IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: LEE=65

In re Application of:	)	Art Unit: 1761
LEE	)	Examiner: SIMONE
Appln. No.: 09/068,892	)	Washington, D.C.
Filed: May 22, 1998	)	February 23, 1999
For: POT HAVING AUTOMATIC SEALING FUNCTION	)	

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's ~~November 12, 1998~~ May 23, 2000, Official Action, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the original specification and substitute therefor the attached new specification under the authority to voluntarily file substitute specifications provided by Section 608.01(a) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please change "Claims:" to --What is Claimed:--.~~

~~Please cancel claims 1-9 without prejudice in favor of~~ the following new claims 10-20:

--10. A pot having an automatic sealing function, for cooking food material; the pot having a lid with a knob installed on an open upper part of a vessel, said pot comprising:

an elastic open seal part installed between the lid and the knob which permits a high pressure generated by heating said pot to be automatically exhausted, and precluding an inflow of exterior air into said pot when cooled, wherein the interior of the pot is automatically sealed;

a sealing part installed between said vessel and said lid; and

an inverse outflow cut-off flange installed on a lower part of the lid for restraining an outflow of the food material to an exterior of the vessel when contents therein are boiled.

--11. The pot according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of exhaust holes are formed through said lid which are opened and closed by said open seal part.

--12. The pot according to claim 10, wherein a circular handle part is formed on an outer circumference of said open seal part which slants upwards.

--13. The pot according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of concave recesses are provided on a lower face of said open seal part.

--14. The pot according to claim 10, wherein said sealing part comprises; a surface engaged an upper end of the vessel which slants outward from the vessel and a projection jaw formed on the lower face of an outer circumference of the lid so

that an insert flute of a circular shape is formed, and wherein said pot is sealed by a weight of the lid and pressure a packing in said insert flute.

--15. The pot as claimed in claim 14, wherein said inverse outflow cut-off flange is formed with said projection jaw and below said insert flute, a lower end of said inverse outflow cut-off flange being below the upper end of the vessel engaged to said slant face.

--16. The pot according to claim 14, wherein the packing has a side wall inserted into the insert flute of the lid and closely engaged to the projection jaw, a sealing plate formed on an outer side face of said side wall and closely engaged to the slant face, and a cut-off plate formed on the outer side face of the side wall below said sealing plate and also closely engaged to the slant face.

--17. The pot according to claim 10, further comprising a seal indication structure installed in said knob so that a sealing state of said pot can be easily determined outside the pot without opening the lid.

--18. The pot according to claim 17, wherein said seal indication structure comprises a fixing hole having a female screw thread formed in a center of an upper face of the knob, an indication cap of ductile material inserted into said fixing hole and fixed by a circular bolt screwed into said female screw thread, a tube hole which pierces through a projected rod formed in a center of a bottom of said fixing hole, and a venting hole piercing through the center of an

assembly screw inserted into said tube hole to fix the lid to the knob, wherein said fixing hole communicates with an interior of the vessel.

--19. The pot according to claim 12 wherein said circular handle part and said open seat part are a unitary element.

--20. The pot according to claim 15, wherein said lid, said inverse outflow cut-off flange, said projection jaw and said insert flute are a unitary element--.

THE ABSTRACT

Attached herewith please find an abstract on single page for insertion behind the claims.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's November 12, 1998, Official Action and respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following comments.

Claims 1-9 have been cancelled in favor of new claims 10-20 which remain in the application for examination.

Because of the number of changes necessary to the specification in order to meet the Examiner's requested cooperation in corrected errors thereto and the disclosure informal arrangement, Applicant has elected to submit as substitute specification as permitted under section 608.01(a) of

the MPEP. Applicant has also enclosed a marked-up version of the original disclosure which reflects the differences between the original and substitute specifications. The undersigned avers that the substitute specification contains no new matter and reflects only the changes shown on the enclosed marked-up specification. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objection to the specification has now been overcome.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication that claims 1-9 are allowable subject to overcoming his 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the introduction to the claims and rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, applicant has provided the suggested introduction and cancelled claims 1-9 in favor of new claims 10-20 which have been rewritten to eliminate each of the Examiner's identified problems.

Applicant submits that this rejection has now been overcome.

Applicant submits that the invention is new and unobvious and not disclosed by the cited art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's early review and issuance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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