Title: DISPENSING UNITS FOR BEVERAGE ADDITIVES

Abstract: Additive dispensing units (2) and methods of using same are provided. In an embodiment, the modular dispensing unit (2) comprises a support (10), a plurality of containers (20) attached to the support and a plurality of pumps (30) attached to the support. For example, each of the containers can include an additive. The pumps are operatively connected to the containers for dispensing one or more of the additives from the containers. The dispensing unit is so constructed and arranged to be attached to and operatively associated with a beverage dispensing machine.
Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant’s entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(iii))

— as to the applicant’s entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

— with international search report

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 20 March 2008
### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

INV. B67D1/00

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)

B67D

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 practical, search terms used):

EPO-Internal

### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 2002/125268 A1 (BERTONE CLAUDIO [CA]) 12 September 2002 (2002-09-12) paragraphs [0001], [0008], [0026], [0029], [0034]; figure 7</td>
<td>1-5, 7-15, 27-37</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 6 273 298 B1 (POST JOHANNES HERMANUS NICOLAA [NL]) 14 August 2001 (2001-08-14) column 1, line 26 - line 34; figure 1 column 2, line 62 - column 3, line 8</td>
<td>1,6,16, 18,19,25</td>
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* Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  
* See patent family annex.

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**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

18 December 2007

**Date of mailing of the international search report**

17/01/2008

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<tr>
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<td>DE 15 32 658 A1 (STELEING FRIEDRICH) 12 March 1970 (1970-03-12) claim 1; figure 1</td>
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