



US 20010023872A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**  
**Schierling et al.**

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2001/0023872 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Sep. 27, 2001**

(54) **HOLDER FOR A BEVERAGE CONTAINER**

**Publication Classification**

(76) Inventors: **Inge Schierling**, Lossburg (DE); **Falk Schaal**, Alpirsbach (DE)

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> .....** **B65D 25/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl. ....** **220/737**

Correspondence Address:  
**STRIKER, STRIKER & STENBY**  
**103 East Neck Road**  
**Huntington, NY 11743 (US)**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(21) Appl. No.: **09/817,726**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 26, 2001**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Mar. 27, 2000 (DE)..... 100 15 197.3

A holder for a beverage container has a receiving chamber for insertion of a beverage container, a further container, for example an ashtray, and a guide with which the further container is removable from the receiving chamber and turnable to a side, so that the receiving chamber can be used for insertion of a beverage container, and when the beverage container is not inserted, it can be used for receiving of the ashtray.

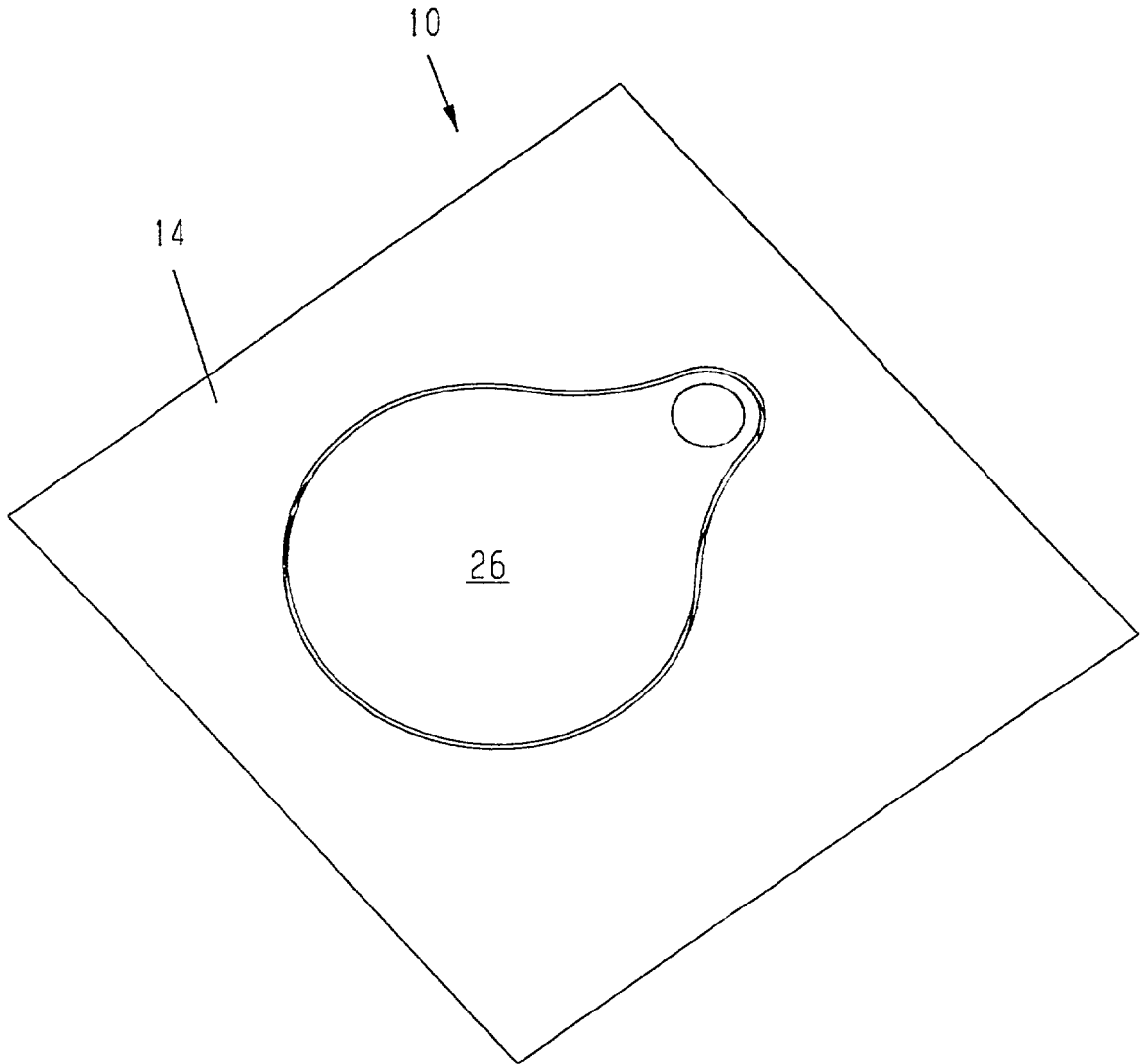


Fig. 1

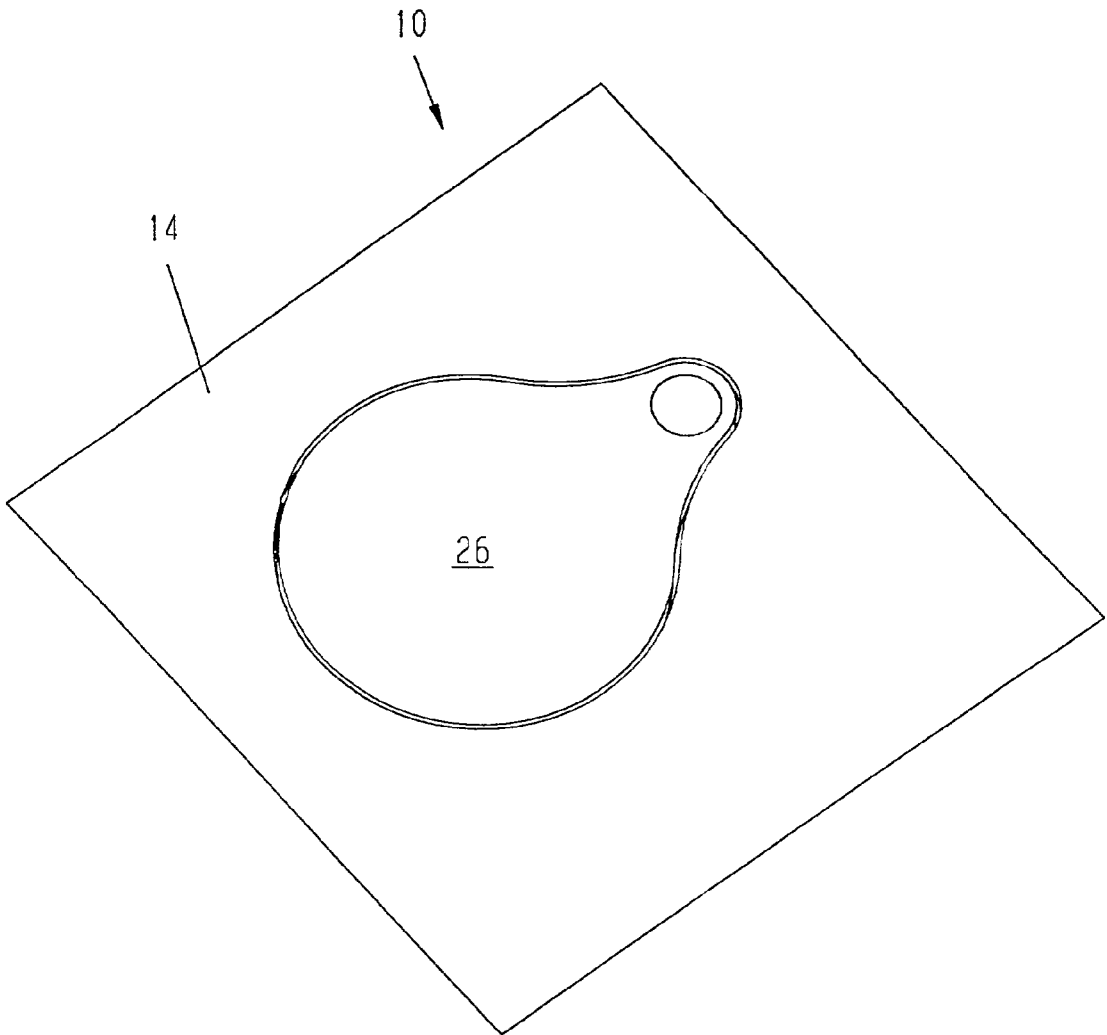


Fig. 2

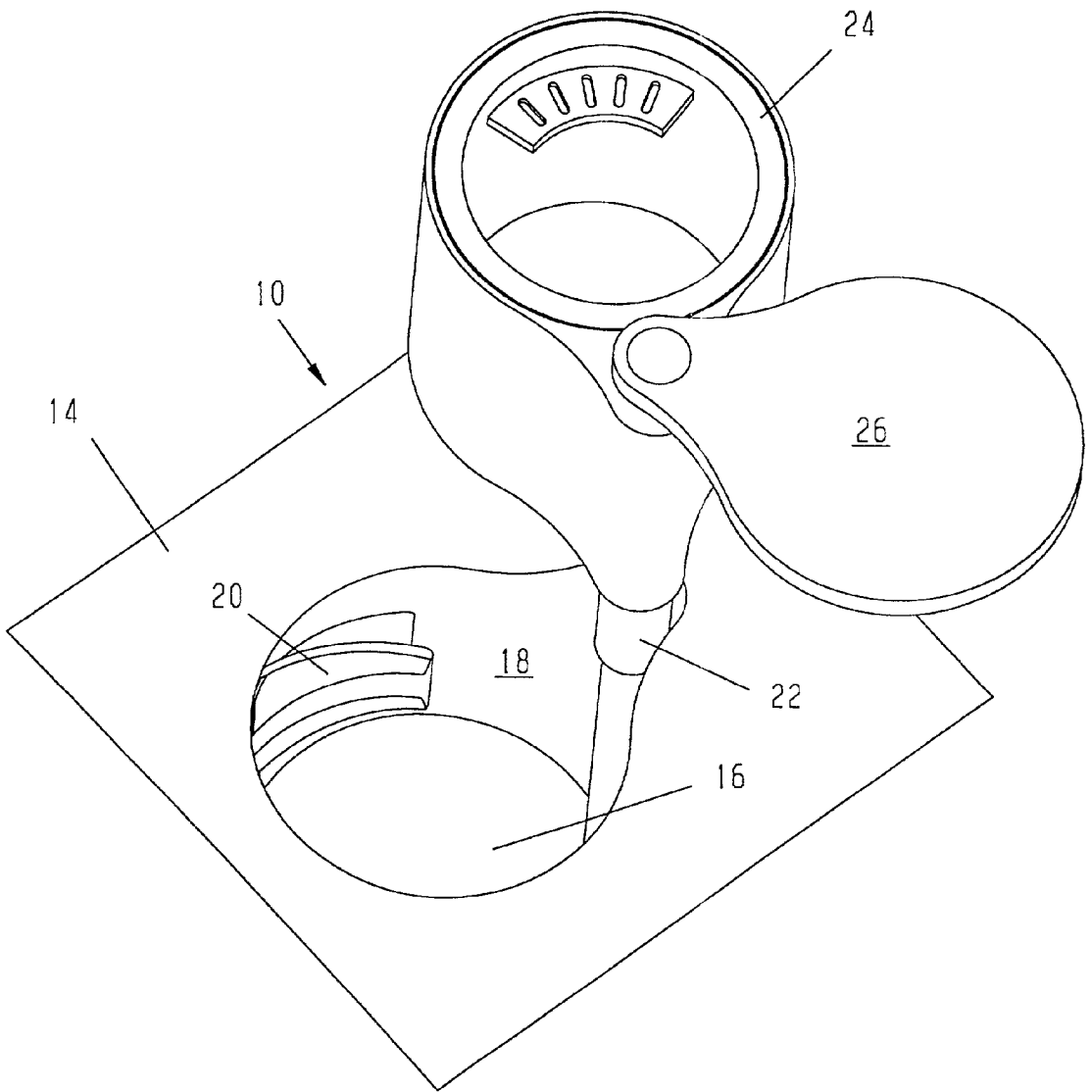


Fig. 3

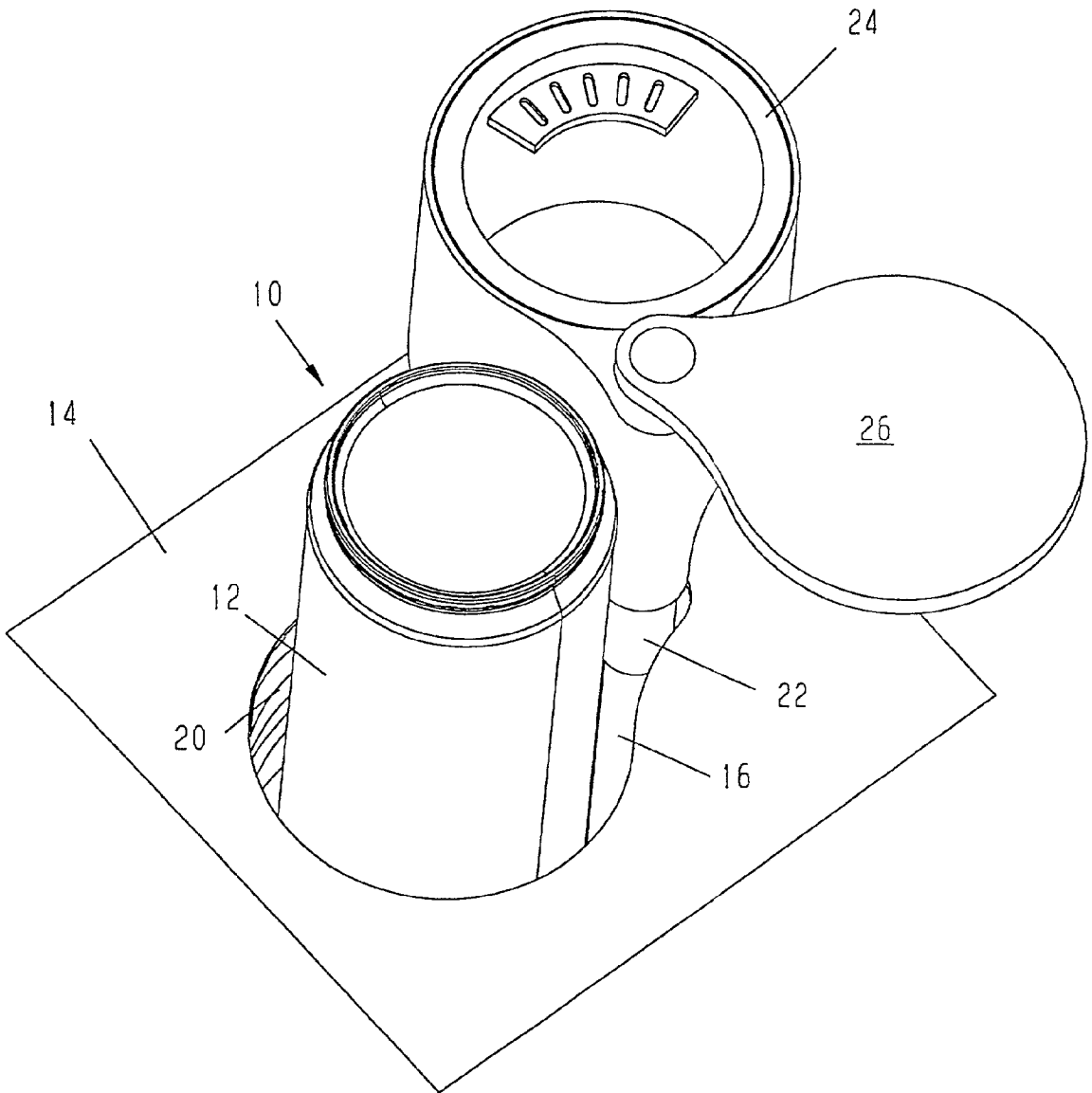


Fig. 4

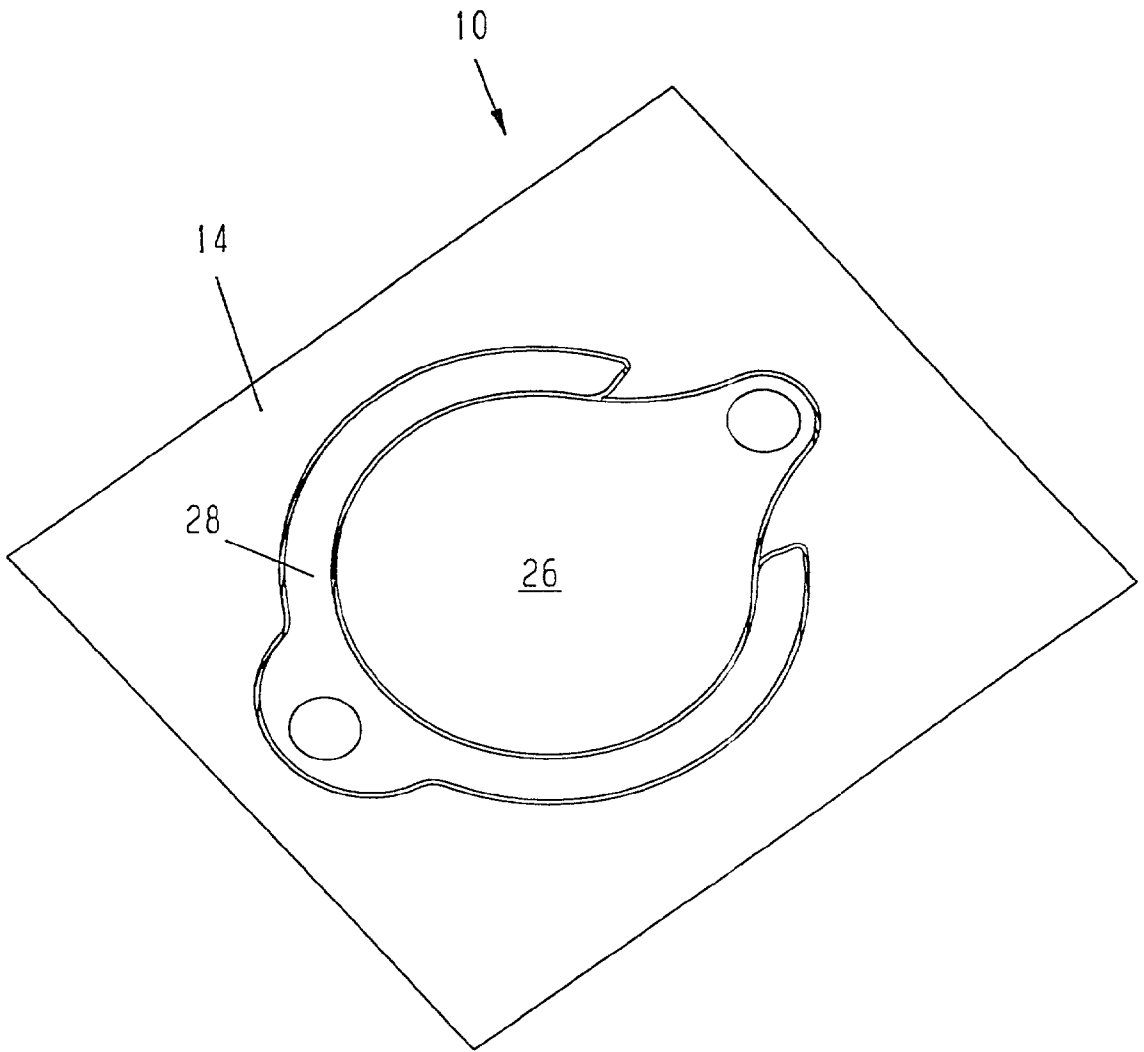


Fig. 5

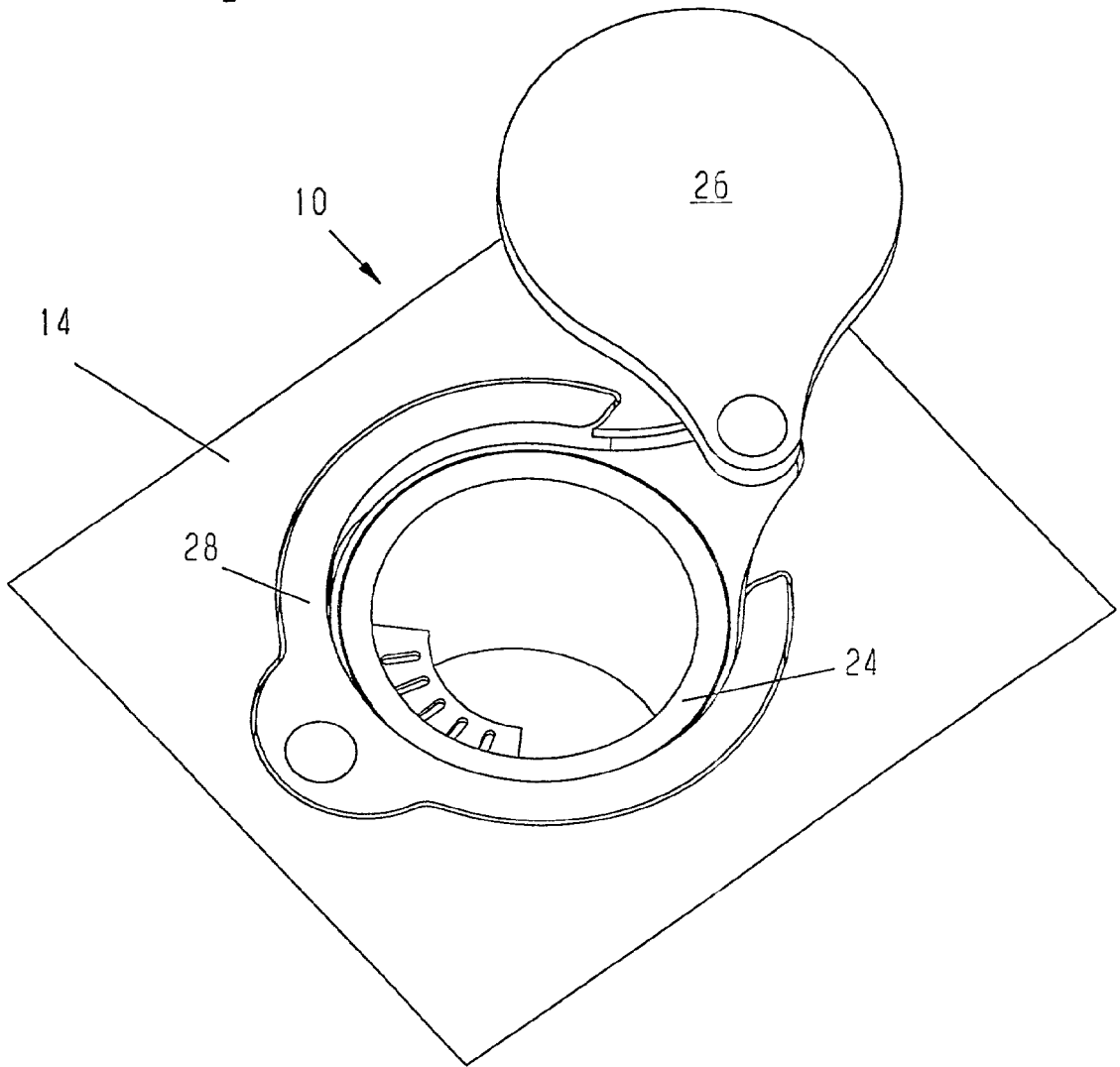


Fig. 6

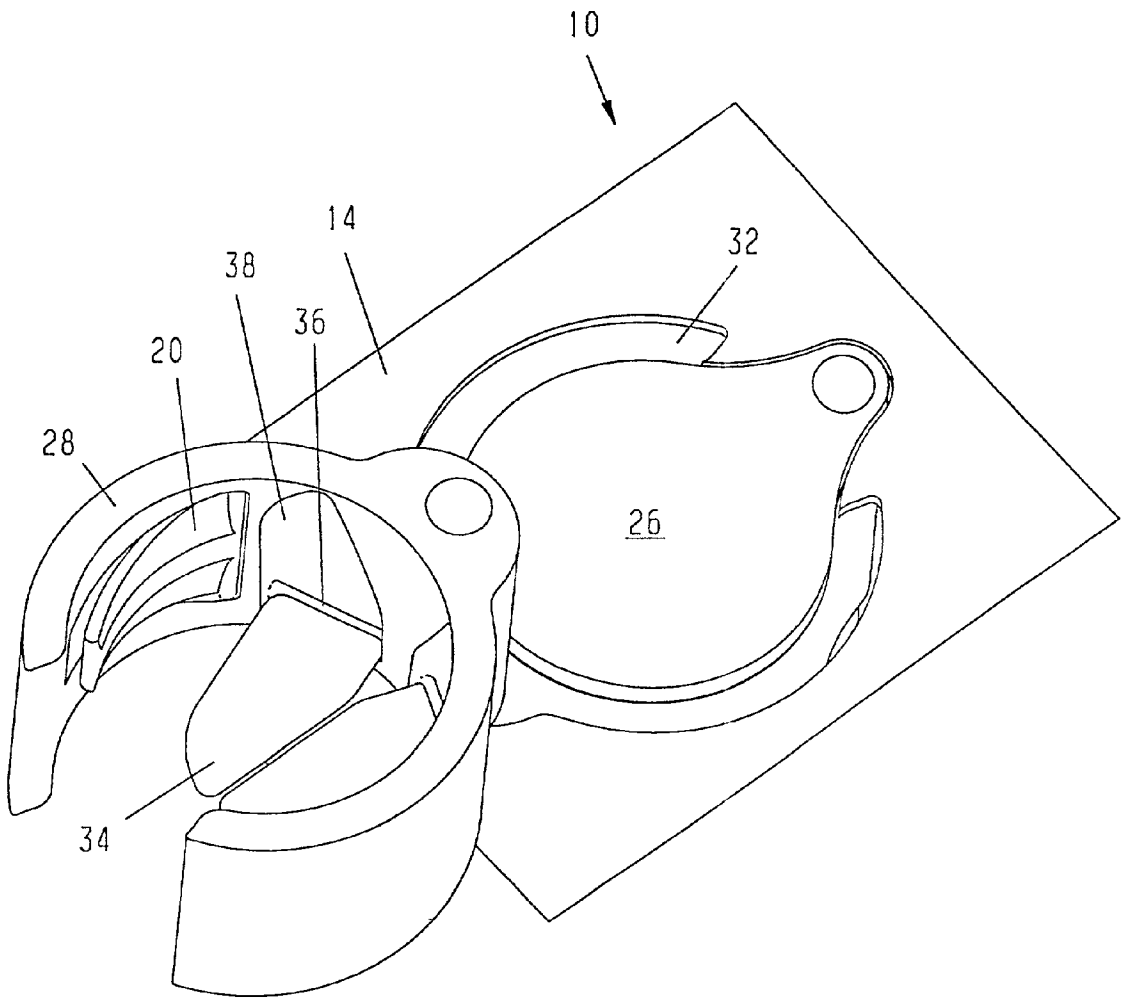
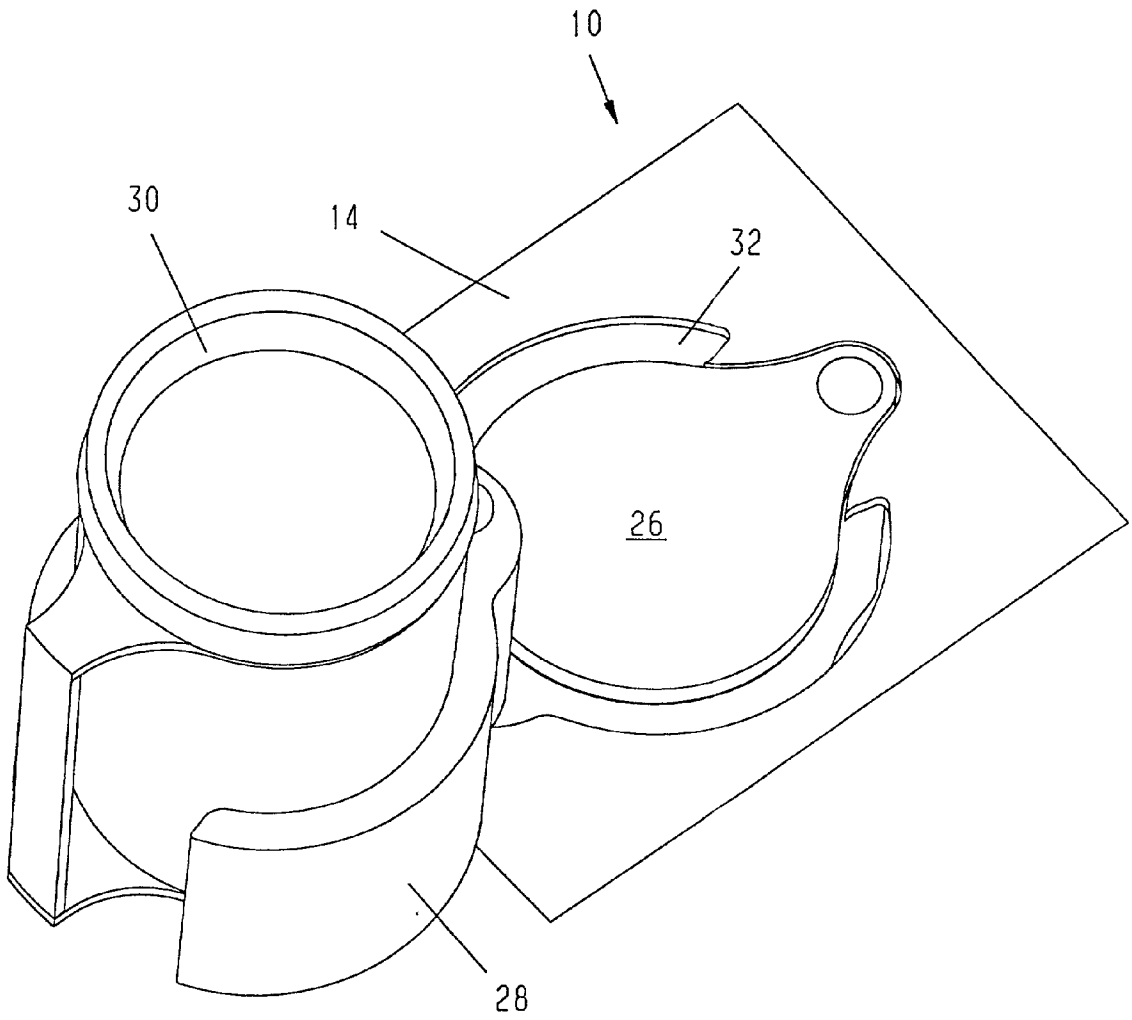


Fig. 7



## HOLDER FOR A BEVERAGE CONTAINER

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to a holder for a beverage container, such as for example a can, a glass or a cup.

[0002] Holders of the above mentioned general type are known in many modifications. It is believed to be clear that the known holders for beverage containers can be further improved.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a holder for the beverage container which is a further improvement of the existing holders and is formed in a space economical manner.

[0004] In keeping with these objects and with others which will become apparent hereinafter, one feature of the present invention resides, briefly stated, in a holder for a beverage container which has a receiving chamber for insertion of a beverage container, wherein in the receiving chamber a further container is received, which has a guide on which said further container is movable from said receiving chamber.

[0005] The receiving chamber can be formed for example as a recess in a dashboard or an intermediate console of motor vehicle. In the receiving chamber, the further container is received, such as for example an ashtray, a storage compartment or a spectacle case.

[0006] This construction has the advantage in that, when the receiving chamber is not used for insertion of the beverage container, it can be used for insertion of the further container, and therefore the space which is used for the receiving chamber is utilized twice.

[0007] For providing insertion of a beverage container into the receiving chamber, the inventive holder has a guide on which the further container can be movable from the receiving chamber. When the further container is moved from the receiving chamber, a beverage container can be introduced into the receiving chamber.

[0008] In accordance with a further feature of the present invention, a reverse approach is provided. The holder has a guide for a receptacle for receiving the beverage container, with which the receptacle is reciprocatingly movable between a base position and a use position. In the base position the receptacle surrounds the further container, while in the use position the receptacle is usable for insertion of a beverage container. Here also the space for the receptacle is utilized twice.

[0009] In accordance with a further embodiment of the present invention, the guide for the further container or for the receptacle is formed as a telescopic guide. The container or the receptacle is displaced with the telescopic guide, for example upwardly. In addition, the guide can have a turning support, for turning the receiving chamber or the further container toward a side. Thereby the receiving chamber is available for the beverage container or the further container for insertion or removal of an object.

[0010] In the illustrated embodiments of the invention, the further container is formed as an ashtray. However, it can be formed as another object as well.

[0011] The novel features which are considered as characteristic for the present invention are set forth in particular in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its construction and its method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will be best understood from the following description of specific embodiments when read in connection with the accompanying drawings.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] FIGS. 1-3 are views showing a holder for a beverage container in accordance with the an embodiment of the present invention, in different positions; and

[0013] FIGS. 4-7 are views showing a holder for a beverage container in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention, in different positions.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0014] A holder in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention is identified as a whole with reference numeral **10**. It is used for insertion of a beverage container such as for example a beverage can **12** shown in **FIG. 3**, a glass or a cup. The holder **10** is mounted for example in a dashboard or a central console **14** of a motor vehicle. The dashboard or the central console **14** is shown in the drawing as a square surface.

[0015] The holder **10** has a receiving chamber **16** for insertion of the beverage container **12**. The receiving chamber **16** is formed as substantially cylindrical depression in the central console **14**. In a peripheral wall **18** of the receiving chamber **16**, a compensating flap **20** which extends substantially in a peripheral direction is provided. It turns in a spring-loading fashion a piece into the receiving chamber **14**. The compensation flap **20** serves for adaptation of the receiving chamber **16** to the beverage containers of different diameters.

[0016] The holder **10**, in a lateral extension of the receiving chamber **16**, has a telescopic guide **22**. A further container which is in the shown embodiment an ashtray **24** is mounted on the telescopic guide **22**. By means of the telescopic guide **22**, the ashtray **24** can be displaced from a position shown in **FIG. 1** in which it is lowered in the receiving chamber **16**, to a position in which it is moved upwardly from the receiving chamber **16** as shown in **FIGS. 2 and 3**. The lifting of the ashtray **24** from the receiving chamber **16** is performed for example under an action of a spring which is arranged in the telescopic guide **22** and not shown in the drawings. In the position lowered in the receiving chamber **16**, the ashtray **24** is held by a locking device, for example a push-push mechanical device, which can be unlocked by a brief pressure on the ashtray **24**.

[0017] The telescopic guide **22** has a turning bearing, with which the ashtray **24** is turnable to a position turned to the side relative to the receiving chamber **16** as shown in **FIGS. 2 and 3**. By the lateral turning of the ashtray **24** which is lifted upwardly from the receiving chamber **16**, the receiving chamber **16** becomes available from above, so that a beverage container **12** is insertable into the receiving chamber **16** as shown in **FIG. 3**.

[0018] A cover **26** is provided on an upper side of the ashtray **14**. It is arranged so that it is turnable about a vertical

axis and to the side. The ash container **24** is closeable by the cover **26**. In the lower position of the ashtray **24** in the receiving chamber **16**, both the ashtray **24** and the receiving chamber **16** are closeable with the cover **26**. The cover **26** can be turned to the side when the ashtray **24** is in its lowered position in the receiving chamber **16**. Therefore the ashtray **24** is usable in the lowered position as well.

[0019] The second embodiment of the holder for a beverage container is shown in FIGS. 4-7. The components of the holder of this embodiment which are identical to the components of the holder shown in FIG. 1-3 are identified with the same reference numerals.

[0020] The holder **10** of this embodiment has a claw-shaped, circular receptacle **28** for insertion of a beverage container, for example a glass **30**. In a base position shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, the receptacle **28** is lowered in an approximately cylindrical depression **32** of the dashboard or the central console **14**. The receptacle **24** engages a substantially cylindrical further container, which is formed as an ashtray **24** in the shown embodiment. It lowers into the depression **32** in the central console **14**.

[0021] In contrast to the embodiment of FIGS. 1-3, in the holder **10** shown in FIGS. 4-7 the ashtray **24** is arranged immovably in a depression **32** in the central console **14**, and the receptacle **28** is liftable with a telescopic guide upwardly from the depression **32**. The telescopic guide in FIGS. 4-7 is covered by the receptacle **28** and therefore not visible. The telescopic guide includes a turning support, with which the receptacle **28** is turnable to the side to a position shown in FIGS. 6 and 7. In this position the ashtray **24** is accessible. The ashtray **24** has a cover **26** which is turnable about a vertical axis. In FIGS. 4, 6 and 7 it closes the ashtray **24**.

[0022] A compensating cap **20** is provided in the receptacle **28**. It extends approximately in a peripheral direction of the receptacle **28** and is turned in a spring-loaded way into the receptacle **28**. For lowering the beverage container **30**, the receptacle **28** has two bottom flaps **34** which are supported with horizontal turning shafts **36** turnably in the receptacle **28**. During lowering of the receptacle **28** into the depression **32** of the central console **14**, the bottom flaps **34** are turned upwardly from the ashtray **24** into recesses **38** on the inner side of the receptacle **28**. During lifting of the receptacle **28** from the depression **32** of the central console **14**, the bottom flaps **34** turn by force of gravity or actuated by a torsion spring, to a horizontal supporting position shown in FIG. 6.

[0023] It will be understood that each of the elements described above, or two or more together, may also find a useful application in other types of constructions differing from the types described above.

[0024] While the invention has been illustrated and described as embodied in a holder for beverage containers, it is not intended to be limited to the details shown, since various modifications and structural changes may be made without departing in any way from the spirit of the present invention.

[0025] Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist of the present invention that others can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting features that, from the standpoint of prior art, fairly constitute essential characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of this invention.

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by

Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims.

1. A holder for a beverage container, comprising a receiving chamber for insertion of a beverage container; a further container which is receivable in said receiving chamber; and a guide on which said further container is movable out of said receiving chamber.

2. A holder as defined in claim 1, wherein said guide is formed as a telescopic guide.

3. A holder as defined in claim 1, wherein said guide has a turning support, with which said further container is turnably guided to a side.

4. A holder as defined in claim 1, wherein said further container is an ashtray.

5. A holder for a beverage container, comprising a receptacle for receiving a beverage container; a further container arranged so that said receptacle in a base position surrounds said further container; and a guide on which said receptacle is movable to a use position in which said beverage container is insertable in said receptacle.

6. A holder as defined in claim 5, wherein with said further container in said use position said receptacle is accessible.

7. A holder as defined in claim 5, wherein said guide is formed as a telescopic guide.

8. A holder as defined in claim 5, wherein said guide has a turning support with which said receptacle is movably guided to a side.

\* \* \* \* \*