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 kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY,  
 BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM,  
 DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,  
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 KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG,  
 MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM,  
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## Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the  
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12 January 2017

(54) Title: PACKAGING METHOD TO ENABLE RE-STERILIZATION OF MEDICAL DEVICE

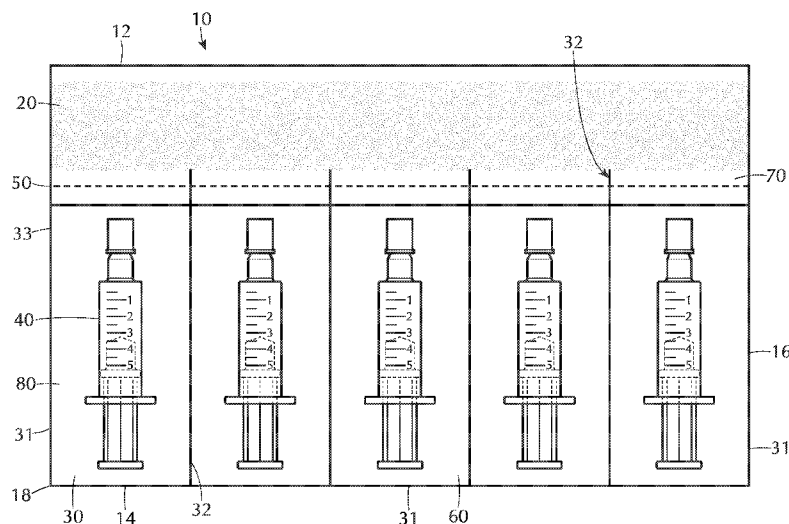


FIGURE 1

(57) Abstract: A method of packaging pre-filled medical devices is disclosed. The method comprises producing a packaging having a front panel and a back panel defining a compartment capable of holding one or more medical devices wherein at least one of the front panel or top panel has a portion containing a gas permeable material while the remaining portion of the pouch is gas impermeable. This gas permeable material allows gas to pass through the material and contact the one or more articles contained within the compartment or allows gas to pass through the gas permeable material from the inside of the compartment to the outside of the container. Upon completion of sterilization, the pouch is sealed and the gas permeable portion is cut away leaving the sterilized medical device enclosed in a completely gas impermeable pouch.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2016/034280

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61L2/07 A61L2/20 B65D75/00 B65D81/00  
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)

A61L B65D

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

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2007/047028 A1 (ATRIUM MEDICAL CORP [US]; LABRECQUE ROGER [US]; CONROY SUZANNE [US]; F) 26 April 2007 (2007-04-26) abstract; figures page 1, lines 1-2,22-25 page 5, lines 10-14 page 6 page 13, lines 1-2 pages 16-17	1-23
X	US 4 660 721 A (MYKLEBY LAURIE G [US]) 28 April 1987 (1987-04-28) abstract; figures column 2 column 5, lines 54-62 column 6, lines 25-40 column 8, lines 45-50 ----- -/-	1-10



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 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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 November 2016

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06/12/2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2016/034280

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2005/073091 A2 (AVANTEC VASCULAR CORP [US]) 11 August 2005 (2005-08-11) paragraphs [0006], [0009], [0033] - [0035]; figure 4 -----	1-23
X	EP 1 520 795 A1 (CODMAN & SHURTLEFF [US]) 6 April 2005 (2005-04-06) paragraphs [0008] - [0010], [0014], [0025] - [0026]; figures -----	1,2,4
X	DE 10 2004 027923 A1 (ARTUSI RETO [CH]) 29 December 2005 (2005-12-29) paragraphs [0006], [0008]; figures -----	1,3
A	WO 99/32044 A1 (REXAM MEDICAL PACKAGING INC [US]) 1 July 1999 (1999-07-01) page 1, lines 17-26; figure 7 page 5, lines 3-12 -----	1,4,8
A	US 3 472 369 A (SCHUSTER SAMUEL J) 14 October 1969 (1969-10-14) figures column 1, lines 35-38 column 2, lines 30-69 -----	11-23

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2016/034280

## 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.:  
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 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.:
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.

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

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

1. claims: 1-10

method of packaging chemically sensitive articles comprising  
a gas-permeable header

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2. claims: 11-23

method of packaging chemically sensitive articles comprising  
a gas-impermeable header

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2016/034280

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 3472369 A	14-10-1969	NONE	