



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

**EP 0 702 911 A2**

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:  
27.03.1996 Bulletin 1996/13

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>: **A45C 1/02**, G07D 9/02

(21) Application number: 95113332.1

(22) Date of filing: 24.08.1995

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**DE FR GB IT**

(30) Priority: 24.08.1994 BR 7401554 U

(71) Applicant: **MEC PREC MECANICA DE PRECISAO  
INDUSTRIA E COMERCIO LTDA.**  
Rio de Janeiro - RJ (BR)

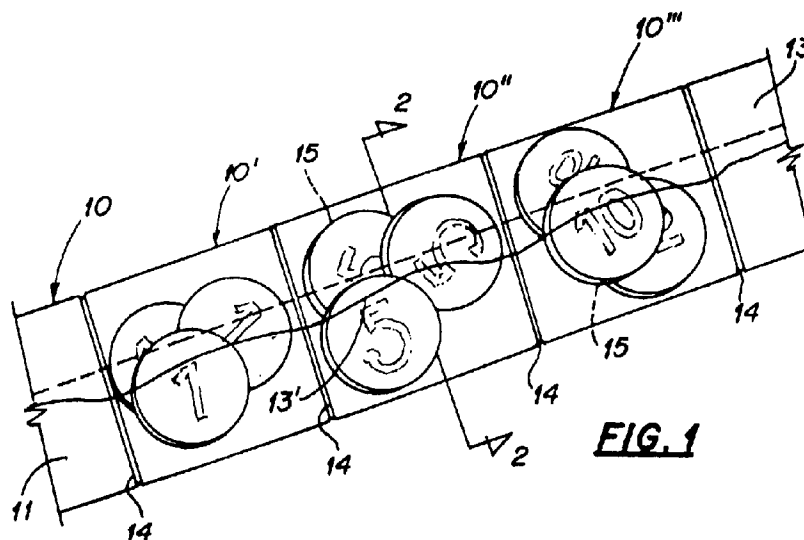
(72) Inventor: **Klabin, Mauricio**  
Sao Conrado, Rio de Janeiro-RJ (BR)

(74) Representative: **Müller-Boré & Partner**  
Patentanwälte  
Grafinger Strasse 2  
D-81671 München (DE)

**(54) Classifying coin case**

(57) A classifying coin case (10) is described, adequate to lodge a number of coins of various unit values separated in groups of one single value, which is formed by a strip of clear plastic material folded longitudinally so as to define a first strip part (11), a second strip part (12) and a third strip part (13), in which the third strip part (13) overlaps partially the free edge of the first strip part (11)

and the strip parts are closed at certain transverse points (14) so as to define a number of small purses or niches (10', 10'', 10''') capable of containing coins (15) which can be removed from or placed in the niches through the partial raising of the corresponding edge (13') of the strip part (13).



**EP 0 702 911 A2**

## Description

This invention refers to coin cases in general and, more specifically, to a classifying coin case intended to contain a large amount of coins of various values, separated by individual values, and to prevent the user from losing time and making confusion when making a payment with such coins.

Due to the little difference existing between sizes, the shallow minting and the utilization of one single metal or metallic alloy to mint coins of different values, in the currently prevailing monetary system, it is common to occur difficulties concerning the ready identification of the different pecuniary values of said coins at the moment of effecting a regular commercial transaction, that is, a purchase in a supermarket, bakery or any other type of shop. Such difficulty is greater when the person who effects said commercial transaction is in a hurry (whether a purchase or a sale).

In general, the coin cases currently available make it possible only to work as a purse where the coins of various values are indistinctly agglomerated, which sometimes makes even more difficult to separate a coin of a given value from the agglomeration of all coins.

Thus, the present invention has as its object to provide a classifying coin case of very simple, practical and economical constructions, making it possible to promptly select and identify same, avoiding therefore the problem of mistakes concerning the selection of adequate coins or those which are required when paying a certain amount.

According to this invention, the classifying coin case consists basically of a strip of clear plastic material, which is longitudinally folded in three parts, whereof the first, shorter or narrower than the second, overlaps the latter, and the third part, shorter than the first, overlaps the second and overlaps partially the free edge of the first part, covering thus a part of the free edge of same. Such strip of clear plastic material thus folded is sawn ??? electronically welded, or otherwise closed transversely in various points along its length, defining niches or small purses sequentially arranged, to which access is achieved through the edge of the third part of folded strip part, which is raised in relation to the edge of the first strip part in an amount sufficient to allow for removing or placing one or more coins from/to one or more of the small purses formed by the classifying coin case. The flexibility of the material constituting the coin holder allows for an easy access to the interior of each one of the purses or niches, and the fact of such material being clear makes it possible to promptly identify the value of the respective coin or coins lodged in the different niches.

It is understood, of course, that the strip and the strip parts can have any adequate dimension, both in the transverse and in the longitudinal directions, so that the final size of the classifying coin case and the number of niches or small purses in same may vary as desired. Evidently, the variation in size of the niches and in the number of same in one same strip shall make it possible

to vary the total number of classified coins and to be transported at one time by the user.

Another aspect of the invention in reference consists in the fact that the classifying coin case may present any longitudinal extension desired, which may be fully utilized at one time or cut in segments of a given number of niches, thus providing the user with a greater versatility of utilization.

The objects and advantages of the invention in reference may be more easily understood in the following description, when read together with the enclosed drawing, in which:

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the classifying coin case according to the present invention, showing a constructive solution of same and showing how the coins are arranged inside the respective niches; and

Figure 2 represents a section view of the classifying coin case in reference, lodged in the direction of cutting lines 2-2 on Figure 1.

As it may be inferred from the attached drawing which illustrates and integrates this specification, a classifying coin case according to this invention, signalled in general in 10, includes basically a strip of flexible, clear plastic material, which is folded in the longitudinal direction usually in three parts, so as to define a first strip part 11, a second strip part 12 and a third strip part 13. The first strip part 11 is shorter or narrower transversely than the second strip part 12. The second strip part 12, which constitutes the base of the classifying coin case structure 10, has a width which determines the width of the coin holder itself. The third strip part 13 is shorter or narrower than the first strip part 11 and partially overlaps the free edge of said first strip part, as shown both on Figure 1 and on Figure 2.

As it may be observed on Figure 1, the strip parts 11, 12 and 13 are welded or otherwise interconnected transversely at various points 14 along their longitudinal extension, so as to define a corresponding number of small purses or niches 10', 10'', 10''' ..., appropriate to accommodate differentially, each one of them, a number of coins of one single value in each niche 10', 10'', 10'''.

As it can be easily understood, since the material of the strip is clear and flexible, the coins 15 placed in each niche 10', 10'', 10''', may be easily identified through the coin case, and access to same can be achieved raising part of the free edge 13' of the third strip part 13 of the coin case.

The coin holder 10 in reference can be presented with any longitudinal dimension and any transverse dimension adequate or desired, reason why said coin case can contain any number of coins 15 desired. Of course, this amount of coins accommodated by the coin case 10 shall be limited only by the practical aspect of its utilization. That is, the amount of coins accumulated in the coin case 10 shall be determined as a function of

global weight of the number of coins which is really practical to transport at one time in the user's pocket or purse.

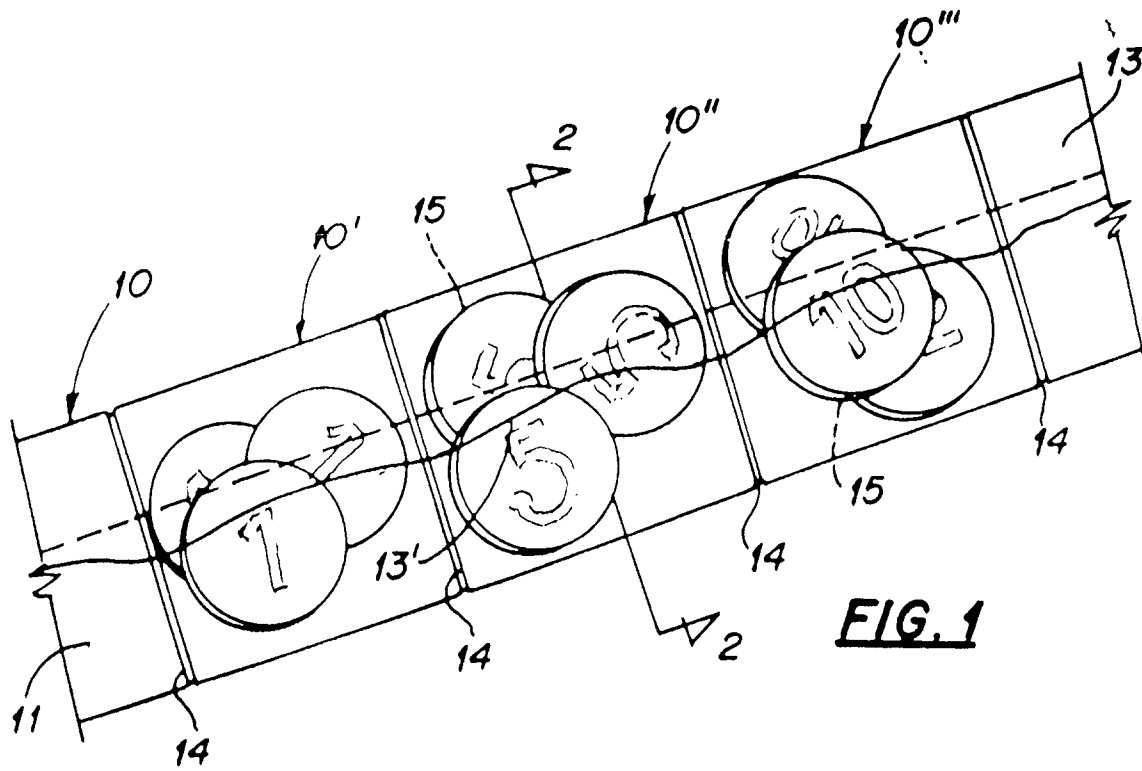
The classifying coin case 10 in reference may eventually include identification or information legends, indication of coin values and others which may be desired.

The flexibility of the material utilized to manufacture the coin holder 10 makes it possible not only to remove easily the coins from the respective niches 10', 10'', 10''' , but also to refill other coins in same; as it stops being subject to the opening stress to remove or place coins from or inside the niches, the material of the free edge part 13' shall return promptly to its previous position, closing thus the access to the niche, so that the coins would hardly escape accidentally from the respective niches where same are lodged.

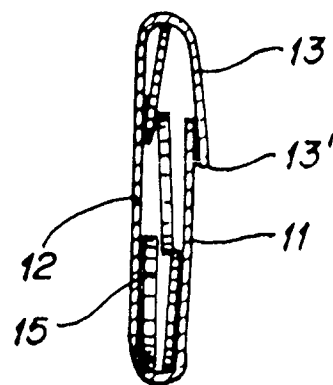
The longitudinal extension of the classifying coin case 10 may vary so as to include a number of niches 10', 10'', 10''', corresponding to at least the number of coins integrating a given pecuniary system.

## Claims

1. Classifying coin case, appropriate to lodge a number of coins of various unit values separated in groups of one single value, characterized by including a strip of flexible, clear plastic material, which is folded in the longitudinal direction in three parts, so as to define a first strip part (11), a second strip part (12) and a third strip part (13), the first strip part (11) being shorter or narrower transversely than the second strip part (12), and the third strip part (13) being shorter or narrower transversely than the first strip part (11); the free edge (13') of said third strip part (13) overlaps partially the free edge of said first strip part (11); said strip parts (11, 12, 13) are transversely closed in various points (14) along their longitudinal extension, so as to define a corresponding number of small purses or niches (10', 10'', 10''') for differential accommodation of coins of one single value in each one of the niches (10', 10'', 10''') access to each niche (10', 10'', 10''') being achieved through the partial raising of the free edge (13') of the third strip part (13) of the coin case.
2. Classifying coin case, according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the longitudinal extension of the coin case (10) includes a number of small purses or niches (10', 10'', 10'''), amounting to at least the number of coins integrating a given pecuniary system.



**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**