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(54) **Food carton**

(57) A carton is provided having front and rear panels, side panels and top and bottom panels. A dividing panel is provided internally of the cavity such that at least two compartments are defined therein for the location of two different food products. One or more surfaces of said panels of one or more of said compart-

ments include a microwave activateable layer or coating which becomes hot in the presence of microwave radiation. The arrangement of the microwave activateable layer is different in the two compartments to allow different cooking characteristics of the different food products to be catered for.

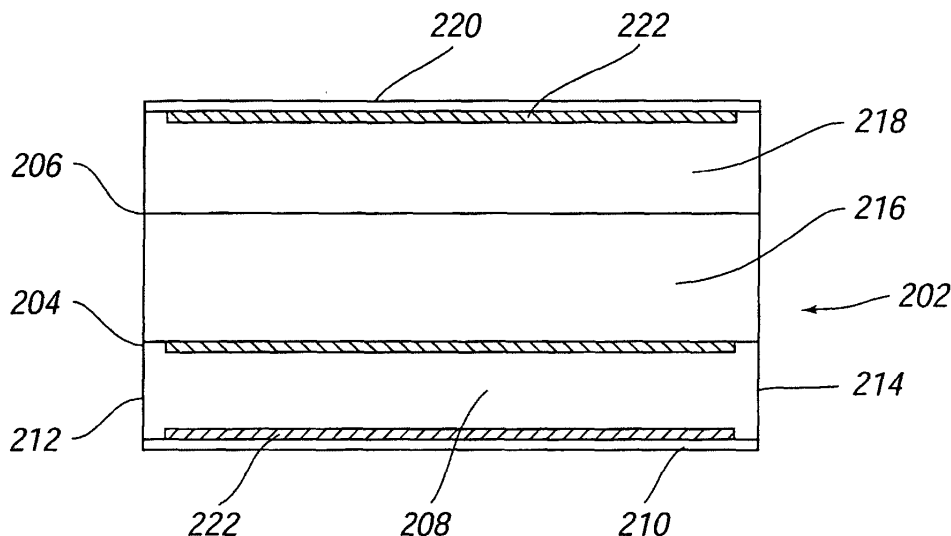


FIG. 8



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 2 September 2004	Examiner Grondin, D
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 2 September 2004	Examiner Grondin, D
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-20,24-29

Carton having front, rear, side, top and bottom panels, the carton being provided with one or more dividing panels internally of the cavity such that at least two compartments are defined therein for the location of one or more food products, one or more surfaces of the panels of one or more of the compartments including a microwave activeable layer or coating which becomes hot in the presence of microwave radiation, the arrangement of the microwave activeable layer being different in the at least two compartments.

2. claims: 1,21-23

Carton wherein one or more of the top, bottom, rear and/or front panels of the carton are provided with lines of weakness which define at least one removable panel.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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02-09-2004

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82