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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/08327 (22) International Filing Date: 24 April 1998 (24.04.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/846,082 25 April 1997 (25.04.97) US 08/919,951 29 August 1997 (29.08.97) US (71) Applicants: S.C. JOHNSON HOME STORAGE, INC. [US/US]; 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403 (US). KCL CORPORATION [US/US]; Hodell and Prospect Streets, Shelbyville, IN 46176 (US). (72) Inventors: PORCHIA, Jose; 3614 Windsor Court, Midland, MI 48640 (US). DAIS, Brian, C.; 368 East Saginaw Road, Sanford, MI 48657 (US). TONEY, Kenneth, A.; 3712 Sweetbrier, Midland, MI 48642 (US). WELSH, Judi, R.; 5007 Foxpoint Circle, Midland, MI 48642 (US). O'CONNOR, Thomas, P.; 379 West Broadway, Shelbyville, IN 46176 (US). BURKE, James, W.; 101 Western Ridge Road, Cleves, OH 45002 (US). (74) Agents: FRANK, J., William, III et al.; S.C. Johnson Home Storage, Inc., Patent Section, 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, ID, JP, KR, MX, NZ, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: ENDSTOP AND DOCKING MEANS FOR THERMOPLASTIC BAGS

(57) Abstract

In a thermoplastic bag having a reclosable fastener (11) extending along the mouth of the bag and a slider (10) straddling the fastener for opening and closing the fastener, the fastener including two opposing interlocking fastener strips (14, 15) along the side walls (12, 13) of the bag, the slider adapted to maintain straddling relation with the fastener, an improved endstop means (30) proximate to at least one end of the reclosable fastener, the endstop means being formed from the material of the fastener strips and rising vertically from the fastener to a height adequate to engage the slider and prevent movement of the slider past the end of the bag. A rail (25) extends along the length of at least one of the fastener strips on the outside thereof, the rail extending to a point sufficient to permit the slider to cooperate with the rail to maintain straddling relation with the fastener when the slider reaches the endstop. Docking means (40) and methods of making endstop means and docking means are also disclosed.

