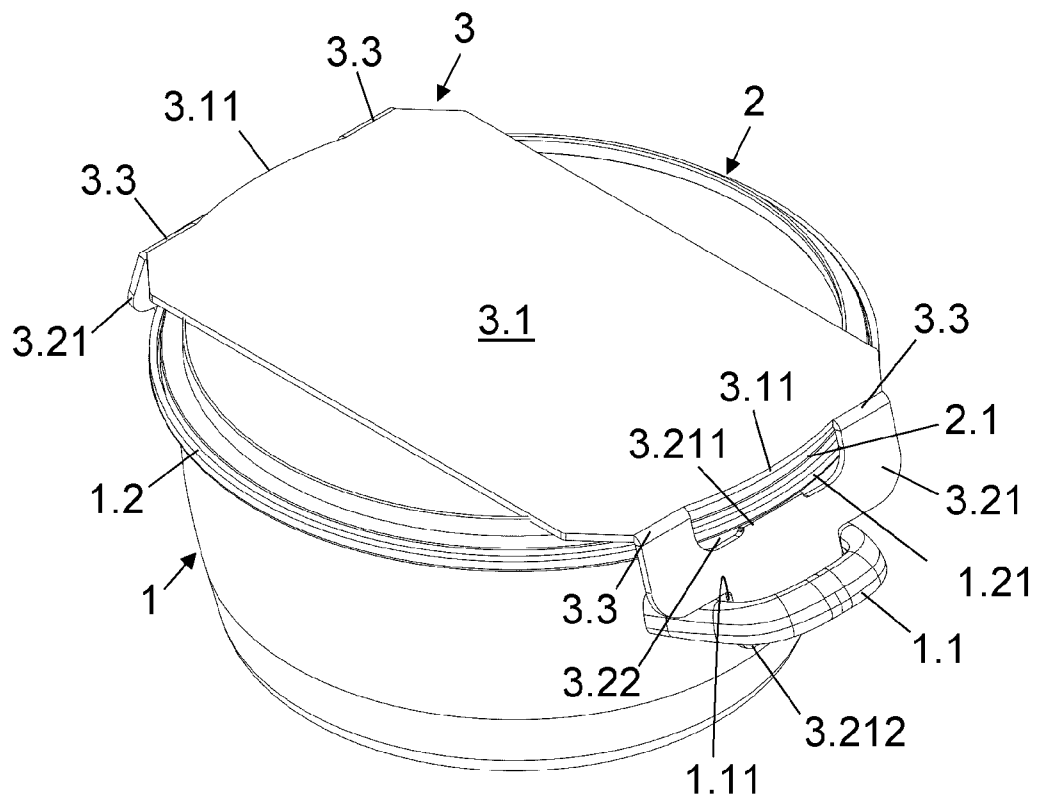


Fig. 2

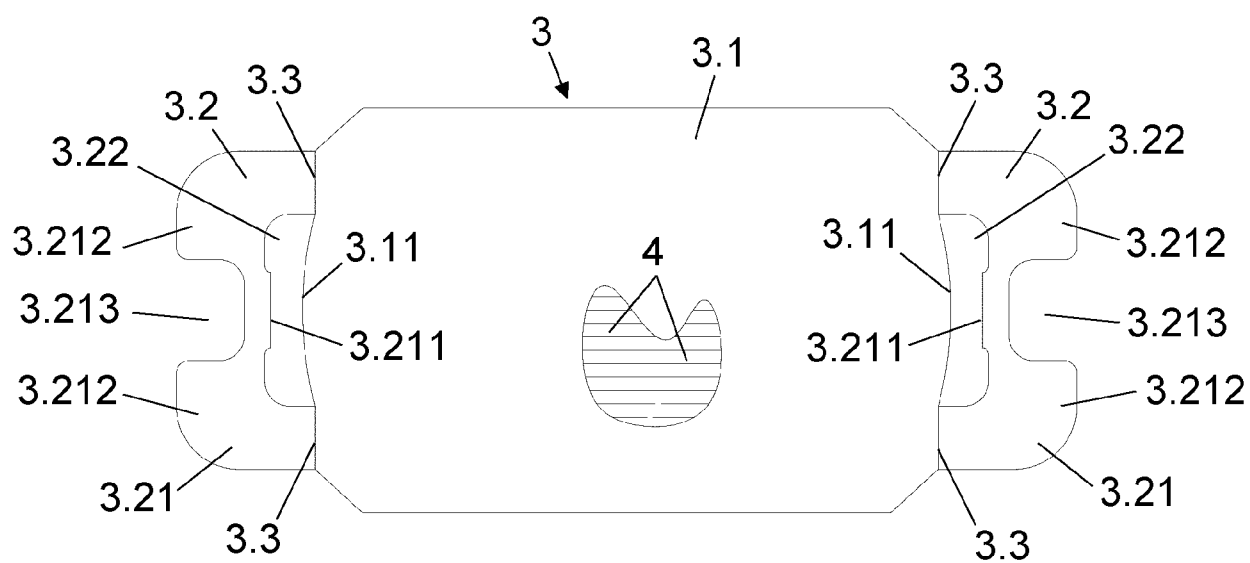


Fig. 3

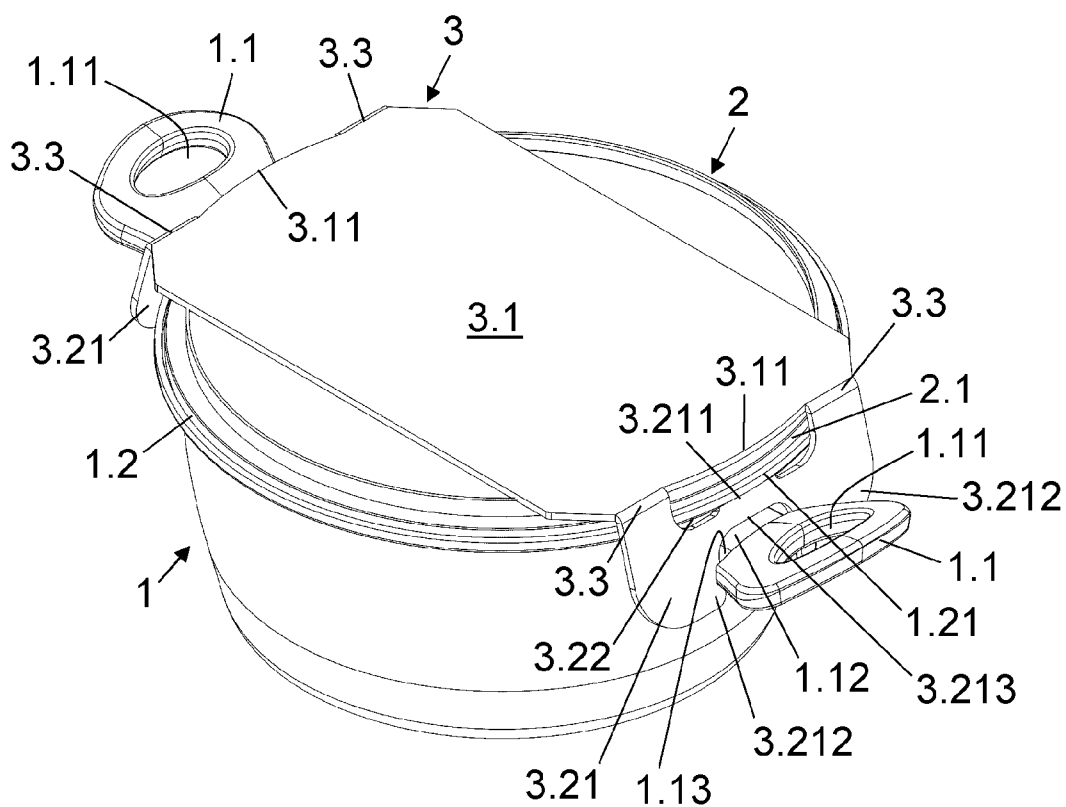


Fig. 4



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 24 18 8190

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	US 2014/053507 A1 (OBLISK DAVID T [US]) 27 February 2014 (2014-02-27) * figures 1-11 *	1-7	INV. B65D61/00 B65D73/00 B65D75/02
X	WO 2012/072086 A1 (SAHARAS AS [DK]; LYHNE KASPER ENGSTROEM [DK]) 7 June 2012 (2012-06-07) * figures 1-5 *	1-3,5-7	
X	US 4 819 803 A (NEISER J RAY [US]) 11 April 1989 (1989-04-11) * figures 1-7 *	1-7	
X	FR 2 921 048 A1 (NIDATEC SOC PAR ACTIONS SIMPLI [FR]) 20 March 2009 (2009-03-20) * pages 1-8 *	1-7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		11 November 2024	Jervelund, Niels
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			

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

EP 24 18 8190

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11 - 11 - 2024

10

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2014053507 A1	27-02-2014	NONE	
WO 2012072086 A1	07-06-2012	NONE	
US 4819803 A	11-04-1989	CA 1286260 C US 4819803 A	16-07-1991 11-04-1989
FR 2921048 A1	20-03-2009	EP 2039613 A1 FR 2921048 A1	25-03-2009 20-03-2009

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

EPO FORM P0459

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