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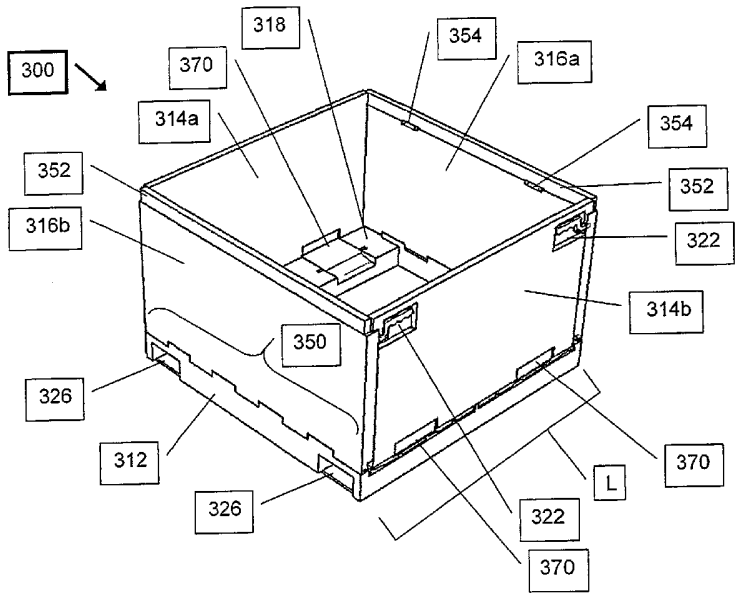
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(54) Title: KNOCK-DOWN CRATE WITH WALLS STORED IN BASE AND METHOD EMPLOYING SUCH A CRATE



(57) Abstract: A knock-down crate having a base associated with four sides. In a first embodiment, the base and the sides are hingedly interconnected. In alternative embodiments, the sides are detachably engageable with the base for deployment parallel to the length and breadth of the base. The upper surface of the base has an elongated recess extending most of the length and sized for receiving at least some of the sides. The sides can be deployed such that the base and four sides form a four-sided crate with the recess of the base contributing to the available volume of the crate. When not in use, at least some of the sides are received within the recess in the base for compact transportation.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 220/6, 4.28

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)

U.S. : 220/6, 4.28, 4.29, 4.31, 4.32, 4.33

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 5,515,987 A (JACQUES et al) 14 May 1996 (14.5.1996) Figures 1-8, column 2 lines 52-63, column 3, lines 26-31 and lines 36-48	1-9, 11, 12 --- 23, 24
X	US 6,669,044 B2 (MURAKAMI et al) 30 December 2003 (30.12.2003), Figures 1-5, column 4, lines 26-29, column 5, lines 27-42, column 9, lines 46-54	1-8, 10-12
X	US 3,266,656 A (KRIDLE) 2 January 1964 (2.1.1964), Figures 1-3, 6, 7, 11, column 3, lines 14-16, lines 38-40, column 4, lines 41-46, column 6, lines 25-29	1, 13-15, 19-21
X --- Y	US 4,186,841 A (BUCKLEY et al) 5 February 1980 (5.2.1980) Figures 1-4, column 2, lines 32-35, column 3, lines 12-15	1, 13, 22 --- 23
Y	US 3,993,211 A (ASTLE) 23 November 1976 (23.11.1976) Figure 1, coplumn 2, lines 27-33	24
Y	US 6,398,054 B1 (OVERHOLT et al) 4 June 2002 (4.6.2002) Figures 1, 11, 13, 14, column 1, lines 9-19, column 6, lines 13-30, lines 58-67, column 9 lins 29-41, lines 52-60	26, 27

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