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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/08216 (22) International Filing Date: 24 April 1998 (24.04.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/846,082 25 April 1997 (25.04.97) US (71) Applicant: S.C. JOHNSON HOME STORAGE, INC. [US/US]; 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403 (US). (72) Inventors: PORCHIA, Jose; 3614 Windsor Court, Midland, MI 48640 (US). DAIS, Brian, C.; 368 East Saginaw Road, Sanford, MI 48657 (US). TONEY, Kenneth, A.; 3712 Sweetbrier, Midland, MI 48642 (US). WELSH, Judi, R.; 5007 Foxpoint Circle, Midland, MI 48642 (US). (74) Agents: FRANK, J., William, III et al.; S.C. Johnson Home Storage, Inc., Patent Section, 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, ID, JP, KR, MX, NZ, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: RECLOSABLE FASTENER ASSEMBLY**(57) Abstract**

A reclosable fastener assembly comprising a first fastener strip (14), a second fastener strip (15) and a slider (10). The first fastener strip has an inner surface and an outer surface, including at least an uppermost closure element (16a) and a bottommost closure element (16b) positioned along the length of the inner surface. The second fastener strip has an inner surface and an outer surface, including at least an uppermost closure element (17a) and a bottommost closure element (17b) positioned along the length of the inner surface. The closure elements along the second fastener strip are adapted to engage with the closure elements along the first fastener strip, thereby interlocking the second fastener strip with the first fastener strip. The slider has a top (20) and side (21, 22) walls depending from opposite sides of the top for receiving the fastener strips therebetween, the side walls extending downward from the top to a point below the uppermost closure elements, so that at least a portion of the fastener strips are held between the side walls. The side walls also extend from

a separating end (10a) of the slider to a pinching end (10b). Pinching means are positioned proximate to the pinching end. The slider also includes a separating leg (23) depending from the top between the first and second side walls at the separating end of the slider. The separating leg penetrates at least one of the uppermost closure elements of the first or second fastener strips, but not the bottommost closure elements.

