A corresponding coupler configured at the container unit is a so-called male coupler comprising a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface. As seen, a single container unit's engaging element **240** is generally constituted a downwardly projecting outwards protrusion **258**, projecting from the bottom face **220** of the container **202**.

In order to lock the container **202** over the carrier unit **206**, upon placing the container **202** over the carrier engagement surface **216** of carrier unit **206** one must mount the container unit's first engaging elements **240** into the depressions **244** and then slide the container **202** along the sliding path **P** (i.e. towards the locking ribs **248**) so that the engaging elements **240** engage below said projecting ribs/shoulders **248** and the engaging elements **240** are thus arrested at a space between said locking ribs and the depressed surface, as seen in Fig. 9C. interlocking engagement of the container (or any other utility module) can be facilitated by a single male-female locking mechanism of the aforementioned type, or by a plurality of such locking mechanism, at any location over the carrier unit **206**.

The shape and size of the locking members is modular as far as the depression **244** in the carrier engagement surface **216**, can be single or double in size (e.g. **236** and **236A** in Fig. 8A, respectively), so it is large enough to accommodate two container unit's first engaging elements **240**, or two neighboring container unit's first engaging elements.

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Locking/engaging and detaching of this configuration is similar to a single locking module.

The engagement and locking mechanism is modular in the sense that any first article can be easily and readily articulated to a surface of any second article, wherein the articulation is strong and firm (i.e. substantially motionless).

With further reference to Fig. 7B, there are illustrated two containers **202A** and **202B** articulated over one another, the arrangement being such that the bottom face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the top face of the carrier unit **206** and likewise, the top face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the bottom face of the top container **202B**, as discussed herein above. The arrangement is such that each stage is lockingly secured by the locking mechanism **230**, wherein each stage can be detached from the stage below upon releasing locking engagement of the respective locking mechanism **230**.

The locking mechanism **230** is shown in further detail in Figs. 10A and 10B. The locking mechanism comprises a locking pin **231** normally biased by spring **233** such that a tip **235** projects from a bottom surface of the container **202** (see also Fig. 8B) and is configured for snap arresting within a respective notch **231** configured at the engagement surface **216** of the carrier unit **206** (seen also in Fig. 8A). The locking pin **231** is slidable within a race at the side wall of the container, and comprises a finger manipulating portion at **237** (accessible through an opening at the side wall of the container), for displacing the locking pin, against the biasing effect of spring **233**, into its disengaged position, thus facilitating sliding the container along the path **P** into disengagement from the carrier unit (or respective other container or utility module).

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The carrier unit **206** is further configured at a bottom end, with a pair of stability supports **264** (Figs. 8A, 11B), configured for supporting the carrier unit, with or without a container attached thereto, at an upright, i.e. vertical position, thus preventing it from tipping over, in particular with containers or any other utility module articulated thereto. Stability supports **264** can be, according to a particular configuration, an extension of the telescopic handle **210**, whereby the stability supports are functional as such only when the handle is fully contracted. However, in the illustration of Figs. 16A-16B the utility assembly **253** is maintained at its upright position owing to said stability supports **264** and further bearing over a side face **266** of the intermediate container **202A**, being substantially flush with a bottom face of the stability supports **264**.

With further reference to Figs. 12A to 12C there is illustrated a modification of articulation between a first utility module (container **300** in the particular example) and a second utility module (two work-piece supports **304** in the particular example). The container **300** is substantially similar to that illustrated in the previous examples, wherein the cover/lid **308** is configured with a plurality of female coupler members **310**, each configured with a depressed locking location and a pair of locking ribs extending above the depressed surface and along a sliding path. The opposing locking ribs **312A** and **312B** have an open edge facing in a first sense (the introducing direction).

In the examples hereinbefore, engagement with a corresponding male coupler took place within the vicinity of a single coupling element, i.e. over two engaging ribs **312A** and **321B** of a single depressed locking location facing each other. However, in the example of Figs. 12A-12C engagement of the work-piece supports **304** takes place over two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** of two neighboring depressed locking locations

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308A and **308B**. Accordingly, the male coupler of the two work-piece supports **304** is configured for arresting with the two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** by two individual (separate) male couplers **316A** and **316B**, each configured for arresting one of the respective engaging ribs **312A** and **312B**. Arresting of the male projections **316** takes place as discussed before, by arresting below the respective engaging ribs, within the space at the depressed locking location. In spite of the relative narrow body structure of the work-piece supports **304**, they are each configured with a locking mechanism **330**, similar to locking mechanism **230** discussed hereinbefore.

Turning now to Figs. 13A to 24, there are illustrated various examples of utility modules, utility assemblies and various configurations according to the disclosure.

Fig. 13A illustrates a utility module assembly generally designated **400**, comprising a wheeled base container **402** supporting an intermediate container **404**, bearing in turn a cooler box **406** and a power unit **408** disposed side by side over the intermediate container. At least the intermediate container **404** is configured at a bottom face thereof with a male-type coupling arrangement, for attachment over the cover of the base container, said cover configured with a respective female coupling arrangement. The cover of the intermediate container **404** is configured with a similar female coupling arrangement, and can thus engage with one the utility modules **406** and **408**, each configured at its bottom face with a respective male-type coupling arrangement.

It is seen in Figs. 13B through 13D that the intermediate container **404** is fitted with a pivotal carrying handle **418** articulated at the top side walls thereof. The carrying handle has a thickness **t** and the arrangement is such that at the stowed/folded position (Figs. 13B, 13D) the handle **418** is received within a peripheral groove **422** extending over a

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top edge of the intermediate container **404** and a peripheral groove **424** extending at a bottom edge of the utility modules **408** and **406** (cooler box **406** and a power unit **408**), such that the handle **418** does not constitute an obstacle in mounting and interlocking a utility module over another utility module. It is also seen that at least some of the utility modules are configured with side handles **428** serving both as carrying handles and as bumpers.

Figs. 14A to 14C illustrate a first utility module in the form of a container **430** supporting two detachable workpiece-piece supports **432** (attached as discussed herein before with reference to Figs. 12A-12C). Fig. 14C illustrates a utility module in the form of a work surface **436** configured with a vice race **438**, so that a vice **440**, or other workshop tools can be used. The workpiece-piece supports **432** are configured with a male type coupling having projecting locking locations **444** for engaging with respective female couplers.

In Figs. 15A and 15B there is illustrated a back-rack **450** being a substantially rigid platform having a carrying handle **451** and configured at one side thereof with a pair of adjustable shoulder harnesses **452**, and an adjustable waist harness **454**. The other side of the back-rack is configured as a universal utility mounting platform **458**, configured with a plurality of attachment locations **460**. In the illustrated example all attachment locations **460** are so-called female attachments (as discussed hereinabove in detail), however it is appreciated that the attachment locations can just as well be male-type attachments, or a combination of male and female attachments. According to yet an example (not shown), one side of the carrying platform can be configured with male-type attachments, and an opposite side of the platform be configured with female-type

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attachments, wherein a used has the choice of attaching the platform to the harness system at an orientation of choice.

In Fig. 16A there is illustrated a utility module in the form of a wheeled carrying unit **464** (shown from a bottom side), similar to that disclosed in connection with Figs. 7A to 11B. The carrying unit **464** comprises a rigid platform **466** fitted at a top face thereof with a female/male attaching arrangement in accordance with the disclosure, such that any utility module according to the disclosure can be detachably attached thereto. Also provided is a telescopic manipulating handle **468** and a pair of wheels **466**. The carrying unit can be fitted with a collapsible support plate configuring it into a pushcart (not shown).

Fig. 16B shows a utility assembly **276** comprising a wheeled base container **278** interlocked with a first intermediate container **280** mounted thereover (constituting a second stage of the assembly), and a second intermediate container **282** mounted thereover (constituting a third stage of the assembly **276**), there being yet a fourth stage utility module container **284** mounted over the second intermediate container **282**. Whilst the second intermediate container **282** has a wider footprint than the first intermediate container **280**, this does not constitute any difficulty as far as attaching it over the second intermediate container **282**, and further, the top face of the second intermediate container **282** has a great surface suited for articulation thereof of several fourth stage utility modules (only one shown).

Fig. 17 shows a carrying bag **280** having soft side walls **282** (in the example illustrated made of fabric), however fitted with (integrally or detachable) an articulation platform base **284,** said articulation platform made of a firm rigid material and is configured with

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four male-type coupling locations **288** of the type disclosed hereinabove. The carrying bag **280** has a carrying strap **290** useful for hand held or shoulder carrying of the bag. Figure 18A shows a rigid coupling platform **300**, configured with a plurality of female coupling locations (of the type disclosed herein) and further configured with bolt eyes **298** for securing to any desired surface, and carrying bars **313**.

The coupling platform **300** can be attached for example to a truck bed **306** (Fig. 20), directly over the truck bed or over a cargo container attached to the truck. The coupling platform **300** can be attached to a wall, as in Fig. 18B, wherein a plurality of various utility modules can be articulated thereto. For example, utility modules can be an electric charger **315** of a power tool, a wall mounted sorting container **314**, a hand tool rack **318** (Fig. 18C), a tool coupling adaptor **320** (Fig. 18C), etc.

In Fig. 19 there is illustrated a belt-mount **319** configured as a female coupler according to the disclosure, wherein a tool **321** or a bag/pouch configured with a male coupler can be detachably attached thereto.

In Fig. 21 there is illustrated a wall rack **326** comprising four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **328** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module in accordance with the disclosure.

In Fig. 22 there is illustrated a mobile work stand **340** comprising a wheeled base **342** supporting two racks **344** with four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **346** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module (e.g. containers **348**) in accordance with the disclosure.

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In Fig. 23 the utility module is in the form of a dolly **352** configured with wheels **354** and having a top surface configured with an array of female type couplings, as discussed.

In Fig. 24 there is illustrated a utility coupling platform **358** suited for articulation to any desired article (e.g. a bag, a tool, etc.). the utility coupling platform is configured at least at one face thereof with a male coupling locations **360** mimicking the coupling arrangement of the disclosure, rendering it suitable for articulation with a coupling system according to the disclosure.

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ABSTRACT

The present disclosure concerns a coupling mechanism for detachably attaching two or more utility modules to one another, utility assembles, mobile carriers and other attachable modules and articles.

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Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	31823000
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	111739
Filer:	Marcus S. Simon/Holly Morton
Filer Authorized By:	Marcus S. Simon
Attorney Docket Number:	269949US01_446373-417
Receipt Date:	19-FEB-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	17:55:38
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		20180219_269949US01_446373-417_Response-IncompleteReply_CorrectedAppPapers_PreliminaryAmendment.pdf	23189 41e58910cd475aee85940c0574546da99c626c82	yes	3

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description					
	Document Description		Start		End	
	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice		1		1	
	Specification		2		2	
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment		3		3	
Warnings:						
Information:						
2	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180205_269949US01_446373-417_Notice-of-IncompleteReply.pdf	602476 8c5df17633b27f3e2910a94184bf83403673 1144	no	4	
Warnings:						
Information:						
3	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20171220_269949US01_446373-417_Notice-to-FileCorrectedApplicationPapers.pdf	599468 6e2e306abe9c650ea3d9d1f1ae82533543d 28e72	no	4	
Warnings:						
Information:						
4	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180219_269949US01_446373-417_SubstituteSpecification-Marked-Up.pdf	191409 826f04e3ba34fc28be677118269851b5657 a008e	no	47	
Warnings:						
Information:						
5	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180219_269949US01_446373-417_SubstituteSpecification-Clean.pdf	190585 41130f0d866ec0eec0522065c4985878978 56298	no	47	
Warnings:						
Information:						
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	1607127			

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

OC000000097893063

Date Mailed: 03/09/2018

Letter Regarding a New Notice and/or the Status of the Application

If a new notice or Filing Receipt is enclosed, applicant may disregard the previous notice mailed on 12/20/2017. The time period for reply runs from the mail date of the new notice. Within the time period for reply, applicant is required to file a reply in compliance with the requirements set forth in the new notice to avoid abandonment of the application.

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web. https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at **1-866-217-9197** or visit our website at http://www.uspto.gov/ebc.

If the reply is not filed electronically via EFS-Web, the reply must be accompanied by a copy of the new notice.

If the Office previously granted a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment or a petition to revive under 37 CFR 1.137, the status of the application has been returned to pending status.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/ytdemisse/

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC000000097893081

Date Mailed: 03/09/2018

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(f) must be submitted.
  The surcharge is due for any one of:
  - late submission of the basic filing fee, search fee, or examination fee,
  - late submission of inventor's oath or declaration,
  - filing an application that does not contain at least one claim on filing, or
  - submission of an application filed by reference to a previously filed application.
- Replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required. The drawings submitted are not acceptable because:
  - More than one figure is present and each figure is not labeled "Fig." with a consecutive Arabic numeral (1, 2, etc.) or an Arabic numeral and capital letter in the English alphabet (A, B, etc.)(see 37 CFR 1.84(u)(1)). See Figure(s) 6A. A brief description of the several views of the drawings (see 37 CFR 1.74) should be added or amended to correspond to the corrected numbering of the figures. See also 37 CFR 1.77(b)(9).

Applicant is cautioned that correction of the above items may cause the specification and drawings page count to exceed 100 pages. If the specification and drawings exceed 100 pages, applicant will need to submit the required application size fee.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

The fee(s) required within **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice to avoid abandonment is/are itemized below. No entity status discount is in effect. If applicant is qualified for small entity status, a written assertion of small entity status must be submitted to establish small entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.27). If applicant is qualified for micro entity status, an acceptable Certification of Micro Entity Status must be submitted to establish micro entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.29 and forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B.)

- $ **160** surcharge.
- $(**0**) previous unapplied payment amount.
- $ **160** TOTAL FEE BALANCE DUE.

Replies must be received in the USPTO within the set time period or must include a proper Certificate of Mailing or Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 with a mailing or transmission date within the set time period. For more information and a suggested format, see Form PTO/SB/92 and MPEP 512.

Replies should be mailed to:

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web, including a copy of this Notice and selecting the document description "Applicant response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice". https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197 or visit our website at http://www.uspto.gov/ebc.

If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/ytdemisse/

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IPR2024-01401

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 15/826,232

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	300
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	660
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	760
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	20 minus 20 =	*			OR	x 100 =	0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3 minus 3 =	*				x 460 =	0.00
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							0.00
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	1720

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT A	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT B	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
15/826,232	11/29/2017	3633	1600	269949US01_446373-417	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

FILING RECEIPT

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

Date Mailed: 03/09/2018

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections**

Inventor(s)

Yaron Brunner, Kibbutz Gvat, ISRAEL;

Applicant(s)

KETER PLASTIC LTD., Herzeliya, ISRAEL;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 111739

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of PCT/IL2017/050481 04/30/2017
which claims benefit of 62/459,076 02/15/2017
and claims benefit of 62/330,334 05/02/2016

Foreign Applications for which priority is claimed (You may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.) - None.
Foreign application information must be provided in an Application Data Sheet in order to constitute a claim to foreign priority. See 37 CFR 1.55 and 1.76.

Permission to Access Application via Priority Document Exchange: Yes

Permission to Access Search Results: Yes

Applicant may provide or rescind an authorization for access using Form PTO/SB/39 or Form PTO/SB/69 as appropriate.

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 12/18/2017

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 15/826,232**

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Corrected Papers

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

Preliminary Class

052

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications: No

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

OC00000097893054

Date Mailed: 03/09/2018

Letter Regarding a New Notice and/or the Status of the Application

If a new notice or Filing Receipt is enclosed, applicant may disregard the previous notice mailed on 02/05/2018. The time period for reply runs from the mail date of the new notice. Within the time period for reply, applicant is required to file a reply in compliance with the requirements set forth in the new notice to avoid abandonment of the application.

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web. https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at **1-866-217-9197** or visit our website at http://www.uspto.gov/ebc.

If the reply is not filed electronically via EFS-Web, the reply must be accompanied by a copy of the new notice.

If the Office previously granted a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment or a petition to revive under 37 CFR 1.137, the status of the application has been returned to pending status.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/ytdemisse/

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VIA *e*FILE

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 269949US01_446373-417

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of		)
		)
	Yaron Brunner	)
		)
Serial No.:	15/826,232	)Art Unit
		) 3633
Filed:	November 29, 2017	)
		)
For:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM	)
		)
Confirmation No.:	1070	)
		)
Customer No.:	111739	)
		)
Examiner:	TBD	)

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

VIA *e*FILE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers dated March 9, 2018, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the specification are presented in a substitute specification filed herewith under 37 C.F.R. §1.125 in "marked up" and "clean" forms. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification do not constitute new matter.

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REMARKS

In response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers, the specification is amended via a substitute specification filed herewith. The specification is amended so that each figure is referred to by its correpsonding number and, if applicable, its corresponding capital letter. There were no missing drawings in the as-filed application. The surcharge under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(f) is also paid. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediments to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any of the following fees that may be applicable to this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-6181: (1) any filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16; (2) any patent application and reexamination processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17; and/or (3) any post issuance fees under 37 CFR § 1.20. In addition, if any additional extension of time is required, which has not otherwise been requested, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-6181.

DATED this 23rd day of March, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

/Marcus S. Simon, Reg.# 50258/
MARCUS S. SIMON
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 50,258
Customer No. 111739
Telephone No. 801-933-7360

MSS:hm

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VIA *e*FILE

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 269949US01_446373-417

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of		)
		)
	Yaron Brunner	)
		)
Serial No.:	15/826,232	)Art Unit
		) 3633
Filed:	November 29, 2017	)
		)
For:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM	)
		)
Confirmation No.:	1070	)
		)
Customer No.:	111739	)
		)
Examiner:	TBD	)

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION IN MARKED UP FORM UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.125

VIA *e*FILE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

The following substitute specification in marked up form is hereby submitted. A clean version is also filed herewith. This substitute specification includes no new matter.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

/Marcus S. Simon, Reg. #50258
MARCUS S. SIMON
Registration No. 50,258
Attorney for Applicant
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
Customer No. 111739
Telephone: 801.933.7360

4841-8377-8144\1

UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

TECHNOLOGICAL FIELD

The present disclosure is directed to a container assembly and more specifically to a utility assembly comprising two or more detachably attachable utility modules. The disclosure is further concerned with a coupling mechanism facilitating detachably attaching the utility modules to one another.

The term 'utility *module'* is used hereinafter in its broad meaning and is meant to denote a variety of articles such as, storage containers, travel luggage, tool boxes, organizers, compacted work benches, cable storage, tools (e.g. hand tools, power generators and power sources), communication modules, carrying platforms, locomotion platforms, etc., of any shape and size, and wherein any utility module can be detachably attached to any other utility module.

The term *'utility assembly*' as used herein denotes any set of utility modules configured for articulation to one another, either as a stationary unit or locomotive.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A first aspect of the disclosure concerns a coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching any first article to any second article, wherein any first article and any second article can be any utility module.

The coupling mechanism comprises a male coupler at a face of one of the first utility module and the second utility module, and a female coupler at a face of the other one of the first utility module and the second utility module, said female coupler has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a

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depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge facing in a first sense; said male coupler has a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface, the coupling mechanism further comprises at least one locking member for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path.

The arrangement is such that at a locked position of a utility assembly the at least one locking tongue of the male coupler engages below said at least one locking rib of the female coupler and the at least one locking member is engaged, thus preventing any respective displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and retaining the coupling mechanism at an engaged and locked position.

The term *'first utility module'* as used herein denotes any utility module bearing at least one second utility module over a first surface thereof. The second utility module of a utility assembly may comprise three or more stages of utility modules, and functions as first utility module with respect to a third stage utility module mounted thereover and serving in turn as a second utility module.

According to certain embodiments, one or more female couplers are configured at the top face of the first utility module, and one or more male couplers are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module

The disclosed subject-matter is directed to a utility module configured with at least one of a male coupling mechanism and a female coupling mechanism of the disclosure, a

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module assembly comprising one or more utility modules of the aforementioned type and a set of utility modules of the aforementioned type.

According to a configuration of the first aspect, there is provide a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; said coupling mechanism comprising at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location.

The arrangement is such that, at a locked position, the bottom face of the second utility module at least partially rests over the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting tongues are arrested by the corresponding one or more locking ribs, and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

Locking engagement between the second utility module and the first utility module is obtained when the one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more projecting portions are disposed behind one another (though not necessarily aligned).

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According to a particular configuration of the coupling mechanism, the one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more locking latch arresting locations are configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting portions and the at least one locking latch are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module. According to this configuration, locking between the first utility module and the second utility module is obtained by positioning the second utility module over the second utility module such that one or more locking tongues of the projecting portions engages with one or more respective locking ribs of the depressed locking locations, and wherein the locking latch interlocks with the respective locking latch arresting location.

The arrangement being such that the attaching engagement between the second utility module and the first utility module takes place when the one or more locking tongues and the corresponding one or more respective locking ribs are engaged, thereby preventing vertical separation between the utility modules (i.e. preventing lifting of the second utility module of the first utility module), and further when the locking latch is arrested by the respective locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement of the utility modules one with respect to the other (i.e. sliding displacement of the second module over the first module).

Disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module can be facilitated only after disengaging the locking latch from said locking latch arresting location.

According to a second aspect of the disclosure there is disclosed a coupling mechanism for a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module and comprises at one of a top face of the first utility

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module and a bottom face of the second utility module with at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

Engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

According to one particular configuration the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path and according to another configuration the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

A third aspect of the present disclosure is directed to a utility module being a mobile carrier unit and comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module.

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The term *carrier unit* as used herein denotes any kind of propelled cart configured for detachably attaching and carrying load. The carrier unit may be a hand cart, a mobile tool cart, a mobile workshop, traveling luggage cart, a trolley, etc.

With particular reference to the third aspect, the carrier engagement surface can be larger than the utility module's first engagement surface corresponding with it. In this case, several utility modules may be interlocked simultaneously upon one carrier unit.

According to one configuration there is disclosed a carrier unit comprising a manipulating arrangement, a locomotion system, and an engagement surface comprising one or more engaging elements. The carrier unit is designated for detachable interlocking engagement with one or more utility modules, each comprising a first engagement surface configured with one or more first engaging elements compatible for detachable interlocking engagement with the carrier engaging elements.

According to yet configuration there is disclosed an assembly comprising a carrier unit comprising an engagement surface comprising one or more engaging elements, and at least one utility module configured with at least one first engagement surface comprising one or more first engaging elements compatible for detachable interlocking engagement with the carrier unit's engaging elements.

According to a modification of this aspect, there is also provided a container unit comprising a top member configured with a second engagement surface of the utility module, said top member, according to one example constitutes a cover of the utility module.

The arrangement is such that a container unit can be readily and easily applied over and interlockingly articulated to a carrier unit, or over a utility module configured with a

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second engagement surface mimicking the first engagement surface second engagement surface mimicking the first engagement surface of the carrier unit.

Engagement between the carrier unit and the container, and further between two containers, is facilitated by any locking mechanism of the disclosure hereinabove and hereinafter.

According to a specific example, there is a latching mechanism, wherein the first engaging elements of the carrier unit are configured for interlocking engagement with engaging elements of the mating surface of the respective utility module. The latching mechanism may assume various configurations, e.g. male-female couplings, dovetail couplings, and the like. The arrangement being such that only a minor displacement is required in order to lockingly mount, and respectively detach, a utility module over the carrier unit.

According to one specific configuration, the detachable interlocking engagement mechanism between the carrier engaging elements and the utility module`s first engaging elements is a dovetail engagement mechanism, comprising laterally projecting shoulders configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module, and a shoulder receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said laterally projecting shoulders are configured for sliding engagement with said shoulder receiving recess.

According to a particular configuration, one or both of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a respective utility module are configured with depressions, each accommodating respective laterally projecting locking shoulders.

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Said dovetail engagement mechanism members constitute said engaging elements, wherein said carrier engaging elements comprise one of said dovetail engagement members, while the utility module`s first engaging element comprises the respective said dovetail engagement member.

According to another configuration, the detachable interlocking engagement mechanism between the carrier engaging elements and the utility module`s first engaging elements is an undercut engagement mechanism, comprising lateral projections configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a container unit, and a receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said lateral projections are configured for engagement with said receiving recess.

Interlocking engagement of the utility module and the carrier unit takes place by placing the first engagement surface of a utility module over the carrier engagement surface, such that the utility module`s first engaging elements are disposed shifted over the respective carrier engaging elements of the carrier unit, and are then slidingly shifted to obtain sliding interlocking engagement therebetween.

The detachable interlocking engagement mechanism may further comprise a locking mechanism configured for preventing unintentional detaching of the slidingly engaging elements once they are fully interlocked, i.e. to prevent detaching of the utility module from the carrier unit or from another utility module.

According to one configuration, the locking mechanism, comprises a locking pin that is configured for snapingly protruding from one of the engagement surfaces into a designated nook on the other engagement surface. This prevents the engaging surfaces

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from sliding relatively to each other, and by that it prevents said engaging elements from being slidingly separated once interlocked.

According to one configuration, the carrier engagement surface of the carrier unit constitutes a top wall of the carrier unit, when the carrier unit is balanced horizontally to the ground, and wherein the utility module`s first engagement surface constitutes a bottom wall of the container unit, when the utility module is balanced horizontally to the ground. The utility module can further comprise a second engagement surface constituting its top wall, or a cover, when the utility module is balanced horizontally to the ground. The second engagement surface of the utility module simulates the carrier engagement surface as it is compatible for engaging with another utility module's first engagement surface.

Any one or more of the following features, designs and configurations, can be implemented in a utility module, a utility assembly, locking mechanism, and the carrier unit and assembly according to the present disclosure, individually or in various combinations thereof:

- A single locking rib can extend at rear end of a depressed locking location (i.e. the female coupler may comprise a single locking rib) and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path;
- Two locking ribs can extend at side edges of a depressed locking location (i.e. the female coupler may comprise two locking ribs) and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path;
- Two locking ribs can each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path;
- The utility assembly can be modular wherein a top face of a first utility module can interlock with a bottom face of a second utility module disposed thereover

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in a substantially fully overlapping relation, or with a bottom face of at least one second utility module only partially overlapping therewith;

- A second utility module overlapping a significant portion of a first utility module can be configured with a single release latch for displacing several locking latches articulated therewith;
- Two or more second utility modules can be mounted over a first utility module, each being independently detachable attachable over the first utility module;
- The at least one second utility module is configured for snap-type locking over the first utility module;
- A release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module;
- The at least one locking latch and the at least one locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front portion of the respective utility modules;
- At least one of the first utility module and the second utility module are configured with a gliding surface facilitating displacement and positioning the respective second utility module at the locking position with respect to the first utility module;
- The gliding surface reduces tolerances between the projecting portion and the depressed locking location receiving same;
- One or both of the locking tongue and locking rib can be configured with a slanting surface at corresponding orientation, along the sliding path, for reducing or substantially elimination tolerance therebetween;
- One or both of a front edge of the projecting portion and a corresponding front edge of the depressed locking location can be slanted for gliding positioning of the second utility module into true locking position over the first utility module;
- The locking latch can be configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module;
- The locking latch can be spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module;

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- The locking latch can be manipulable to be opened through an opening configured at a front wall of the respective utility module;
- Corners of the utility modules can be reinforced;
- One or more of the utility modules can be a container module, and the utility assembly can be a container assembly/tool caddy;
- The container module can be compartmented and can be configured with sub-containers and sub-compartments;
- The top face of the container module can be configured as a lid or as a functional component of the container module;
- A lid of a second container can be opened also when articulated and locked in position over a first container;
- A lid of a first container can be opened also when a second container is articulated and locked in position thereabove;
- At least one of the container modules can be a locomoting container and can be configured with an arrangement for locomoting said container module. Where the locomoting container is attached to other container modules it can facilitate for locomoting the utility assembly;
- The container modules can be configured with carrying arrangement disposed at any one or more of its faces. According to a particular configuration, a front face of the container modules is configured with a carrying handle and according to another configuration side faces of the container modules can be configured with a carrying handle;
- Examples of utility modules can be any one or more of a cooler box, a workpiece grip, a power supply (e.g. power bank, generator), hand tools, power tools, a locomotive platform (e.g. a work dolly), powered or not, a tactical unit (e.g. military gear, scientific equipment, communications equipment, personal gear, outdoor gear, etc.);
- A tool caddy can be configured with a carrying handle (e.g. telescopic);
- A utility module can be a soft-shell container with at least a rigid face portion configured with a male/female coupler;

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- The utility module can be an interface coupling module, i.e. functions only as a coupling interface;
- The interface coupling module can be attached to a surface of any element or object and by different arrangements, fixedly or detachably;
- The interface coupling module can be a cargo interface module for a utility vehicle, so as to attach one or more utility modules to the vehicle;
- The cargo interface module can be a bed cargo module, a roof rack module, etc.;
- The interface coupling module can be a surface mount for attaching utility modules, e.g. a floor mount, wall mount, wall rack, etc.;
- The interface coupling module can be a tool mount/rack;
- The interface coupling module can be belt mount for mounting of utility modules (e.g. a hand tool) to a workers belt;
- The interface coupling module can be an interface mount module for coupling two utility modules to one another, e.g. for articulating two utility modules, both configured with a similar male coupler or a female coupler, and wherein the interface mount module is configured at both faces with another of male coupler or a female coupler;
- The interface coupling module can be a back pack carrying module, for facilitating attachment and carrying of utility modules;
- A top face of a utility module can be configured with a carrying handle, said carrying handle displaceable between a stowed position and a carrying position, wherein at the stowed position said carrying handle at least partially extends within a niche and does not to interfere with the coupling mechanism;
- The carrier unit may include one or more auxiliary engagement surfaces positioned on an exterior face of the carrier unit. For example, an auxiliary engagement surface can be configured at a bottom face of the carrier unit;
- The carrier unit may include a second engagement surface simulating/mimicking the first engagement surface of the utility module;
- A utility module may be configured with one or more auxiliary first and second engagement surfaces;

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- The carrier engagement surface may be a connectivity platform detachably attached to the exterior surface of the carrier unit, facilitating a cart unit or a carrier unit according to the present disclosure;
- One or both of the utility module's first and second engagement surfaces may be detachably attached to an exterior surface of the utility module;
- The carrier engagement surface and the utility module's first engagement surface may be like elements;
- The utility module's first and second engagement surfaces may be like elements;
- The carrier unit's engaging elements and the utility module's first engaging elements may be similar elements;
- One engagement surface may include several engaging elements and one locking mechanism;
- The coupling mechanism is configured for spontaneous displacement into locking engagement within a locking receptacle, wherein manual interference is required only for unlocking the locking mechanism and detaching a utility module from a respective utility module or carrier unit;
- The coupling mechanism can be a spring biased locking pin, normally projecting from a respective engagement surface;
- One or both of the carrier unit and the utility module may further include a locking mechanism designated to prevent unintentional separation of the engagement surfaces while they are interlocked;
- The locking mechanism is manipulable between an unlocked position in which said engagement surfaces may slide upon each other, and a locked state in which the engagement surfaces may not slide upon each other;
- The locking mechanism may be configured with a biasing mechanism for snap arresting at least at its locked state;
- The locking mechanism may be configured with a manually operated activating portion for switching between said unlocked and locked positions.
- The carrier unit may be assembled together with other carrier units the same way it's assembled with the utility modules;

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- The locomotion system of the carrier unit may comprise a wheel system (e.g. axially fixed roller wheels, swivel wheels, etc.), a sliding platform, caterpillar tracks, etc;
- The locomotion system of the carrier unit comprises, according to a particular example, several fixed axis wheels, wherein the perimeter of said wheels is tangent with a base edge of the carrier unit;
- At an assembled configuration, where one or more utility modules are attached to the carrier unit, the assembly can be positioned vertically wherein a side face of the one or more containers rest over a supporting surface. According to a particular example, at this position the carrier unit and container assembly are configured with stability members for retaining their stability while positioned vertically to the ground;
- The carrier unit may be stable while positioned horizontally to the ground, by a support system projecting from a bottom face thereof. The support system may comprise friction enhancing surfaces to restrict displacement of the assembly while placed over a bearing surface;
- The carrier unit may be foldable to a more compact configuration;
- The carrier unit may comprise an external storage box detachably interconnectable to its exterior walls;
- The carrier unit may comprise a power supply detachably interconnectable to its exterior walls;
- The carrier unit's transporting system may be motorized while powered via said power supply;
- The carrier unit may further include a locking mechanism to insure interlocking connection of the engagement surfaces;
- The container unit may comprise non-rigid portions;
- The carrier unit may comprise at least one manipulating arrangement, configurable between a stowed position in which the manipulating arrangement is retracted, and a manipulating position in which the manipulating arrangement is extracted. The manipulating arrangement may be a telescopic or foldable handle;
- The manipulating arrangement may be a gripping handle, a D-grip handle, a T-grip handle, a flexible strap, etc.

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EMBODIMENTS

The present disclosure also encompasses embodiment as defined in the following numbered phrases. It should be noted that these numbered embodiments intended to add to this disclosure and is not intended in any way to be limiting.

1. A coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching a first utility module to a second utility module, the coupling mechanism comprising a male coupler at a face of one of the first utility module and the second utility module, and a female coupler at a face of the other one of the first utility module and the second utility module, said female coupler having a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge facing in a first sense; said male coupler having a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface, the coupling mechanism further comprises at least one locking member for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path.

2. The coupling mechanism of embodiment 1, wherein said female coupler is configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the male coupler is configured at the bottom face of the second utility module.

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3. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

4. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

5. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

6. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

7. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

8. A coupling mechanism for a utility assembly that comprises at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially

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rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location, such that engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

9. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

10. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

11. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

12. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

13. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

14. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 13, further comprising a release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the

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locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module.

15. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 14, wherein the at least one locking latch and the at least one locking latch arresting location are disposed at a front portion of the respective utility modules.

16. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 15, wherein the locking latch is configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module.

17. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 16, wherein locking latch is spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module.

18. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 17, wherein the locking latch is manipulable to be opened through an opening configured at a front wall of the respective utility module.

19. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 1 to 18, wherein one or both of the locking tongue and locking rib are configured with a slanting surface at corresponding orientation along the sliding path.

20. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 1 to 19, wherein one or both of a front edge of the projecting portion (or the projecting locking location) and a corresponding front edge of the depressed locking location are slanted for gliding positioning of the second utility module into locking position over the first utility module.

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21. The coupling mechanism of any one of embodiments 1 to 20, wherein the first utility module is configured for detachably attaching one or more second utility modules thereto.

22. A coupling mechanism for a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module and comprises at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module with at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

23. A utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism according to any one of embodiments 1 to 21, the coupling mechanism being configured between the first utility module and the second utility module.

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24. A utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism for readily detachably attaching the first and second utility modules, the coupling mechanism being configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; said coupling mechanism comprising at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; such that at a locked position, the bottom face of the second utility module at least partially rests over the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting tongues are arrested by the corresponding one or more locking ribs, and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

25. The utility assembly of embodiment 24, wherein the first and second utility modules are in a locking engagement when said one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more projecting portions are disposed behind one another.

26. The utility assembly of embodiment 24 or 25, wherein said one or more depressed locking locations and said one or more locking latch arresting locations are

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configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting portions and the at least one locking latch are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module.

27. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 26, wherein at least one second utility module is configured for snap-type locking over the first utility module.

28. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 27 wherein engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

29. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 28, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

30. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

31. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

32. The utility assembly of embodiment 29 wherein two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

33. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

34. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 33, wherein a top face of a first utility module interlocks with a bottom face of a second utility module disposed

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thereover in a substantially fully overlapping relation, or with a bottom face of at least one second utility module only partially overlapping therewith.

35. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 33, wherein the second utility module overlaps a significant portion of a first utility module and is configured with a single release latch for displacing several locking latches articulated therewith.

36. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 35, further comprising a release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module.

37. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 36, wherein the locking latch is configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module.

38. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 37, wherein the locking latch is spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module.

39. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 38, wherein two or more second utility modules can be mounted over a first utility module, each being independently detachable attachable over the first utility module.

40. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 39, wherein at least one of the first utility module and the second utility module are configured with a gliding surface facilitating displacement and positioning the respective second utility module at the locking position with respect to the first utility module.

41. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein one or more of the utility modules is a container module, and the utility assembly is a container assembly or a tool caddy.

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42. The utility assembly of embodiment 41, wherein the container module is compartmented and optionally configured with sub-containers and sub-compartments.

43. The utility assembly of embodiment 41 or 42, wherein a top face of the container module is configured as a lid or as a functional component of the container module.

44. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 41 to 43, wherein the container modules is a locomoting container, configured with an arrangement for locomoting said utility assembly.

45. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 41 to 44, wherein the container modules is configured with a carrying arrangement disposed at any one or more of its faces, optionally being a carrying handle.

46. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein one or more of the utility modules is a soft-shell container with at least a rigid face portion.

47. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein said first utility module is a mobile carrier unit.

48. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 47, further comprising a locking mechanism for preventing unintentional separation of the modules while they are interlocked.

49. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 48, wherein the first utility module is configured for detachably attaching at least two second utility modules thereto.

50. A mobile carrier unit comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module, said carrier engagement surface having (i) one or more

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depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location, configured for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions, each projecting portion being configured with a locking tongue, or (ii) at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises one or more depressed locking locations, each depressed locking locations configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location.

51. The mobile carrier unit of embodiment 50, wherein once associated with the utility module, said locking tongue becomes disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch become disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location.

52. The mobile carrier unit of embodiment 50 or 51, configured for detachable interlocking engagement with one or more utility modules, each utility module comprising a first engagement surface.

53. The mobile carrier unit of any one of embodiments 50 to 52, further comprising at least one of a manipulating arrangement and a locomotion system.

54. An assembly comprising a mobile carrier unit of any one of embodiments 50 to 53 having at least one carrier engagement surface, and at a least one utility module having a first engagement surface, the utility module being detachably interlocked with the mobile carrier unit by engaging said first engagement surface with said carrier engagement surface.

55. The assembly of embodiment 54, wherein the mobile carrier unit and the at least one utility module are detachably interlocked with one another by a dovetail

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engagement mechanism, that comprises laterally projecting shoulders configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module, and a shoulder receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said laterally projecting shoulders are configured for sliding engagement with said shoulder receiving recess.

56. The assembly of embodiment 55, wherein one or both of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a respective utility module are configured with depressions, each accommodating respective laterally projecting locking shoulders.

57. The assembly of embodiment 54, wherein the mobile carrier unit and the at least one utility module are detachably interlocked with one another by an undercut engagement mechanism, comprising lateral projections configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a container unit, and a receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said lateral projections are configured for engagement with said receiving recess, such that interlocking engagement of the utility module and the carrier unit takes place by placing the first engagement surface of a utility module over the carrier engagement surface, such that the utility module`s first engaging elements are disposed shifted over the respective carrier engaging elements of the carrier unit, and are then slidingly shifted to obtain sliding interlocking engagement therebetween.

58. The assembly of any one of embodiments 54 to 57, further comprising a locking mechanism configured for preventing unintentional detaching of the utility module from the carrier unit.

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59. The assembly of embodiment 58, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a locking pin that is configured for snapingly protruding from one of the engagement surfaces into a designated nook on the other engagement surface.

60. An interface coupling module comprising at least one engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module, said interface coupling module comprising an engagement surface having (i) one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location, configured for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions, each projecting portion being configured with a locking tongue, or (ii) at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises one or more depressed locking locations, each depressed locking locations configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location

61. The interface coupling module of embodiment 60, being configured for detachable or fixed attachment to a surface of an object.

62. The interface coupling module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a cargo interface module for a utility vehicle configured for attaching one or more utility modules to the vehicle.

63. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a surface mount for attaching utility modules

64. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a tool mount or a tool rack.

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65. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a belt mount for mounting of utility modules to a workers belt;

66. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being an interface mount module for coupling two utility modules to one another.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In order to better understand the subject matter that is disclosed herein and to exemplify how it may be carried out in practice, embodiments will now be described, by way of non-limiting examples only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figs. 1A to **6G** are directed to a first example of a locking mechanism, wherein:

Fig. 1A is a top perspective view of a container assembly according to an example of the present disclosure;

Fig. 1B is an exploded perspective view of the container assembly of Fig. 1A;

Fig. 1C is a bottom, front perspective view of Fig. 1B;

Fig. 1D is a bottom, rear perspective view of Fig. 1B;

Fig. 2A is a sectioned portion along line A-A in Fig. 1A;

Fig. 2B is a sectioned portion along line B-B in Fig. 1A;

Fig. 2C is a sectioned portion along line C-C in Fig. 1A;

Figs. 3A to **3D** are consecutive steps illustrating locking engagement of the locking tongue of the second container with the respective locking rib of the first container;

Figs. 4A to **4D** are consecutive steps illustrating locking engagement of the locking latch of the second container with the respective locking latch arresting location of the first container;

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Figs. 5A to **5E** schematically demonstrate modularity of a container assembly according to the disclosure;

Figs. 6A to **6G** are various combinations of a modular container assembly according to examples of the present disclosure.

Figs 7A to **12C** are directed to a carrier unit and another example of a locking mechanism, wherein:

Fig. 7A is container carrier assembly according to an example of the disclosure, illustrating a top, left perspective view of a container unit, mounted on top of a carrier unit;

Fig. 7B is a top, left perspective view of a second container unit, mounted on top of a first container unit, which in turn is mounted on top of a carrier unit according to an example of the present disclosure;

Fig. 8A is a top, left perspective view of a carrier unit, illustrating the carrier engagement surface in further detail;

Figs. 8B and **8C** are a top and a bottom perspective view of a carrier unit, illustrating the container unit's first engagement surface in further detail;

Fig. 9A is a side section along line F-F in Fig. 7A, illustrating the container unit and the carrier unit unattached;

Fig. 9B is a side section along line F-F in Fig. 7A illustrating the container unit and the carrier unit attached;

Fig. 9C is a close-up view of Fig. 9B;

Fig. 9D is a sectioned view along line F-F in Fig. 7A illustrating the interlocking engagement of the carrier engaging elements together with the container unit's first engaging elements;

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Fig. 10A is a sectioned view along line D-D in Fig. 7A, illustrating the locking mechanism;

Fig. 10B is an enlarged image of the portion marked M in Fig. 10A;

Fig. 11A illustrates different sizes of container units forming an assembly, at a tilted orientation;

Fig. 11B illustrates an assembled configuration balanced vertically relatively to the ground;

Fig. 12A shows a container assembly wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs extending at respective side edges of two neighboring depressed locking locations;

Fig. 12B is a section along line H-H in Fig. 12A;

Fig. 12C illustrates the utility module apart from the container and flipped, so as to expose the mating coupling mechanism.

Figs. ~~13A to 24~~13A-13D, 14A-14C, 15A-15B, 16A-16B, 17, 18A-18C, and 19-24 are different embodiments and configurations of utility modules and utility assemblies according examples of this disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Reference is first being made to Figs. 1A to 6G, directed to a first configuration of a coupling mechanism. For sake of convenience the utility modules are exemplified as containers and respectively the utility assembly is illustrates as a tool caddy. It is however appreciated that the utility modules can be of any type, shape or size, as discussed hereinabove and as will be exemplified below.

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Attention is first directed to Figs. 1A to 4D, illustrating a container assembly generally designated **20**, comprising four containers **22**, **24**, **26** and **28** disposed in a triple stage configuration, the stages designated **A**, **B** and **C**. In the illustrated example containers **24** and **26** of the second stage are half-size and overlap the footprint of the first stage container **22** and the third stage container **28**, wherein the first container **22** is for example a hand tool container and containers **24** to **28** are organizers or the like.

The term *'first container'* as used herein denotes a container bearing over a top face thereof at least one other container, said at least one other container denoted herein as a *'second container'*. It is thus appreciated that a second container of a container assembly comprising three or more stages of containers' serves as second container when referred to the first stage container, and as a first container when referred to a third stage container mounted thereover. Accordingly, in the illustrated example of Figs. 1A-2C, container **22** is a first container and containers **24** and **26** are second containers, whilst they function as first containers when discussing locking arrangement with respect to third stage container **28**.

Each of the containers is configured with a lid **L** constituting a top face of the respective container, said lids being pivotally attached and securely articulated to the respective container through a toggle locking latch **29**. Each top face (see Fig.1B) is configured with several depressed locking locations **32** and it is seen that the at least two depressed locking locations are disposed behind one another along imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

Each such depressed locking location is in turn configured with a laterally projecting locking rib **36** extending from a rear portion of the depressed locking location **32** towards a front face of the container. The locking rib **36** has a flat top surface **38**

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substantially flush with a top surface of the respective lid **L**, and a slanting bottom surface **40**. A front portion **46** of the depressed locking location **32** is slanted too, in the same orientation as bottom surface **40** (i.e. substantially parallel thereto).

Furthermore, the top face, namely lid **L** of the containers, is configured with at least one locking latch arresting location in the form of a recess **50** disposed at a front portion of the respective top face and configured with a slanted rear wall portion **52** and a right angled front wall portion **53**.

A bottom face **54** of each container **22**, **24**, **26** and **28** is configured with several projecting portions **56**, extending in register with the depressed locking locations **32**, and it is seen that the at least two projecting portions **56** are disposed behind one another along the imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

Each projecting portions **56** is configured with a locking tongue **60** laterally projecting rearwards and having a slanted surface **62** corresponding with slanting surface **40** of locking rib **36**. Also, a front portion **66** of the projecting portions **56** slants substantially parallel to the slanted surface **62** of the locking tongue **60**.

It is essential that the at least two depressed locking locations **32** and the at least two projecting portions **56** be disposed behind one another (though not necessarily aligned), as exemplified by imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

A plunger-like locking latch **70** is disposed at a front portion of each container, said locking latch **70** disposed in register with the recesses **50** and configured with a slanting rear wall portion **72** and a right angled front wall portion **74**, corresponding with the sloping wall portions of the recesses **50**. The locking latch **70** has an elongate finger engaging aperture **73** (Fig. 2A) accessible through an aperture **75** formed in register at a front wall face of the respective second container, said locking latch **70** being normally

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biased to project under force of coiled spring **71**, such that the locking latch **70** is axially displaceable between a projecting, locked position and a temporary retracted position during transition into the locked position.

The locking latch **70** is typically single-handedly manipulable between its locking position and its releasing position, such that manipulation of the locking latch to disengage it from the locking latch arresting location **50** can be easily facilitated using one hand simultaneously with gripping the carrying handle **80**. As seen in Figs. 1A-2C, manipulating the finger engaging aperture **73**, being part of locking latch **70**, is disposed opposite to and at finger-reach distance from the carrying handle **80** when the handle is at its carrying position tilted upwards. This enables a grab, release and go detachment of the second utility module from the first utility module in a simple single-handed operation.

When it is required to detachably attach a second container over a first container, the former is placed over the later (Fig. 3A), placing the projecting portions **56** within the depressed locking location **32** (Fig. 3B) with the locking tongues **60** engaging below and being gradually arrested by the respective locking ribs **36** arresting is obtained (Fig. 3C) until complete arresting is obtained (Fig. 3D). Simultaneously, as the locking tongues **60** arrest by the locking ribs **36**, the locking latch **70** of the second container slides into the locking latch arresting location (recess **50**) and finally snaps into locking engagement therewith. It is noted (Figs 4A to 4D) that first (Figs. 4B and 4C) the locking latch **70** displaces upwards against the biasing effect of spring **71**, and when the second container reaches the final locking position over the first container, the locking latch **70** plunges into arresting position within the recess **50**.

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At the locked position the second container is attached over the top face of the first container, such that they can be moved as an integrated unit. Detaching of a second container from a first container is easily facilitated by unlocking, obtained by displacing the locking latch **70** upwards against the biasing effect of spring **71**, whereby the second container can be displaced with respect to the first container and detached therefrom.

As further seen in Figs. 1A-4D, each of the containers **22**, **24**, **26** and **28**, is configured at a front face thereof with a tiltable carrying handle **80**, for carrying a respective container or the entire container assembly **20**. Also seen, some of the containers can be configured with fender-like protectors **90** at their corners.

Further attention is now directed to Figs. 5A to 5E demonstrating examples of modularity of a container assembly according to the disclosure. Fig. 5A is a planner top view of a first container **94** and Figs. 5B to 5E illustrate second containers superimposed over the first container **94**. In Fig. 5B a second container **96** is substantially as big as the first container **94**, i.e. having the same footprint. In Fig. 5C a second container **98** is as wide as the first container **94**, however narrower in depth, and disposed at a front portion of the first container. In Fig. 5D two second containers **99A** and **99B** are mounted over the first container **94** and occupy substantially the entire footprint thereof, whereby each of containers **99A** and **99B** is independently attachable and detachable from the first container **94**, as exemplified hereinabove. In Fig. 5E two second containers **100A** and **100B** are positioned over the first container **94**, occupying the entire width though narrower in depth and extending from a front portion of the first container **94**.

Turning now to Figs. 6A to 6K, there are illustrated several examples of container assemblies, subassemblies and their components. Fig. 6A illustrates a disassembled

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container assembly collectively designated **104** and comprising a base container **106**, a chest of drawers module **108** comprising three drawers, a tool caddy module **110**, a compartmented storage module **112** and a half-sized compartmented storage module **114** (typically two of which). It is noted that the base container is configured for locomoting and comprises at a rear thereof wheels **116** and a telescopic handle **118**.

As can be appreciated from Figs. 6B through 6D, various container assemblies are illustrated, the arrangement is such that in practice any module can constitute either a first container or a second container, as defined hereinabove (though it is more likely that base container **106** serves as a first container).

Figs. 6E and 6F illustrate a chest of drawers module **108**, illustrated separately in Fig. 6E and mounted over a similar drawer module **108** in Fig. 6F. It is appreciated that the drawers of each module can be locked at their closed position to prevent spontaneous opening thereof whilst carrying a module. Furthermore, each module **108** is configured with a pair of carrying handles **115** disposed at top side wall portions thereof, to facilitate carrying of the module.

In Fig. 6G there is illustrated a subassembly comprising a first container in the form of a tool caddy module **110** and second container in the form of a compartmented storage module **112** attached thereto, whilst the lid **119** of the first container is open facilitating access to the contents thereof.

Further attention is now directed to Figs. 7A to 16B, showing a third aspect of the disclosure, namely a utility module being a mobile carrier unit and comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a second utility module. For sake of example only, the second utility module exemplified in the annexed drawings is in the form of a

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utility container. It is however appreciated that the utility modules can be of any type, shape or size, as discussed hereinabove and as will be exemplified below. Accordingly, the term *container unit* as used in the following description denotes any type of a utility module, as discussed herein the specification.

Attention is first directed to Fig. 7A, illustrating a container carrier assembly generally designated **200** comprising a container unit **202** (utility module) mounted on top of a carrier unit **206**. The carrier unit **206** is equipped with a telescopic manipulating handle **210**, a pair of rear wheels **208** and a set of horizontally stabilizing support legs **212** at a front portion of the carrier unit **206**. The carrier unit **206** and the container unit **202** are engaged in an interlocking engagement via their engagement surfaces, i.e. a carrier engagement surface **216** at a top face of the a carrier unit **206** (best seen in Fig. 8A), and the container unit's first engagement surface **220** (namely its bottom face; best seen in Figs. 8B and 8C). The container unit **202** is configured with yet a second engagement surface **226** (namely the container's top face), simulating the carrier engagement surface **216**. The container unit **202** further comprises a locking mechanism **230** configured for arresting within a respective notch **231** at the carrier engagement surface **216**, to thereby to prevent displacement and separation of the engagement surfaces **216** and **220** once they are interlocked, as later will be explained.

The carrier engagement surface **216** seen in greater detail in Fig. 8A, illustrates a top perspective view of a carrier unit **206** with the telescopic handle **210** in a retracted position. The carrier engagement surface **216** comprises multiple carrier engaging elements **236**, depressed from the surface, and designated for interlockingly receiving respective container unit's first engaging elements **240**, projecting from the first engagement surface (bottom face) **220** of the container unit **202**.

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Each carrier engaging element **236**, is a so-called female coupler and has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path and having an open edge facing in a first sense. As seen in the drawings, it is generally constituted by a receiving recessed depression **244** in the carrier engagement surface **216**, configured with a pair of facing locking ribs **248**, forming the aforementioned recess. The locking ribs **248** extend substantially parallel to sliding path of the container unit **202** with respect to the carrier unit **206**, said path (designated **P** in Figs. 7A and 10B). Further noted, side walls **250** of depressions **244** are sloped in order to allow directing of a container unit's first engaging element **240**, mounted upon it, to its interlocking position.

A corresponding coupler configured at the container unit is a so-called male coupler comprising a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface. As seen, a single container unit's engaging element **240** is generally constituted a downwardly projecting outwards protrusion **258**, projecting from the bottom face **220** of the container **202**.

In order to lock the container **202** over the carrier unit **206**, upon placing the container **202** over the carrier engagement surface **216** of carrier unit **206** one must mount the container unit's first engaging elements **240** into the depressions **244** and then slide the container **202** along the sliding path **P** (i.e. towards the locking ribs **248**) so that the engaging elements **240** engage below said projecting ribs/shoulders **248** and the engaging elements **240** are thus arrested at a space between said locking ribs and the

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depressed surface, as seen in Fig. 9C. interlocking engagement of the container (or any other utility module) can be facilitated by a single male-female locking mechanism of the aforementioned type, or by a plurality of such locking mechanism, at any location over the carrier unit **206**.

The shape and size of the locking members is modular as far as the depression **244** in the carrier engagement surface **216**, can be single or double in size (e.g. **236** and **236A** in Fig. 8A, respectively), so it is large enough to accommodate two container unit's first engaging elements **240**, or two neighboring container unit's first engaging elements. Locking/engaging and detaching of this configuration is similar to a single locking module.

The engagement and locking mechanism is modular in the sense that any first article can be easily and readily articulated to a surface of any second article, wherein the articulation is strong and firm (i.e. substantially motionless).

With further reference to Fig. 7B, there are illustrated two containers **202A** and **202B** articulated over one another, the arrangement being such that the bottom face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the top face of the carrier unit **206** and likewise, the top face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the bottom face of the top container **202B**, as discussed herein above. The arrangement is such that each stage is lockingly secured by the locking mechanism **230**, wherein each stage can be detached from the stage below upon releasing locking engagement of the respective locking mechanism **230**.

The locking mechanism **230** is shown in further detail in Figs. 10A and 10B. The locking mechanism comprises a locking pin **231** normally biased by spring **233** such that a tip **235** projects from a bottom surface of the container **202** (see also Fig. 8B) and

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is configured for snap arresting within a respective notch **231** configured at the engagement surface **216** of the carrier unit **206** (seen also in Fig. 8A). The locking pin **231** is slidable within a race at the side wall of the container, and comprises a finger manipulating portion at **237** (accessible through an opening at the side wall of the container), for displacing the locking pin, against the biasing effect of spring **233**, into its disengaged position, thus facilitating sliding the container along the path **P** into disengagement from the carrier unit (or respective other container or utility module).

The carrier unit **206** is further configured at a bottom end, with a pair of stability supports **264** (Figs. 8A, 11B), configured for supporting the carrier unit, with or without a container attached thereto, at an upright, i.e. vertical position, thus preventing it from tipping over, in particular with containers or any other utility module articulated thereto. Stability supports **264** can be, according to a particular configuration, an extension of the telescopic handle **210**, whereby the stability supports are functional as such only when the handle is fully contracted. However, in the illustration of Figs. 16A-16B the utility assembly **253** is maintained at its upright position owing to said stability supports **264** and further bearing over a side face **266** of the intermediate container **202A**, being substantially flush with a bottom face of the stability supports **264**.

With further reference to Figs. 12A to 12C there is illustrated a modification of articulation between a first utility module (container **300** in the particular example) and a second utility module (two work-piece supports **304** in the particular example). The container **300** is substantially similar to that illustrated in the previous examples, wherein the cover/lid **308** is configured with a plurality of female coupler members **310**, each configured with a depressed locking location and a pair of locking ribs extending

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above the depressed surface and along a sliding path. The opposing locking ribs **312A** and **312B** have an open edge facing in a first sense (the introducing direction).

In the examples hereinbefore, engagement with a corresponding male coupler took place within the vicinity of a single coupling element, i.e. over two engaging ribs **312A** and **321B** of a single depressed locking location facing each other. However, in the example of Figs. 12A-12C engagement of the work-piece supports **304** takes place over two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** of two neighboring depressed locking locations **308A** and **308B**. Accordingly, the male coupler of the two work-piece supports **304** is configured for arresting with the two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** by two individual (separate) male couplers **316A** and **316B**, each configured for arresting one of the respective engaging ribs **312A** and **312B**. Arresting of the male projections **316** takes place as discussed before, by arresting below the respective engaging ribs, within the space at the depressed locking location. In spite of the relative narrow body structure of the work-piece supports **304**, they are each configured with a locking mechanism **330**, similar to locking mechanism **230** discussed hereinbefore.

Turning now to Figs. 13A-13D, 14A-14C, 15A-15B, 16A-16B, 17, 18A-18C, and 19-24~~13A to 24~~, there are illustrated various examples of utility modules, utility assemblies and various configurations according to the disclosure.

Fig. 13A illustrates a utility module assembly generally designated **400**, comprising a wheeled base container **402** supporting an intermediate container **404**, bearing in turn a cooler box **406** and a power unit **408** disposed side by side over the intermediate container. At least the intermediate container **404** is configured at a bottom face thereof with a male-type coupling arrangement, for attachment over the cover of the base container, said cover configured with a respective female coupling arrangement. The

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cover of the intermediate container **404** is configured with a similar female coupling arrangement, and can thus engage with one the utility modules **406** and **408**, each configured at its bottom face with a respective male-type coupling arrangement.

It is seen in Figs. 13B through 13D that the intermediate container **404** is fitted with a pivotal carrying handle **418** articulated at the top side walls thereof. The carrying handle has a thickness **t** and the arrangement is such that at the stowed/folded position (Figs. 13B, 13D) the handle **418** is received within a peripheral groove **422** extending over a top edge of the intermediate container **404** and a peripheral groove **424** extending at a bottom edge of the utility modules **408** and **406** (cooler box **406** and a power unit **408**), such that the handle **418** does not constitute an obstacle in mounting and interlocking a utility module over another utility module. It is also seen that at least some of the utility modules are configured with side handles **428** serving both as carrying handles and as bumpers.

Figs. 14A to 14C illustrate a first utility module in the form of a container **430** supporting two detachable workpiece-piece supports **432** (attached as discussed herein before with reference to Figs. 12A-12C). Fig. 14C illustrates a utility module in the form of a work surface **436** configured with a vice race **438**, so that a vice **440**, or other workshop tools can be used. The workpiece-piece supports **432** are configured with a male type coupling having projecting locking locations **444** for engaging with respective female couplers.

In Figs. 15A and 15B there is illustrated a back-rack **450** being a substantially rigid platform having a carrying handle **451** and configured at one side thereof with a pair of adjustable shoulder harnesses **452**, and an adjustable waist harness **454**. The other side of the back-rack is configured as a universal utility mounting platform **458**, configured

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with a plurality of attachment locations **460**. In the illustrated example all attachment locations **460** are so-called female attachments (as discussed hereinabove in detail), however it is appreciated that the attachment locations can just as well be male-type attachments, or a combination of male and female attachments. According to yet an example (not shown), one side of the carrying platform can be configured with male-type attachments, and an opposite side of the platform be configured with female-type attachments, wherein a used has the choice of attaching the platform to the harness system at an orientation of choice.

In Fig. 16A there is illustrated a utility module in the form of a wheeled carrying unit **464** (shown from a bottom side), similar to that disclosed in connection with Figs. 7A to 11B. The carrying unit **464** comprises a rigid platform **466** fitted at a top face thereof with a female/male attaching arrangement in accordance with the disclosure, such that any utility module according to the disclosure can be detachably attached thereto. Also provided is a telescopic manipulating handle **468** and a pair of wheels **466**. The carrying unit can be fitted with a collapsible support plate configuring it into a pushcart (not shown).

Fig. 16B shows a utility assembly **276** comprising a wheeled base container **278** interlocked with a first intermediate container **280** mounted thereover (constituting a second stage of the assembly), and a second intermediate container **282** mounted thereover (constituting a third stage of the assembly **276**), there being yet a fourth stage utility module container **284** mounted over the second intermediate container **282**. Whilst the second intermediate container **282** has a wider footprint than the first intermediate container **280**, this does not constitute any difficulty as far as attaching it over the second intermediate container **282**, and further, the top face of the second

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intermediate container **282** has a great surface suited for articulation thereof of several fourth stage utility modules (only one shown).

Fig. 17 shows a carrying bag **280** having soft side walls **282** (in the example illustrated made of fabric), however fitted with (integrally or detachable) an articulation platform base **284,** said articulation platform made of a firm rigid material and is configured with four male-type coupling locations **288** of the type disclosed hereinabove. The carrying bag **280** has a carrying strap **290** useful for hand held or shoulder carrying of the bag.

Figure 18A shows a rigid coupling platform **300**, configured with a plurality of female coupling locations (of the type disclosed herein) and further configured with bolt eyes **298** for securing to any desired surface, and carrying bars **313**.

The coupling platform **300** can be attached for example to a truck bed **306** (Fig. 20), directly over the truck bed or over a cargo container attached to the truck. The coupling platform **300** can be attached to a wall, as in Fig. 18B, wherein a plurality of various utility modules can be articulated thereto. For example, utility modules can be an electric charger **315** of a power tool, a wall mounted sorting container **314**, a hand tool rack **318** (Fig. 18C), a tool coupling adaptor **320** (Fig. 18C), etc.

In Fig. 19 there is illustrated a belt-mount **319** configured as a female coupler according to the disclosure, wherein a tool **321** or a bag/pouch configured with a male coupler can be detachably attached thereto.

In Fig. 21 there is illustrated a wall rack **326** comprising four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **328** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module in accordance with the disclosure.

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In Fig. 22 there is illustrated a mobile work stand **340** comprising a wheeled base **342** supporting two racks **344** with four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **346** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module (e.g. containers **348**) in accordance with the disclosure.

In Fig. 23 the utility module is in the form of a dolly **352** configured with wheels **354** and having a top surface configured with an array of female type couplings, as discussed.

In Fig. 24 there is illustrated a utility coupling platform **358** suited for articulation to any desired article (e.g. a bag, a tool, etc.). the utility coupling platform is configured at least at one face thereof with a male coupling locations **360** mimicking the coupling arrangement of the disclosure, rendering it suitable for articulation with a coupling system according to the disclosure.

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ABSTRACT

The present disclosure concerns a coupling mechanism for detachably attaching two or more utility modules to one another, utility assembles, mobile carriers and other attachable modules and articles.

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VIA *e*FILE

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 269949US01_446373-417

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of		)
		)
	Yaron Brunner	)
		)
Serial No.:	15/826,232	)Art Unit
		) 3633
Filed:	November 29, 2017	)
		)
For:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM	)
		)
Confirmation No.:	1070	)
		)
Customer No.:	111739	)
		)
Examiner:	TBD	)

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION IN CLEAN FORM UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.125

VIA *e*FILE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

The following substitute specification in marked up form is hereby submitted. A clean version is also filed herewith. This substitute specification includes no new matter.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

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4840-7774-1408\1

UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

TECHNOLOGICAL FIELD

The present disclosure is directed to a container assembly and more specifically to a utility assembly comprising two or more detachably attachable utility modules. The disclosure is further concerned with a coupling mechanism facilitating detachably attaching the utility modules to one another.

The term 'utility *module'* is used hereinafter in its broad meaning and is meant to denote a variety of articles such as, storage containers, travel luggage, tool boxes, organizers, compacted work benches, cable storage, tools (e.g. hand tools, power generators and power sources), communication modules, carrying platforms, locomotion platforms, etc., of any shape and size, and wherein any utility module can be detachably attached to any other utility module.

The term *'utility assembly*' as used herein denotes any set of utility modules configured for articulation to one another, either as a stationary unit or locomotive.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A first aspect of the disclosure concerns a coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching any first article to any second article, wherein any first article and any second article can be any utility module.

The coupling mechanism comprises a male coupler at a face of one of the first utility module and the second utility module, and a female coupler at a face of the other one of the first utility module and the second utility module, said female coupler has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a

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depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge facing in a first sense; said male coupler has a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface, the coupling mechanism further comprises at least one locking member for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path.

The arrangement is such that at a locked position of a utility assembly the at least one locking tongue of the male coupler engages below said at least one locking rib of the female coupler and the at least one locking member is engaged, thus preventing any respective displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and retaining the coupling mechanism at an engaged and locked position.

The term *'first utility module'* as used herein denotes any utility module bearing at least one second utility module over a first surface thereof. The second utility module of a utility assembly may comprise three or more stages of utility modules, and functions as first utility module with respect to a third stage utility module mounted thereover and serving in turn as a second utility module.

According to certain embodiments, one or more female couplers are configured at the top face of the first utility module, and one or more male couplers are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module

The disclosed subject-matter is directed to a utility module configured with at least one of a male coupling mechanism and a female coupling mechanism of the disclosure, a

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module assembly comprising one or more utility modules of the aforementioned type and a set of utility modules of the aforementioned type.

According to a configuration of the first aspect, there is provide a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; said coupling mechanism comprising at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location.

The arrangement is such that, at a locked position, the bottom face of the second utility module at least partially rests over the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting tongues are arrested by the corresponding one or more locking ribs, and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

Locking engagement between the second utility module and the first utility module is obtained when the one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more projecting portions are disposed behind one another (though not necessarily aligned).

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According to a particular configuration of the coupling mechanism, the one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more locking latch arresting locations are configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting portions and the at least one locking latch are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module. According to this configuration, locking between the first utility module and the second utility module is obtained by positioning the second utility module over the second utility module such that one or more locking tongues of the projecting portions engages with one or more respective locking ribs of the depressed locking locations, and wherein the locking latch interlocks with the respective locking latch arresting location.

The arrangement being such that the attaching engagement between the second utility module and the first utility module takes place when the one or more locking tongues and the corresponding one or more respective locking ribs are engaged, thereby preventing vertical separation between the utility modules (i.e. preventing lifting of the second utility module of the first utility module), and further when the locking latch is arrested by the respective locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement of the utility modules one with respect to the other (i.e. sliding displacement of the second module over the first module).

Disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module can be facilitated only after disengaging the locking latch from said locking latch arresting location.

According to a second aspect of the disclosure there is disclosed a coupling mechanism for a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module and comprises at one of a top face of the first utility

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module and a bottom face of the second utility module with at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

Engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

According to one particular configuration the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path and according to another configuration the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

A third aspect of the present disclosure is directed to a utility module being a mobile carrier unit and comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module.

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The term *carrier unit* as used herein denotes any kind of propelled cart configured for detachably attaching and carrying load. The carrier unit may be a hand cart, a mobile tool cart, a mobile workshop, traveling luggage cart, a trolley, etc.

With particular reference to the third aspect, the carrier engagement surface can be larger than the utility module's first engagement surface corresponding with it. In this case, several utility modules may be interlocked simultaneously upon one carrier unit.

According to one configuration there is disclosed a carrier unit comprising a manipulating arrangement, a locomotion system, and an engagement surface comprising one or more engaging elements. The carrier unit is designated for detachable interlocking engagement with one or more utility modules, each comprising a first engagement surface configured with one or more first engaging elements compatible for detachable interlocking engagement with the carrier engaging elements.

According to yet configuration there is disclosed an assembly comprising a carrier unit comprising an engagement surface comprising one or more engaging elements, and at least one utility module configured with at least one first engagement surface comprising one or more first engaging elements compatible for detachable interlocking engagement with the carrier unit's engaging elements.

According to a modification of this aspect, there is also provided a container unit comprising a top member configured with a second engagement surface of the utility module, said top member, according to one example constitutes a cover of the utility module.

The arrangement is such that a container unit can be readily and easily applied over and interlockingly articulated to a carrier unit, or over a utility module configured with a

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second engagement surface mimicking the first engagement surface second engagement surface mimicking the first engagement surface of the carrier unit.

Engagement between the carrier unit and the container, and further between two containers, is facilitated by any locking mechanism of the disclosure hereinabove and hereinafter.

According to a specific example, there is a latching mechanism, wherein the first engaging elements of the carrier unit are configured for interlocking engagement with engaging elements of the mating surface of the respective utility module. The latching mechanism may assume various configurations, e.g. male-female couplings, dovetail couplings, and the like. The arrangement being such that only a minor displacement is required in order to lockingly mount, and respectively detach, a utility module over the carrier unit.

According to one specific configuration, the detachable interlocking engagement mechanism between the carrier engaging elements and the utility module`s first engaging elements is a dovetail engagement mechanism, comprising laterally projecting shoulders configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module, and a shoulder receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said laterally projecting shoulders are configured for sliding engagement with said shoulder receiving recess.

According to a particular configuration, one or both of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a respective utility module are configured with depressions, each accommodating respective laterally projecting locking shoulders.

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Said dovetail engagement mechanism members constitute said engaging elements, wherein said carrier engaging elements comprise one of said dovetail engagement members, while the utility module`s first engaging element comprises the respective said dovetail engagement member.

According to another configuration, the detachable interlocking engagement mechanism between the carrier engaging elements and the utility module`s first engaging elements is an undercut engagement mechanism, comprising lateral projections configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a container unit, and a receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said lateral projections are configured for engagement with said receiving recess.

Interlocking engagement of the utility module and the carrier unit takes place by placing the first engagement surface of a utility module over the carrier engagement surface, such that the utility module`s first engaging elements are disposed shifted over the respective carrier engaging elements of the carrier unit, and are then slidingly shifted to obtain sliding interlocking engagement therebetween.

The detachable interlocking engagement mechanism may further comprise a locking mechanism configured for preventing unintentional detaching of the slidingly engaging elements once they are fully interlocked, i.e. to prevent detaching of the utility module from the carrier unit or from another utility module.

According to one configuration, the locking mechanism, comprises a locking pin that is configured for snapingly protruding from one of the engagement surfaces into a designated nook on the other engagement surface. This prevents the engaging surfaces

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from sliding relatively to each other, and by that it prevents said engaging elements from being slidingly separated once interlocked.

According to one configuration, the carrier engagement surface of the carrier unit constitutes a top wall of the carrier unit, when the carrier unit is balanced horizontally to the ground, and wherein the utility module`s first engagement surface constitutes a bottom wall of the container unit, when the utility module is balanced horizontally to the ground. The utility module can further comprise a second engagement surface constituting its top wall, or a cover, when the utility module is balanced horizontally to the ground. The second engagement surface of the utility module simulates the carrier engagement surface as it is compatible for engaging with another utility module's first engagement surface.

Any one or more of the following features, designs and configurations, can be implemented in a utility module, a utility assembly, locking mechanism, and the carrier unit and assembly according to the present disclosure, individually or in various combinations thereof:

- A single locking rib can extend at rear end of a depressed locking location (i.e. the female coupler may comprise a single locking rib) and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path;
- Two locking ribs can extend at side edges of a depressed locking location (i.e. the female coupler may comprise two locking ribs) and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path;
- Two locking ribs can each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path;
- The utility assembly can be modular wherein a top face of a first utility module can interlock with a bottom face of a second utility module disposed thereover

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in a substantially fully overlapping relation, or with a bottom face of at least one second utility module only partially overlapping therewith;

- A second utility module overlapping a significant portion of a first utility module can be configured with a single release latch for displacing several locking latches articulated therewith;
- Two or more second utility modules can be mounted over a first utility module, each being independently detachable attachable over the first utility module;
- The at least one second utility module is configured for snap-type locking over the first utility module;
- A release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module;
- The at least one locking latch and the at least one locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front portion of the respective utility modules;
- At least one of the first utility module and the second utility module are configured with a gliding surface facilitating displacement and positioning the respective second utility module at the locking position with respect to the first utility module;
- The gliding surface reduces tolerances between the projecting portion and the depressed locking location receiving same;
- One or both of the locking tongue and locking rib can be configured with a slanting surface at corresponding orientation, along the sliding path, for reducing or substantially elimination tolerance therebetween;
- One or both of a front edge of the projecting portion and a corresponding front edge of the depressed locking location can be slanted for gliding positioning of the second utility module into true locking position over the first utility module;
- The locking latch can be configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module;
- The locking latch can be spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module;

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- The locking latch can be manipulable to be opened through an opening configured at a front wall of the respective utility module;
- Corners of the utility modules can be reinforced;
- One or more of the utility modules can be a container module, and the utility assembly can be a container assembly/tool caddy;
- The container module can be compartmented and can be configured with sub-containers and sub-compartments;
- The top face of the container module can be configured as a lid or as a functional component of the container module;
- A lid of a second container can be opened also when articulated and locked in position over a first container;
- A lid of a first container can be opened also when a second container is articulated and locked in position thereabove;
- At least one of the container modules can be a locomoting container and can be configured with an arrangement for locomoting said container module. Where the locomoting container is attached to other container modules it can facilitate for locomoting the utility assembly;
- The container modules can be configured with carrying arrangement disposed at any one or more of its faces. According to a particular configuration, a front face of the container modules is configured with a carrying handle and according to another configuration side faces of the container modules can be configured with a carrying handle;
- Examples of utility modules can be any one or more of a cooler box, a workpiece grip, a power supply (e.g. power bank, generator), hand tools, power tools, a locomotive platform (e.g. a work dolly), powered or not, a tactical unit (e.g. military gear, scientific equipment, communications equipment, personal gear, outdoor gear, etc.);
- A tool caddy can be configured with a carrying handle (e.g. telescopic);
- A utility module can be a soft-shell container with at least a rigid face portion configured with a male/female coupler;

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- The utility module can be an interface coupling module, i.e. functions only as a coupling interface;
- The interface coupling module can be attached to a surface of any element or object and by different arrangements, fixedly or detachably;
- The interface coupling module can be a cargo interface module for a utility vehicle, so as to attach one or more utility modules to the vehicle;
- The cargo interface module can be a bed cargo module, a roof rack module, etc.;
- The interface coupling module can be a surface mount for attaching utility modules, e.g. a floor mount, wall mount, wall rack, etc.;
- The interface coupling module can be a tool mount/rack;
- The interface coupling module can be belt mount for mounting of utility modules (e.g. a hand tool) to a workers belt;
- The interface coupling module can be an interface mount module for coupling two utility modules to one another, e.g. for articulating two utility modules, both configured with a similar male coupler or a female coupler, and wherein the interface mount module is configured at both faces with another of male coupler or a female coupler;
- The interface coupling module can be a back pack carrying module, for facilitating attachment and carrying of utility modules;
- A top face of a utility module can be configured with a carrying handle, said carrying handle displaceable between a stowed position and a carrying position, wherein at the stowed position said carrying handle at least partially extends within a niche and does not to interfere with the coupling mechanism;
- The carrier unit may include one or more auxiliary engagement surfaces positioned on an exterior face of the carrier unit. For example, an auxiliary engagement surface can be configured at a bottom face of the carrier unit;
- The carrier unit may include a second engagement surface simulating/mimicking the first engagement surface of the utility module;
- A utility module may be configured with one or more auxiliary first and second engagement surfaces;

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- The carrier engagement surface may be a connectivity platform detachably attached to the exterior surface of the carrier unit, facilitating a cart unit or a carrier unit according to the present disclosure;
- One or both of the utility module's first and second engagement surfaces may be detachably attached to an exterior surface of the utility module;
- The carrier engagement surface and the utility module's first engagement surface may be like elements;
- The utility module's first and second engagement surfaces may be like elements;
- The carrier unit's engaging elements and the utility module's first engaging elements may be similar elements;
- One engagement surface may include several engaging elements and one locking mechanism;
- The coupling mechanism is configured for spontaneous displacement into locking engagement within a locking receptacle, wherein manual interference is required only for unlocking the locking mechanism and detaching a utility module from a respective utility module or carrier unit;
- The coupling mechanism can be a spring biased locking pin, normally projecting from a respective engagement surface;
- One or both of the carrier unit and the utility module may further include a locking mechanism designated to prevent unintentional separation of the engagement surfaces while they are interlocked;
- The locking mechanism is manipulable between an unlocked position in which said engagement surfaces may slide upon each other, and a locked state in which the engagement surfaces may not slide upon each other;
- The locking mechanism may be configured with a biasing mechanism for snap arresting at least at its locked state;
- The locking mechanism may be configured with a manually operated activating portion for switching between said unlocked and locked positions.
- The carrier unit may be assembled together with other carrier units the same way it's assembled with the utility modules;

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- The locomotion system of the carrier unit may comprise a wheel system (e.g. axially fixed roller wheels, swivel wheels, etc.), a sliding platform, caterpillar tracks, etc;
- The locomotion system of the carrier unit comprises, according to a particular example, several fixed axis wheels, wherein the perimeter of said wheels is tangent with a base edge of the carrier unit;
- At an assembled configuration, where one or more utility modules are attached to the carrier unit, the assembly can be positioned vertically wherein a side face of the one or more containers rest over a supporting surface. According to a particular example, at this position the carrier unit and container assembly are configured with stability members for retaining their stability while positioned vertically to the ground;
- The carrier unit may be stable while positioned horizontally to the ground, by a support system projecting from a bottom face thereof. The support system may comprise friction enhancing surfaces to restrict displacement of the assembly while placed over a bearing surface;
- The carrier unit may be foldable to a more compact configuration;
- The carrier unit may comprise an external storage box detachably interconnectable to its exterior walls;
- The carrier unit may comprise a power supply detachably interconnectable to its exterior walls;
- The carrier unit's transporting system may be motorized while powered via said power supply;
- The carrier unit may further include a locking mechanism to insure interlocking connection of the engagement surfaces;
- The container unit may comprise non-rigid portions;
- The carrier unit may comprise at least one manipulating arrangement, configurable between a stowed position in which the manipulating arrangement is retracted, and a manipulating position in which the manipulating arrangement is extracted. The manipulating arrangement may be a telescopic or foldable handle;
- The manipulating arrangement may be a gripping handle, a D-grip handle, a T-grip handle, a flexible strap, etc.

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EMBODIMENTS

The present disclosure also encompasses embodiment as defined in the following numbered phrases. It should be noted that these numbered embodiments intended to add to this disclosure and is not intended in any way to be limiting.

1. A coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching a first utility module to a second utility module, the coupling mechanism comprising a male coupler at a face of one of the first utility module and the second utility module, and a female coupler at a face of the other one of the first utility module and the second utility module, said female coupler having a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge facing in a first sense; said male coupler having a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface, the coupling mechanism further comprises at least one locking member for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path.

2. The coupling mechanism of embodiment 1, wherein said female coupler is configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the male coupler is configured at the bottom face of the second utility module.

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3. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

4. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

5. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

6. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

7. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

8. A coupling mechanism for a utility assembly that comprises at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially

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rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location, such that engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

9. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

10. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

11. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

12. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

13. The coupling arrangement of embodiment 8, wherein two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

14. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 13, further comprising a release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the

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locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module.

15. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 14, wherein the at least one locking latch and the at least one locking latch arresting location are disposed at a front portion of the respective utility modules.

16. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 15, wherein the locking latch is configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module.

17. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 16, wherein locking latch is spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module.

18. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 8 to 17, wherein the locking latch is manipulable to be opened through an opening configured at a front wall of the respective utility module.

19. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 1 to 18, wherein one or both of the locking tongue and locking rib are configured with a slanting surface at corresponding orientation along the sliding path.

20. The coupling arrangement of any one of embodiments 1 to 19, wherein one or both of a front edge of the projecting portion (or the projecting locking location) and a corresponding front edge of the depressed locking location are slanted for gliding positioning of the second utility module into locking position over the first utility module.

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21. The coupling mechanism of any one of embodiments 1 to 20, wherein the first utility module is configured for detachably attaching one or more second utility modules thereto.

22. A coupling mechanism for a utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module and comprises at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module with at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

23. A utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism according to any one of embodiments 1 to 21, the coupling mechanism being configured between the first utility module and the second utility module.

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24. A utility assembly comprising at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, and comprising a coupling mechanism for readily detachably attaching the first and second utility modules, the coupling mechanism being configured between the first utility module and the second utility module; said coupling mechanism comprising at one of a top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module and a bottom face of the second utility module comprises one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; such that at a locked position, the bottom face of the second utility module at least partially rests over the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting tongues are arrested by the corresponding one or more locking ribs, and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, thereby preventing sliding displacement between the first utility module and the second utility module, and disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

25. The utility assembly of embodiment 24, wherein the first and second utility modules are in a locking engagement when said one or more depressed locking locations and the one or more projecting portions are disposed behind one another.

26. The utility assembly of embodiment 24 or 25, wherein said one or more depressed locking locations and said one or more locking latch arresting locations are

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configured at the top face of the first utility module, and the one or more projecting portions and the at least one locking latch are configured at the bottom face of the second utility module.

27. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 26, wherein at least one second utility module is configured for snap-type locking over the first utility module.

28. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 27 wherein engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib and said at least one locking tongue.

29. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 28, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

30. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein the at least one locking rib extends substantially perpendicular and intersects the sliding path.

31. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein a single locking rib extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

32. The utility assembly of embodiment 29 wherein two locking ribs extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

33. The utility assembly of embodiment 29, wherein two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

34. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 33, wherein a top face of a first utility module interlocks with a bottom face of a second utility module disposed

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thereover in a substantially fully overlapping relation, or with a bottom face of at least one second utility module only partially overlapping therewith.

35. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 33, wherein the second utility module overlaps a significant portion of a first utility module and is configured with a single release latch for displacing several locking latches articulated therewith.

36. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 35, further comprising a release latch for displacing the locking latch into disengagement from the locking latch arresting location can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module.

37. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 36, wherein the locking latch is configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module.

38. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 37, wherein the locking latch is spring biased and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module.

39. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 38, wherein two or more second utility modules can be mounted over a first utility module, each being independently detachable attachable over the first utility module.

40. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 39, wherein at least one of the first utility module and the second utility module are configured with a gliding surface facilitating displacement and positioning the respective second utility module at the locking position with respect to the first utility module.

41. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein one or more of the utility modules is a container module, and the utility assembly is a container assembly or a tool caddy.

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42. The utility assembly of embodiment 41, wherein the container module is compartmented and optionally configured with sub-containers and sub-compartments.

43. The utility assembly of embodiment 41 or 42, wherein a top face of the container module is configured as a lid or as a functional component of the container module.

44. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 41 to 43, wherein the container modules is a locomoting container, configured with an arrangement for locomoting said utility assembly.

45. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 41 to 44, wherein the container modules is configured with a carrying arrangement disposed at any one or more of its faces, optionally being a carrying handle.

46. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein one or more of the utility modules is a soft-shell container with at least a rigid face portion.

47. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 40, wherein said first utility module is a mobile carrier unit.

48. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 47, further comprising a locking mechanism for preventing unintentional separation of the modules while they are interlocked.

49. The utility assembly of any one of embodiments 24 to 48, wherein the first utility module is configured for detachably attaching at least two second utility modules thereto.

50. A mobile carrier unit comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module, said carrier engagement surface having (i) one or more

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depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location, configured for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions, each projecting portion being configured with a locking tongue, or (ii) at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises one or more depressed locking locations, each depressed locking locations configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location.

51. The mobile carrier unit of embodiment 50, wherein once associated with the utility module, said locking tongue becomes disposed in register with said one or more depressed locking locations, and at least one locking latch become disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location.

52. The mobile carrier unit of embodiment 50 or 51, configured for detachable interlocking engagement with one or more utility modules, each utility module comprising a first engagement surface.

53. The mobile carrier unit of any one of embodiments 50 to 52, further comprising at least one of a manipulating arrangement and a locomotion system.

54. An assembly comprising a mobile carrier unit of any one of embodiments 50 to 53 having at least one carrier engagement surface, and at a least one utility module having a first engagement surface, the utility module being detachably interlocked with the mobile carrier unit by engaging said first engagement surface with said carrier engagement surface.

55. The assembly of embodiment 54, wherein the mobile carrier unit and the at least one utility module are detachably interlocked with one another by a dovetail

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engagement mechanism, that comprises laterally projecting shoulders configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module, and a shoulder receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said laterally projecting shoulders are configured for sliding engagement with said shoulder receiving recess.

56. The assembly of embodiment 55, wherein one or both of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a respective utility module are configured with depressions, each accommodating respective laterally projecting locking shoulders.

57. The assembly of embodiment 54, wherein the mobile carrier unit and the at least one utility module are detachably interlocked with one another by an undercut engagement mechanism, comprising lateral projections configured on one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a container unit, and a receiving recess configured on the other one of one of the carrier engagement surfaces and the first engagement surface of a utility module; where said lateral projections are configured for engagement with said receiving recess, such that interlocking engagement of the utility module and the carrier unit takes place by placing the first engagement surface of a utility module over the carrier engagement surface, such that the utility module`s first engaging elements are disposed shifted over the respective carrier engaging elements of the carrier unit, and are then slidingly shifted to obtain sliding interlocking engagement therebetween.

58. The assembly of any one of embodiments 54 to 57, further comprising a locking mechanism configured for preventing unintentional detaching of the utility module from the carrier unit.

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59. The assembly of embodiment 58, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a locking pin that is configured for snapingly protruding from one of the engagement surfaces into a designated nook on the other engagement surface.

60. An interface coupling module comprising at least one engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a utility module, said interface coupling module comprising an engagement surface having (i) one or more depressed locking locations each configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location, configured for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions, each projecting portion being configured with a locking tongue, or (ii) at least one locking latch and one or more projecting portions each configured with a locking tongue for engagement with said first engagement surface of a utility module that comprises one or more depressed locking locations, each depressed locking locations configured with a locking rib and at least one locking latch arresting location

61. The interface coupling module of embodiment 60, being configured for detachable or fixed attachment to a surface of an object.

62. The interface coupling module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a cargo interface module for a utility vehicle configured for attaching one or more utility modules to the vehicle.

63. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a surface mount for attaching utility modules

64. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a tool mount or a tool rack.

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65. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being a belt mount for mounting of utility modules to a workers belt;

66. The interface module of embodiment 60 or 61, being an interface mount module for coupling two utility modules to one another.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In order to better understand the subject matter that is disclosed herein and to exemplify how it may be carried out in practice, embodiments will now be described, by way of non-limiting examples only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figs. 1A to **6G** are directed to a first example of a locking mechanism, wherein:

Fig. 1A is a top perspective view of a container assembly according to an example of the present disclosure;

Fig. 1B is an exploded perspective view of the container assembly of Fig. 1A;

Fig. 1C is a bottom, front perspective view of Fig. 1B;

Fig. 1D is a bottom, rear perspective view of Fig. 1B;

Fig. 2A is a sectioned portion along line A-A in Fig. 1A;

Fig. 2B is a sectioned portion along line B-B in Fig. 1A;

Fig. 2C is a sectioned portion along line C-C in Fig. 1A;

Figs. 3A to **3D** are consecutive steps illustrating locking engagement of the locking tongue of the second container with the respective locking rib of the first container;

Figs. 4A to **4D** are consecutive steps illustrating locking engagement of the locking latch of the second container with the respective locking latch arresting location of the first container;

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Figs. 5A to **5E** schematically demonstrate modularity of a container assembly according to the disclosure;

Figs. 6A to **6G** are various combinations of a modular container assembly according to examples of the present disclosure.

Figs 7A to **12C** are directed to a carrier unit and another example of a locking mechanism, wherein:

Fig. 7A is container carrier assembly according to an example of the disclosure, illustrating a top, left perspective view of a container unit, mounted on top of a carrier unit;

Fig. 7B is a top, left perspective view of a second container unit, mounted on top of a first container unit, which in turn is mounted on top of a carrier unit according to an example of the present disclosure;

Fig. 8A is a top, left perspective view of a carrier unit, illustrating the carrier engagement surface in further detail;

Figs. 8B and **8C** are a top and a bottom perspective view of a carrier unit, illustrating the container unit's first engagement surface in further detail;

Fig. 9A is a side section along line F-F in Fig. 7A, illustrating the container unit and the carrier unit unattached;

Fig. 9B is a side section along line F-F in Fig. 7A illustrating the container unit and the carrier unit attached;

Fig. 9C is a close-up view of Fig. 9B;

Fig. 9D is a sectioned view along line F-F in Fig. 7A illustrating the interlocking engagement of the carrier engaging elements together with the container unit's first engaging elements;

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Fig. 10A is a sectioned view along line D-D in Fig. 7A, illustrating the locking mechanism;

Fig. 10B is an enlarged image of the portion marked M in Fig. 10A;

Fig. 11A illustrates different sizes of container units forming an assembly, at a tilted orientation;

Fig. 11B illustrates an assembled configuration balanced vertically relatively to the ground;

Fig. 12A shows a container assembly wherein the female coupler comprises two locking ribs extending at respective side edges of two neighboring depressed locking locations;

Fig. 12B is a section along line H-H in Fig. 12A;

Fig. 12C illustrates the utility module apart from the container and flipped, so as to expose the mating coupling mechanism.

Figs. 13A-13D, 14A-14C, 15A-15B, 16A-16B, 17, 18A-18C, and 19-24 are different embodiments and configurations of utility modules and utility assemblies according examples of this disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Reference is first being made to Figs. 1A to 6G, directed to a first configuration of a coupling mechanism. For sake of convenience the utility modules are exemplified as containers and respectively the utility assembly is illustrates as a tool caddy. It is however appreciated that the utility modules can be of any type, shape or size, as discussed hereinabove and as will be exemplified below.

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Attention is first directed to Figs. 1A to 4D, illustrating a container assembly generally designated **20**, comprising four containers **22**, **24**, **26** and **28** disposed in a triple stage configuration, the stages designated **A**, **B** and **C**. In the illustrated example containers **24** and **26** of the second stage are half-size and overlap the footprint of the first stage container **22** and the third stage container **28**, wherein the first container **22** is for example a hand tool container and containers **24** to **28** are organizers or the like.

The term *'first container'* as used herein denotes a container bearing over a top face thereof at least one other container, said at least one other container denoted herein as a *'second container'*. It is thus appreciated that a second container of a container assembly comprising three or more stages of containers' serves as second container when referred to the first stage container, and as a first container when referred to a third stage container mounted thereover. Accordingly, in the illustrated example of Figs. 1A-2C, container **22** is a first container and containers **24** and **26** are second containers, whilst they function as first containers when discussing locking arrangement with respect to third stage container **28**.

Each of the containers is configured with a lid **L** constituting a top face of the respective container, said lids being pivotally attached and securely articulated to the respective container through a toggle locking latch **29**. Each top face (see Fig.1B) is configured with several depressed locking locations **32** and it is seen that the at least two depressed locking locations are disposed behind one another along imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

Each such depressed locking location is in turn configured with a laterally projecting locking rib **36** extending from a rear portion of the depressed locking location **32** towards a front face of the container. The locking rib **36** has a flat top surface **38**

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substantially flush with a top surface of the respective lid **L**, and a slanting bottom surface **40**. A front portion **46** of the depressed locking location **32** is slanted too, in the same orientation as bottom surface **40** (i.e. substantially parallel thereto).

Furthermore, the top face, namely lid **L** of the containers, is configured with at least one locking latch arresting location in the form of a recess **50** disposed at a front portion of the respective top face and configured with a slanted rear wall portion **52** and a right angled front wall portion **53**.

A bottom face **54** of each container **22**, **24**, **26** and **28** is configured with several projecting portions **56**, extending in register with the depressed locking locations **32**, and it is seen that the at least two projecting portions **56** are disposed behind one another along the imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

Each projecting portions **56** is configured with a locking tongue **60** laterally projecting rearwards and having a slanted surface **62** corresponding with slanting surface **40** of locking rib **36**. Also, a front portion **66** of the projecting portions **56** slants substantially parallel to the slanted surface **62** of the locking tongue **60**.

It is essential that the at least two depressed locking locations **32** and the at least two projecting portions **56** be disposed behind one another (though not necessarily aligned), as exemplified by imaginary lines **I**, **II** and **III** (though not necessarily aligned).

A plunger-like locking latch **70** is disposed at a front portion of each container, said locking latch **70** disposed in register with the recesses **50** and configured with a slanting rear wall portion **72** and a right angled front wall portion **74**, corresponding with the sloping wall portions of the recesses **50**. The locking latch **70** has an elongate finger engaging aperture **73** (Fig. 2A) accessible through an aperture **75** formed in register at a front wall face of the respective second container, said locking latch **70** being normally

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biased to project under force of coiled spring **71**, such that the locking latch **70** is axially displaceable between a projecting, locked position and a temporary retracted position during transition into the locked position.

The locking latch **70** is typically single-handedly manipulable between its locking position and its releasing position, such that manipulation of the locking latch to disengage it from the locking latch arresting location **50** can be easily facilitated using one hand simultaneously with gripping the carrying handle **80**. As seen in Figs. 1A-2C, manipulating the finger engaging aperture **73**, being part of locking latch **70**, is disposed opposite to and at finger-reach distance from the carrying handle **80** when the handle is at its carrying position tilted upwards. This enables a grab, release and go detachment of the second utility module from the first utility module in a simple single-handed operation.

When it is required to detachably attach a second container over a first container, the former is placed over the later (Fig. 3A), placing the projecting portions **56** within the depressed locking location **32** (Fig. 3B) with the locking tongues **60** engaging below and being gradually arrested by the respective locking ribs **36** arresting is obtained (Fig. 3C) until complete arresting is obtained (Fig. 3D). Simultaneously, as the locking tongues **60** arrest by the locking ribs **36**, the locking latch **70** of the second container slides into the locking latch arresting location (recess **50**) and finally snaps into locking engagement therewith. It is noted (Figs 4A to 4D) that first (Figs. 4B and 4C) the locking latch **70** displaces upwards against the biasing effect of spring **71**, and when the second container reaches the final locking position over the first container, the locking latch **70** plunges into arresting position within the recess **50**.

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At the locked position the second container is attached over the top face of the first container, such that they can be moved as an integrated unit. Detaching of a second container from a first container is easily facilitated by unlocking, obtained by displacing the locking latch **70** upwards against the biasing effect of spring **71**, whereby the second container can be displaced with respect to the first container and detached therefrom.

As further seen in Figs. 1A-4D, each of the containers **22**, **24**, **26** and **28**, is configured at a front face thereof with a tiltable carrying handle **80**, for carrying a respective container or the entire container assembly **20**. Also seen, some of the containers can be configured with fender-like protectors **90** at their corners.

Further attention is now directed to Figs. 5A to 5E demonstrating examples of modularity of a container assembly according to the disclosure. Fig. 5A is a planner top view of a first container **94** and Figs. 5B to 5E illustrate second containers superimposed over the first container **94**. In Fig. 5B a second container **96** is substantially as big as the first container **94**, i.e. having the same footprint. In Fig. 5C a second container **98** is as wide as the first container **94**, however narrower in depth, and disposed at a front portion of the first container. In Fig. 5D two second containers **99A** and **99B** are mounted over the first container **94** and occupy substantially the entire footprint thereof, whereby each of containers **99A** and **99B** is independently attachable and detachable from the first container **94**, as exemplified hereinabove. In Fig. 5E two second containers **100A** and **100B** are positioned over the first container **94**, occupying the entire width though narrower in depth and extending from a front portion of the first container **94**.

Turning now to Figs. 6A to 6K, there are illustrated several examples of container assemblies, subassemblies and their components. Fig. 6A illustrates a disassembled

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container assembly collectively designated **104** and comprising a base container **106**, a chest of drawers module **108** comprising three drawers, a tool caddy module **110**, a compartmented storage module **112** and a half-sized compartmented storage module **114** (typically two of which). It is noted that the base container is configured for locomoting and comprises at a rear thereof wheels **116** and a telescopic handle **118**.

As can be appreciated from Figs. 6B through 6D, various container assemblies are illustrated, the arrangement is such that in practice any module can constitute either a first container or a second container, as defined hereinabove (though it is more likely that base container **106** serves as a first container).

Figs. 6E and 6F illustrate a chest of drawers module **108**, illustrated separately in Fig. 6E and mounted over a similar drawer module **108** in Fig. 6F. It is appreciated that the drawers of each module can be locked at their closed position to prevent spontaneous opening thereof whilst carrying a module. Furthermore, each module **108** is configured with a pair of carrying handles **115** disposed at top side wall portions thereof, to facilitate carrying of the module.

In Fig. 6G there is illustrated a subassembly comprising a first container in the form of a tool caddy module **110** and second container in the form of a compartmented storage module **112** attached thereto, whilst the lid **119** of the first container is open facilitating access to the contents thereof.

Further attention is now directed to Figs. 7A to 16B, showing a third aspect of the disclosure, namely a utility module being a mobile carrier unit and comprising at least one carrier engagement surface, compatible for interlocking engagement in a detachable manner with a first engagement surface of a second utility module. For sake of example only, the second utility module exemplified in the annexed drawings is in the form of a

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utility container. It is however appreciated that the utility modules can be of any type, shape or size, as discussed hereinabove and as will be exemplified below. Accordingly, the term *container unit* as used in the following description denotes any type of a utility module, as discussed herein the specification.

Attention is first directed to Fig. 7A, illustrating a container carrier assembly generally designated **200** comprising a container unit **202** (utility module) mounted on top of a carrier unit **206**. The carrier unit **206** is equipped with a telescopic manipulating handle **210**, a pair of rear wheels **208** and a set of horizontally stabilizing support legs **212** at a front portion of the carrier unit **206**. The carrier unit **206** and the container unit **202** are engaged in an interlocking engagement via their engagement surfaces, i.e. a carrier engagement surface **216** at a top face of the a carrier unit **206** (best seen in Fig. 8A), and the container unit's first engagement surface **220** (namely its bottom face; best seen in Figs. 8B and 8C). The container unit **202** is configured with yet a second engagement surface **226** (namely the container's top face), simulating the carrier engagement surface **216**. The container unit **202** further comprises a locking mechanism **230** configured for arresting within a respective notch **231** at the carrier engagement surface **216**, to thereby to prevent displacement and separation of the engagement surfaces **216** and **220** once they are interlocked, as later will be explained.

The carrier engagement surface **216** seen in greater detail in Fig. 8A, illustrates a top perspective view of a carrier unit **206** with the telescopic handle **210** in a retracted position. The carrier engagement surface **216** comprises multiple carrier engaging elements **236**, depressed from the surface, and designated for interlockingly receiving respective container unit's first engaging elements **240**, projecting from the first engagement surface (bottom face) **220** of the container unit **202**.

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Each carrier engaging element **236**, is a so-called female coupler and has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path and having an open edge facing in a first sense. As seen in the drawings, it is generally constituted by a receiving recessed depression **244** in the carrier engagement surface **216**, configured with a pair of facing locking ribs **248**, forming the aforementioned recess. The locking ribs **248** extend substantially parallel to sliding path of the container unit **202** with respect to the carrier unit **206**, said path (designated **P** in Figs. 7A and 10B). Further noted, side walls **250** of depressions **244** are sloped in order to allow directing of a container unit's first engaging element **240**, mounted upon it, to its interlocking position.

A corresponding coupler configured at the container unit is a so-called male coupler comprising a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue extending along said engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to said first sense, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface. As seen, a single container unit's engaging element **240** is generally constituted a downwardly projecting outwards protrusion **258**, projecting from the bottom face **220** of the container **202**.

In order to lock the container **202** over the carrier unit **206**, upon placing the container **202** over the carrier engagement surface **216** of carrier unit **206** one must mount the container unit's first engaging elements **240** into the depressions **244** and then slide the container **202** along the sliding path **P** (i.e. towards the locking ribs **248**) so that the engaging elements **240** engage below said projecting ribs/shoulders **248** and the engaging elements **240** are thus arrested at a space between said locking ribs and the

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depressed surface, as seen in Fig. 9C. interlocking engagement of the container (or any other utility module) can be facilitated by a single male-female locking mechanism of the aforementioned type, or by a plurality of such locking mechanism, at any location over the carrier unit **206**.

The shape and size of the locking members is modular as far as the depression **244** in the carrier engagement surface **216**, can be single or double in size (e.g. **236** and **236A** in Fig. 8A, respectively), so it is large enough to accommodate two container unit's first engaging elements **240**, or two neighboring container unit's first engaging elements. Locking/engaging and detaching of this configuration is similar to a single locking module.

The engagement and locking mechanism is modular in the sense that any first article can be easily and readily articulated to a surface of any second article, wherein the articulation is strong and firm (i.e. substantially motionless).

With further reference to Fig. 7B, there are illustrated two containers **202A** and **202B** articulated over one another, the arrangement being such that the bottom face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the top face of the carrier unit **206** and likewise, the top face of the intermediate container **202A** serves for engaging with the bottom face of the top container **202B**, as discussed herein above. The arrangement is such that each stage is lockingly secured by the locking mechanism **230**, wherein each stage can be detached from the stage below upon releasing locking engagement of the respective locking mechanism **230**.

The locking mechanism **230** is shown in further detail in Figs. 10A and 10B. The locking mechanism comprises a locking pin **231** normally biased by spring **233** such that a tip **235** projects from a bottom surface of the container **202** (see also Fig. 8B) and

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is configured for snap arresting within a respective notch **231** configured at the engagement surface **216** of the carrier unit **206** (seen also in Fig. 8A). The locking pin **231** is slidable within a race at the side wall of the container, and comprises a finger manipulating portion at **237** (accessible through an opening at the side wall of the container), for displacing the locking pin, against the biasing effect of spring **233**, into its disengaged position, thus facilitating sliding the container along the path **P** into disengagement from the carrier unit (or respective other container or utility module).

The carrier unit **206** is further configured at a bottom end, with a pair of stability supports **264** (Figs. 8A, 11B), configured for supporting the carrier unit, with or without a container attached thereto, at an upright, i.e. vertical position, thus preventing it from tipping over, in particular with containers or any other utility module articulated thereto. Stability supports **264** can be, according to a particular configuration, an extension of the telescopic handle **210**, whereby the stability supports are functional as such only when the handle is fully contracted. However, in the illustration of Figs. 16A-16B the utility assembly **253** is maintained at its upright position owing to said stability supports **264** and further bearing over a side face **266** of the intermediate container **202A**, being substantially flush with a bottom face of the stability supports **264**.

With further reference to Figs. 12A to 12C there is illustrated a modification of articulation between a first utility module (container **300** in the particular example) and a second utility module (two work-piece supports **304** in the particular example). The container **300** is substantially similar to that illustrated in the previous examples, wherein the cover/lid **308** is configured with a plurality of female coupler members **310**, each configured with a depressed locking location and a pair of locking ribs extending

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above the depressed surface and along a sliding path. The opposing locking ribs **312A** and **312B** have an open edge facing in a first sense (the introducing direction).

In the examples hereinbefore, engagement with a corresponding male coupler took place within the vicinity of a single coupling element, i.e. over two engaging ribs **312A** and **321B** of a single depressed locking location facing each other. However, in the example of Figs. 12A-12C engagement of the work-piece supports **304** takes place over two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** of two neighboring depressed locking locations **308A** and **308B**. Accordingly, the male coupler of the two work-piece supports **304** is configured for arresting with the two engaging ribs **312A** and **312B** by two individual (separate) male couplers **316A** and **316B**, each configured for arresting one of the respective engaging ribs **312A** and **312B**. Arresting of the male projections **316** takes place as discussed before, by arresting below the respective engaging ribs, within the space at the depressed locking location. In spite of the relative narrow body structure of the work-piece supports **304**, they are each configured with a locking mechanism **330**, similar to locking mechanism **230** discussed hereinbefore.

Turning now to Figs. 13A-13D, 14A-14C, 15A-15B, 16A-16B, 17, 18A-18C, and 19-24, there are illustrated various examples of utility modules, utility assemblies and various configurations according to the disclosure.

Fig. 13A illustrates a utility module assembly generally designated **400**, comprising a wheeled base container **402** supporting an intermediate container **404**, bearing in turn a cooler box **406** and a power unit **408** disposed side by side over the intermediate container. At least the intermediate container **404** is configured at a bottom face thereof with a male-type coupling arrangement, for attachment over the cover of the base container, said cover configured with a respective female coupling arrangement. The

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cover of the intermediate container **404** is configured with a similar female coupling arrangement, and can thus engage with one the utility modules **406** and **408**, each configured at its bottom face with a respective male-type coupling arrangement.

It is seen in Figs. 13B through 13D that the intermediate container **404** is fitted with a pivotal carrying handle **418** articulated at the top side walls thereof. The carrying handle has a thickness **t** and the arrangement is such that at the stowed/folded position (Figs. 13B, 13D) the handle **418** is received within a peripheral groove **422** extending over a top edge of the intermediate container **404** and a peripheral groove **424** extending at a bottom edge of the utility modules **408** and **406** (cooler box **406** and a power unit **408**), such that the handle **418** does not constitute an obstacle in mounting and interlocking a utility module over another utility module. It is also seen that at least some of the utility modules are configured with side handles **428** serving both as carrying handles and as bumpers.

Figs. 14A to 14C illustrate a first utility module in the form of a container **430** supporting two detachable workpiece-piece supports **432** (attached as discussed herein before with reference to Figs. 12A-12C). Fig. 14C illustrates a utility module in the form of a work surface **436** configured with a vice race **438**, so that a vice **440**, or other workshop tools can be used. The workpiece-piece supports **432** are configured with a male type coupling having projecting locking locations **444** for engaging with respective female couplers.

In Figs. 15A and 15B there is illustrated a back-rack **450** being a substantially rigid platform having a carrying handle **451** and configured at one side thereof with a pair of adjustable shoulder harnesses **452**, and an adjustable waist harness **454**. The other side of the back-rack is configured as a universal utility mounting platform **458**, configured

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with a plurality of attachment locations **460**. In the illustrated example all attachment locations **460** are so-called female attachments (as discussed hereinabove in detail), however it is appreciated that the attachment locations can just as well be male-type attachments, or a combination of male and female attachments. According to yet an example (not shown), one side of the carrying platform can be configured with male-type attachments, and an opposite side of the platform be configured with female-type attachments, wherein a used has the choice of attaching the platform to the harness system at an orientation of choice.

In Fig. 16A there is illustrated a utility module in the form of a wheeled carrying unit **464** (shown from a bottom side), similar to that disclosed in connection with Figs. 7A to 11B. The carrying unit **464** comprises a rigid platform **466** fitted at a top face thereof with a female/male attaching arrangement in accordance with the disclosure, such that any utility module according to the disclosure can be detachably attached thereto. Also provided is a telescopic manipulating handle **468** and a pair of wheels **466**. The carrying unit can be fitted with a collapsible support plate configuring it into a pushcart (not shown).

Fig. 16B shows a utility assembly **276** comprising a wheeled base container **278** interlocked with a first intermediate container **280** mounted thereover (constituting a second stage of the assembly), and a second intermediate container **282** mounted thereover (constituting a third stage of the assembly **276**), there being yet a fourth stage utility module container **284** mounted over the second intermediate container **282**. Whilst the second intermediate container **282** has a wider footprint than the first intermediate container **280**, this does not constitute any difficulty as far as attaching it over the second intermediate container **282**, and further, the top face of the second

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intermediate container **282** has a great surface suited for articulation thereof of several fourth stage utility modules (only one shown).

Fig. 17 shows a carrying bag **280** having soft side walls **282** (in the example illustrated made of fabric), however fitted with (integrally or detachable) an articulation platform base **284,** said articulation platform made of a firm rigid material and is configured with four male-type coupling locations **288** of the type disclosed hereinabove. The carrying bag **280** has a carrying strap **290** useful for hand held or shoulder carrying of the bag.

Figure 18A shows a rigid coupling platform **300**, configured with a plurality of female coupling locations (of the type disclosed herein) and further configured with bolt eyes **298** for securing to any desired surface, and carrying bars **313**.

The coupling platform **300** can be attached for example to a truck bed **306** (Fig. 20), directly over the truck bed or over a cargo container attached to the truck. The coupling platform **300** can be attached to a wall, as in Fig. 18B, wherein a plurality of various utility modules can be articulated thereto. For example, utility modules can be an electric charger **315** of a power tool, a wall mounted sorting container **314**, a hand tool rack **318** (Fig. 18C), a tool coupling adaptor **320** (Fig. 18C), etc.

In Fig. 19 there is illustrated a belt-mount **319** configured as a female coupler according to the disclosure, wherein a tool **321** or a bag/pouch configured with a male coupler can be detachably attached thereto.

In Fig. 21 there is illustrated a wall rack **326** comprising four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **328** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module in accordance with the disclosure.

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In Fig. 22 there is illustrated a mobile work stand **340** comprising a wheeled base **342** supporting two racks **344** with four utility modules in the form of articulation platforms **346** (mountable at different elevations about the wall supports **327**) each configured for bearing and attaching thereto any utility module (e.g. containers **348**) in accordance with the disclosure.

In Fig. 23 the utility module is in the form of a dolly **352** configured with wheels **354** and having a top surface configured with an array of female type couplings, as discussed.

In Fig. 24 there is illustrated a utility coupling platform **358** suited for articulation to any desired article (e.g. a bag, a tool, etc.). the utility coupling platform is configured at least at one face thereof with a male coupling locations **360** mimicking the coupling arrangement of the disclosure, rendering it suitable for articulation with a coupling system according to the disclosure.

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ABSTRACT

The present disclosure concerns a coupling mechanism for detachably attaching two or more utility modules to one another, utility assembles, mobile carriers and other attachable modules and articles.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

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Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC000000097893081

Date Mailed: 03/09/2018

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(f) must be submitted.
  The surcharge is due for any one of:
  - late submission of the basic filing fee, search fee, or examination fee,
  - late submission of inventor's oath or declaration,
  - filing an application that does not contain at least one claim on filing, or
  - submission of an application filed by reference to a previously filed application.
- Replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required. The drawings submitted are not acceptable because:
  - More than one figure is present and each figure is not labeled "Fig." with a consecutive Arabic numeral (1, 2, etc.) or an Arabic numeral and capital letter in the English alphabet (A, B, etc.)(see 37 CFR 1.84(u)(1)). See Figure(s) 6A. A brief description of the several views of the drawings (see 37 CFR 1.74) should be added or amended to correspond to the corrected numbering of the figures. See also 37 CFR 1.77(b)(9).

Applicant is cautioned that correction of the above items may cause the specification and drawings page count to exceed 100 pages. If the specification and drawings exceed 100 pages, applicant will need to submit the required application size fee.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

The fee(s) required within **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice to avoid abandonment is/are itemized below. No entity status discount is in effect. If applicant is qualified for small entity status, a written assertion of small entity status must be submitted to establish small entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.27). If applicant is qualified for micro entity status, an acceptable Certification of Micro Entity Status must be submitted to establish micro entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.29 and forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B.)

- $ **160** surcharge.
- $(**0**) previous unapplied payment amount.
- $ **160** TOTAL FEE BALANCE DUE.

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IPR2024-01401

PTO/SB/08a (01-10)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number[3]	Country Code[2]	Kind Code[4]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[5]
		202015105053	DE	U1	2016-10-31	AUER PACKAGING GMBH		

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.
[4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Doc code: IDS
Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Field

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CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Marcus S. Simon,Reg. #50258/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-03-23
Name/Print	Marcus S Simon	Registration Number	50258

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English Absract of **DE102015112204A1**

STACKABLE CONTAINER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONTAINER STACK OF STACKED AND, IN PARTICULAR, COUPLED PACKAGES AND ACCESSORIES FOR MAKING UPPER CLOSURE OF THE PACKAGING STACK STACKABLE CONTAINER FOR THE TRAINING OF A STACK OF CONTAINERS FROM STACKED AND PARTICULAR COUPLED CONTAINERS AND ACCESSORIES TO FORM A TOP END CAPITAL OF THE CONTAINER STACK

The invention concerns a stackable container for the training of a stack of containers (1) along a vertical stack (S) from several stackable containers (1) with a at least a tank bottom (3) and a tank cover (4) pointing to body (2), the body (2) to the training of a coupling device (18) has ground-side connectors (11), to work together with other connection elements (19) in the area of the tank cover (4) a second stackable container (1) are trained and the tank (1) is a locking device (30) with one on the body (2) mobile feeder Lock element (33) to work together with a counter locking element (35) the second stackable container (1) has, with both the fastening elements (11) and the counter connecting elements (19) immobile on the body (2) and the coupling (18) alone at least for establishing positive vertical tension (F) is trained

(19) Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt

(10) **DE 20 2015 105 053 U1** 2016.12.08

(12) # Gebrauchsmusterschrift

(21) Aktenzeichen: **20 2015 105 053.4**
(22) Anmeldetag: **27.07.2015**
(47) Eintragungstag: **31.10.2016**
(45) Bekanntmachungstag im Patentblatt: **08.12.2016**

(51) Int Cl.: ***B65D 21/032*** (2006.01)
B65D 21/028 (2006.01)
B65D 21/02 (2006.01)

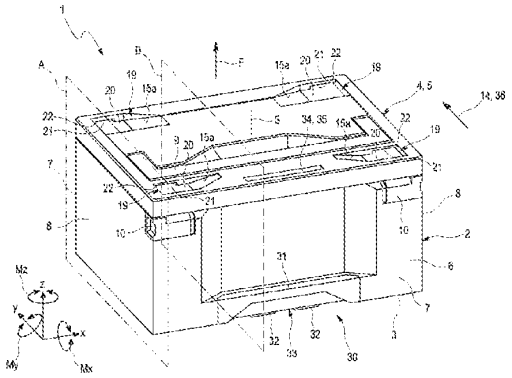
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(74) Name und Wohnsitz des Vertreters:
nospat Patent- und Rechtsanwälte, 80331 München, DE

Die folgenden Angaben sind den vom Anmelder eingereichten Unterlagen entnommen

(54) Bezeichnung: **Stapelbarer Behälter zur Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels aus gestapelten und insbesondere gekoppelten Behältern sowie Zubehör zum Bilden eines oberen Abschlusses des Behälterstapels**

(57) Hauptanspruch: Stapelbarer Behälter zur Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels (1) entlang einer vertikalen Stapelachse (S) aus mehreren stapelbaren Behältern (1) mit einem zumindest einen Behälterboden (3) und eine Behälterdecke (4) aufweisenden Korpus (2), wobei der Korpus (2) zur Ausbildung einer Verbindungseinrichtung (18) bodenseitig Verbindungselemente (11) besitzt, die zum Zusammenwirken mit Gegenverbindungselementen (19) im Bereich der Behälterdecke (4) eines zweiten stapelbaren Behälters (1) ausgebildet sind und der Behälter (1) eine Verriegelungseinrichtung (30) mit einem bezüglich des Korpus (2) beweglich gelagerten Verriegelungselement (33) zum Zusammenwirken mit einem Gegenverriegelungselement (35) des zweiten stapelbaren Behälters (1) aufweist, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass jeweils die Verbindungselemente (11) und die Gegenverbindungselemente (19) unbeweglich bzgl. des Korpus (2) ausgebildet sind und die Verbindungseinrichtung (18) alleine zumindest zur formschlüssigen Aufnahme von vertikalen Zugkräften (F) ausgebildet ist.



Beschreibung

[0001] Die Erfindung betrifft einen stapelbaren Behälter zur Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels aus gestapelten und insbesondere gekoppelten Behältern entlang einer vertikalen Stapelachse nach dem Oberbegriff des Anspruchs 1 sowie eine Grundplatte zum Bilden des Behälterstapels nach dem Oberbegriff des Anspruchs 21 sowie Zubehör zum Bilden eines oberen Abschlusses des Behälterstapels.

[0002] Aus der EP 2013099 B1 ist ein stapelbarer Behälter bekannt, mit dem es möglich ist, einen Behälterstapel zu bilden, wobei die gestapelten Behälter miteinander gekoppelt werden können. Als Verbindungselemente im Bodenbereich weist ein solcher Behälter einen umlaufenden Kragen mit zumindest einer Verriegelungseinrichtung auf. Als Verriegelungseinrichtung weist ein solcher Behälter einen klappbaren Schnapphaken auf, welcher zum Verriegeln hinter eine entsprechende Gegenverriegelungskante im Deckenbereich eines zweiten Behälters greift. Ein tragender Transport zweier solcher Behälter ist erst möglich, wenn die Verriegelungseinrichtung, das heißt der Schnapphaken (in der EP 2013099 B1 mit dem Bezugszeichen **11** bezeichnet) zuverlässig verriegelt ist. Bei dem Schnapphaken handelt es sich um ein beweglich bezüglich des Behälters gelagertes Bauteil welches im Alltagsbetrieb derart stapelbarer Kisten hohen Belastungen ausgesetzt ist und somit hohem Verschleiß unterliegt. Es ist beobachtet worden, dass derartig bewegliche Verriegelungselemente eine erhöhte Ausfallwahrscheinlichkeit haben.

[0003] Bei einem Ausfall des Verriegelungselementes ist eine stapelnde Verbindung zweier Behälter gemäß der EP 2013099 B1 nicht-mehr derart möglich, dass eine vertikal nach oben gerichtete Tragkraft oder Hebekraft von einem Behälter auf einen darunterliegenden Behälter übertragen werden kann. Ein gemeinsamer Transport mehrerer gestapelter Behälter ist somit nicht mehr gewährleistet.

[0004] Außerdem muss bei einem Behälter gemäß der oben genannten Druckschrift die Verriegelungseinrichtung derart stabil und massiv ausgelegt werden, dass sie in der Lage ist, auch hohe Gewichtskräfte mehrerer übereinander gestapelter Behälter aufnehmen zu können.

[0005] Des Weiteren ist bei einem derartigen Behälter von Nachteil, dass zum Lösen der Verbindung zweier Behälter diese zueinander gekippt werden müssen. Hierfür ist, insbesondere wenn die Behälter als stapelbarer Werkbehälterturm in einem Kraftfahrzeug z. B. einem Servicefahrzeug installiert sind, nicht immer der notwendige Platz vorhanden. Üblicherweise sind derartige Behältertürme in solchen Servicefahrzeugen nahe der Fahrzeugwandung eines Kastenaufbaus angeordnet. Somit müsste ein Teilbehälterstapel gemäß der EP 2013099 B1 einen gewissen Freigang in einer Kipprichtung besitzen um überhaupt zuverlässig gestapelt und voneinander getrennt werden zu können. Dies macht einen erhöhten Bauraumbedarf im Fahrzeug notwendig.

[0006] Aufgabe der Erfindung ist es daher, einen stapelbaren Transportbehälter anzugeben, mit dem die Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels ermöglicht ist und besonders robust und widerstandsfähig im Betriebsalltag ausgebildet ist. Eine weitere Aufgabe der Erfindung ist es, eine bezüglich eines Behälters bewegliche Verriegelungseinrichtung im gestapelten Zustand von Gewichtskräften in vertikaler Richtung freizuhalten.

[0007] Des Weiteren soll gewährleistet sein, dass selbst bei einem Versagen einer Verriegelungseinrichtung immer noch ein tragender Transport eines aus mehreren Behältern gebildeten Behälterstapels möglich ist.

[0008] Diese Aufgaben werden mit einem stapelbaren Behälter mit den Merkmalen des Anspruchs 1 gelöst. Vorteilhafte Ausführungsformen sind in den Unteransprüchen angegeben.

[0009] Erfindungsgemäß wurde erkannt, einen stapelbaren Behälter zur Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels entlang einer vertikalen Stapelachse aus mehreren stapelbaren Behältern mit einem zumindest einen Behälterboden und einer Behälterdecke aufweisenden Korpus, wobei der Korpus zur Ausbildung einer Verbindungseinrichtung bodenseitig Verbindungselemente besitzt, die zum Zusammenwirken mit Gegenverbindungselementen im Bereich der Behälterdecke eines zweiten stapelbaren Behälters ausgebildet sind und der Behälter eine bezüglich des Korpus beweglich gelagerte Verriegelungseinrichtung zum Zusammenwirken mit einer Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung des zweiten stapelbaren Behälters aufweist, derart weiterzubilden, dass jeweils die Verbindungselemente und die Gegenverbindungselemente unbeweglich bezüglich des Korpus ausgebildet sind und die Verbindungseinrichtung alleine zumindest zur formschlüssigen Aufnahme von vertikalen Zugkräften ausgebildet ist. Erfindungsgemäß wird also insbesondere die Aufnahme von vertikalen Zugkräften, die zwangsweise auftreten wenn ein Behälterstapel an seinem obersten Behälter angehoben wird, alleine durch die Verbindungseinrichtung von einen Behälter auf den anderen übertragbar sind. Erfindungsgemäß ist die Verriegelungseinrichtung an einer solchen Kraftübertragung, die bevorzugt auch zumindest Kippmomente um Raumachsen senkrecht zur Stapelachse betrifft, nicht beteiligt. Die Verbindungseinrichtung ist dabei starr bezüglich des Korpus ausgebildet, sodass die Verbindungseinrichtung keine bezüglich des Korpus beweglichen Bauteile,

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die im Alltag einem erhöhten Verschleiß unterworfen sind, besitzt.

[0010] Gemäß einer zweckmäßigen Ausführungsform der Erfindung ist die Verbindungseinrichtung durch eine ausschließlich translatorische Eingreifbewegung entlang einer Eingreifbewegungsrichtung senkrecht zur Stapelachse eines ersten Behälters relativ zum zweiten Behälter in Eingriff bringbar. Dies bedeutet, dass zunächst ein Behälter mit seinem Boden auf die Decke eines zweiten Behälters gesetzt wird und lediglich durch translatorische Verschiebungsbewegung des einen Behälters relativ zum anderen Behälter die Verbindungseinrichtungen in Eingriff gelangen und somit eine Verbindung schaffen, die vertikale Zugkräfte entlang der Stapelachse übertragen kann.

[0011] Bevorzugt sind hierfür die Verbindungselemente hakenartige Vorsprünge und die Gegenverbindungselemente taschenartige Ausnehmungen. Gleichwohl ist es alternativ auch möglich die Verbindungselemente als taschenartige Ausnehmungen und die Gegenverbindungselemente als hakenartige Vorsprünge auszubilden. Somit kann die Verbindungseinrichtung nach Art eines Linear-Bajonettverschlusses ausgebildet sein und/oder zumindest zur Aufnahme von Kippmomenten um Raumachsen senkrecht zur Stapelachse ausgebildet sein.

[0012] Zur Kraftübertragung in vertikaler Richtung, das heißt in Richtung parallel zur Stapelachse, weisen die Verbindungselemente und die Gegenverbindungselemente zweckmäßigerweise Wirkflächen und Gegenwirkflächen auf, die im Eingriff befindliche Kräfte parallel zur Stapelachse formschlüssig übertragen können. Hierbei ist unter den Begriffen "Wirkflächen" und "Gegenwirkflächen" auch eine stegartige Ausbildung zu verstehen, bei der exakt geometrisch gesehen keine flächigen Elemente miteinander wechselwirken sondern beispielsweise die Verbindungselemente und die Gegenverbindungselemente in Form einer Linienberührung oder einer Punktberührung miteinander wechselwirken.

[0013] In einer weiteren vorteilhaften Ausführungsform ist die Verriegelungseinrichtung als lösbare Rastverbindung mit zumindest einem Verriegelungselement und zumindest einem Gegenverriegelungselement ausgebildet und derart eingerichtet, dass mittels der Verriegelungseinrichtung eine Relativbewegung zweier Behälter zueinander zumindest entgegen der translatorischen Eingreifbewegung blockierbar ist. Mit einer derartigen Ausgestaltung der Verriegelungseinrichtung ist es somit möglich, lediglich die Eingreifbewegung, die zum Zusammenwirken der Verbindungseinrichtung notwendig ist, in ihrer Gegenrichtung zu blockieren. Die Verriegelungseinrichtung selbst ist aber an der Lastübertragung in Vertikalrichtung oder an einer Lastaufnahme aufgrund von Kippmomenten zweier Behälter zueinander, die zumindest um eine Raumachse senkrecht zur Stapelachse ausgerichtet sind, nicht beteiligt. Die Verriegelungseinrichtung stellt somit bevorzugt lediglich eine Sperre für eine translatorische Bewegung entgegen der Eingreifbewegung dar.

[0014] Beispielsweise ist das Verriegelungselement ein Verriegelungsschieber mit Verriegelungsvorsprüngen, welcher zur Ver- und zur Entriegelung parallel zur Stapelachse verlagerbar ist.

[0015] Dabei können Verriegelungsvorsprünge bodenseitig bezüglich des Korpus angeordnet sein und Gegenverriegelungselemente im Bereich der Behälterdecke angeordnet sein.

[0016] Zum erleichterten Herstellen der Verbindung zwischen zwei stapelbaren Behältern können die Verbindungselemente des einen Behälters und die Gegenverbindungselemente des anderen Behälters als Findungsflächen jeweils korrespondierende, zur Stapelachse schräggestellte Schrägflächen besitzen, sodass die Behälter beim Stapelvorgang entlang der Schrägflächen positioniert und zentriert werden können. Gegebenenfalls sind die Schrägflächen hinsichtlich ihrer geometrischen Anordnung und Zuordnung zueinander derart gewählt, dass durch das Aufsetzen eines Behälters auf einen zweiten erfindungsgemäßen Behälter bereits ein Eingriff der Verbindungselemente und der Gegenverbindungselemente durch das Entlanggleiten entlang der Findungsflächen erzeugt wird.

[0017] Zweckmäßigerweise besitzt ein erfindungsgemäßer Behälter zumindest zwei Verbindungselemente und korrespondierend dazu zumindest zwei Gegenverbindungselemente, die über den Behälterboden und die Behälterdecke verteilt angeordnet sind und derart ausgebildet sind, dass sie in der Lage sind, zumindest eine Vertikalkraft entlang der Stapelachse und Momente um zur Stapelachse senkrechte Raumachsen aufzunehmen. Zweckmäßigerweise können die Verbindungselemente und korrespondierend hierzu die Gegenverbindungselemente auch so ausgelegt sein, dass sie alle Kräfte und Momente aufnehmen können mit Ausnahme einer der Eingriffsrichtung entgegengesetzten translatorischen Kraft. Zur Aufnahme dieser einen der Eingreifbewegung entgegengesetzten Kraftrichtung ist die Verriegelungseinrichtung vorgesehen.

[0018] Zur ergonomischen und bequemen Bedienbarkeit ist es zweckmäßig, den Verriegelungsschieber zur Betätigung an einer Behälterseitenwand zugänglich anzuordnen, wobei eine Außenseite dieser Behälterseitenwand in eine zur Eingreifbewegung entgegengesetzte Richtung weist.

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[0019] Der erfindungsgemäße Behälter eignet sich insbesondere als stapelbarer Kunststoffbehälter, insbesondere ein stapelbarer Kunststoffwerkzeugbehälter und ist bevorzugt zum Ausstatten von Werkstattfahrzeugen geeignet.

[0020] Der erfindungsgemäße Behälter kann dabei auch als Einschubrahmen zur Aufnahme von Schubladen ausgebildet sein.

[0021] Selbstverständlich ist es auch möglich, den erfindungsgemäßen Behälter als einen Behälter mit einem Grundkörper und einer als Deckel ausgebildeten Behälterdecke auszubilden, der zusammen mit einem Behältergrundkörper den Korpus bildet, wobei der Behälterdeckel mit dem Behälterkörper formschlüssig verbindbar ist.

[0022] Selbstverständlich ist im Falle eines Behälters, der einen Behälterkörper und einen Behälterdeckel aufweist, der Behälterdeckel mittels geeigneten Verschlussmechanismen bezüglich des Korpus verschließbar. Diese Verschlussmechanismen zum Verbinden des Deckels mit dem Behälterkörper werden erfindungsgemäß aber nicht zur Ausbildung einer Verbindung zweier stapelbarer Behälter im Stapelfall benutzt.

[0023] Die Verriegelungseinrichtung ist zweckmäßigerweise derart ausgebildet, dass zur Entriegelung eines bestimmten Behälters des Behälterstapels vom verbleibenden Behälterstapel das Verriegelungselement des bestimmten Behälters zu betätigen ist.

[0024] Dies bedeutet, dass derjenige Behälter oder der unterste Behälter eines abzunehmenden Teilstapels die Verriegelungsvorrichtung besitzt, die zum Lösen der Verbindung betätigt werden muss. Aus dem Stand der Technik sind auch Lösungen bekannt, bei denen eine Verriegelungseinrichtung eines unterhalb liegenden nächsten Behälters betätigt werden muss um den darüber liegenden Behälter lösen zu können. Dies wird als unpraktisch empfunden und ist mit oben genannter zweckmäßiger Ausgestaltung der Erfindung verbessert.

[0025] Weiterhin ist es zweckmäßig, die Verriegelungseinrichtung insbesondere ausschließlich zur Blockierung der Relativbewegung zweier Behälter zueinander entgegen der Eingriffsbewegung auszubilden. Diese Kräfte sind lediglich Schubkräfte die z. B. senkrecht zur Stapelachse ausgerichtet sind und betragsmäßig im Betriebsalltag eher gering sind, sodass die Verriegelungseinrichtung mit geringem Aufwand äußerst haltbar konstruiert werden kann. Da keine Gewichtskräfte auf die Verriegelungseinrichtung einwirken ist auch der Verschleiß begrenzt.

[0026] Der Verriegelungsschieber kann dabei zweckmäßig federnd vorgespannt bezüglich des Behälterkorpus gelagert sein und beim in Eingriff bringen zweier Behälter zueinander entlang der Eingriffsbewegung an einer vorbestimmten Stelle in die, z. B. als Falle ausgebildete Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung einschnappen. Somit ist eine automatische Verriegelung bei korrekter Positionierung gestapelter Behälter zueinander gewährleistet. Dies erleichtert insbesondere die Bedienungsfreundlichkeit beim Stapeln.

[0027] Weiterhin betrifft die Erfindung eine Grundplatte zum Bilden eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern, wobei die Grundplatte Gegenverbindungselemente und Gegenverriegelungselemente aufweist, die korrespondierend zu Verbindungselementen des Behälters und zu Verriegelungselementen des Behälters ausgebildet sind.

[0028] In bevorzugter Art und Weise weist die Grundplatte Befestigungseinrichtungen zum Verankern der Grundplatte auf einem Bodenuntergrund auf.

[0029] In besonders einfacher Art und Weise sind die Gegenverbindungselemente der Grundplatte und die Gegenverriegelungselemente der Grundplatte identisch zu den Gegenverbindungselementen des Behälters und zu Gegenverriegelungselementen des Behälters ausgebildet.

[0030] Besonders zweckmäßig ist es, dass die Grundplatte Gegenverbindungselemente und Gegenverriegelungselemente aufweist, die ein verriegeltes Aufsetzen eines Behälters in der Eingriffsrichtung um 180° um die Stapelachse S (z-Achse) gedreht entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung ermöglicht.

[0031] Des Weiteren betrifft die Erfindung Zubehör zum Bilden eines oberen Abschlusses eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern, wobei das Zubehör zur Ausbildung einer Verbindungseinrichtung mit Gegenverbindungselementen des Behälters korrespondierende Verbindungselemente besitzt und ein bezüglich des Zubehörs beweglich gelagertes Verriegelungselement zum Zusammenwirken mit dem Gegenverriegelungselement des Behälters aufweist. Derartiges Zubehör muss lediglich auf der Bodenseite des Zubehörs diejenigen Elemente aufweisen, die für eine Verriegelung und Kopplung des Zubehörs mit dem letzten oberen Behälter notwendig sind.

[0032] Als Zubehör kann zweckmäßiger Weise ein Arbeitsplattenaufsatz oder ein nach oben offener Schüttbehälter vorgesehen sein. Das Zubehör ist erfindungsgemäß oberseitig bevorzugt nicht mit Gegenverbindungselementen oder Gegenverriegelungselementen versehen.

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[0033] Im Folgenden wird die Erfindung anhand der Figuren beispielhaft näher erläutert. Es zeigen:

[0034] **Fig.** 1: einen erfindungsgemäßen stapelbaren Behälter aus Kunststoff in einer perspektivischen Ansicht unter anderem auf eine Behälterdecke;

[0035] **Fig.** 2: den Behälter gemäß **Fig.** 1 in einer perspektivischen Ansicht unter anderem auf einen Behälterboden;

[0036] **Fig.** 3: einen Schnitt durch einen Behälterstapel aus zwei erfindungsgemäßen Behältern in einer Schnittebene A parallel zu einer Stapelachse (Vertikalachse; z-Achse) enthaltend Verbindungselemente und Gegenverbindungselemente;

[0037] **Fig.** 4: einen Schnitt durch einen Behälterstapel aus zwei erfindungsgemäßen Behältern in einer Schnittebene B parallel zu einer Stapelachse S (= Vertikalachse; = z-Achse) enthaltend Verriegelungselemente und Gegenverriegelungselemente und

[0038] **Fig.** 5: einen Schnitt in der Ebene A gemäß **Fig.** 3 durch einen erfindungsgemäßen Behälter und eine Grundplatte, die als Aufstellelement für einen Behälterstapel dient.

[0039] Ein erfindungsgemäßer Behälter **1** (**Fig.** 1, **Fig.** 2) besitzt einen Behälterkorpus **2** mit einem Behälterboden **3** und einer Behälterdecke **4**. Im vorliegenden Ausführungsbeispiel ist die Behälterdecke **4** als Klappdeckel **5** ausgebildet, welcher einen nach oben offenen Behältergrundkörper **6** verschließbar macht. Der Behälter **1** weist zwei zueinander beabstandet parallel verlaufende Längsseitenwandungen **7** und zwei beabstandet parallel zueinander laufende Querseitenwandungen **8** auf. In der Behälterdecke **4** bzw. im Klappdeckel **5** ist ein Klappgriff **9** angeordnet, der aus der Behälterdecke **4** zum Zwecke des Tragens des Behälters **1** ausgeklappt werden kann.

[0040] Für die weitere Beschreibung sei folgendes Koordinatensystem definiert:
Eine x-Achse verläuft parallel zu den Längsseitenwandungen **7**. Eine y-Achse verläuft parallel zu den Schmalseitenwandungen **8** und eine z-Achse ist vertikal ausgerichtet und bildet eine Stapelachse S entlang der mehrere Behälter **1** aufeinander stapelbar sind. Die x-Achse und die y-Achse verlaufen jeweils horizontal, wenn der Behälter **1** auf einem waagerechten Untergrund steht.

[0041] Zum Zwecke der weiteren Beschreibung sei diejenige Längsseitenwandung **7**, die in **Fig.** 1 und **Fig.** 2 sichtbar ist, als vordere Längsbegrenzungswandung **7** definiert. Im Bereich der vorderen Begrenzungswandung **7** sitzen Verschlusseinrichtungen **10** mittels denen der Klappdeckel **5** relativ zum Grundkörper **6** festgelegt werden kann. Im Bereich einer der vorderen Längsseitenwandung **7** gegenüberliegenden Längsseitenwandung **7** ist der Klappdeckel **5** scharnierend angelenkt.

[0042] Bodenseitig stehen vom Behälterboden **3** hakenartige Verbindungselemente **11** nach unten vor. Die Verbindungselemente **11** besitzen hakenartige Stege **12**, die von Domen **13** der Verbindungselemente **11** aus von der vorderen Längsseitenwandung **7** weg weisen. Diese hakenartigen Stege **12** weisen somit in positive y-Richtung und damit in eine – wie weiter unten näher erläutert wird – Eingriffrichtung **14**, die parallel zur y-Richtung ausgerichtet ist. Die Dome **13** weisen zudem zum Behälterboden **3** hin laufende Schrägflächen **15** auf, die mit korrespondierenden Schrägflächen **15a** in der Behälterdecke **4** Findungsflächen zur Zentrierung und Positionierung eines ersten Behälters **1** auf einem zweiten Behälters **1** beitragen.

[0043] Die Verbindungselemente **11**, die mit den Stegen **12** und den Domen **13** als hakenartige Vorsprünge **16** ausgebildet sind, besitzen als Wirkflächen **17** horizontal, das heißt sich senkrecht zur Stapelachse S (z-Achse) erstreckende Flächen.

[0044] Die hakenartigen Vorsprünge **16** zusammen mit den Wirkflächen **17** bilden eine Verbindungseinrichtung **18** im Bereich des Behälterbodens **3**. Über die Fläche des Behälterbodens **3** verteilt sind im Ausführungsbeispiel gemäß den **Fig.** 1 und **Fig.** 2 jeweils **4** Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** angeordnet. Die vier Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** sind in Eckbereichen des Behälterbodens **3** angeordnet, wobei jeweils zwei Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** parallel zur y-Achse und parallel zur x-Achse zueinander fluchten.

[0045] Bei einer solchen Anordnung wirken die Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** auch als Stellfüße für den Behälter **1**.

[0046] Korrespondierend zu den Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** sind in der Behälterdecke **4** Gegenverbindungselemente **19** vorgesehen, in welche die hakenartigen Vorsprünge **16** eingreifen können. Zur Ausbildung der Gegenverbindungselemente **19** sind wannenartige Vertiefungen **20** vorgesehen, die hinsichtlich ihrer Verteilung über die Behälterdecke **4** korrespondierend zu den Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** am Behälterboden **3** angeordnet sind. Die Vertiefungen **20** besitzen in Eingriffsrichtung **14** gesehen an seitlichen Begrenzungswandungen taschenartige Ausnehmungen **21**, in die die Stege **12** einsteckbar sind. Die wannenartigen Vertiefungen **20** sind hinsichtlich ihrer flächigen Erstreckung in der Draufsicht derart dimensioniert, dass die Verbindungselemente **11** in die Vertiefungen **20** eintauchen können, sodass der Behälterboden **3** auf der Behälterdecke **4** aufsitzt. In dieser aufeinander gestapelten Stellung kön-

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nen die Stege **12** bei einer Verschiebung eines ersten Behälters **1**, der auf einem unteren zweiten Behälter **1** aufgesetzt ist, in Eingriff mit den taschenartigen Ausnehmungen **21** gebracht werden, wenn der obere Behälter relativ zum unteren Behälter in der Eingriffsrichtung **14** bewegt wird. Dabei bilden die Dome **13** der Verbindungselemente **11** Anschläge, die derart positioniert sind, dass in einer Stellung, in der die Stege **12** bis zum Anschlag in die taschenartigen Ausnehmungen **21** eingefahren sind, die Behälter **1** eines Behälterstapels bestehend aus mehreren Behältern **1** fluchtend übereinander angeordnet sind.

[0047] In dieser Fügestellung sind die Wirkflächen **17** mit korrespondierenden Gegenwirkflächen **22a** (**Fig.** 3, **Fig.** 5) der taschenartigen Ausnehmungen **21**, beispielsweise deren Deckenstege **22** im Eingriff, sodass bereits jetzt ein so gebildeter Behälterstapel am Tragegriff des oberen Behälters **1** vertikal, das heißt in z-Richtung, angehoben werden kann, ohne dass ein Lösen der formschlüssigen Verbindung in Vertikalrichtung erfolgt. Durch das Zusammenwirken der Verbindungselemente **11** und der Gegenverbindungselemente **19** sind somit vertikale Kräfte, die beim Anheben eines oberen Behälters **1** auf einen unteren Behälter **1** ausgeübt werden, alleine durch die Verbindungselemente **11** und die Gegenverbindungselemente **19** also die Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** aufgefangen.

[0048] Des Weiteren sind über die verteilte Anordnung der Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** über den Behälterboden **3** bzw. über die Behälterdecke **4** auch Kippmomente My um die y-Achse und Kippmomente Mx um die x-Achse abgestützt, sodass ein oberer Behälter **1**, der auf einem unteren Behälter **1** sitzt, nicht alleine relativ zum unteren Behälter **1** gekippt werden kann, ohne diesen mit zu kippen.

[0049] Um eine unbeabsichtigte Trennung des oberen Behälters **1** vom unteren Behälter **1** durch Tragen durch einen Träger zu verhindern, besitzt der erfindungsgemäße Behälter **1** an seiner vorderen Längsseitenwandung **7** als Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** einen Verriegelungsschieber **31**. Der Verriegelungsschieber **31** ist relativ zum Behälter **1** in vertikaler Richtung (z-Richtung) federnd vorgespannt gelagert und verlagerbar. An seiner Unterseite besitzt der Verriegelungsschieber **31** Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32**, die eine Bodenfläche des Behälterbodens **3** nach unten überragen. Der Verriegelungsschieber **31** und die Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** sind bevorzugt einstückig ausgebildet und bilden ein Verriegelungselement **33**. Das Verriegelungselement **33**, insbesondere dessen Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** wirken mit einer korrespondierenden Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung **34** an einer Oberseite der Behälterdecke **4** zusammen. Die Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung **34** besitzt als Gegenverriegelungselement **35** rillenartige Vertiefungen, in welche die Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** einschnappen können. Sind die Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** der Verriegelungselemente **33** in die Gegenverriegelungselemente **35** federnd eingeschnappt, so ist eine Relativbewegung zweier übereinander gestapelter Behälter **1** entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung **14** unterbunden. Somit ist der obere Behälter **1** eines Behälterstapels statisch bestimmt relativ zu einem unteren Behälter des Behälterstapels festgelegt.

[0050] Wird nun am oberen Behälter eines Behälterstapels eine vertikale Zugkraft F aufgebracht und ein Teilbehälterstapel bestehend aus zwei oder mehreren Behältern angehoben, so werden die vertikalen Zugkräfte F ausschließlich über die Verbindungseinrichtung **18**, das heißt über die Verbindungselemente **11** und die Gegenverbindungselemente **19** übertragen. Die Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** bleibt mechanisch unbelastet.

[0051] Die Verbindungseinrichtung **18**, das heißt die Verbindungselemente **11** und die Gegenverbindungselemente **19** funktionieren bauartbedingt als Haken und korrespondierende Taschenausnehmung nach Art eines linearen Bajonettverschlusses. Ein oberer Behälter **1** wird zunächst versetzt zum unteren Behälter **1** auf den unteren Behälter **1** aufgesetzt, wobei durch Verschieben des oberen Behälters **1** die Verbindungselemente **11** in die Vertiefungen **20** eintauchen.

[0052] Durch eine ausschließlich translatorische Eingriffsbewegung **36** entlang der Eingriffsrichtung **14** gelangen die Verbindungselemente **11** mit den Gegenverbindungselemente **19** in Wirkverbindung, sodass vertikale Zugkräfte F übertragbar sind. Ist auch die Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** in Wirkverbindung mit der Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung **34** gebracht worden, so ist ein unbeabsichtigtes Lösen der Verbindung zwischen einem unteren Behälter **1** und einem oberen Behälter **1** unterbunden. Die Behälter sind statisch bestimmt, das heißt auch hinsichtlich von Kippmomenten Mx, My um die x-Achse oder um die y-Achse oder hinsichtlich Verdrehmomenten Mz um die z-Achse statisch bestimmt aneinander angebunden. Auf diese Art und Weise können entlang einer Stapelachse S mehrere Behälter **1** gestapelt werden, sodass ein vertikaler Stapelturm entsteht.

[0053] Eine gestapelte Situation zweier Behälter **1** übereinander zeigt **Fig.** 3 in einer Schnittdarstellung durch eine Ebene A. Die Ebene A ist eine Ebene senkrecht zur x-Achse, welche die Verbindungseinrichtungen **11** und die Gegenverbindungseinrichtungen **20** schneidet.

[0054] Die Schnittebene B ist eine Schnittebene parallel zur Schnittebene A und führt durch die Verriegelungseinrichtung **30**.

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[0055] **Fig.** 4 zeigt einen Schnitt durch zwei übereinander gestapelte Behälter **1** gemäß der Erfindung in der Schnittebene B.

[0056] **Fig.** 3 zeigt zwei erfindungsgemäße Behälter **1** im Schnitt entlang der Ebene A im verbundenen Zustand, das heißt in einem Zustand, in dem die Verbindungseinrichtung **18** im Eingriff sind. In diesem Zustand untergreifen die Stege **12** die Deckenstege **22** und bilden somit in einer Vertikalrichtung (z-Richtung) einen Formschluss für vertikale Kräfte F.

[0057] Zum Lösen der Verbindungseinrichtung **18**, welches nach dem Entriegeln der Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** erfolgen kann, ist der obere Behälter **1** ein Stück entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung **14** gegenüber dem unteren Behälter **1** zu verschieben, bis die Stege **12** außer Eingriff mit den Deckenstegen **22** bzw. deren Gegenwirkflächen **22a** auf deren Unterseiten gelangen. In einer solchen Stellung ist der obere Behälter **1** innerhalb der wannenartigen Vertiefungen **20** in der Darstellung gemäß **Fig.** 3 ein Stück nach links verschoben. In dieser Stellung kann der obere Behälter **1** vertikal vom unteren Behälter **1** abgehoben werden.

[0058] Die Wirkungsweise der Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** im Zusammenspiel mit der Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung **34** ist anhand der Schnittdarstellung gemäß **Fig.** 4 entlang der Ebene B dargestellt. In einem verriegelten Zustand, in dem die Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** in Eingriff sind, sind Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** des Verriegelungselements **33** in das Gegenverriegelungselement **35** eingeschnappt. Das Gegenverriegelungselement **35** ist dabei eine Vertiefung zur Aufnahme der Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32**. Die Verriegelungsvorsprünge **32** und das Gegenverriegelungselement **35** sind dabei derart ausgebildet, dass sie entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung **14** eine Relativbewegung des oberen Behälters **1** relativ zum unteren Behälter **1** blockieren können. Ein Anheben des Verriegelungsschiebers **31** in vertikaler Richtung, das heißt in z-Richtung, durch einen Bediener gibt die Verriegelungseinrichtung **30** frei, sodass die oben im Zusammenhang mit **Fig.** 3 beschriebene Relativbewegung der gestapelten Behälter **1** zum Entkoppeln der Verbindungseinrichtung **18** freigegeben ist.

[0059] Bei der Erfindung ist von besonderem Vorteil, dass die Verriegelungseinrichtung **30**, insbesondere mittels des Verriegelungsschiebers **31** an demjenigen Behälter **1** bedienbar und entriegelbar ist, der als einziger oder unterster Behälter eines darüber angeordneten Behälterstapels von einem darunter liegenden Behälter entriegelt werden soll. Somit ist es für den Bediener besonders einfach durch vertikales Anheben des Verriegelungselements **33**, das heißt des Verriegelungsschiebers **31** die Entriegelung zu bewerkstelligen. Gleichzeitig kann am Betätigungsgriff des Verriegelungsschiebers **31** auch unmittelbar nach dem Entriegeln eine Kraft entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung auf den zu entriegelnden und zu lösenden Behälter **1** aufgebracht werden, sodass ein Versatz des oberen Behälters **1** relativ zum unteren Behälter **1** ohne ein anschließendes Lösen der Behälter ermöglicht ist. Eine derartige Anordnung erleichtert somit die Bedienbarkeit erheblich und ist eine ergonomisch vorteilhafte Maßnahme. Hierzu ist es besonders vorteilhaft, den Verriegelungsschieber oder allgemein gesagt das Verriegelungselement an derjenigen Längsseitenwand **7** oder Schmalseitenwand **8** des Behälters anzuordnen, die entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung **14** weist.

[0060] Unter Bezugnahme auf **Fig.** 5 wird nunmehr eine Verbindung zwischen einem Behälter **1** und einer Grundplatte **50** näher erläutert. Die Grundplatte **50** dient damit als Basisstruktur zum Aufbauen eines Behälterstapels aus mehreren Behältern **1**, wobei der unterste, direkt auf der Grundplatte **50** stehende Behälter **1** mit den vorbeschriebenen Verbindungseinrichtungen **18** und Verriegelungseinrichtungen **30** mit der Grundplatte **50** verbindbar und bezüglich dieser verriegelbar ausgestaltet ist. Die Grundplatte **50** weist somit ebenfalls analog zur Behälterdecke **4** Gegenverbindungselemente **19** auf, wobei in der wannenartigen Vertiefung **20** die taschenartigen Ausnehmungen **21** vorhanden sind. Gegenüber liegend zu den taschenartigen Ausnehmungen **21** wie sie in **Fig.** 5 dargestellt sind besitzt die Grundplatte **50** zusätzliche taschenartige Ausnehmungen **21a**, sodass ein Aufsetzen und Verbinden des Behälters **1** auf der Grundplatte **50** auch in einer um 180° gedrehten Position um die z-Achse also entgegen der in **Fig.** 5 gezeichneten Eingriffsrichtung möglich ist. Korrespondierend zu Gegenverriegelungselementen (nicht gezeigt in **Fig.** 5) besitzt die Grundplatte **50** zusätzliche Gegenverriegelungselemente, die eine Verriegelung in der verdreht aufgesetzten Position des Behälters **1** ermöglichen.

[0061] Bei dem erfindungsgemäßen Behälter ist von besonderem Vorteil, dass dieser leicht zu einem Stapel aus mehreren Behältern verbindbar und auch einzelne oder mehrere Behälter aus diesem Stapel ergonomisch leicht und einfach wieder lösbar sind. Als weiterer Vorteil ist anzuführen, dass die erfindungsgemäß gewählte Art zur Herstellung eines Formschlusses zumindest in z-Richtung über starre und unbeweglich an den Behälter **1** angeformte Verbindungselemente **11** und Gegenverbindungselemente **19** eine besonders robuste Ausgestaltung möglich ist. Die erfindungsgemäß verwendete Verriegelungseinrichtung ist derart angeordnet und ausgebildet, dass diese nicht mit vertikalen Zugkräften im Falle eines Tragens einer oder mehrerer zueinander verriegelter Behälter belastet ist. Selbst im Falle eines Kippmomentes My, Mx auf einen der Behälter um eine y-Achse oder um die x-Achse bleibt die Verriegelungseinrichtung lastfrei. Dies hat zur Folge, dass sie bei-

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spielsweise auch bei einem zur vertikalen schräg angeordneten Behälterstapel, beispielsweise bei einem schief stehenden Werkstattfahrzeug, in welchem ein solcher Behälterstapel angeordnet ist, zur Entriegelung frei von Reaktionskräften bedienbar ist, sodass die Bedienkräfte der Verriegelungseinrichtung, insbesondere des Verriegelungsschiebers **31** auch bei einer Schrägstellung des Turmes konstant niedrig bleiben, da durch die Schrägstellung des Turmes keine Kräfte auf die Verriegelungseinrichtung einwirken.

Bezugszeichenliste

1	Behälter
2	Korpus
3	Behälterboden
4	Behälterdecke
5	Klappdeckel
6	Grundkörper
7	Längsseitenwand
8	Schmalseitenwand
9	Handgriff
10	Verschlusseinrichtung
11	Verbindungselemente
12	Stege
13	Dom
14	Eingriffsrichtung
15	Schrägflächen
15a	Schrägflächen
16	hakenartige Vorsprünge
17	Wirkflächen
18	Verbindungseinrichtung
19	Gegenverbindungselemente
20	Vertiefung
21	taschenartige Ausnehmung
21a	zusätzliche taschenartige Ausnehmungen
22	Deckenstege
22a	Gegenwirkflächen
30	Verriegelungseinrichtung
31	Verriegelungsschieber
32	Verriegelungsvorsprünge
33	Verriegelungselement
34	Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung
35	Gegenverriegelungselement
36	Eingriffsbewegung
50	Grundplatte
A	Ebene
F	vertikale Zugkräfte
S	Stapelachse
Mx	Kippmoment
My	Kippmoment
Mz	Verdrehmoment

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ZITATE ENTHALTEN IN DER BESCHREIBUNG

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- EP 2013099 B1 [0002, 0002, 0003, 0005]

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Schutzansprüche

1. Stapelbarer Behälter zur Ausbildung eines Behälterstapels (**1**) entlang einer vertikalen Stapelachse (S) aus mehreren stapelbaren Behältern (**1**) mit einem zumindest einen Behälterboden (**3**) und eine Behälterdecke (**4**) aufweisenden Korpus (**2**), wobei der Korpus (**2**) zur Ausbildung einer Verbindungseinrichtung (**18**) bodenseitig Verbindungselemente (**11**) besitzt, die zum Zusammenwirken mit Gegenverbindungselementen (**19**) im Bereich der Behälterdecke (**4**) eines zweiten stapelbaren Behälters (**1**) ausgebildet sind und der Behälter (**1**) eine Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) mit einem bezüglich des Korpus (**2**) beweglich gelagerten Verriegelungselement (**33**) zum Zusammenwirken mit einem Gegenverriegelungselement (**35**) des zweiten stapelbaren Behälters (**1**) aufweist, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass jeweils die Verbindungselemente (**11**) und die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) unbeweglich bzgl. des Korpus (**2**) ausgebildet sind und die Verbindungseinrichtung (**18**) alleine zumindest zur formschlüssigen Aufnahme von vertikalen Zugkräften (F) ausgebildet ist.

2. Stapelbarer Behälter nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungseinrichtung (**18**) durch eine ausschließlich translatorische Eingreifbewegung entlang einer Eingreifrichtung (**14**) senkrecht zur Stapelachse (S) eines ersten Behälters (**1**) relativ zum zweiten Behälter (**1**) in Eingriff bringbar ist.

3. Stapelbarer Behälter nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungselemente (**11**) hakenartige Vorsprünge sind und die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) taschenartige Ausnehmungen (**21**) sind.

4. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungselemente (**11**) taschenartige Ausnehmungen (**21**) sind und die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) hakenartige Vorsprünge sind.

5. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungseinrichtung (**18**) nach Art eines Linear-Bajonettverschlusses ausgebildet ist und/oder zumindest zur Aufnahme von Kippmomenten (Mx; My) um Raumachsen (x-; y-Achse) senkrecht zur Stapelachse (S) ausgebildet ist.

6. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungselemente (**11**) und die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) zur Kraftübertragung in vertikaler Richtung Wirkflächen (**17**) und Gegenwirkflächen (**22a**) besitzen, welche im Eingriff befindlich Kräfte parallel zur Stapelachse (S) formschlüssig übertragen können.

7. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) als lösbare Rastverbindung mit zumindest einem Verriegelungselement (**33**) und zumindest einem Gegenverriegelungselement (**35**) ausgebildet ist und derart eingerichtet ist, dass mittels der Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) eine Relativbewegung zweier Behälter (**1**) zueinander zumindest entgegen der translatorischen Eingreifrichtung (**14**) blockierbar ist.

8. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass das Verriegelungselement (**33**) ein Verriegelungsschieber (**31**) mit Verriegelungsvorsprüngen (**32**) ist, welcher zur Ver- und Entriegelung parallel zur Stapelachse (S) bezüglich des Korpus (**2**) verlagerbar ist.

9. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verriegelungsvorsprünge (**32**) bodenseitig bezüglich des Korpus (**2**) angeordnet sind und die Gegenverriegelungselemente (**35**) im Bereich der Behälterdecke (**4**) angeordnet sind.

10. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) im Falle des Anhebens des Behälterstapels parallel zur Stapelachse (S) unbelastet ist.

11. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verbindungselemente (**11**) und die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) als Findungsflächen jeweils korrespondierende, zur Stapelachse (S) schräggestellte Schrägflächen (**15**; **15a**) besitzen.

12. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass der Behälter (**1**) zumindest zwei Verbindungselemente und korrespondierend hierzu zumindest zwei Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) aufweist, die über den Behälterboden (**3**) und die Behälterdecke (**4**) verteilt angeordnet sind und genau eine Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) besitzt.

13. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass der Verriegelungsschieber (**31**) zur Betätigung an einer Behälterseitenwand (**7**) zugänglich angeordnet ist, wobei eine Außenseite dieser Behälterseitenwand (**7**) in eine zur Eingreifrichtung (**14**) entgegengesetzten Richtung weist.

14. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass

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der Behälter (**1**) ein stapelbarer, insbesondere tragbarer Kunststoffbehälter, z. B. ein tragbarer, stapelbarer Kunststoffwerkzeugbehälter ist, der bevorzugt zum Ausstatten von Werkstattfahrzeugen vorgesehen ist.

15. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass der Behälter (**1**) ein Einschubrahmen zur Aufnahme von Schubladen ist.

16. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Behälterdecke (**4**) als Behälterdeckel (**5**) ausgebildet ist und zusammen mit einem Behältergrundkörper (**6**) den Korpus (**2**) bildet, wobei der Behälterdeckel (**5**) mit dem Behältergrundkörper (**6**) formschlüssig verbindbar ist.

17. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) derart ausgebildet und eingerichtet ist, dass zur Entriegelung eines bestimmten Behälters (**1**) des Behälterstapels vom verbleibenden Behälterstapel das Verriegelungselement (**33**) des bestimmten Behälters zu betätigen ist.

18. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass mittels der Verbindungseinrichtungen (**11**) alle Kräfte und Momente zwischen verbundenen Behältern (**1**) aufnehmbar sind mit Ausnahme von Kräften entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung (**14**).

19. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Verriegelungseinrichtung (**30**) insbesondere ausschließlich zur Blockierung einer Relativbewegung zweier Behälter zueinander entgegen der Eingriffsbewegung (**36**) ausgebildet ist.

20. Stapelbarer Behälter nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass der Verriegelungsschieber (**31**) federnd vorgespannt bezüglich des Korpus (**2**) gelagert ist und beim in Eingriff bringen zweier Behälter (**1**) zueinander entlang der Eingriffsbewegung (**36**) an einer vorbestimmten Stelle in die, z. B. als Falle ausgebildete Gegenverriegelungseinrichtung (**34**) einschnappt.

21. Grundplatte zum Bilden eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 20, wobei die Grundplatte (**50**) Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) und Gegenverriegelungselemente (**35**) aufweist, die korrespondierend zu Verbindungselementen (**11**) des Behälters (**1**) und zu Verriegelungselementen (**33**) des Behälters (**1**) ausgebildet sind.

22. Grundplatte zum Bilden eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern nach Anspruch 21, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Grundplatte (**50**) Befestigungseinrichtungen zum Verankern der Grundplatte (**50**) auf einem Bodenuntergrund besitzt.

23. Grundplatte zum Bilden eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern nach einem der Ansprüche 21 oder 22, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) der Grundplatte (**50**) und die Gegenverriegelungselemente (**35**) der Grundplatte (**50**) identisch zu Gegenverbindungselementen (**19**) des Behälters (**1**) und zu Gegenverriegelungselementen (**35**) des Behälters (**1**) ausgebildet sind.

24. Grundplatte nach einem der Ansprüche 21 bis 23, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass die Grundplatte (**50**) Gegenverbindungselemente (**19**) und Gegenverriegelungselemente (**35**) aufweist, die ein verriegeltes Aufsetzen eines Behälters (**1**) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 20 in der Eingriffsrichtung (**14**) und um 180° um die Stapelachse (z-Achse) gedreht entgegen der Eingriffsrichtung (**14**) ermöglicht.

25. Zubehör zum Bilden eines oberen Abschlusses eines Behälterstapels aus stapelbaren Behältern nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 20, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass das Zubehör zur Ausbildung einer Verbindungseinrichtung mit Gegenverbindungselementen (**19**) des Behälters (**1**) korrespondierende Verbindungselemente (**11**) besitzt und ein bezüglich des Zubehörs beweglich gelagertes Verriegelungselement (**33**) zum Zusammenwirken mit dem Gegenverriegelungselement (**35**) des Behälters (**1**) aufweist.

26. Zubehör nach Anspruch 25, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** dass das Zubehör ein Arbeitsplattenaufsatz oder ein nach oben offener Behälter (**1**) ist.

Es folgen 5 Seiten Zeichnungen

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 495
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

Anhängende Zeichnungen

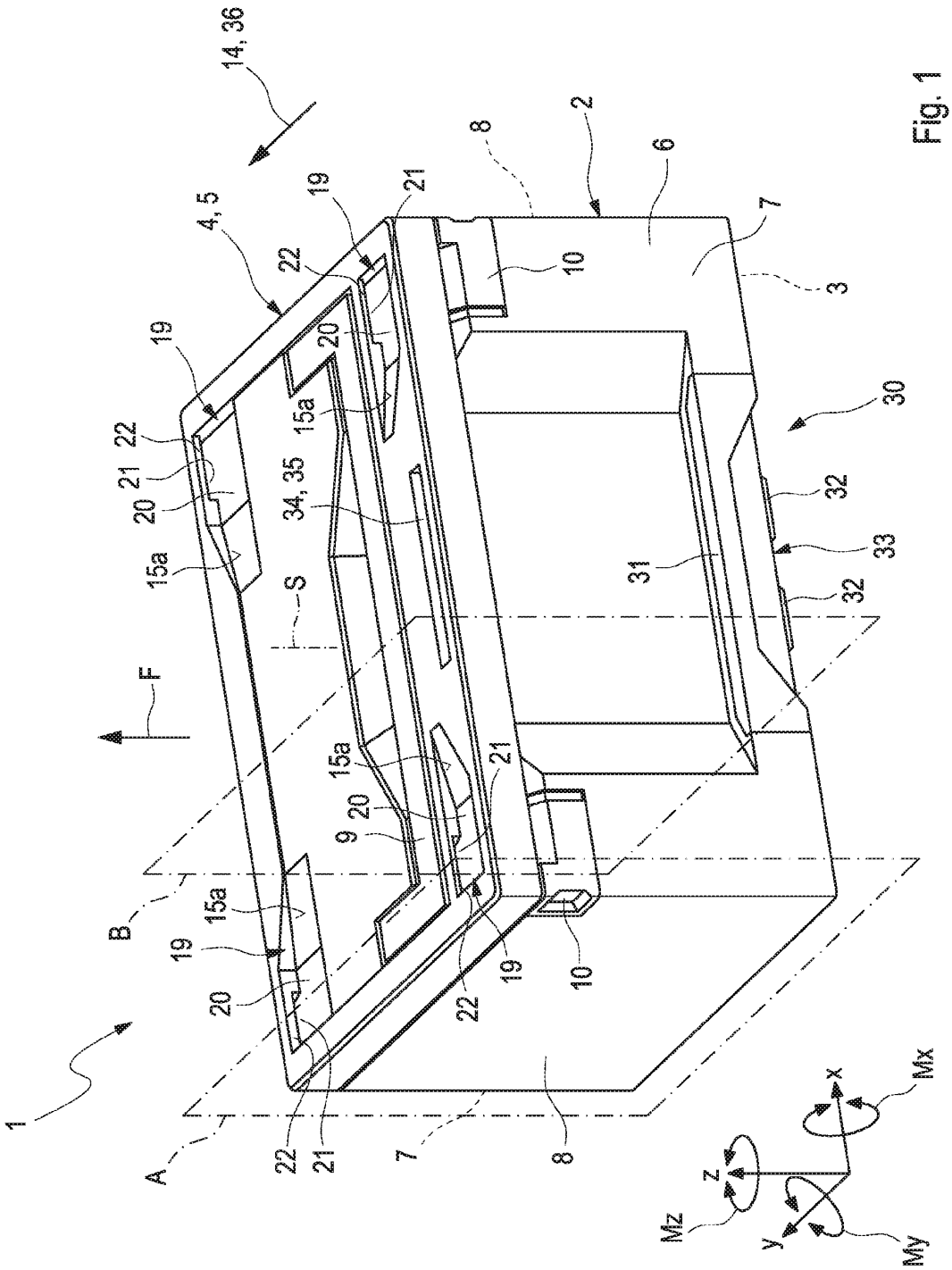


Fig. 1

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 496
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

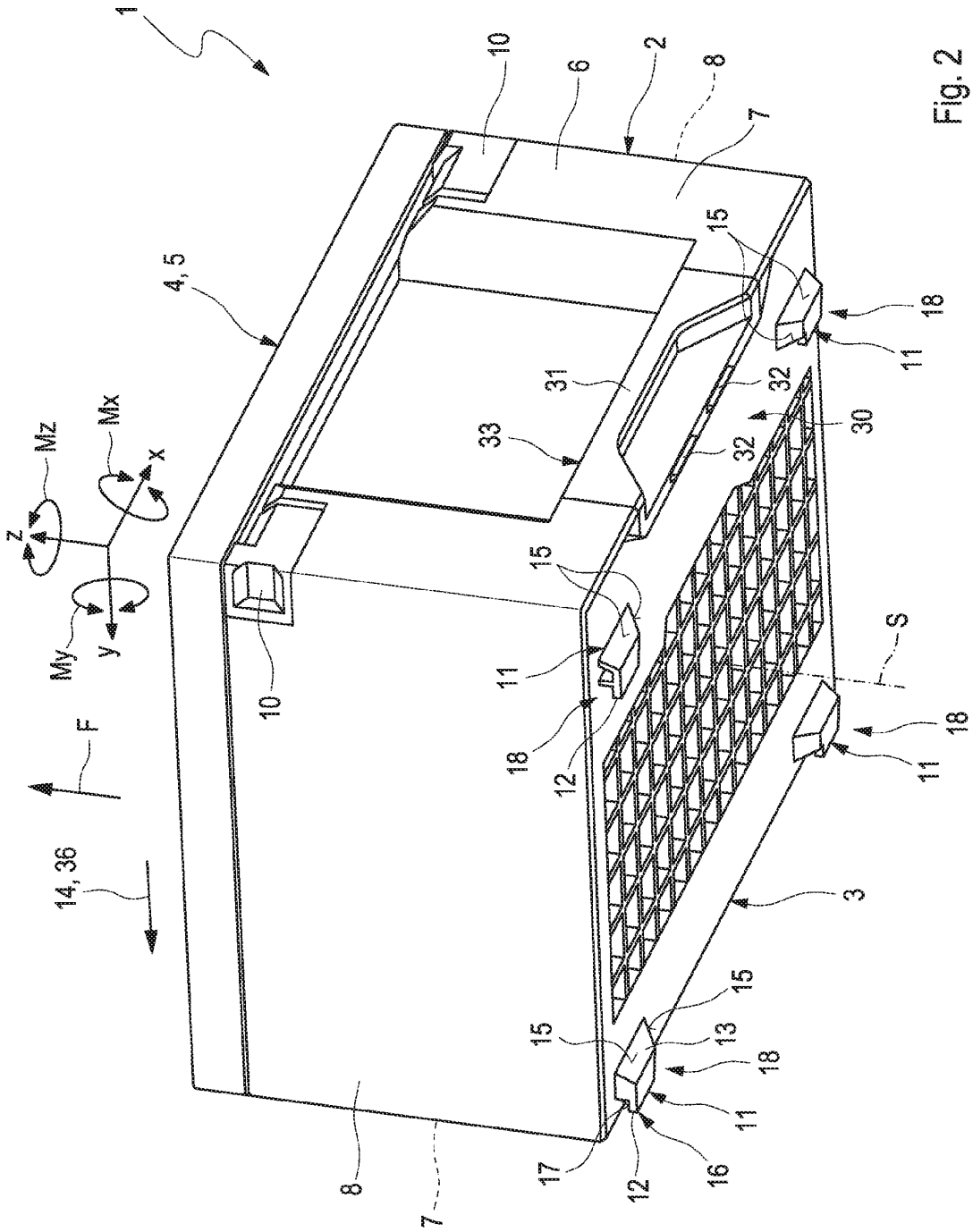


Fig. 2

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 497
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

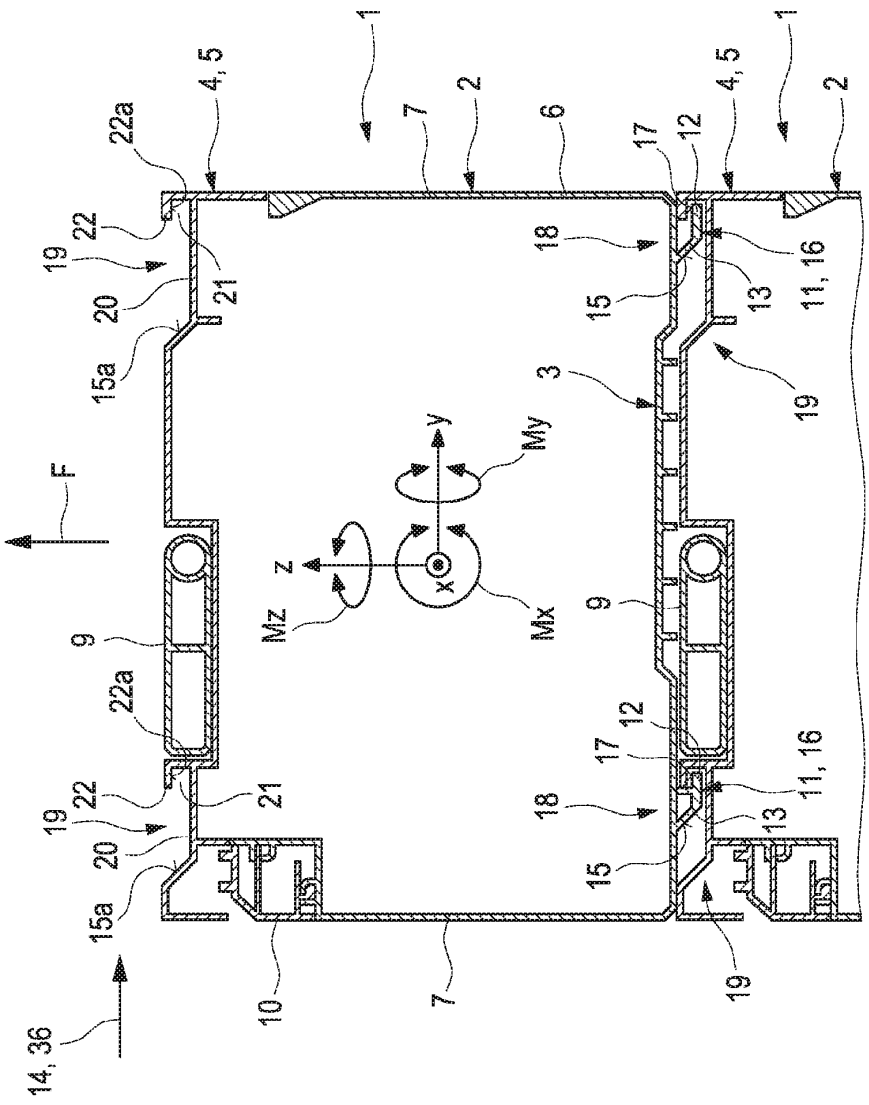


Fig. 3

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 498
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

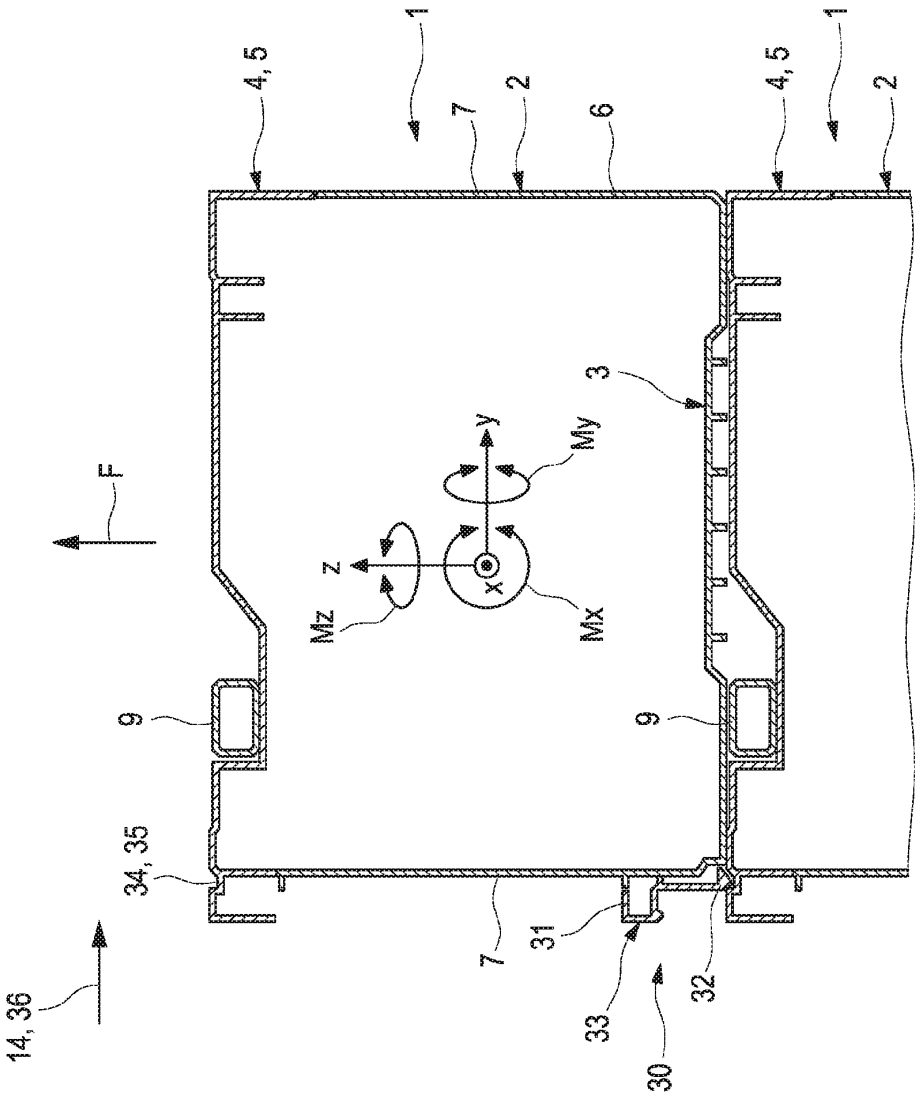


Fig. 4

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 499
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

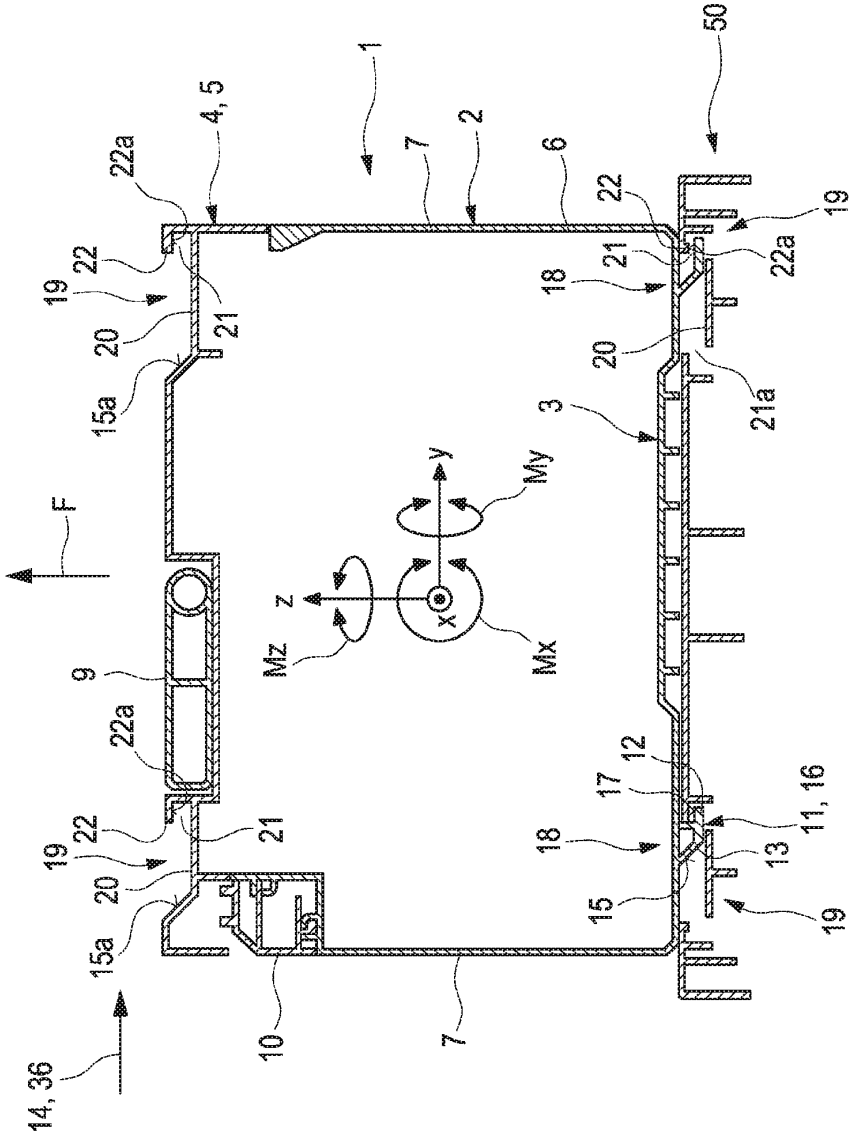


Fig. 5

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 500
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	15826232
Filing Date:	29-Nov-2017
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Filer:	Marcus S. Simon/Holly Morton
Attorney Docket Number:	269949US01_446373-417

Filed as Large Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
LATE FILING FEE FOR OATH OR DECLARATION	1051	1	160	160
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
			Total in USD ($)	**160**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	32139196
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	111739
Filer:	Marcus S. Simon/Holly Morton
Filer Authorized By:	Marcus S. Simon
Attorney Docket Number:	269949US01_446373-417
Receipt Date:	23-MAR-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	12:41:06
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$160
RAM confirmation Number	032318INTEFSW12414000
Deposit Account	506181
Authorized User	Holly Morton
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows: 37 CFR 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees) 37 CFR 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)	

37 CFR 1.19 (Document supply fees)

37 CFR 1.20 (Post Issuance fees)

37 CFR 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180323_269949US01_446373-417_Response-CorrectedAppPapers-PreliminaryAmendment.pdf	22645 0ab7d36b143bcb78c6985d2e72b5e326039c220a	no	3
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180323_269949US01_446373-417_SubstituteSpecification-MarkedUp.pdf	191751 7040f5536bf0ac23bc07ce7c8c494de79ae8e6a3	no	45
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180323_269949US01_446373-417_SubstituteSpecification-Clean.pdf	191699 7ef5e758f8bb61b71fb2d7d84ec6dc305a05bf08	no	45
Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam Formalities Notice	20180309_269949US01_446373-417_Notice-to-FileCorrectedApplicationPapers.pdf	210610 588f73fe3cdb00769e48ba37f34ae21bb3219ec7	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
5	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	20180323_269949US01_446373-417_S2-IDS.pdf	30755 408f7000328a33201555da8f12b309245ae4a990	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
This is not an USPTO supplied IDS fillable form					
6	Foreign Reference	DE202015105053U1.pdf	881923 d4928aed68e6548720b6660633a2f24ea8de80be	no	17
Warnings:					

Information:					
7	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30530 18d5243cac473e3fb67cd26cbae6dbbf1b4842c8	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
			Total Files Size (in bytes):	1559913	

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National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 15/826,232

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	300
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	660
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	760
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	20 minus 20 =	*			OR	x 100 =	0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3 minus 3 =	*				x 460 =	0.00
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).						0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))							0.00
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL			TOTAL	1720

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT A	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT B	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
15/826,232	11/29/2017	3633	1760	269949US01_446373-417	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

UPDATED FILING RECEIPT

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

Date Mailed: 03/28/2018

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections**

Inventor(s)

Yaron Brunner, Kibbutz Gvat, ISRAEL;

Applicant(s)

KETER PLASTIC LTD., Herzeliya, ISRAEL;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 111739

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of PCT/IL2017/050481 04/30/2017
which claims benefit of 62/459,076 02/15/2017
and claims benefit of 62/330,334 05/02/2016

Foreign Applications for which priority is claimed (You may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.) - None.
Foreign application information must be provided in an Application Data Sheet in order to constitute a claim to foreign priority. See 37 CFR 1.55 and 1.76.

Permission to Access Application via Priority Document Exchange: Yes

Permission to Access Search Results: Yes

Applicant may provide or rescind an authorization for access using Form PTO/SB/39 or Form PTO/SB/69 as appropriate.

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 12/18/2017

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Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 15/826,232**

Projected Publication Date: 07/05/2018

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No
Title

UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

Preliminary Class

052

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications: No

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417	1070

111739 7590 04/09/2018

Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3633	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
04/09/2018	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

simon.marcus@dorsey.com
ip.docket.slc@dorsey.com
ip.patent.sl@dorsey.com

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

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Doc Code:
TRACK1.GRANT

Decision Granting Request for Prioritized Examination (Track I or After RCE)	Application No.:15/826,232

1. THE REQUEST FILED November 29, 2017 IS **GRANTED.**

The above-identified application has met the requirements for prioritized examination
A. ☒ for an original nonprovisional application (Track I).
B. ☐ for an application undergoing continued examination (RCE).

2. **The above-identified application will undergo prioritized examination.** The application will be accorded special status throughout its entire course of prosecution until one of the following occurs:

A. filing a **petition for extension of time** to extend the time period for filing a reply;
B. filing an **amendment to amend the application to contain more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims**, or a multiple dependent claim;
C. filing a **request for continued examination**;
D. filing a notice of appeal;
E. filing a request for suspension of action;
F. mailing of a notice of allowance;
G. mailing of a final Office action;
H. completion of examination as defined in 37 CFR 41.102; or
I. abandonment of the application.

Telephone inquiries with regard to this decision should be directed to Kimberly Inabinet at 571-272-4618.

/Kimberly Inabinet/ Paralegal Specialist, Office of Petitions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTO-2298 (Rev. 02-2012)

Office of Petitions: Routing Sheet



Application No. 15826232

This application is being forwarded to your office for further processing. A decision has been rendered on a petition filed in this application, as indicated below. For details of this decision, please see the document PET.OP.DEC filed on the same date as this document.

- [X] **GRANTED**
- [ ] **DISMISSED**
- [ ] **DENIED**

Office of Petitions: Decision Count Sheet

Mailing Month: 4

Application No.: 15826232

15826232

For US serial numbers: enter number only, no slashes or commas. Ex: 10123456
For PCT: enter "51+single digit of year of filing+last 5 numbers", Ex. for PCT/US05/12345, enter 51512345

Deciding Official: Kimberly Inabinet

Count (1) - Palm Credit 15826232

Decision: GRANT

FINANCE WORK NEEDED
☐ Select Check Box for YES

GRANT

Decision Type: 643 - Track One request

643

Notes:

Count (2)

Decision: n/a

FINANCE WORK NEEDED
☐ Select Check Box for YES

Decision Type: NONE

Notes:

Count (3)

Decision: n/a

FINANCE WORK NEEDED
☐ Select Check Box for YES

Decision Type: NONE

Notes:

Initials of Approving Official (if required)

If more than 3 decisions, attach 2nd count sheet & mark this box ☐

Printed on: 4/5/2018

Office of Petitions Internal Document - Ver. 5.0

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

U.S.PATENTS

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		3117692	A	1964-01-14	Carpenter et al.	
		5595228	A	1997-01-21	Meisner et al.	
		5628443	A	1997- 05-13	Deutsch	
		5988473	A	1999-11-23	Hagan et al.	
		6085925	A	2000-07-11	Chung	
		6641013	B2	2003-11-04	Dise	

U.S.PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code[1]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		20060027475	A1	2006-02-09	Gleason et al.	
		20060254946	A1	2006-11-16	Becklin	
		20070068757	A1	2007-03-29	Tan	
		20070194543	A1	2007-08-23	Duvigneau	

4839-7333-1044\1

PTO/SB/08a (01-10)
Approved for use through 07/31/2012. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

		20090145866	A1	2009-06-11	Panosian et al.	
		20100219193	A1	2010-09-02	Becklin	
		20110139665	A1	2011-06-16	Madsen	
		20170217464	A1	2017-08-03	Bar-erez et al.	
		20170266804	A1	2017-09-21	Kinskey	

EXAMINER SIGNATURE			
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.
[4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

PTO/SB/08a (01-10)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Nathan Orme/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-05-03
Name/Print	Nathan Orme	Registration Number	68918

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	32517073
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	111739
Filer:	Nathan Michael Orme/Holly Morton
Filer Authorized By:	Nathan Michael Orme
Attorney Docket Number:	269949US01_446373-417
Receipt Date:	03-MAY-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	17:48:19
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	20180503_269949US01_446373-417_S3-IDS.pdf	36880 cbde658739af96c5b5d82ce1c406918e37f16e11	no	3
Warnings:					

Information:	
This is not an USPTO supplied IDS fillable form	
Total Files Size (in bytes):	36880

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/AIA/122 (08-12)
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CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
Application

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	15/826,232
Filing Date	November 29, 2017
First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
Art Unit	3633
Examiner Name	N/A
Attorney Docket Number	16318-5

Please change the Correspondence Address for the above-identified patent application to:

☒ The address associated with Customer Number: 00757

OR

☐ Firm or Individual Name

Address

City | State | Zip

Country

Telephone | Email

This form cannot be used to change the data associated with a Customer Number. To change the data associated with an existing Customer Number use "Request for Customer Number Data Change" (PTO/SB/124).

I am the:

☐ Applicant

☒ Attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 56,250.

☐ Registered practitioner named in the application transmittal papers who acts in a representative capacity under 37 CFR 1.34. See 37 CFR 1.33(a)(1). Registration Number _____.

Signature /Stephen C. Smith/

Typed or Printed Name Stephen C. Smith

Date June 13, 2018 | Telephone 312-321-4200

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☒ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

PTO/AIA/96 (08-12)
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(c)

Applicant/Patent Owner: Patent Owner Attorney Docket No. 16318-5

Application No./Patent No.: 15/826,232 Filed/Issue Date: November 29, 2017

Titled: UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

Keter Plastic Ltd., a corporation

(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that, for the patent application/patent identified above, it is (choose **one** of options 1, 2, 3 or 4 below):

1. ☑ The assignee of the entire right, title, and interest.

2. ☐ An assignee of less than the entire right, title, and interest (check applicable box):

   ☐ The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____%. Additional Statement(s) by the owners holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for 100% of the ownership interest.

   ☐ There are unspecified percentages of ownership. The other parties, including inventors, who together own the entire right, title and interest are:

   Additional Statement(s) by the owner(s) holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for the entire right, title, and interest.

3. ☐ The assignee of an undivided interest in the entirety (a complete assignment from one of the joint inventors was made). The other parties, including inventors, who together own the entire right, title, and interest are:

   Additional Statement(s) by the owner(s) holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for the entire right, title, and interest.

4. ☐ The recipient, via a court proceeding or the like (*e.g.*, bankruptcy, probate), of an undivided interest in the entirety (a complete transfer of ownership interest was made). The certified document(s) showing the transfer is attached.

The interest identified in option 1, 2 or 3 above (not option 4) is evidenced by either (choose **one** of options A or B below):

A. ☐ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

B. ☑ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

   1. From: Yaron Brunner To: Keter Plastic Ltd.

      The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

      Reel 044789, Frame 0735, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

   2. From: _____ To: _____

      The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

      Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(c)

3. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

4. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

5. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

6. From: _____ To: _____

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at

Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet(s).

☑ As required by 37 CFR 3.73(c)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

/Stephen C. Smith/	June 13, 2018
Signature	Date
Stephen C. Smith	56250
Printed or Typed Name	Title or Registration Number

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

PTO/AIA/82 (07-12)
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POWER OF ATTORNEY TO PROSECUTE APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE USPTO

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(c).

I hereby appoint:

[X] Practitioners associated with Customer Number: 00757

OR

[ ] Practitioner(s) named below (if more than ten patent practitioners are to be named, then a customer number must be used):

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number

As attorney(s) or agent(s) to represent the undersigned before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in connection with any and all patent applications assigned only to the undersigned according to the USPTO assignment records or assignment documents attached to this form in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(c).

Please change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(c) to:

[ ] The address associated with Customer Number:

OR

[ ] Firm or individual name

Address

City | State | Zip

Country

Telephone | Email

Assignee name and address: Keter Plastic Ltd., 2 Sapir St., Industrial Zone, 4685206 Herzeliya, ISRAEL

A copy of this form, together with a statement under 37 CFR 3.73(c) (Form PTO/AIA/96 or equivalent) is required to be filed in each application in which this form is used. The statement under 37 CFR 3.73(c) may be completed by one of the practitioners appointed in this form, and must identify the application in which this Power of Attorney is to be filed.

SIGNATURE of Assignee of Record

The individual whose signature and title is supplied below is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

Signature Keter Plastic Ltd	Date 01/07/18
Name Nir Bakstein, Avi Lasri	Telephone
Title General counsel, Group treasurer	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.31, 3.32, and 3.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to update (and by the USPTO to process) the file of a patent or reexamination proceeding. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 18 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	32885193
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	111739
Filer:	Stephen Conrad Smith/Michael Lopez
Filer Authorized By:	Stephen Conrad Smith
Attorney Docket Number:	269949US01_446373-417
Receipt Date:	13-JUN-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	14:50:36
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal Letter	2018-0612-Transmittal-15826232-FINAL.pdf	120292 ffba07a2b59514dfeff6b7bb2d718e62fd1fd0cc	no	1
Warnings:					

Information:					
2	Change of Address	2018-0612-ChangeCorrespondence-Application-15826232-FINAL.pdf	216381 116c22bb73cdf12da6168af34e1f40bdc81e677a	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Assignee showing of ownership per 37 CFR 3.73	2018-0613-Statement-15826232-FINAL.pdf	87841 8ebe686cb873cb3c994920d9114d549667cf856b	no	3
Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Power of Attorney	2018-0612-POAExecuted.pdf	1408509 d59ddb12d8cbf19e1bb45042f9b22ecd0cb397ea	no	2
Warnings:					
The page size in the PDF is too large. The pages should be 8.5 x 11 or A4. If this PDF is submitted, the pages will be resized upon entry into the Image File Wrapper and may affect subsequent processing					
Information:					
			Total Files Size (in bytes):	1833023	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

CERTIFICATE OF EFS FILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, via the EFS pursuant to 37 CFR §1.8 on the below date:

Date: June 13, 2018 Name: Stephen C. Smith (Reg. No. 56,250) Signature: /Stephen C. Smith/



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of:	Brunner, Yaron		
Appln. No.	15/826,232	Examiner:	N/A
Filed:	November 29, 2017	Art Unit:	3633
For:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM	Conf. No.:	1070
Attorney Docket No.:	16318-5		

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached is/are:

☒ Change of Correspondence Address, Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73c and Power of Attorney.

Fee calculation:

☒ No additional fee is required.

☐ Per 37 CFR §1.27, ☐ Applicant is small entity ☐ Applicant is micro entity.

☐ An extension fee in an amount of $_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of $_____ under 37 CFR § 1.1_____(_____).

☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Fee		Small Entity Fee		Micro Entity Fee	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x $100 =	$	x $ 50 =	$	x $25 =	$
Independent		Minus			x $460 =	$	x $230 =	$	x $115 =	$
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+ $820 =	$	+ $410 =	$	+ $205 =	$
					Total	$	Total	$	Total	$

Fee payment:

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of $_____ for _____.

☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of $_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. **Credit card information should not be included on this form.**

☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

June 13, 2018
Date

/Stephen C. Smith/
Stephen C. Smith (Reg. No. 56,250)

BRINKS GILSON & LIONE
NBC Tower – Suite 3600, 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL 60611-5599

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417	1070

111739 7590 06/14/2018

Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

EXAMINER	
WEINERTH, GIDEON R	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3728	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/14/2018	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

simon.marcus@dorsey.com
ip.docket.slc@dorsey.com
ip.patent.sl@dorsey.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 15/826,232	Applicant(s) BRUNNER, YARON	
	Examiner GIDEON WEINERTH	Art Unit 3728	AIA (First Inventor to File) Status Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

4)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims*

5)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

5a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

7)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

9)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

Application Papers

10)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

11)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *11/29/2017* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a)☐ All b)☐ Some** c)☐ None of the:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

** See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/3/18, 3/23/18, 1/17/28, 1/12/18*.

3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

4) ☐ Other: _____.

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 530
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

DETAILED ACTION

The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: Element 46 is recited on Page 25, four lines from the bottom of the page, but is not present in the drawings.

2. Element 321B is recited on Page 33, but is not present in the drawings. It is believed that this is a typographical error and Element 312B is intended.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character “282” has been used to designate both a second intermediate container and soft sided walls on Page 35 of the Specification.

4. Color photographs and color drawings are not accepted in utility applications unless a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.84(a)(2) is granted. Any such petition must be accompanied by the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h), one set of color drawings or color photographs, as appropriate, if submitted via EFS-Web or three sets of color drawings or color photographs, as appropriate, if not submitted via EFS-Web, and, unless already present, an amendment to include the following language as the first paragraph of the brief description of the drawings section of the specification:

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

Color photographs will be accepted if the conditions for accepting color drawings and black and white photographs have been satisfied. See 37 CFR 1.84(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):

> (b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-6 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor, or for pre-AIA the applicant regards as the invention.

7. Claim 1 recites that the female coupler has "…an open edge facing in a first sense…" and that the male coupler includes a locking tongue "…extending along the engaging sliding path at a second sense, opposite to the first sense…." It is not clear what is meant by this 'first sense' and 'second sense' as claimed.

8. Because it is not clear what is meant by the first and second 'sense' the claims are ambiguous. For the purposes of examination, it will be assumed that the claims refer to a first and second ***direction***.

9. Claims 2-6 are rejected as dependent on a rejected base claim.

10. Claim 12 recites the limitation "wherein locking latch is configured" in the first line of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Double Patenting

11. Claims 1-20 of this application are patentably indistinct from claims 1-20 of Application No. 15/826201. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.78(f), when two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain patentably indistinct claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application. Applicant is required to either cancel the patentably indistinct claims from all but one application or maintain a clear line of demarcation between the applications. See MPEP § 822.

12. Claim 15 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 14. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

13. Applicant is advised that should claim 14 be found allowable, claim 15 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

14. Claim 17 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 16. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

15. Applicant is advised that should claim 16 be found allowable, claim 17 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

16. Claim 19 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 18. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

17. Applicant is advised that should claim 18 be found allowable, claim 19 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

18. In the event the determination of the status of the application as subject to AIA 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 (or as subject to pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103) is incorrect, any correction of the statutory basis for

the rejection will not be considered a new ground of rejection if the prior art relied upon, and the rationale supporting the rejection, would be the same under either status.

19. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a)(1) the claimed invention was patented, described in a printed publication, or in public use, on sale or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed invention.
>
> (a)(2) the claimed invention was described in a patent issued under section 151, or in an application for patent published or deemed published under section 122(b), in which the patent or application, as the case may be, names another inventor and was effectively filed before the effective filing date of the claimed invention.

20. Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(1) as being anticipated by Hoppe (US 2017/0166352).

21. Please note that Hoppe has a publication date of 6/15/2017 with a filing date of 12/12/2016. The present application has a filing date of 11/29/2017. The Hoppe reference therefore is applied as a 102(a)(1) reference. If applicant perfects priority to the provisional application of 62/459076 with a filing date of 2/15/2017, the Hoppe reference may still be applied as a 102(a)(2) reference.

22. Regarding Claim 1, Hoppe discloses a coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching a first utility module (14) to a second utility module (18), the coupling mechanism comprising: a male coupler (46) at a face of one of the first utility module; a female coupler (54) at a face of the other one of the second utility module; wherein said female coupler has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib (142) extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge (150) facing in a first direction; wherein said male coupler includes a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue (defining the channel 58 with open end 62 and closed end 66) extending along said engaging sliding path at a second direction (152), opposite to said first direction, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface; and at least one

locking member (82) for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path (Paragraphs 0031-0035).

23. Regarding Claim 2, Hoppe discloses female coupler (54) is configured at the top face (118) of the first utility module, and wherein the male coupler (46) is configured at the bottom face (50) of the second utility module.

24. Regarding Claim 3, Hoppe discloses the locking ribs (142) extends substantially parallel to the sliding path (152).

25. Regarding Claim 5, Hoppe discloses the female coupler includes two locking ribs (142) that extend at side edges of a depressed locking location and disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

26. Regarding Claim 6, Hoppe discloses the female coupler includes two locking ribs each extend at a respective side edge of two neighboring depressed locking locations, said locking ribs disposed substantially parallel to the sliding path.

27. Regarding Claim 7, Hoppe discloses a coupling mechanism for a utility assembly that includes a first utility module (18) and a second utility module (14), said coupling mechanism is configured between the first utility module and the second utility module. Hoppe discloses that the top face of the first utility module includes at least one depressed locking location (54) configured with a locking rib (142), and at least one locking latch arresting location (158); and the bottom face of the second utility module (14) includes at least one projecting portion (46) with a locking tongue (defining the channel 58 with open end 62 and closed end 66) disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch (82) disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location (158); and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location, such that engaging the first and second utility modules into the locked position is provided by sliding the second utility module with respect

to the first utility module along a sliding path defined by at least one of said at least one locking rib or said at least on8e locking tongue (Paragraph 0037).

28. Regarding Claim 8, Hoppe discloses the at least one locking rib extends substantially parallel to the sliding path.

29. Regarding Claim 9, Hoppe discloses a release latch (90) for displacing the locking latch (82) into disengagement from the locking latch arresting location (158) can be disposed at a front face of the respective second utility module.

30. Regarding Claim 10, Hoppe discloses the at least one locking latch and the at least one locking latch arresting location are disposed at a front portion of the respective utility modules.

31. Regarding Claim 11, Hoppe discloses the locking latch is configured for displacement in a direction substantially normal to a respective face of a utility module.

32. Regarding Claim 12, Hoppe discloses the locking latch is spring biased (106) and configured for normally projecting from a face of the respective first or second utility module.

33. Regarding Claim 13, Hoppe discloses the locking latch is manipulated to be opened through an opening (latch passage 86) configured at a front wall of the respective utility module.

34. Regarding Claims 14 and 15, Hoppe discloses one or both of the locking tongue (142) and locking rib are configured with a slanting surface at corresponding orientation along the sliding path (as seen in cross section in Figure 7 and slanted profile of first and second portions 146 and 150 or the slanted front surface of the rib 142).

35. Regarding Claims 16 and 17, Hoppe discloses one or both of a front edge of the projecting portion (or the projecting locking location) and a corresponding front edge of the depressed locking location are slanted for gliding positioning of the second utility module into locking position over the first utility module.

36. Regarding Claims 18 and 19, Hoppe discloses the first utility module is configured for detachably attaching one or more second utility modules thereto.

37. Regarding Claim 20, Hoppe discloses a coupling mechanism for a utility assembly including at least a first utility module and at least a second utility module, said coupling mechanism is configured

between the first utility module and the second utility module and includes at one of a top face of the first utility module or a bottom face of the second utility module with at least one depressed locking location configured with a locking rib, and at least one locking latch arresting location; and the other one of said top face of the first utility module or a bottom face of the second utility module includes at least one projecting portion with a locking tongue disposed in register with said at least one depressed locking location, and at least one locking latch disposed in register with said at least one locking latch arresting location; and wherein at a locked position the bottom face at least partially rests over the top face, and the at least one projecting tongue is arrested by the corresponding at least one locking rib and the at least one locking latch is arrested by corresponding at least one locking latch arresting location, and further wherein disengaging the second utility module from the first utility module is facilitated by disengaging the at least one locking latch from the at least one locking latch arresting location.

38. Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(1) as being anticipated by Madsen (US 2011/0139665).

39. Regarding Claim 1, Madsen discloses a coupling mechanism configured for readily detachably attaching a first utility module to a second utility module, the coupling mechanism comprising a male coupler (2) at a face of one of the first utility module; and a female coupler (3) at a face of the other one of the first utility module or the second utility module; wherein said female coupler has a depressed locking location configured with at least one locking rib (15) extending above a depressed surface and along a sliding path, and having an open edge facing in a first direction; wherein said male coupler includes a projecting locking location disposed in register with said depressed locking location and configured with at least one locking tongue (38) extending along said engaging sliding path at a second direction, opposite to said first direction, and configured for arresting engagement at a space between said locking rib and depressed surface; and at least one locking member (9) for arresting the first utility module with respect to said second utility module and preventing sliding displacement along said sliding path (Figure 4).

40. Regarding Claim 2, Madsen discloses the female coupler is configured at the top face of the first utility module, and wherein the male coupler is configured at the bottom face of the second utility module.

41. Regarding Claim 4, Madsen discloses the female coupler includes a single locking rib that extends at rear end of a depressed locking location and substantially perpendicular to the sliding path.

Conclusion

42. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GIDEON WEINERTH whose telephone number is (571)270-5121. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Pickett can be reached on (571) 272-4560. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/GIDEON WEINERTH/
Examiner, Art Unit 3728

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 15/826,232	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination BRUNNER, YARON	
	Examiner GIDEON WEINERTH	Art Unit 3728	Page 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-2008/0308369 A1	12-2008	Louis; Robert D.	A45C5/14	190/108
*	B	US-8,132,819 B2	03-2012	Landau; Eitan	B25H3/028	280/47.131
*	C	US-2012/0326406 A1	12-2012	LIFSHITZ; Omri	B25H3/02	280/47.19
*	D	US-8,459,495 B2	06-2013	Koenig; Andreas	B65D25/2858	220/761
*	E	US-8,677,661 B2	03-2014	Michels; Markus	B65D25/205	40/312
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*	I	US-9,132,543 B2	09-2015	Bar-Erez; Sharon	B25H3/023	1/1
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*	K	US-2016/0144500 A1	05-2016	CHEN; KUN-CHEN	B25H3/02	206/349
*	L	US-2016/0168880 A1	06-2016	Phelan; Matthew	B65D55/14	206/1.5
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	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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	V	
	W	
	X	

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Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 539
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 15/826,232	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination BRUNNER, YARON	
	Examiner GIDEON WEINERTH	Art Unit 3728	Page 2 of 2

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*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-9,616,562 B2	04-2017	Hoppe; Christopher S.	B25H3/02	1/1
*	B	US-2017/0166352 A1	06-2017	Hoppe; Christopher S.	B25H3/022	1/1
	C	US-				
	D	US-				
	E	US-				
	F	US-				
	G	US-				
	H	US-				
	I	US-				
	J	US-				
	K	US-				
	L	US-				
	M	US-				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number[3]	Country Code[2]	Kind Code[4]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[5]
/G.R.W/		202015005752	DE	U1	2016-11-21	PLASTON AG		

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	/GIDEON R WEINERTH/	Date Considered	06/07/2018

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Signature	/Marcus S. Simon, Reg. #50258/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-01-17
Name/Print	Marcus S Simon	Registration Number	50258

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/G.R.W/		2017028845	WO	A1	2017-02-23			

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[5]
/G.R.W/		International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/IL2017/050481 mailed August 20, 2017	

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	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

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/G.R.W/		20170266804	A1	2017-09-21	Kinskey	

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Signature	/Nathan Orme/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-05-03
Name/Print	Nathan Orme	Registration Number	68918

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/G.R.W/		20060254946	A1	2006-11-16	Becklin	
/G.R.W/		20070068757	A1	2007-03-29	Tan	
/G.R.W/		20070194543	A1	2007-08-23	Duvigneau	

4839-7333-1044\1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

/G.R.W/		20090145866	A1	2009-06-11	Panosian et al.	
/G.R.W/		20100219193	A1	2010-09-02	Becklin	
/G.R.W/		20110139665	A1	2011-06-16	Madsen	
/G.R.W/		20170217464	A1	2017-08-03	Bar-erez et al.	
/G.R.W/		20170266804	A1	2017-09-21	Kinskey	

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	/GIDEON R WEINERTH/	Date Considered	06/07/2018

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.
[4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Doc code: IDS
Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Field

PTO/SB/08a (01-10)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15/826,232
	Filing Date	Nov 29, 2017
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3633
	Examiner Name	TBD
	Attorney Docket Number	269949US01_446373-417

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e) (2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Nathan Orme/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-05-03
Name/Print	Nathan Orme	Registration Number	68918

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Index of Claims	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	15826232	BRUNNER, YARON
	Examiner	Art Unit
	GIDEON WEINERTH	3728

✓	Rejected	-	Cancelled	N	Non-Elected	A	Appeal
=	Allowed	÷	Restricted	I	Interference	O	Objected

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

CLAIM		DATE								
Final	Original	06/08/2018								
	1	✓								
	2	✓								
	3	✓								
	4	✓								
	5	✓								
	6	✓								
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	8	✓								
	9	✓								
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	11	✓								
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	14	✓								
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	17	✓								
	18	✓								
	19	✓								
	20	✓								

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Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	15826232	BRUNNER, YARON
	Examiner	Art Unit
	GIDEON WEINERTH	3728

CPC- SEARCHED		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
A47B47/00	6/6/2018	GW
A47B67/04	6/6/2018	GW
A47B87/02,007,0276	6/6/2018	GW
B65D21/0224,02,0223,0212,0217,0219,0222,0228,023,	6/6/2018	GW
B65D25/2823,06	6/6/2018	GW
B25H3/021,022,023,04,06	6/6/2018	GW
Y10T403/7045	6/6/2018	GW

CPC COMBINATION SETS - SEARCHED		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US CLASSIFICATION SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
206	508,511,504,302,501	6/6/2018	GW
280	47.18,47.19,47.26,79.2	6/6/2018	GW

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

SEARCH NOTES		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner

INTERFERENCE SEARCH			
US Class/ CPC Symbol	US Subclass / CPC Group	Date	Examiner

/G.W./ Examiner.Art Unit 3728	

EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	36	(US-20170166352-$ or US-20110139665-$ or US-20170266804-$ or US-20170217464-$ or US-20170174392-$ or US-20160168880-$ or US-20160144500-$ or US-20160130034-$ or US-20140166516-$ or US-20120326406-$ or US-20100219193-$ or US-20090145866-$ or US-20070194543-$ or US-20070068757-$ or US-20060254946-$ or US-20060027475-$ or US-20080308369-$ or US-20080134613-$).did. or (US-5628443-$ or US-9132543-$ or US-9506489-$ or US-8813960-$ or US-8677661-$ or US-8459495-$ or US-8132819-$ or US-6641013-$ or US-6085925-$ or US-5988473-$ or US-5595228-$ or US-3117692-$ or US-8875888-$ or US-7905353-$ or US-9616562-$ or US-6578708-$ or US-D816339-$ or US-5429260-$).did.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/06/08 20:17
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		"20050224494" | "5469961").PN.				
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S11	206	S10 and (spring resilient)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 20:07
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S21	891	280/47.18,47.19,47.26,79.2.ccls. and (spring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 20:30
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S32	138	S21 and (stack stacked stacking)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 21:01
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S63	42	("0621601" | "2761582" | "3113690" | "3616943" | "3643993" | "3823973" | "3828964" | "3977558" | "4000704" | "4042111" | "4416374" | "4678084" | "4887731" | "5011036" | "5022546" | "5105967").PN. OR ("5186330").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:05
S64	74	("0879455" | "2849151" | "3005282" | "3371816" | "3393858" | "3481502").PN. OR ("3616943").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:08
S65	36	("1234730" | "20020145022" | "20030010799" | "20040207225" | "20090212584" | "2578238" | "2883764" | "3002650" | "3131829" | "3351228" | "3374914" | "3616943" | "4754883" | "4838745" | "4941784" | "5025964" | "5392945" | "5469999" | "5538153" | "5671511" | "5676251" | "5687895" | "5855310" | "6471278" | "7159730" | "7329451" | "7537119" | "D264014" | "D333094").PN. OR ("9738198").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:09
S66	75	("0879455" | "20040178208" | "20060254947" | "2695115" | "2849151" | "2939603" | "3103278" | "3117692" | "3383009" | "3391824" | "3419184" | "3481502" | "3616943" | "3754645" | "3756396" | "3759416" | "3811747" | "3968879" | "4287997" | "4655360" | "4671411" | "4765252" | "4832200" | "4848605" | "5042674" | "5203494" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:10

		"5392945" | "5454477" | "5566824" | "5641090" | "5718350" | "5769230" | "5779051" | "6021916" | "6085467" | "6186345" | "6237758" | "6308858" | "6367630" | "6371364" | "6457599" | "6585090" | "6662950" | "7163122" | "D333094" | "D361715" | "D446017" | "D500924").PN. OR ("7537119").URPN.				
S67	45	("0491865" | "1142932" | "1665238" | "20060016812" | "20070108080" | "20080264820" | "20100084119" | "3144016" | "3259263" | "3369691" | "3384259" | "3828964" | "4109789" | "4655360" | "4760921" | "4901380" | "5086926" | "5203494" | "5461755" | "5564583" | "5671856" | "5699925" | "5769230" | "6024223" | "6085467" | "6186345" | "6237758" | "6273258" | "6457599" | "6715627" | "6840378" | "6851566" | "7510096" | "7537119" | "8056722" | "RE37518").PN. OR ("8813960").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:11
S68	32	("4506798" | "4626155" | "4741449" | "5109985" | "5123541" | "5190179" | "5722328" | "5862917").PN. OR ("6024223").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:12
S69	4	("1665238").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:15
S70	39	("2885135" | "3376046" | "3539071" | "3568879" | "3987829" | "4174950" | "4765252" | "4844263" | "D248015").PN. OR ("D333094").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:17
S71	53	("2761582" | "3117692" | "3360162" | "3379341" | "3392875" | "3419184" | "3675815" | "3759416" | "3979016" | "4093071" | "4106624" | "4189052" | "4379508").PN. OR ("4832200").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:19
S72	79	("3117692").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:22
S73	45	("1762635" | "2531671" | "2614399" | "3117692" | "3498494" | "3501044" | "3502241" | "3667647" | "3751852").PN. OR ("4279354").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:24
S74	13	("20060186186" | "20070209962" | "20080202976" | "2328689" | "2828059" | "3811566" | "4279354" | "4293071" | "6315126").PN. OR ("8684222").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:25
S75	45	("1762635" | "2531671" | "2614399" | "3117692" | "3498494" | "3501044" | "3502241" | "3667647" | "3751852").PN. OR ("4279354").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:26
S76	110	("2457842" | "2483464" | "2664219" | "2702142" | "3073466" | "3130855" | "3140007" | "3586204" | "3828964").PN. OR ("4287997").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:30
S77	63	("2461526" | "3078484" | "3114486" | "3233803" | "3749294" | "3902640" | "3915189" | "4082208" | "4287997" | "4307826" | "4366922" | "4424841" | "4491258" | "4545414" | "4673070" | "4790432" | "4813542" | "4884731" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:33

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		"5131576" | "5184763" | "5321904" | "5419473").PN. OR ("5628443").URPN.				
S78	151	("1409838" | "20010040080" | "20020074332" | "20020130005" | "20020185350" | "20030034215" | "20030034636" | "20040000457" | "20040004332" | "20040026199" | "20040074725" | "20040163910" | "20040211634" | "20040238303" | "20050077133" | "20050077706" | "20050098402" | "20050103590" | "20050150733" | "20050258621" | "20050285359" | "20060010644" | "20060086583" | "20060102677" | "20060163305" | "20060175170" | "20060196743" | "20060207848" | "20080060953" | "20080136133" | "20080223679" | "20080236972" | "20080308369" | "20080308370" | "20090057082" | "20090139813" | "20090160147" | "20090218187" | "20100000805" | "20100025174" | "20100095480" | "20100108452" | "20100147642" | "20100263977" | "20100307879" | "20100308563" | "20110247910" | "20120160617" | "20120261223" | "20150091264" | "20160045000" | "2454438" | "2602675" | "3131829" | "3178197" | "3317081" | "3659867" | "3842953" | "3891230" | "3974898" | "4087102" | "4314624" | "4335895" | "4575109" | "4588055" | "4673070" | "4917392" | "4953257" | "4969660" | "5072958" | "5105962" | "5127662" | "5263727" | "5310071" | "5348325" | "5533231" | "5628443" | "5630601" | "5749503" | "5803471" | "5815843" | "5873145" | "5984154" | "5984327" | "6016893" | "6042127" | "6047442" | "6141841" | "6179176" | "6182981" | "6186295" | "6196366" | "6196560" | "6213266" | "6213267" | "6237734" | "6260871" | "6279705" | "6289554" | "6305587" | "6360400" | "6367602" | "6401888" | "6401890" | "6409412" | "6454065" | "6471019" | "6474524").PN. OR ("6484362" | "6530507" | "6533086" | "6575493" | "6591950" | "6604617" | "6609271" | "6736073" | "6769701" | "6832670" | "6880685" | "6923352" | "6961976" | "6964420" | "7066311" | "7070190" | "7073694" | "7093700" | "7097181" | "7097183" | "7143912" | "7226073" | "7232018" | "7237660" | "7281616" | "7284304" | "7318507" | "7328779" | "7350648" | "7374183" | "7426985" | "7441785" | "7478803" | "7594569" | "7597341" | "7780026" | "8607947").PN. OR ("9888752").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:34
S79	6	("2008/0308369").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:35
S80	45	("0672173" | "1084360" | "20020144376" |	US-	OR	OFF	2018/04/05

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		"20040084269" | "20040173427" | "20040238241" | "20050077136" | "20050092568" | "20080308369" | "20090095588" | "20090101461" | "20100059322" | "20100170761" | "20100236886" | "20100270116" | "20110168507" | "20130037364" | "20130175129" | "20130213753" | "20130220754" | "2581417" | "4836343" | "5099968" | "5355980" | "5560458" | "5671832" | "5829559" | "5927450" | "5988334" | "6347693" | "6533086" | "6536568" | "7322477" | "7322585" | "7503569" | "7909149" | "8087513" | "D516869" | "D671316").PN. OR ("9027722").URPN.	PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR			22:36
S81	35	("0922567" | "1084360" | "1567461" | "2372845" | "2428906" | "2801666" | "2858957" | "3837447" | "4098312" | "4122925" | "4142563" | "4257463" | "4286639" | "4673070" | "4744446").PN. OR ("4836343").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:39
S82	51	("0778785" | "1567461" | "2372845" | "2428906" | "2989998" | "3631572" | "3696850" | "4122925" | "4128194" | "4256245" | "4424841").PN. OR ("4673070").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:40
S83	33	("0842498" | "1689399" | "3114486" | "3698045" | "4231135" | "4673070" | "4799298" | "4934573" | "5205448" | "5259093" | "5465425" | "5604958" | "5632071" | "5724707" | "5815843" | "6108816" | "7080430" | "7251867").PN. OR ("7526842").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:41
S84	23	("2428906" | "2707035" | "3225951" | "3319744" | "3696850" | "3958731").PN. OR ("4122925").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:43
S85	33	("1973819" | "2007696" | "3373911").PN. OR ("4142563").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:46
S86	12	("2858957").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:48
S87	12	("20060071581" | "20080060964" | "2858957" | "3346137" | "3568879" | "4258847" | "4592601" | "4685565" | "4863222" | "7311202").PN. OR ("9724820").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:49
S88	43	("2128854" | "3743372").PN. OR ("4863222").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:49
S89	73	("2842420" | "2998128" | "3032381" | "3294463" | "3501044" | "3552817").PN. OR ("3743372").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:51
S90	36	("2011962" | "3514170" | "3552817" | "3743372" | "3851936" | "3999818" | "4198777" | "4238032" | "4353470" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT;	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:53

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		"4589546" | "4744612" | "4782619" | "4874210" | "4907703" | "5046789" | "5137340" | "5176435" | "5191983" | "5344024" | "5399004" | "5454634").PN. OR ("6050657").URPN.	USOCR			
S91	17	("3131829" | "3429632" | "3552579" | "3707023" | "4062302" | "4239306" | "5246284").PN. OR ("5454634").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:55
S92	55	("0511617" | "1890000" | "2492697" | "2557630" | "2807387" | "3203744" | "3283915" | "3514170" | "3743372" | "3758181" | "3918781" | "3999818" | "4026615" | "4056295" | "4120549").PN. OR ("4243279").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 22:59
S93	45	("2593998" | "2653072" | "2730423" | "3131829" | "3219400" | "3514170" | "3552817" | "3563624" | "3743372" | "3814489").PN. OR ("3999818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:03
S94	14	("2593998").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:06
S95	52	("4081061" | "4621716" | "5316159" | "6213266" | "6213267" | "7976024" | "1084360" | "3749273" | "4570799" | "4995436" | "5779051" | "D447944" | "3103278" | "3374917" | "5000713" | "6585090" | "5098328" | "D359315" | "20030132184" | "20050199459" | "4813542" | "0480709" | "5062539" | "5186290" | "6276550" | "D346627" | "5310071" | "20040222059" | "3583590" | "3836043" | "4287997" | "4656840" | "5167336" | "5392945" | "6257381" | "20040000458" | "4573595" | "7644828" | "D483200" | "7648407" | "3811747" | "20010027902" | "5099968" | "5485920" | "5709304" | "5735422" | "3346137").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:14
S96	22	("3131829" | "3194426" | "3338452" | "4258847" | "4328902" | "4428479" | "5016946" | "5050755" | "5310071" | "5316159" | "5503288" | "5845790").PN. OR ("6276550").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:16
S97	41	("2454438" | "2495132" | "3131829" | "3194426" | "3297196" | "3317081" | "3343705" | "3404805" | "3851936" | "4192422").PN. OR ("4328902").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:18
S98	43	("1092651" | "2565969" | "2891639" | "3028207" | "3032381" | "3506321").PN. OR ("3974898").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:29
S99	11	("0907507" | "1626482" | "2343525" | "3974898" | "4065014").PN. OR ("4423687").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:30
S100	32	("3481502").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:38
S101	8	(("1112943") or ("2255513") or ("2849151") or ("3371816")).PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:41
S102	16	("2849151").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:41

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S103	8	(("0993866") or ("1342909") or ("1514512") or ("1640368")).PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:42
S104	21	("1112943").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/05 23:43
S105	16	("2849151").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 12:32
S106	8	(("0993866") or ("1342909") or ("1514512") or ("1640368")).PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 12:33
S107	22	("879455").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 12:34
S108	16	("2849151").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 13:10
S109	8	(("0993866") or ("1342909") or ("1514512") or ("1640368")).PN.	USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 13:11
S110	37	("3899229" | "4431237" | "4519655" | "4828341" | "4889254" | "5191983").PN. OR ("5469961").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 13:11
S111	25	("20030155267" | "20050224494" | "20080308641" | "20090139892" | "20090178989" | "20090236255" | "2634020" | "3182856" | "3387732" | "3581928" | "4351448" | "5353948" | "5469961" | "5606820" | "5699925" | "5755180" | "6761266" | "6959507" | "7246718").PN. OR ("8677661").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 13:12
S112	24	("1226708" | "2833137" | "2834121" | "2843943" | "3139744" | "3220229" | "3545235" | "3824813" | "4507942" | "4551996" | "4663948" | "4680948" | "4821535" | "4972687" | "4989426" | "5469961" | "5653416").PN. OR ("5951130").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 13:13
S113	118	(US-20130127129-$ or US-20110155613-$ or US-20110139665-$ or US-20040195793-$ or US-20020000440-$ or US-20120292213-$ or US-20070012694-$ or US-20150336710-$ or US-20020134700-$ or US-20100270764-$ or US-20100000893-$ or US-20050062244-$ or US-20040183266-$ or US-20020014488-$ or US-20020113386-$ or US-20030196860-$ or US-20170259956-$ or US-20160144500-$ or US-20160130034-$ or US-20150274362-$ or US-20110168599-$ or US-20090178989-$ or US-20100219193-$ or US-20060254946-$ or US-20070068757-$ or US-20090178946-$).did. or (US-20050199459-$ or US-20080308369-$ or US-20050077136-$).did. or (US-7503569-$ or US-9022234-$ or US-8875888-$ or US-8657307-$ or US-8590704-$ or US-3182856-$ or US-8459495-$ or US-7097036-$ or US-6193062-$ or US-9393684-$ or US-6637592-$ or US-D730088-$ or US-5833065-$ or US-5482162-$ or US-5244265-$ or US-4244509-$ or US-9643629-$ or US-7780026-$ or US-9132543-$ or US-8567796-$ or US-8226092-$ or US-8201837-$ or US-8132819-$ or US-7997594-$ or US-3010775-$ or US-9669930-$).did. or (US-4813542-$ or US-6585090-$ or US-6085925-$ or US-	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:03

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		D776106-$ or US-6839238-$ or US-9609964-$ or US-7152752-$ or US-9506489-$ or US-3944282-$ or US-5241765-$ or US-4389078-$ or US-1849659-$ or US-4405057-$ or US-9802741-$ or US-8851287-$ or US-8763836-$ or US-8561769-$ or US-D808164-$ or US-9550605-$ or US-4887731-$ or US-9738198-$ or US-7537119-$ or US-8813960-$ or US-9669968-$ or US-6024223-$ or US-1665238-$ or US-D333094-$).did. or (US-3376046-$ or US-4832200-$ or US-D364558-$ or US-3419184-$ or US-3117692-$ or US-8684222-$ or US-2328689-$ or US-4287997-$ or US-5628443-$ or US-9888752-$ or US-9027722-$ or US-4673070-$ or US-7526842-$ or US-5465839-$ or US-9724820-$ or US-4863222-$ or US-3743372-$ or US-6050657-$ or US-5454634-$ or US-3851936-$ or US-5602721-$ or US-3999818-$ or US-5271515-$ or US-4243279-$ or US-6276550-$ or US-4328902-$ or US-7350648-$).did. or (US-5407074-$ or US-3481502-$ or US-2849151-$ or US-3616943-$ or US-5469961-$ or US-8677661-$ or US-5951130-$).did. or (US-3117692-$ or US-2593998-$).did.				
S115	286	B65D21/0223.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:05
S116	226	B65D21/0224.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:05
S117	2198	B25H3/021,022,023,04,06.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:07
S118	436	A47B47/00.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:10
S119	1076	A47B87/02,007,0276.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:10
S120	550	A47B67/04.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:11
S121	770	Y10T403/7045.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:12
S122	9	("7451578" | "6209278" | "4599841" | "6363677" | "6955020" | "7040068" | "6588166" | "6804926" | "6658808").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:14
S123	102	("0890436" | "2740167" | "3310919" | "3988187" | "5295341" | "5630304" | "6023907" | "1854396" | "2381469" | "20030029116" | "3040388" | "3192574" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 18:15

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		"D390358"	"D402106"	"D405956"				
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		"D449442"	"D449738"	"D451275"				

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S146	44	("1699130" | "2072672" | "2551814" | "2633285" | "2736487" | "3010638" | "3361322" | "3623650" | "3632037" | "3713579" | "3905478" | "3905541" | "3921896" | "4002261" | "4023617" | "4187977" | "4230233" | "4245773" | "4251006" | "4277015" | "4291830" | "4389013" | "4482074" | "4643314" | "4685610" | "4762270" | "4763833" | "4828894" | "4884739" | "4911356" | "4948039" | "4993623" | "5038998" | "5116290" | "5190213").PN. OR ("5429260").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 19:12
S147	0	("1140005").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 19:30
S148	119	("1267650" | "1999162" | "3163268" | "3379482" | "3419184" | "3425471" | "3498689" | "3642168" | "3700137" | "3979016" | "3987829" | "4161261" | "4293073" | "4303158" | "4523692" | "4664347" | "4799503" | "4804092" | "4819795" | "4915913" | "4982863" | "4984687" | "5011013" | "5024471" | "5040834" | "5042674" | "5065885" | "5065887" | "5080250" | "5103994" | "5117979" | "5123564" | "5176281" | "5186330" | "5190152" | "5193706" | "5244265" | "5319937" | "D237135" | "D237611" | "D238148" | "D239695" | "D246872" | "D248280" | "D257934" | "D258721" | "D277797" | "D286937" | "D292711" | "D302774" | "D312573" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 20:05

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S150	15	("2587829" | "2610761" | "2740517" | "4252239" | "4733703" | "5329929" | "5595228").PN. OR ("6206063").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/06 22:04
S151	6	("4466659" | "4967944" | "5207470" | "6193118" | "6554169" | "7000810").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:38
S152	96	("1032326" | "1503894" | "1926162" | "2612200" | "2629644" | "2724595" | "2735597" | "2754079" | "2979190" | "3229946" | "3640423" | "3642168" | "3664704" | "3727971" | "3759416" | "3791547" | "3854621" | "3940009" | "3987829" | "4190281" | "4213539" | "4215896" | "4288011" | "4403786" | "4458570" | "4488669" | "4499998" | "4522326" | "4531774" | "4580827" | "4593816" | "4623071" | "4674665" | "D259413" | "D285673").PN. OR ("4967944").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:38
S153	25	("2967080" | "2987358" | "4844305" | "4967944" | "5419476" | "5667115").PN. OR ("5988473").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:40
S154	10	("2987358").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:41
S155	4	("2009/0315285").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:46
S156	223	("5072918" | "5390943" | "5871219" | "6739605" | "0875476" | "6086073" | "4743040" | "6109628" | "1427388" | "20040129658" | "20050023786" | "20050057011" | "20060232033" | "20060237091" | "3472392" | "3999775" | "4699270" | "4786122" | "5072955" | "5743607" | "5876047" | "6123346" | "6545863" | "7232136" | "D396023" | "6497423" | "D153654" | "2155769" | "3313498" | "3870177" | "4391422" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 00:50

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S158	31	("0783059" | "2878928" | "3245528" | "3319685" | "3386607" | "3605374" | "3835992" | "3992810" | "4320846" | "4627595" | "4799590" | "4890741" | "5135823" | "5370255").PN. OR ("5676274").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 16:50
S159	26	("1101357" | "1149266" | "1862868" | "2702116" | "3145871" | "4154362" | "4503955" | "4705316" | "4896926" | "4998616").PN. OR ("5415255").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 16:53
S160	37	("3182856" | "3565146" | "4951812" | "4998616" | "5036980" | "5040681" | "5060851" | "5117979").PN. OR ("5325966").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 16:55
S161	6	("3412888" | "4204609" | "5409126" | "5499715" | "5769229").PN. OR ("6467681").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/07 17:17
S162	173	(US-20130127129-$ or US-20110155613-$ or US-20110139665-$ or US-20040195793-$ or US-20020000440-$ or US-20120292213-$ or US-20070012694-$ or US-20150336710-$ or US-20020134700-$ or US-20100270764-$ or US-20100000893-$ or US-20050062244-$ or US-20040183266-$ or US-20020014488-$ or US-20020113386-$ or US-20030196860-$ or US-20170259956-$ or US-20160144500-$ or US-20160130034-$ or US-20150274362-$ or US-20110168599-$ or US-20090178989-$ or US-20100219193-$ or US-20060254946-$ or US-20070068757-$ or US-20090178946-$).did. or (US-20050199459-$ or US-20080308369-$ or US-20050077136-$ or US-20080104921-$ or US-20160153200-$ or US-20080134613-$ or US-20080134607-$ or US-20070193178-$ or US-20170266804-$ or US-20140075650-$ or US-20090145866-$ or US-20170217464-$ or US-20170174392-$ or US-20170166352-$ or US-20160023349-$ or US-20140166516-$ or US-20120326406-$ or US-20110121695-$ or US-20070194543-$ or US-20070170671-$ or US-20110049824-$ or US-20130056378-$ or US-20120312812-$ or US-20120187013-$ or US-20120080432-$ or US-20120061930-$ or US-20050280228-$).did. or (US-20060027475-$ or US-20050155889-$ or US-20160168880-$).did. or (US-7503569-$ or US-9022234-$ or US-8875888-$ or US-8657307-$ or US-8590704-$ or US-3182856-$ or US-8459495-$ or US-7097036-$ or US-6193062-$ or US-9393684-$ or US-6637592-$ or US-D730088-$ or US-5833065-$ or US-5482162-$ or US-5244265-$ or US-4244509-$ or US-9643629-$ or US-7780026-$ or US-9132543-$ or US-8567796-$ or US-8226092-$ or US-8201837-$ or US-8132819-$ or US-7997594-$ or US-3010775-$ or US-9669930-$).did. or (US-4813542-$ or US-6585090-$ or US-6085925-$ or US-D776106-$ or US-	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/09 01:25

		6839238-$ or US-9609964-$ or US-7152752-$ or US-9506489-$ or US-3944282-$ or US-5241765-$ or US-4389078-$ or US-1849659-$ or US-4405057-$ or US-9802741-$ or US-8851287-$ or US-8763836-$ or US-8561769-$ or US-D808164-$ or US-9550605-$ or US-4887731-$ or US-9738198-$ or US-7537119-$ or US-8813960-$ or US-9669968-$ or US-6024223-$ or US-1665238-$ or US-D333094-$).did. or (US-3376046-$ or US-4832200-$ or US-D364558-$ or US-3419184-$ or US-3117692-$ or US-8684222-$ or US-2328689-$ or US-4287997-$ or US-5628443-$ or US-9888752-$ or US-9027722-$ or US-4673070-$ or US-7526842-$ or US-5465839-$ or US-9724820-$ or US-4863222-$ or US-3743372-$ or US-6050657-$ or US-5454634-$ or US-3851936-$ or US-5602721-$ or US-3999818-$ or US-5271515-$ or US-4243279-$ or US-6276550-$ or US-4328902-$ or US-7350648-$).did. or (US-5407074-$ or US-3481502-$ or US-2849151-$ or US-3616943-$ or US-5469961-$ or US-8677661-$ or US-5951130-$ or US-7451578-$ or US-6122879-$ or US-3526420-$ or US-2740167-$ or US-9803375-$ or US-9663940-$ or US-7841144-$ or US-9616562-$ or US-5544751-$ or US-5429260-$ or US-7946609-$ or US-6578708-$ or US-6176559-$ or US-5927837-$ or US-5564805-$ or US-5595228-$ or US-6206063-$ or US-7000810-$ or US-4967944-$ or US-5988473-$).did. or (US-6641013-$ or US-2987358-$ or US-4576423-$ or US-4756394-$ or US-4896926-$ or US-5325966-$ or US-5697500-$ or US-6467681-$).did. or (US-3117692-$ or US-2593998-$).did.				
S163	3	(("20170166352") or ("20110139665") or ("5628443")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/09 01:26
S164	28	(US-20170166352-$ or US-20110139665-$ or US-20170266804-$ or US-20170217464-$ or US-20170174392-$ or US-20160168880-$ or US-20160144500-$ or US-20160130034-$ or US-20140166516-$ or US-20120326406-$ or US-20100219193-$ or US-20090145866-$ or US-20070194543-$ or US-20070068757-$ or US-20060254946-$ or US-20060027475-$).did. or (US-5628443-$ or US-9132543-$ or US-9506489-$ or US-8813960-$ or US-8677661-$ or US-8459495-$ or US-8132819-$ or US-6641013-$ or US-6085925-$ or US-5988473-$ or US-5595228-$ or US-3117692-$).did.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/04/09 01:36
S165	7	(("5240264") or ("7503569") or ("20020000440") or ("20040195793") or ("20110139665") or ("20110155613") or ("20130127129")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/09 01:37
S166	27	S164 not S165	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/04/09 01:37

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S167	16	(("3117692") or ("5595228") or ("5628443") or ("5988473") or ("6085925") or ("6641013") or ("20060027475") or ("20060254946") or ("20070068757") or ("20070194543") or ("20090145866") or ("20100219193") or ("20110139665") or ("20170217464") or ("20170266804")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 19:21
S168	3	(("8875888") or ("7905353") or ("6082539")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 19:31
S169	0	("2011155613").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 19:32
S170	1	("20110155613").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 19:32
S171	7	(("5240264") or ("7503569") or ("20020000440") or ("20040195793") or ("20110139665") or ("20110155613") or ("20130127129")).PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 19:35
S172	0	("2017/0166352").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 20:04
S173	12	("2006/0027475").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 22:12
S174	35	("0676539" | "0893694" | "1694470" | "2604959" | "3297118" | "4564091" | "4966258" | "5437367" | "5485922" | "5676223" | "5730282" | "5762170" | "5941352").PN. OR ("6578708").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 22:16
S175	85	("0337143" | "20030227148" | "20060144732" | "20070039986" | "20090250495" | "20090272779" | "20140283631" | "3301619" | "3436093" | "4356854" | "4488497" | "4729535" | "4765472" | "4773535" | "4826059" | "4953764" | "4984906" | "4993551" | "5127565" | "5139143" | "5174447" | "5337933" | "5361412" | "5437367" | "5529322" | "5547080" | "5639003" | "5649623" | "5653337" | "5813530" | "5833095" | "5893572" | "5961134" | "5971101" | "5988383" | "6105508" | "6152300" | "6179185" | "6203053" | "6267277" | "6305498" | "6347847" | "6398235" | "6402002" | "6435304" | "6435389" | "6439134" | "6499713" | "6571998" | "6578708" | "6604472" | "6736073" | "6889834" | "6915902" | "6920667" | "7021637" | "7055652" | "7195119" | "7210689" | "7261212" | "7331454" | "7431313" | "7503569" | "7661685" | "7748584" | "7766161" | "7934596" | "7946609" | "7950335" | "7987955" | "8127690" | "8152037" | "8544141" | "8662300" | "9616562" | "D388919" | "D397229" | "D410551" | "D431019" | "D689282" | "D771938" | "D771939").PN. OR ("9943956").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/06/07 22:17

6/8/2018 8:21:16 PM
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Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 582
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

757
BGL
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610

POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000100322815

Date Mailed: 06/15/2018

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 06/13/2018.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/mbeyene/

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	269949US01_446373-417

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

111739
Dorsey & Whitney / RCPs
Intellectual Property Department - SLC
111 South Main Street
21st Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2176

POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000100322813

Date Mailed: 06/15/2018

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 06/13/2018.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the applicant. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	16318-5

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

757
BGL
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610

PUBLICATION NOTICE

OC000000100753193

Title:UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

Publication No.US-2018-0186513-A1
Publication Date:07/05/2018

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publically available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently http://www.uspto.gov/patft/.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Public Records Division. The Public Records Division can be reached by telephone at (571) 272-3150 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (571) 273-3250, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Public Records Division, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at www.uspto.gov using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently https://portal.uspto.gov/pair/PublicPair. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.

Office of Data Managment, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82A (07-13)
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NOTE: This form is to be submitted with the Power of Attorney by Applicant form (PTO/AIA/82B) to identify the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.5, unless the application number and filing date are identified in the Power of Attorney by Applicant form. If neither form PTO/AIA/82A nor form PTO/AIA82B identifies the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, the Power of Attorney will not be recognized in the application.

Application Number	15/826,232
Filing Date	November 29, 2017
First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
Title	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
Art Unit	3728
Examiner Name	G. R. Weinerth
Attorney Docket Number	55390-501C01US

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Patent Practitioner

Signature	/William C. Geary/	Date (Optional)	July 19, 2018
Name	William C. Geary	Registration Number	31,359
Title (if Applicant is a juristic entity)			
Applicant Name (if Applicant is a juristic entity)			

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

[X] *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

79559954v.1

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82B (07-13)
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POWER OF ATTORNEY BY APPLICANT

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in either the attached transmittal letter or the boxes below.

Application Number	Filing Date

(Note: The boxes above may be left blank if information is provided on form PTO/AIA/82A.)

[X] I hereby appoint the Patent Practitioner(s) associated with the following Customer Number as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above: 30623

OR

[ ] I hereby appoint Practitioner(s) named in the attached list (form PTO/AIA/82C) as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the patent application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above. (Note: Complete form PTO/AIA/82C.)

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached transmittal letter or the boxes above to:

[X] The address associated with the above-mentioned Customer Number

OR

[ ] The address associated with Customer Number:

OR

[ ] Firm or Individual Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip	
Country					
Telephone		Email			

I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

Keter Plastic Ltd.

[ ] Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)

[ ] Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)

[X] Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

[ ] Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature	Keter Plastic Ltd	Date (Optional)	July 18, 2019
Name	Nir Palstrant		
Title	General Counsel and Authorized Signor of Keter Plastic Ltd.		

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

[ ] Total of 1 forms are submitted.

79206468v.1

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	33223972
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	757
Filer:	William C. Geary
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	16318-5
Receipt Date:	19-JUL-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	16:36:09
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Assignee showing of ownership per 37 CFR 3.73	37CFR_501C01.pdf	24815 5eb1e598c4329c97defef9c27066e5122d7e2395	no	2

Warnings:

Information:					
2	Power of Attorney	POA_501C01.pdf	446211 7e1507341e140881b435a1b42cff2d99b9bad45d	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
			Total Files Size (in bytes):	471026	

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/AIA/96 (08-12)
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(c)

Applicant/Patent Owner: Keter Plastic Ltd.

Application No./Patent No.: 15/826,232 Filed/Issue Date: November 29, 2017

Titled: UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM

Keter Plastic Ltd. (Name of Assignee) , a Corporation (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that, for the patent application/patent identified above, it is (choose **one** of options 1, 2, 3 or 4 below):

1. [x] The assignee of the entire right, title, and interest.

2. [ ] An assignee of less than the entire right, title, and interest (check applicable box):

   [ ] The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %). Additional Statement(s) by the owners holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for 100% of the ownership interest.

   [ ] There are unspecified percentages of ownership. The other parties, including inventors, who together own the entire right, title and interest are:

   Additional Statement(s) by the owner(s) holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for the entire right, title, and interest.

3. [ ] The assignee of an undivided interest in the entirety (a complete assignment from one of the joint inventors was made). The other parties, including inventors, who together own the entire right, title, and interest are:

   Additional Statement(s) by the owner(s) holding the balance of the interest must be submitted to account for the entire right, title, and interest.

4. [ ] The recipient, via a court proceeding or the like (*e.g.*, bankruptcy, probate), of an undivided interest in the entirety (a complete transfer of ownership interest was made). The certified document(s) showing the transfer is attached.

The interest identified in option 1, 2 or 3 above (not option 4) is evidenced by either (choose **one** of options A or B below):

A. [x] An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 044789 , Frame 0735 , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

B. [ ] A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

1. From: _____ To: _____
   The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
   Reel _____ , Frame _____ , or for which a copy thereof is attached.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(c)

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The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
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☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet(s).

☒ As required by 37 CFR 3.73(c)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

/William C. Geary/	July 19, 2018
Signature	Date
William C. Geary	31,359
Printed or Typed Name	Title or Registration Number

79558610v.1

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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United States Patent and Trademark Office
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	16318-5

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

757
BGL
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610

POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000101166321

Date Mailed: 07/24/2018

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 07/19/2018.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the applicant. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/tgebre/

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	16318-5

CONFIRMATION NO. 1070

30623
Mintz Levin/Boston Office
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111

POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000101166358

Date Mailed: 07/24/2018

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 07/19/2018.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/tgebre/

PTO/SB/08a (02-18)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	15826232
Filing Date	2017-11-29
First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
Art Unit	3728
Examiner Name	G. R. Weinerth
Attorney Docket Number	055390-501C01US

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	1	1276744	JP	S	2006-07-18	Hirofumi Kishimoto		
	2	1477050	JP	S	2013-08-19	Ryosuke Omachi		
	3	30-0271616	KR		2000-02-09	Joong Chul Ahm		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15826232
	Filing Date	2017-11-29
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3728
	Examiner Name	G. R. Weinerth
	Attorney Docket Number	055390-501C01US

	4	30-0320243	KR		2002-06-10	Joung Gu Kang		
	5	135074	TW	S	2010-06-01	Yi Hua Wu		
	6	168686	TW	S	2015-07-01	Kang Delun Business Co., Ltd.		
	7	174412	TW	S1	2016-03-21	Lee Hsin Chang		

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[5]
	1	Non-Final Rejection issued April 12, 2018, in United States Application No. 15/826,201. (16 Pages)(Docket No. 2699501JS01 446373-419).	

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	15826232
	Filing Date	2017-11-29
	First Named Inventor	Yaron Brunner
	Art Unit	3728
	Examiner Name	G. R. Weinerth
	Attorney Docket Number	055390-501C01US

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

☒ The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/William C. Geary/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-08-03
Name/Print	William C. Geary	Registration Number	31,359

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these record s.

2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.

3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.

4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).

7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.

8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.

9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Docket No.: 055390-501C01US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yaron Brunner

Application No.: 15/826,232	Confirmation No.: 1070
Filed: November 29, 2017	Art Unit: 3728
For: UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM	Examiner: G. R. Weinerth

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of the above-identified application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the filing date of this application, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage in the international application, AND after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of any of a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not submitted. Submitted herewith are copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0311 in the amount of $240.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0311, under Order No. 055390-501C01US.

Dated: August 3, 2018

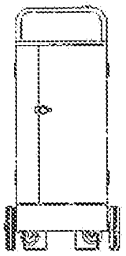
Respectfully submitted,

By: /William C. Geary/
William C. Geary
Registration No.: 31,359
MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS GLOVSKY
AND POPEO, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
(617) 542-6000
Attorney for Applicant

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(JP D1276744)

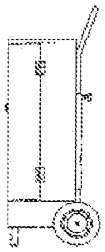
(19)【発行国】日本国特許庁(JP)
(45)【発行日】平成18年7月18日(2006.7.18)
(12)【公報種別】意匠公報(S)
(11)【登録番号】意匠登録第1276744号(D1276744)
(24)【登録日】平成18年6月2日(2006.6.2)
(54)【意匠に係る物品】走行輪付き災害救助工具収納箱
(52)【意匠分類】K1-54
(51)【国際意匠分類(参考)】03-01
(21)【出願番号】意願2005-23044(D2005-23044)
(22)【出願日】平成17年8月9日(2005.8.9)
(72)【創作者】
【氏名】岸本 博文
【住所又は居所】大阪府枚方市招提田近3丁目5番地 株式会社初田製作所内
(73)【意匠権者】
【識別番号】391008320
【氏名又は名称】株式会社初田製作所
【住所又は居所】大阪府枚方市招提田近3丁目5番地
【審査官】吉田 英生
(56)【参考文献】意登407177 意登1170588 アメリカ意匠公報:オフィシャル ガゼット、4号、1245巻、(2001-4-24)、4929頁、441161、(特許庁意匠課公知資料番号HH130015249) TOOLS & OTHERS、3頁、(特許庁意匠課公知資料番号HD13000630)
(55)【意匠に係る物品の説明】(1)本物品は、バランバール、パイプ柄丸ショベル、ハンマーツルハシ、油圧ジャッキ、荷締機(中型)、ボルトクリッパー、万能斧、標識ロープ、木(鉄)工綱、四つ折り担架等の災害救助工具をセットにして収納する工具収納箱を有し、この工具収納箱を左右二個の走行輪と後面の折り畳み可能な補助輪とにより移動可能な手押し台車上に搭載してなるものである。
【図面】
【正面図】



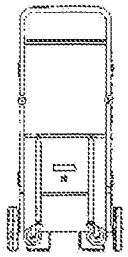
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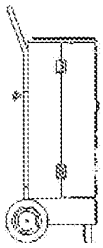
(2) 意匠登録1276744



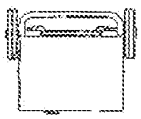
【背面図】



【左側面図】

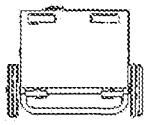


【平面図】

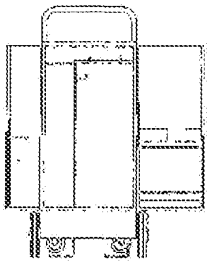


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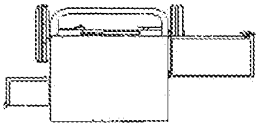
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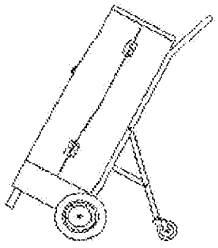
【前面扉を開いた状態の正面図】



【前面扉を開いた状態の平面図】



【走行状態を示す右側面図】



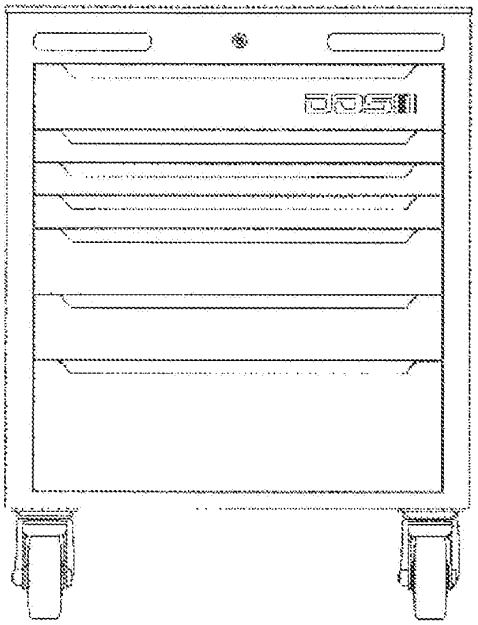
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 602
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(JP D1477050)

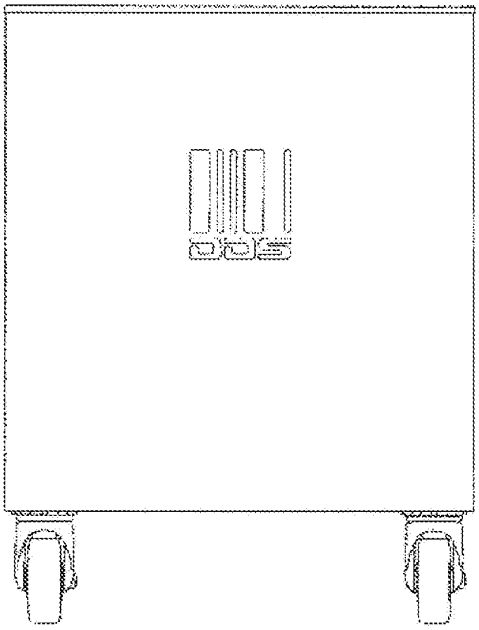
（１９）【発行国】日本国特許庁（ＪＰ）
（４５）【発行日】平成２５年８月１９日（２０１３．８．１９）
（１２）【公報種別】意匠公報（Ｓ）
（１１）【登録番号】意匠登録第１４７７０５０号（Ｄ１４７７０５０）
（２４）【登録日】平成２５年７月１９日（２０１３．７．１９）
（５４）【意匠に係る物品】ツールキャビネット
（５２）【意匠分類】Ｋ１－５４
（５１）【国際意匠分類（参考）】０３－０１
（２１）【出願番号】意願２０１２－３２３０３（Ｄ２０１２－３２３０３）
（２２）【出願日】平成２４年１２月１８日（２０１２．１２．１８）
（７２）【創作者】
【氏名】大町　亮介
【住所又は居所】埼玉県朝霞市膝折町４－８－４５
（７３）【意匠権者】
【識別番号】５１１０４１９６１
【氏名又は名称】株式会社大堀精機
【住所又は居所】埼玉県朝霞市膝折町４－８－４５
【意匠管】生駒　照恵
（５５）【意匠に係る物品の説明】本物品は工作機械等で使用する様々なツール類を，複数のタイプ別引き出しに効率良く収納できるキャスター付小型キャビネット類、作業台である。　キャスター付きの為，作業エリア内で自由に移動する事ができる。　複数の引出しにはソフトクローズ機能を取り入れ，安全性・静音性を向上させると同時に，引出しを押して手を放しても、ゆっくり閉まる直前の優美さを演出させた。また使用者がワゴンの移動に使うハンドルを本体正面の引き出し側に左右２か所設け、小スペースでも作業環境に影響のないように考慮。引き出しのない３面を他の設備等にぎりぎりまで寄せて使うことが出来る。
（５５）【意匠の説明】材料は金属をメインとし　天板部分にはゴムシートをはめ込み作業台機能を持たせた。大きさは大人の腰の高さ程度とし視覚を通じて美観を高めた。　キャビネットの外周４か所のコーナー部には丸みを持たせ、近年の工作機械のデザインにもマッチングさせた。又、引き出し側とは逆の背面にはロゴマークを大きく表現し　外観意匠性を向上させた。　全引出しの取手の形状は両サイドを内側斜め方向にカットし、シャープさと品格を表現した。ハンドルは美観を損なわないようデザイン・機能性を両立させ、ツールキャビネット全体をすっきりさせた。
【図面】
【正面図】

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IPR2024-01401

(2)　　意匠登録1477050



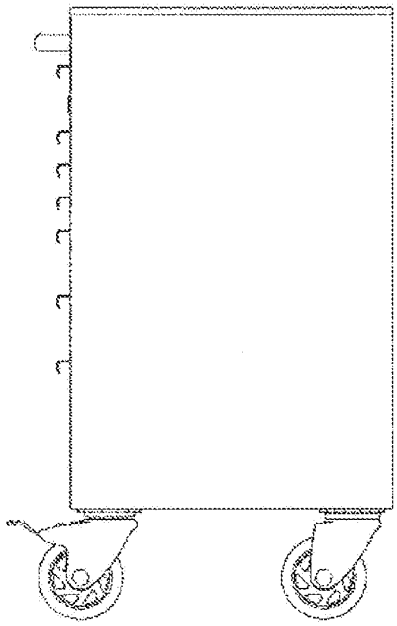
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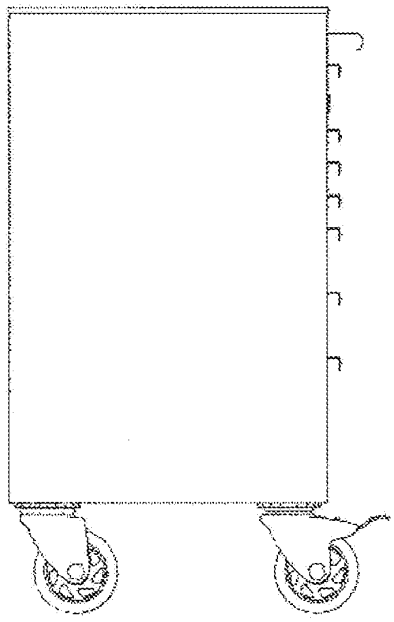
[右側面図]

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Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

(3)　　意匠登録1477050



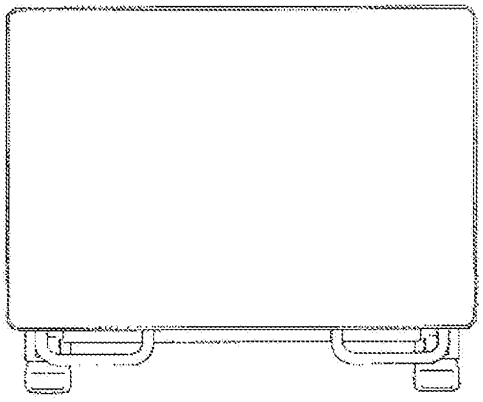
【左側面図】



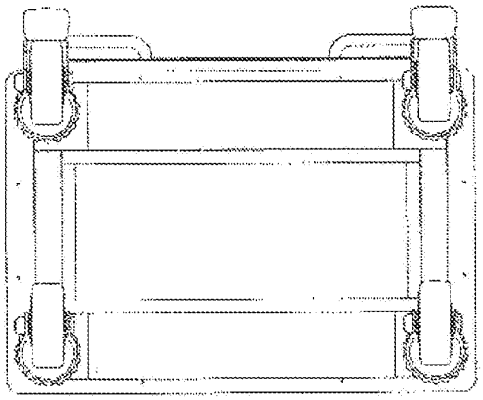
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Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

(4) 意匠登録1477050



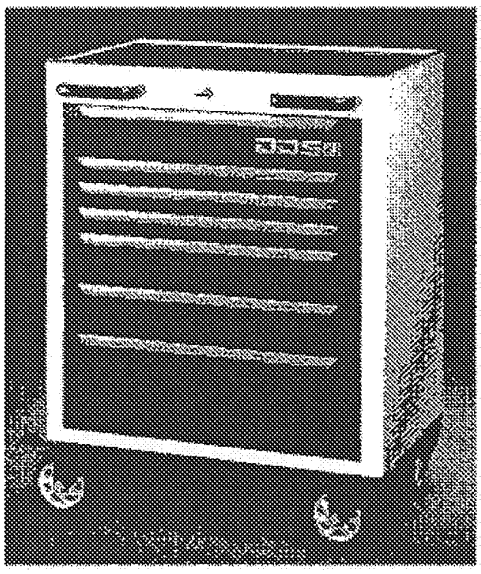
【底面図】



【参考図１】

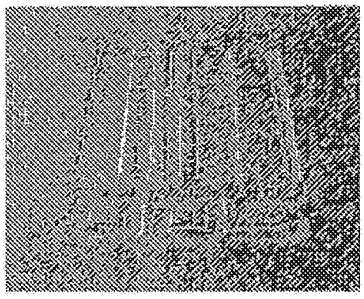
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IPR2024-01401

(5)　　意匠登録１４７７０５０



全体図

【参考図２】

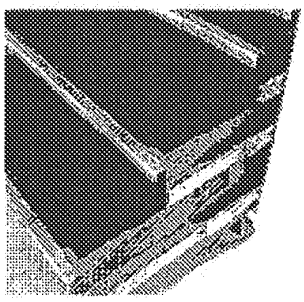


背面部ロゴ・エンボス加工

【参考図３】

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 607
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(6)　　意匠登録1477050



引き出し部スライド・ソフトクローズ機能

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IPR2024-01401

(19) 대한민국특허청(KR)
(12) 등록의장공보(S)

(52) 분류 K1-53

(45) 공고일자 2001년02월15일
(11) 등록번호 30-0271616
(24) 등록일자 2000년12월29일

(21) 출원번호 30-2000-0003205
(22) 출원일자 2000년02월09일

(73) 등록권자 주식회사 쌍금 엄중철
경북 김천시 구성면 하강리 101-9
(72) 창작자 엄중철
경기 성남시 분당구 수내동 51-3 파크타운대림아파트 105동1802호

(74) 대리인 임영희, 박종현

심사관 박미정

(54) 텔레비젼 장식장용 부품케이스

의장 창작 내용의 요점

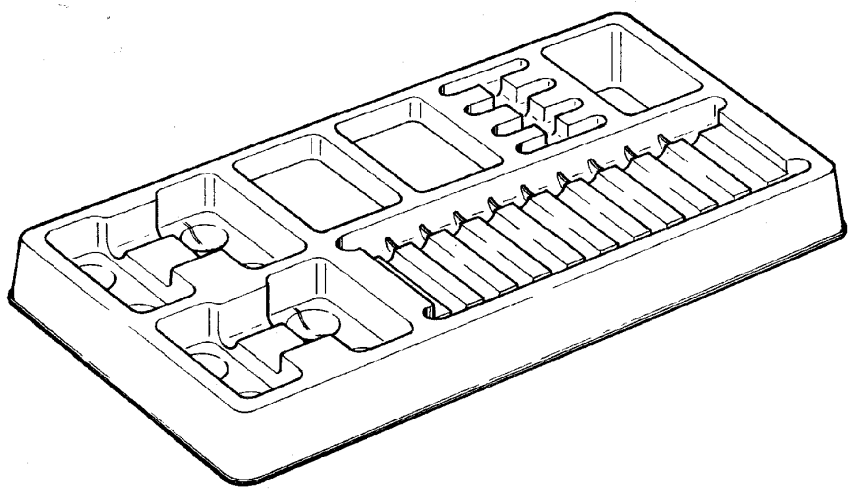
" 텔레비젼 장식장용 부품케이스" 형상과 모양의 결합을 의장 창작 내용의 요점으로 함.

의장의 설명

1. 재질은 합성수지임.
2. 본원 의장은 텔레비젼 장식장을 조립할때 사용하는 부품(나사, 핀, 경첩등)을 보관하는 물품임.

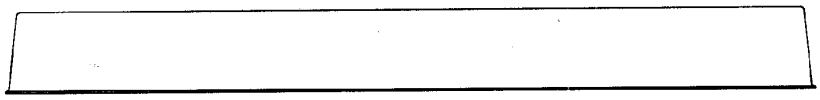
도면

사시도



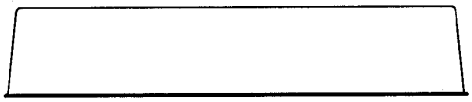
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 609
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

정면도



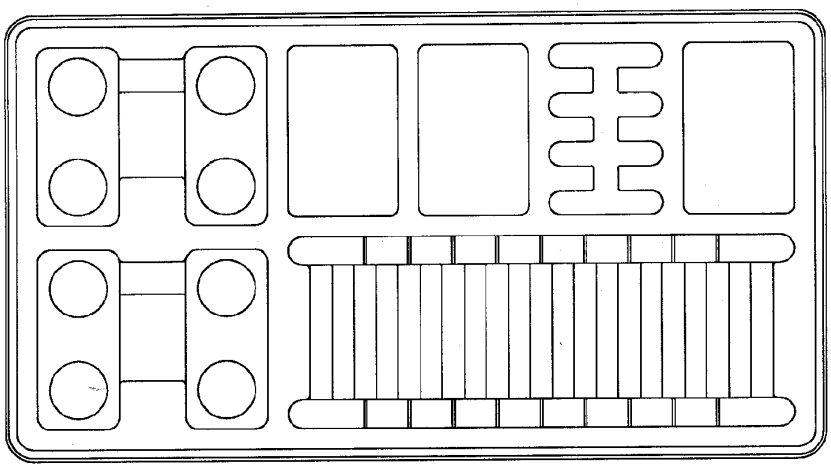
배면도(정면도의 동일)

좌측면도

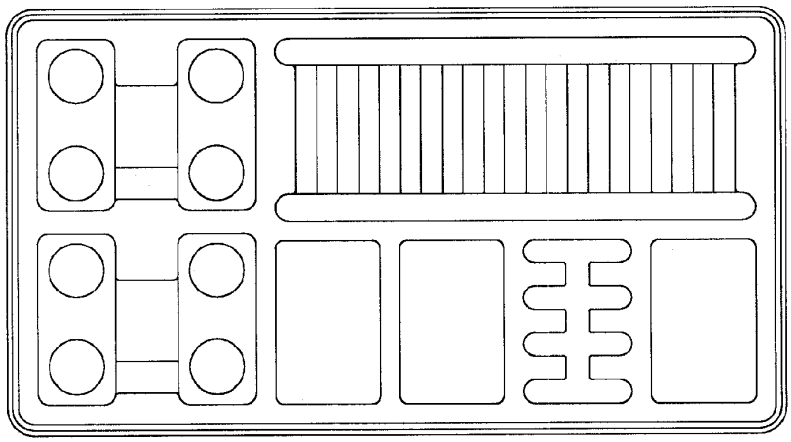


우측면도(좌측면도의 동일)

평면도



Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 610
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401



Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 611
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

(19) 대한민국특허청(KR)
(12) 등록의장공보(S)

(52) 분류 F4- 533B무심사등록
분류 K1- 53

(45) 공고일자 2003년03월20일
(11) 등록번호 30- 0320243
(24) 등록일자 2003년03월07일

(21) 출원번호 30- 2002- 0016675
(22) 출원일자 2002년06월10일

(73) 등록권자 강종구
서울특별시 은평구 불광2동 145- 1 건우빌라 102

(72) 창작자 강종구
서울특별시 은평구 불광2동 145- 1 건우빌라 102

(74) 대리인 김학제

담당심사관 이상안

(54) 공구 포장용 상자

입체의장 도면

의장의 대상이 되는 물품
공구 포장용 상자

의장의 설명

1, 재질은 플라스틱 임.

2, 상부 케이스와 하부 케이스의 중간에 공구를 추가로 수납할 수 있는 풀립형의 수납판을 형성하여 더 많은 공구를 수납할 수 있게 한 것임.

3, 내부에 포장된 공구를 볼 수 있도록 상부 케이스를 투명하게 형성한 것임.

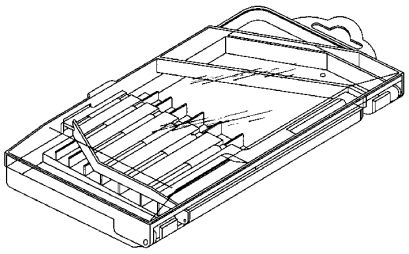
4, 상부 뒷면에 접으면 포장용 상자안에 일체가 되고, 펼 경우 공구 포장용 상자를 걸 수 있는 접찰식 고리가 형성된 것임.

의장 창작 내용의 요점

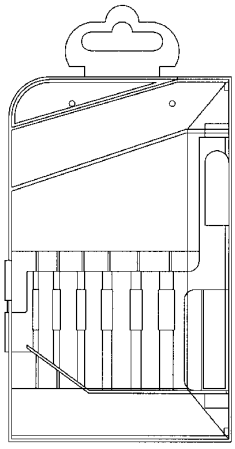
"공구 포장용 상자"의 형상과 모양의 결합을 의장 창작 내용의 요점으로 함.

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Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
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사시도

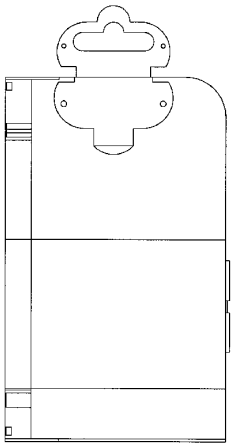


정면도

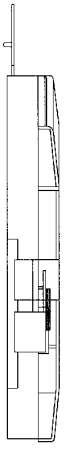


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배면도



좌측면도



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Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
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우측면도



정면도

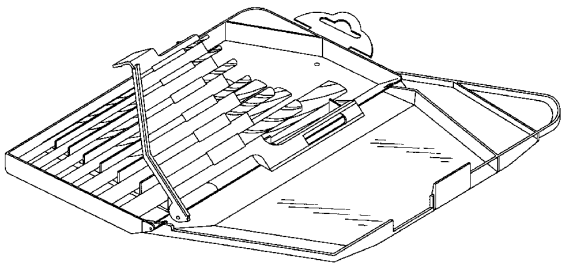


저면도



참고도 1

사용 상태도



Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 615
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

【19】中華民國　　【12】專利公報　（S）

【11】證書號數：D135074
【45】公告日： 中華民國 99 (2010) 年 06 月 01 日
【51】LOC. (8) Cl. ：03-01

新式樣　　全8 頁

【54】名　　稱：萬用組合盤

【21】申請案號：098303725　　【22】申請日： 中華民國 98 (2009) 年 08 月 12 日

【72】創 作 人： 巫宜樺 (TW) WU, YI HUA
【71】申 請 人： 巫宜樺　　WU, YI HUA
臺北市信義區吳興街 284 巷 20 弄 44 號 3 樓

【56】參考文獻：
US　D569105

圖面說明

立體圖

前視圖

後視圖

左側視圖

右側視圖

俯視圖

仰視圖

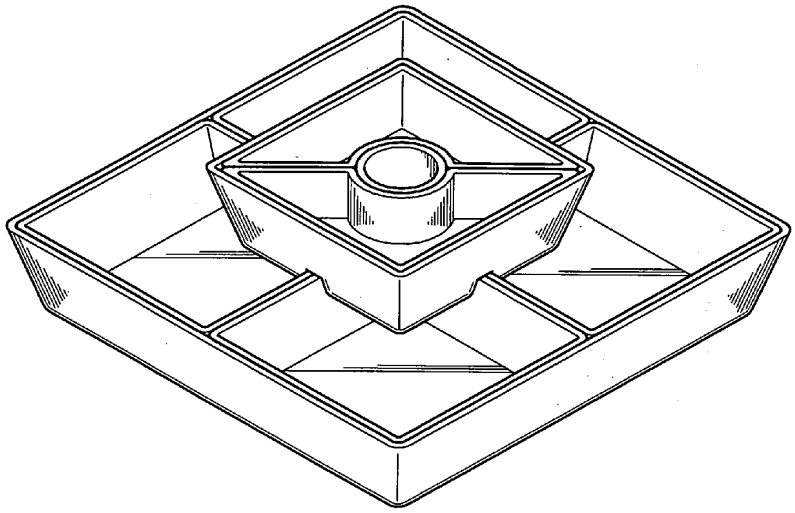
立體分解圖

使用參考圖(1)

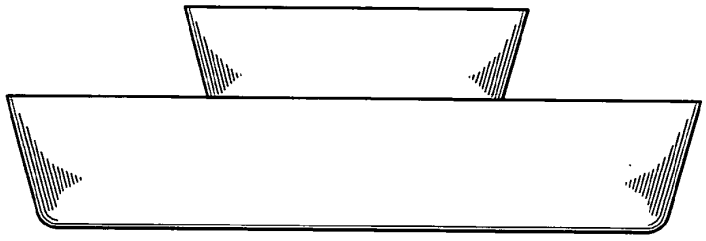
使用參考圖(2)

使用參考圖(3)

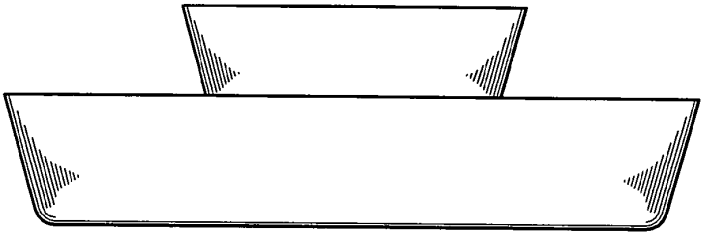
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 616
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401



立體圖(代表圖)

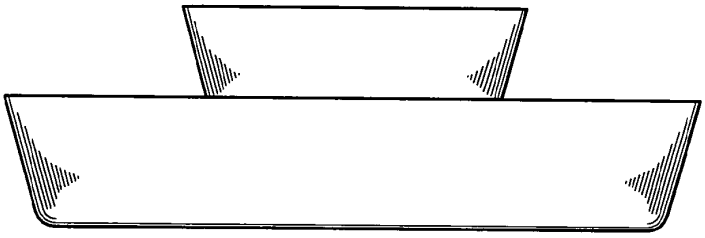


前視圖

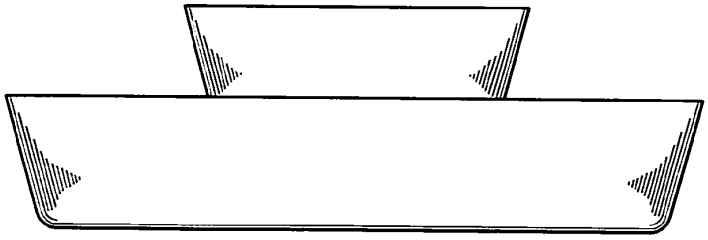


後視圖

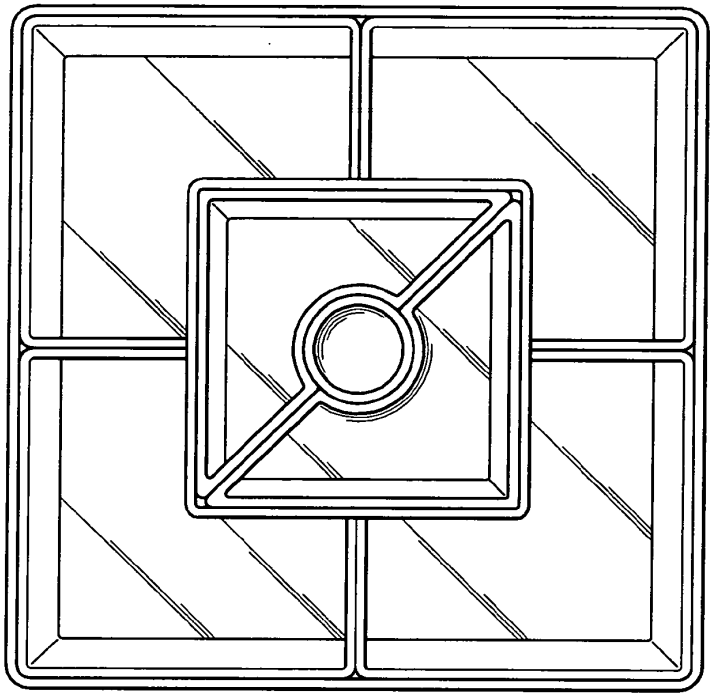
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 617
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IPR2024-01401



左側視圖



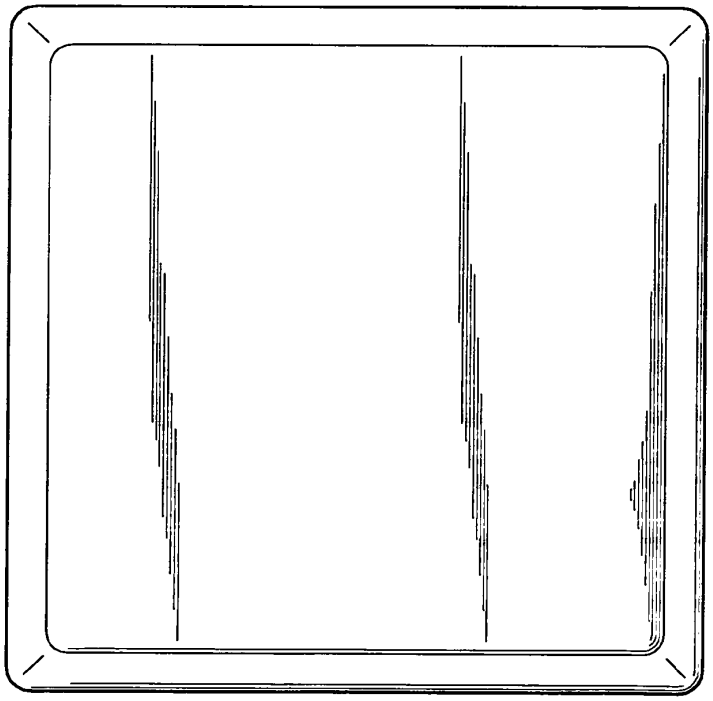
右側視圖



俯視圖

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 618
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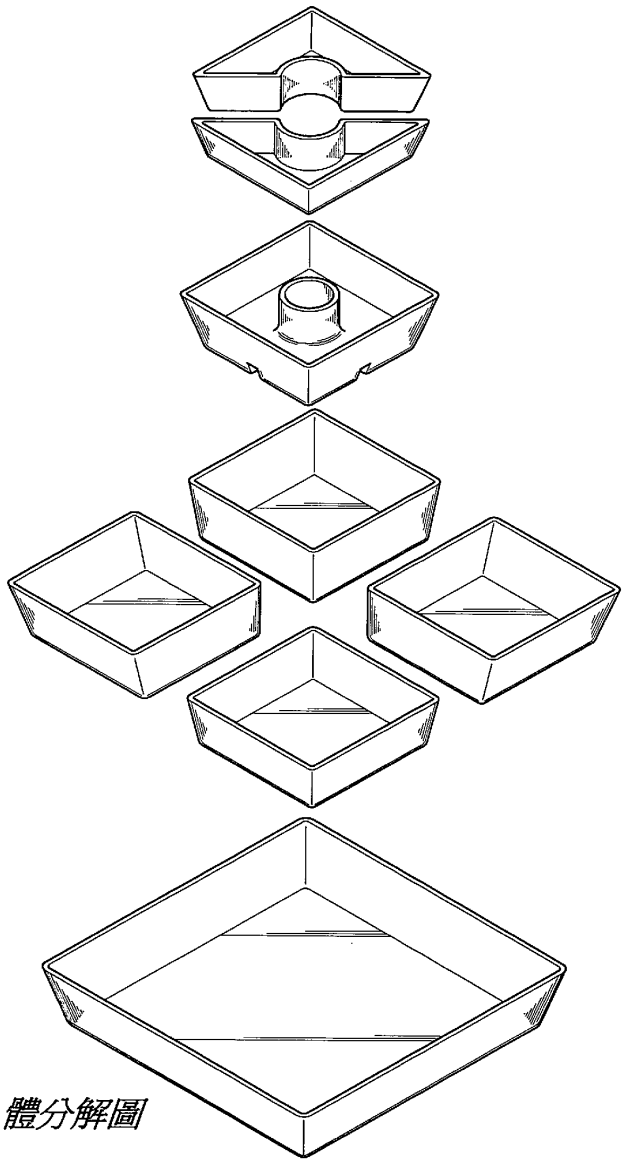
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仰視圖

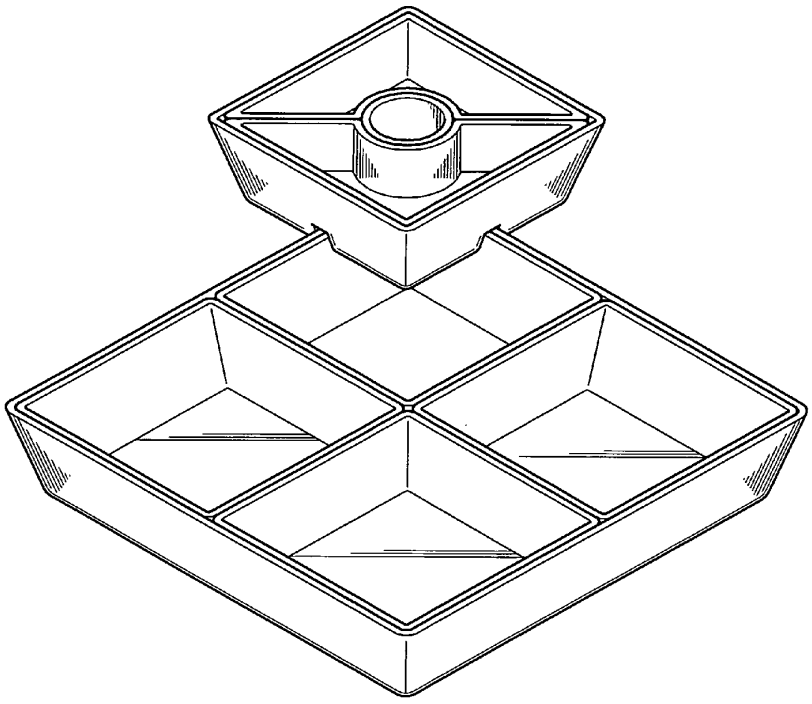
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 619
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

(5)



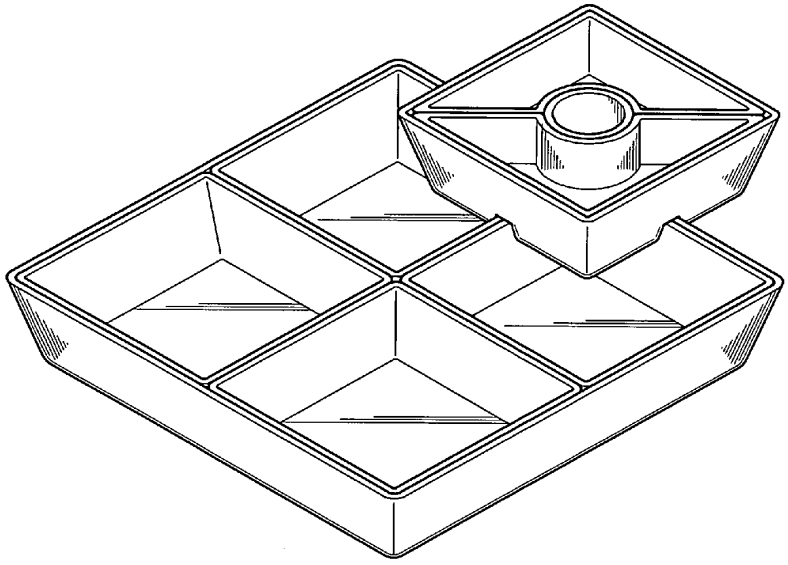
立體分解圖

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 620
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
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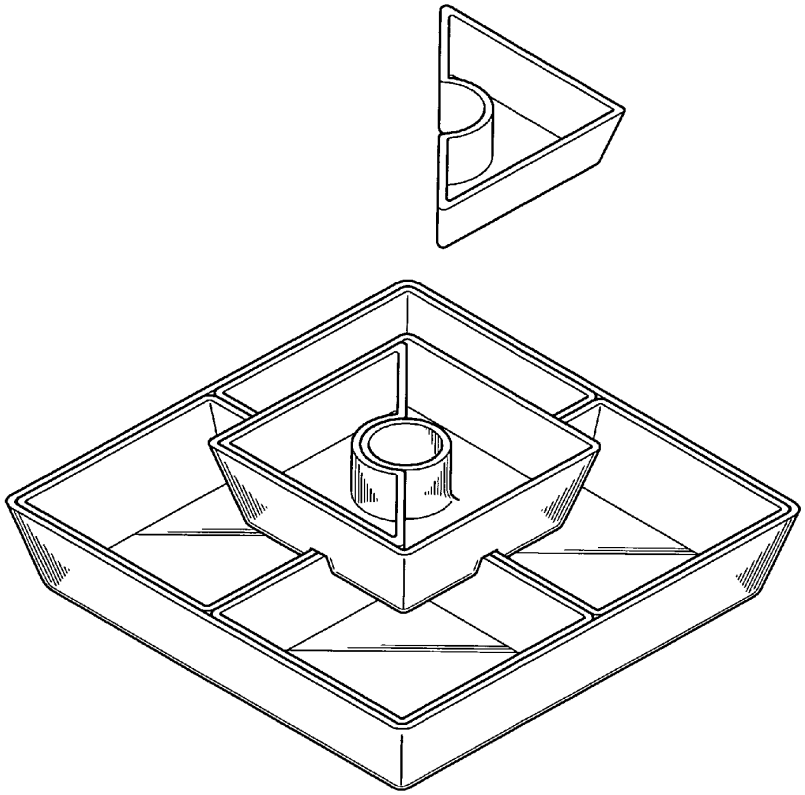
使用狀態參考 圖(1)

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 621
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401



使用狀態參考 圖(2)

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 622
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
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使用狀態參考 圖(3)

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 623
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

【19】中華民國　　【12】專利公報　（S）

【11】證書號數：D168686
【45】公告日： 中華民國 104 (2015) 年 07 月 01 日
【51】LOC. (9) Cl.：03-01

設計　　全8 頁

【54】名　　稱：推車之部分
【21】申請案號：103306747　　【22】申請日： 中華民國 103 (2014) 年 11 月 18 日
【72】設 計 人： 廖英傑 (TW) ；廖祐國 (TW)
【71】申 請 人： 康得倫事業有限公司
臺中市西區大同街 250 之 1 號
【56】參考文獻：

CN	CN300689421	CN	CN300707050
JP	D1438268	JP	D1477050
KR	300423808		

審查人員：黃龍寶

設計說明

請參考各圖所示，本設計特點在於推車之抽屜的前側具有多數個凸緣及凹槽，如是構成整體外觀具特異視覺效果之設計。

左側視圖與右側視圖對稱，故省略左側視圖。

後視圖、仰視圖及俯視圖未包含主張設計之部分，故省略後視圖、仰視圖及俯視圖。

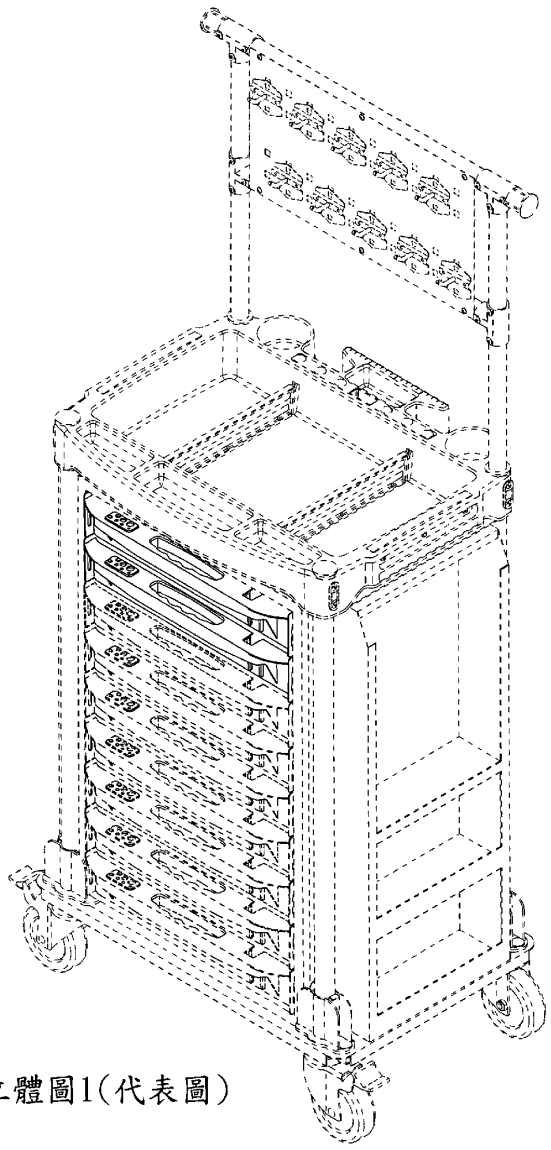
局部放大圖係用以說明本案所欲主張範圍之部分。

使用狀態圖係用以說明本案推車之抽屜拉開時之狀態示意圖。

圖式所揭露之虛線部分為本案不主張設計之部分。

圖式所揭露之一點鏈線所圍繞者，係界定本案所欲主張之範圍，該一點鏈線本身為本案不主張設計之部分。

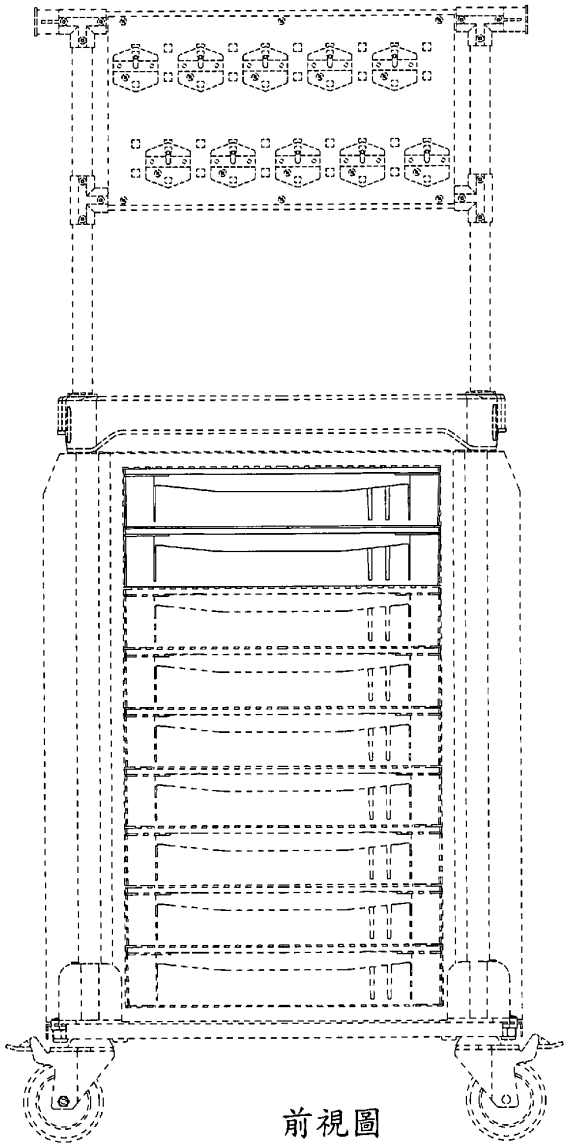
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 624
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立體圖1(代表圖)

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IPR2024-01401

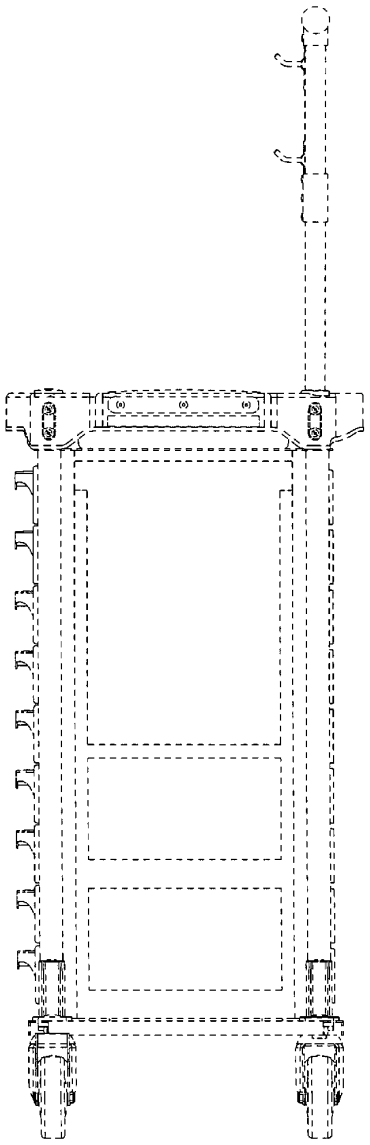
(3)



前視圖

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 626
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

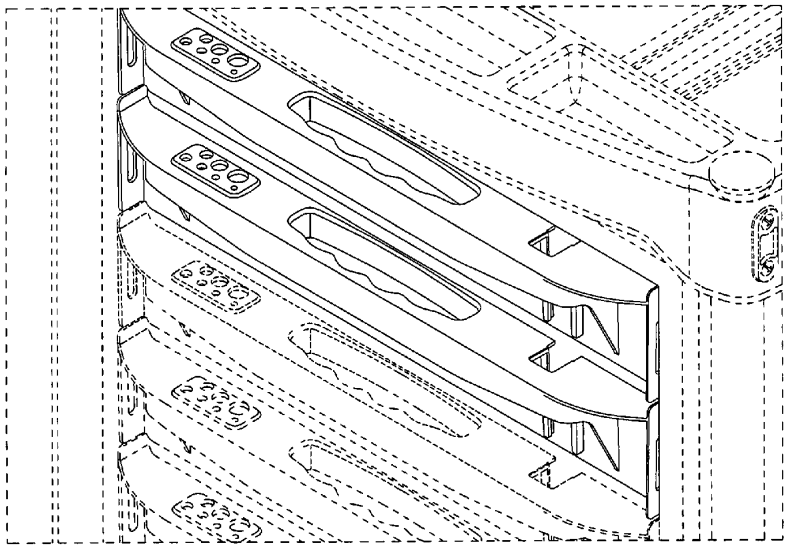
(4)



右側視圖

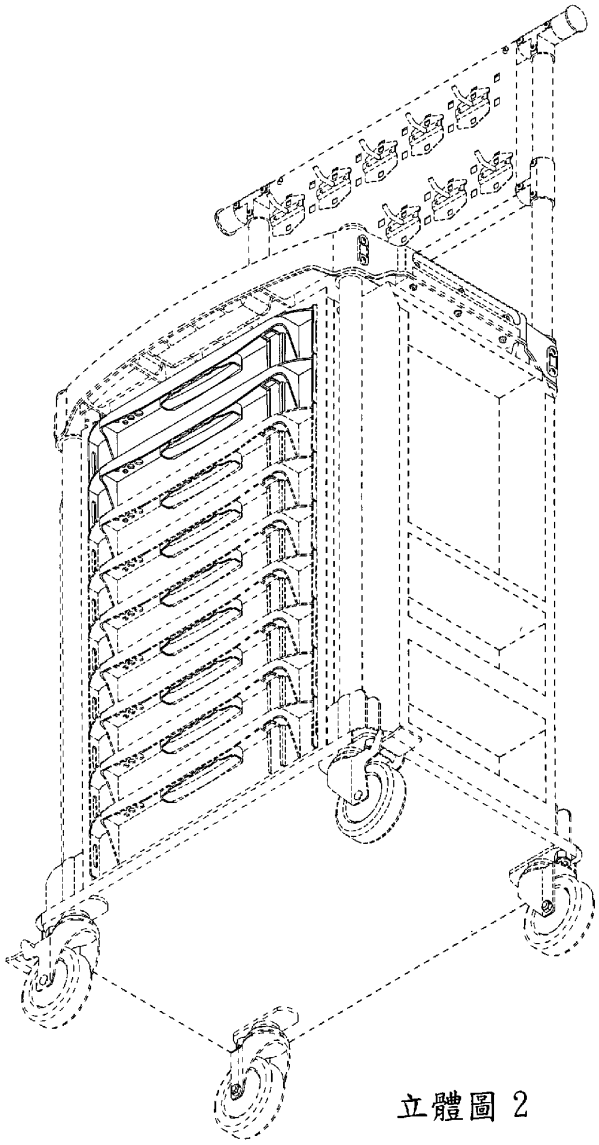
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 627
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
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(5)



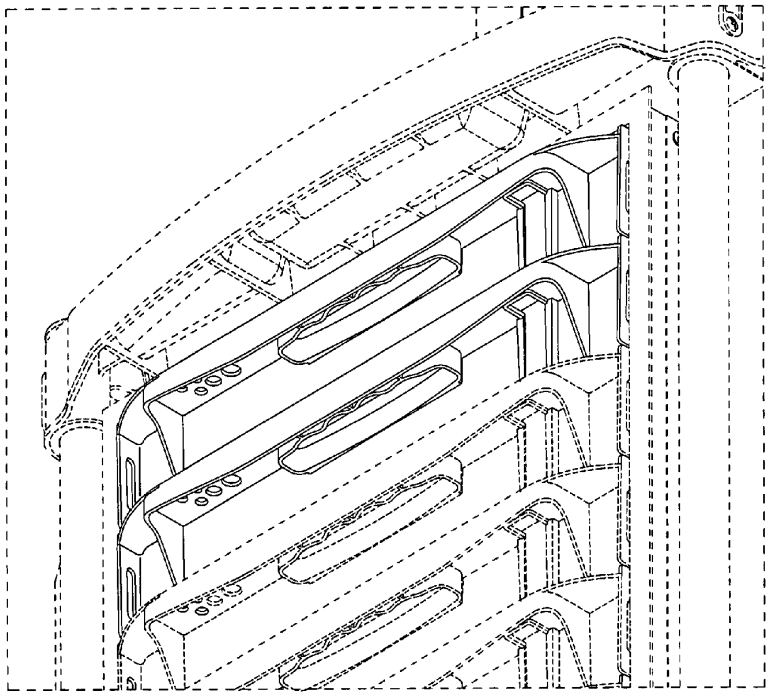
立體圖1之局部放大圖

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 628
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401



立體圖 2

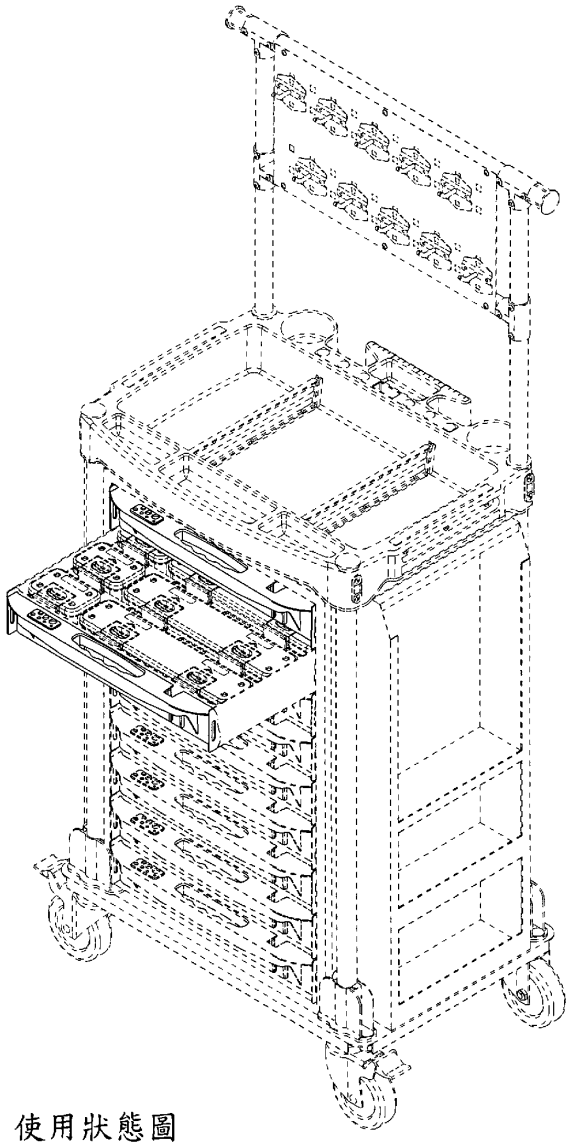
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 629
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立體圖2之局部放大圖

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(8)



使用狀態圖

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IPR2024-01401

【19】中華民國　　【12】專利公報　（S）

【11】證書號數：D174412
【45】公告日： 中華民國 105 (2016) 年 03 月 21 日
【51】LOC. (9) Cl. ：03-01

設計　　全3 頁

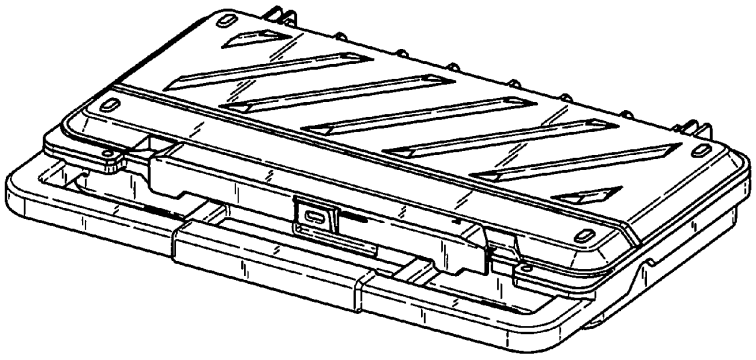
【54】名　　稱：工具箱
TOOL BOX

【21】申請案號：104303357　　【22】申請日： 中華民國 104 (2015) 年 06 月 22 日
【30】優 先 權： 2014/12/19　　歐盟內部市場調和局　001427314

【72】設 計 人： 李信昌 (TW) LEE, HSIN CHANG；賀羅維茲　奈丁　丹尼爾 (IL) HOROVITZ, NADIN DANIEL
【71】申 請 人： 史坦利百工公司　　STANLEY BLACK & DECKER, INC.
美國
【74】代 理 人： 陳長文

【56】參考文獻：
TW　224918　　TW　258627
TW　D122936

審查人員：劉心惠

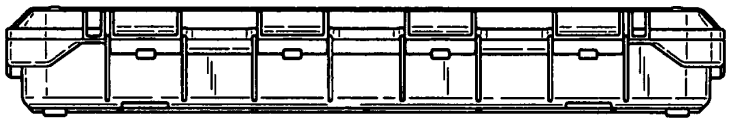


立體圖
(代表圖)

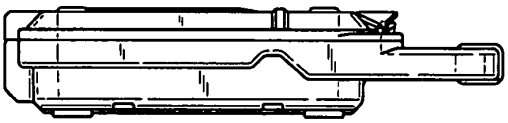


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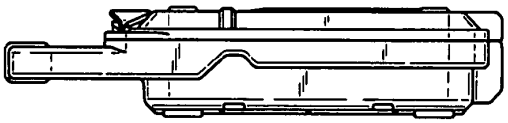
Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 632
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401



後視圖

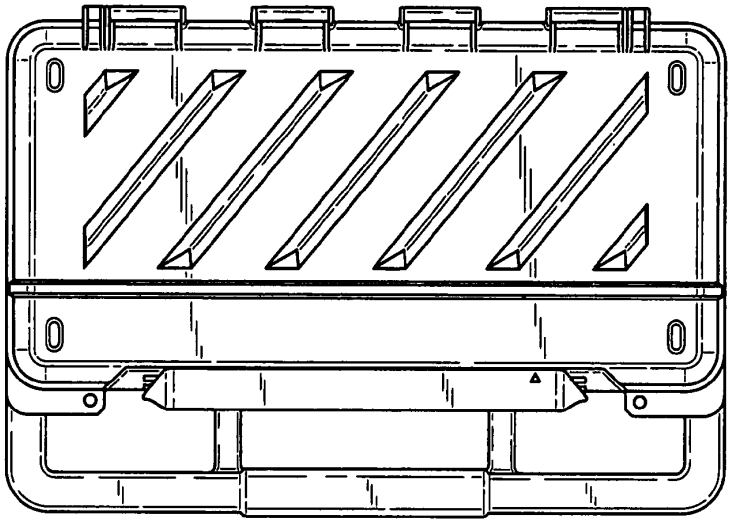


左側視圖

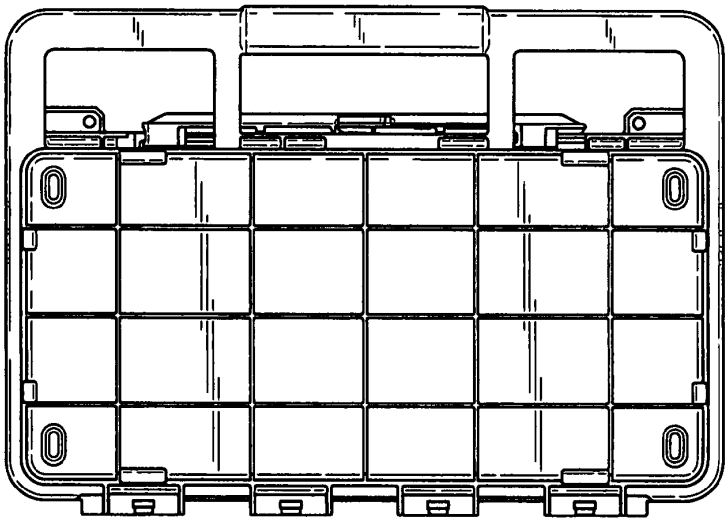


右側視圖

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 633
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俯視圖



仰視圖

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IPR2024-01401

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal	
Application Number:	15826232
Filing Date:	29-Nov-2017
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Filer:	William C. Geary
Attorney Docket Number:	16318-5
Filed as Large Entity	
Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)	

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Miscellaneous:				
SUBMISSION- INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STMT	1806	1	240	240
		Total in USD ($)		**240**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	33367840
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	30623
Filer:	William C. Geary
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	16318-5
Receipt Date:	03-AUG-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	14:08:24
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$240
RAM confirmation Number	080618INTEFSW00000364500311
Deposit Account	500311
Authorized User	William Geary
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows: 37 CFR 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees) 37 CFR 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)	

37 CFR 1.20 (Post Issuance fees)

37 CFR 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	055390-501C01US_IDS.pdf	1034818 5fba3927216ddb4ef6cf44641483f7a3095effac	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Transmittal Letter	055390-501C01US_IDS-Transmittal.pdf	104957 0ddbaa53137b9465baf4cc23df22711f843f3f06	no	2
Warnings:					
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3	Foreign Reference	JPD1276744.pdf	2145148 b191d77f18f2b6e833cdc9cd7e52cfccd04e131c	no	3
Warnings:					
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4	Foreign Reference	JPD1477050.pdf	6584888 23afd92840ec1688e129f13960f9e6816031a5de	no	6
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6	Foreign Reference	KR3003202430000.pdf	266862 2f2698b0ecc13e6fdbeffafb7e0ffa353eaf1406	no	4
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			Total Files Size (in bytes):	17236703	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

Docket No.: 55390-501C01US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yaron Brunner

Application No.: 15/826,232 | Confirmation No.: 1070

Filed: November 29, 2017 | Art Unit: 3728

For: Utility Assembly and Coupling Mechanism | Examiner: G. R. Weinerth

TRANSMITTAL

Via EFS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Applicant respectfully submits Replacement Drawings (Figures 1A-24, 48 pages) for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application. The Replacement Drawings replace the original drawings filed on November 29, 2017 (Figures 1A-24, 35 pages).

Applicant believes no fee is due. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0311, under Order No. 055390-501C01US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 31, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Elissa M. Kingsland/
Elissa M. Kingsland
Registration No.: 63,259
MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
(617) 542-6000
Attorney for Applicant

80906922v.1

REPLACEMENT SHEET

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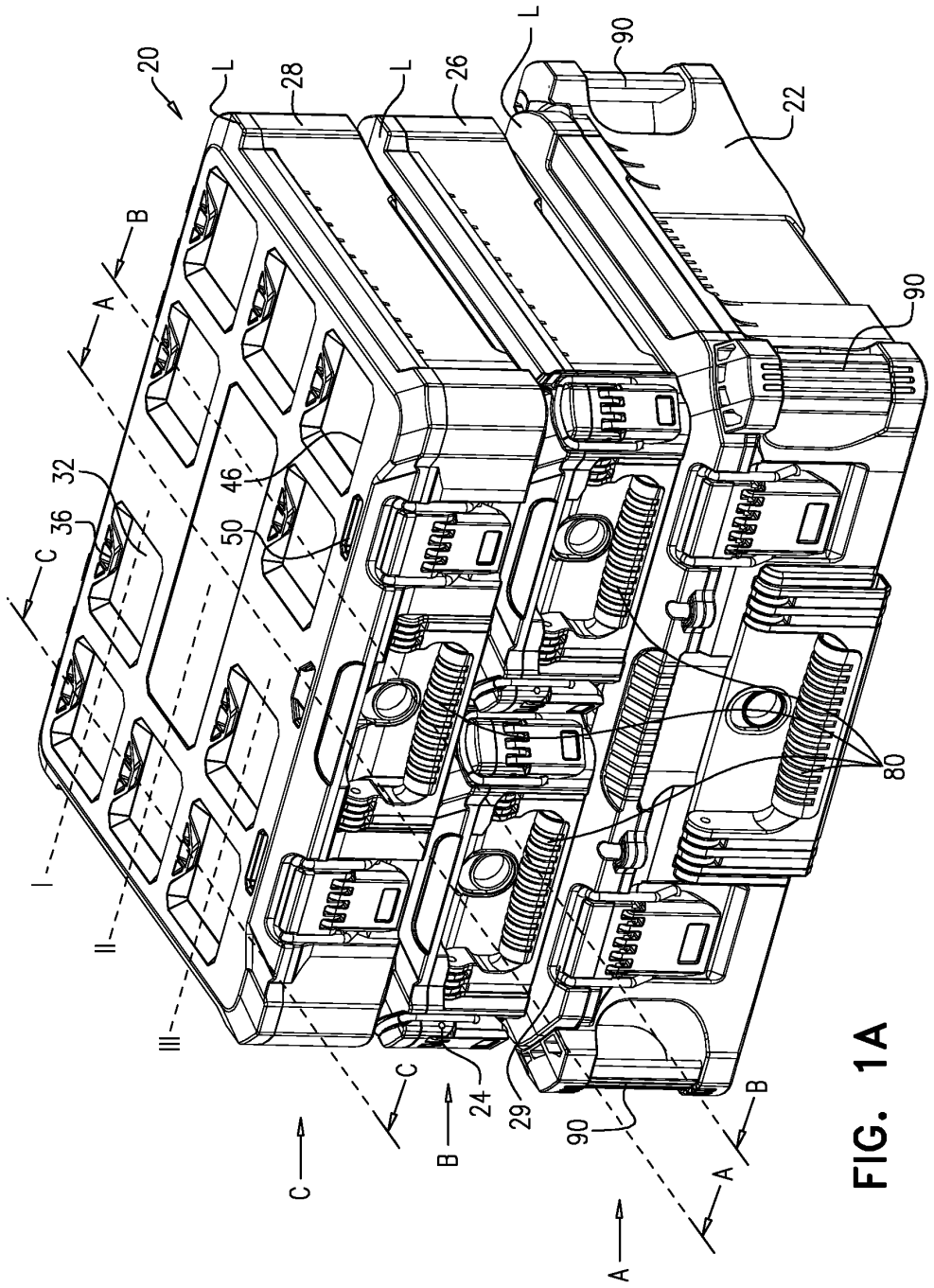


FIG. 1A

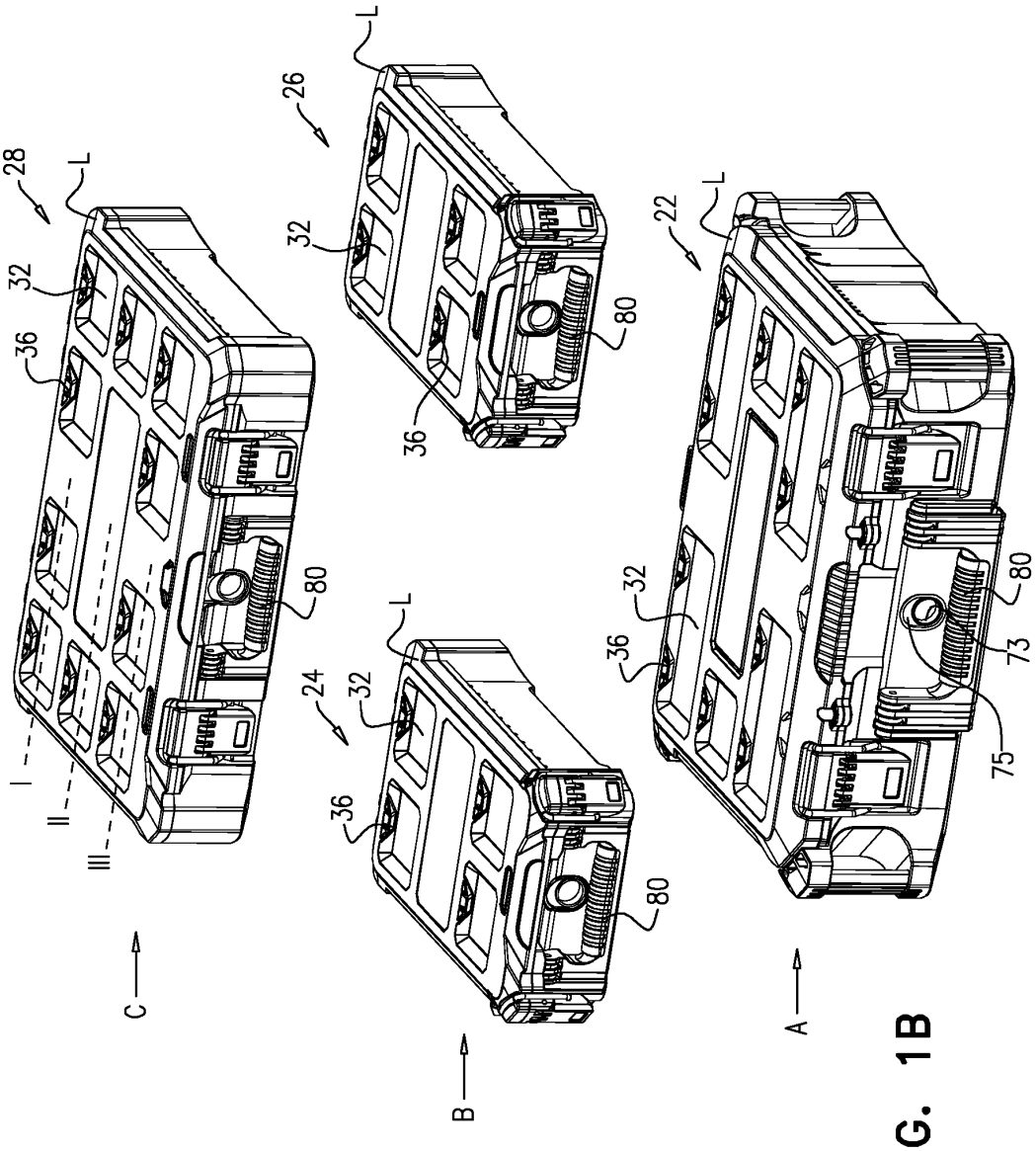


FIG. 1B

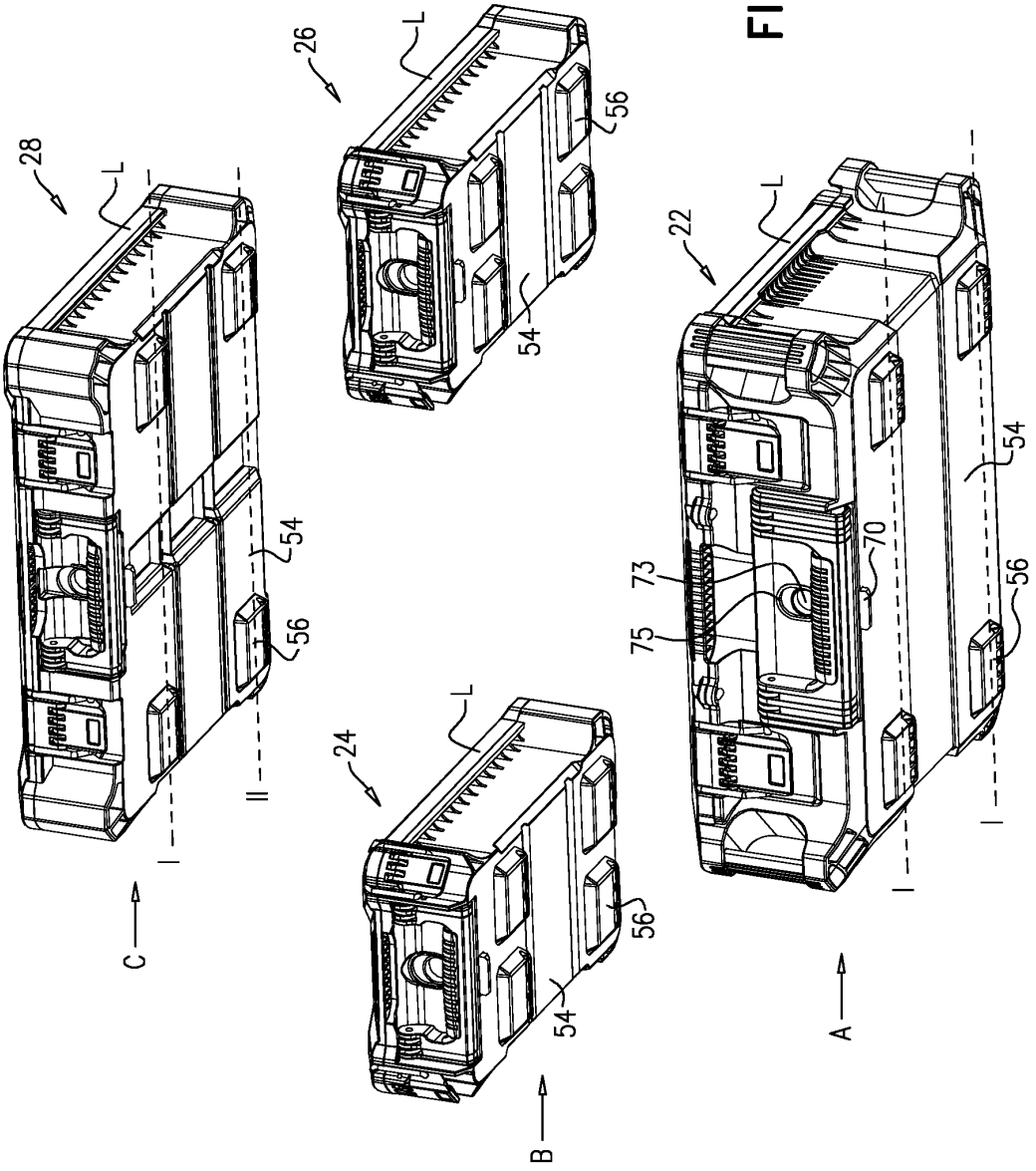


FIG. 1C

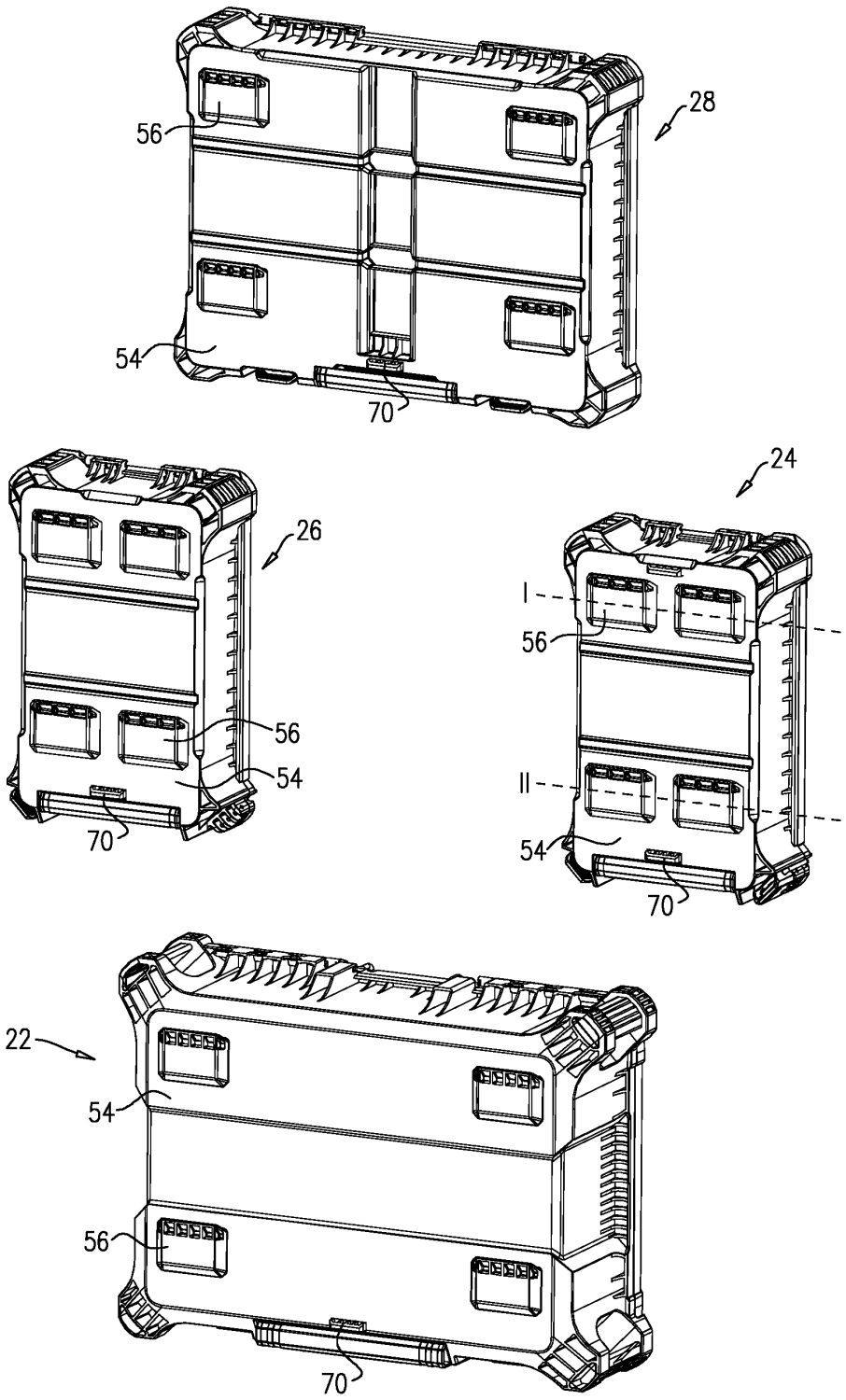


FIG. 1D

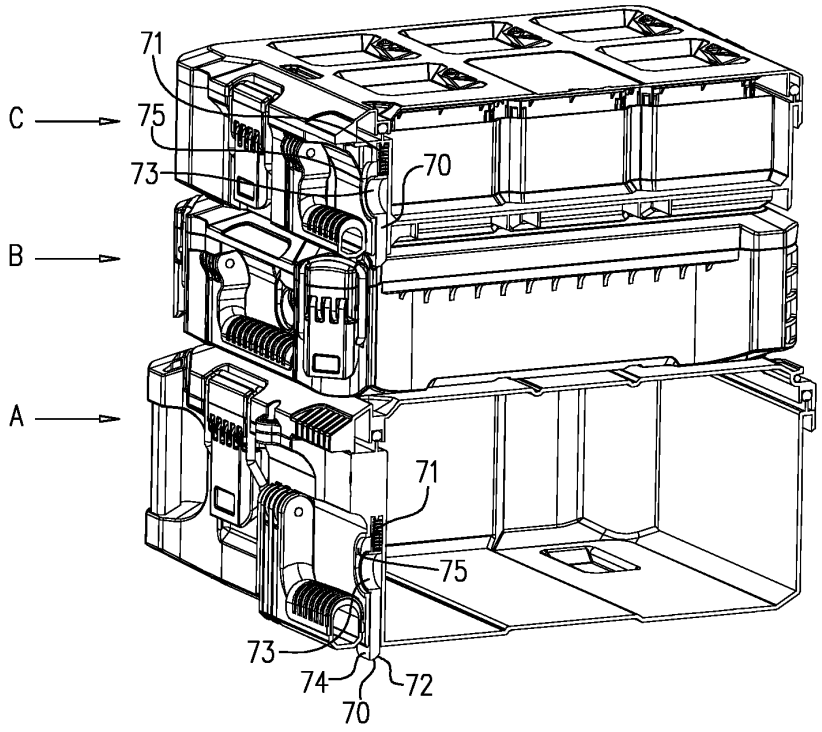


FIG. 2A

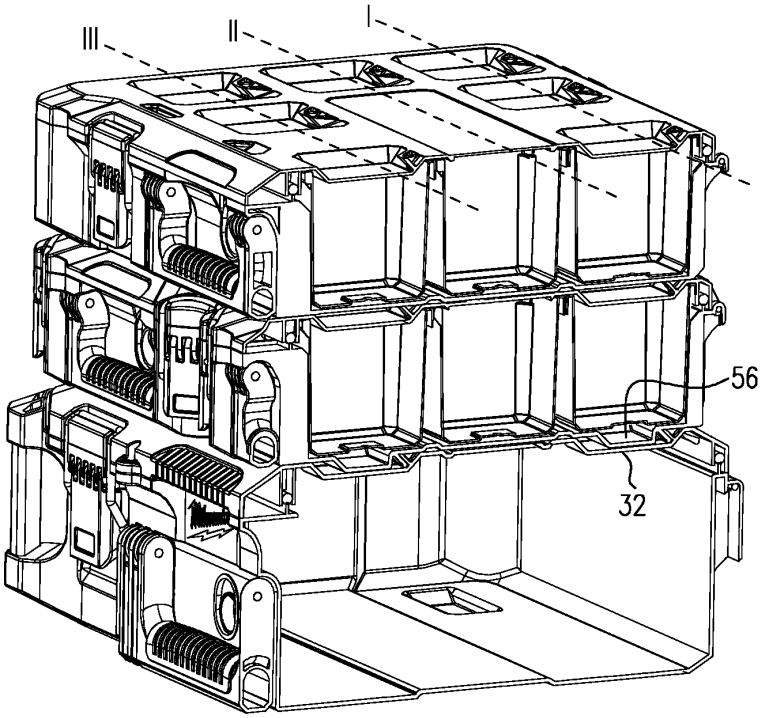


FIG. 2B

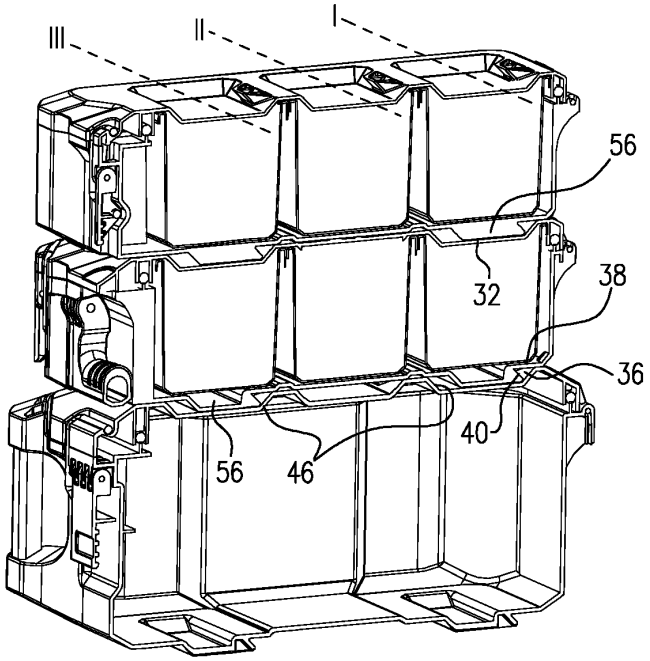


FIG. 2C

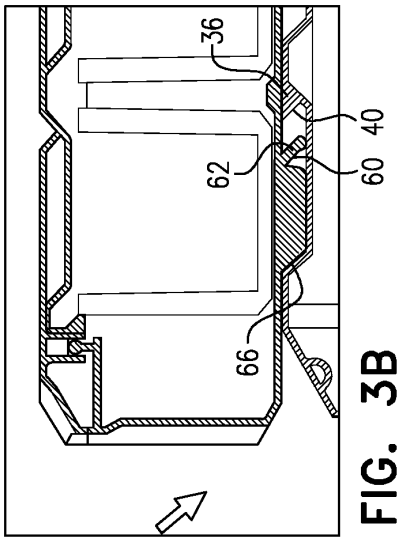


FIG. 3B

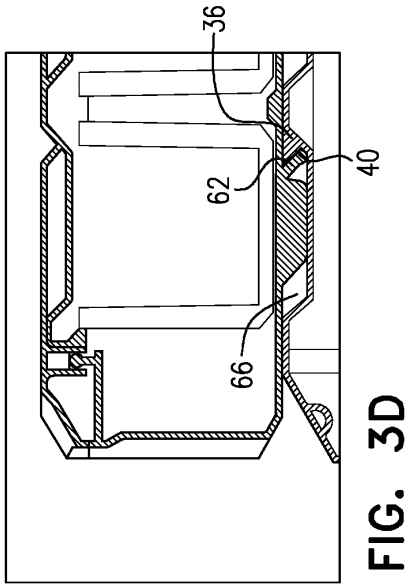


FIG. 3D

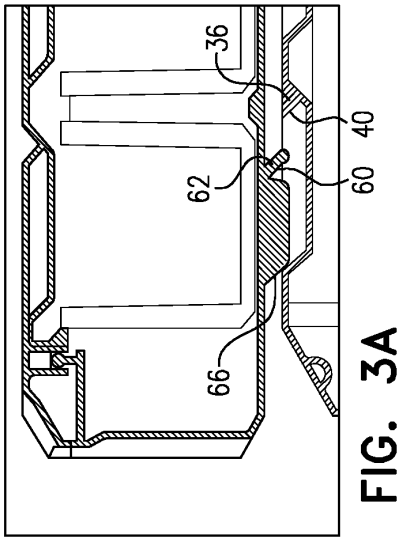


FIG. 3A

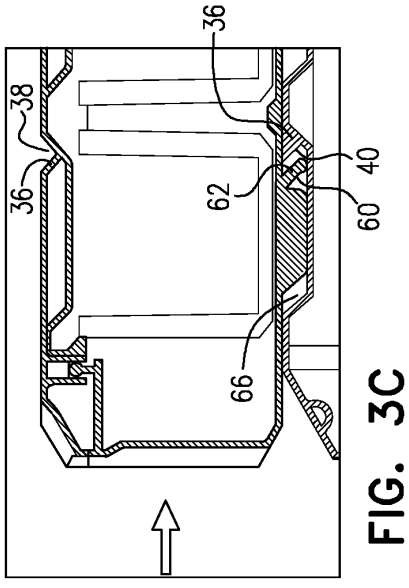


FIG. 3C

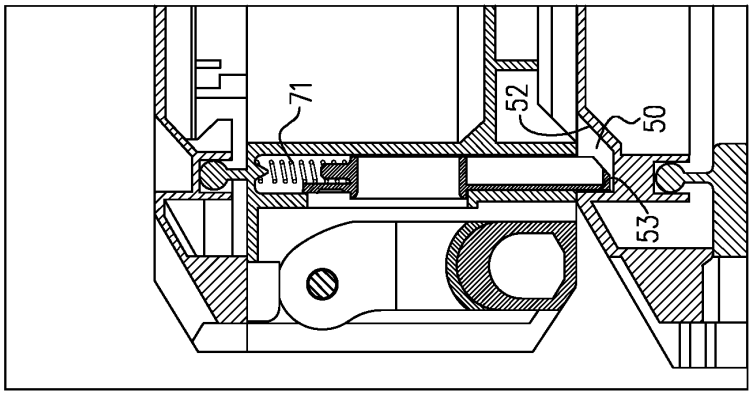


FIG. 4D

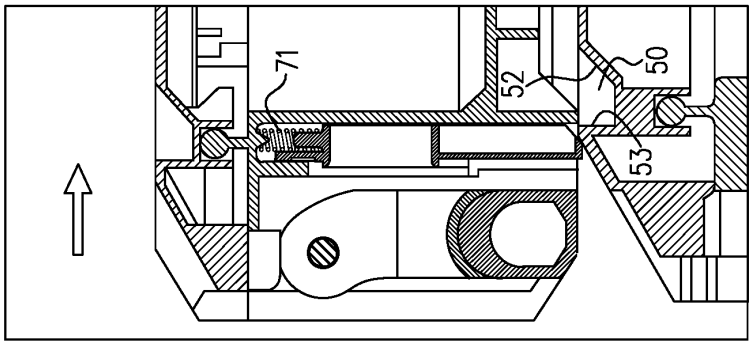


FIG. 4C

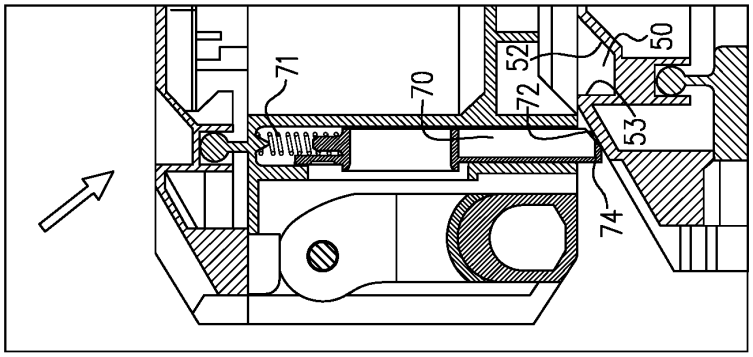


FIG. 4B

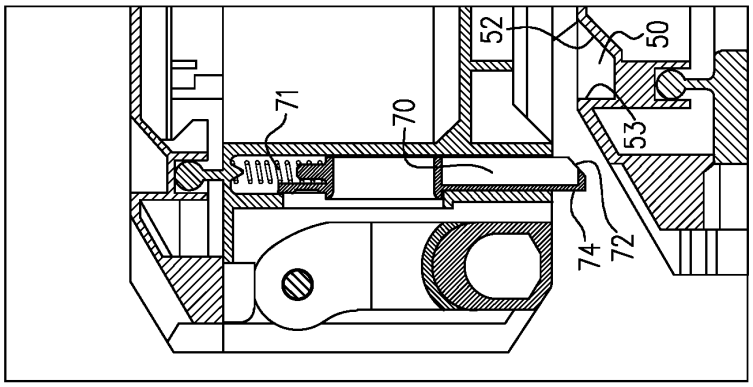


FIG. 4A

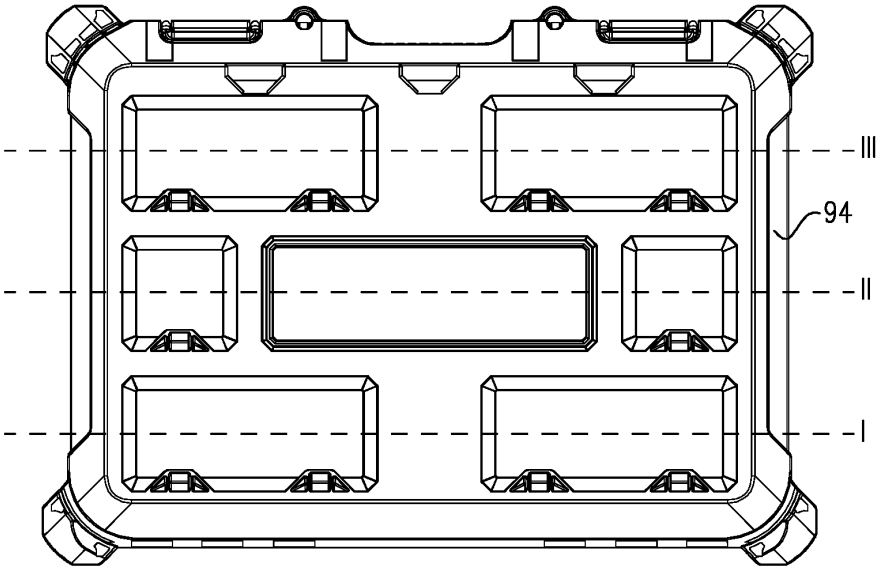


FIG. 5A

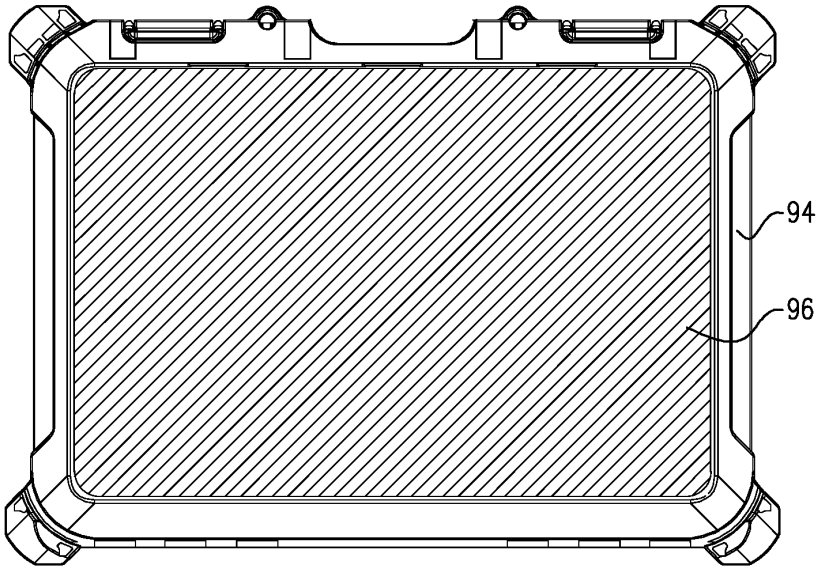


FIG. 5B

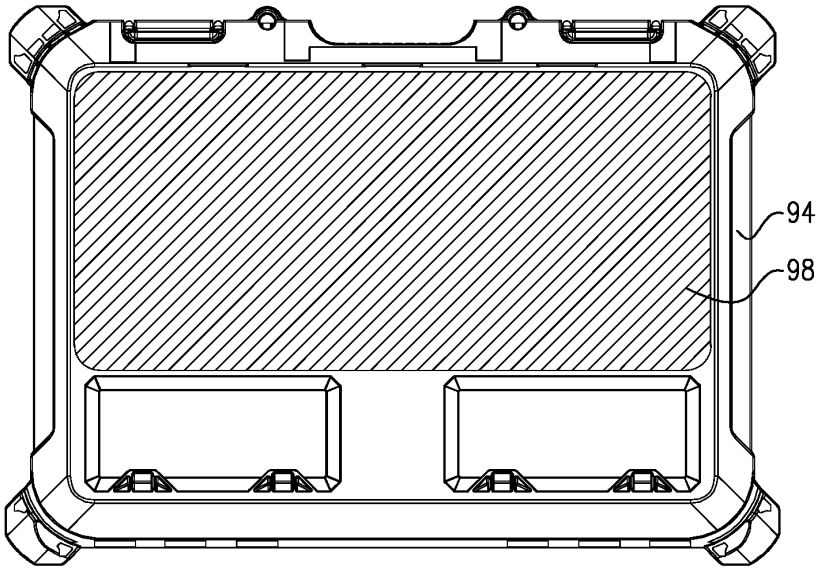


FIG. 5C

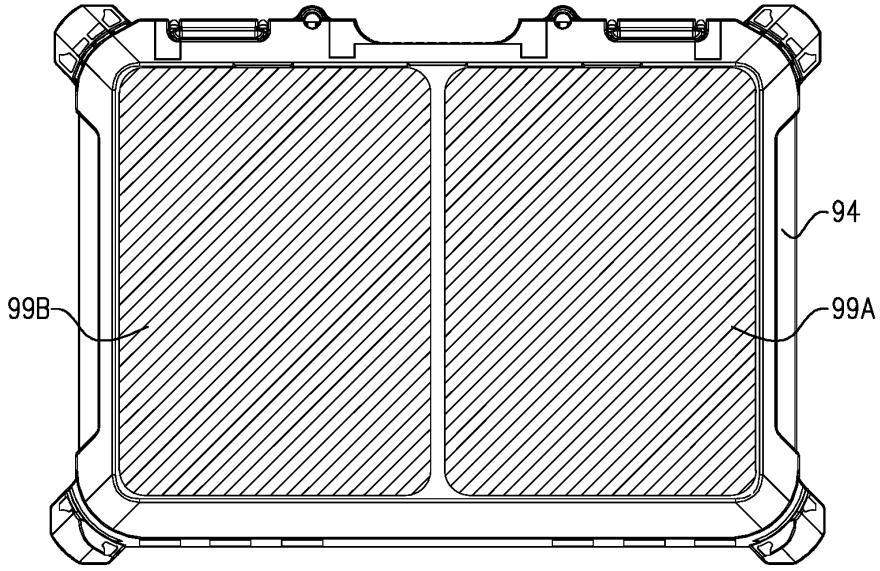


FIG. 5D

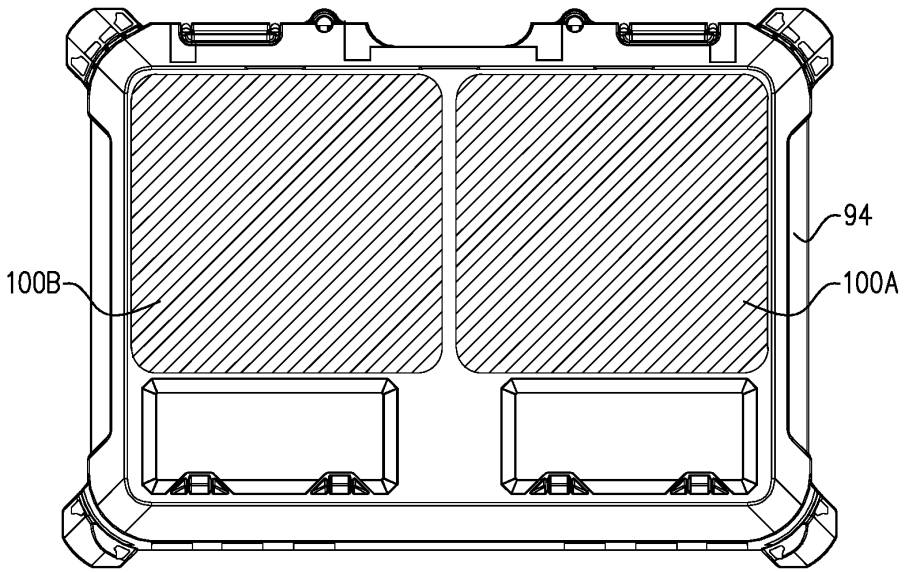


FIG. 5E

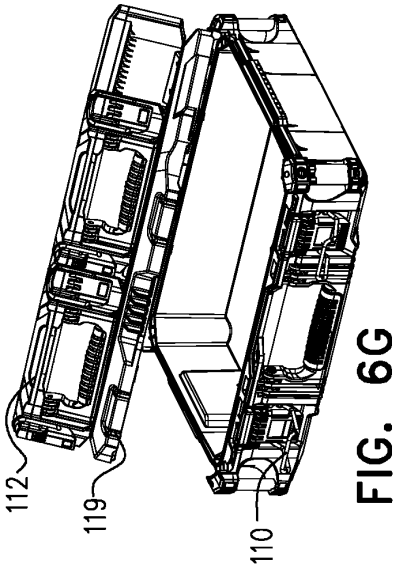


FIG. 6G

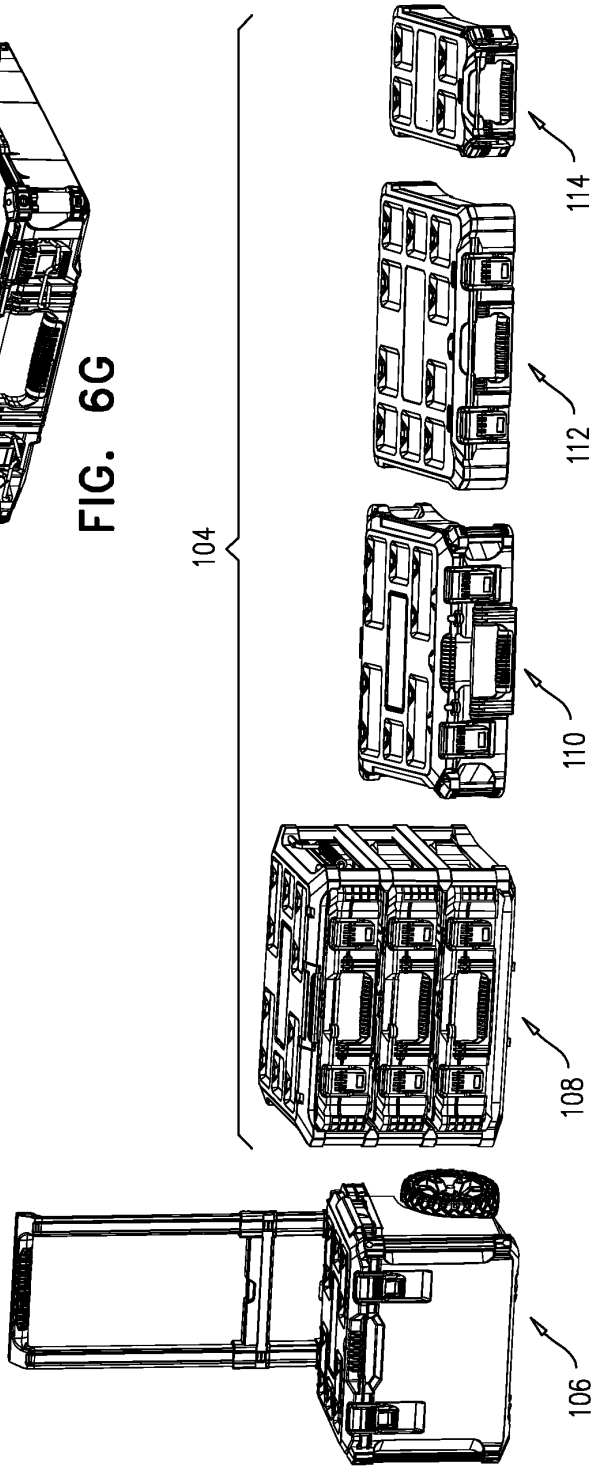


FIG. 6A

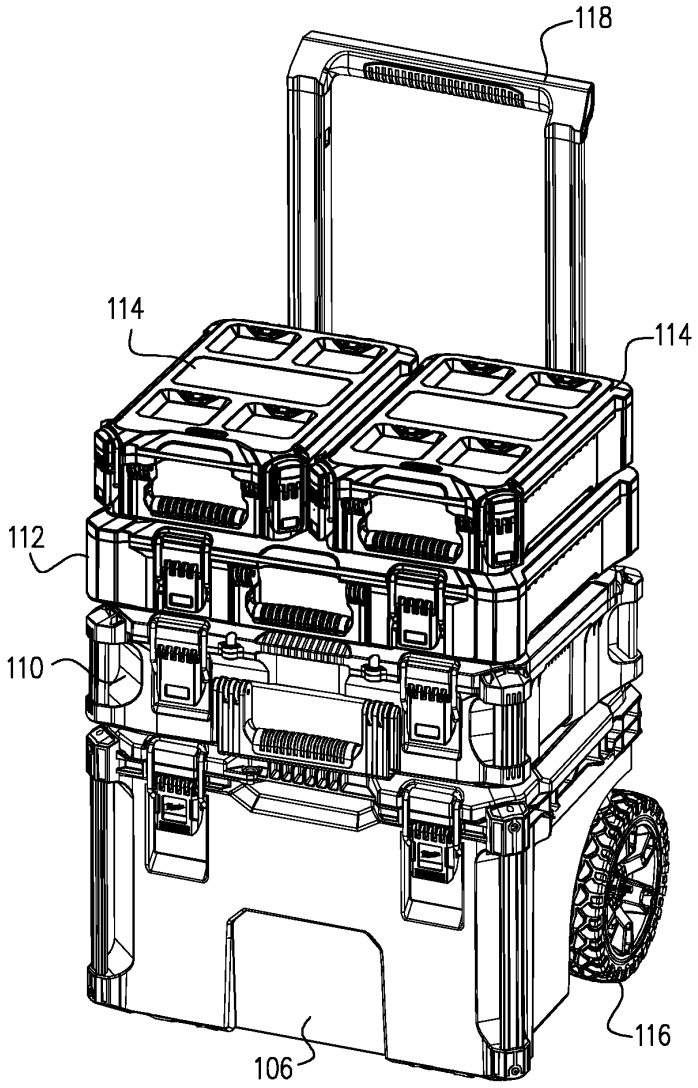


FIG. 6B

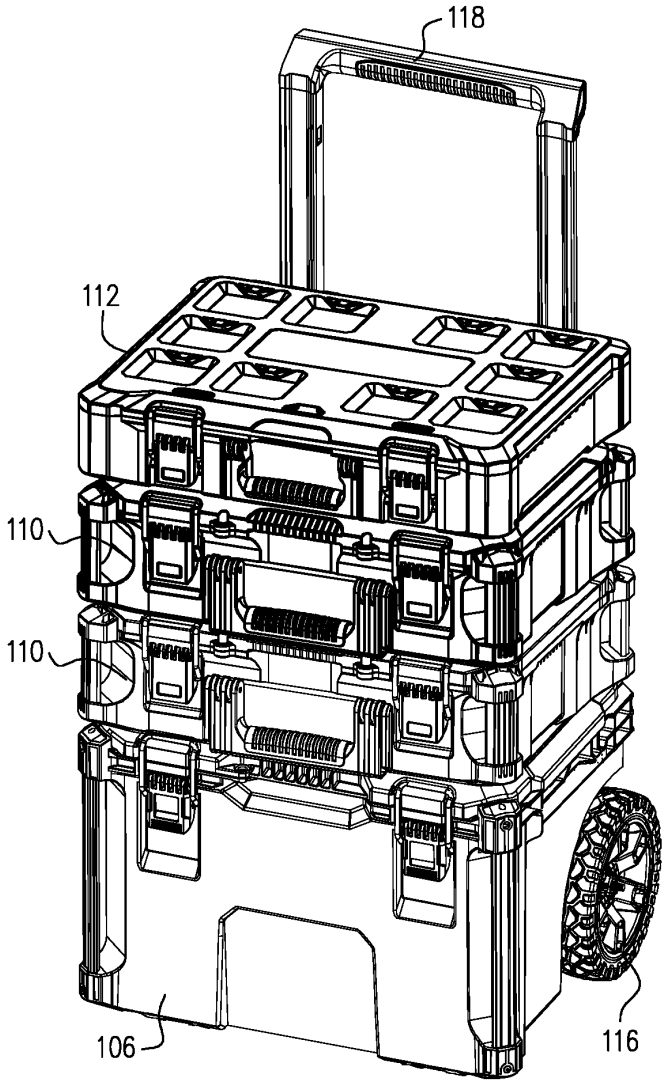


FIG. 6C

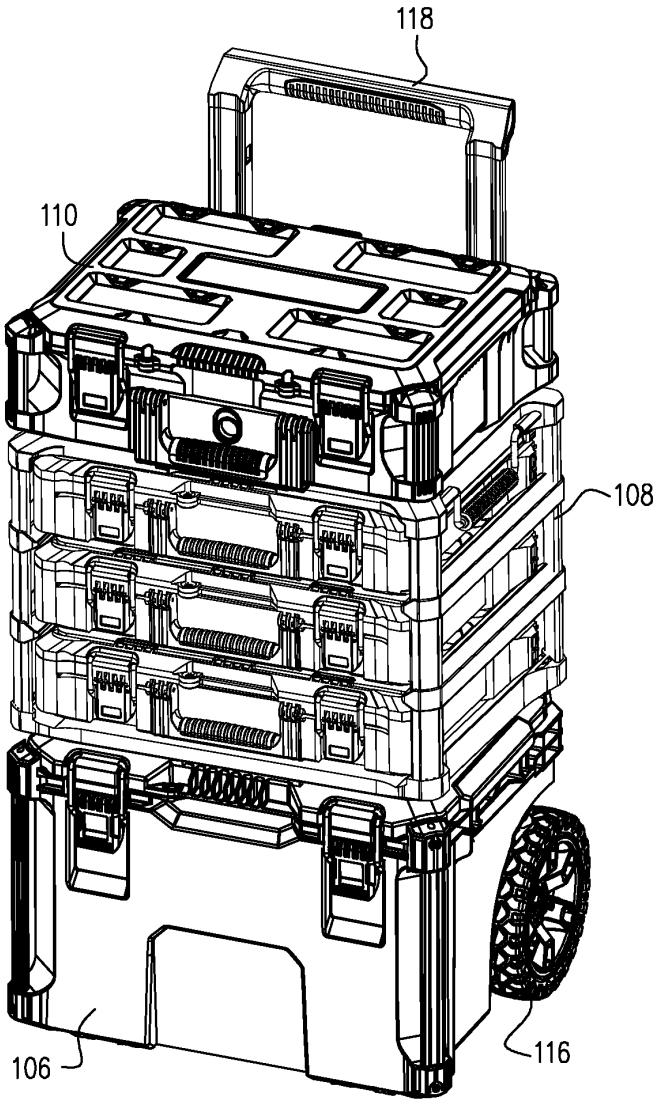


FIG. 6D

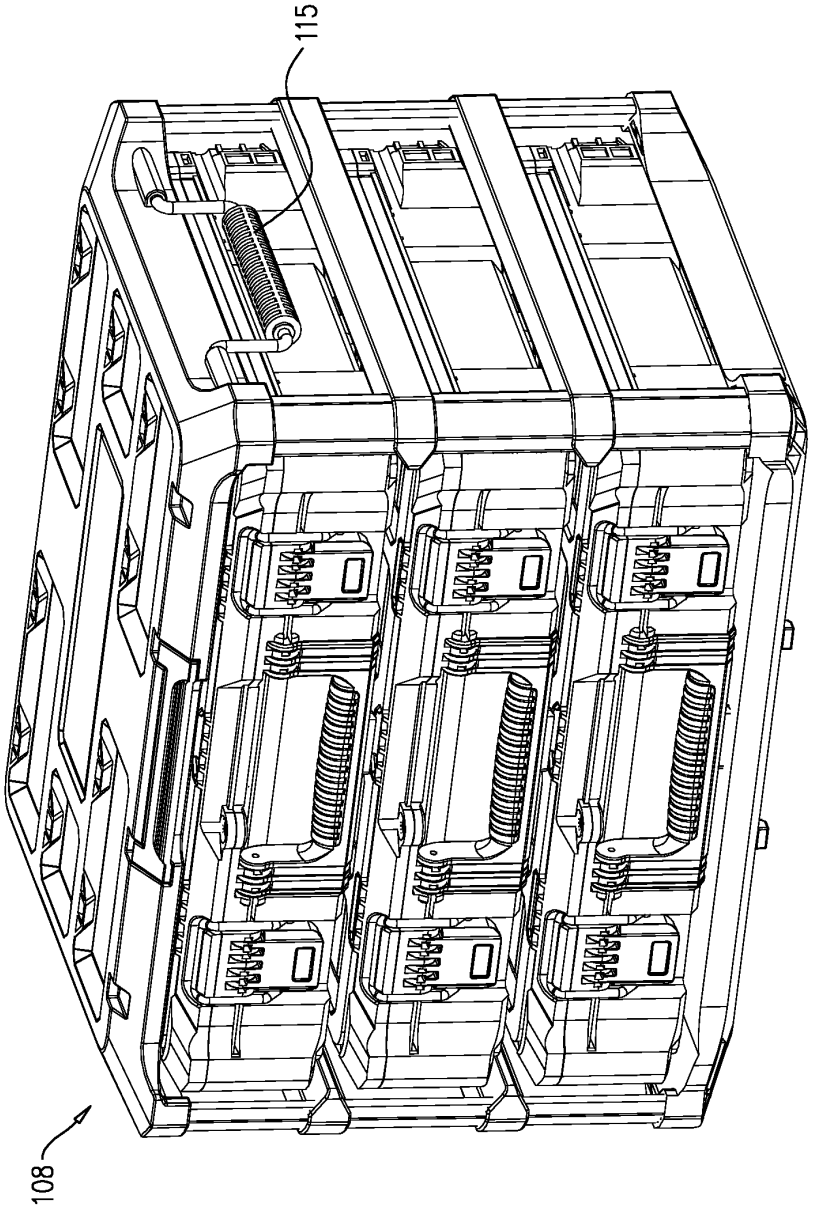


FIG. 6E

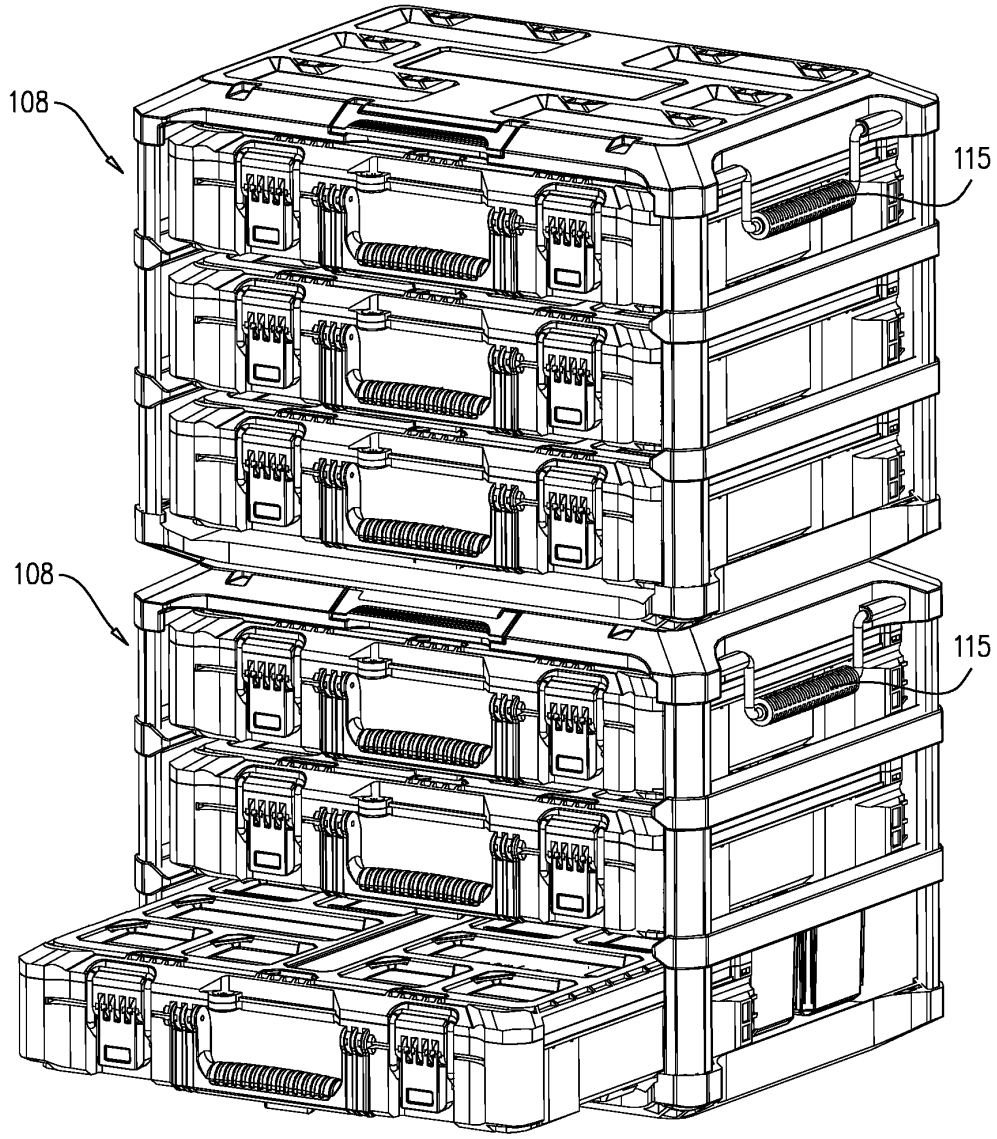


FIG. 6F

REPLACEMENT SHEET

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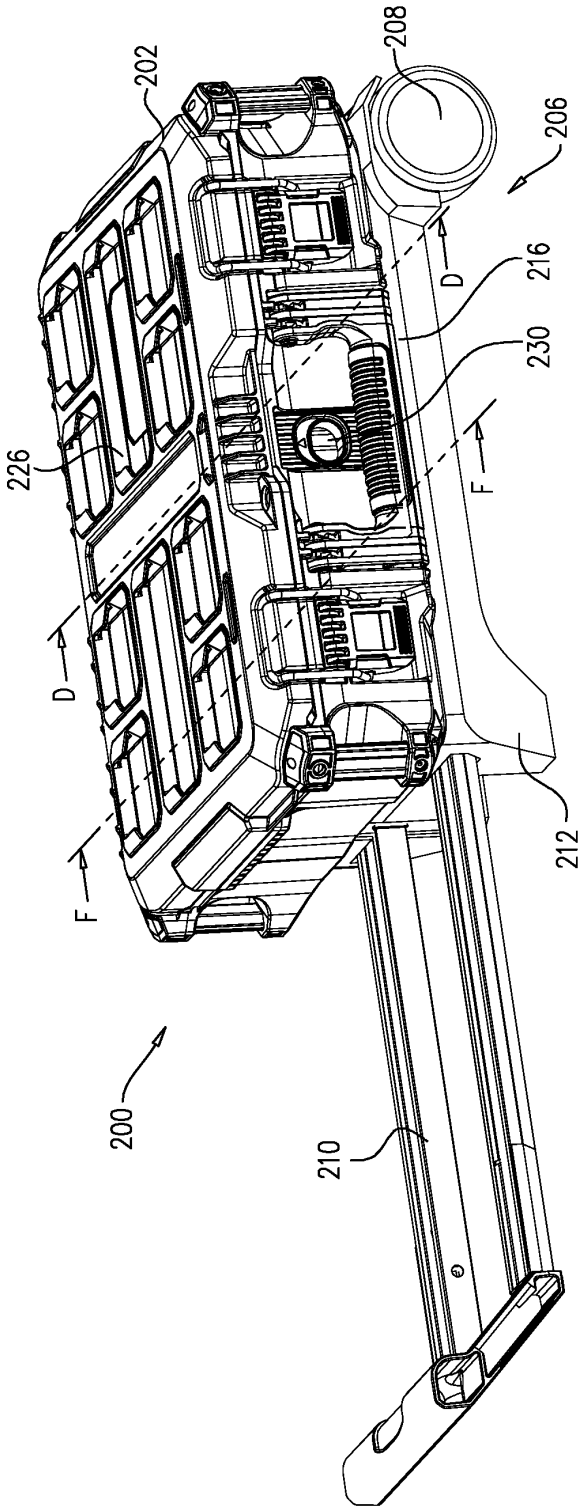


FIG. 7A

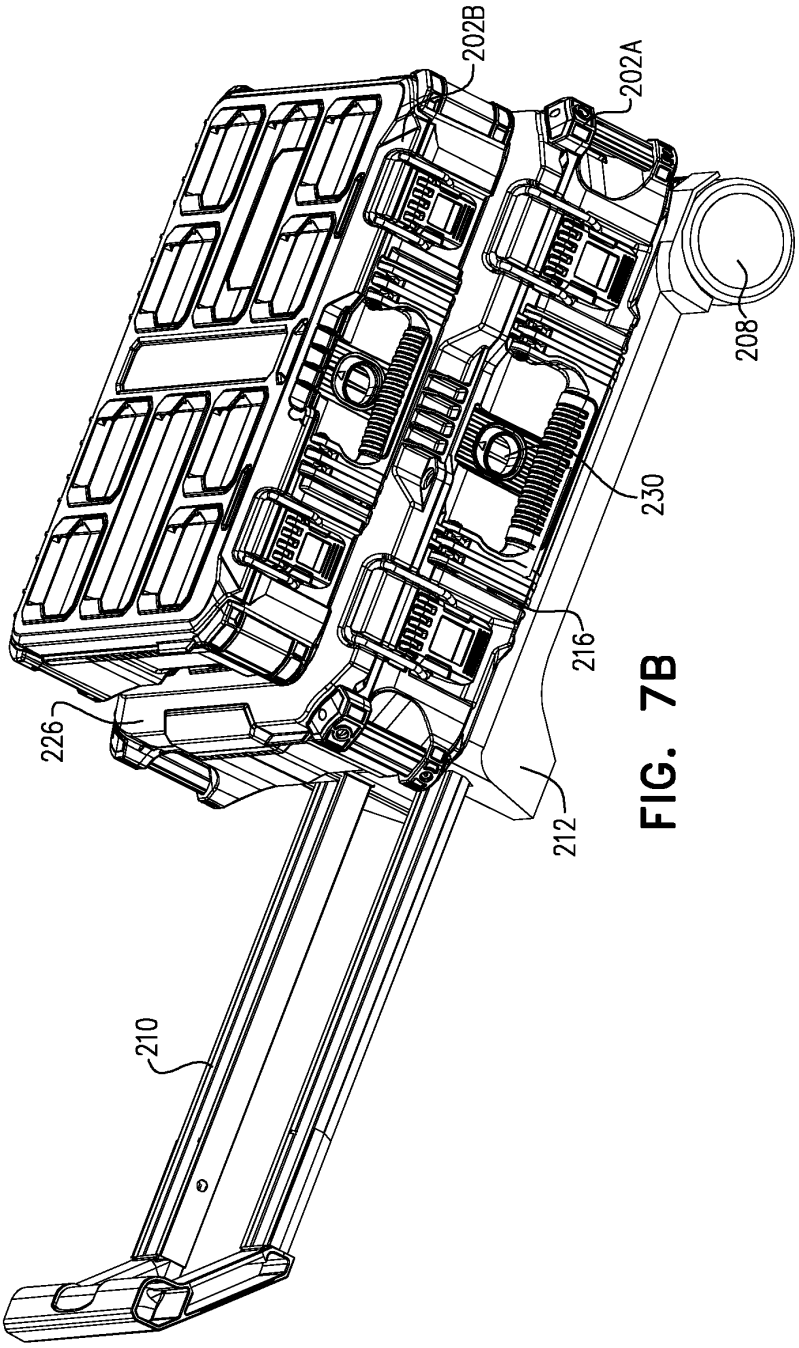


FIG. 7B

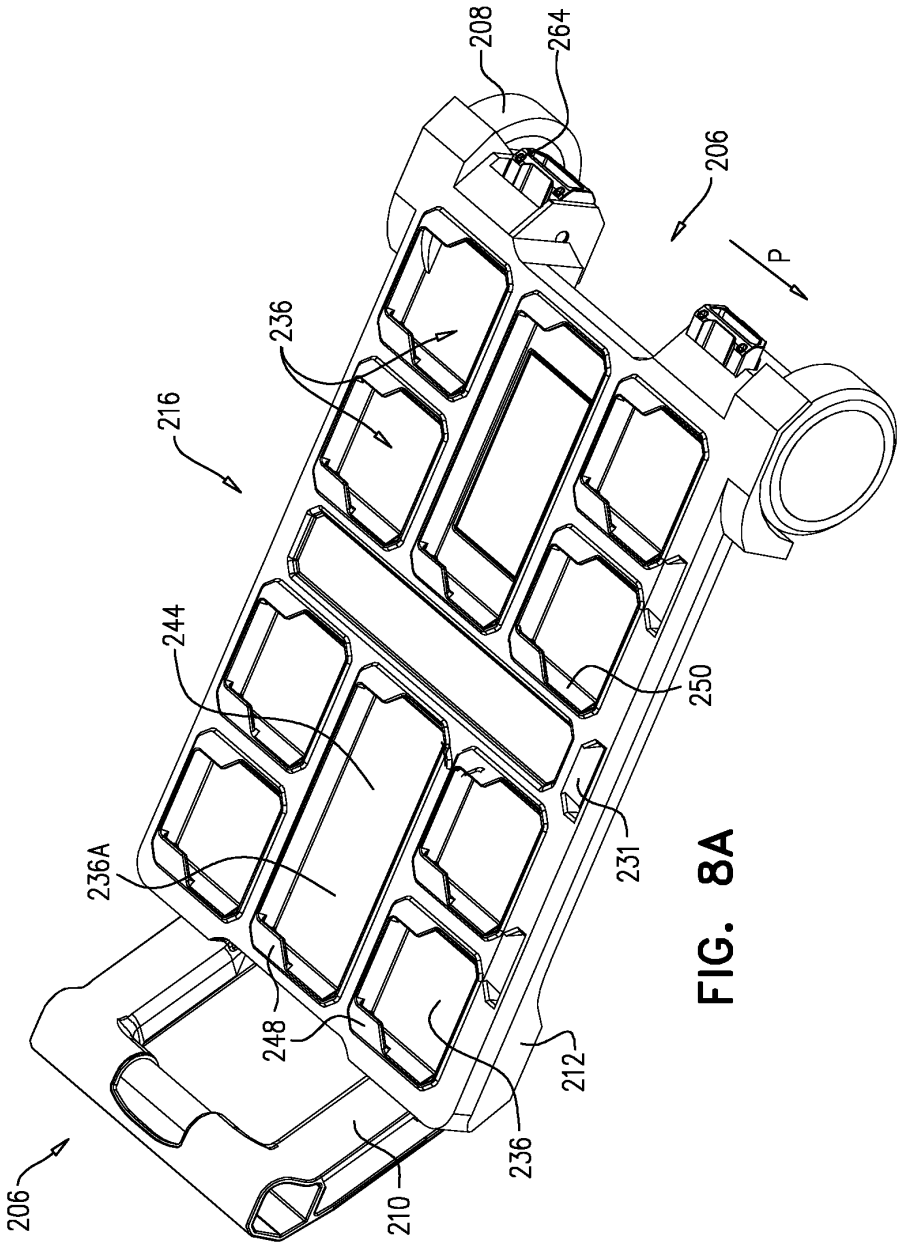


FIG. 8A

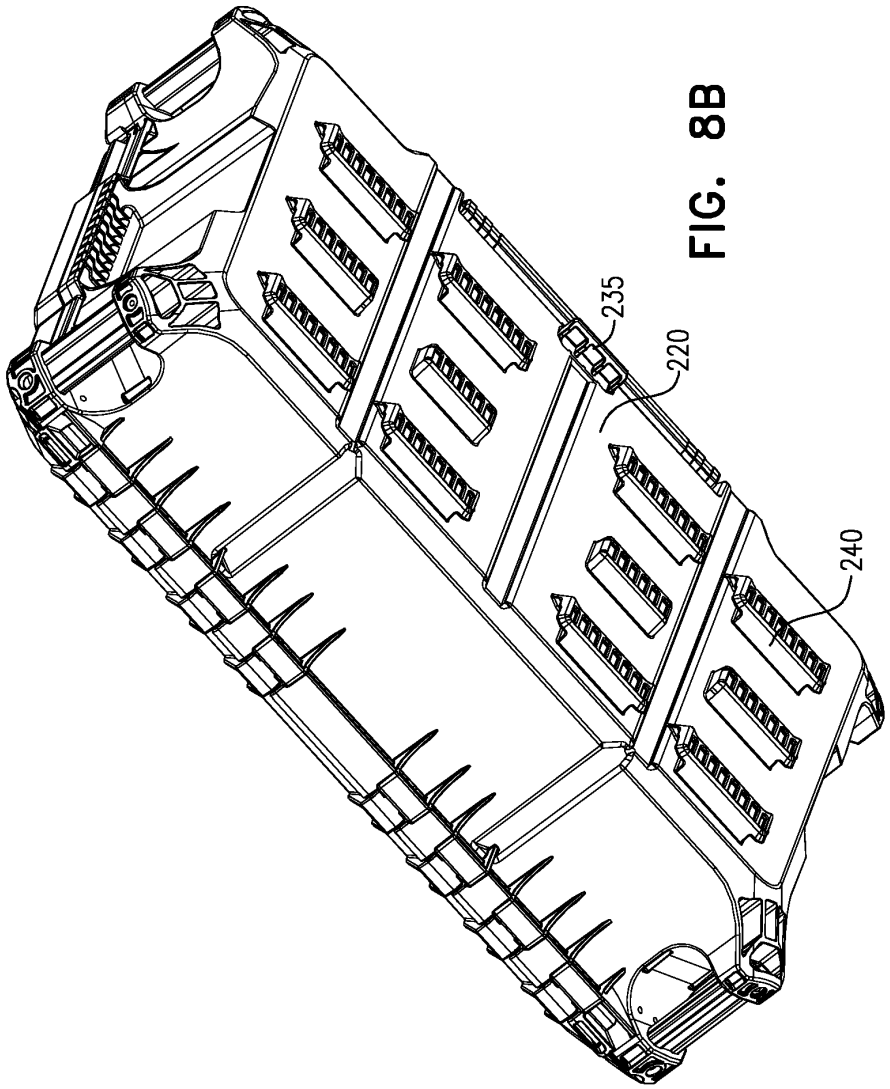


FIG. 8B

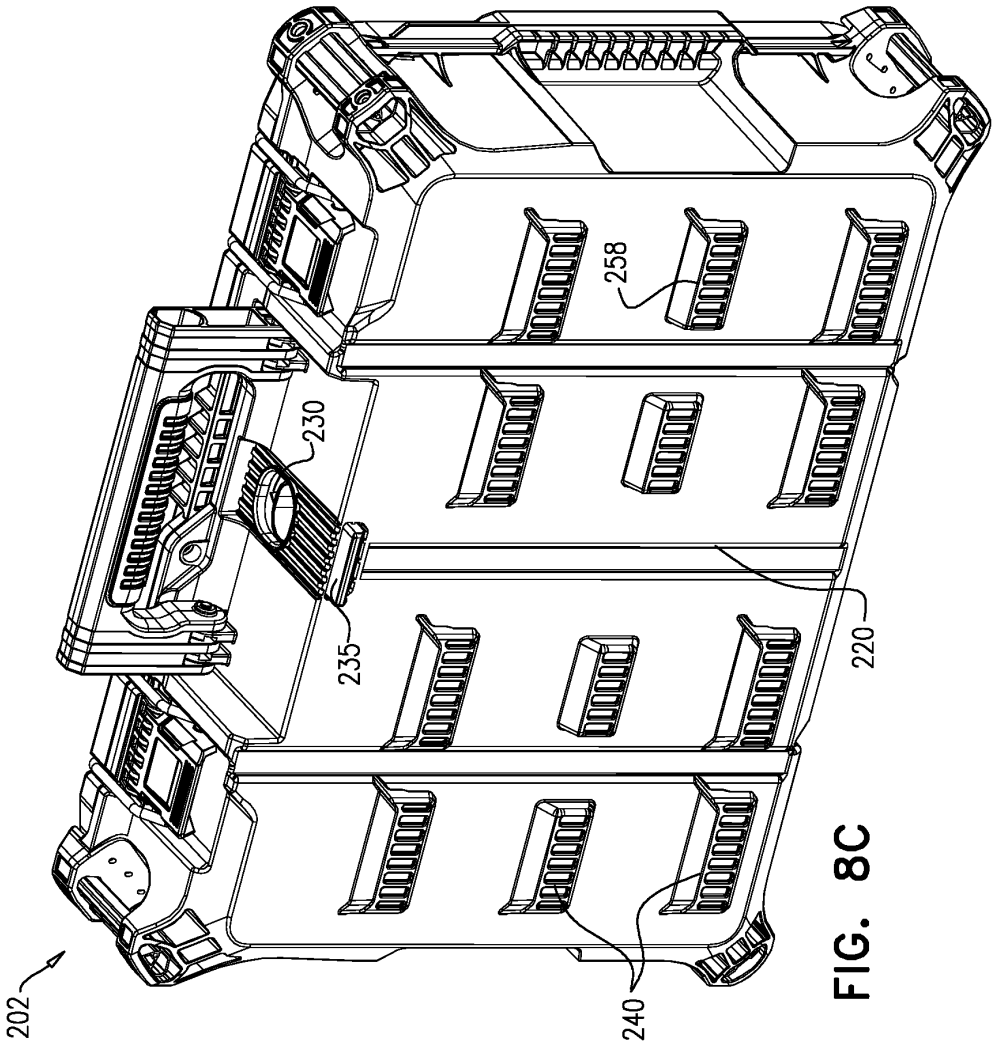


FIG. 8C

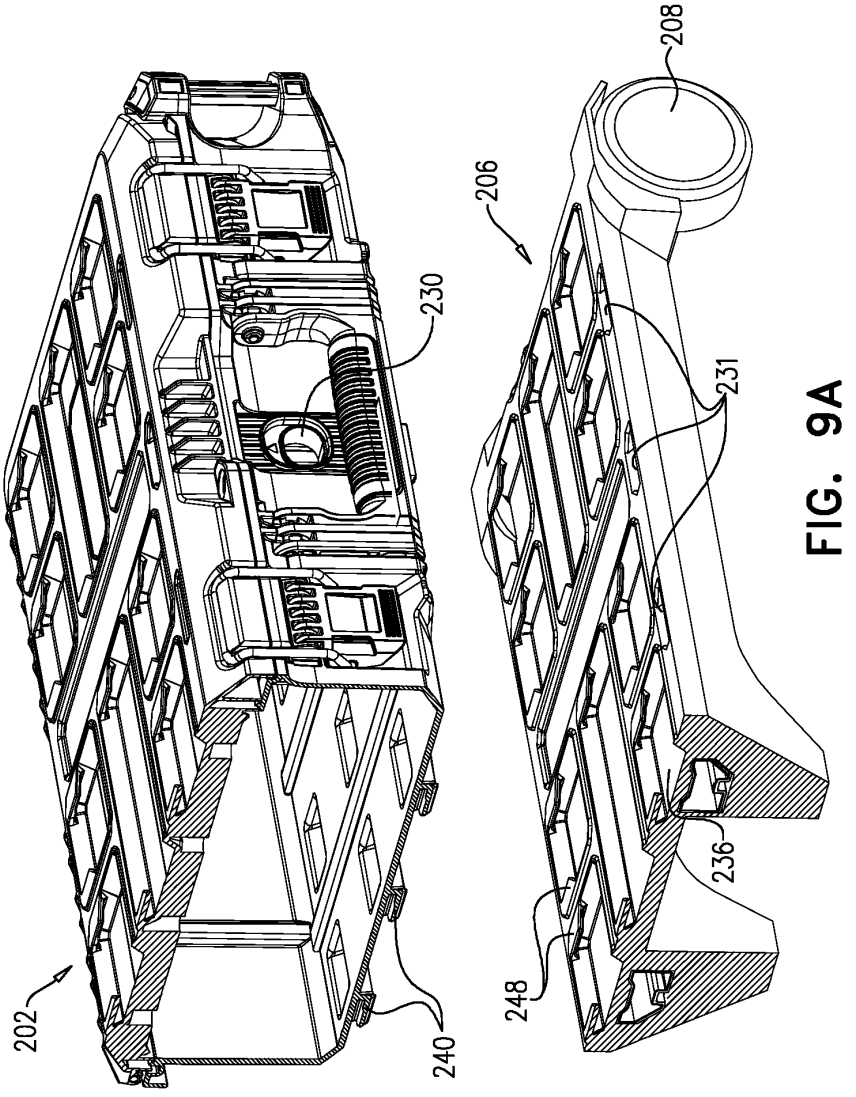


FIG. 9A

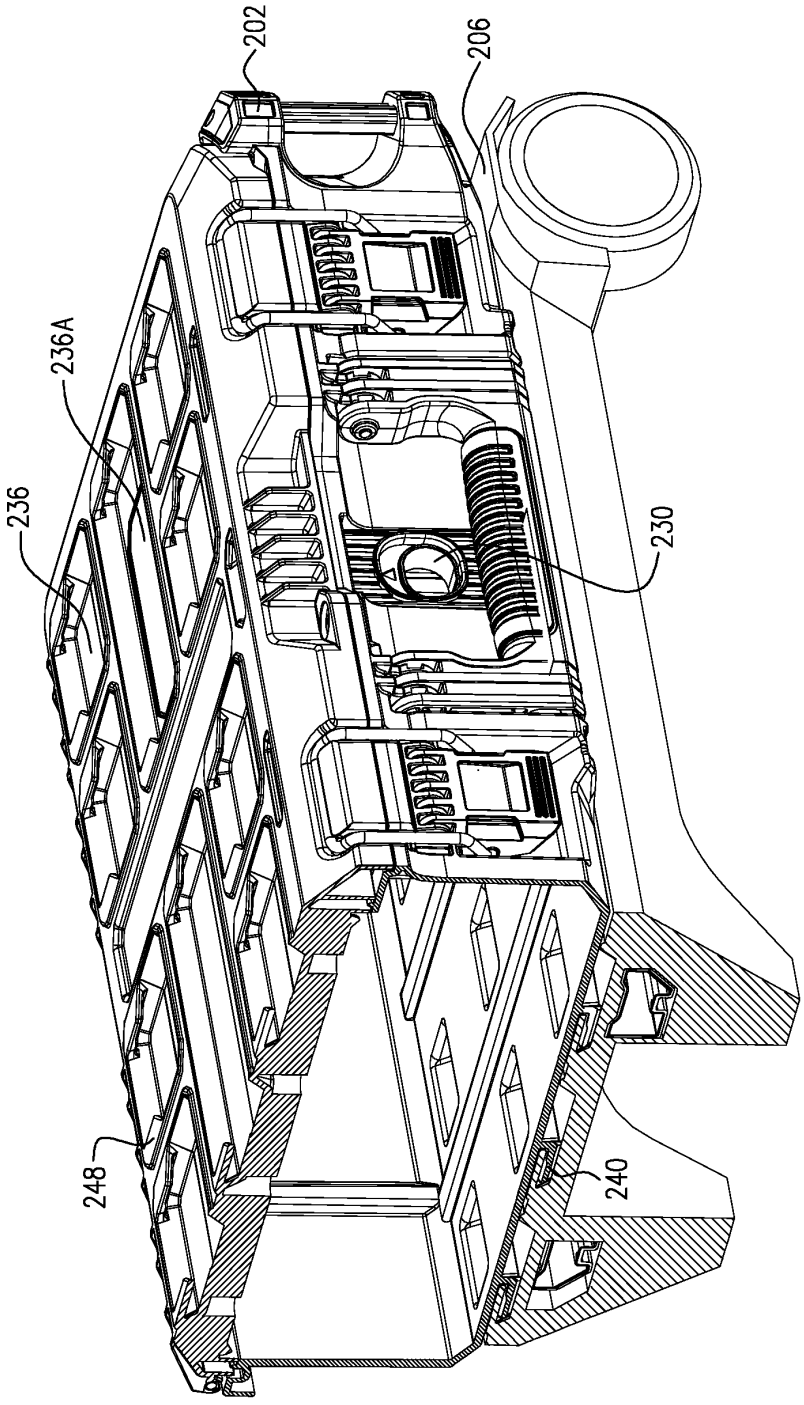


FIG. 9B

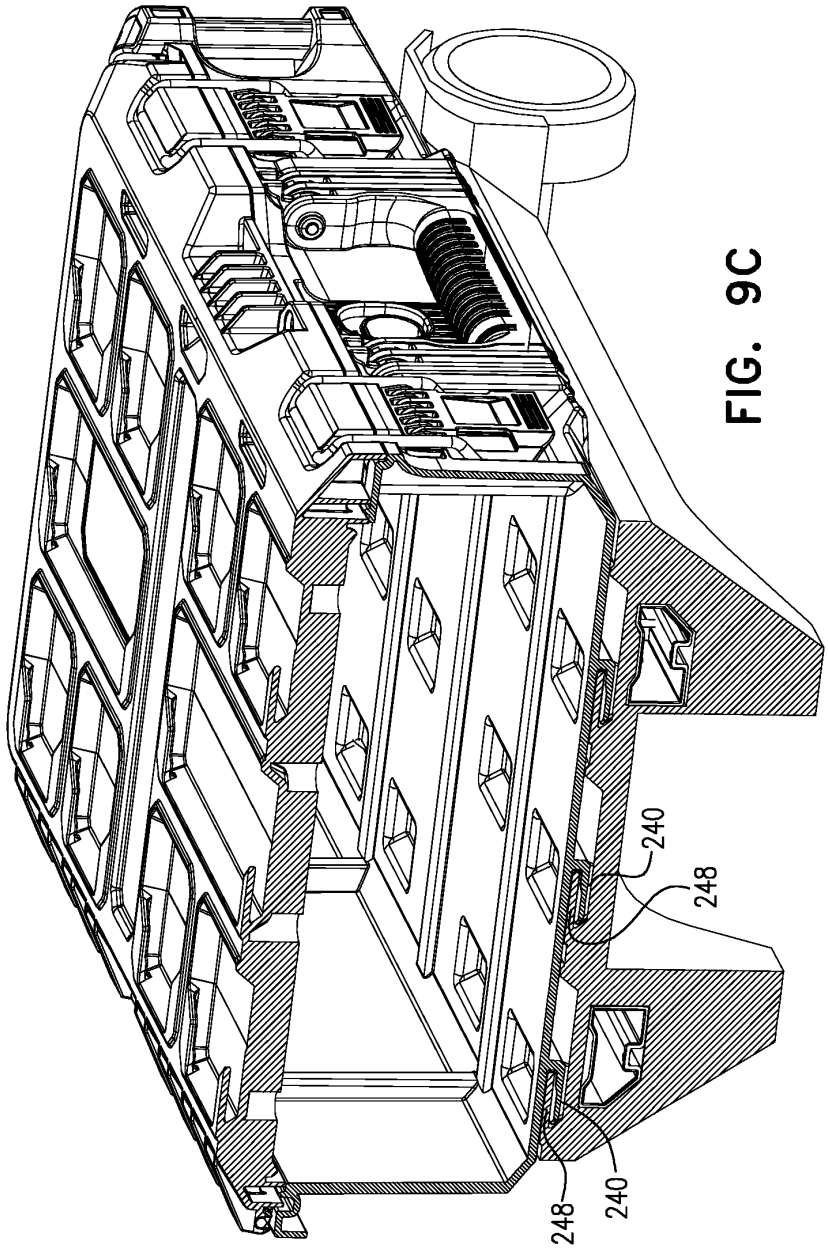


FIG. 9C

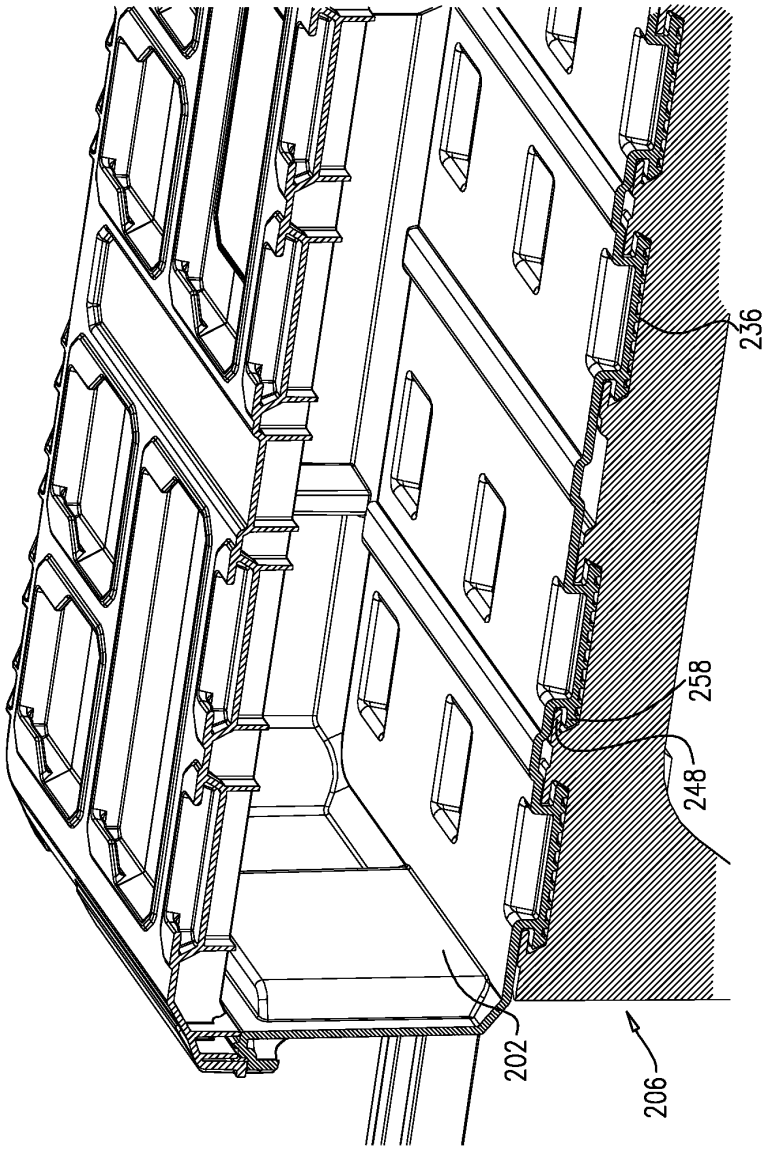


FIG. 9D

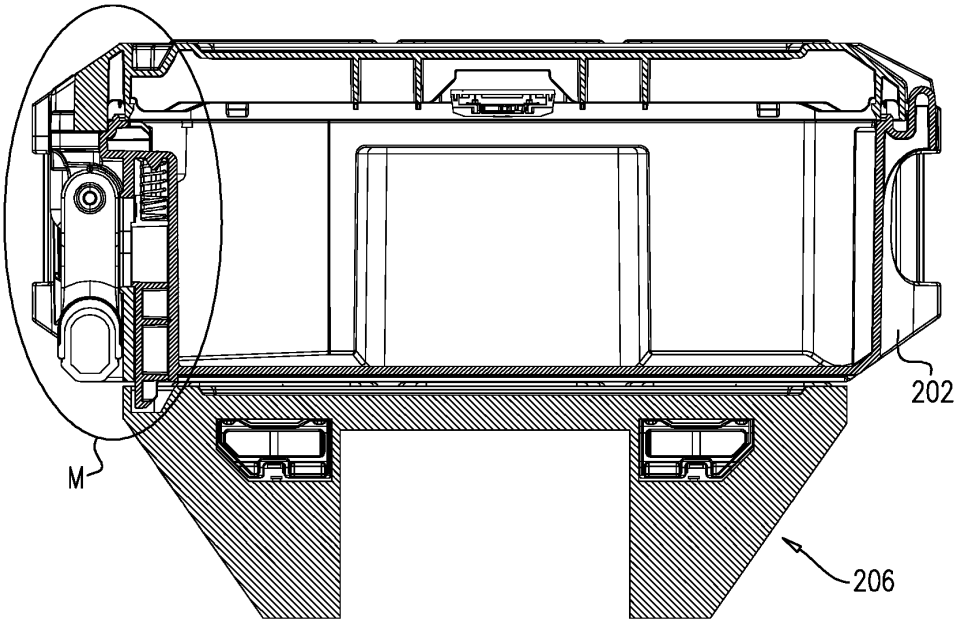


FIG. 10A

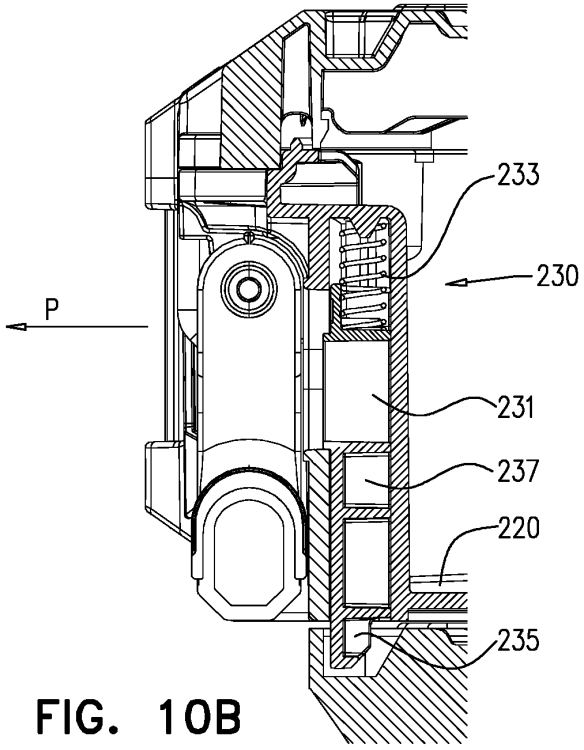


FIG. 10B

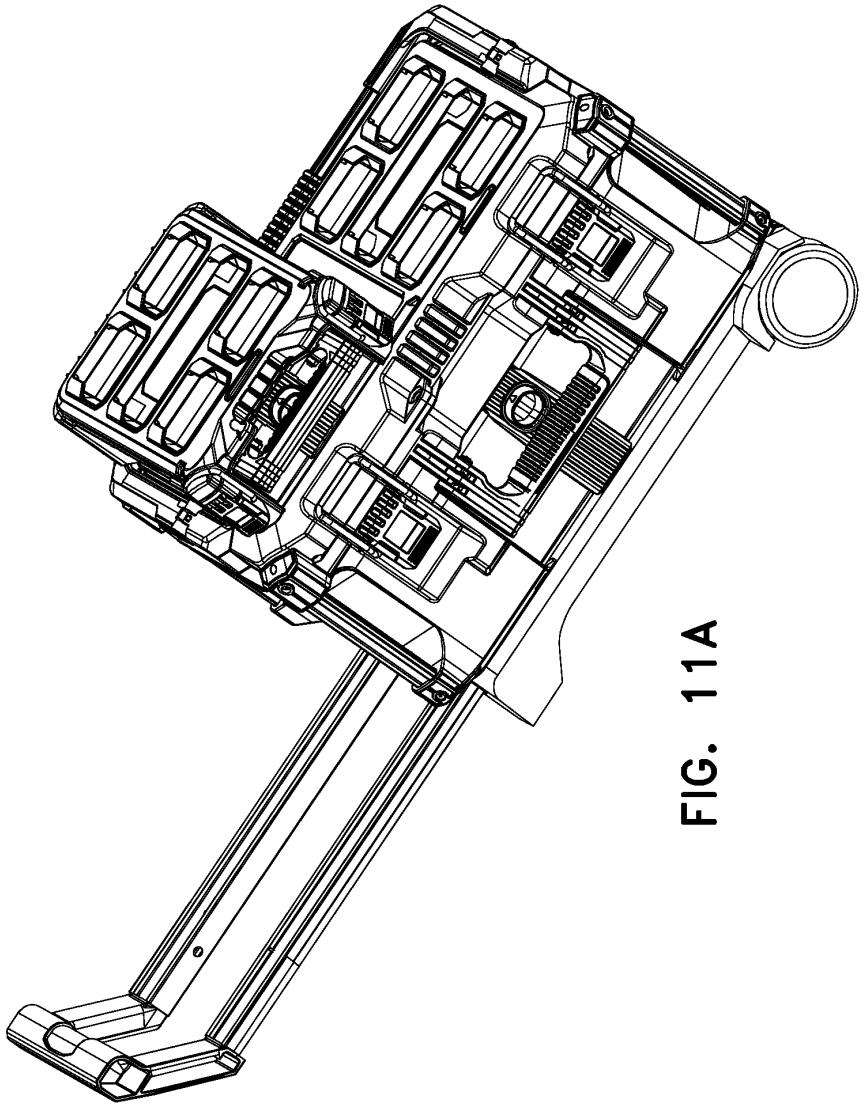


FIG. 11A

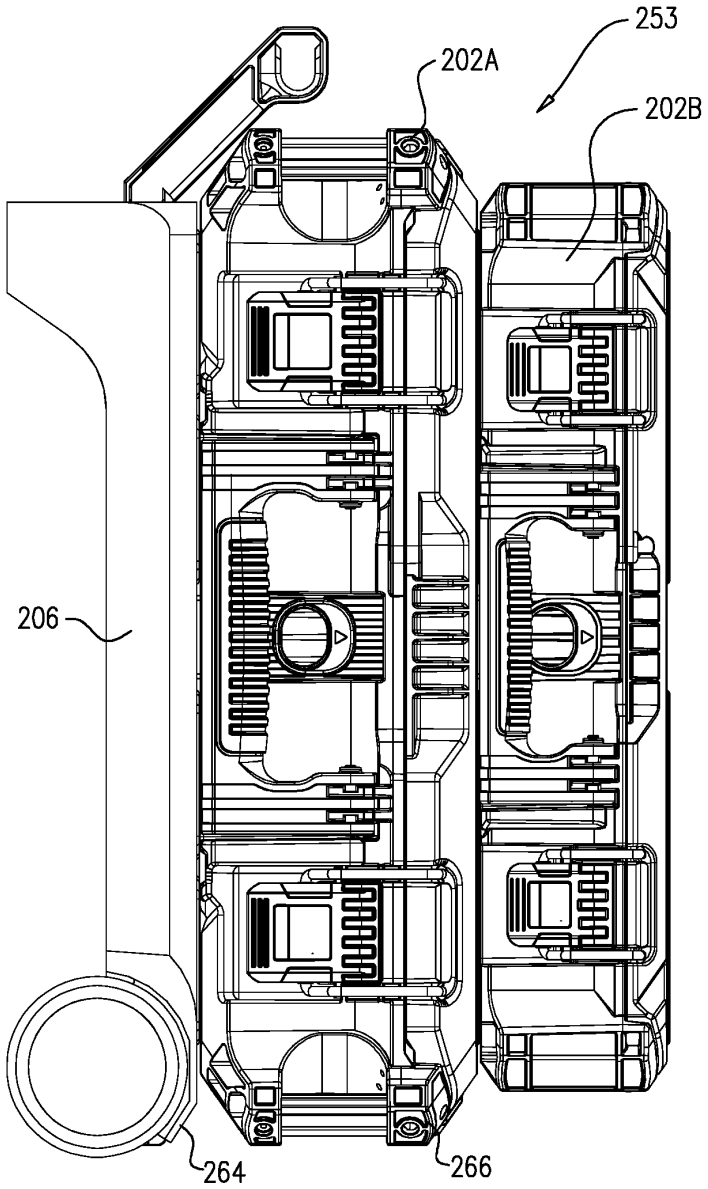


FIG. 11B

REPLACEMENT SHEET

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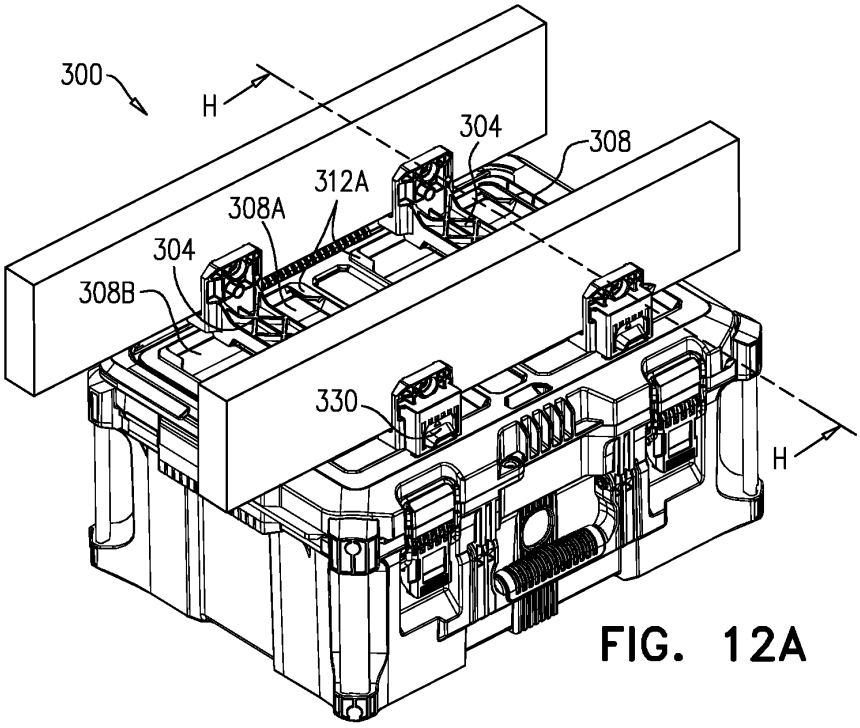


FIG. 12A

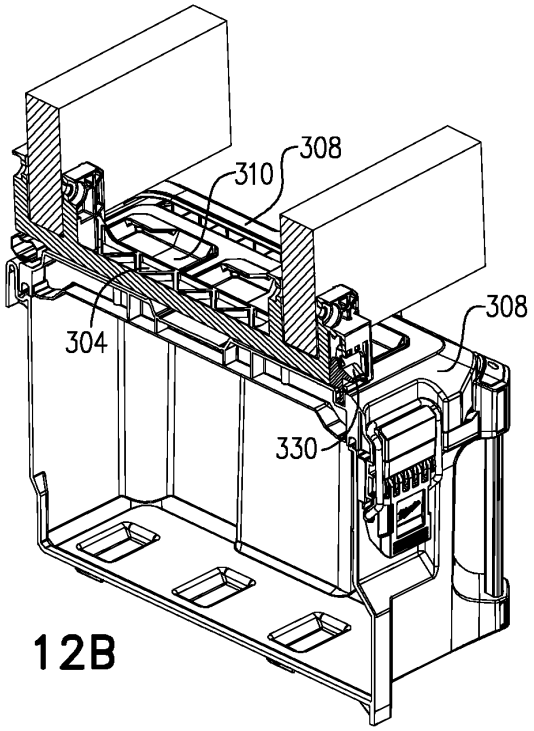
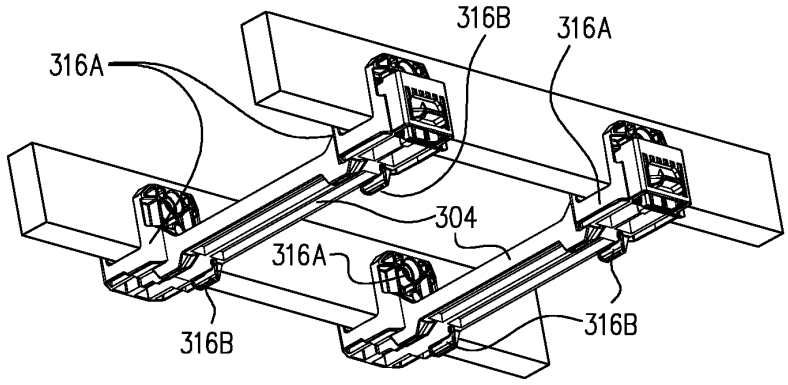


FIG. 12B


316B
316A
316A
304
316A
316B
316B

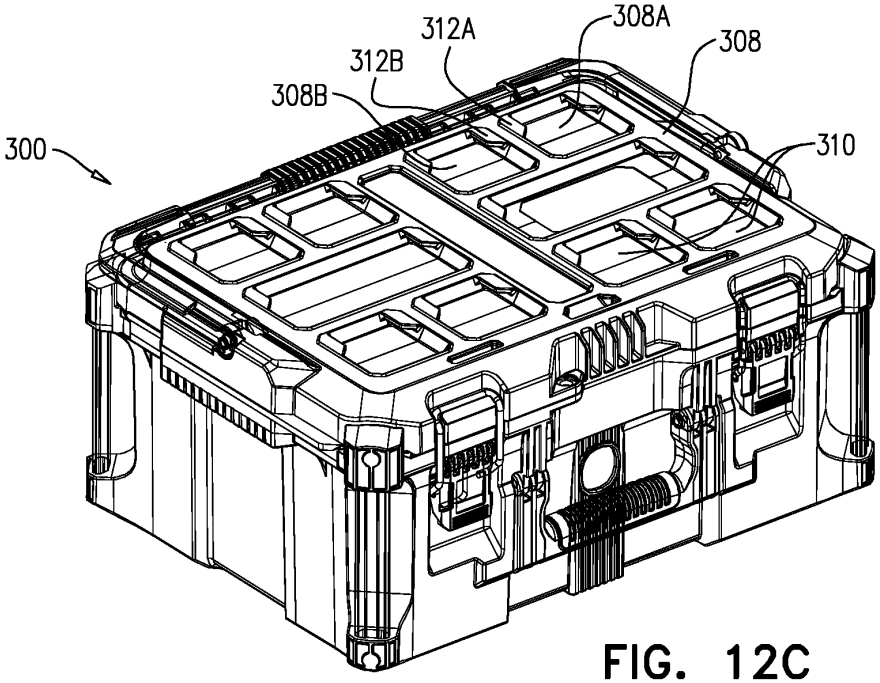

312A
308A
308
312B
308B
300
310

FIG. 12C

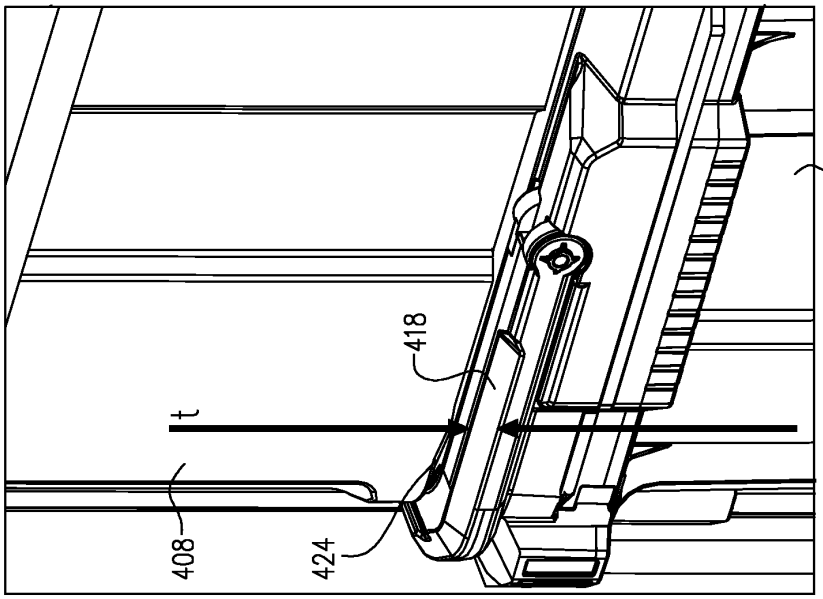


FIG. 13B

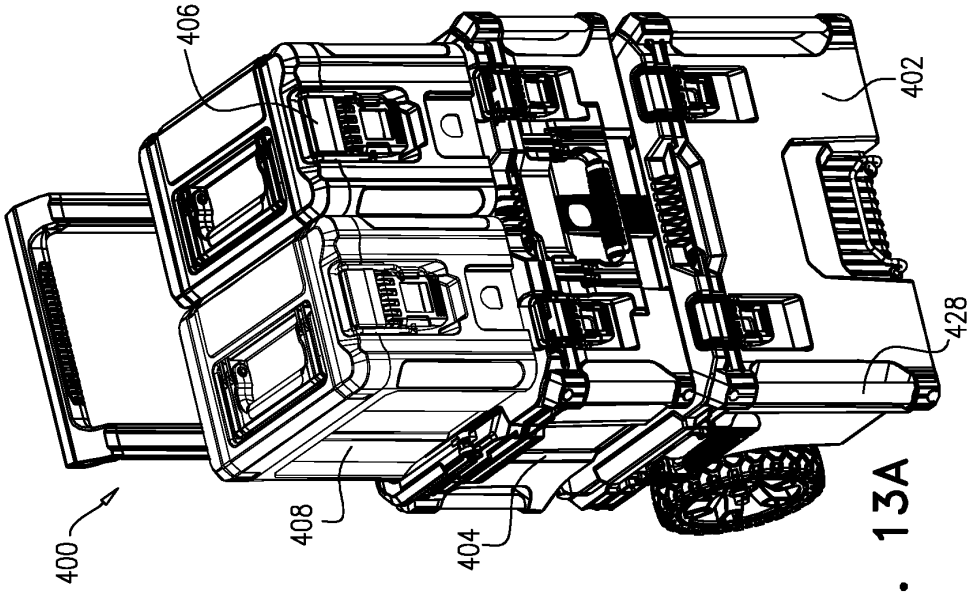


FIG. 13A

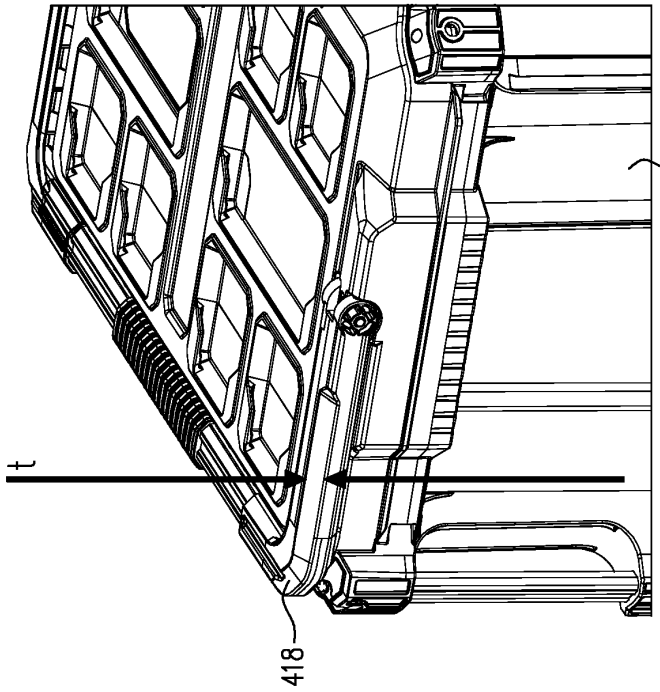


FIG. 13D

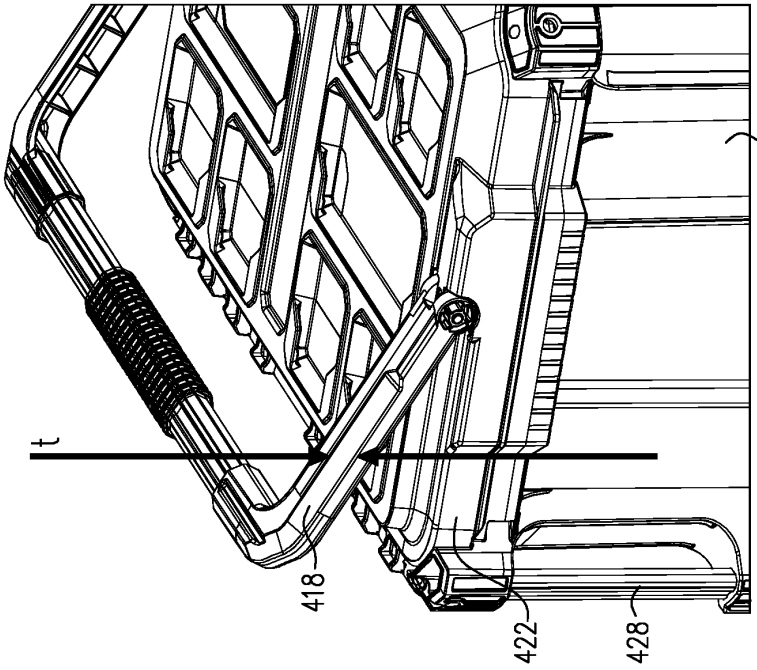


FIG. 13C

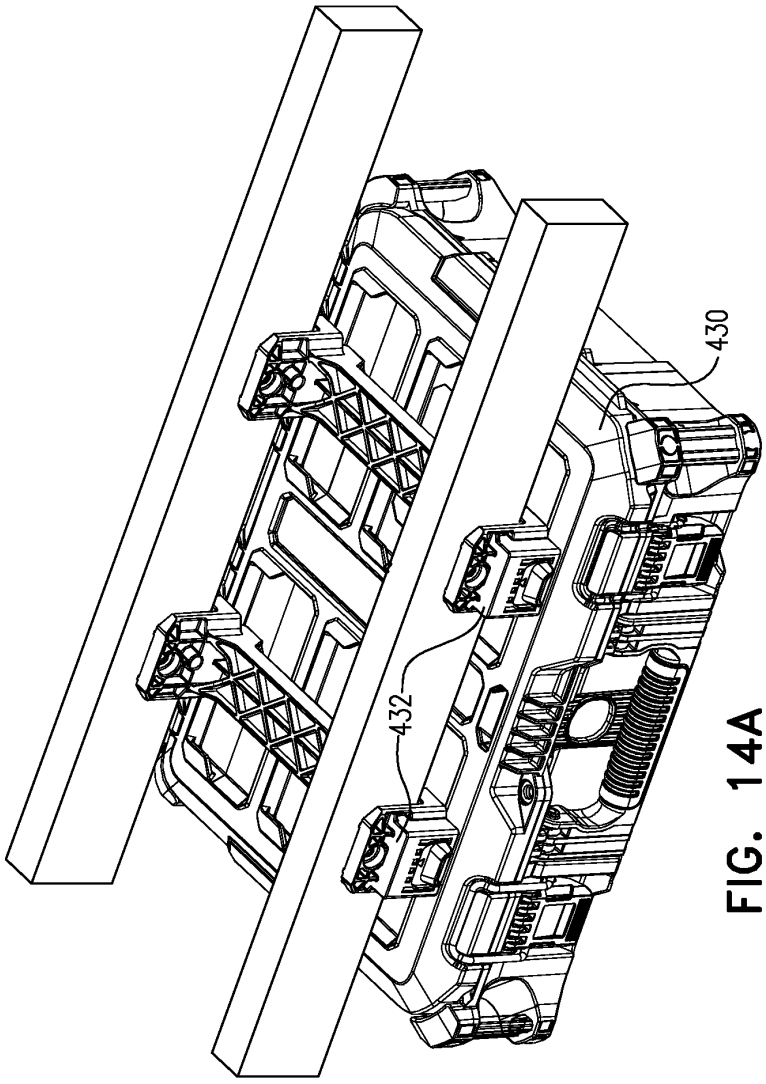


FIG. 14A

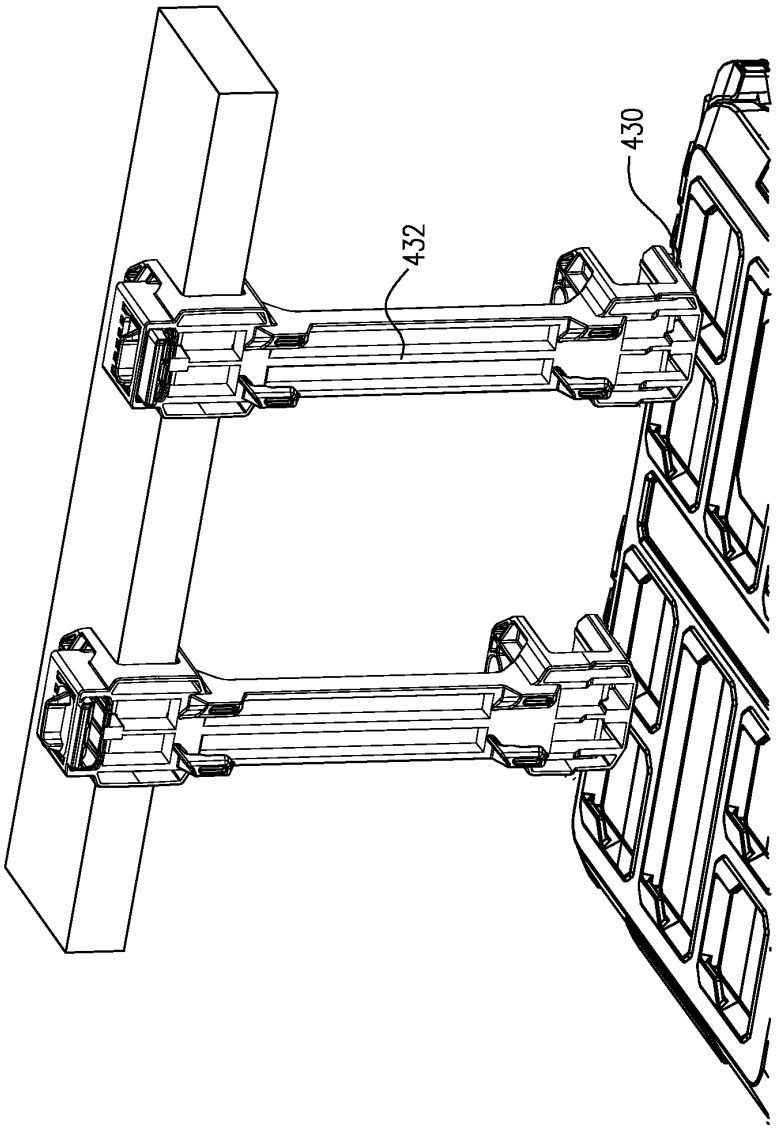


FIG. 14B

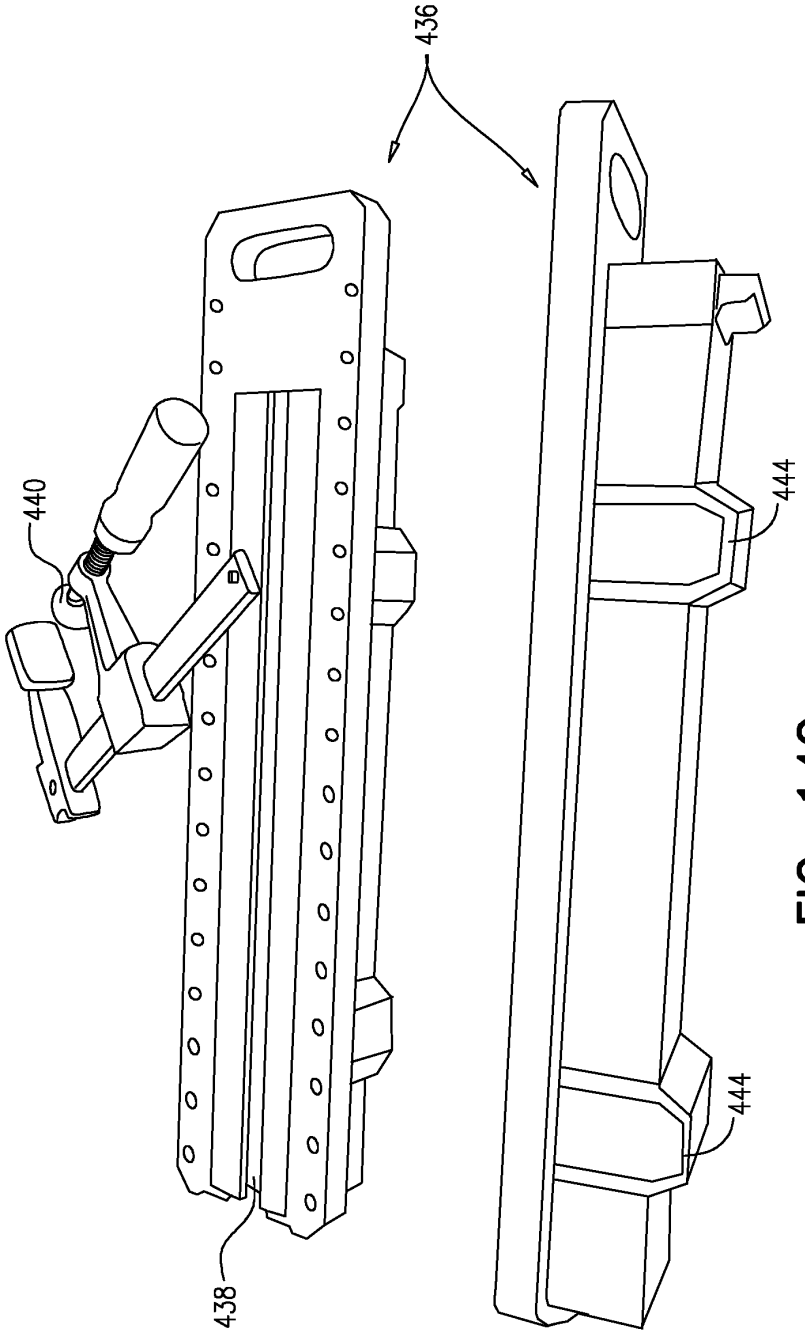


FIG. 14C

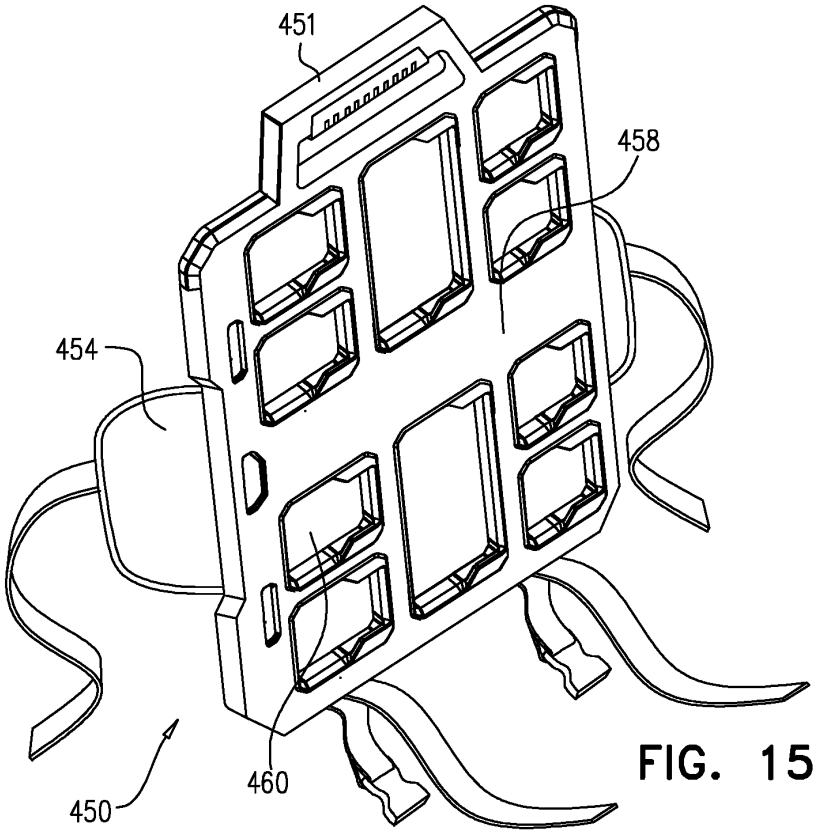


FIG. 15A

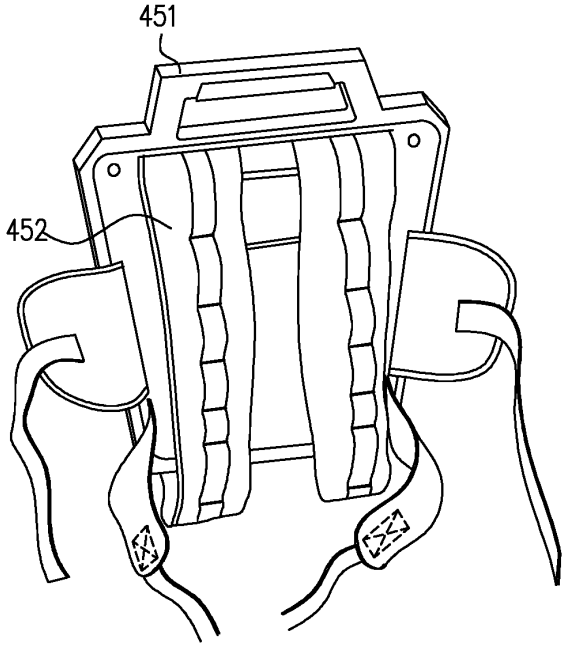


FIG. 15B

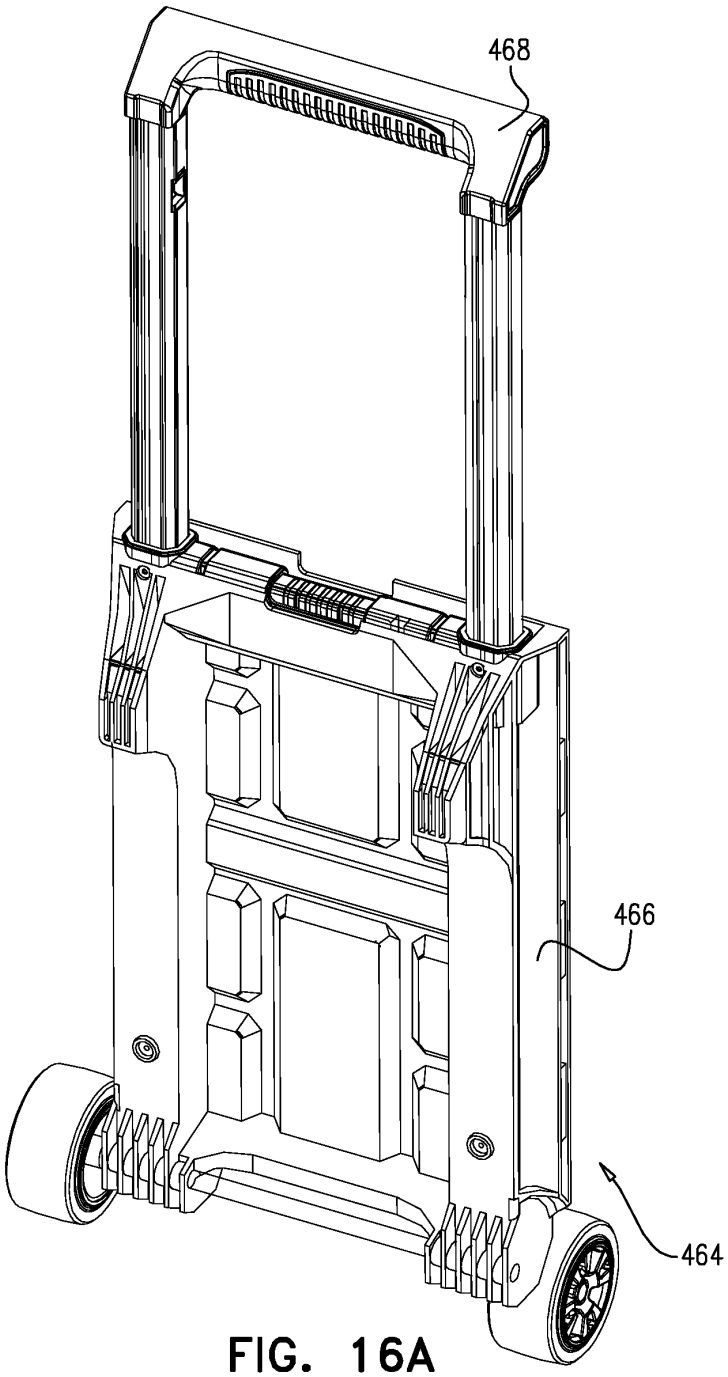


FIG. 16A

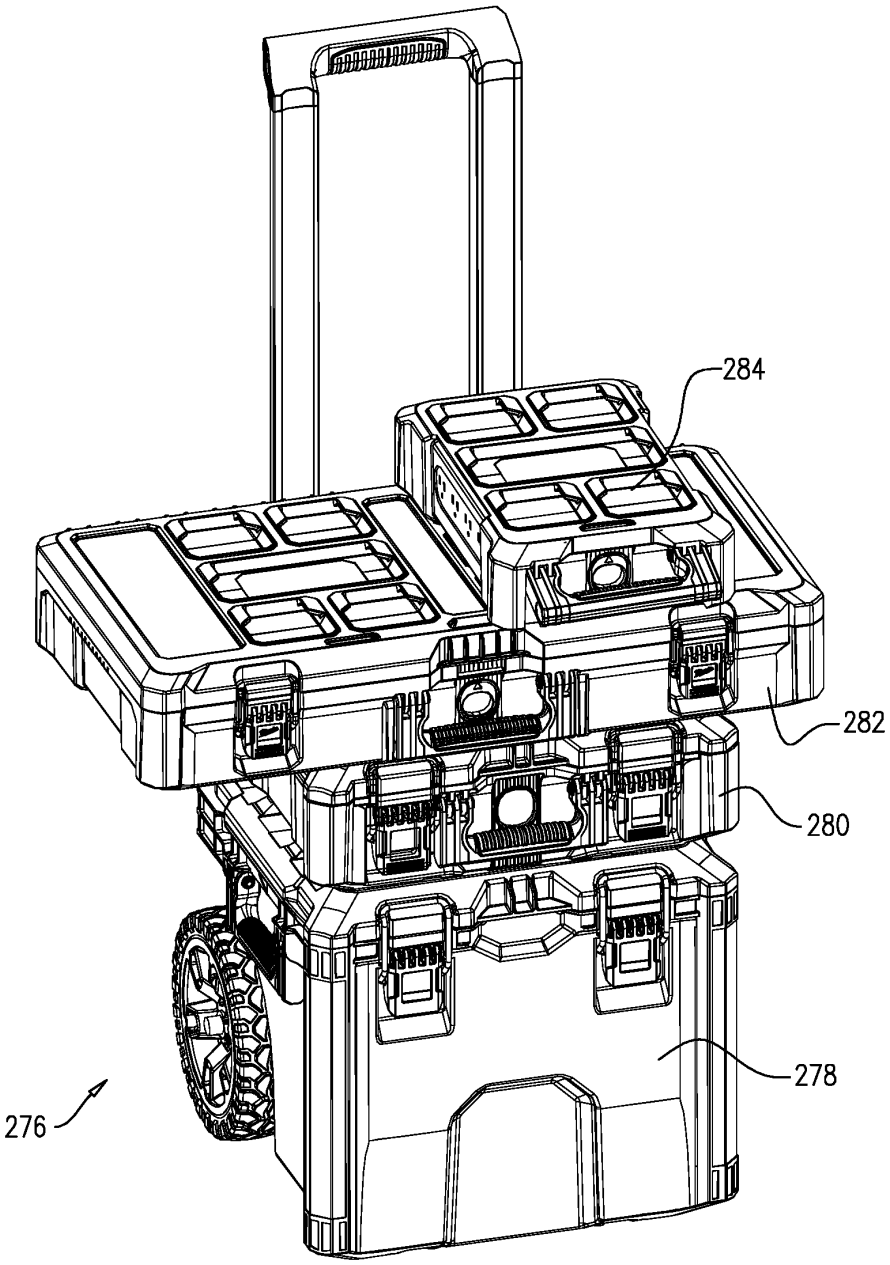


FIG. 16B

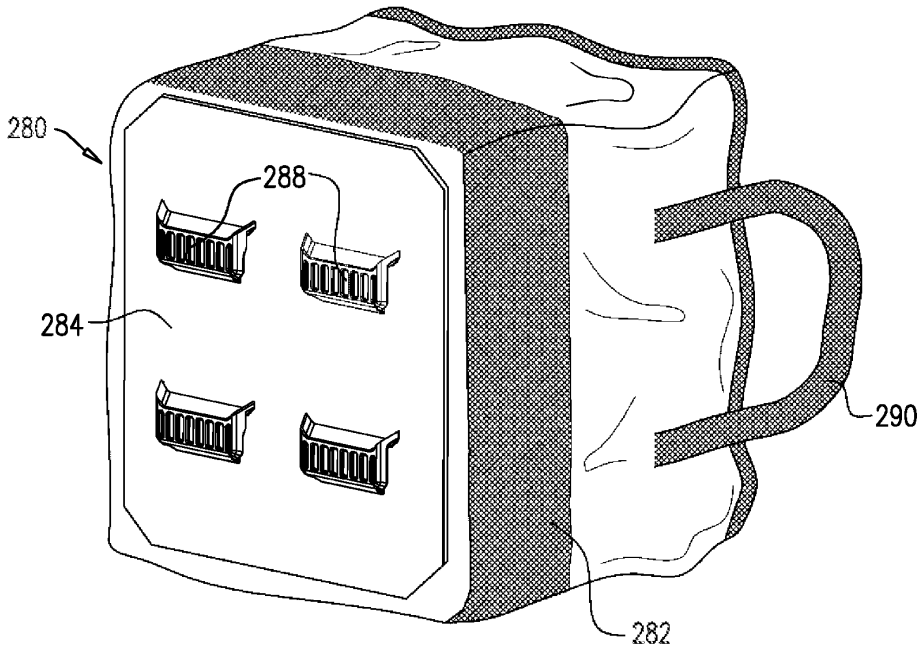


FIG. 17

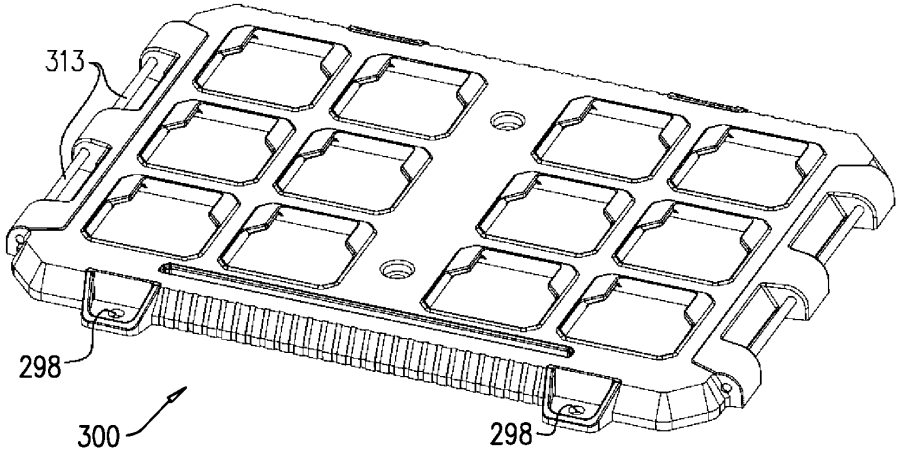


FIG. 18A

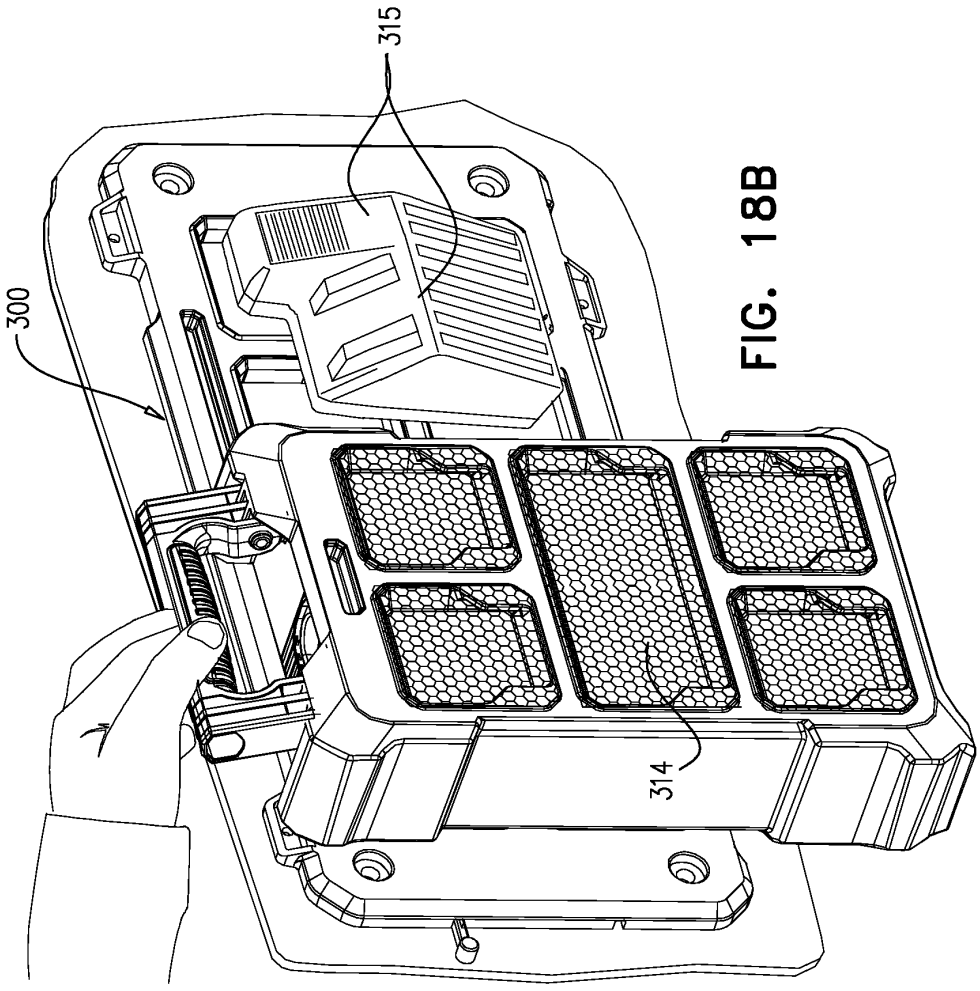


FIG. 18B

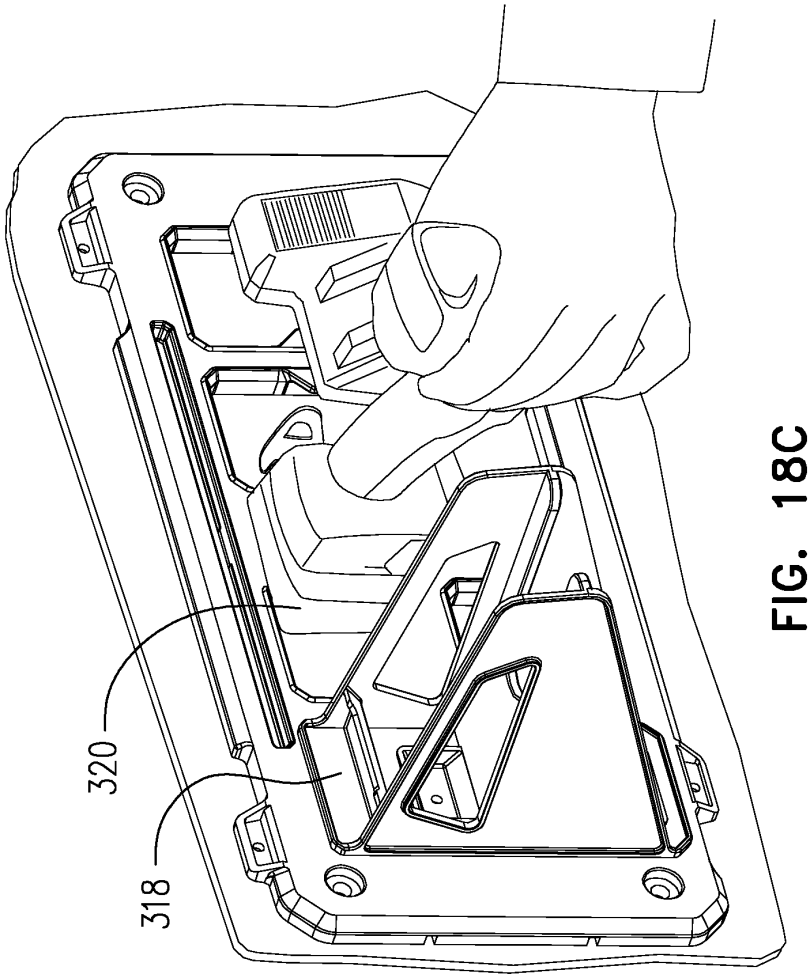


FIG. 18C

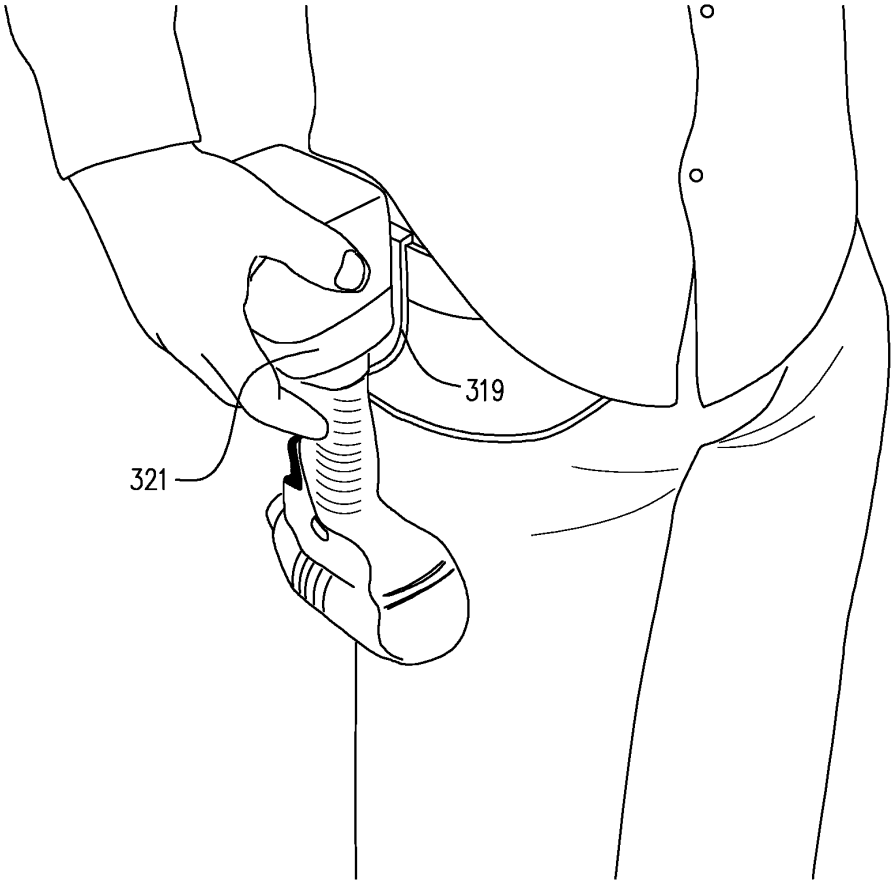
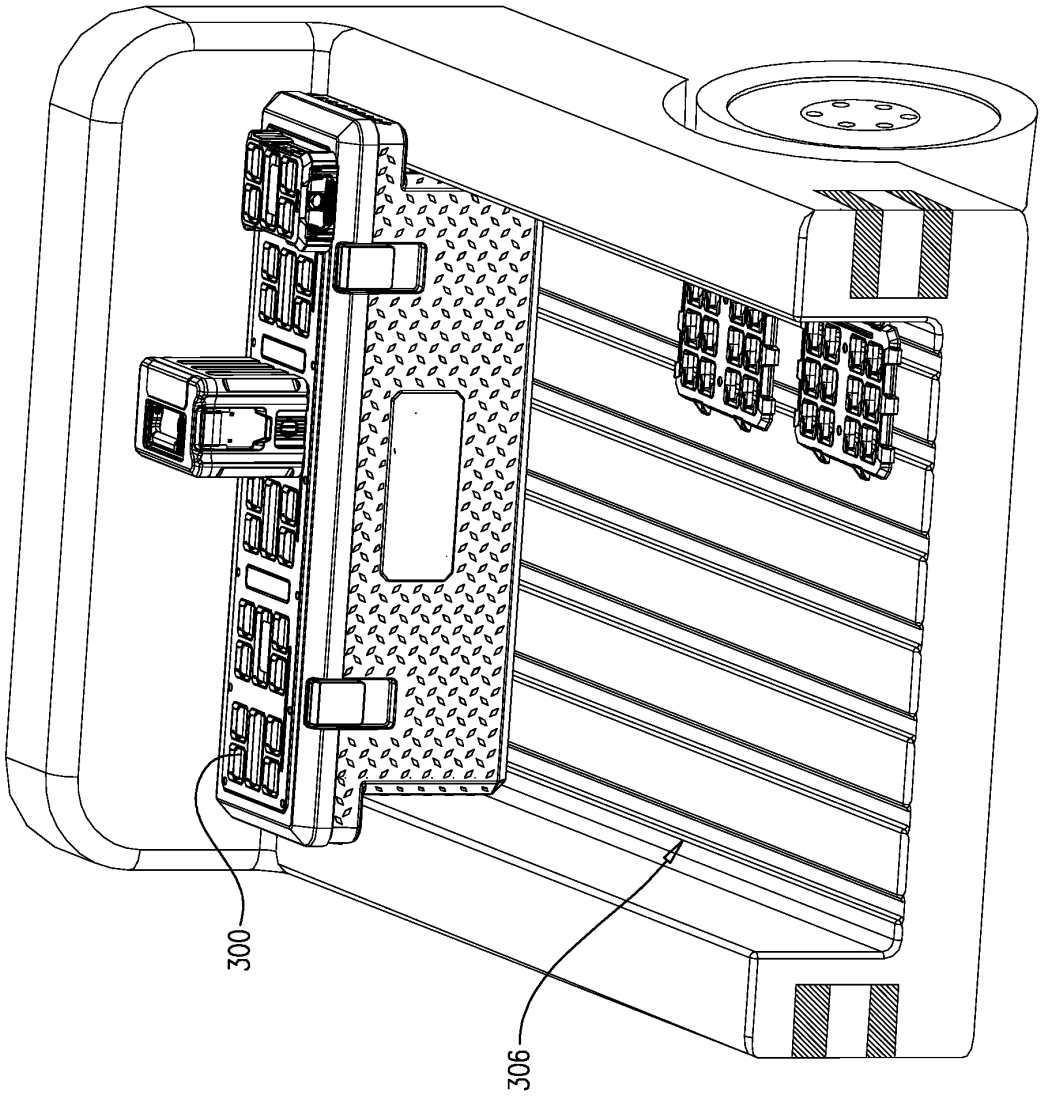


FIG. 19

FIG. 20



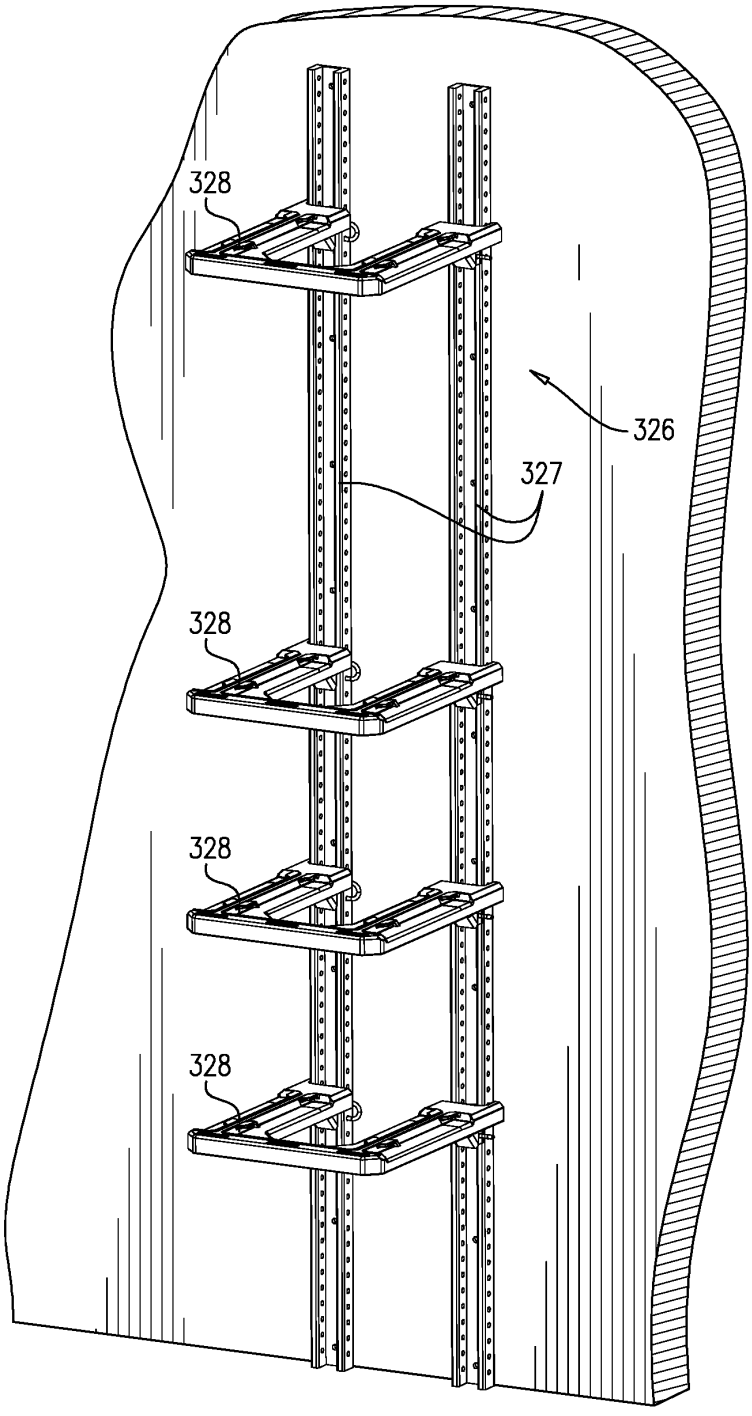


FIG. 21

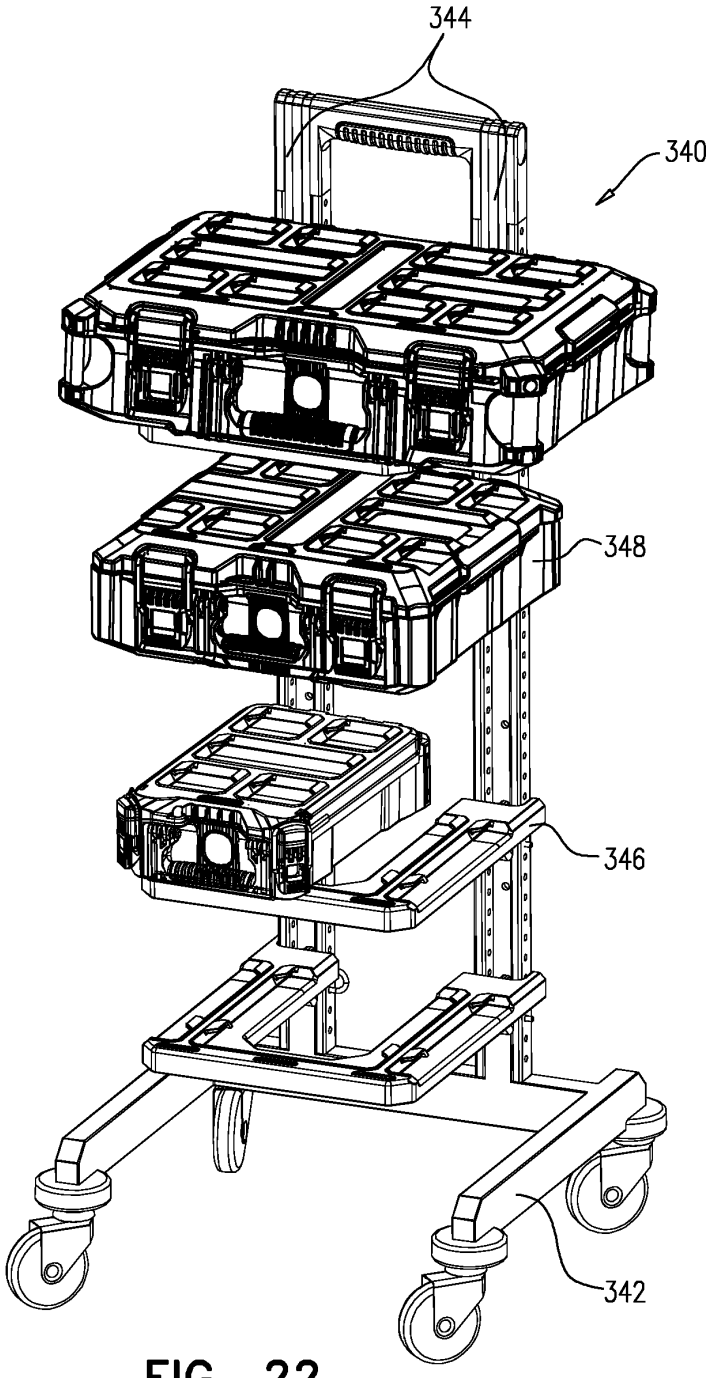


FIG. 22

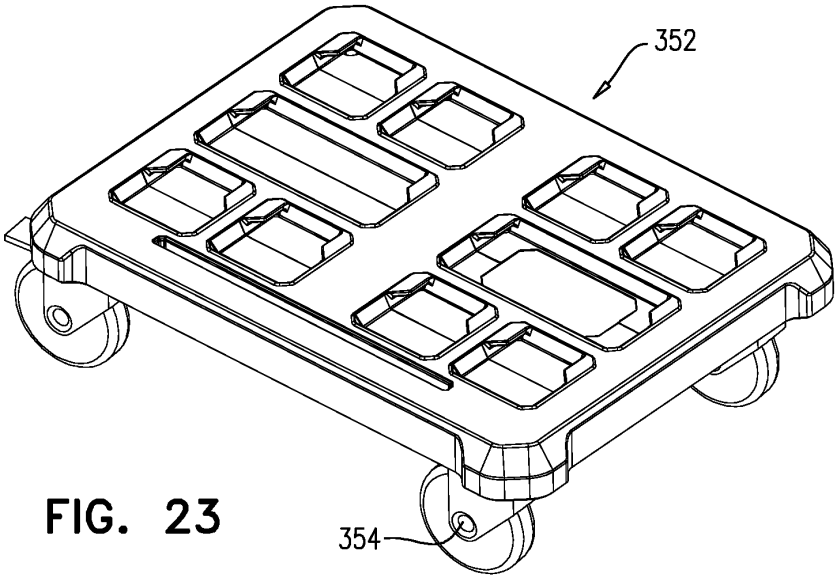


FIG. 23

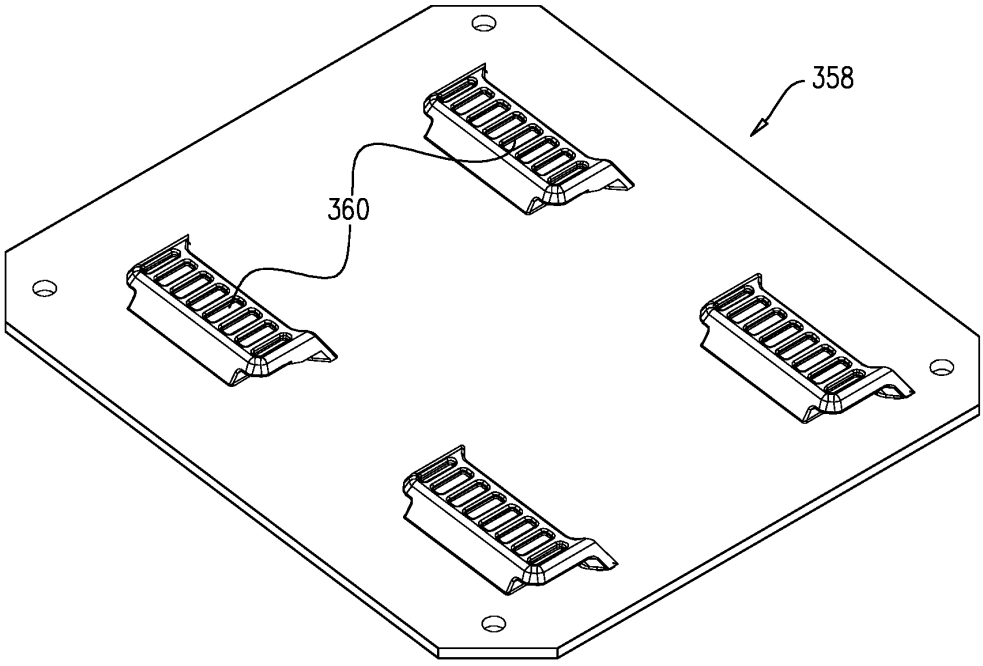


FIG. 24

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	33601456
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	30623
Filer:	Elissa Marie Kingsland
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	16318-5
Receipt Date:	31-AUG-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	14:29:48
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Transmittal Letter	55390_501C01US_Replacement_Drawing_Transmittal.pdf	15140 ff2e00642c695e80c27a28418bd95df50161a6f8	no	1

Warnings:

Information:					
2	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	501C01US_Drawings.PDF	19072006 97ca13e02eeb70fd6e3fd783fb3b7297e342500e	no	48
Warnings:					
Information:					
			Total Files Size (in bytes):	19087146	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/826,232	11/29/2017	Yaron Brunner	16318-5	1070

30623 7590 09/05/2018

Mintz Levin/Boston Office
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111

EXAMINER	
WEINERTH, GIDEON R	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3728	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/05/2018	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

IPDocketingBOS@mintz.com
IPFileroombos@mintz.com

Applicant-Initiated Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	15/826,232	BRUNNER, YARON	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	GIDEON WEINERTH	3728	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) *GIDEON WEINERTH*. (3)_____.

(2) *ELISSA KINGSLAND*. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: *29 August 2018*.

Type: ☒ Telephonic ☐ Video Conference
☐ Personal [copy given to: ☐ applicant ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: ☐ Yes ☐ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Issues Discussed ☐101 ☐112 ☐102 ☐103 ☒Others
(For each of the checked box(es) above, please describe below the issue and detailed description of the discussion)

Claim(s) discussed: _____.

Identification of prior art discussed: _____.

Substance of Interview
(For each issue discussed, provide a detailed description and indicate if agreement was reached. Some topics may include: identification or clarification of a reference or a portion thereof, claim interpretation, proposed amendments, arguments of any applied references etc...)

Applicant wished to discuss several issues noted in the Office Action of 6/14/2018. Applicant first noted that the drawing objection regarding Element 46 in Office Action Paragraph 1 is present in Figure 2C. The Examiner agreed and will remove that objection in any future Office Action. Applicant also noted the Black and White photos present in the Application are not color photographs as noted in Office Action Paragraph 4. The Examiner responded that greyscale photos are not the standard black and white line drawings that are officially accepted and provided elsewhere in the drawings. Please see MPEP 608.1 (f) and rule 37 C.F. R. 1.84 Section b. Applicant also discussed the nature of the double patenting rejection in Paragraph 11. Examiner confirmed that the rejection is a provisional non-statutory double patenting rejection.

Applicant recordation instructions: The formal written reply to the last Office action must include the substance of the interview. (See MPEP section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, applicant is given a non-extendable period of the longer of one month or thirty days from this interview date, or the mailing date of this interview summary form, whichever is later, to file a statement of the substance of the interview

Examiner recordation instructions: Examiners must summarize the substance of any interview of record. A complete and proper recordation of the substance of an interview should include the items listed in MPEP 713.04 for complete and proper recordation including the identification of the general thrust of each argument or issue discussed, a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed regarding patentability and the general results or outcome of the interview, to include an indication as to whether or not agreement was reached on the issues raised.

☐ Attachment

/GIDEON WEINERTH/ Examiner, Art Unit 3728	

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 693
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record
A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews
Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.
All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:
- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:
1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
2) an identification of the claims discussed,
3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
   (The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Corrected Application Data Sheet

Inventor Information

Inventor Number::	1
Given Name::	Yaron
Family Name::	Brunner
City of Residence::	Kibbutz Gvat
Country of Residence::	IL
Street of mailing address::	Kibbutz Gvat, P.O.B. 248
City of mailing address::	Kibbutz Gvat
Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	3657900

Inventor Number::	2
Given Name::	Grant
Middle Name::	T.
Family Name::	Squiers
City of Residence::	Cudahy
State or Province of Residence::	WI
Country of Residence::	US
Street of mailing address::	3745 E. Cudahy Avenue
City of mailing address::	Cudahy
State or Province of mailing address::	WI
Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	53110

Inventor Number::	3
Given Name::	Christopher

Middle Name::	S.
Family Name::	Hoppe
City of Residence::	Milwaukee
State or Province of Residence::	WI
Country of Residence::	US
Street of mailing address::	3126 S. Burrell Street
City of mailing address::	Milwaukee
State or Province of mailing address::	WI
Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	53207

Inventor Number::	4
Given Name::	Steven
Middle Name::	W.
Family Name::	Hyma
City of Residence::	Milwaukee
State or Province of Residence::	WI
Country of Residence::	US
Street of mailing address::	1312 E. Warnimont Avenue
City of mailing address::	Milwaukee
State or Province of mailing address::	WI
Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	53207

Correspondence Information

Correspondence Customer Number::	~~111739~~ 30623

E-Mail address::	~~lp.docket.slc@dorsey.com~~ IPDocketingBOS@mintz.com

Application Information

Application Number::	15/826,232
Filing Date::	11/29/17
Application Type::	Regular
Subject Matter::	Utility
Title::	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
Attorney Docket Number::	~~26949US01_446373-417~~ 55390-501C01US
Small Entity?::	No

Representative Information

Representative Customer Number::	~~111739~~ 30623

Applicant Information

Applicant Number::	1
Applicant Type::	Assignee
Organization Name::	Keter Plastic Ltd.
Street of mailing address::	2 Sapir Street, Industrial Zone
City of mailing address::	Herzelyia
Country of mailing address::	IL

Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	4685206

Applicant Information

Applicant Number::	2
Applicant Type::	Assignee
Organization Name::	Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
Street of mailing address::	13135 West Lisbon Road
City of mailing address::	Brookfield
State or Province of mailing address::	WI
Country of mailing address::	US
Postal or Zip Code of mailing address::	53005

Signature:

NOTE: This Application Data Sheet must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). **However, if this Application Data Sheet is submitted with the INITIAL filing of the application and either box A or B is not checked in subsection 2 of the "Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access" section, then this form must also be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c).**

This Application Data Sheet **must** be signed by a patent practitioner if one or more of the applicants is a **juristic entity** (e.g., corporation or association). If the applicant is two or more joint inventors, this form must be signed by a patent practitioner, **all** joint inventors who are the applicant, or one or more joint inventor-applicants who have been given power of attorney (e.g., see USPTO Form PTO/AIA/81) on behalf of **all** joint inventor-applicants.

See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the manner of making signatures and certifications.

Signature	/Elissa M. Kingsland/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-09-06
Name	Elissa M. Kingsland	Registration Number	63,259

80375097v.1

Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products – Ex. 2001 - Page 698
Klein Tools v. Milwaukee Electric Tool, Keter Home and Garden Products
IPR2024-01401

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	15826232
Filing Date:	29-Nov-2017
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Filer:	Elissa Marie Kingsland
Attorney Docket Number:	55390-501C01US

Filed as Large Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
PETITION FEE- 37 CFR 1.17(H) (GROUP III)	1464	1	140	140
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
		Total in USD ($)		**140**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	33641528
Application Number:	15826232
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	1070
Title of Invention:	UTILITY ASSEMBLY AND COUPLING MECHANISM
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Yaron Brunner
Customer Number:	30623
Filer:	Elissa Marie Kingsland
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	55390-501C01US
Receipt Date:	06-SEP-2018
Filing Date:	29-NOV-2017
Time Stamp:	11:37:48
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$140
RAM confirmation Number	090618INTEFSW00012594500311
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:	