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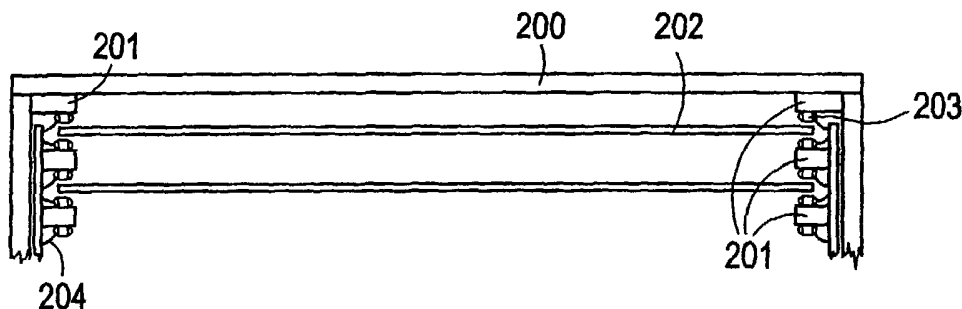
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPORTING ARTICLES



(57) Abstract: In accordance with an illustrative embodiment, a method and apparatus for transporting articles includes a container (200), which has at least one support member (201) and at least one stabilizing member (203). The stabilizing members (203) are adapted to engage the articles (202) and secure the articles (202) to the support members (201), and disengage the articles (202) during unloading.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/10394

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(7) : B65D 85/48; A47G 19/08  
 US CL : 206/454; 211/41.14  
 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)  
 U.S. : 206/1.5, 445, 449, 453-456, 477, 478, 522, 591, 593, 706, 708, 711, 722; 211/8, 41.1, 41.14, 41.18; 312/215, 216

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)  
 EAST: rack, pinion

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2,946,453 A (PITYO, E. L.) 26 July 1960 (26.07.1960), See the entire document.	1,3,8-11,17-22,24,25,29-32,36,38,39
X	US 2,953,253 A (HENDERSON et al.) 20 September 1960 (20.09.1960), See the entire document.	1,3,4,7,8,11,14-22,24,25,28,29,32,35-39
X	US 4,202,452 A (McCORMICK, Joseph R.) 13 May 1980 (13.05.1980), See the entire document.	1,2,4,6,11,17,19-23,25,27,29,32,35,37,39
X	US 4,478,331 A (RUIN, Jean-Pierre) 23 October 1984 (23.10.1984), See the entire document.	1,3,4,8,12,13,19-22,24,25,29,33,34,39
A	US 5,960,960 A (YAMAMOTO, Nobuo) 05 October 1999 (05.10.1999), See Figures 1-4b.	
X, P	US 6,588,605 B1 (VOLKERT et al.) 08 July 2003 (08.07.2003), See Figures 1-10.	1,5,20,21,26

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"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)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"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		

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International application No.  
PCT/US04/10394

## C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 004001762 B2 (KAEMPF et al.) 01 December 1998 (01.12.1998), See Figures 1-5.	
A	US 4,093,251 A (BOYER, Ambroise O.) 06 June 1978 (06.06.1978), See Figure 1.	15,16,36