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(54) MODULAR BAG

(57) A modular bag (1), comprising a first element (2) adapted to define a first part of the lateral surface of the bag and to be coupled with a second element (20) adapted to define the bottom, a second part of the lateral surface and the handles of the bag, the first element (2) being foldable about a central portion thereof (2c) so as to couple to the second element (20), which also can be folded about the central portion (2c).

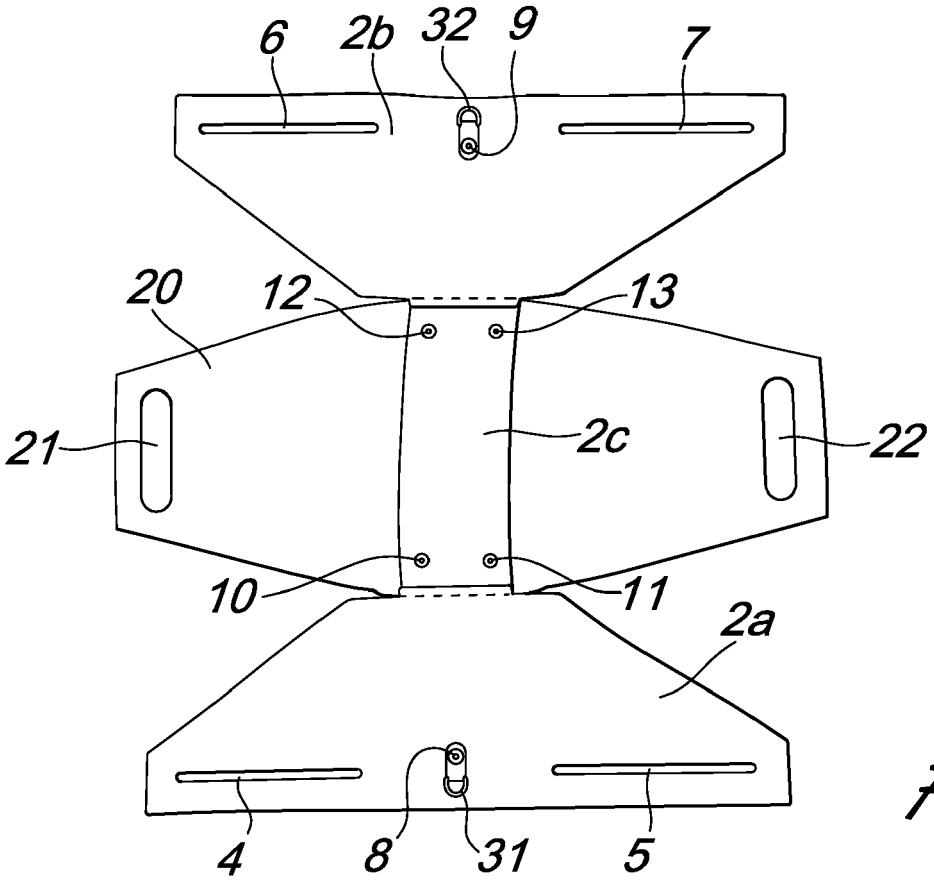


Fig. 2

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a modular bag. More specifically, the invention relates to a modular bag that can be easily assembled by the user.

[0002] As is known, the market offers a plurality of types of bags that can be purchased and which can also be customized, by putting the bag together, and substituting component parts of the bag proper in order to change the color of the bag for some of its components, or in order to change the style of the bag. However, bags are not available that are fully modular starting from separate elements, and which can be assembled by the user with simplicity and also with enjoyment and satisfaction.

[0003] The aim of the present invention is to provide a modular bag that can be easily assembled by the user, rapidly and with enjoyment and satisfaction for the user.

[0004] Within this aim, an object of the present invention is to provide a modular bag that does not require, for its composition, the use of tools of any kind.

[0005] Another object of the present invention is to provide a modular bag, the modularity of which is ensured by fixing elements that are simple to use.

[0006] Another object of the present invention is to provide a modular bag that is highly reliable, easily and practically implemented and low cost.

[0007] This aim and these and other objects which will become better apparent hereinafter are achieved by a modular bag, characterized in that it comprises a first element adapted to define a first part of the lateral surface of said bag and to be coupled with a second element adapted to define the bottom, a second part of the lateral surface and the handles of said bag, said first element being foldable about a central portion thereof so as to couple to said second element, which also can be folded about said central portion.

[0008] Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will become better apparent from the detailed description of a preferred, but not exclusive, embodiment of the bag according to the invention, illustrated by way of non-limiting example in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 shows all the elements that make up the bag according to the present invention;
Figure 2 shows a first step of assembling the bag according to the present invention;
Figure 3 shows a second step of assembling the bag according to the present invention;
Figure 4 shows a third step of assembling the bag according to the present invention;
Figure 5 shows a fourth step of assembling the bag according to the present invention;
Figure 6 shows the final configuration of the bag according to the present invention.

[0009] With reference to the figures, the bag according to the invention, generally designated by the reference numeral 1, comprises a first element 2 constituted by a first trapezoidal portion 2a and a second trapezoidal portion 2b which are connected by a connection portion or central portion 2c.

[0010] The first and second trapezoidal portions 2a and 2b are both provided, at the longer parallel side, with slits 4, 5 for the portion 2a and 6, 7 for the portion 2b.

[0011] Between the slits 4 and 5 and the slits 6 and 7 are engagement means, respectively 8 and 9, for example provided by automatic buttons, and there are engagement means 10, 11 and 12, 13 at the connection portion 2c, proximate to the shorter parallel sides of the trapezoidal portions 2a and 2b.

[0012] The first element 2 is adapted to define a first part of the lateral surface of the bag according to the invention.

[0013] A second element 20, substantially oblong in shape, and provided at the ends with slits 21 and 22, as well as with engagement means 23, 24 and 25, 26, complementary to the engagement means 10-13 of the connecting portion 2c, is provided in order to constitute the bottom portion of the bag to be made up.

[0014] The second element 20 is adapted to define the bottom, a second part of the lateral surface and the handles of the bag according to the invention.

[0015] Finally, the bag according to the invention is equipped with a case 27 provided with a zipper 28, and with a shoulder strap 29.

[0016] The first element 2 can be seen as resembling butterfly wings.

[0017] Assembly of the bag according to the invention occurs as follows.

[0018] The user first couples the first element 2 to the second element 20 by way of the automatic buttons of the connection portion 2c, therefore coupling the automatic buttons 10-13 to the automatic buttons 23-26 of the second element 2, as shown in Figure 2.

[0019] At this point, the first element 2, with butterfly wings, is folded with its trapezoidal portions 2b and 2a so as to insert the ends of the second element into the slits 4, 5 and 6, 7, so that the slits 4, 5 and 6, 7 slide along the second element 20 so as to leave the slits 21 and 22 of the second element 20 free in an upper region, as illustrated in Figure 3.

[0020] Subsequently, the user couples the case 27, by way of clip buttons 29 and 30 of the case 27, to the clip buttons or automatic buttons 8 and 9 respectively of the first portion 2a and of the second portion 2b of the first element 2.

[0021] At this point, the bag is complete and all that is missing is to attach the shoulder strap 29 by way of hooks 31 and 32 of the portion 2a and of the portion 2b of the first element 2.

[0022] The modular bag is thus complete, in a simple and rapid manner, as illustrated in Figures 5 and 6.

[0023] In practice it has been found that the bag according to the invention fully achieves the set aim and objects, since it can be assembled extremely rapidly and

with enjoyment and satisfaction by the user.

[0024] The bag thus conceived is susceptible of numerous modifications and variations, all of which are within the scope of the appended claims.

[0025] Moreover, all the details may be substituted by other, technically equivalent elements.

[0026] In practice, the materials used, as well as the contingent shapes and dimensions, may be any according to the requirements and the state of the art.

[0027] The disclosures in Italian Patent Application No. 102016000079189 (UA2016A005571) from which this application claims priority are incorporated herein by reference.

[0028] Where technical features mentioned in any claim are followed by reference signs, those reference signs have been included for the sole purpose of increasing the intelligibility of the claims and accordingly, such reference signs do not have any limiting effect on the interpretation of each element identified by way of example by such reference signs.

Claims

1. A modular bag (1), **characterized in that** it comprises a first element (2) adapted to define a first part of the lateral surface of said bag and to be coupled with a second element (20) adapted to define the bottom, a second part of the lateral surface and the handles of said bag, said first element (2) being foldable about a central portion thereof (2c) so as to couple to said second element (20), which also can be folded about said central portion (2c).

2. The bag according to claim 1, **characterized in that** said first element (2) comprises a first trapezoidal portion and a second trapezoidal portion (2a, 2b), which are mutually connected by a connecting portion (2c) which defines said central portion, said first and second trapezoidal portions (2a, 2b) being provided respectively, at their respective longer parallel side, with a pair of slits (4, 5, 6, 7).

3. The bag according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** said second element (20) has a substantially elongated shape and comprises lateral slits (21, 22) adapted to constitute the handle of said bag.

4. The bag according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** said connecting portion (2c) of said first element (2) comprises two mutually opposite pairs of fixing means (10, 11, 12, 13), which are arranged at the shorter parallel sides of said first and second trapezoidal portions (2a, 2b), said fixing means (10, 11, 12, 13) being associable with corresponding and complementary fixing means (23, 24, 25, 26) which are defined at said second element (20).

5. The bag according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** it comprises a case (27) adapted to be arranged inside said bag, attaching it to said first element (2), when said bag is at least partially assembled.

6. The bag according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** it comprises a shoulder strap (19).

7. A method for assembling a bag according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** it comprises the steps of:

   - starting from said first and second elements (2, 20), coupling said second element (20) below said first element (2) at said connecting portion (2c) of the first element (2);
   - folding upward said first and second trapezoidal portions (2a, 2b) of the first element (2) and folding upward said second element (20);
   - inserting the ends of said second element into said slits (4, 5, 6, 7) of said first and second trapezoidal portions (2a, 2b) until the slits (21, 22) of said second element (20) protrude freely so as to define the handles of said bag;
   - coupling said case (27) inside said first and second elements (2, 20) assembled together;
   - attaching said shoulder strap (19) to said first element (2) in order to obtain the assembled bag.

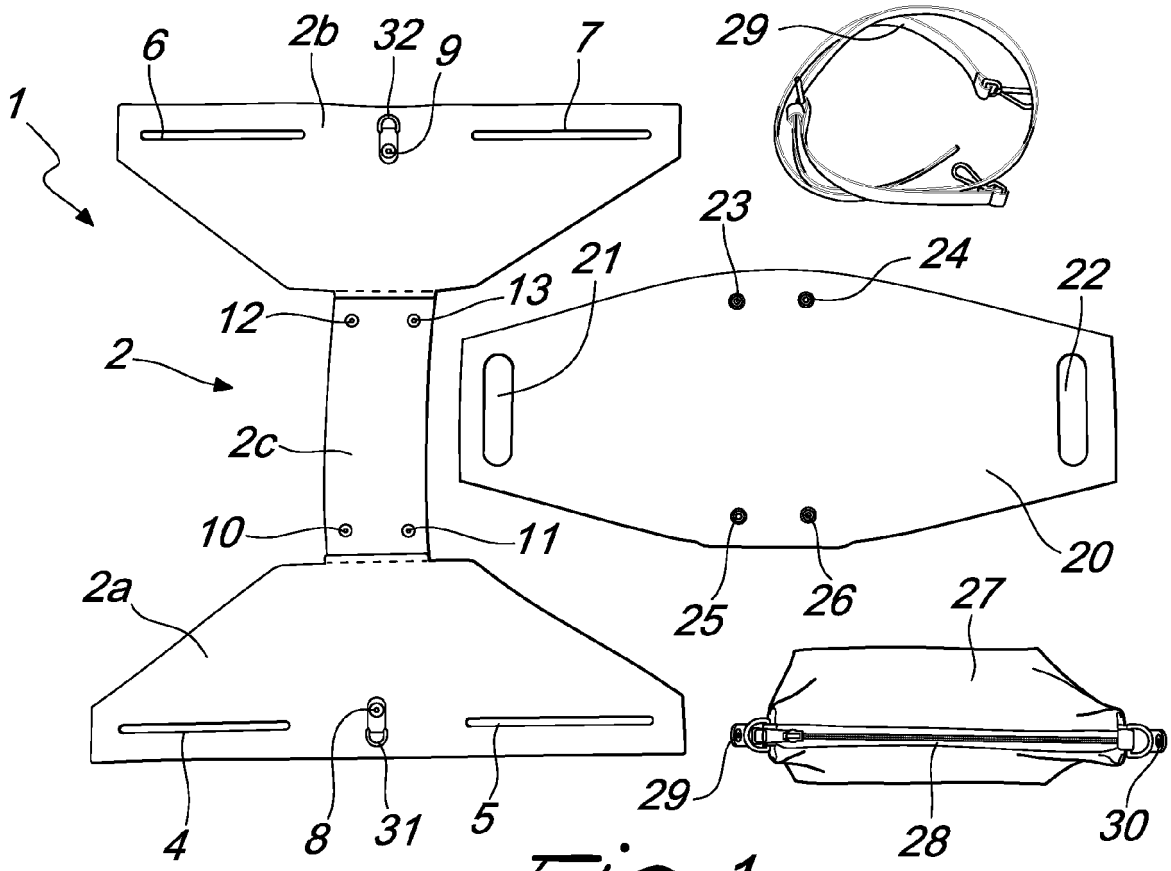

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Fig. 1

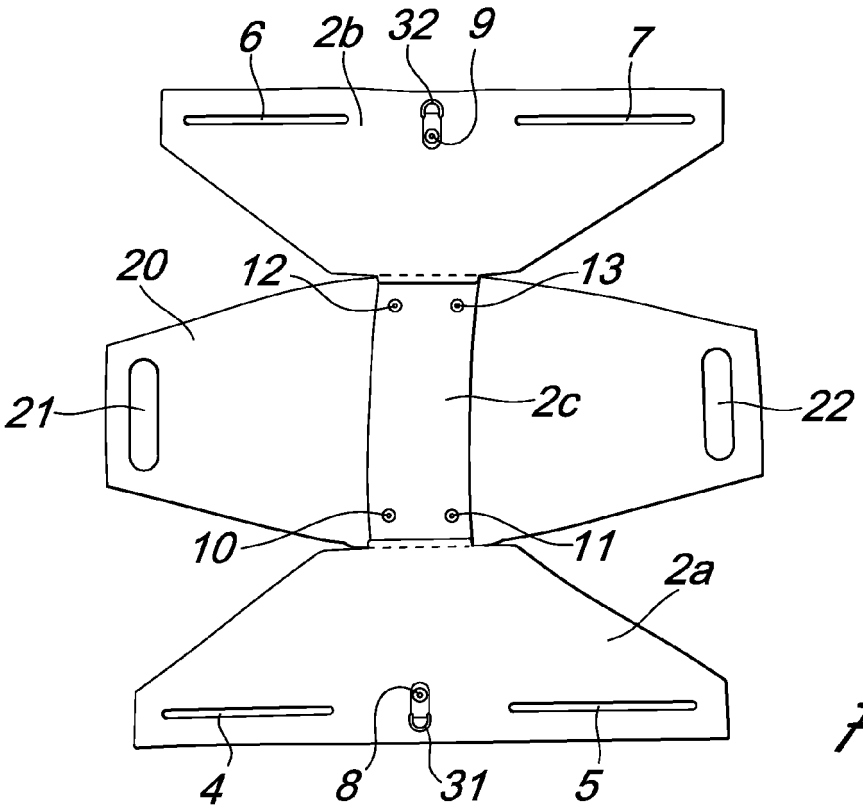

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Fig. 2

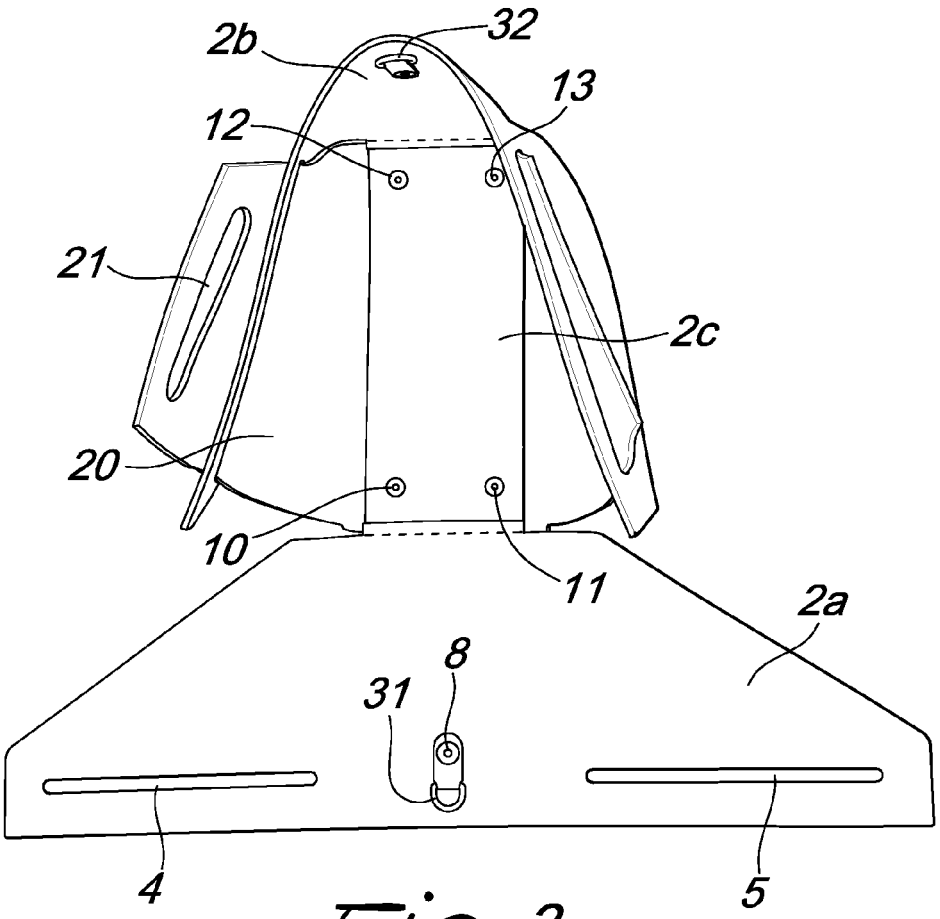

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2c
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2a
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Fig. 3

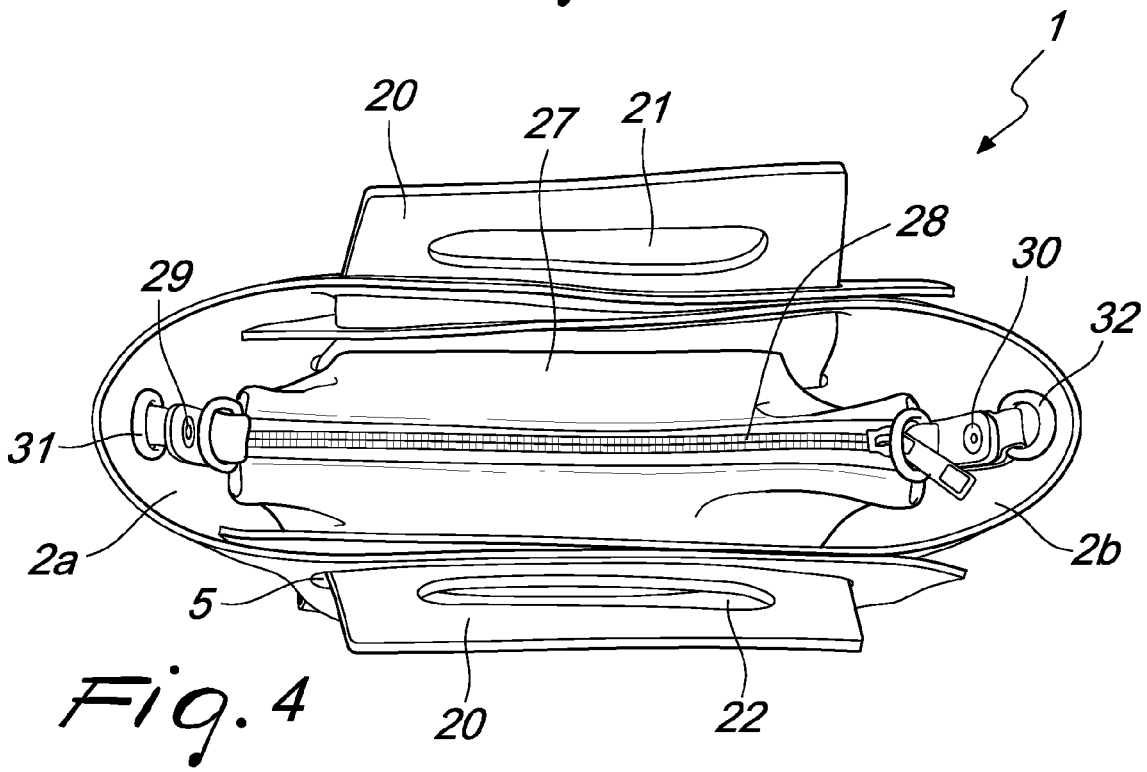

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2b
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Fig. 4

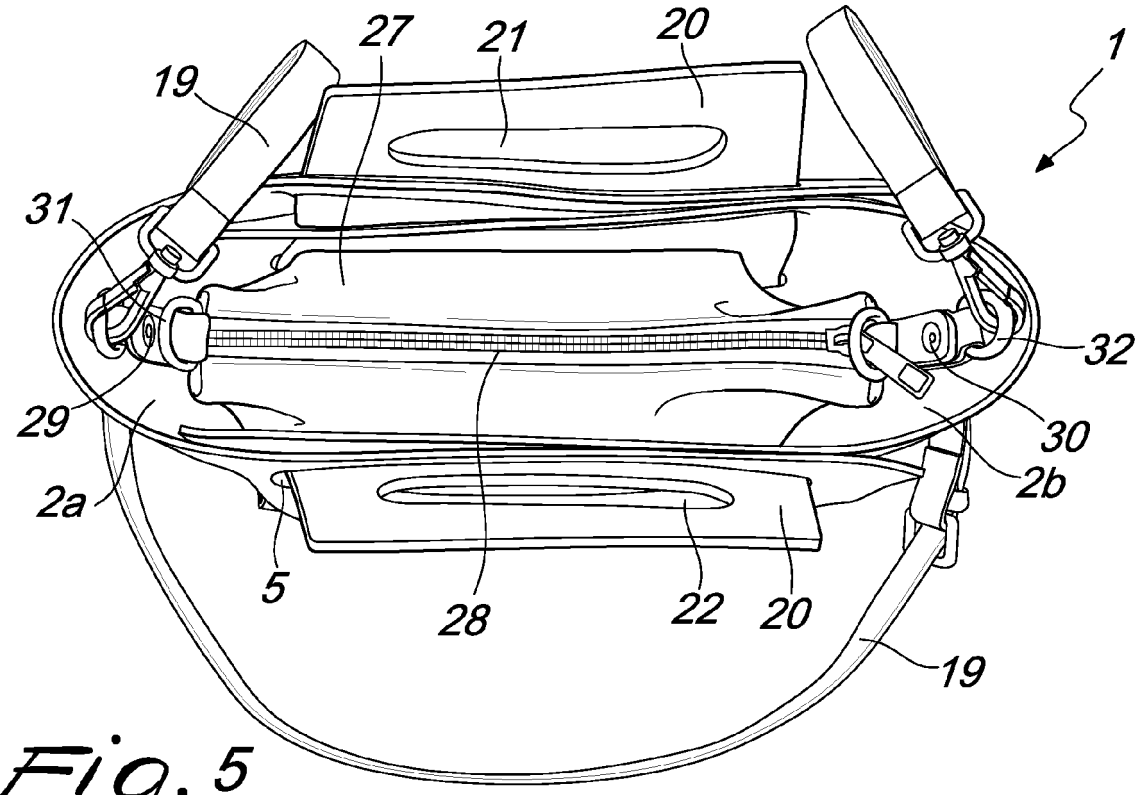


Fig. 5

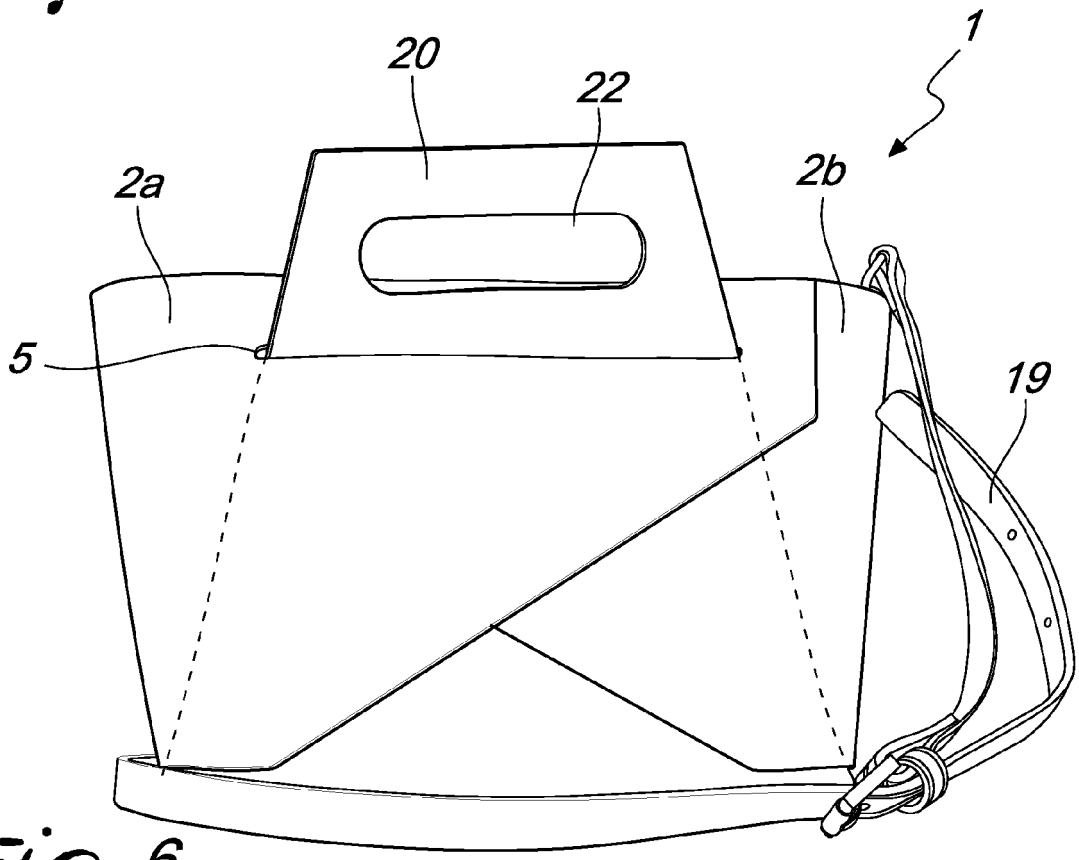


Fig. 6

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 17 18 1872

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 5 232 258 A (ROSSI JUDY R [US]) 3 August 1993 (1993-08-03) * columns 4-5; figures * -----	1,3,5	INV. A45C7/00 B65D5/34 A45C1/02
A	GB 2 436 791 A (BARNES JOHN FREDERICK [GB]; BARNES TANIA ELIZABETH [AU]; HUMPHREY PAUL) 10 October 2007 (2007-10-10) * the whole document * -----	1-7	A45C3/08
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TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)

A45C
B65D

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	29 November 2017	Dinescu, Daniela

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

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29-11-2017

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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- IT 102016000079189 **[0027]**
- IT UA2016A005571 **[0027]**