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(54) **Methods for laundering delicate garments in a washing machine**

(57) A product and process for laundering delicate or dry-clean only garments in a washing machine, such as a conventional home washing machine. The process may utilize a garment container, such as a flexible wrap to protect the garments. The process also includes at least one cleaning composition specially formulated for delicate garments. The cleaning composition(s) can be in a number of suitable forms, and can be introduced into the process in a number of different manners. The products used in the process may be provided in the form of a kit. The kit may also include a pretreatment applicator.

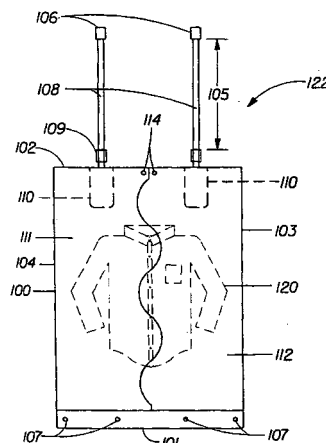


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 07 8928

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----- -The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		2 April 2004	Spitzer, B
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 2 April 2004	Examiner Spitzer, B
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES
<p>The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.</p>
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:</p> <p>see sheet B</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:</p> <p>1-3</p>



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3

1.1. claims: 2,3

A process for washing garments in a washing machine comprising
 placing a garment within a flexible wrap container
 placing the container and an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition inside a washing machine
 retaining the container in a particular position
 operating the washing machine

1.2. claim: 1

A process for washing garments in a washing machine comprising
 placing a garment within a specified flexible wrap container
 folding the container and retaining the folded container in folded configuration
 operating the washing machine

2. claims: 4-7

A process for washing garments in a washing machine comprising
 applying a cleaning composition to a garment
 placing the garment in a garment container
 placing the container in a washing machine
 operating the washing machine

3. claims: 8,9

A kit comprising a specified garment container and a specified liquid cleaning composition

4. claims: 10-14

A liquid detergent composition

5. claims: 15-19

A pretreatment composition for treating stains on delicate clothes

6. claim: 20



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

A dispensing applicator for applying a substance

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 03 07 8928

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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