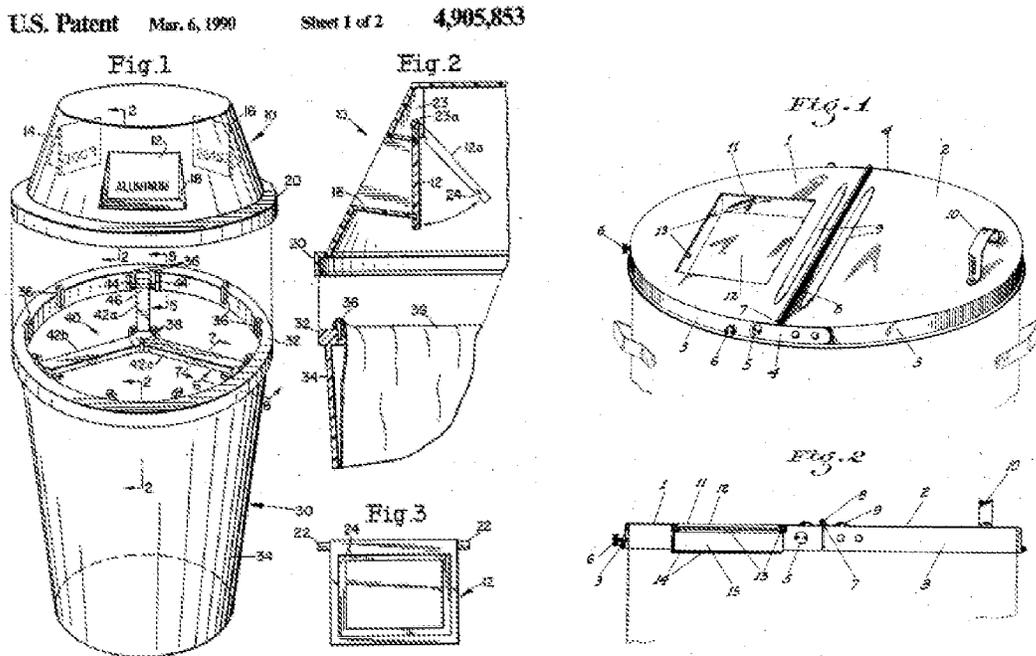


REMARKS

Claim objections. The action objected to claims 22 and 23 for minor typographical errors that the amendment addresses.

Claim rejections under Section 112. The amendments above address the rejections of claims 3, 4, 6, and 23.

Claims rejections under Section 103. The action cites Strawder (left) and Lima (right) to argue that independent claims 1 and 21 are obvious.



Strawder is a receptacle with three doors 12, 14, 16, each leading to a separate holding portion 2. It helps separate recyclables and waste and contains labels on its doors to guide disposal. Lima is a display case lid 1 for selling bulk products like peanuts. Within the non-movable door portion 6, Lima provides a visible container 12 that shows what is inside the display case.

Neither of these shows or suggest what is now claimed: particularly a communication portion having “a visible cavity surrounding the opening wherein the visible cavity holds examples of materials that should be disposed of.” Looking at Strawder and Lima, neither show or suggest a visible cavity that surrounds an opening.

The action also cites Garcia, Wilson, Strawder, and Lima against claims 1 and 21. See below for images from Garcia (left) and Wilson (right).

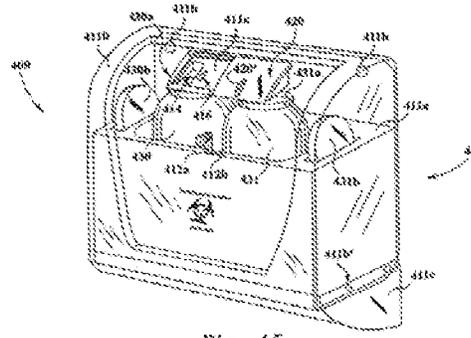
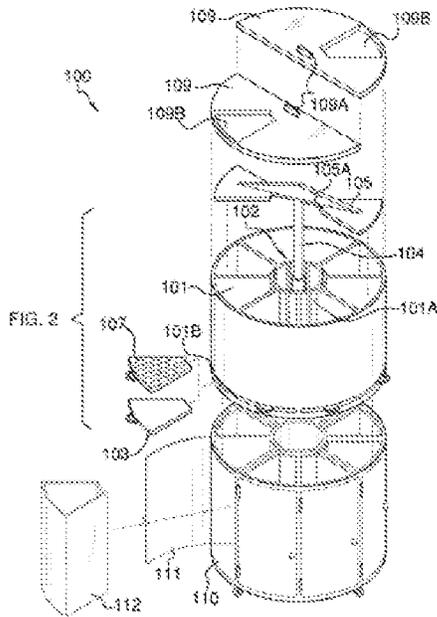


Fig. 15

Garcia and Wilson do not cure the defects of Strawder and Lima. Garcia is a compactor that disposes of compacted waste into pod containers 112. Wilson stores biomedical supplies in a transparent-topped display case. Neither of these show or suggest a communication portion having “a visible cavity surrounding the opening, wherein the visible cavity holds examples of materials that should be disposed of” as claimed. For these reasons, the undersigned requests allowance of independent claims 1 and 21.

Claim 2. The action cites Strawder’s doors 12, 14, 16 as separable cells. Cells are defined as “a compartment, hollow receptacle, or compartmentlike demarcation: as a: one of the compartments of a honeycomb.” Webster’s Third New International Dictionary, ©2002. Strawder’s doors thus do not show or suggest a “cavity [that] is divided into separable cells.”

Claim 3. Strawder does not show or suggest “the cavity is divided into separable cells, wherein each separate cell is shaped to accept like-shaped items”: Strawder’s recited “cells” are its doors. The doors are rectangular, not shaped to accept like-shaped items. The other references do not cure this defect.

Claims 4 and 22. Strawder states only that it “can be added to existing trashcans.” Strawder makes no mention of adaptability for one device to fit multiple sized trashcans. Also, there is no indication in Strawder of how its lid would fit onto multiple sized trashcans. Thus, Strawder does not teach or suggest that “the communications portion is adapted to fit multiple sizes of the container portion.” Similarly, for claims 23-25, none of the cited references teach or suggest the claimed size adjustability features.

The remaining claims depend from either independent claims or one of the dependent claims, and thus the undersigned believes that all claims are now allowable.

Sincerely,

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