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(54) **Title:** APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A COMPOSITE FROZEN PRODUCT

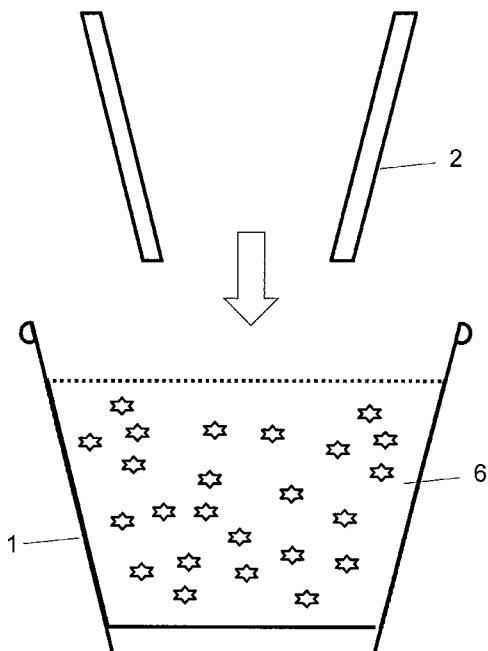


Figure 4a

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention provides an apparatus for the production of a composite frozen product in a container, the product being comprised of a frozen confection within an edible casing, wherein the apparatus comprises a forming element having an external surface corresponding to the internal shape of the container, the forming element being further characterised by a passage running through the forming element from an upper opening to a lower opening, the apparatus further comprising means for removing material from the passage of the forming element. The invention also provides a process for the production of a composite frozen product in a container, the product being comprised of a frozen confection within an edible casing, the process comprising the steps of: at least partially filling the container with particles of a casing material having an average diameter of at most 3mm; inserting a forming element into the container, the forming element having an external surface corresponding to the internal shape of the container, and being further characterised by a passage running through the forming element from an upper opening to a lower opening; removing excess casing material from the passage of the forming element; removing the forming element; and then at least partially filling the container with a frozen confection.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**  
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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, FSTA

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

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A	US 2011/151065 A1 (BARTKOWSKA BEATA [GB] ET AL) 23 June 2011 (2011-06-23) claims 11-16; figures 1-4 -----	1-8
A	US 2003/056662 A1 (PRITCHARD TOM [US] ET AL) 27 March 2003 (2003-03-27) claims 7-14; figure 5 -----	1-8
A	EP 1 302 112 A1 (NESTLE SA [CH]) 16 April 2003 (2003-04-16) claims 12-15 -----	1-8
A	EP 1 808 080 A1 (NESTEC SA [CH]) 18 July 2007 (2007-07-18) claims 1,6,8 -----	1-8

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

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Date of the actual completion of the international search  12 September 2013	Date of mailing of the international search report  11/12/2013
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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  Groh, Björn
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