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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **INTER-BREW S.A.** [BE/BE]; Vaarstraat 94, B- 3000 Leuven (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WAUTERS, Albert** [BE/BE]; Admiraalhof 24, B- 9070 Destelbergen (BE). **DONKER, Hans** [NL/NL]; Jungfrau 18, NL- 5624 NL Eindhoven (NL). **ANDERSON, Ian** [GB/GB]; 19 Silver Street, Burwell, Cambridge CB5 0EF (GB). **HALKET,**

Andrew, R. B. [GB/GB]; 17 Fennec Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 9GG (GB). **FRASER, Christine, A.** [GB/GB]; 5 Hemmingford Road, Cambridge CB1 3BY (GB).

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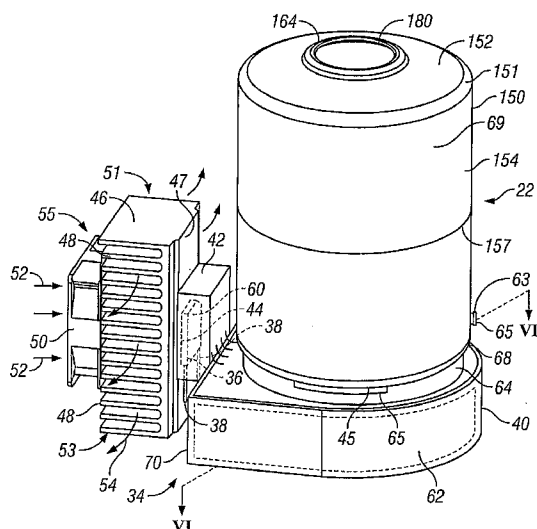
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(54) Title: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DISPENSING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: A cooling system (23,34) for a home beer dispensing apparatus (10) has a mediated thermal bridge (40) providing a bank of latent cooling capacity. The bridge (40) may have a cavity filled with a cooling solution (66) with at least one series of spaced apart heat exchange fins (48,76,84) extending substantially along and interstitially into the cavity (62) so as to enhance heat transfer across the cavity (62). The bridge (40) is arranged in thermal conducting relation through a cooling plate (64) between a keg (22) and a Peltier thermoelectric cooling device (36) adapted to cool the cooling solution (66). The cooling solution (66) may comprise 5% by volume glycol and freezes at a temperature below that of water. The cooling plate (64) has an electrical resistance heater (45) mounted therein to maintain the temperature of beer (69) in the keg (22) adjacent a bottom portion (68) thereof above the freezing temperature of the beer (69). The invention also provides a beer keg (22) for such systems (23,34).

WO 2004/051163 A3