TAPPING ASSEMBLY AND CONNECTING DEVICE; CONTAINER AND METHOD FOR BEVERAGE DISPENSING

Abstract: Tapping assembly (1) for a beverage, comprising a first (20) and second (21) container, wherein the first container has a neck portion and the second container is suspended in the first container, from the neck portion thereof, wherein a neck region of the container is provided with at least one opening (22) in a side wall thereof, preferably in a neck region of the first container, opening into a space between the first and second containers, wherein the assembly further comprises a connecting device (5), connected or connectable to the neck portion, wherein the connecting device comprises at least one connecting element for connecting to the at least one opening, wherein the connecting element is connectable to a source of pressurised gas.
Date of publication of the international search report:
24 April 2014
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/NL2013/05Q554

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. B67D1/Q4 B67D1/08 B29B11/14 B29C49/06 B65D23/02
ADD.

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 B29B B29C B65D

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>page 9, line 3 - line 17 page 10, line 4 - line 15 paragraphs [0027], [0036], [0045]</td>
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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. X 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 application or patent 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

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
19 February 2014

Date of mailing of the international search report
03/03/2014

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
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Authorized officer
Muller, Claus
## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

### 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. [X] Claims Nos.: 22, 25
   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:
   see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/21Q

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 all searchable 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. [X] As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
   1-5, 7-21, 23, 24

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.:

### Remark on Protest

- □ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- [X] 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.
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Form PCT/ISA/210 [patent family annex] (April 2005)
This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4, 14
   tapping assembly with a first and a second container, of which one with a lateral opening in the side wall of the neck
   ---

2. claims: 5, 7-13
   connecting device having a first and second part movably connected therewith; tapping assembly with such a connecting device
   ---

3. claim: 6
   tapping assembly with an overpressure release connector
   ---

4. claims: 15-21, 23, 24
   method for forming a double container; double container
   ---
Continuation of Box 11.2

Claims Nos.: 22, 25

The subject-matter of independent product claims 22 and 25 is merely defined by intended use in relation to other entities, and do not contain any feature.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 56.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guidelines C-IV, 7.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.