

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43*bis*.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference see form PCT/ISA/220		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/US2016/039243	International filing date (day/month/year) 24.06.2016	Priority date (day/month/year) 29.06.2015
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC INV. B65B61/18 B65D75/58		
Applicant DOW GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES LLC		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ 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 Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step and 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

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1*bis*(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Date of completion of this opinion see form PCT/ISA/210	Authorized Officer Lawder, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399-0	
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Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - ☒ 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 (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2. ☐ This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))
3. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing:
 - a. ☐ forming part of the international application as filed:
 - ☐ in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
 - ☐ on paper or in the form of an image file.
 - b. ☐ furnished together with the international application under PCT Rule 13ter.1(a) for the purposes of international search only in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
 - c. ☐ furnished subsequent to the international filing date for the purposes of international search only:
 - ☐ in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file (Rule 13ter.1(a)).
 - ☐ on paper or in the form of an image file (Rule 13ter.1(b) and Administrative Instructions, Section 713).
4. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that forming part of the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-16</u>
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-16</u>
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-16</u>
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.10)

and / or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.9)

see form 210

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

Item V:

- 1 Document D1 discloses a process for producing a flexible pouch of two opposing flexible films.
- 2 The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from the process known from D1 though the processes of placing a microcapillary strip between two opposing flexible films, the films defining a common peripheral edge;
positioning a first side of the microcapillary strip at a first side of the common peripheral edge and positioning a second side of the microcapillary strip at a second side of the common peripheral edge;
first sealing, at a first seal condition, the microcapillary strip between the two flexible films; and
second sealing, at a second seal condition, a peripheral seal along at least a portion of the common peripheral edge, the peripheral seal comprising a sealed microcapillary segment.
- 3 These features of adding the microcapillary strip are neither known from nor suggested by the available prior art.
- 4 The subject-matter claim 1 is new and inventive within the meaning of Article 33(2) and (3) PCT.
- 5 The same reasoning applies, mutatis mutandis, to the subject-matter of the corresponding independent claim 9, which therefore is also considered new and inventive.
- 6 Dependent claims 2-8 and 10-16 also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

Item VI:

7 Certain documents cited

Certain published documents

Application No Patent No	Publication date (day/month/ year)	Filing date (day/month/ year)	Priority date (<i>valid claim</i>) (day/month/year)
WO2016011153	21.01.2016	15.07.2015	16.07.2014

Item VII:

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