CLAIMS

1. A spreader assembly comprising:
   a spreader having container engagement devices for engaging and disengaging a container; and
   a lid engagement device mounted to the spreader;
   said lid engagement device comprises at least one actuator for positioning a lid engagement frame proximate to a lid of a container, wherein said lid engagement frame includes an adhesion advice arranged to adhere to said lid on application of an external force to permit the actuator to move said lid relative to the container.

2. The spreader assembly according to claim 1, wherein the adhesion device is an electro-adhesion device comprising:
   one or more electropermanent magnetic devices configured to apply magnetic forces for magnetic engagement with a lid of a container;
   a power supply for each magnetic device; and
   a user input device arranged to apply current to each magnetic device, in response to a user input, for demagnetizing said magnetic device.

3. The spreader assembly according to claim 1, wherein the adhesion device comprises:
   one or more vacuum seals, each vacuum seal arranged to selectively permit fluid communication with a vacuum source to apply a fluid pressure for arrangement with a lid of a container,
   a user input device arranged to permit fluid communication between the vacuum source and each vacuum seal in response to a user input.

4. The spreader assembly according to claim 2, wherein the lid engagement frame includes one or more suspensions for suspending each electropermanent magnetic device from the lid engagement device.

5. The spreader assembly according to claim 3, wherein the lid engagement frame includes one or more suspensions for suspending each vacuum seal from the lid engagement device.

6. The spreader assembly according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the suspension may comprise one or more of: a spring, a chain, a shock absorber and a linkage.