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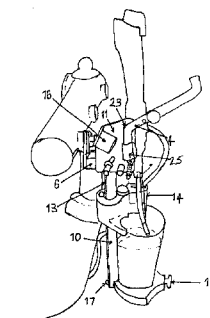
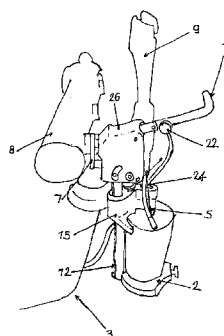
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- with international search report
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2 October 2008

(54) Title: LIQUID DISPENSING DEVICES WITH DISPENSED QUANTITY CONTROL



(57) Abstract: A beer dispensing device comprises a fitment (7) for fitting to the tap (9), a sensor (24) for sensing the quantity of beer dispensed from the tap (9) on turning on of the tap, a pivot lever (4) and arm (1) for engaging the tap (9), and an electronic control box (3) for causing the pivot lever (4) to be rotated under spring (28) action to turn off the tap (9) in response to an indication from the sensor (24) that the required quantity of beer has been dispensed from the tap (9). Such a device is particularly applicable to the dispensing of beer at a public bar as it allows substantially hands free operation after the bartender has initiated dispensing by opening of the tap, and therefore allows more flexible and faster service through multi-tasking by the bartender.



WO 2008/072012 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2007/050749

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B67D1/12 B67D1/14 B67D1/00

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)

B67D

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 905 743 A (GRAY ALDEN J [US]) 6 March 1990 (1990-03-06) column 2, line 21 - line 24 column 3, line 19 - line 58; figure 1 -----	1-6, 9, 12, 13, 17-19

☐

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 document 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
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- *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.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2007/050749

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 allsearchable 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 reportcovers 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.:

1-14, 16-20

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/GB2007 /050749

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

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

1. claims: 1-14, 16-20

liquid dispensing device with controller for turning off a tap

2. claims: 15,21-25

liquid dispensing fitment with flexible tube for directing a flow of liquid from a tap

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2007/050749

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4905743	A	06-03-1990 CA	2002802 A1
			14-05-1990