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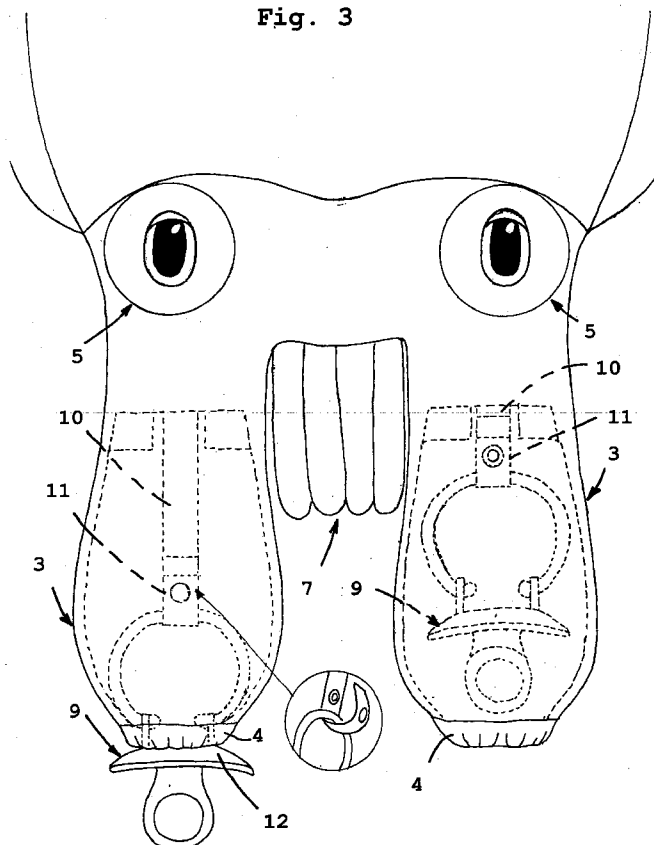
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(54) Title: DEVICE INCLUDING A PACIFIER

**Fig. 3**



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a device which comprises at least one pacifier (9) and an element which defines an internal space (3), which device comprises means (10, 11) for releasably securing the pacifier (9) close to the element which defines an internal space (3). Distinguishing features of the device according to the present invention are that the element which defines an internal space (3) has an elastic hem (4) which can be caused to define an aperture, and that the pacifier (9) can pass through that aperture.

**DEVICE INCLUDING A PACIFIER****Technical field of the invention**

The present invention relates to a device which includes  
5 a pacifier and an element which defines an internal space,  
which device comprises means for releasably securing the  
pacifier close to the element which defines an internal space.

**State of the art**

10 A device for calming a baby or a young child is known  
from DE 198 39 904. The device takes the form of a cuddly  
animal which has a number of pacifiers attached to it. The  
pacifiers are attached to the arms and legs of the cuddly  
animal. The pacifiers may be fastened directly to the  
15 arms/legs or via an intermediate element, e.g. a ring.

A fastening device for a pacifier which is known from  
FR 2 836 838 is attached to the arm of a cuddly animal. That  
fastening device provides a releasable securing of a pacifier.  
The fastening device may comprise cooperating parts made of  
20 Velcro.

A device known from US 5,156,617 comprises a base  
portion, a cover connected to the base portion, and a  
pacifier. The pacifier and the base portion have cooperating  
means for releasably fastening the pacifier to the base  
25 portion. The cover may assume a position whereby it defines in  
conjunction with the base portion a closed space which  
accommodates the pacifier.

**Objects and features of the invention**

30 A primary object of the present invention is to propose  
a device of the kind defined in the introduction whereby the  
pacifier can be handled in a hygienic manner.

Another object of the present invention is that the  
pacifier should always be readily available.

35 A further object of the present invention is that the  
pacifier be easy to exchange.

At least the primary object of the present invention is  
achieved by a device having the features indicated in the

independent claim 1 set out below. Preferred embodiments of the invention are defined in the dependent claims.

### **Brief description of the drawings**

5 A preferred embodiment of the invention is described below with reference to the attached drawings, in which:  
Fig. 1 depicts a front view of a device according to the present invention;  
Fig. 2 depicts a side view of the device according to Fig. 1;  
10 and  
Fig. 3 depicts part of the device according to Fig. 1, with parts which are not visible represented by broken lines.

### **Detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention**

The device according to the present invention depicted in Figs. 1-3 takes the form, in the embodiment depicted, of a cephalopod. The device comprises a base portion 1 which in  
20 the embodiment depicted takes the form of the head of the cephalopod. The base portion 1 is provided with stuffing and may therefore serve as a pillow for the user. The device also comprises two tubular elements 3 which in the embodiment depicted take the form of the arms of the cephalopod. The  
25 tubular elements 3 each have a free end provided with an elastic hem 4 which constricts the free end of the tubular element 3, i.e. the diameter of the free end is reduced as compared with the rest of the tubular element 3.

The device also comprises other parts for enhancing the  
30 visual impression of a cephalopod. Thus the device has two eyes 5 and gills 7. In this context it should be noted that these parts are of no significance for the patentability of the invention.

Figs. 1-3 show the device according to the present  
35 invention comprising two pacifiers 9 each associated with its respective tubular element 3, i.e. a first pacifier 9 is associated with one tubular element 3, while the other pacifier 9 is associated with the other tubular element 3.

Fig. 3 indicates how the pacifiers 9 are fastened to the tubular elements 3. Each of the tubular elements 3 is provided inside with an elastic strip 10 which has its one end anchored within the tubular element 3 while its other end is free and provided with means 11 for releasably securing a pacifier 9. The releasable securing means may for example take the form of a snap fastener 11 depicted in more detail in the circled inset in Fig. 3. As illustrated in Fig. 3, a pacifier 9 is releasably secured via the means 11 to each of the elastic strips 10. In Fig. 3, one pacifier 9 is accommodated within one tubular element 3, whereas the other pacifier 9 is outside the other tubular element 3.

Examination of Fig. 3 shows that when a pacifier 9 is accommodated within a tubular element 3, it is protected, e.g. from contamination and other external influences. To transfer a pacifier 9 from the position within the tubular element 3 to a position outside the tubular element 3, the user spreads the elastic hem 4 and pulls the pacifier 9 out through the resulting aperture. When the pacifier 9 has been pulled out, the elastic hem 4 is allowed to close round the pacifier 9 on the rear side of the ring/shield 12 which forms part of the pacifier 9. The pacifier 9 is thus held in place outside the tubular element 3, partly by the elastic hem 4 and partly by the elastic strip 10.

The device according to the present invention thus offers an extremely functional storage/handling of a pacifier 9, whereby the pacifier 9 is transferred to an active position when necessary and to an inactive storage position when there is no need for a pacifier 9. A further advantage of the device according to the present invention is that a pacifier 9 can be exchanged when necessary, e.g. if the pacifier 9 becomes too old or not fresh or is otherwise impaired. Exchanging the pacifiers 9 is extremely easy by the releasable securing means 11.

35

### **Conceivable modifications of the invention**

With regard to the expression "tubular element" used above, it should be noted that it is conceivable within the scope of the invention that the element intended to

accommodate the pacifier within itself need not be tubular. What is primary is that the element defines an internal space in which a pacifier can be accommodated. The element may therefore have any of a very large number of shapes, among  
5 which spherical and oval may be cited as non-limitative examples. For this reason the independent claim 1 uses the expression "element which defines an internal space".

In the embodiment of the invention described above, the device comprises two tubular elements/elements which define an  
10 internal space 3. Within the scope of the invention it is of course conceivable for there to be both fewer and more tubular elements/elements which define an internal space 3.

In the embodiment of the invention described above, the device comprises means for releasably securing a pacifier in  
15 the form of a snap fastener 11. Within the scope of the invention, however, it is possible to conceive of other types of releasable securing means. Velcro or a keyring may be cited as non-limitative examples. It is also conceivable to use a silicon ring, e.g. in combination with a snap fastener  
20 or a Velcro strip.

In the embodiment described above, the device comprises an elastic strip 10. Within the scope of the invention, however, it is conceivable that the strip be non-elastic or that the means for releasable securing of the pacifier 9 be  
25 permanently disposed within the tubular element/element which defines an internal space 3. In such cases the pacifier would not be pulled out of the tubular element/element which defines an internal space 3 but the elastic hem 4 would be rolled back over the pacifier 9 when the latter is to be transferred to an  
30 active position of use.

The embodiment of the invention described above is intended to resemble a cephalopod. Within the scope of the present invention the device may assume many guises which cannot be enumerated in this context, but by way of non-  
35 limitative example it is possible to cite various types of cuddly animal, whereby the tubular elements/elements which define an internal space may take the form of the animal's extremities. The device may also take the form of a pillow to which a number of tubular elements/elements which define an

internal space are fastened. It is also conceivable that the base portion may contain no stuffing but may for example take the form of a cuddling blanket to which the element which defines an internal space is releasably or permanently fastened.

Within the scope of the present invention it is also possible to conceive of the device having no base portion and that the element which defines an internal space might take the form of an independent unit, e.g. a stocking provided with an elastic hem at one of its ends. The element which defines an internal space may be provided with means for releasable fastening to some suitable base portion, e.g. a cuddly animal. The releasable fastening means may take the form of a clip or the like. It is also conceivable that the element which defines an internal space might be permanently fastened to a base portion, e.g. by the element which defines an internal space being fastened to the base portion by sewing.

**Claims**

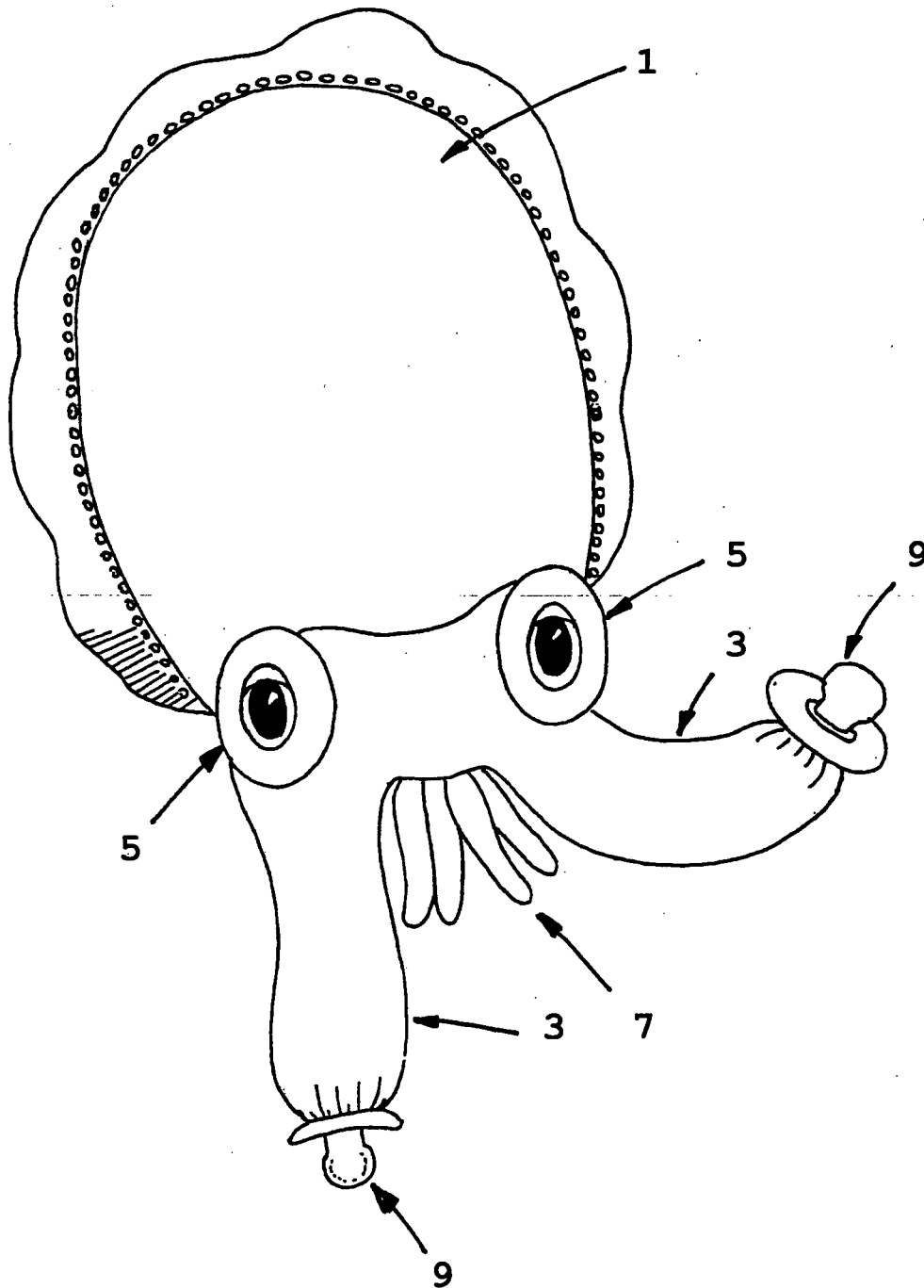
1. A device which comprises at least one pacifier (9) and an element which defines an internal space (3), which device  
5 comprises means (10, 11) for releasably securing the pacifier (9) close to the element which defines an internal space (3),  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the element which defines an internal space (3) has an elastic hem (4) which can be  
caused to define an aperture, and that the pacifier (9) can  
10 pass through that aperture.
2. A device according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d  
in that the device comprises a base portion (1) and that the  
element which defines an internal space is releasably or  
15 permanently connected to the base portion (1).
3. A device according to claim 1 or 2,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the element (3) which  
defines an internal space is tubular.
- 20 4. A device according to any of the previous claims,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the pacifier (9) can assume  
a position within the element which defines an internal  
space/the tubular element (3) and a position outside the  
25 element which defines an internal space/the tubular element  
(3).
5. A device according to any of the previous claims,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the means for releasably  
30 securing the pacifier (9) takes the form of a snap fastener  
(11).
6. A device according to any of claims 1-4,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the means for releasably  
35 securing the pacifier (9) takes the form of a Velcro clasp.
7. A device according to any of the previous claims,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that an elastic strip (10) is  
disposed within the element which defines an internal

space/the tubular element (3) and that the elastic strip (10) bears at one of its ends the means (11) for releasably securing the pacifier(9).



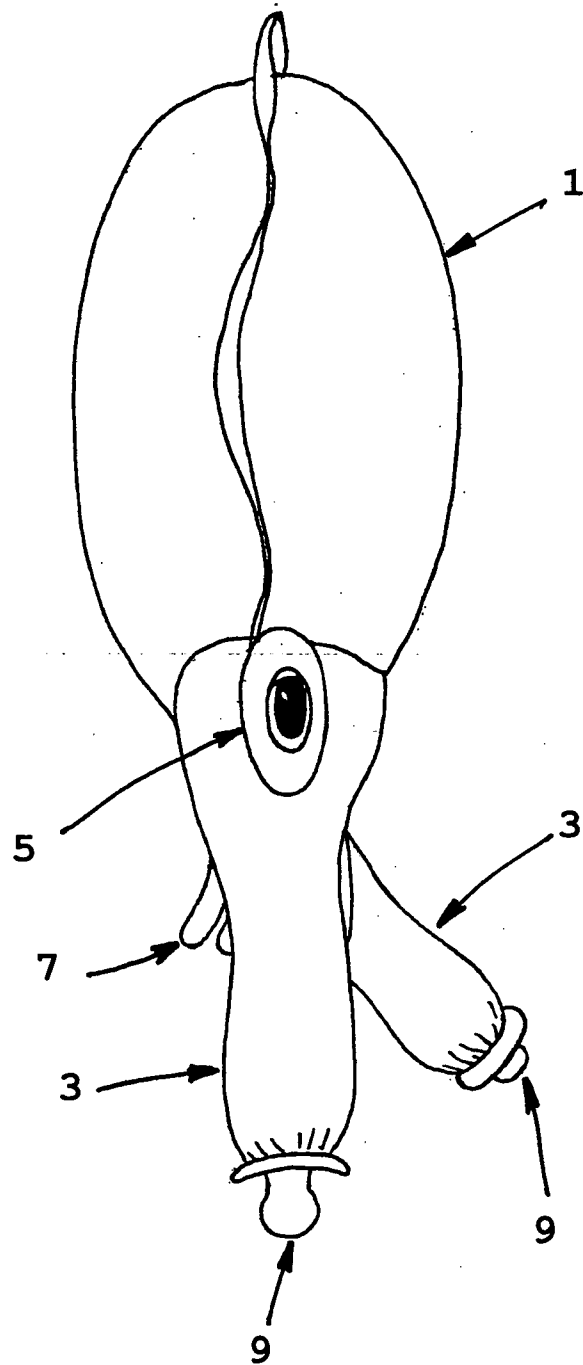
1/3

Fig. 1



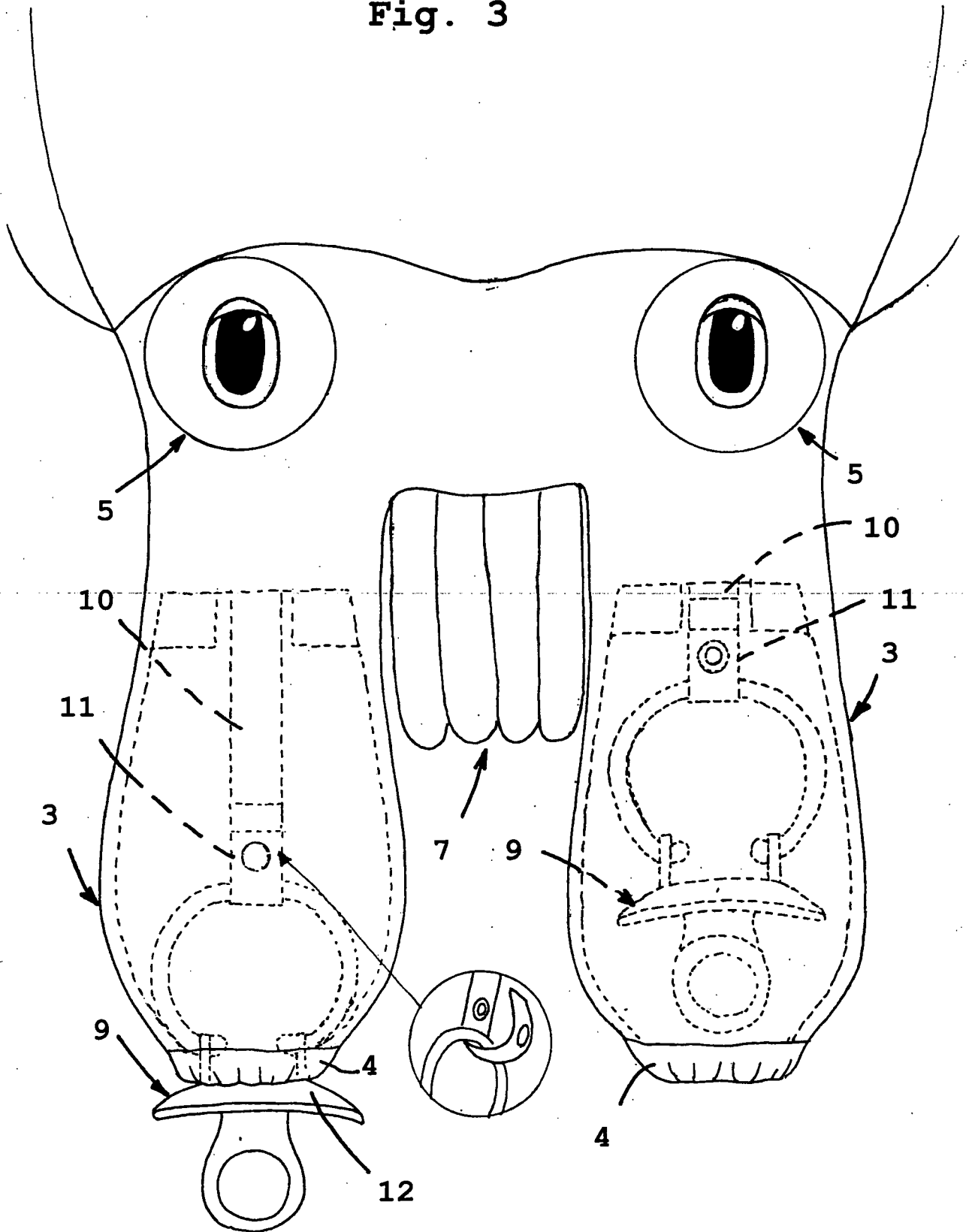
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**Fig. 2**



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Fig. 3



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE2008/000519

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: see extra sheet

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: A61J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5156617 A (T.L. REID), 20 October 1992 (20.10.1992) --	1-7
A	US 6638298 B1 (J. SHEFFLIN), 28 October 2003 (28.10.2003) --	1-7
A	WO 2006010935 A1 (MAY, D.D.), 2 February 2006 (02.02.2006) --	1-7
A	DE 20203043 U1 (HUANG, T.-T.), 1 August 2002 (01.08.2002) --	1-7

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 December 2008

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE2008/000519

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 19839904 A1 (JERG, T. ET AL), 9 March 2000 (09.03.2000)  -- -----	1-7

**International patent classification (IPC)****A61J 17/00** (2006.01)**Download your patent documents at [www.prv.se](http://www.prv.se)**

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Use the application number as username.

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Paper copies can be ordered at a cost of 50 SEK per copy from PRV InterPat (telephone number 08-782 28 85).

Cited literature, if any, will be enclosed in paper form.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
Information on patent family members

01/11/2008

International application No.

PCT/SE2008/000519

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