

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 April 2002 (18.04.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/30234 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A45C 13/00**

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/31974

(22) International Filing Date: 10 October 2001 (10.10.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/239,862 11 October 2000 (11.10.2000) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SAMSONITE CORPORATION** [US/US]; 11200 East Forty-Fifth Avenue, Denver, CO 80239 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **KING, William,**

L. [US/US]; 1371 South Edison Way, Denver, CO 80222 (US). **WHOLLEY, Edward, F.** [US/US]; 57 Hickory Drive, Raynham, MA 02767 (US).

(74) Agent: **O'CONNOR, Gregory, W.**; Samsonite Corporation, 11200 East Forth-Fifth Avenue, Denver, CO 80239 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AU, BR, CA, CN, CO, IN, JP, KR, MX, SG, US, VN, ZA.

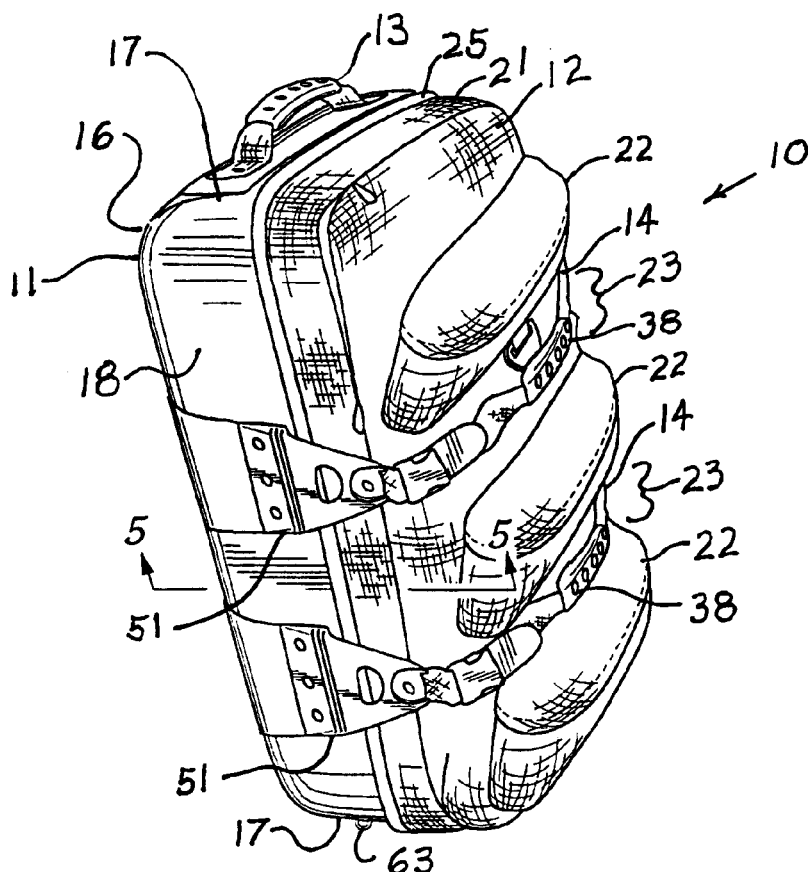
(84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: HYBRID CONSTRUCTION FOR A LUGGAGE CASE



(57) Abstract: A luggage case (10) has a molded, relatively hard or rigid back portion affixed to the relatively soft fabric constructed front portion (12). A connector form (25) constructed of an extruded, flexible shape extends around the peripheral rim (19) of the back portion, and has a first free end (30) which is attached by sewing to a gusset (21) that extends around the front portion (11). The connector form (25) has an upper portion that has one and preferably two channels on an outer portion, one of which contains a stiffening wire (36). The upper portion is fastened by stitching to the rim (19) of the back portion. The upper portion includes at least a pair of protruding pockets (22), which define a gap or channel (23) there between. A strap (39) attached to opposite sides of the back portion by triangular-shaped anchors, passes through this gap or channel (23) and had a lifting handle (38) attached thereto. A shoulder harness has ends that can be attached to an end of the back portion and to the lifting handle (38) at a shoulder yolk can be used to carry the luggage case (10) on one's back.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.