

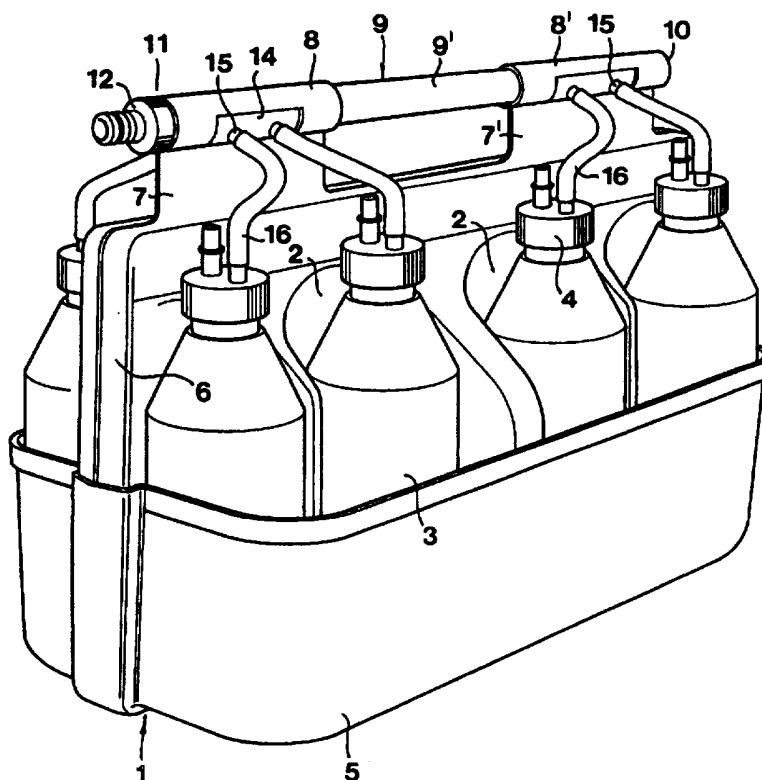
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : B65D 1/24		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/44251 (43) International Publication Date: 27 November 1997 (27.11.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE97/00799 (22) International Filing Date: 15 May 1997 (15.05.97) (30) Priority Data: 9601934-4 22 May 1996 (22.05.96) SE (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: KRANTZ, Sven-Olov [SE/SE]; Snögatan 5C, S-802 76 Gävle (SE). (74) Agent: JOHANSSON, Lars; Lars Johansson Patentbyrå AB, P.O. Box 68, S-801 02 Gävle (SE).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Swedish).</i>	

(54) Title: PORTABLE BASKET FOR DRINKING CONTAINERS OR BOTTLES

(57) Abstract

A portable basket for water bottles (1) comprises a body (1) provided with a plurality of compartments (2) for individual bottles (3) in which body a handle device (9') is included. A main piping (9), which is closed at one end and open at the opposite end, is associated with the basket body and with which conduit a plurality of branch conduits (15) communicate, through which water or drinks may be fed out simultaneously from the main piping (9) to a plurality of bottles (3) in the compartments (2).



FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

PORTABLE BASKET FOR DRINKING CONTAINERS OR BOTTLES

Technical Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a portable basket for drinking
5 containers or bottles, comprising a body provided with a plurality of compartments for individual bottles in which body a handle device is included.

Background of the Invention

10 Portable baskets of the above-mentioned kind are often used in the sports movement, in particular in connection with team matches, e.g. in football, indoor bandy, handball, basketball, ice-hockey, etc. A responsible person within the team, e.g. the storekeeper thereof, has the duty of supplying each
15 individual player with a bottle filled with drink, most often in the form of fresh water. For the purpose, plastic bottles are usually used which are equipped with a screwable cap on which there is a short tube to which a hose piece is connected which the user may stick into his mouth and suck the water out
20 of the bottle (in practice the water is simultaneously pressed out from the deformable plastic bottle). Refilling a plurality of such bottles is a time-consuming and troublesome business in that the bottles have to be handled individually, more precisely in the following way: In a first step, the bottle is
25 taken up from the basket, the cap being screwed off from the bottle-neck. In case stale water is left in the bottle, it has to be emptied and rinsed. Not until then, new, fresh water may be refilled by connecting the neck of the bottle to a water tap. When the bottle is filled, the cap is screwed on again,
30 and thereafter the bottle is again put down into the basket. Then this procedure has to be repeated for all bottles, the number of which in practice often amounts to 8-10 or more.

Objects and Features of the Invention

35 The present invention aims at obviating difficulties in connection with the refill of fresh water in bottles, more precisely by creating an improved carrier-basket for the bottles. Thus, a primary object of the invention is to create a basket in which the bottles may remain during refilling and which

enables refilling without need to handle the separate bottles individually. A further object of the invention is to create a basket which is constructionally simple and cheap to produce.

According to the invention, at least the primary object
5 is attained by the features defined in the characterizing clause of claim 1. Preferred embodiments of the invention are furthermore defined in the dependent claims.

Brief Description of the Appended Drawings

- 10 In the drawings:
Fig 1 is a perspective view of a basket according to the invention made with eight compartments for as many plastic bottles,
Fig 2 is a partly cut long side view of the basket according
15 to fig 1,
Fig 3 is an end view of the same basket,
Fig 4 is a planar view from below of the basket,
Fig 5 is a partly cut side view showing a special cap for the plastic bottles in question, the cap being shown in a
20 first state of function,
Fig 6 is an analogous view showing the same cap in a second state of function.

Detailed Description of a Preferred Embodiment of the Invention

- 25 The basket shown in fig 1 comprises a body in its entirety designated 1 which in practice may be made of stiff plastic. Compartments 2 are provided in the body for conventional plastic bottles 3 which are equipped with caps 4. In the given example, the basket body includes eight compartments for as
30 many plastic bottles. The body 1 includes a lower tray-like part 5 and a central, protruding wall part 6 which, along the upper edge thereof, has two mutually separated board parts 7, 7', which have cages or sleeves 8, 8' at the top thereof. A tube 9 serving as a main conduit which is closed at the rear
35 end 10 thereof and open at the front end 11 thereof, is mounted in these cages. More precisely, the tube 9 has, at said open end 11, a first quick coupling member 12 arranged to be connected to a second quick coupling member 12' of a hose 13 (see fig 2). The central portion 9' of the tube which extends

between the two separated cages 8, 8' forms a handle device by means of which the basket may be carried.

In the shown example, openings 14 which uncover portions of the tube are recessed in the cages 8, 8'. Small tube sockets 5 15, which form branch conduits communicating with the interior of the main conduit tube 9, are fixed in said openings. An end of a hose 16 may be connected to each such tube socket 15, the opposite end of which hose is permanently connected to the cap 4 of the individual bottle. The number of tube sockets corresponds to the number of compartments 2 in the basket body. In 10 this connection, it may also be mentioned that the main conduit tube 9 as well as the tube sockets 15 in practice suitably are made of stiff plastic as well as the basket body as a whole. As may be seen in figures 2 to 4, the basket body has, at the bottom 15 side thereof, a central longitudinal bead 17 as well as a number of rings 18, corresponding to the number of compartments, which rings protrude from the bottom plate 19 of the basket body, more precisely in connection with holes 20. The rings 18 have mainly the same height as the central bead 17, 20 whereby it is guaranteed that the basket stands steadily on a plane surface. Water in the bottom of the basket may be drained out through the holes 20.

The cap 4 shown in fig 5 and 6 is specially designed for co-operation with the basket according to the invention. Apart 25 from a completely open first tube piece 21, said cap includes a second tube piece 22 in which a tenon-formed regulating element 23 is arranged. A collar 24 is arranged approximately in the middle of said tenon element, and, on the bottom side of the element, there is a cylinder-shaped projection 25 having a 30 smaller diameter than the tenon element. A central channel 26 in the tenon element runs into a transverse hole 27 in the projection 25. A slender shaft 28 having a head 29 extends from the projection 25. Said head co-operates with a number of radially separated plastic lugs 30 located in the vicinity of a 35 bore 31 in the plane upper part of the cap.

In fig 5, the element 23 is shown in an upper end position in which the head 29 is stopped by the lugs 30. In this position, de-airing of the bottle may be effected, more precisely by the fact that air passes the lugs 30 and through the

bore 31 and further via the transverse hole 27 and out through the central channel 26. In fig 6, the element 23 is pressed into tube piece 22, the projection 25 being urged into the bore 31. In this way, the bore 31 is closed so that neither air nor
5 water can pass therethrough.

The Function and Advantages of the Basket According to the Invention

When the bottles in a basket are to be filled with
10 water, the basket is put down, e.g. in a sink or on a floor in connection to a tap water tap, and then the hose 13 is connected to the tap as well as to the main conduit tube 9 of the basket, more precisely via the quick coupling 12, 12'. The hoses 16 are connected to the various tube sockets of the main
15 conduit tube, and the caps 4 are adjusted into the de-airing position according to fig 5. Hereafter, fresh water is led to the various bottles from the tap water tap via the main conduit tube and the hoses connected to the tube sockets or branch conduits 15. During initial refill of the individual bottle, merely
20 air will first pass through the regulating element 23, but after the bottle has been filled, also water may pass out through the same. In practice, this possibility is essential inasmuch as it is preferred to let water flush through the various bottles during a longer period of time. In this way, it
25 is guaranteed that possibly remaining drops of stale water is flushed out of the bottles. This is something which in turn means that the responsible person is not forced to unscrew the caps and empty the stale water before the refill of new fresh water is started. After the bottles have been flushed through
30 with water during a time of e.g. 5-10 minutes, the water supply is interrupted by shutting the tap, and the basket is separated from the hose 13 by separating the quick coupling members 12, 12'. Water which has flowed up through the cap and down into the lower tray part 5 of the basket is continuously evacuated
35 through the holes 20 in the bottom 19 of the tray part. After all surplus water on the whole in this way has run out through the holes, the basket may be lifted up and then carried out to the match arena in a simple way. In conclusion the hoses 16 are separated from the branch conduits 15, and thereafter the

regulating elements 23 are pushed in to a closed position. In this state, the individual water consumer may use the bottle in a conventional way, i.e. bring the hose 16 to the mouth and, if so is desired, press out water by deforming the bottle.

5 The advantages of the invention are obvious. By the fact that all bottles may be filled with water at the same time without the need of neither removing nor putting on the caps in connections with the refilling, the responsible person's work is limited to connecting a hose to the basket and a tap water
10 tap respectively as well as removing the hose from the basket when a refill has taken place. In other words, the time-consuming and troublesome business of filling the bottles one by one is eliminated.

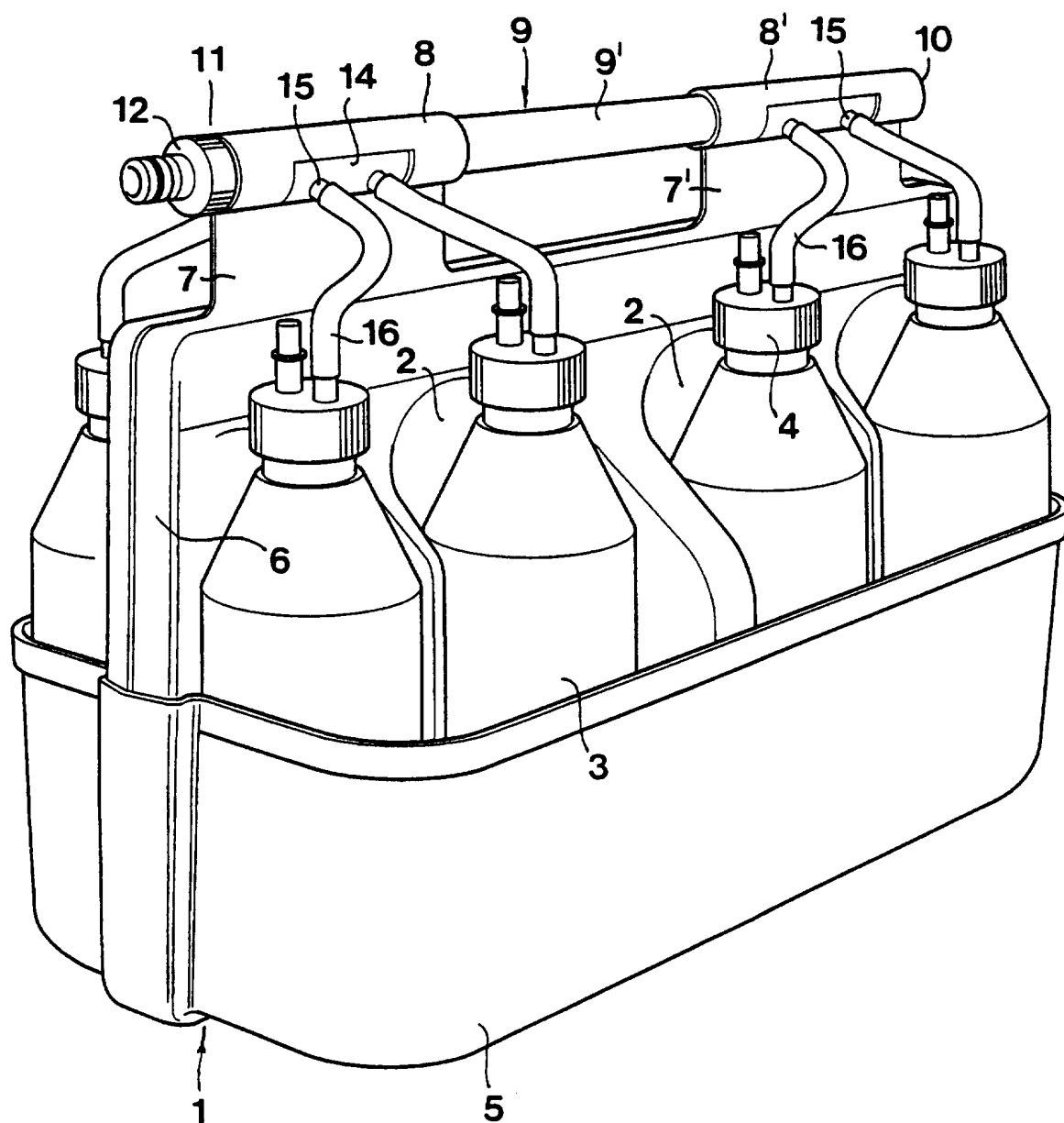
15 Feasible Modifications of the Invention

 The invention is not limited solely to the embodiment described and shown in the drawings. Although it is preferred to use the intermediate portion of the main conduit tube as a handle device, it is thus feasible to arrange a separate handle
20 device and integrate the piping in the body in another way than the one shown in the drawings. Of course, the number of compartments in the basket body may vary most considerably, although 8-12 (distributed among 4-6 on each side of the central wall part) is preferred in practice.

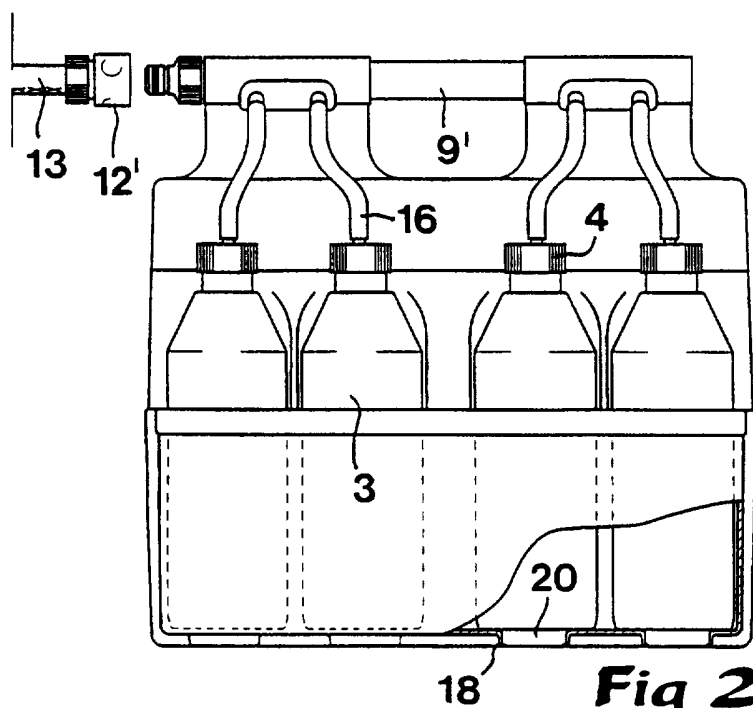
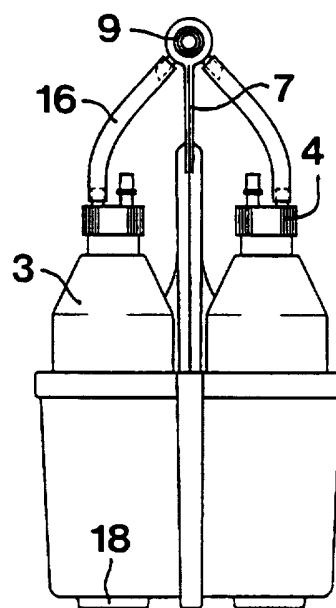
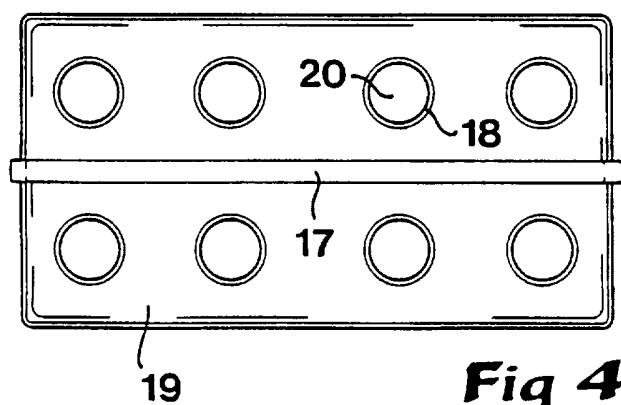
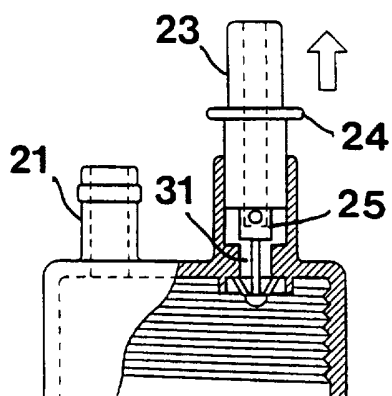
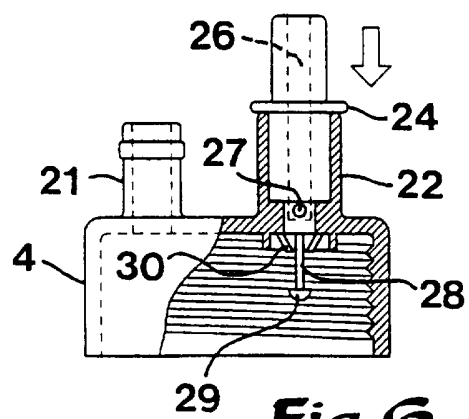
Claims

1. A portable basket for drinking containers or bottles, comprising a body (1) provided with a plurality of compartments (2) for individual bottles (3) in which body a handle device is included, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that a main conduit (9), which is closed at one end and open at the opposite end, is associated with the basket body (1) and with which conduit a plurality of branch conduits (15) communicate, through which drink, e.g. water, may be fed out simultaneously from the main conduit (9) to a plurality of bottles (3) in the compartments (2).
2. Basket according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the number of branch conduits (15) corresponds to the number of compartments (2) in the body (1).
3. Basket according to claim 1 or 2, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that a first quick coupling member (12) for connection to a second quick coupling member (12') on a hose or similar is arranged at the open end (11) of the main conduit (9).
4. Basket according to any one of the preceding claims, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the main conduit is in the form of a tube (9) which is built-in into the body (1).
5. Basket according to claim 4, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that a portion (9') of the piping (9) extends freely supported between two separated parts (8, 8') of the body so as to serve as a handle device.
6. Basket according to claim 5, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the body, in a way known per se, includes a central wall portion (6) which separates two sets of compartments and which at the top has two axially separated board parts (7, 7') on which cages (8, 8') are formed in which the piping (9) is inserted.

1 / 2

**Fig 1**

2 / 2

**Fig 2****Fig 3****Fig 4****Fig 5****Fig 6**

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 97/00799

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC6: B65D 1/24

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)

IPC6: B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

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.
A	GB 1123041 A (PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY), 7 August 1968 (07.08.68), figure 1 -- -----	1

☐ 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

30 August 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

02 -09- 1997

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Swedish Patent Office
Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM
Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Helena Åkerlund
Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

06/08/97

International application No.

PCT/SE 97/00799

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
GB 1123041 A	07/08/68	BE 668707 A	24/02/66
		FR 1445199 A	19/10/66
		NL 6510378 A	01/03/66
		US 3281010 A	25/10/66
