

## **2022 Opposition, Validity or Novelty Search - Engineering**

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Prepare and conduct a search. Try as much as possible to describe the steps you take to acquaint yourself with the topic of such a search. Describe how you find and use the necessary information in developing the search query. Your reasons for NOT including certain aspects may also be of importance. Keep a record (history) of the search you conduct in the database of your choice. Explain any factors other than the technical topic that will have an effect on the search. Be as detailed as possible in describing your approach to the search including developing the search strategy, the choices you make in developing the strategy, the database syntax you use and what it means, and reasons for the results you pick.

The majority of the marks will be awarded for the explanation you provide about developing and finalising your search strategy. Do not stop if you find a seemingly perfect hit. By finishing early you might not earn enough marks to pass. There is no perfect set of results.

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### **CASE STUDY**

## **Cyclist Detection Device**

This document claims priority as of 2013-01-02

Filing date: 2013-12-30

Publication date: 2014-05-31

### **Description**

Cyclists often get injured by colliding with side doors of vehicles when occupants of the vehicles open the side doors without paying attention to cyclists moving towards the vehicles. The invention provides a warning device for warning vehicle occupants of passing cyclists.

The warning device comprises first sensor for detecting a cycle moving towards the vehicle and second sensor arranged on the inner door handle for detecting a vehicle occupant's hand approaching the inner door handle. The warning device also comprises at least one warning element. The warning element is arranged on the inner door handle. Instead of being arranged on the inner door handle the warning element can be arranged in a different position in the interior of the occupant vehicle. Moreover, the warning device can comprise a plurality of warning elements being arranged in different positions in the interior. The warning element is arranged in the interior of the vehicle. The warning element serves for

outputting at least one warning signal to the occupant, for example, the driver in dependency on the signals provided by the sensors. The warning element can be connected to the control unit.

If the first sensor detects that a cyclist moves towards the occupant vehicle, and if the second sensor detects that driver or occupant is about to open the side door, the control unit sends at least one actuation signal to the warning element, the actuation signal effecting the output of the warning signal. The warning signal serves for warning the driver not to open, or move further, the side door, so that a collision of the cyclist with the door can be avoided. The warning device calls the driver's attention to the cyclist moving towards the vehicle.

The warning element can comprise at least one lighting element, for example, a LED (light emitting diode) so that the warning element is, for example, designed to output the warning signal in the form of at least one blinking light. The warning element may comprise at least one speaker element so that the warning element, for example, outputs the warning signal in the form of an acoustic signal. Said acoustic signal can be a buzzing alarm. The warning element can comprise at least one actuator so that the warning element outputs the warning signal as vibrations of the inner door handle. The vibrations of the inner door handle are effected by means of the warning element to call the driver's attention to the cyclist approaching the occupant vehicle.

### Claims

1. A warning device for a vehicle, the warning device comprising:
  - (a) a first sensor located on an exterior rear-view mirror of the vehicle for detecting a cyclist moving towards the vehicle;
  - (b) a second sensor located on an inner door handle for detecting that a occupant is about to open a side door of the vehicle; and,
  - c) a warning element for outputting a warning signal to the occupant of the vehicle if the first sensor detects a cyclist moving towards the vehicle and the second sensor detects that the occupant is about to open the side door.
2. The warning device according to claims 1, characterised in that the warning element is arranged in the interior of the vehicle.
3. The warning device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the warning element is designed to output the warning signal in the form of vibrations of the inner door handle.
4. The warning device according to any one of claims 1 to 2, characterised in that the warning element is a lighting element.
5. The warning device according to claim 4, characterised in that the lighting element comprises at least one LED.

**Your client's latest development is affected by this patent. They ask you to find potentially invalidating prior art against this document.**

**Develop a search strategy to find prior art against this patent.**

## 2022 Opposition, Validity or Novelty Search - Chemistry

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### CASE STUDY

## **Anti-misting composition**

Consider the time is late summer 2017.

Your company is planning to market a specific ethoxylated glycerol stearate which will be used as an anti-misting agent in polymer films used in agriculture.

The published patent publication WO2017##### has been identified as a concern by your colleague Patent Attorney and she has asked you to perform an Invalidity analysis on the combination of Claims 1, 5 and 8.

As a first stage you have been instructed to look for the ethoxylated glycerol ester in combination with a polyolefin or the specific copolymers comprising both low density polyethylene and ethylene vinyl acetate.

Patent number	: WO2017#####
Publication date	: 25 June 2017
Filing date	: 17 December 2016
Priority date	: 20 December 2015

Title:

Polyolefin containing composition with anti-misting properties.

Claims:

1. Agricultural film having a visible light transmission of at least 50 %, said film comprising a polyolefin-containing composition that is essentially free of plasticizer and comprises a polyolefin having dispersed therein one or more glycerol esters of saturated fatty acid with 12-22 carbon atoms, said esters having been ethoxylated to an average degree of 1.0 to below 5.0 moles of ethylene oxide groups per mole of glycerol ester.
  
5. Agricultural film according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the one or more glycerol esters is a mixture of glycerol mono-, di-, and tristearate.
  
8. Agricultural film according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene and ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer.

## **2022 Opposition, Validity or Novelty Search - Biotech**

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### **CASE STUDY**

## **Pesticidal composition for controlling moths**

Researchers at your company are working on the use mutants of *Bacillus thuringiensis* to control moths, this is a crowded area but they have found a synergistic benefit when combining this insecticide with sex pheromones.

You have been asked to check if the following claim is patentable:

A precise orientation, efficient control pesticidal composition for controlling moths is characterized in that the composition contains *Bacillus thuringiensis*, a moth sex pheromone and possibly one or more additional insecticides.