

CLAIMS

1.- A method for carrying out an inventory of a plurality of biological product containers (16), each container (16) and/or each package (14) comprising containers (16) being provided with an identification label with a wireless communication chip, the method comprising the following steps:

- providing a device (12) for carrying out an inventory, the device (12) including a gantry (26) defining a direction of travel (X), the gantry comprising two reading panels (28A, 28B), the reading panels (28A, 28B) each including at least one antenna (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B), the antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B) being capable of reading a wireless communication chip,

- providing a receptacle (10) able to be moved, the receptacle (10) bearing the plurality of containers (16) for which an inventory is to be carried out, and

- reading, by at least one of the reading panels (28A, 28B), the wireless communication chip of each container and/or package (14, 16),

wherein the gantry (26) includes a floor (30) including at least two guide members (34A, 34B) extending along the direction of travel, each guide member (34A, 34B) being associated with a respective reading panel (28A, 28B) and being arranged at a distance smaller than 20 centimeters (cm) from a respective reading panel (28A, 28B) along a direction transverse to the direction of travel, each receptacle (10) comprising a plurality of casters (18), at least one caster (18) being provided to cooperate with at least one guide member (34A, 34B).

2.- The method according to claim 1, comprising moving the receptacle (10) in order to cross the gantry (26) in the direction of travel, the reading being carried out during the movement of the receptacle (10).

3.- The method according to claim 2, wherein the movement and reading steps are carried out in an enclosure with a controlled atmosphere.

4.- The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the receptacle (10) comprises at least one wall formed by a metal grating.

5.- The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the reading panels (28A, 28B) each include a plurality of antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2) capable of reading a wireless communication chip placed next to one another and the reading step is carried

out by successive supply of the antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2) with current during a predefined period of time.

6.- The method according to claim 5, wherein an antenna (A1, A2, B1, B2) of a reading panel (28A, 28B) is associated bijectively with an antenna (A1, A2, B1, B2) of another reading panel (28A, 28B) to form pairs of antennas (A1, B1; A2, B2).

7.- The method according to claim 6, wherein the current applied in each pair of antennas (A1, B1; A2, B2) respects one of the following conditions: being in phase, being phase-shifted by 90° and being phase-shifted by 180°.

8.- The method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein each reading panel (28A, 28B) includes only two antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2).

9.- The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein each reading panel (28A, 28B) includes only one antenna (A, B), the antennas (A, B) of the reading panels (28A, 28B) being associated bijectively to form a pair of antennas.

10.- A device (12) for carrying out an inventory of a plurality of biological product containers (16), each container (16) and/or each package (14) comprising containers (16) being provided with an identification label with a wireless communication chip, the plurality of containers (16) for which an inventory must be carried out being part of a receptacle (10), the device (12) comprising:

- a gantry (26) defining a direction of travel (X), the gantry comprising two reading panels (28A, 28B), the reading panels (28A, 28B) each including at least one antenna (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B), the antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B) being capable of reading a wireless communication chip, and
- a control terminal (27) comprising a controller (40) suitable for commanding the antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B) to carry out a reading step by at least one of the reading panels (28A, 28B) of the wireless communication chip of each container and/or package (14, 16),

wherein the gantry (26) includes a floor (30) including at least two guide members (34A, 34B) extending along the direction of travel, each guide member (34A, 34B) being associated with a respective reading panel (28A, 28B) and being arranged at a distance smaller than 20 centimeters (cm) from a respective reading panel (28A,

28B) along a direction transverse to the direction of travel, the at least one guide member (34A, 34B) being adapted to cooperate with at least one caster (18).).

11.- The device according to claim 10, wherein the controller (40) is suitable for commanding the antennas (A1, A2, B1, B2; A, B) to carry out the reading step during the movement of the receptacle (10) to traverse the gantry (26) along the direction of travel.