

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing <i>(day/month/year)</i> 05 December 2017	
Applicant's or agent's file reference DE102016116462	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/EP2017/070639	International filing date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 14 August 2017
Priority date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 02 September 2016	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC E05B 85/06(2014.01)i; E05C 19/02(2006.01)i; E05B 17/18(2006.01)n; E05B 77/34(2014.01)n; E05B 77/36(2014.01)n	
Applicant HUF HÜLSBECK & FÜRST GMBH & CO KG	

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 43bis.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 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 66.1bis(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/	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
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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 43*bis*.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 13*ter*.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 13*ter*.1(a)).
 - on paper or in the form of an image file (Rule 13*ter*.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:

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of:

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

- [1] Reference is made to the following documents:

D1	US 2014/125071 A1 (MCWILLIAMS MARK [US]) 8 May 2014
D2	DE 101 28 866 A1 (VOLKSWAGEN AG [DE]) 19 December 2002
D3	EP 2 642 049 A2 (HUF HUELSBECK & FUERST GMBH [DE]) 25 September 2013
D4	FR 2 819 539 A1 (PEUGEOT CITROEN AUTOMOBILES SA [FR]) 19 July 2002
D5	EP 0 475 244 A2 (NIFCO INC [JP]) 18 March 1992

- [2] The present application does not comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel.
- [2.1] D1 (figure 5) discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document):
- an exterior door handle (1) for a motor vehicle, which is assigned a functional component (3), which can be covered by a covering element (6), the covering element (6) being arranged on a motor vehicle door, in particular on a bearing bracket (2) connected to the motor vehicle door, the covering element (6) having an operating section (6 in figure 3) which is visible to a user from the outside, wherein, when the covering element (6) is in the closed state, the functional component (3) is inaccessible to the user, and when the covering element (6) is in an open state, the functional component (3) is accessible to a user, wherein an actuator (10) which is arranged on the motor vehicle door, in particular on the bearing bracket (2), is provided to move the covering element (6), and, when the covering element (6) is in the closed state, the operating section can be operated by the user to activate the actuator (10).
- [3] Dependent claims 2-16 do not appear to contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, since they are either known from documents D1-D4 or relate to measures which are generally known in the field of locks.
- [3.1] The subject matter of claims 2, 3, 5 and 12 is known at least from document D1.
- [3.2] The subject matter of claims 4 and 6-10 is generally known from the field of push-push mechanisms.
- [3.3] Dependent claims 11 and 13-16 appear to define only minor structural modifications to the device according to claim 1 of the kind that a person skilled in the art would normally make as a matter of routine without bringing about a specific technical effect.
- [4] Claims 1-16 meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(4) in respect of industrial applicability. The invention is industrially applicable in the field of external door handles.