

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 166 327 aa/hpo	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2013/076202	International filing date (day/month/year) 11.12.2013	Priority date (day/month/year)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. H04L29/12			
Applicant SCA HYGIENE PRODUCTS AB			
1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of <u>4</u> sheets, as follows: ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority, unless those sheets were superseded or cancelled, and any accompanying letters (see Rules 46.5, 66.8, 70.16, 91.2, and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). ☐ sheets containing rectifications, where the decision was made by this Authority not to take them into account because they were not authorized by or notified to this Authority at the time when this Authority began to draw up this report, and any accompanying letters (Rules 66.4bis, 70.2(e), 70.16 and 91.2). ☐ superseded sheets and any accompanying letters, where this Authority either considers that the superseding sheets contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, or the superseding sheets were not accompanied by a letter indicating the basis for the amendments in the application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box (see Rule 70.16(b)). b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing, in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see paragraph 3ter of Annex C of the Administrative Instructions). 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report ☐ Box No. II Priority ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited ☒ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application			
Date of submission of the demand 25.09.2015		Date of completion of this report 19.11.2015	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office Gitschiner Str. 103 D-10958 Berlin Tel. +49 30 25901 - 0 Fax: +49 30 25901 - 840		Authorized officer Nocentini, Ilario Telephone No. +49 30 25901-492	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2013/076202

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on
 - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a) and (b))
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-18, 20, 21	as originally filed	
19	filed in electronic form on	25-09-2015

Claims, Numbers

1-23 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

☐ a sequence listing - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*:
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since either they are considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, or they were not accompanied by a letter indicating the basis for the amendments in the application as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rules 70.2(c) and (c-bis)):
 - ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*:
5. ☐ This report has been established:
 - ☐ taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rules 66.1(d-bis) and 70.2(e)).
 - ☐ without taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91(Rules 66.4bis and 70.2(e)).

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2013/076202

6. ☒ With regard to top-up searches (Rules 66.1 *ter* and 70.2(f)):
- ☒ A top-up search was carried out by this Authority on 05.11.2015 (all discovered documents are listed in the Supplemental Box Relating to Top-up Search).
 - ☐ Additional relevant documents have been discovered during the top-up search.
 - ☐ No top-up search was carried out by this Authority because it would serve no useful purpose.
7. ☐ Supplementary international search report(s) from Authority(ies) has/have been received and taken into account in establishing this report (Rule 45bis.8(b) and (c)).

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded".

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-23</u>
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-23</u>
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-23</u>
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

see separate sheet

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1 Reference is made to the following document:

D1 GB 2 411 317 A (TOSHIBA RES EUROP LTD [GB]) 24 August 2005
(2005-08-24)

2 Document D1 is regarded as being the prior art closest to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses:

A method of addressing a frame to a target device, the frame being one of a protocol that defines the frame with at least an address part and a payload data part (figure 3a), the method comprising the steps of:

- obtaining an address of the target device (page 2, fourth paragraph).

2.1 The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore differs from this known method in:

- splitting the address into a first part and a second part;
- allocating the first part in the address part of the frame; and
- allocating the second part in the payload data part of the frame;

and is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.2 The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as managing frames having addresses longer than the given address part of the frame.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

Document D1 only deals with the shortening of addresses, and therefore it teaches away from the claimed invention.

2.3 Independent claims 7, 13, 17 and 23 contains the subject-matter of claim 1, and therefore the same reasoning applies *mutatis mutandis*.

2.4 Claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-16 and 18-22 are dependent on claims 1, 7, 13 and 17, respectively, and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

-

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

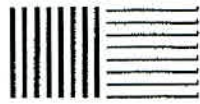
- 3 The features of claims 1-23 are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).
- 4 Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

- 5 The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claim 2 is not clear.

In said claims reference is made to matching of character size of addresses. Anyway it is not clear what is meant by this expression. The claims should be amended by including the last lines of page 19



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Munich, September 25, 2015

Our Ref.: 166 327 s7
International Application PCT/EP2013/076202
SCA Hygiene Products AB

In response to

the ISA's written opinion mailed on August 25, 2014

We hereby request International preliminary examination in line with Article 31 PCT (Chapter II).

We ask the International Examiner to proceed with International preliminary examination on patentability on the basis of the revised application documents as filed today and to consider our below arguments and analysis in response to preceding International Search Examiner's findings.

Applicant intends to address formal objections when entering national and regional phases in line with the corresponding jurisdiction's practice.

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We thank the International Search Examiner for the detailed analysis of the claimed subject-matter in view of the prior arts as documented by GB 2 411 317 A (D1) and US 2011/310898 A1 (A-category).

However, the International Search Examiner has alleged that claim 2 would define subject-matter which cannot be searched. In particular, the International Search Examiner alleged that claim 2 defined the so-called "*character size*" which had no meaning in the context of the invention and was neither explained in the description. As a consequence, the respective subject-matter was so-far not subject to any search or preliminary examination.

A review of the originally filed application documents at our end has revealed that we cannot agree to this Examiner's finding. In particular, we may draw the International Examiner's attention to the disclosure in conjunction with Figure 3B (cf. originally filed description, page 19, lower paragraph), which explains in detail an embodiment that relates to a *character size* used in connection with the address part and the payload part of the frame.

It is specifically explained that a character can be any one of the usual information units, including bits, bytes, words, etc. It is clear to the skilled reader that, for example, the size of a byte is 8 bits, of a word is 16 bits, and so forth. The term "character size" therefore conveys a clear technical teaching and, moreover, finds ample support in the accompanying description.

In this regard, we note that the present request for Chapter II examination was specifically filed in order to bring the above circumstance to the International Examiner's attention. It is certainly to Applicant's interest to leave the International phase with having all originally filed claims being searched.

At the same time, we have spotted a minor typo on page 19 where the repetition of "*integer*" erroneously reads "*inter*".

In light of the above, the International Examiner is asked to issue a positive IPRP acknowledging both novelty and inventive step of the subject-matter defined by all claims.

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If additional consultations on the telephone are considered useful, the International Examiner is invited to call the Representative.



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European Patent Attorney
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Encl.:

- revised page 19 (*clean and amendment copy*)

AMENDMENT COPY

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September 25, 2015

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extract, and process address part 711 for such a purpose. Likewise, payload data part 712 is provided by the protocol to convey information with frame 71, such as configuration data, instruction data, reporting data, or - generally - any payload data. According to the present embodiment, an address of a target is longer than an address that can be accommodated in address part 711, so that the target address is split into two parts. A first part is accommodated in the address part 711, and a second (remaining) part is accommodated in at least a part 713 of the payload data part 712. In this way, there is still room for conveying payload data in the payload data part 712, so that frame 71 can still convey payload data although being addressable to an enlarged number of possible targets.

Figure 3B shows a schematic view of a frame format according to another embodiment of the present invention. Similarly to frame 71 the shown frame 72 comprises an address part 711', a payload data part 712' and an optional remainder 710' for accommodation additional optional information. According to the present embodiment, the target address comprises m characters, such as bits, bytes, words, etc. As an example, the first part comprises n bytes a_1 to a_n that are all accommodated in the address part 711' of frame 72. Preferably, the n bytes of the first part completely accommodate the address part 711' so that no unused spare part within address part 711' remains. Likewise, the remaining bytes $a_{(n+1)}$ to a_m of the target address are accommodated in a part 713' of the payload data part 712' of frame 72. Preferably, the size of the address characters matches the size of the frame characters. As an example, the target address can be represented by an integer number of characters (e.g. bytes), so that a smaller integer number of such characters can fully accommodate the address part of the frame.

5 extraer y procesar la parte de dirección 711 para tal
propósito. De igual modo, la parte de datos de carga útil
712 se proporciona por el protocolo para transportar
información con la estructura 71, tal como datos de
configuración, datos de instrucción, datos de informe o -
10 generalmente - cualquier dato de carga útil. De acuerdo con
la presente modalidad, una dirección de un objetivo es
mayor que una dirección que puede acomodarse en la parte de
dirección 711, a fin de que la dirección objetivo se divida
en dos partes. Una primera parte se acomoda en la parte de
15 dirección 711 y una segunda parte (restante) se acomoda en
al menos una parte 713 de la parte de datos de carga útil
712. De este modo, aún hay espacio para transportar datos
de carga útil en la parte de datos de carga útil 712, a fin
de que la estructura 71 pueda aún transportar datos de
20 carga útil aunque sean direccionables a un número agrandado
de posibles objetivos.

La Figura 3B muestra una vista esquemática de un
formato de estructura de acuerdo con otra modalidad de la
presente invención. De manera similar a la estructura 71,
25 la estructura mostrada 72 comprende una parte de dirección

711', una parte de datos de carga útil 712' y un restante
opcional 710' para acomodo de información opcional,
adicional. De acuerdo con la presente modalidad, la
dirección objetivo comprende m caracteres, tales como bits,
5 bytes, palabras, etc. Como un ejemplo, la primera parte
comprende n bytes a_1 a a_n que se acomodan todos en la parte
de dirección 711' de la estructura 72. Preferentemente, los
 n bytes de la primera parte acomodan por completo la parte
de dirección 711' a fin de conservar la parte sobrante no
10 utilizada dentro de la parte de dirección 711'. De igual
modo, los bytes restantes $a_{(n+1)}$ a a_m de la dirección
objetivo se acomodan en una parte 713' de la parte de datos
de carga útil 712' de la estructura 72. Preferentemente, el
tamaño de los caracteres de la dirección concuerda con el
15 tamaño de los caracteres de la estructura. Como un ejemplo,
la dirección objetiva puede representarse por un número
entero de caracteres (por ejemplo, bytes), a fin de que un
menor número entero de tales caracteres pueda acomodar por
completo la parte de dirección de la estructura.