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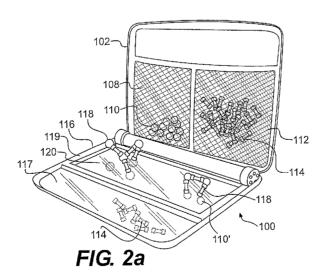
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(57) Abstract: An embodiment of the present invention provides portable magnetic toy construction system having a base plate upon (120) which to build magnetic toy constructions, the base plate configured to accept and hold in position ferromagnetic or magnetic base elements (110, 114), such as ferromagnetic balls. The base plate comprises at least one flexible membrane that stretches around a base element and holds the base element in position. The membrane exerts a force that holds the base element in position resisting lateral movement, although the elasticity of the flexible membrane still allows a user to manipulate the base element through the membrane to move the base element laterally. In one configuration, the base plate forms part of a travel case that can additionally include compartments to store magnetic building components. Further embodiments provide a magnetic toy construction, and a method for building the construction, that incorporate the base plate.



#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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INV. A63H33/04 A63H3 A63H33/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category\* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α US 3 077 696 A (IRWIN BARNETT ET AL) 1-22 19 February 1963 (1963-02-19) column 2, line 62 - column 4, line 36; figures DE 37 06 548 A1 (MATTHAEI ZAPLETAL BETTINA 1-22 A [DE]) 8 September 1988 (1988-09-08) column 5, line 51 - column 6, line 15; figures WO 2005/068037 A (YOON CHANG-SEOK [KR]) A 1 - 2228 July 2005 (2005-07-28) page 7, line 19 - page 9, line 26; figures Α WO 2004/112931 A (YUN BONG-SEOK [KR]) 1-22 29 December 2004 (2004-12-29) page 7, line 14 - page 8, line 28; figures -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 24 March 2009 03/04/2009 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Lucas, Peter

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