



(11)

EP 4 530 212 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
28.05.2025 Bulletin 2025/22

(51) International Patent Classification (IPC):
B65D 33/25 ^(2006.01) **B65D 77/32** ^(2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
02.04.2025 Bulletin 2025/14

(52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC):
B65D 33/2533; B65D 33/2575; B65D 77/32

(21) Application number: **24198311.3**

(22) Date of filing: **03.09.2024**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC ME MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR
Designated Extension States:
BA
Designated Validation States:
GE KH MA MD TN

(72) Inventors:
• **PLOURDE, Eric P.**
60025 Glenview (US)
• **SEPTIEN ROJAS, Jose Manuel**
60025 Glenview (US)
• **MATTHEWS, David J.**
60025 Glenview (US)

(30) Priority: **07.09.2023 US 202363581107 P**
23.08.2024 US 202418814239

(74) Representative: **HGF**
HGF Limited
1 City Walk
Leeds LS11 9DX (GB)

(71) Applicant: **Illinois Tool Works Inc.**
Glenview IL 60025 (US)

(54) **ZIPPER ASSEMBLY AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

(57) A zipper assembly (700) for a resealable enclosure can include an elongated flange (308) having a panel side and an opposite facing side. The panel side can be coupled with an inner surface of a panel of the resealable enclosure. The zipper assembly can include an interlocking element (214) protruding from the flange. The interlocking element can be shaped to mate with another interlocking element (216) of another flange (310) to close the enclosure and shaped to be pulled apart to open the enclosure. The zipper assembly also can include a tear strip (306) disposed in the flange. The tear strip can be pulled to tear through the panel of the resealable enclosure to provide access to the zipper assembly inside the enclosure. The flange can include protruding rails (706, 708) that outwardly project from the flange and the tear strip is positioned between said rails.

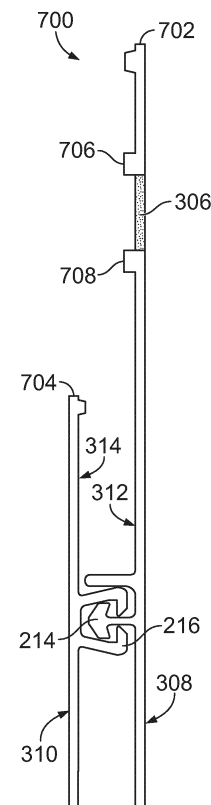


FIG. 7

EP 4 530 212 A3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 24 19 8311

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	EP 3 351 128 A1 (IDEMITSU UNITECH CO LTD [JP]) 25 July 2018 (2018-07-25) * paragraphs [0157] - [0171]; figures 10A-10B *	1-6	INV. B65D33/25 B65D77/32
X	WO 2015/058427 A1 (DALIAN TAKEBISHI PACKING INDUSTRY CO LTD [CN]) 30 April 2015 (2015-04-30) * abstract * * machine translation of description; figures 1-5 *	1-6	
X	EP 1 820 744 B1 (IDEMITSU UNITECH CO LTD [JP]) 25 February 2015 (2015-02-25) * paragraphs [0058] - [0068]; figures 5-6 *	1,3-6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		20 January 2025	Leijten, René
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			



Application Number

EP 24 19 8311

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

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:

1 - 6

☐ The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 24 19 8311

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: 1-6

Zipper assembly provided with a flange including protruding rails and a tear strip between said rails.

2. claims: 7-11

Zipper assembly including a flange and a tear strip located between opposing edges of the flange with gaps between each of the opposing edges and the tear strip.

3. claims: 12-15

Zipper assembly including a flange and a first and a second tear strip both coupled to the flange.

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

EP 24 19 8311

5

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

20-01-2025

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 3351128	A1	25-07-2018	CN	108024600 A	11-05-2018
			CN	117549605 A	13-02-2024
			EP	3351128 A1	25-07-2018
			JP	6773660 B2	21-10-2020
			JP	WO2017047573 A1	28-06-2018
			KR	20180051524 A	16-05-2018
			TW	201718358 A	01-06-2017
			TW	202110720 A	16-03-2021
			US	2018251268 A1	06-09-2018
			US	2021009316 A1	14-01-2021
			WO	2017047573 A1	23-03-2017

WO 2015058427	A1	30-04-2015	CN	203558308 U	23-04-2014
			WO	2015058427 A1	30-04-2015

EP 1820744	B1	25-02-2015	CN	101072715 A	14-11-2007
			EP	1820744 A1	22-08-2007
			EP	2851312 A1	25-03-2015
			EP	3072828 A1	28-09-2016
			EP	3375726 A1	19-09-2018
			JP	4908228 B2	04-04-2012
			JP	WO2006062136 A1	12-06-2008
			KR	20070092224 A	12-09-2007
			US	2009238500 A1	24-09-2009
			US	2015375902 A1	31-12-2015
			US	2017073118 A1	16-03-2017
			US	2021188486 A1	24-06-2021
			WO	2006062136 A1	15-06-2006

EPO FORM P0459

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