

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B0073/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR01/01039	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 05 April 2001 (05.04.01)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 07 April 2000 (07.04.00)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A47G 23/02		
Applicant AMORA MAILLE		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 06 November 2001 (06.11.01)	Date of completion of this report 22 August 2002 (22.08.2002)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FR01/01039

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*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 the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

- the international application as originally filed.
- the description, pages 1-13, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.
- the claims, Nos. _____, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. 1-13, filed with the letter of 12 August 2002 (12.08.2002),
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.
- the drawings, sheets/fig 1/3 - 3/3, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR 01/01039

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)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DE-U-85 16 315

1. Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of Claim 1, describes a meal time accessory system capable of being clipped onto and removed from a food holder. The subject matter of Claim 1 differs from that of D1 by virtue of:

"the lower bearing means consist of at least two teeth which define at least two substantially point-like contact areas toward the end thereof."

- 1.1 The problem that the present invention is intended to solve can thus be considered to be that of improving the stability of the system after clipping and during use without the need for additional elements.

- 1.2 Document D1 contains no information that would lead to the subject matter of the invention; on the contrary, the solution envisaged in said document

uses an antifriction pad. Moreover, the single-point bearing means are not included in the known prior art nor obviously suggested therein.

1.3 The solution to said problem, as suggested in Claim 1 of the present application is thus considered to be novel and to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and 33(3)).

1.4 Claims 2-13 are dependent on Claim 1 and, as such, also meet the PCT requirements concerning novelty and inventive step.