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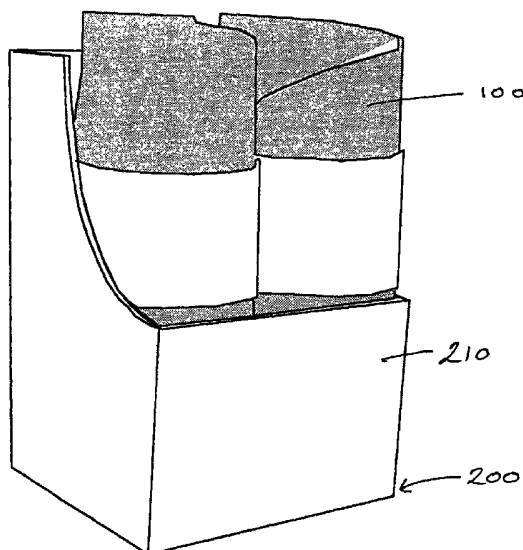
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO THE HEATING OF PRODUCTS



(57) Abstract: Food products such as wraps (100) are displayed, sold and subsequently heated in a heating apparatus (200). Within the heating apparatus (200) are reactants, such as quicklime and water which, when mixed, generate steam. An individual steam nozzle extends within the interior of each wrap and is arranged such that the steam generated is injected into the food product within its outer wrapper. The outer wrapper therefore acts to form a steam container whereby efficient heating of each wrap is achieved. Generally, the outer wrapper acts as an insulator to enable the heated wrap (100) to be safely handled.



WO 2004/012567 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

-Intern Application No
PCT/GB 03/03399

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A47J27/04 A47J36/28 B65D81/34 A21D17/00

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)

IPC 7 A47J B65D A21D F24J A61F A23L

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, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2 620 789 A (GREGORY HARRY R) 9 December 1952 (1952-12-09) column 2, line 13 - line 54 column 3, line 58 - column 4, line 20 figure 1	1-7, 9-13, 17-22, 25-30, 34,35
X	DE 201 07 565 U (MAPA GMBH GUMMI PLASTIKWERKE) 23 August 2001 (2001-08-23) page 1, paragraph 2 page 7, paragraph 2 - page 8, paragraph 4 figure 1 ----- -/--	1-3, 5-14, 17-21, 23, 25-29, 31,34

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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"E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

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"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

31 October 2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PC176B 03/03399

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 293 187 B1 (ZILS J UUMLR GEN W) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) column 2, line 43 - line 54 figures 1-3 -----	1,2, 5-14, 17-21, 23, 25-29, 31,34
X	US 3 659 584 A (DOYLE DIANE J ET AL) 2 May 1972 (1972-05-02) column 2, line 4 - column 3, line 15 figure 4 -----	1-3,5,6, 18-22, 25,26, 29,30, 34,35
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 05, 30 May 1997 (1997-05-30) & JP 09 000452 A (NISHIDA HARUZOU), 7 January 1997 (1997-01-07) abstract -----	1-3,5,6, 18,19, 21,22, 25,26, 29,30
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 12, 31 October 1998 (1998-10-31) & JP 10 194355 A (FUJIMORI PURAKEMIKARU KK), 28 July 1998 (1998-07-28) abstract -----	1-3,5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In International application No.
PCT/GB 03/03399

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:

1-35

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

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

1. claims: 1-35

method and apparatus for heating a product by introducing
hot vapour inside the product

2. claims: 36-43

hot vapour generator

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/03399

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 6293187	B1	25-09-2001	DE 19921483 C1 EP 1051940 A2	17-08-2000 15-11-2000
US 3659584	A	02-05-1972	CA 928093 A1 JP 50025378 B	12-06-1973 22-08-1975
JP 09000452	A	07-01-1997	JP 3023405 B2	21-03-2000
JP 10194355	A	28-07-1998	NONE	