

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
30 May 2013 (30.05.2013)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2013/078437 A8

(51) International Patent Classification:

A47J 31/20 (2006.01) A47J 31/40 (2006.01)
A47J 31/36 (2006.01) A47J 42/38 (2006.01)
A47J 31/60 (2006.01) A47J 31/42 (2006.01)
A47J 31/46 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2012/066428

(22) International Filing Date:

21 November 2012 (21.11.2012)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

61/563,185 23 November 2011 (23.11.2011) US

(71) Applicant: STARBUCKS CORPORATION, D/B/A
STARBUCKS COFFEE COMPANY [US/US]; 2401
Utah Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134-1435 (US).

(72) Inventors: HULETT, Randy; 1203 16th Avenue E.,
Seattle, WA 98112-3312 (US). KOLLER, Izaak; 7355
23rd Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117-5661 (US). SHAY,
Brian; 7710 18th Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117-5431
(US). JOHNSON, Bradley, M.; 98015 242nd St. SW, Ed-

monds, WA 98026 (US). SINGER, Marc; 5510 12th Ave.
NE, Seattle, WA 98105 (US). WEBB, James, Stocker;
7722 16th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (US). DOMBEY,
John, R.; 30320 SE Lake Retreat S. Drive, Ravensdale,
WA 98051 (US). BROWN, Harold, A.; 1226 41st Ave.
E., Seattle, WA 98112 (US). DRINKWATER, Jared;
2807 V Court SE, Auburn, WA 98002 (US). BOWERS,
Scott, Douglas; 19609 9th Dr. SE, Bothell, WA 98012
(US). RIDAY, Richard, Brian; 13004NE 88th Street,
Kirkland, WA 98033 (US).

(74) Agent: ALTMAN, Daniel, E.; Knobbe, Martens, Olson &
Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, 14th Floor, Irvine, CA
92614 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY,
BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM,
DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP,
KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD,
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI,
NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU,
RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS FOR BREWING A BEVERAGE

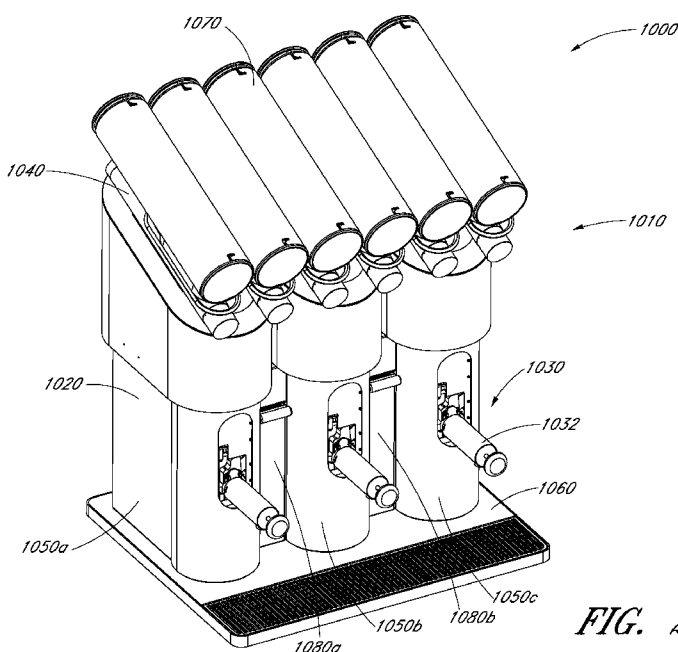


FIG. 23

(57) Abstract: A system (10, 1000) for brewing a desired portion of a beverage, such as a single-cup portion of coffee, is provided. The system may have more than one brew module (50, 1050a, 1050b, 1050c). The system allows a user to quickly and easily brew a variety of types of single-cup portions of a beverage. In some embodiments, the system may brew a single-cup portion of coffee in a relatively short period of time based on a combination of certain parameters. The system may include an automatic cleaning mechanism (700, 1300) such that a user does not need to manually clean components of a brewing machine between brew cycles. The system may also include apparatus (440, 1420) configured to substantially prevent steam from reaching grinder components (420, 1400) of the system. The system may also include apparatus (1040) configured to provide a precise dose of material based on, for example, volume of the material. Methods and apparatus for brewing a beverage are also disclosed.



TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

25 July 2013

(15) Information about Correction:

see Notice of 25 July 2013