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(72) Inventors; and


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(54) Title: APPARATUSES FOR DISPENSING OBJECTS AND METHODS OF MANUFACTURING AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: In some embodiments, the present invention is directed to a vending machine which includes at least the following components: at least one pocket-dispenser combination within an interior of the vending machine; where the at least one pocket-dispenser combination comprises: i) a plurality of pockets and ii) at least one dispenser; and where the plurality of pockets are vertically positioned during a dispensing operation of the vending machine so that: i) each of the plurality of pockets longitudinally extends along a vertical axis of the vending machine, and ii) equal distances are maintained between bottoms of the plurality of pockets and the at least one dispenser, where the bottoms of the plurality of pockets face down during the dispensing operation of the vending machine.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. G07F17/32 G07F11/00 G07F11/04

ADD.

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)
G07F

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)
EPO-Internal , WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>CH 173 202 A (WITTENBORGS AUTOMATFABRIK AS [DK]) 15 November 1934 (1934-11-15)</td>
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<td>figures 6-11</td>
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<td>paragraph [0080] - paragraph [0096] ; figures 1-2</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. X See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
"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
"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
13 January 2015

Date of mailing of the international search report
21/01/2015

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040
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Authorized officer
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<th>Publication date</th>
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<td>CH 173202</td>
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<td>US 2001034263</td>
<td>25-10-2001</td>
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This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:  
   because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. **X** Claims Nos.: 2, 3, 10  
   because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:  
   see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. **X** Claims Nos.:  
   because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. **X** As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. **X** As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. **X** As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. **X** No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:  

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.
Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 2, 3, 10

With respect to dependent claims 2, 3 and 10, the description does not disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art. Paragraphs [0005], [0006], [00088] and [00089], which correspond to the text of claims 2 and 3, are not considered to meet the requirements of Article 5 PCT.

The applicant’s attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EP0 policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the applicant proceeds into the regional phase before the EP0, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EP0 (see EP0 Guidelines C-IV, 7.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.