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DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

17 January 2013

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No  
PCT/GB2012/050539

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 INV. B65H31/10 B65H29/26 B65H29/14 B65H43/06  
 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)  
 B65H G07D G07F B29L B65D B65B  
 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

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2008/073177 A1 (HANSSON LARS A [SE] HANSSON LARS-ANGST KE [SE]) 27 March 2008 (2008-03-27) the whole document -----	1-5,14
X	US 4 161 095 A (BUDAY JOHN M [US]) 17 July 1979 (1979-07-17) the whole document -----	1,4,5,14
Y	US 4 807 758 A (HUBBARD CHARLES R [US]) 28 February 1989 (1989-02-28) the whole document -----	1,6-10, 14-16
Y	US 4 134 672 A (BURLEW LEROY E ET AL) 16 January 1979 (1979-01-16) the whole document -----	1,6-10, 14-16

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  16 November 2012	Date of mailing of the international search report  23/11/2012
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Ureta, Rolando

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/GB2012/050539

## Box No. 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.: 18, 19  
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.  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 No. 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 fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
  
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.:  
1-10, 14-16
  
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.:

### 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.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2012/050539

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2008073177	A1	27-03-2008	
		AT 478403 T	15-09-2010
		CA 2577830 A1	20-04-2006
		DK 1807809 T3	06-12-2010
		EP 1807809 A1	18-07-2007
		ES 2351194 T3	01-02-2011
		NO 328586 B1	22-03-2010
		SE 527444 C2	07-03-2006
		SE 0402142 A	07-03-2006
		US 2008073177 A1	27-03-2008
		WO 2006041357 A1	20-04-2006
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US 4161095	A	17-07-1979	NONE
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US 4807758	A	28-02-1989	NONE
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US 4134672	A	16-01-1979	NONE
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**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

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

1. claims: 1-5, 14

A device for stacking sheet documents in a container, comprising a feeding section shaped for insertion through an open end of the container, and to conform to its interior, and a method for stacking sheet documents in a container.

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2. claims: 6-12, 15, 16

A device for stacking sheet documents in a container, comprising a movable support, and a method for stacking sheet documents in a container, comprising controlling the relative displacement of the closed end of the container and the sheet document output along a stacking axis on which the stack is being formed.

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3. claims: 13, 17

A device for stacking sheet documents in a container, comprising a heat sealer, and a method for stacking sheet documents in a container, comprising sealing the container.

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**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 18, 19

Claims 18, 19 contain references to the description and/or the drawings. Acc. to Rule 6.2(a) PCT, claims should not contain such references except where absolutely necessary, which is not the case here.

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 EPO 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 application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.