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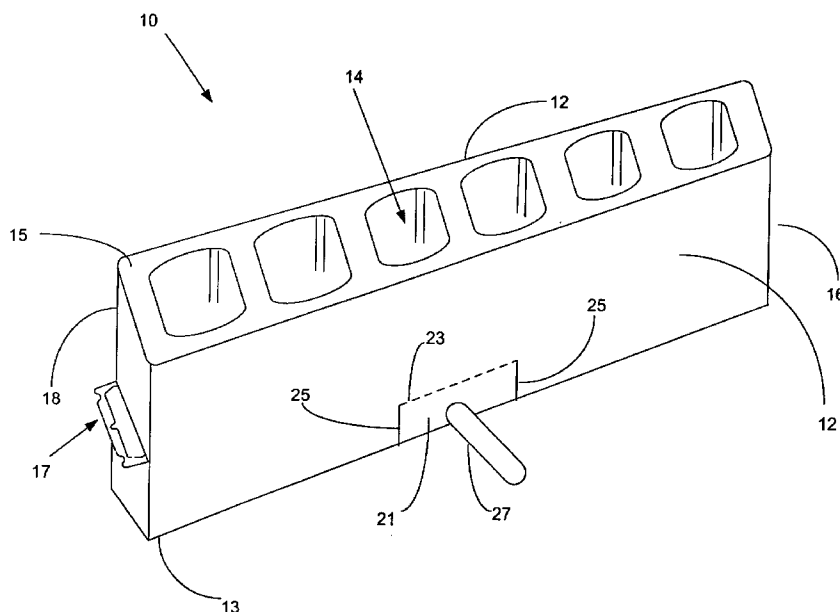
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A MULTI-COMPARTMENT REAGENT CONTAINER HAVING MEANS TO INHIBIT RE-USE THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A method for automatically determining whether a reagent container (12) is new and unused or whether the reagent container has been previously used whenever reagent containers (12) are initially placed onto an analyzer. Unused containers have a flag (21) or lock-out member (17) that can be dislodged or relocated by a moveable sensor probe (27) when containers (12) are placed onto the analyzer.



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