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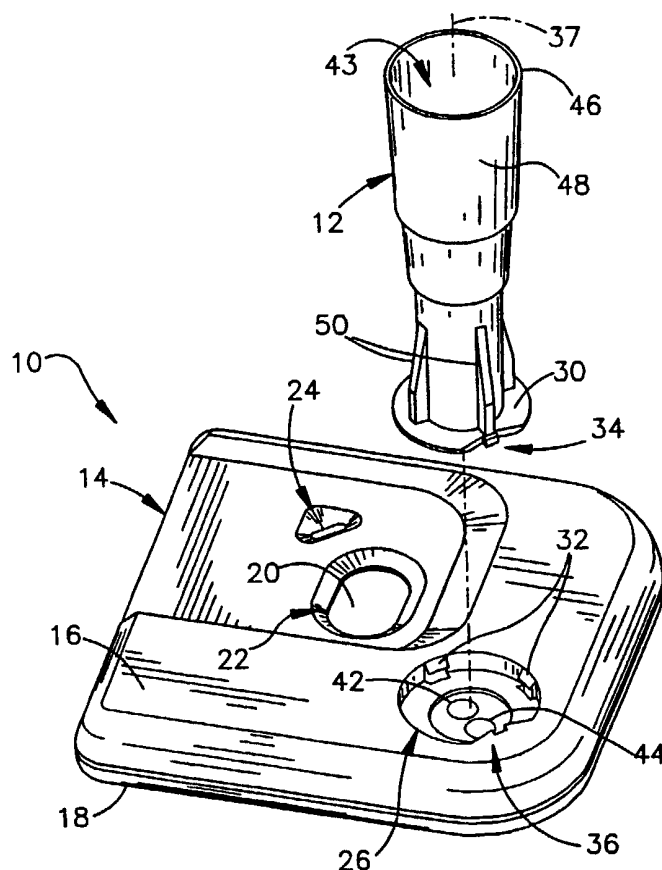
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR PRETREATING A SAMPLE CONTAINING AN ANALYTE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a container having internal projections capable of exerting compressive, frictional, or other forces on a sample-collecting device and sample before detecting an analyte in the sample. The invention can be used whenever detecting an analyte in a sample is improved or made possible by first changing the physical or chemical properties of the sample or analyte in a pretreatment step.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/11996

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B01L3/00 G01N33/569 G01N33/53

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 B01L G01N

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 427 739 A (MESEROL PETER M ET AL) 27 June 1995 (1995-06-27) column 2, line 44-56 column 3, line 34 -column 5, line 39 column 5, line 33 -column 7, line 12 claim 1; figures 1-6; example 5 ---	1-12
A	EP 0 334 015 A (BECTON DICKINSON CO) 27 September 1989 (1989-09-27) page 3, line 47 -page 4, column 46 claims 1-8; figures 1-5; examples 1-3 ---	1-12
A	EP 0 408 144 A (EASTMAN KODAK CO) 16 January 1991 (1991-01-16) the whole document -----	1-12

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

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 March 2001

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

I national application No.
PCT/US 00/11996

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:

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.:

1-12

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

1. Claims: 1-12

Apparatus comprising a testing device and a container, said testing device and container being able to be brought in a defined spatial relationship relative to each other (pretreatment orientation and testing orientation).

2. Claims: 13 - 18

Apparatus comprising a container, said container being defined by certain structural elements on its interior surface.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/11996

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5427739 A	27-06-1995	NONE	
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