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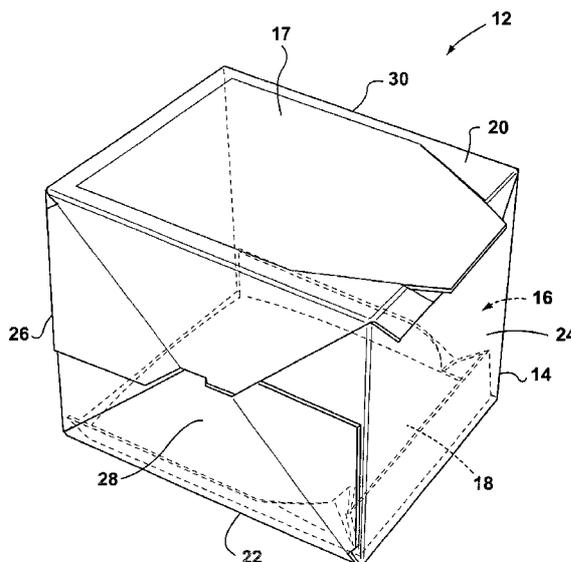
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16 October 2003

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

(54) Title: CONTAINER FOR MICROWAVE POPCORN, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A container (12) for use in making popcorn in a microwave oven has an outer enclosure (14) enclosing an outer cavity (16). The outer enclosure (14) is preferably made from a rigid or semi-rigid microwave transparent material. An inner enclosure (18) is enclosed within the outer cavity. A susceptor (54) is provided for absorbing microwave radiation to heat popcorn kernels. The inner enclosure (18) will release a plurality of un-popped popcorn kernels and a charge enclosed in the inner enclosure when the container is subjected to a heat source such as microwave radiation. The outer enclosure (14) is movable, by application of external forces to the outer enclosure, from a first configuration to a second erected configuration and the outer cavity has increased in size so as to accommodate popped kernels released from the inner enclosure (18).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B65D81/34 B65D5/36 B65B9/08 B65B35/26 B65B5/04
B65B29/08

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 B65D B65B

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.
Y	US 5 468 939 A (MACLEAN J A) 21 November 1995 (1995-11-21) column 3, line 22 -column 6, line 11; figures 1-6	1-9, 15-57
Y	US 5 171 950 A (BRAUNER ARNE H ET AL) 15 December 1992 (1992-12-15) column 4, line 40 -column 10, line 23; figures 2-16	1-9, 15-57
A	US 4 959 231 A (GRAHAM N BRUCE ET AL) 25 September 1990 (1990-09-25) column 3, line 44 - line 55; figure 1	4,41,44
A	US 3 052 554 A (COLMAN BENJAMIN W) 4 September 1962 (1962-09-04) figure 9	6,44
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"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.
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 18 March 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report 28. 07. 03
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo.nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Galli, M
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 02/01902

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 586 649 A (WEBINGER GEORGE P) 6 May 1986 (1986-05-06) column 3, line 22-25; figure 5 ---	7,45
A	US 4 734 288 A (FINCHAM DOUGLAS M ET AL) 29 March 1988 (1988-03-29) column 4, line 46 -column 7, line 12 column 8, line 15 - line 29; figures 1-8 ---	1,2,15, 16,26,27
A	GB 2 232 652 A (BALAAM JOHN) 19 December 1990 (1990-12-19) page 12, line 12 -page 17, line 2; figure 1 -----	15,56

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA 02/01902

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.:

1-9, 15-57

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: 1-9,15-57

A container for use in making popcorn in a microwave oven and methods of forming such a container, wherein the container comprises an outer enclosure and an inner pouch containing popcorn, and wherein the outer enclosure can be moved between a first low volume configuration and a second high volume configuration.

2. Claims: 10-14

A pouch, webs to form a pouch and methods of forming a pouch.

3. Claim : 58

Apparatus for forming a container for use in making popcorn in a microwave oven.

4. Claims: 59-61

Container for use in heating food, whereby an outer enclosure includes a base panel and a plurality of side wall panels and a barrier is positioned across a gap between a first and a second side wall panel.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/CA 02/01902

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5468939 A	21-11-1995	JP 9020374 A	21-01-1997
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