

CLAIMS

1. A container (10) for storing, metering and dispensing bulk material, the container comprising :
- 5 - a tank (1) to store the bulk material, said tank comprising a close top end and an opened bottom end, and said tank presenting an essentially cylindrical shape,
- a dispensing closure (2) to dispense the bulk material from the opened bottom end of the tank, said dispensing closure comprising :
- 10 . an inner rotatable member (22) with at least one aperture (221), said inner rotatable member being rotatable around a longitudinal central axis (XX) and said inner rotatable member comprising a central connecting means (223) designed to removably engage with an external rotating shaft extending along the central axis (XX),
- . an outer fixed member (21) with a central aperture (213) designed for the passage of the external rotating shaft and with at least one outlet aperture (211) therein,
- 15 wherein the inner rotatable member (22) is configured for being selectively rotatable with respect to the outer fixed member (21) such that at least in one rotational position of the inner member, the at least one aperture (221) of the inner member overlaps with the at least one outlet aperture (211) of the outer fixed member for enabling the dispensing of the bulk material from the container,
- 20 wherein the tank comprises at least one longitudinal straight rib (15) projecting inside the internal volume of the tank.
2. Container according to Claim 1 wherein the rib (15) extends from the top end of the tank to the bottom end of the tank.
- 25 3. Container according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the transversal section of the rib presents round outline shape.
4. Container according to any one of the precedent claims wherein at least in the lower part of the tank, the transversal section of the tank presents a circular shape with a rib projecting inside the internal section of the circular shape.
- 30 5. Container according to any one of the precedent claims wherein the tank comprises one rib (15) and the dispensing closure comprises one outlet aperture (211) in the outer fixed member for enabling the dispensing of the product from the container, and
- 35 wherein the angular position of the rib is opposed to the angular position of the outlet aperture (211) of the outer fixed member.

6. Container according to any one of the precedent claims wherein the tank is filled with a soluble beverage ingredient like instant coffee, milk, creamer, chocolate, coffee mixes, fruit powder, soup or instant tea.

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7. Container according to any one of the precedent claims wherein the dispensing closure is removably attached to the opened bottom end of the tank.

8. A system (3) for dispensing bulk material, said system comprising a container (10) according to any one of Claims 1 to 7 and an apparatus (31) for dispensing a dose of bulk material from the container, said apparatus comprising :

- a receiving area (312) to receive the container in the apparatus,
- a dispensing area (314) to dispense a dose of bulk material.
- a rotatable shaft (311) to rotate the inner rotatable member (22) of the container, the end of said shaft being designed to cooperate with the central connecting means (223) of the inner rotatable member of the container, and
- a motor to actuate the rotatable shaft (311).

9. A system according to the precedent claim for preparing a beverage, wherein :

- the container (10) stores a soluble beverage ingredient, and
- the apparatus (31) comprises a beverage preparation chamber (32) connected to at least one liquid supply, the dispensing area (314) comprising said beverage preparation chamber so that a dose of soluble beverage ingredient is dispensed from the container in the chamber.

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10. A system according to Claim 8 for preparing a beverage, wherein :

- the container (10) stores a soluble beverage ingredient, and
- the dispensing area (314) of the apparatus is configured for positioning a drinking receptacle so that a dose of soluble beverage ingredient is dispenser in said drinking receptacle, and
- the apparatus (31) comprises a liquid supply and said liquid supply is configured for dispensing liquid in said drinking receptacle at the dispensing area.

11. Use of the container according to any one of Claims 1 to 7 to store, dose and dispense a soluble beverage ingredient.

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