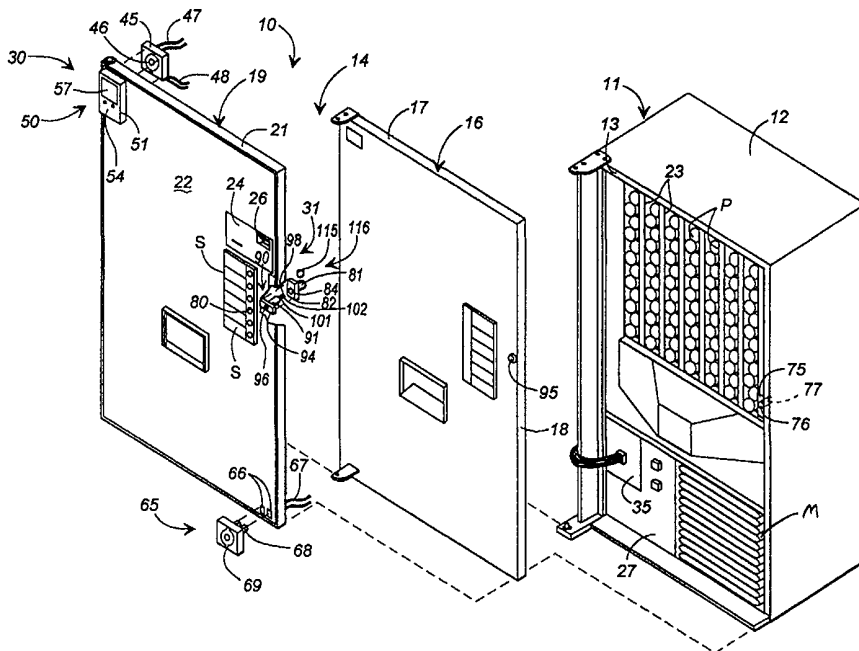




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)-

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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/18203 (22) International Filing Date: 11 August 1999 (11.08.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/096,251 12 August 1998 (12.08.98) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: STILLWAGON, Woodrow, C. [US/US]; 7610 Ball Mill Road, Atlanta, GA 30350 (US). (74) Agent: SUDDERTH, D., Scott; Womble Carlyle Sandridge &amp; Rice, PLLC, P.O. Box 720601, Atlanta, GA 30358-2601 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AU, BR, JP, MX, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 25 May 2000 (25.05.00)</p>	

(54) Title: ELECTRO-MECHANICAL LATCH ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract

An electro-mechanical latch or locking assembly (10) for an enclosure (11) such as a vending machine and including an electronic lock controller (35) for disengaging a latch assembly (31) securing the door (14) of the enclosure (11) against the enclosure frame (13) in a closed, locked position. The lock controller (35) is actuated remotely through a key controller (50) to disengage the latch assembly (31) and enable the door (14) of the enclosure to be moved to an open position for accessing the enclosure.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/18203

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>		
IPC(6) :E05B 49/00 US CL :340/825.31, 70/278.1 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 340/825.31, 825.32, 825.34, 825.35, 542, 545; 70/278.1, 278.2, 278.3, 278.7 283; 292/252; 361/172; 359/147		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EAST search terms: ball, bolt, solenoid, lock, key		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,746,458 A (FISHER) 05 May 1998, col. 3 lines 20-30, col. 6 line 56 - col. 9 line 7, col. 9 lines 57-67.	1-19
Y	US 5,140,317 A (HYATT, JR. et al.) 18 August 1992, col. 2 line 49 - col. 4 line 10, col.4 lines 25-49, col. 5 line 1 - col. 6 line 50.	1-19
Y	US 4,663,952 A (GELHARD) 12 May 1987, col. 1 lines 30-68, col. 2 line 63 - col. 3 line 36, col. 4 line 1 - col. 5 line 20.	3-5, 9-10, 12-14
Y	US 5,392,025 A (FIGH et al.) 21 February 1995, col. 3 line 50 - col. 4 line 68	4,12
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 05 DECEMBER 1999	Date of mailing of the international search report 04 FEB 2000	
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International application No.  
PCT/US99/18203

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4,196,347 A (HADLEY) 01 April 1980, col. 2 lines 3-14, col. 2 line 37 - col. 3 line 54.	4-5, 12, 14