

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
26 April 2001 (26.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/28381 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A45C 13/04**,  
13/00, B32B 7/04, 7/08

London N1 1EN (GB). **DEMEDTS, Karel** [BE/BE];  
Westerring 17, B-9700 Oudenaarde (BE).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/28901

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

(22) International Filing Date: 18 October 2000 (18.10.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (*national*): AU, BR, CA, CN, HU, ID,  
IN, JP, KR, MX, NO, SG, US, VN, ZA.

(26) Publication Language: English

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

(30) Priority Data:  
60/160,376 19 October 1999 (19.10.1999) US

**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.

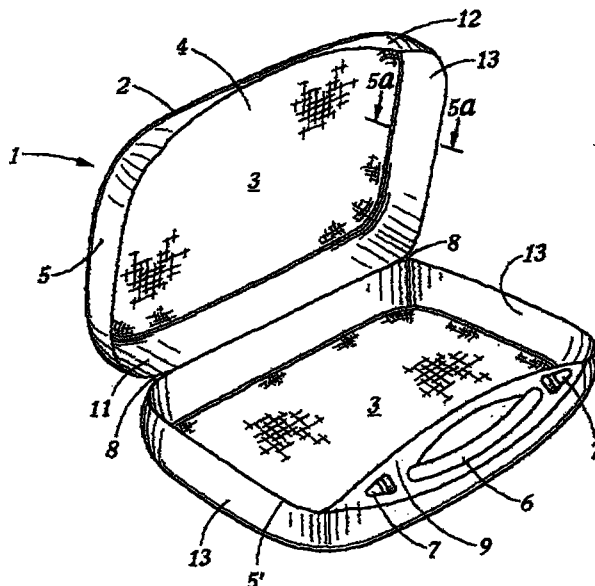
(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **SAM-  
SONITE CORPORATION** [US/US]; 11200 East Forty-  
fifth Avenue, Denver, CO 80239 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **VAN HOYE, Willy**  
[BE/BE]; Westerring 17, B-9700 Oudenaarde (BE).  
**BEEDHAM, Martyn** [GB/GB]; 1A Lonsdale Square,

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: METHOD OF MAKING AN INJECTION MOLDED LUGGAGE SHELL AND LUGGAGE CASE MADE THERE-  
FROM



(57) Abstract: Luggage cases of sewn fabric panels are old. These are cumbersome to manufacture, requiring many manual processes. A more advanced luggage case uses a shape retaining foam and fabric laminate to form major portions of the luggage case. This prior case still requires manual steps to apply shape stabilizing frame parts to the inside of the formed foam shell, and sewing to attach the slide fastener type closure around the perimeter of the shell. Disclosed is a process for forming a clamshell type luggage case (1) with an injection molded peripheral frame (5, 5') and a fabric panel for a broad face (3). The edges of the fabric panel are attached to the injection molded frame by an autogenous bond formed between the edge of the panel and the plastic frame during molding.



**WO 01/28381 A1**