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- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

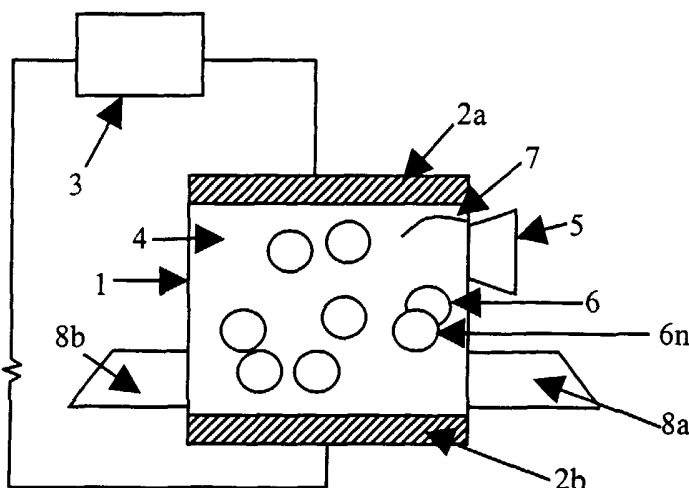
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PEELING PRODUCE



(57) Abstract: An apparatus and method of peeling produce is described comprising adding an electrically conductive fluid and a produce having a peel to a container (1) and subjecting the fluid and the produce to an electrical field (2a,2b) to produce a current sufficient to rupture the peel from the produce.

WO 2004/110182 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/18281

<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</p> <p>IPC(7) : A23N 7/00</p> <p>US CL : 99/584, 451</p> <p>According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>																	
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)</p> <p>U.S. : 99/451, 584-590, 358; 426/481-483</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)</p>																	
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 4,099,454 A (THEIMER et al) 11 July 1978 (11.07.1978), entire document</td> <td>1-42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 5,560,287 A (PETELLE et al) 01 October 1996 (01.10.1996), entire document.</td> <td>1-42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 6,305,271 A (OVERBECK) 23 October 2001(23.10.2001), entire document.</td> <td>1-42</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	A	US 4,099,454 A (THEIMER et al) 11 July 1978 (11.07.1978), entire document	1-42	A	US 5,560,287 A (PETELLE et al) 01 October 1996 (01.10.1996), entire document.	1-42	A	US 6,305,271 A (OVERBECK) 23 October 2001(23.10.2001), entire document.	1-42			
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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</p>																	
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T"</td> <td>later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&"</td> <td>document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US</p> <p>Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703)305-3230</p>		<p>Authorized officer</p> <p>Timothy E. Simone</p> <p>Telephone No. 571-272-1700</p>															