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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MAILING DEVICE

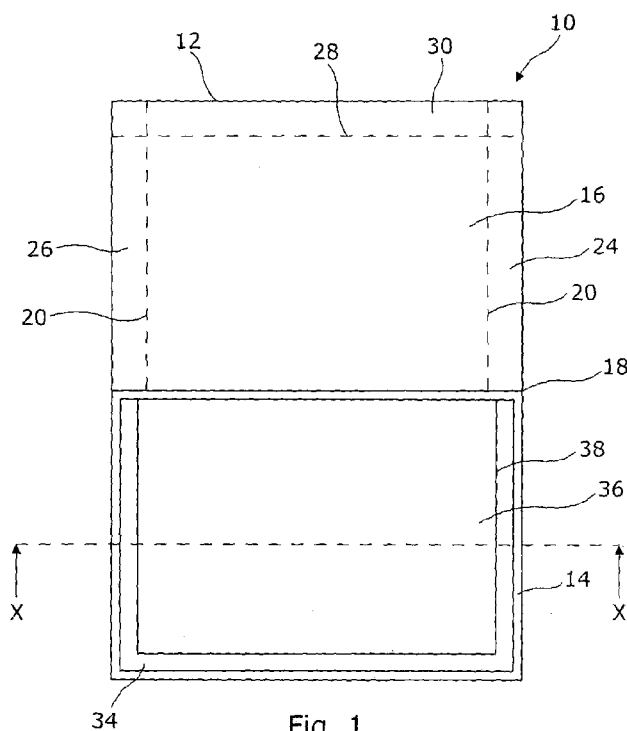


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A mailing device (10) comprises a blank (12) of foldable material defining at least two panels (14, 16) separated by one or more fold lines (18). At least two of the panels (14, 16) have removable edge regions (24, 26, 30) and an inner surface of the removable edge regions of a first of the panels (14) is coated with adhesive to enable the edge regions to be bonded to corresponding removable edge regions of another panel when the blank is folded. A sheet of material (36) is affixed to an inner surface of one of the panels (14) so as to cover an inner region of the panel within the removable edge regions. The sheet (36) may be printed on with a security hatching. Releasable tape (34) may be applied over the adhesive and the sheet (36) may be made of the same material as the release tapes. Various other mailing devices are also disclosed.

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- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2012/051640

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B65D27/34 B65D27/14
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)

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 837 565 A (JOHNSEN E) 24 September 1974 (1974-09-24) the whole document	1-8, 10-12
X	US 4 898 323 A (CHEN TIEN-TSUNG [US] ET AL) 6 February 1990 (1990-02-06) column 5, line 63 - column 6, line 47; figures 1-11	1-3,7,8
A	US 4 706 877 A (JENKINS RICHARD A [US]) 17 November 1987 (1987-11-17) the whole document	4-6,11, 12
A	GB 2 380 449 A (ECONO MAILER LTD [GB]) 9 April 2003 (2003-04-09) the whole document	1-8, 10-12
	-/--	



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 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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 October 2012

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/01/2013

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2012/051640

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 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. ☐ 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.:
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.:
1-8, 10-12

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/GB2012/051640

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 2 778 168 A3 (MALINGRE JEAN MARC [FR]) 5 November 1999 (1999-11-05) the whole document -----	1-8, 10-12
A	US 1 511 948 A (DUDLEY COLEMAN HAMILTON) 14 October 1924 (1924-10-14) the whole document -----	1-8, 10-12
A	FR 9 775 E (EUGENE THIBAUT [FR]) 22 January 1909 (1909-01-22) the whole document -----	1-8, 10-12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2012/051640

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3837565	A	24-09-1974	CA 1019290 A1 18-10-1977 US 3837565 A 24-09-1974
US 4898323	A	06-02-1990	NONE
US 4706877	A	17-11-1987	BR 8800052 A 02-08-1988 CA 1308394 C 06-10-1992 DE 3771194 D1 08-08-1991 EP 0274225 A2 13-07-1988 MW 7987 A1 11-05-1988 PT 86492 A 30-01-1989 US 4706877 A 17-11-1987 ZM 9087 A1 30-09-1988
GB 2380449	A	09-04-2003	NONE
FR 2778168	A3	05-11-1999	NONE
US 1511948	A	14-10-1924	NONE
FR 9775	E	22-01-1909	FR 9775 E 22-01-1909 FR 393106 A 14-12-1908

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

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

1. claims: 1-8, 10-12

A mailing device (and a method of making said mailing device) comprising a blank of foldable material defining at least two panels with lines of weaknesses, adhesive and an inner sheet of material affixed to a panel and covering at least an inner region of a panel within the line of weaknesses

2. claims: 13-23

A mailing device comprising a blank of foldable material defining a first and second panels and a closure flap, whereby the panel adjacent the closure flap and the closure flap have transverse lines of weaknesses

3. claims: 24-37

A mailing device (and a method of making said mailing device) comprising a blank of foldable material defining at least two panels, a tear strip with a tab portion being affixed to a panel and an opening being defined in the other pane

4. claims: 38-40

A mailing device comprising a blank of foldable material defining a first and second panels connected by way of a fold line, and a third panel connected to the second panel by another fold line, the first panel having adhesive and the second panel having apertures
