

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 January 2007 (04.01.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/000577 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

B65D 85/78 (2006.01) **A23G 9/22** (2006.01)
B65D 83/00 (2006.01)

Michael [GB/GB]; Maple House, Main Street, Cosgrove,
Milton, Keynes MK19 7DL (GB).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2006/002326

(74) Agent: **MORRIS, Jonathan, Paul**; Urquhart-Dykes &
Lord LLP, Midsummer House, 413 Midsummer Boulevard,
Central Milton, Keynes MK9 3BN (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2006 (23.06.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

0513030.7 25 June 2005 (25.06.2005) GB

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP,
KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT,
LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA,
NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC,
SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ,
UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **EZEE
WHIP ICE-CREAM LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Maple House,
Main Street, Cosgrove, Milton, Keynes MK19 7DL (GB).

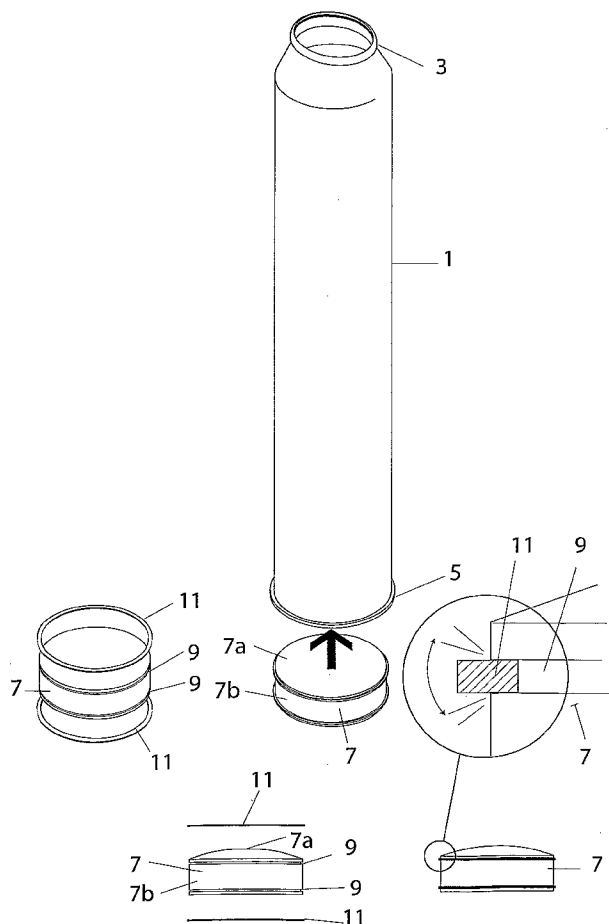
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **WELLS, Andrew,**

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FOOD CONTAINER AND METHOD OF STORING FOOD



(57) Abstract: A container for foods. The container includes a hollow body (1) having an opening (3) and a piston (7) located within the body (1), wherein the container is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the piston (7) moves within the body (1) in response to a consumer sucking the food from the container via the opening (3). The container can be used to store solid and semi-solid foods such as ice-cream and yoghurt type products. The container is arranged such that the food can be consumed directly from the container, without the need for a spoon or a dispensing device.

WO 2007/000577 A3



European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
3 May 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2006/002326

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B65D85/78 B65D83/00 A23G9/22

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)

B65D B65B A23G

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

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 995 685 A (WELLS, ANDREW MICHAEL; EZEE WHIP DISPENSING SYSTEMS LIMITED) 26 April 2000 (2000-04-26) paragraphs [0021] - [0025]; figures 1,2 -----	1-7,17
X	EP 1 211 950 A (UNILEVER N.V.; UNILEVER PLC) 12 June 2002 (2002-06-12) paragraphs [0030] - [0032]; figures 1-4 -----	1-7,17
X	US 1 933 596 A (MACLEAN J. SHOWLES) 7 November 1933 (1933-11-07) page 1, lines 25-101; figures 1-3 -----	1-7,17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ 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

"E" earlier document 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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 August 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

15. 02. 2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Cazacu, Corneliu

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2006/002326

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

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. ☐ Claims Nos.:
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:

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

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

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

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ 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. ☒ 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.:

1-7, 17

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-7, 17,

body characteristics, mouthpiece, food type

2. claim: 8

sealing means

3. claims: 9-11

scraping means

4. claims: 12-14

venting means

5. claims: 15-16

closure means

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2006/002326

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0995685	A	26-04-2000	AT 237508 T	15-05-2003
			DE 69813562 D1	22-05-2003
			ES 2197409 T3	01-01-2004

EP 1211950	A	12-06-2002	AT 256398 T	15-01-2004
			AU 772165 B2	08-04-2004
			AU 7650800 A	17-04-2001
			BR 0013974 A	07-05-2002
			CA 2382624 A1	22-03-2001
			DE 60007332 D1	29-01-2004
			DE 60007332 T2	09-06-2004
			WO 0119205 A1	22-03-2001
			ES 2164556 A1	16-02-2002
			IL 148608 A	25-07-2005
			MX PA02002747 A	01-07-2005
			PT 1211950 T	31-05-2004
			TR 200201485 T2	21-11-2002
			US 7017783 B1	28-03-2006
			ZA 200201994 A	11-03-2003

US 1933596	A	07-11-1933	NONE	
