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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	01/18/2022	11225365	408889-0004	9424

64194 7590 12/28/2021

Niro McAndrews, LLP
12 Beach Lane
Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 368 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Application Assistance Unit (AAU) of the Office of Data Management (ODM) at (571)-272-4200.

INVENTOR(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site http://pair.uspto.gov for additional inventors):

Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone, Moorebank, AUSTRALIA;

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site http://pair.uspto.gov for additional applicants):

The United States represents the largest, most dynamic marketplace in the world and is an unparalleled location for business investment, innovation, and commercialization of new technologies. The USA offers tremendous resources and advantages for those who invest and manufacture goods here. Through SelectUSA, our nation works to encourage and facilitate business investment. To learn more about why the USA is the best country in the world to develop technology, manufacture products, and grow your business, visit SelectUSA.gov.

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No. 16/360,964
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Examiner: Kirsch	Confirm. No. 9424
		Applicant: Tabone	
		Filing Date: March 21, 2019	Group: 3733

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
Change(s) applied to document, /J.L.B./ 9/17/2021		10574956	~~7/31/2018~~ 2/2020	Moule et al. ~~Tietschert~~	H04N9/31
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		20070017845	01/25/2007	Tietschert	206/52.1
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		CA2541375	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
		JP2007508207	04/05/2007	Tietschert	
		CN1863717	11/15/2006	Tietschert	
		WO2005035392	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
EXAMINER	/ANDREW T KIRSCH/			DATE CONSIDERED	05/24/2021

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /A.T.K/

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via EFS-Web.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

64194 7590 09/13/2021
Niro McAndrews, LLP
12 Beach Lane
Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

Brian Lynch	(Typed or printed name)
/Brian Lynch/	(Signature)
December 13, 2021	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004	9424

TITLE OF INVENTION: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	MICRO	$300	$0.00	$0.00	$300	12/13/2021

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
KIRSCH, ANDREW THOMAS	3733	220-833000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

❑ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

❑ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-09 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
(1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 Niro McAndrews, LLP
2
3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ❑ Individual ❑ Corporation or other private group entity ❑ Government

4a. Fees submitted: ☒ Issue Fee ❑ Publication Fee (if required) ❑ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Method of Payment: *(Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above)*

❑ Electronic Payment via EFS-Web ❑ Enclosed check ❑ Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)

❑ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

❑ Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29

❑ Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

❑ Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

NOTE: Absent a valid certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.
NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.
NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature /Brian Lynch/ Date December 13, 2021

Typed or printed name Brian Lynch Registration No. 58,794

Ex.1002 / Page 3 of 371
Hartmann US Inc. et al

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16360964
Filing Date:	21-Mar-2019
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004

Filed as Micro Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
UTILITY ISSUE FEE	3501	1	300	300

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
			Total in USD ($)	**300**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	44494413
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	64194
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	13-DEC-2021
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	09:42:11
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$300
RAM confirmation Number	E2021BC043100267
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	Issue_Fee_Tabone.pdf	92398 013b160a24e2952b1781f1f809ab872c69ca2d81	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	38004 bb35780bd5121b06fa08a5993c652a982d1b72ca	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	130402		

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

64194 7590 09/13/2021

Niro McAndrews, LLP
12 Beach Lane
Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

EXAMINER
KIRSCH, ANDREW THOMAS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3733	

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2021

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004	9424

TITLE OF INVENTION: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	MICRO	$300	$0.00	$0.00	$300	12/13/2021

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the ENTITY STATUS shown above. If the ENTITY STATUS is shown as SMALL or MICRO, verify whether entitlement to that entity status still applies.

If the ENTITY STATUS is the same as shown above, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the ENTITY STATUS is changed from that shown above, on PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, complete section number 5 titled "Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)".

For purposes of this notice, small entity fees are 1/2 the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 1/2 the amount of small entity fees.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Maintenance fees are due in utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due. More information is available at www.uspto.gov/PatentMaintenanceFees.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via EFS-Web.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

64194 7590 09/13/2021
Niro McAndrews, LLP
12 Beach Lane
Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

(Typed or printed name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004	9424

TITLE OF INVENTION: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
KIRSCH, ANDREW THOMAS	3733	220-833000

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❑ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

❑ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-09 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
(1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1_____
2_____
3_____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ❑ Individual ❑ Corporation or other private group entity ❑ Government

4a. Fees submitted: ❑Issue Fee ❑Publication Fee (if required) ❑Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Method of Payment: *(Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above)*

❑ Electronic Payment via EFS-Web ❑ Enclosed check ❑ Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)

❑ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

❑ Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29

❑ Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

❑ Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

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NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.
NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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P.O. Box 1450
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www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004	9424

64194 7590 09/13/2021

Niro McAndrews, LLP
12 Beach Lane
Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

EXAMINER	
KIRSCH, ANDREW THOMAS	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3733	

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2021

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(Applications filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Office has discontinued providing a Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) calculation with the Notice of Allowance.

Section 1(h)(2) of the AIA Technical Corrections Act amended 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B)(i) to eliminate the requirement that the Office provide a patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. See Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment, 78 Fed. Reg. 19416, 19417 (Apr. 1, 2013). Therefore, the Office is no longer providing an initial patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. The Office will continue to provide a patent term adjustment determination with the Issue Notification Letter that is mailed to applicant approximately three weeks prior to the issue date of the patent, and will include the patent term adjustment on the patent. Any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment determination (or reinstatement of patent term adjustment) should follow the process outlined in 37 CFR 1.705.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 02/11)

OMB Clearance and PRA Burden Statement for PTOL-85 Part B

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval before requesting most types of information from the public. When OMB approves an agency request to collect information from the public, OMB (i) provides a valid OMB Control Number and expiration date for the agency to display on the instrument that will be used to collect the information and (ii) requires the agency to inform the public about the OMB Control Number's legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

The information collected by PTOL-85 Part B is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 16/360,964	Applicant(s) Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul	
	Examiner ANDREW T KIRSCH	Art Unit 3733	AIA (FITF) Status No

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☑ This communication is responsive to amendments filed 8/27/2021.
   ☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

3. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-50 . As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see **http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp** or send an inquiry to **PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.**

4. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   Certified copies:

   a) ☑ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

   1. ☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
3. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.
4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.
5. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
6. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
7. ☐ Other _____.

/ANDREW T KIRSCH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3733

Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	16/360,964	Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul
	Examiner	Art Unit
	ANDREW T KIRSCH	3733

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	**Date**	**Examiner**
B65D 55/0818, 55/06, 43/162, 4/163, 2203/02	09/07/2021	ATK
B65D 2251/1016, 25/36, 77/36, 2102/0007	09/07/2021	ATK
B65D 2401/05, 2203/00, 51/245, 25/205	09/07/2021	ATK

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	**Date**	**Examiner**

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	**Subclass**	**Date**	**Examiner**

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

Search Notes		
Search Notes	**Date**	**Examiner**
Inventor Check	05/24/2021	ATK
EAST Search	05/24/2021	ATK
Updated EAST Search	09/07/2021	ATK

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	**US Subclass/CPC Group**	**Date**	**Examiner**
-	See EAST Search History	09/07/2021	ATK

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	16/360,964	Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	ANDREW T KIRSCH	3733

CPC						
Symbol					**Type**	**Version**
B65D	/	55	/	06	F	2013-01-01
B65D	/	43	/	0202	I	2013-01-01
B65D	/	43	/	161	I	2013-01-01
B65D	/	43	/	162	I	2013-01-01
B65D	/	2203	/	02	A	2013-01-01

CPC Combination Sets							
Symbol					**Type**	**Set**	**Ranking**	**Version**
	/		/					

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	30	
/ANDREW T KIRSCH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3733	07 September 2021	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	21	15

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office — Part of Paper No.: 20210831

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	16/360,964	Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	ANDREW T KIRSCH	3733

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION					
CLAIMED					
B65D55/06	/	55	/	06	
B65D43/02	/	43	/	02	

NON-CLAIMED				
	/		/	

US ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION	
CLASS	**SUBCLASS**

CROSS REFERENCES(S)						
CLASS	**SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)**					

NONE (Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	**Total Claims Allowed:** 30	
/ANDREW T KIRSCH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3733 (Primary Examiner)	07 September 2021 (Date)	O.G. Print Claim(s) 21	O.G. Print Figure 15

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office — Part of Paper No.: 20210831

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Hartmann US Inc. et al

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	16/360,964	Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	ANDREW T KIRSCH	3733

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

CLAIMS

Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original
1	21	10	30	19	37	28	48								
2	22	11	31	20	38	29	49								
3	23	12	32	21	41	30	50								
4	24	13	33	22	42										
5	25	14	34	23	43										
6	26	15	35	24	44										
7	27	16	36	25	45										
8	28	17	39	26	46										
9	29	18	40	27	47										

NONE (Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	**Total Claims Allowed:** 30	
/ANDREW T KIRSCH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3733 (Primary Examiner)	07 September 2021 (Date)	O.G. Print Claim(s) 21	O.G. Print Figure 15

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office — Part of Paper No.: 20210831

EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	271	(b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.) and label and flange	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:52
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L3	1,884	b65d25/205.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:53
L4	20	b65d51/245.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:53
L5	1,402	b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:53
L6	50	B65D77/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:53
L7	486	b65d25/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/09/07 10:53
S1	443	"220".clas. and adhesive with label	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:11
S2	5	(tabone near2 maurice near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT;	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:14

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S4	18	"5636737"	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:16
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S8	37	("1743980" | "2984382" | "3556338" | "3592349" | "3682365" | "3718274" | "4202464" | "4256240" | "4290248" | "4334631" | "4373636" | "4408698" | "4444332" | "4570818" | "4574974" | "4706839" | "4719087" | "4834237" | "4886184" | "4933216" | "5273174" | "5368178" | "5405009" | "5507429" | "5540342" | "5762221" | "5772070" | "5829595" | "5866181" | "5866183" | "5897015").PN. OR ("6352170").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:25
S9	86	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952").PN. OR ("4202464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:26
S10	78	("3344974").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:39
S11	298	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:53
S12	294	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:11
S13	9	220/826 and label	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:11

S14	14	("3417897" | "4499353" | "5147035" | "5570856" | "5899334" | "6070723" | "6247590" | "6279746" | "6412637" | "D368027" | "D368028" | "D368029").PN. OR ("7258233").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:17
S15	18	("2780385" | "4193496" | "4202464" | "4724964" | "4986438" | "5699913" | "5964350" | "6007854" | "6053321" | "D305000" | "D411448" | "D473137" | "D531798" | "D598740").PN. OR ("D615858").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 14:00
S16	3	"20050082185"	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 15:05
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S18	1,379	206/1.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/05 09:49
S20	240	220/745	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/05 09:49
S21	86	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952").PN. OR ("4202464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:11
S22	358	"220".clas. and sealed with tape	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:27
S23	9	220/359.1 and sealed with tape	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:28
S24	5	("3495759" | "4969570" | "5115934" | "5772623").PN. OR ("7762421").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:29
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S27	2	220/359.1 and tape same (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:40
S28	505	"220".clas. and tape same (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:41
S29	198	"220".clas. and tape with (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:41
S30	0	("1582489").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/06 14:25
S31	3	("3096905").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/06 14:31
S32	26	("0983883" | "1128076" | "1239183" | "3133669" | "3149743" | "3158282" | "3438533" | "3696963" | "3834579" | "4520942" | "4607759" | "4728003").PN. OR ("5174464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:06
S33	1,579	"220".clas. and strip with (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:23
S34	304	"220".clas. and strip with (annular ring) and adhesive	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:23
S35	312	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
S36	313	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
S37	2,952	206/459.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
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S44	39	("1743980" | "2984382" | "3556338" | "3592349" | "3682365" | "3718274" | "4202464" | "4256240" | "4290248" | "4334631" | "4373636" | "4408698" | "4444332" | "4570818" | "4574974" | "4706839" | "4719087" | "4834237" | "4886184" | "4933216" | "5273174" | "5368178" | "5405009" | "5507429" | "5540342" | "5762221" | "5772070" | "5829595" | "5866181" | "5866183" | "5897015").PN. OR ("6352170").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:50
S45	2	"2210183".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:53
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S47	24	("1616625" | "2097073" | "2210183" | "3680733" | "3782331" | "5273354" | "5934472").PN. OR ("6010005").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:58
S48	9	("1743980").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:02
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S51	22	("3495758").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:21
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S55	94	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:44
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S57	2,120	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/20 14:06

S58	250	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/20 14:14
S59	1	"220".clas. and produce and hang with sell	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
S60	390	"220".clas. and produce and hang	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
S61	30	"220".clas. and produce and hang with (hole aperture)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
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S66	427	220/359.1	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR;	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:12

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S67	33	220/359.1 and (die with cut$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:13
S68	2	"8616373".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:24
S69	47	("20020195363" | "20080118609" | "20110290675" | "3111220" | "3279596" | "3327843" | "3464544" | "4083451" | "4266666" | "4319684" | "4456124" | "4666037" | "4739883" | "4842141" | "5092479" | "5129517" | "5209354" | "5775516" | "6053321" | "6230964" | "6244444" | "6308832" | "6364115" | "7931148" | "D263684" | "D305000" | "D376314" | "D407015" | "D411448" | "D420905" | "D448288" | "D479127" | "D531028" | "D534421" | "D553489" | "D600113" | "D601014" | "D606392" | "D615858" | "D624399" | "D624402" | "D624403" | "D624815").PN. OR ("8616373").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:24
S70	136	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:49
S71	40	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) same (holes apertures)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:56
S72	46	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) same (holes apertures slots)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:57
S73	24	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) with (holes apertures slots)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:57

S74	56	(US-20100001014-$ or US-20050082185-$ or US-20130062342-$ or US-20040226955-$).did. or (US-5893587-$ or US-6352170-$ or US-4202464-$ or US-3552634-$ or US-3561668-$ or US-4346833-$ or US-D615858-$ or US-D631337-$ or US-6129233-$ or US-6131760-$ or US-6170723-$ or US-6364100-$ or US-7258233-$ or US-4499353-$ or US-6412637-$ or US-7556173-$ or US-4193496-$ or US-7762421-$ or US-4969570-$ or US-7073309-$ or US-5174464-$ or US-5261551-$ or US-5433412-$ or US-4884718-$ or US-5704649-$ or US-6070723-$).did. or (US-5866183-$ or US-4570818-$ or US-5405009-$ or US-4005776-$ or US-4312451-$ or US-4209095-$ or US-5353935-$ or US-6016914-$ or US-4266666-$ or US-4739883-$ or US-4842141-$ or US-5129517-$).did. or (US-3082903-$ or US-3344974-$ or US-3417897-$ or US-2780385-$ or US-1582489-$ or US-3096905-$ or US-3129014-$ or US-1343955-$ or US-3182851-$ or US-1743980-$ or US-3397774-$ or US-3495758-$ or US-3327843-$).did. or (US-5405009-$).did.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19
S75	19	S74 and transparent	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19
S76	4	S74 and transparent and food	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19
S77	2,403	220/315	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S78	471	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S79	390	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S80	3,568	206/459.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT;	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54

			USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT			
S81	1,676	206/1.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S82	347	220/745	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S83	2,845	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/20 13:35
S84	272	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/20 13:35
S85	3	"5125921".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/21 13:25
S86	3,042	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2016/08/02 15:24
S87	285	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2016/08/02 15:24
S88	3,511	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2017/06/15 11:39
S89	320	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2017/06/15 11:39

S90	22	("3495758").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:28
S91	95	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:30
S92	83	("4060173" | "4098430" | "4427129" | "4498589" | "4499353" | "4570818").PN. OR ("4687129").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:32
S93	40	("2937746" | "3424306" | "3776375" | "3856137" | "3881601" | "3937389" | "4427705" | "4512474" | "4687129" | "4896770" | "D185890" | "D267394" | "D294123" | "D305733").PN. OR ("5018622").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:35
S94	413	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 11:47
S95	213	(b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.) and label and flange	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 11:47
S96	388	b65d25/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:24
S97	175	b65d2101/0007.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:26
S98	115	B65B7/2864.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:33
S99	43	B65D77/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:49

S100	7	("20040226955" | "4312451" | "5405009" | "5636737" | "5893587" | "6352170" | "6540074").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 15:24
S101	6	(tabone near2 maurice near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S102	6	(tabone near2 maurice).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S103	6	(tabone near2 maurice).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S104	6	(tabone near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:14
S105	12	(tabone near2 joseph).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:14
S108	50	B65D77/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S109	141	B65B7/2864.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S110	91	b65d2101/0007.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S111	470	b65d25/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21

S112	62	("3257062" | "3305086" | "4494650" | "4650076" | "4732273" | "4753366" | "4757899" | "4795080" | "4798133" | "4872608" | "4886204" | "5046659" | "5165947" | "5169014" | "5232094" | "5269430").PN. OR ("5405009").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:00
S113	88	("20010002268" | "20030047474" | "20030192808" | "20060138020" | "20060144744" | "20060237454" | "20060289549" | "20070095695" | "20080020120" | "20080305218" | "20090206082" | "2256723" | "2715458" | "3128030" | "3164478" | "3306462" | "3372812" | "3376046" | "3410698" | "3740238" | "3937389" | "4014450" | "4576330" | "4640416" | "4844263" | "5009312" | "5046659" | "5071060" | "5169014" | "5176272" | "5310070" | "5405009" | "5445397" | "5584408" | "5862930" | "5954203" | "5996787" | "6054159" | "6220442" | "6332546" | "6889838" | "7073680" | "7243813" | "7243815" | "7284673" | "7568589" | "7712626" | "D227226" | "D267911" | "D287545" | "D308826" | "D323114" | "D349050" | "D388324" | "D502869" | "D510804" | "D571654" | "D602352").PN. OR ("8215485").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:04
S114	97	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:12
S115	108	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952").PN. OR ("4202464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:14
S116	173	b65d2401/05.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:25
S117	1,368	b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:30

S118	19	b65d2203/02.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:30
S119	20	b65d51/245.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:32
S120	1,857	b65d25/205.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:34
S121	17	b65d25/205.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:34
S122	99	"220".clas. and flange same label same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:36
S123	28	("3082903" | "3410698" | "3437199").PN. OR ("3556337").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 18:44
S124	126,932	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$)(sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S125	0	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$) same (sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S126	0	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$) same (sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S127	5	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper$4) same (sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46

S128	20	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper$4) same (sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S129	536	b65d43/162.cpc. and (tamper sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:47
S130	11	("10574956" | "20040226955" | "20170341833" | "4312451" | "4570818" | "5018622" | "5405009" | "5636737" | "5893587" | "6352170" | "6540074").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2021/05/24 11:51
S131	3	"4986414".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/24 12:05
S132	8	((("TABONE") near3 ("Maurice"))).INV.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	OFF	2021/05/24 13:21

EAST Search History (Interference)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L8	0	(container base floor lid hinge cavity top extension edge hole sidewall rim area label).clm.	USPAT	AND	ON	2021/09/07 10:56
S106	0	(container lid base surface cavity sidewall flange coplanar configuration membrane adjacent flat).clm.	USPAT	AND	OFF	2018/12/10 15:46
S107	1	"5018627".pn.	USPAT	AND	OFF	2018/12/10 16:02

9/7/2021 10:56:27 AM
H:\Workspaces\15656623.wsp

PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
Approved for use through 1/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☐ SMALL ☑ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $25 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $115 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	08/27/2021	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 30	Minus	** 30	= 0		x $25 =	0
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 4	Minus	*** 4	= 0		x $120 =	0
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	0

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	SLIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/RANELL D GRAY/
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".	
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Examiner: Kirsch
Tabone, Maurice	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Serial No. **16/360,964**	)	
	)	Confirmation No. 9424
Filed: **March 21, 2019**	)	
	)	

Mail Stop: Responses
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Supplemental Response to Non-Final Office Action

Applicant submits this supplemental responsive to office action to address a typographical error in the response filed August 25, 2021 and remove an limitation from claim 49. The arguments presented in the August 25, 2021 response are herein incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **August 27, 2021**

Brian Lynch
Registration No. 58,794

In the claims:

Please amend claims 48 and 49 as follows:

1-20. **(Cancelled)**

21.(**Previously Amended**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein

the lid portion is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat top disposed parallel to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein

the bottom edge is between, and outward from both, the substantially flat lid top and the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

the substantially planar frontal extension extends obliquely relative to the floor from the substantially flat lid top when the lid is in the closed position,

having a first planar area on the substantially planar frontal extension's portion of the first material surface, and

having a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces;

a base extension

extending from the base,

having

a primary surface area with a flat portion facing external to the cavity wherein the flat portion is bounded by a first boundary and a second boundary,

a second planar area on the flat portion disposed obliquely to the floor, and

a secondary surface area that is

on the direct opposite side of the material from the flat portion and

is an extension of the sidewall's portion of the first material surface; and

wherein in the closed position

the first planar area, the second planar area, and the first and second boundaries of the flat portion are all generally coplanar,

a first flat portion of a label covers both

the primary surface area of the base extension and the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the primary surface area is adjacent to the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

22.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the lid has a lid rim that generally defines an opening for the lid portion of the cavity,

the bottom edge of the lid is located on the lid rim, and

the first flat portion of the label fully extends

from adjacent the substantially flat top

to the bottom edge of the lid.

23.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is fully circumscribed by a planar lid hole edge of the substantially planar lid area.

24.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 23 wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position, and

the bottom edge of the lid is distant from the floor when the lid is in the closed position.

25.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the label has a second flat portion located between a third flat portion and the first flat portion of the label, wherein

the second flat portion is located on the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat top of the lid.

26.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the bottom edge of the lid extends from nearly adjacent the first lid hole to nearly adjacent a second lid hole in the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and the base has a rectangular cross section.

27.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 26 wherein

between the first lid hole and the second lid hole the bottom edge of the lid has a convex curvature, and the base and lid are thermoformed from the material.

28.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the floor of the base has a length and a width, wherein

the length of the floor is bounded by a first end and a second end, and the substantially planar frontal extension fully extends the length of the floor.

29.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 28 wherein

the label fully extends the length of the floor.

30.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is entirely located between the bottom edge of the lid and the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the lid includes a plurality of domes adjacent to and flanking the substantially flat top.

31.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product,

the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid moveable about a hinge with respect to the base from:

a substantially open position to

a substantially closed position,

wherein the substantially closed position substantially defines a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid, the base and lid both formed from a container material;

the cavity having

a base portion of the cavity dimensioned to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base, and

a lid portion of the cavity having a shape suitable to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed outside the base portion of the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position, wherein the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at

least generally beyond the base and generally outward from the base portion of the cavity;

the container material having

a material thickness generally defined by a first material surface disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material to a second material surface, and

wherein a portion of the first material surface is substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat lid top area

disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and including

a lid top portion of the first material surface disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top area to a bottom edge of the lid, wherein the bottom edge of the lid is

between the substantially flat lid top area and the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and

beyond an area directly between the substantially flat lid top area and floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position, and

having a lid front portion of the first material surface disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the

substantially flat lid top area when the lid is in the substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontal with the substantially flat lid top area located above the floor, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor, and

a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid, and

a lid hole substantially defined in the container material

by a lid hole edge and

fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area,

wherein the second material surface of the substantially flat lid top area and the second material surface of the substantially planar frontal extension intersect at an obtuse angle;

the base having

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprises an external floor surface area disposed on the first material surface and an internal floor surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor having, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first material surface and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a rim wherein, a portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity, and

a base extension generally extending from the rim, the base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the

base portion of the cavity, wherein the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second material surface, and wherein the base extension having a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first material surface

wherein when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally away from the hinge from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

a label

covering the substantially flat lid top area of the lid,

having a substantially flat portion covering the substantially planar frontal extension,

wherein

the label extends beyond the substantially planar frontal extension,

when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the label covers the flat portion of the base extension; and

the lid having a first planar area disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension, the base having a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface disposed obliquely to the floor,

wherein the first planar area and the second planar area are

generally coplanar and

disposed facing externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position.

32.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 31 wherein,

in the substantially closed position, both, the lid hole and the lid hole edge are entirely encompassed within the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the first planar area has a surface area greater than 5 cm^2.

33.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 31 wherein

the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinge and the substantially planar frontal extension;

the label has

a first flat portion encompassing the substantially flat portion,

a second flat portion covering the substantially flat lid top area, and

a third flat portion,

wherein the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area.

34.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging contents intended for sale wherein, the contents comprising a product, the container comprising:

a container material substantially comprising a base, a floor and, a lid moveable with respect to the base from, at least one substantially open position to, at least one substantially closed

position wherein, the at least one substantially closed position substantially defining a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the cavity comprising:

a base portion of the cavity to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base; and

a lid portion of the cavity modified to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed substantially outside the base portion of the cavity wherein,

the container material further comprising:

a material thickness having a dimension generally defined by two material surfaces wherein, a first of the two material surfaces is disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material with respect to a second of the two material surfaces and wherein, at least one portion of the first of the two material surfaces is disposed substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second of the two material surfaces;

the lid comprising:

the lid portion of the cavity comprising a shape suitable to contain at least the second portion of the product disposed outside the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outwardly with respect to the base portion of the cavity;

a hinged attachment to the base disposed generally adjacent to a hinged side of the lid wherein, the lid is movable about the hinged attachment between, the at least one substantially open position and, the at least one substantially closed position;

a substantially flat lid top area disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the substantially flat lid top area comprising a lid top portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area;

a substantially planar frontal extension comprising a lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontally, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor and, wherein comprising a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid wherein, the substantially planar frontal extension is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area; and

at least one lid hole comprising an opening substantially defined in the container material by a lid hole edge wherein, the at least one lid hole is fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area having the lid hole edge;

the base comprising:

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprising, at least one external floor surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and at least one internal floor surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

at least one sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor and comprising, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first

of the two material surfaces and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

a rim wherein, at least one portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity; and

at least one base extension generally extending from the at least one portion of the rim, the at least one base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity wherein, the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second of the two material surfaces and, wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first of the two material surfaces wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the container is orientated wherein the floor is substantially horizontal and the at least one external floor surface area faces substantially downwardly, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally downwardly in a direction generally away from the hinged side of the lid from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

the container further comprising:

a first planar area disposed on the lid, within the bounds of the substantially planar frontal extension; and

a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface, disposed obliquely with respect to the floor wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position,

the first planar area and the second planar area face substantially in the same direction wherein,

the container comprising;

a substantially flat area, inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area wherein, the substantially flat area comprising:

a circumferential dimension which is substantially less than each of, a largest internal perimeter of the base opening and an outermost perimeter of the lid;

an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area, disposed facing at least substantially externally with respect to the cavity; and

at least one surface configuration between the lid and the base comprising, at least, the first planar area of the lid, at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area and, the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension wherein, the flat portion comprising the second planar area disposed substantially co-planar with respect to, both, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces and the at least two distinct boundary portions, to comprise the substantially flat area, wherein,

the substantially flat area is disposed substantially outside of the cavity of the container and is suitable to be covered in a generally flat fashion by a substantially flat portion of an entire label wherein, the entire label is proposed to be received by the container wherein the entire label is larger than the substantially flat area and wherein,

the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to contour substantially to the substantially flat area, in the generally flat fashion, to cover at least two immediately adjacent surface portions of the container with respect to the at least one surface configuration wherein, a first of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is the entire flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension and, a second of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension wherein,

when contouring to the substantially flat area and covering the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions in the generally flat fashion, the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to at least generally contour to an outermost shape of the container including, at least each of, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces of the substantially planar frontal extension, the second planar area and, the at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension.

35.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a formed section wherein, the formed section stands proud of the at least one portion of the rim wherein, the second planar area comprising a planar perimeter wherein, a portion of the planar perimeter defines at least two distinct sides of the second planar area and wherein, the at least one lid hole is disposed at least generally adjacent to the first planar area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds to and mates with the at least two distinct sides of the second planar area, to expose the second planar area wherein, facilitating the at least one surface configuration, to provide the substantially flat area.

36.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the lid hole edge is substantially planar and wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the lid hole edge and the at least one lid hole are entirely encompassed within a perimeter of the substantially flat area.

37.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinged side of the lid and the substantially planar frontal extension; the entire label having a first flat label portion, a second flat label portion, and a third flat label portion located between the first and second flat label portions, wherein the first flat label portion comprising the substantially flat portion of the entire label; wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the entire label is received by the container, the third flat label portion substantially spans the width of the substantially flat lid top area and is located directly above the floor, the first flat label portion is separated from the second flat label portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area, and the substantially flat area is both, substantially parallel and immediately adjacent with respect to the first flat label portion.

38.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds with the flat portion of the primary surface area wherein, the formed section of the at least one base extension protrudes from the base, generally into the at least one lid hole, to provide the substantially flat area

wherein, the substantially flat area is substantially coplanar with the planar perimeter of the flat portion.

39.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 36 wherein, a portion of the margin of the lid extends from, a first opening area adjacent to a first of the at least one lid hole to, a second opening area adjacent to a second of the at least one lid hole wherein, the portion of the margin includes a most forwardly extended point of the lid when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the most forwardly extended point of the lid is generally disposed at the front of the container, on a directly opposite side of the container to the hinged attachment.

40.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 39 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the portion of the margin includes at least one point which is closer, to either of, the first lid hole and the second lid hole, than to the floor of the base.

41.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the container comprising at least one mechanical locking mechanism disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area, to lock the lid to the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

42.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the margin of the lid extends from

a first lock area adjacent to a first of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism to

a second lock area adjacent to a second of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism;

wherein between the first lock area and the second lock area, the margin has at least one convex curvature portion.

43.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 further comprising a chamfered abutment of an edge of the first planar area and at least a part of the second planar area disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

44.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, the first planar area and the second planar area partially overlap when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position;

further comprising an overlap of a lid material portion and a base material portion, disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

45.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 44 wherein, the overlap includes the first planar area located adjacent to the second planar area and disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

46.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, first planar area of the overlap is separated from the second planar area of the overlap by the dimension of the material thickness.

47.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, the substantially flat area is covered with the substantially flat portion of the entire label in the generally flat fashion, to span the overlap.

48.(**Previously Amended**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

the lid portion of the cavity is disposed beyond the base and adjacent to the base portion of the cavity, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having a lid area comprising a first area disposed on the first material surface to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces; and

a base extension extending from the base, comprising a base area having a second area configured to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

a label location area is disposed substantially on

a first part of the first area of the lid and

a first part of the second area of the base extension,

the first part of the first area is adjacent to the first part of the second area and substantially coplanar to

an adjacent flat part of the lid area, and

the first part of the first area of the lid surrounds the first part of the second area of the base extension,

the label location area is configured to receive, on an outermost part of the container, a flat portion of a label that

is substantially coplanar to the adjacent flat part of the lid area,

covers the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area,

and transverses the label location area.

49.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 48 wherein,

when the lid is in the closed position the base rim is located between the second area of the base extension and the floor of the base;

the product is located within the cavity;

~~the material is a thermoformed structure forming the unitary construction of the base, lid, and hinge;~~

the container includes the flat portion of the label;

the base includes ribs adapted hold the product;

the lid further includes a substantially flat lid top area and, when the lid is in the closed position,

the label location area is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area.

50.(**Previously Amended**) The container for packaging the product of claim 49 wherein,

the product is fresh retail produce;

the first area includes an edge portion comprising an edge of the material; and

when the lid is in the closed position

the second area of the base extension and the first area of the lid face substantially in the same direction, and

the second area is disposed substantially adjacent to the edge portion of the first area of the lid.

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	43619170
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	64194
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	27-AUG-2021
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	09:31:29
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

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Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		2021_08_27_Response_to_Office_Action.pdf	165347 21dc7911222160aa294ee51b5e0b95b0b516a6be	yes	21

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	1	1
	Claims	2	21
Warnings:			
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	Total Files Size (in bytes):	165347	

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If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
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If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☐ SMALL ☑ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $25 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $115 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	08/25/2021	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 30	Minus	** 30	= 0		x $25 =	0
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 4	Minus	*** 4	= 0		x $120 =	0
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	0

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	SLIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/RANELL D GRAY/
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".	
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Examiner: Kirsch
Tabone, Maurice	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Serial No. **16/360,964**	)	
	)	Confirmation No. 9424
Filed: **March 21, 2019**	)	
	)	

Mail Stop: Responses
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Non-Final Office Action

Responsive to the non-final office action mailed May 26, 2021, the Applicant submits this amendment and response.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 21, and 48-50 as follows:

1-20. (**Cancelled**)

21.(**Currently Amended**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein

the lid portion is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat top disposed parallel to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein

the bottom edge is between, and outward from both, the substantially flat lid top and the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

the substantially planar frontal extension extends obliquely relative to the floor from the substantially flat lid top when the lid is in the closed position,

having a first planar area on the substantially planar frontal extension's portion of the first material surface, and

having a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material ~~surfaces,~~ surfaces;

a base extension

extending from the base,

having

a primary surface area with a flat portion facing external to the cavity wherein the flat portion is bounded by a first boundary and a second boundary,

a second planar area on the flat portion disposed obliquely to the floor, and

a secondary surface area that is

on the direct opposite side of the material from the flat portion and

is an extension of the sidewall's portion of the first material surface; and

wherein in the closed position

the first planar area, the second planar area, and the first and second boundaries of the flat portion are all generally coplanar,

a first flat portion of a label covers both

the primary surface area of the base extension and the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the primary surface area is adjacent to the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

22.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the lid has a lid rim that generally defines an opening for the lid portion of the cavity,

the bottom edge of the lid is located on the lid rim, and

the first flat portion of the label fully extends

from adjacent the substantially flat top

to the bottom edge of the lid.

23.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is fully circumscribed by a planar lid hole edge of the substantially planar lid area.

24.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 23 wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position, and

the bottom edge of the lid is distant from the floor when the lid is in the closed position.

25.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the label has a second flat portion located between a third flat portion and the first flat portion of the label, wherein

the second flat portion is located on the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat top of the lid.

26.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the bottom edge of the lid extends from nearly adjacent the first lid hole to nearly adjacent a second lid hole in the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and the base has a rectangular cross section.

27.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 26 wherein

between the first lid hole and the second lid hole the bottom edge of the lid has a convex curvature, and the base and lid are thermoformed from the material.

28.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the floor of the base has a length and a width, wherein

the length of the floor is bounded by a first end and a second end, and the substantially planar frontal extension fully extends the length of the floor.

29.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 28 wherein

the label fully extends the length of the floor.

30.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is entirely located between the bottom edge of the lid and the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the lid includes a plurality of domes adjacent to and flanking the substantially flat top.

31.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product,

the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid moveable about a hinge with respect to the base from:

a substantially open position to

a substantially closed position,

wherein the substantially closed position substantially defines a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid, the base and lid both formed from a container material;

the cavity having

a base portion of the cavity dimensioned to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base, and

a lid portion of the cavity having a shape suitable to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed outside the base portion of the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position, wherein the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at

least generally beyond the base and generally outward from the base portion of the cavity;

the container material having

a material thickness generally defined by a first material surface disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material to a second material surface, and

wherein a portion of the first material surface is substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat lid top area

disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and including

a lid top portion of the first material surface disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top area to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein the bottom edge of the lid is

between the substantially flat lid top area and the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and

beyond an area directly between the substantially flat lid top area and floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position, and

having a lid front portion of the first material surface disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the

substantially flat lid top area when the lid is in the substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontal with the substantially flat lid top area located above the floor, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor, and

a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid, and

a lid hole substantially defined in the container material

by a lid hole edge and

fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area,

wherein the second material surface of the substantially flat lid top area and the second material surface of the substantially planar frontal extension intersect at an obtuse angle;

the base having

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprises an external floor surface area disposed on the first material surface and an internal floor surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor having, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first material surface and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a rim wherein, a portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity, and

a base extension generally extending from the rim, the base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the

base portion of the cavity, wherein the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second material surface, and wherein the base extension having a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first material surface

wherein when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally away from the hinge from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

a label

covering the substantially flat lid top area of the lid,

having a substantially flat portion covering the substantially planar frontal extension,

wherein

the label extends beyond the substantially planar frontal extension,

when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the label covers the flat portion of the base extension; and

the lid having a first planar area disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension, the base having a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface disposed obliquely to the floor,

wherein the first planar area and the second planar area are

generally coplanar and

disposed facing externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position.

32.(**Previously Amended**) The container of claim 31 wherein,

in the substantially closed position, both, the lid hole and the lid hole edge are entirely encompassed within the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the first planar area has a surface area greater than 5 cm^2.

33.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 31 wherein

the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinge and the substantially planar frontal extension;

the label has

a first flat portion encompassing the substantially flat portion,

a second flat portion covering the substantially flat lid top area, and

a third flat portion,

wherein the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area.

34.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging contents intended for sale wherein, the contents comprising a product, the container comprising:

a container material substantially comprising a base, a floor and, a lid moveable with respect to the base from, at least one substantially open position to, at least one substantially closed

position wherein, the at least one substantially closed position substantially defining a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the cavity comprising:

a base portion of the cavity to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base; and

a lid portion of the cavity modified to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed substantially outside the base portion of the cavity wherein,

the container material further comprising:

a material thickness having a dimension generally defined by two material surfaces wherein, a first of the two material surfaces is disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material with respect to a second of the two material surfaces and wherein, at least one portion of the first of the two material surfaces is disposed substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second of the two material surfaces;

the lid comprising:

the lid portion of the cavity comprising a shape suitable to contain at least the second portion of the product disposed outside the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outwardly with respect to the base portion of the cavity;

a hinged attachment to the base disposed generally adjacent to a hinged side of the lid wherein, the lid is movable about the hinged attachment between, the at least one substantially open position and, the at least one substantially closed position;

a substantially flat lid top area disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the substantially flat lid top area comprising a lid top portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area;

a substantially planar frontal extension comprising a lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontally, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor and, wherein comprising a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid wherein, the substantially planar frontal extension is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area; and

at least one lid hole comprising an opening substantially defined in the container material by a lid hole edge wherein, the at least one lid hole is fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area having the lid hole edge;

the base comprising:

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprising, at least one external floor surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and at least one internal floor surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

at least one sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor and comprising, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first

of the two material surfaces and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

a rim wherein, at least one portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity; and

at least one base extension generally extending from the at least one portion of the rim, the at least one base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity wherein, the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second of the two material surfaces and, wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first of the two material surfaces wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the container is orientated wherein the floor is substantially horizontal and the at least one external floor surface area faces substantially downwardly, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally downwardly in a direction generally away from the hinged side of the lid from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

the container further comprising:

a first planar area disposed on the lid, within the bounds of the substantially planar frontal extension; and

a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface, disposed obliquely with respect to the floor wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position,

the first planar area and the second planar area face substantially in the same direction wherein,

the container comprising;

a substantially flat area, inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area wherein, the substantially flat area comprising:

a circumferential dimension which is substantially less than each of, a largest internal perimeter of the base opening and an outermost perimeter of the lid;

an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area, disposed facing at least substantially externally with respect to the cavity; and

at least one surface configuration between the lid and the base comprising, at least, the first planar area of the lid, at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area and, the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension wherein, the flat portion comprising the second planar area disposed substantially co-planar with respect to, both, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces and the at least two distinct boundary portions, to comprise the substantially flat area, wherein,

the substantially flat area is disposed substantially outside of the cavity of the container and is suitable to be covered in a generally flat fashion by a substantially flat portion of an entire label wherein, the entire label is proposed to be received by the container wherein the entire label is larger than the substantially flat area and wherein,

the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to contour substantially to the substantially flat area, in the generally flat fashion, to cover at least two immediately adjacent surface portions of the container with respect to the at least one surface configuration wherein, a first of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is the entire flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension and, a second of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension wherein,

when contouring to the substantially flat area and covering the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions in the generally flat fashion, the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to at least generally contour to an outermost shape of the container including, at least each of, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces of the substantially planar frontal extension, the second planar area and, the at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension.

35.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a formed section wherein, the formed section stands proud of the at least one portion of the rim wherein, the second planar area comprising a planar perimeter wherein, a portion of the planar perimeter defines at least two distinct sides of the second planar area and wherein, the at least one lid hole is disposed at least generally adjacent to the first planar area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds to and mates with the at least two distinct sides of the second planar area, to expose the second planar area wherein, facilitating the at least one surface configuration, to provide the substantially flat area.

36.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the lid hole edge is substantially planar and wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the lid hole edge and the at least one lid hole are entirely encompassed within a perimeter of the substantially flat area.

37.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinged side of the lid and the substantially planar frontal extension; the entire label having a first flat label portion, a second flat label portion, and a third flat label portion located between the first and second flat label portions, wherein the first flat label portion comprising the substantially flat portion of the entire label; wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the entire label is received by the container, the third flat label portion substantially spans the width of the substantially flat lid top area and is located directly above the floor, the first flat label portion is separated from the second flat label portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area, and the substantially flat area is both, substantially parallel and immediately adjacent with respect to the first flat label portion.

38.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds with the flat portion of the primary surface area wherein, the formed section of the at least one base extension protrudes from the base, generally into the at least one lid hole, to provide the substantially flat area

wherein, the substantially flat area is substantially coplanar with the planar perimeter of the flat portion.

39.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 36 wherein, a portion of the margin of the lid extends from, a first opening area adjacent to a first of the at least one lid hole to, a second opening area adjacent to a second of the at least one lid hole wherein, the portion of the margin includes a most forwardly extended point of the lid when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the most forwardly extended point of the lid is generally disposed at the front of the container, on a directly opposite side of the container to the hinged attachment.

40.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 39 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the portion of the margin includes at least one point which is closer, to either of, the first lid hole and the second lid hole, than to the floor of the base.

41.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the container comprising at least one mechanical locking mechanism disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area, to lock the lid to the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

42.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the margin of the lid extends from

a first lock area adjacent to a first of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism to

a second lock area adjacent to a second of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism;

wherein between the first lock area and the second lock area, the margin has at least one convex curvature portion.

43.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 further comprising a chamfered abutment of an edge of the first planar area and at least a part of the second planar area disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

44.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, the first planar area and the second planar area partially overlap when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position;

further comprising an overlap of a lid material portion and a base material portion, disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

45.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 44 wherein, the overlap includes the first planar area located adjacent to the second planar area and disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

46.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, first planar area of the overlap is separated from the second planar area of the overlap by the dimension of the material thickness.

47.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, the substantially flat area is covered with the substantially flat portion of the entire label in the generally flat fashion, to span the overlap.

48.(**Currently Amended**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

the lid portion of the cavity is disposed beyond the base and adjacent to ~~outward from~~ the base portion of the cavity, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having a lid area comprising a first area disposed on the first material surface to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material ~~surfaces,~~ surfaces; and

a base extension extending from the base, comprising a base area having a second area ~~disposed on the second material surface,~~ configured to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

a label location area is disposed substantially on

a first part of the first area of the lid and

a first part of the second area of the base extension,

the first part of the first area is adjacent to ~~and~~ the first part of the second area [~~are~~] and substantially coplanar ~~to~~

~~each other and~~

an adjacent flat part of the lid area, and

the first part of the first area of the lid surrounds the first part of the second area of the base extension,

the label location area is configured to receive, on an outermost part of the container, a flat portion of a label that

is substantially coplanar to the adjacent flat part of the lid area,

covers the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area, and transverses the label location area.

49.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 48 wherein,

when the lid is in the closed position the base rim is located between the second area of the base extension and the floor of the base;

the product is located within the cavity;

the material is a thermoformed structure forming the unitary construction of the base, lid, and hinge;

the container includes the flat portion of the label;

the base includes ribs adapted hold the product;

the lid further includes a substantially flat lid top area and, when the lid is in the closed position,

the label location area is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area.

50.(**Currently Amended**) The container for packaging the product of claim 49 wherein,

the ~~packaged~~ product is fresh retail produce;

the first area includes an edge portion comprising an edge of the material; and

when the lid is in the closed position

the second area of the base extension and the first area of the lid face substantially in the same direction, and

the second area is disposed substantially adjacent to the edge portion of the first area of the lid.

Response:

Allowed Claims

The Examiner noted that claims 21-47 are allowed. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting that these claims are allowable.

Claim Amendments

Claim 21 has been amended to further clarify the meaning of "extends obliquely." Claim 48 has been amended to further distinguish over the references cited by the examiner. Dependent claims 49 and 50 has been amended to clarify the relationship of the features the base and lid, and to specify the location or types of product in the container.

35 USC 112

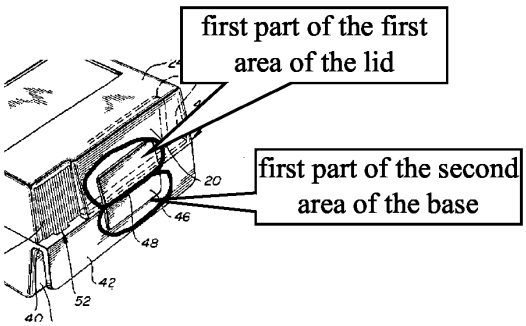
Claim 49 has been amended to read "the container includes the flat portion of the label." The Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out this typographical mistake.

35 USC 102

The Examiner rejected claims 48 through 50 as being anticipated based on U.S. Patent No. 4,986,414 issues to Ashley.

Claim 48 has been amended to recite that "when the lid is in the closed position, … the first part of the first area of the lid surrounds the first part of the second area of the base extension." Claims 21 and 23 recite a similar limitation: "a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area … wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position."

It appears that in the office action, the Examiner made the following assignments to the Ashley reference regarding the limitations "first part of the first area of the lid" and "first part of the second area of the base."



While the Applicant does not concede that the Ashley reference discloses these limitations, using the Examiner's assignments, the first part of the first area of the lid does not ***surround*** the first part of the second area of the base in the Ashley reference as now required by claim 48.

As Ashely now does not disclose every limitation of claim 48, the 35 USC 102 rejection cannot be maintained. Claims 49 and 50 depend off claim 48 and are not anticipated by Ashley at least based on inherency.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated in the response, the Applicant believes all the pending claims, as currently written, are allowable. If issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at (312)-755-8581 Monday through Friday between 10 AM and 5 PM Eastern time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **August 25, 2021**

Brian Lynch
Registration No. 58,794

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	43605462
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	64194
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	25-AUG-2021
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	21:58:45
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		2021_08_25_Response_to_Office_Action2.pdf	681461 75796e043956157bc387323694 2ba9031f141b50	yes	23

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Transmittal Letter	1	1
	Claims	2	21
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	22	23
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	681461	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004	9424

64194 7590 05/26/2021

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EXAMINER	
KIRSCH, ANDREW THOMAS	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3733	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/26/2021	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 16/360,964	Applicant(s) Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul	
	Examiner ANDREW T KIRSCH	Art Unit 3733	AIA (FITF) Status No

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b) ☑ This action is non-final.

3)☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

4)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims*

5) ☑ Claim(s) 21-50 is/are pending in the application.

5a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

6) ☑ Claim(s) 21-47 is/are allowed.

7) ☑ Claim(s) 48-50 is/are rejected.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

9) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to **PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.**

Application Papers

10)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

11)☑ The drawing(s) filed on 3/21/2019 is/are: a)☑ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a)☑ All b)☐ Some** c)☐ None of the:

1.☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

** See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Other: _____.

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

1. The present application is being examined under the pre-AIA first to invent provisions.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):

> (b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.

> The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:
> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor (or for applications subject to pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, the applicant), regards as the invention.

4. Claim 49 recites the limitation "the flat portion the label". The improper grammar renders the claim incomplete as it is not clear if the “flat portion of the label” is being referenced, or a new clause is beginning “the flat portion; the label…” For the purposes of examination, the limitation will be interpreted as “the flat portion of the lable”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

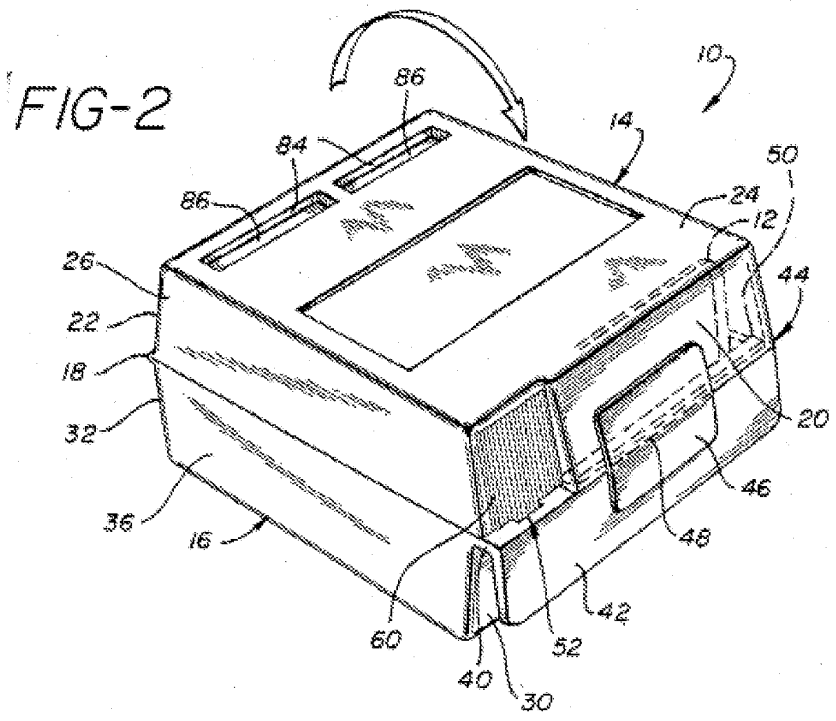
> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim(s) 48, 49, and 50 is/are rejected under pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,986,414 (Ashley et al. hereinafter).

7. In re claim 48, with reference to Figs. 1 and 2, Ashley et al. discloses: A container for packaging a product, the container comprising: a base (16) having a floor (34); a lid (14) movable about a hinge (18) with respect to the base from an open position (see fig. 1) to a closed position (see Fig. 2), wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid; the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material (columns 2-3, lines 67-2) having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material (see Fig. 4), wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface (see Fig. 4); the cavity having a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid (see Figs. 1 and 4), and wherein, when the lid is in the closed position, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion (See Fig. 2), and the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface (i.e. inside surface); the lid having a lid area (20) comprising a first area disposed on the first material surface (i.e. outer surface) to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position; the base having a sidewall (30) extending from the floor to a base rim (at joint of 30 and 40) that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces, and a base extension (40, 42) extending from the base, comprising a

base area having a second area disposed on the second material surface (outer surface of 42 is contiguous with inner second surface of wall 30), to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position; wherein, when the lid is in the closed position, a label location area is disposed substantially on a first part of the first area of the lid and a first part of the second area of the base (occupied by label 46), the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area are substantially coplanar to each other and an adjacent flat part (area of 20 surrounding label 46) of the lid area, the label location area is configured to receive, on an outermost part of the container, a flat portion of a label (46) that is substantially coplanar to the adjacent flat part of the lid area, covers the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area, and transverses the label location area (see Fig. 2 below).



8. In re claim 49, with reference to the Figs noted above, Ashley et al. discloses the claimed invention including wherein the material is a thermoformed structure forming the unitary construction of the base, lid, and hinge (columns 2-3, lines 67-2); the container includes the flat portion [of] the label (46); the base includes ribs (70) adapted hold the product; the lid further includes a substantially flat lid top area (24) and, when the lid is in the closed position, the label location area is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area (see Fig. 2).

9. In re claim 50, with reference to the Figs noted above, Ashley et al. discloses the claimed invention except wherein the packaged product is fresh retail produce.

10. It has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. See MPEP 2114, II. Note that the claims are drawn to “a container” and that the product or type of product makes up no structural component of the claimed container, therefore, the recitation “fresh retail produce” is not given patentable weight.

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claims 21-47 are allowed.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANDREW T KIRSCH whose telephone number is (571)270-5723. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9a-5p EST.

Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John K Fristoe can be reached on 571-272-4926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see https://ppair-my.uspto.gov/pair/PrivatePair. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ANDREW T KIRSCH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3733

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 16/360,964	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul	
	Examiner ANDREW T KIRSCH	Art Unit 3733	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-4986414-A	01-1991	Ashley; Charles R.	B65D43/162	206/5.1
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	L					
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	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	16/360,964	Tabone, Maurice Joseph Paul
	Examiner	Art Unit
	ANDREW T KIRSCH	3733

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
B65D 55/0818, 55/06, 43/162, 4/163, 2203/02	05/24/2021	ATK
B65D 2251/1016, 23/36, 77/36, 2102/0007	05/24/2021	ATK
B65D 2401/05, 2203/00, 51/245, 25/205	05/24/2021	ATK

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

Search Notes		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
Inventor Check	05/24/2021	ATK
EAST Search	05/24/2021	ATK

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	US Subclass/CPC Group	Date	Examiner

EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
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S2	5	(tabone near2 maurice near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:14
S3	10	("5405009" | "5636737" | "5893587" | "6352170" | "6540074").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:14
S4	18	"5636737"	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:16
S5	2	"5893587".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:18
S6	15	("0563490" | "3505954" | "3650210" | "4573711").PN. OR ("5893587").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:20
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S10	78	("3344974").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:39
S11	298	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 10:53
S12	294	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:11
S13	9	220/826 and label	USPAT	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:11
S14	14	("3417897" | "4499353" | "5147035" | "5570856" | "5899334" | "6070723" | "6247590" | "6279746" | "6412637" | "D368027" | "D368028" | "D368029").PN. OR ("7258233").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2011/10/04 11:17
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S17	2,733	206/459.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/05 09:49
S18	1,379	206/1.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/05 09:49
S20	240	220/745	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2011/10/05 09:49

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S22	358	"220".clas. and sealed with tape	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:27
S23	9	220/359.1 and sealed with tape	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:28
S24	5	("3495759" | "4969570" | "5115934" | "5772623").PN. OR ("7762421").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:29
S25	35	("2873881" | "2903154" | "2960257" | "3016169" | "3469735" | "3693829" | "3894650" | "4203537" | "4225064" | "4240568" | "4312459").PN. OR ("4969570").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:31
S26	44	220/359.1 and tape	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:32
S27	2	220/359.1 and tape same (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:40
S28	505	"220".clas. and tape same (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:41
S29	198	"220".clas. and tape with (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 11:41
S30	0	("1582489").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/06 14:25
S31	3	("3096905").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/06 14:31
S32	26	("0983883" | "1128076" | "1239183" | "3133669" | "3149743" | "3158282" | "3438533" | "3696963" | "3834579" | "4520942" | "4607759" | "4728003").PN. OR ("5174464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:06
S33	1,579	"220".clas. and strip with (annular ring)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:23
S34	304	"220".clas. and strip with (annular ring) and adhesive	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2012/06/06 15:23
S35	312	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31

S36	313	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
S37	2,952	206/459.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
S39	1,448	206/1.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:31
S41	263	220/745	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2012/06/07 12:32
S42	68	("3111220" | "3463309" | "4016972" | "4319684").PN. OR ("4499353").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/17 17:07
S43	407	220/359.1	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/17 17:16
S44	39	("1743980" | "2984382" | "3556338" | "3592349" | "3682365" | "3718274" | "4202464" | "4256240" | "4290248" | "4334631" | "4373636" | "4408698" | "4444332" | "4570818" | "4574974" | "4706839" | "4719087" | "4834237" | "4886184" | "4933216" | "5273174" | "5368178" | "5405009" | "5507429" | "5540342" | "5762221" | "5772070" | "5829595" | "5866181" | "5866183" | "5897015").PN. OR ("6352170").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:50
S45	2	"2210183".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:53
S46	7	("2210183").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 11:57
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S49	90	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952").PN. OR ("4202464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:03
S50	37	("0401210" | "1532900" | "1896834" | "2141011" | "3211470" | "3495758" | "3999819" | "4110502" | "4202464" | "4557971" | "4679823" | "4708368" | "4716052" | "4771891" | "4889234" | "5031939" | "5217307" | "5348780" | "5417457").PN. OR ("5704649").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:13
S51	22	("3495758").URPN.	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:21
S52	70	("20020036230" | "20030080021" | "20030118822" | "20040178112" | "20050043423" | "20050079352" | "20050178692" | "20050183981" | "20050188649" | "20060047010" | "20060289328" | "20070034543" | "20070044431" | "20070048413" | "20070056873" | "20070084747" | "20070102318" | "20070151893" | "3151800" | "3495758" | "3617198" | "3673133" | "3768969" | "3913298" | "4099650" | "4125190" | "4205103" | "4244901" | "4306548" | "4340141" | "4384649" | "4644014" | "4779734" | "4830185" | "4911304" | "4925035" | "4939332" | "4962849" | "4974729" | "4998623" | "5014855" | "5217665" | "5251757" | "5277920" | "5323907" | "5332096" | "5585412" | "5624033" | "5741823" | "5839574" | "5878887" | "5915559" | "6071580" | "6082544" | "6296795" | "6382412" | "6414044" | "6681935" | "6797736" | "6966446" | "7005457" | "7032754" | "7053131" | "7093716" | "7113101" | "7150335" | "7159717").PN. OR ("7958998").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:23
S53	2,285	220/315	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:37
S54	74	220/315 and adhesive same (label tape film)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:38

S55	94	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 12:44
S56	48	("3257062" | "3305086" | "4494650" | "4650076" | "4732273" | "4753366" | "4757899" | "4795080" | "4798133" | "4872608" | "4886204" | "5046659" | "5165947" | "5169014" | "5232094" | "5269430").PN. OR ("5405009").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/02/18 13:03
S57	2,120	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/20 14:06
S58	250	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/02/20 14:14
S59	1	"220".clas. and produce and hang with sell	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
S60	390	"220".clas. and produce and hang	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
S61	30	"220".clas. and produce and hang with (hole aperture)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:20
S62	84	("2133252" | "2231222" | "2892538" | "3379774" | "4005776" | "4058212" | "4106621" | "4202464" | "4236636" | "4344533" | "4475881" | "4570818" | "4602719" | "4739883" | "4739900" | "4917261" | "4930627" | "4948267" | "4986438" | "5012927" | "5025939" | "5027947" | "5038936" | "5040680" | "5077064" | "5147035" | "5161687" | "5209354" | "5279443" | "5405629" | "5579288" | "5582853" | "5595300" | "5624057" | "5664303" | "5775516" |	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:25

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S65	13	("3101884" | "3255880" | "3279596" | "3599787" | "3854652").PN. OR ("4209095").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/09/12 17:40
S66	427	220/359.1	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:12
S67	33	220/359.1 and (die with cut$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:13
S68	2	"8616373".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:24
S69	47	("20020195363" | "20080118609" | "20110290675" | "3111220" | "3279596" | "3327843" | "3464544" | "4083451" | "4266666" | "4319684" | "4456124" | "4666037" | "4739883" | "4842141" | "5092479" | "5129517" | "5209354" | "5775516" | "6053321" | "6230964" | "6244444" | "6308832" | "6364115" | "7931148" | "D263684" | "D305000" | "D376314" | "D407015" | "D411448" | "D420905" | "D448288" | "D479127" | "D531028" | "D534421" | "D553489" | "D600113" | "D601014" | "D606392" | "D615858" | "D624399" | "D624402" | "D624403" | "D624815").PN. OR ("8616373").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2014/09/12 18:24
S70	136	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:49

S71	40	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) same (holes apertures)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:56
S72	46	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) same (holes apertures slots)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:57
S73	24	"220".clas. and (flange rim) with (die with cut$4) with (holes apertures slots)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 15:57
S74	56	(US-20100001014-$ or US-20050082185-$ or US-20130062342-$ or US-20040226955-$).did. or (US-5893587-$ or US-6352170-$ or US-4202464-$ or US-3552634-$ or US-3561668-$ or US-4346833-$ or US-D615858-$ or US-D631337-$ or US-6129233-$ or US-6131760-$ or US-6170723-$ or US-6364100-$ or US-7258233-$ or US-4499353-$ or US-6412637-$ or US-7556173-$ or US-4193496-$ or US-7762421-$ or US-4969570-$ or US-7073309-$ or US-5174464-$ or US-5261551-$ or US-5433412-$ or US-4884718-$ or US-5704649-$ or US-6070723-$).did. or (US-5866183-$ or US-4570818-$ or US-5405009-$ or US-4005776-$ or US-4312451-$ or US-4209095-$ or US-5353935-$ or US-6016914-$ or US-4266666-$ or US-4739883-$ or US-4842141-$ or US-5129517-$).did. or (US-3082903-$ or US-3344974-$ or US-3417897-$ or US-2780385-$ or US-1582489-$ or US-3096905-$ or US-3129014-$ or US-1343955-$ or US-3182851-$ or US-1743980-$ or US-3397774-$ or US-3495758-$ or US-3327843-$).did. or (US-5405009-$).did.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19
S75	19	S74 and transparent	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19
S76	4	S74 and transparent and food	US-PGPUB; USPAT;	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:19

			USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT			
S77	2,403	220/315	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S78	471	220/833	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S79	390	220/826	USPAT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S80	3,568	206/459.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S81	1,676	206/1.5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S82	347	220/745	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2014/09/15 16:54
S83	2,845	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/20 13:35
S84	272	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/20 13:35
S85	3	"5125921".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2015/10/21 13:25
S86	3,042	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2016/08/02 15:24

S87	285	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2016/08/02 15:24
S88	3,511	b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2017/06/15 11:39
S89	320	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2017/06/15 11:39
S90	22	("3495758").URPN.	USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:28
S91	95	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:30
S92	83	("4060173" | "4098430" | "4427129" | "4498589" | "4499353" | "4570818").PN. OR ("4687129").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:32
S93	40	("2937746" | "3424306" | "3776375" | "3856137" | "3881601" | "3937389" | "4427705" | "4512474" | "4687129" | "4896770" | "D185890" | "D267394" | "D294123" | "D305733").PN. OR ("5018622").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 11:35
S94	413	b65d2251/1016.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 11:47
S95	213	(b65d55/0818.cpc. b65d55/06.cpc. b65d43/162.cpc. b65d43/163.cpc. b65d2203/02.cpc.) and label and flange	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 11:47
S96	388	b65d25/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:24

S97	175	b65d2101/0007.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:26
S98	115	B65B7/2864.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:33
S99	43	B65D77/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 14:49
S100	7	("20040226955" | "4312451" | "5405009" | "5636737" | "5893587" | "6352170" | "6540074").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2018/12/10 15:24
S101	6	(tabone near2 maurice near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S102	6	(tabone near2 maurice).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S103	6	(tabone near2 maurice).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:13
S104	6	(tabone near2 joseph near2 paul).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:14
S105	12	(tabone near2 joseph).in.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2018/12/10 16:14
S108	50	B65D77/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21

S109	141	B65B7/2864.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S110	91	b65d2101/0007.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S111	470	b65d25/36.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2020/12/28 16:21
S112	62	("3257062" | "3305086" | "4494650" | "4650076" | "4732273" | "4753366" | "4757899" | "4795080" | "4798133" | "4872608" | "4886204" | "5046659" | "5165947" | "5169014" | "5232094" | "5269430").PN. OR ("5405009").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:00
S113	88	("20010002268" | "20030047474" | "20030192808" | "20060138020" | "20060144744" | "20060237454" | "20060289549" | "20070095695" | "20080020120" | "20080305218" | "20090206082" | "2256723" | "2715458" | "3128030" | "3164478" | "3306462" | "3372812" | "3376046" | "3410698" | "3740238" | "3937389" | "4014450" | "4576330" | "4640416" | "4844263" | "5009312" | "5046659" | "5071060" | "5169014" | "5176272" | "5310070" | "5405009" | "5445397" | "5584408" | "5862930" | "5954203" | "5996787" | "6054159" | "6220442" | "6332546" | "6889838" | "7073680" | "7243813" | "7243815" | "7284673" | "7568589" | "7712626" | "D227226" | "D267911" | "D287545" | "D308826" | "D323114" | "D349050" | "D388324" | "D502869" | "D510804" | "D571654" | "D602352").PN. OR ("8215485").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:04
S114	97	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "2544975" | "2885135" | "3043354" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952" | "3902540" | "3942707" | "3955710" | "4096986" | "4202464" | "4312451" | "D165219" | "D258268").PN. OR ("4570818").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:12

S115	108	("1695286" | "2138241" | "2202279" | "3082903" | "3344974" | "3397774" | "3580485" | "3670952").PN. OR ("4202464").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 15:14
S116	173	b65d2401/05.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:25
S117	1,368	b65d2203/02.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:30
S118	19	b65d2203/02.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:30
S119	20	b65d51/245.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:32
S120	1,857	b65d25/205.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:34
S121	17	b65d25/205.cpc. and b65d43/162.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:34
S122	99	"220".clas. and flange same label same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:36
S123	28	("3082903" | "3410698" | "3437199").PN. OR ("3556337").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2021/05/21 18:44
S124	126,932	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$)(sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46

S125	0	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$) same (sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S126	0	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper4$) same (sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S127	5	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper$4) same (sticker label) same (adhes$4 adher$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S128	20	"220".clas. and flange same (tamper$4) same (sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:46
S129	536	b65d43/162.cpc. and (tamper sticker label)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/21 18:47
S130	11	("10574956" | "20040226955" | "20170341833" | "4312451" | "4570818" | "5018622" | "5405009" | "5636737" | "5893587" | "6352170" | "6540074").PN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2021/05/24 11:51
S131	3	"4986414".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2021/05/24 12:05

EAST Search History (Interference)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
S106	0	(container lid base surface cavity sidewall flange coplanar configuration membrane adjacent flat).clm.	USPAT	AND	OFF	2018/12/10 15:46
S107	1	"5018627".pn.	USPAT	AND	OFF	2018/12/10 16:02

5/24/2021 1:21:42 PM
H:\Workspaces\15656623.wsp

Doc code: IDS
Doc description: Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed

PTO/SB/08a (03-15)
Approved for use through 07/31/2016. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	
Filing Date	2019-03-21
First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	/ANDREW T KIRSCH/
Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

U.S.PATENTS Remove

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4312451		1982-01-26	Forbes, Jr., Hampton E.	
	2	5636737		1997-06-10	Marsilio	
	3	6540074		2003-04-01	Sankey et al.	
	4	5405009		1995-04-11	Hackenbracht	
	5	5893587		1999-04-13	Wong	
	6	6352170		2002-03-05	Brown et al.	
	7	5018622		1991-05-28	Hartley	
	8	4570818		1986-02-18	Borst et al.	

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
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	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code[1]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	20040226955		2004-11-18	Frantz	
	2	20170341833		2017-11-30	Tabone	

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number[3]	Country Code[2]	Kind Code[4]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[5]
	1	1558504	EP		2005-08-03	Brodrene Hartmann		
	2	2008098288	WO		2008-08-21	Tabone		
	3	2349182	FR		1977-11-18	Moll Gerard		
	4	2003234951	AU		2004-06-10	Tacca-Plastics		

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Remove

Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[5]

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
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	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

	1	International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP), PCT/AU2008/000173 (WO2008098288), 2009-04-30	

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button Add

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature	/ANDREW T KIRSCH/	Date Considered	05/24/2021

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /A.T.K/

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Julie L. Reed/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-03-21
Name/Print	Julie L. Reed	Registration Number	35349

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.

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6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).

7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.

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9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No. 16/360,964
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Examiner: Kirsch	Confirm. No. 9424
		Applicant: Tabone	
		Filing Date: March 21, 2019	Group: 3733

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		10574956	7/31/2018	Tietschert	H04N9/31
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		20070017845	01/25/2007	Tietschert	206/52.1
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		CA2541375	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
		JP2007508207	04/05/2007	Tietschert	
		CN1863717	11/15/2006	Tietschert	
		WO2005035392	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
EXAMINER	/ANDREW T KIRSCH/			DATE CONSIDERED	05/24/2021

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /A.T.K/

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No. 16/360,964
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Examiner: Kirsch	Confirm. No. 9424
		Applicant: Tabone	
		Filing Date: March 21, 2019	Group: 3733

NON-PATENT LITERATURE

Examiner Initial		Description
		Internet Archive record of January 25, 2005 capture of http://www.avolo.de/s24htm. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 2 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/HART_IMAGIC_BROSCH_ENGLISCH.pdf/$file/HART_IMAGIC_BROSCH_ENGLISCH.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/E-FINAL 02-09-05.pdf/$file/E-FINAL 02-09-05.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Internet Archive record of October 4, 2017 capture of http://www.polskiefermy.com.pl/en/10/products/eggs-from-an-alternative-culture/free-range-eggs-86.html. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 2 pages.
		Screen capture of http://www.pulpcrafts.com/shows-49-213.html#main. Accessed October 30, 2020. 8 pages.
		Screen capture of https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/woman-shopping-eggs-organic-grocery-store-1722076957. Accessed October 30, 2020. 1 page.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/Sortiment-Englisch.pdf/$file/Sortiment-Englisch.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 33 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/HA_SF_BROSCH%EF%BF%BDRE_ENGLISCH.pdf/$file/HA_SF_BROSCH%EF%BF%BDRE_ENGLISCH.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Screen captures of http://www.vintex-green.com/cgi-bin/i8_user_data.cgi?a=d_3nvknFSDuVQ9LhuDoXFhhs35V2wcyjxKNfMN8Vc7-I8ECS-0veFJq8e7NRCmXSKl6WYrWfDBysIDLUGq8BvA483 and http://www.vintex-green.com/cgi-bin/i8_user_data_category.cgi?access_code=advanced. Accessed October 30, 2020. 2 pages.

EXAMINER	/ANDREW T KIRSCH/	DATE CONSIDERED	05/24/2021

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /A.T.K/

Bibliographic Data

Application No: 16/360,964

Foreign Priority claimed: (•) Yes ( ) No

35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met: [✓] Yes [ ] No [ ] Met After Allowance

Verified and Acknowledged: /ANDREW T KIRSCH/ Examiner's Signature [ ] Initials

Title: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

FILING or 371(c) DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
03/21/2019	220	3733	408889-0004
RULE			

APPLICANTS

INVENTORS

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CONTINUING DATA

This application is a CON of 15656623 07/21/2017 PAT 10287070

15656623 is a CON of 12449556 08/12/2009ABN

12449556 is a 371 of PCT/AU2008/000173 02/12/2008

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS

AUSTRALIA AU2007900654 02/12/2007

AUSTRALIA AU2007902246 04/30/2007

IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN LICENSE GRANTED**

04/04/2019

**** MICRO ENTITY ****

STATE OR COUNTRY

AUSTRALIA

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UNITED STATES

FILING FEE RECEIVED

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Examiner: Kirsch
Tabone, Maurice	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Serial No. **16/360,964**	)	
	)	Confirmation No. 9424
Filed: **March 21, 2019**	)	
	)	

Mail Stop: Responses
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fifth Preliminary Amendment

Enclosed is a fifth preliminary amendment amending claims 26, 27, 30, and 32 and adding claims 49 and 50. Additional fees for claims in excess of 20 are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **February 5, 2021**

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In the claims:

Please amend claims 26, 27, 30, and 32. Please add claims 49 and 50 as follows:

1-20. **(Cancelled)**

21.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position,

wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein

the lid portion is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat top disposed parallel to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein

the bottom edge is between, and outward from both, the substantially flat lid top and the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

the substantially planar frontal extension extends obliquely to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

having a first planar area on the substantially planar frontal extension's portion of the first material surface, and

having a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces,

a base extension

extending from the base,

having

a primary surface area with a flat portion facing external to the cavity wherein the flat portion is bounded by a first boundary and a second boundary,

a second planar area on the flat portion disposed obliquely to the floor, and

a secondary surface area that is

on the direct opposite side of the material from the flat portion and is an extension of the sidewall's portion of the first material surface; and

wherein in the closed position

the first planar area, the second planar area, and the first and second boundaries of the flat portion are all generally coplanar,

a first flat portion of a label covers both

the primary surface area of the base extension and the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the primary surface area is adjacent to the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

22.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the lid has a lid rim that generally defines an opening for the lid portion of the cavity,

the bottom edge of the lid is located on the lid rim, and

the first flat portion of the label fully extends

from adjacent the substantially flat top

to the bottom edge of the lid.

23.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is fully circumscribed by a planar lid hole edge of the substantially planar lid area.

24.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 23 wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position, and

the bottom edge of the lid is distant from the floor when the lid is in the closed position.

25.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the label has a second flat portion located between a third flat portion and the first flat portion of the label, wherein

the second flat portion is located on the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat top of the lid.

26.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the bottom edge of the lid extends from nearly adjacent the first lid hole to nearly adjacent a second lid hole in the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and the base has a rectangular cross section.

27.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 26 wherein

between the first lid hole and the second lid hole the bottom edge of the lid has a convex curvature, and the base and lid are thermoformed from the material.

28.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the floor of the base has a length and a width, wherein

the length of the floor is bounded by a first end and a second end, and the substantially planar frontal extension fully extends the length of the floor.

29.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 28 wherein

the label fully extends the length of the floor.

30.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is entirely located between the bottom edge of the lid and the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the lid includes a plurality of domes adjacent to and flanking the substantially flat top.

31.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product,

the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid moveable about a hinge with respect to the base from:

a substantially open position to

a substantially closed position,

wherein the substantially closed position substantially defines a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid, the base and lid both formed from a container material;

the cavity having

a base portion of the cavity dimensioned to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base, and

a lid portion of the cavity having a shape suitable to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed outside the base portion of the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position, wherein the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at

least generally beyond the base and generally outward from the base portion of the cavity;

the container material having

a material thickness generally defined by a first material surface disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material to a second material surface, and

wherein a portion of the first material surface is substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat lid top area

disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and including

a lid top portion of the first material surface disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top area to a bottom edge of the lid, wherein the bottom edge of the lid is between the substantially flat lid top area and the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and beyond an area directly between the substantially flat lid top area and floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position, and having a lid front portion of the first material surface disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area when the lid is in the substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontal

with the substantially flat lid top area located above the floor, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor, and

a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid, and

a lid hole substantially defined in the container material

by a lid hole edge and

fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area,

wherein the second material surface of the substantially flat lid top area and the second material surface of the substantially planar frontal extension intersect at an obtuse angle;

the base having

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprises an external floor surface area disposed on the first material surface and an internal floor surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor having, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first material surface and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a rim wherein, a portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity, and

a base extension generally extending from the rim, the base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity, wherein the primary surface area comprising a flat

portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second material surface, and wherein the base extension having a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first material surface

wherein when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally away from the hinge from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

a label

covering the substantially flat lid top area of the lid,

having a substantially flat portion covering the substantially planar frontal extension,

wherein

the label extends beyond the substantially planar frontal extension,

when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the label covers the flat portion of the base extension; and

the lid having a first planar area disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension, the base

having a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface disposed obliquely to the floor,

wherein the first planar area and the second planar area are

generally coplanar and

disposed facing externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position.

32.(**Currently Amended**) The container of claim 31 wherein,

in the substantially closed position, both, the lid hole and the lid hole edge are entirely encompassed within the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the first planar area has a surface area greater than 5 cm^2.

33.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 31 wherein

the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinge and the substantially planar frontal extension;

the label has

a first flat portion encompassing the substantially flat portion,

a second flat portion covering the substantially flat lid top area, and

a third flat portion,

wherein the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area.

34.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging contents intended for sale wherein, the contents comprising a product, the container comprising:

a container material substantially comprising a base, a floor and, a lid moveable with respect to the base from, at least one substantially open position to, at least one substantially closed

position wherein, the at least one substantially closed position substantially defining a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the cavity comprising:

a base portion of the cavity to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base; and

a lid portion of the cavity modified to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed substantially outside the base portion of the cavity wherein,

the container material further comprising:

a material thickness having a dimension generally defined by two material surfaces wherein, a first of the two material surfaces is disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material with respect to a second of the two material surfaces and wherein, at least one portion of the first of the two material surfaces is disposed substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second of the two material surfaces;

the lid comprising:

the lid portion of the cavity comprising a shape suitable to contain at least the second portion of the product disposed outside the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outwardly with respect to the base portion of the cavity;

a hinged attachment to the base disposed generally adjacent to a hinged side of the lid wherein, the lid is movable about the hinged attachment between, the at least one substantially open position and, the at least one substantially closed position;

a substantially flat lid top area disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the substantially flat lid top area comprising a lid top portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area;

a substantially planar frontal extension comprising a lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontally, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor and, wherein comprising a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid wherein, the substantially planar frontal extension is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area; and

at least one lid hole comprising an opening substantially defined in the container material by a lid hole edge wherein, the at least one lid hole is fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area having the lid hole edge;

the base comprising:

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprising, at least one external floor surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and at least one internal floor surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

at least one sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor and comprising, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first

of the two material surfaces and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

a rim wherein, at least one portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity; and

at least one base extension generally extending from the at least one portion of the rim, the at least one base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity wherein, the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second of the two material surfaces and, wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first of the two material surfaces wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the container is orientated wherein the floor is substantially horizontal and the at least one external floor surface area faces substantially downwardly, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally downwardly in a direction generally away from the hinged side of the lid from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

the container further comprising:

a first planar area disposed on the lid, within the bounds of the substantially planar frontal extension; and

a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface, disposed obliquely with respect to the floor wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position,

the first planar area and the second planar area face substantially in the same direction wherein,

the container comprising;

a substantially flat area, inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area wherein, the substantially flat area comprising:

a circumferential dimension which is substantially less than each of, a largest internal perimeter of the base opening and an outermost perimeter of the lid;

an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area, disposed facing at least substantially externally with respect to the cavity; and

at least one surface configuration between the lid and the base comprising, at least, the first planar area of the lid, at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area and, the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension wherein, the flat portion comprising the second planar area disposed substantially co-planar with respect to, both, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces and the at least two distinct boundary portions, to comprise the substantially flat area, wherein,

the substantially flat area is disposed substantially outside of the cavity of the container and is suitable to be covered in a generally flat fashion by a substantially flat portion of an entire label wherein, the entire label is proposed to be received by the container wherein the entire label is larger than the substantially flat area and wherein,

the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to contour substantially to the substantially flat area, in the generally flat fashion, to cover at least two immediately adjacent surface portions of the container with respect to the at least one surface configuration wherein, a first of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is the entire flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension and, a second of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension wherein,

when contouring to the substantially flat area and covering the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions in the generally flat fashion, the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to at least generally contour to an outermost shape of the container including, at least each of, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces of the substantially planar frontal extension, the second planar area and, the at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension.

35.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a formed section wherein, the formed section stands proud of the at least one portion of the rim wherein, the second planar area comprising a planar perimeter wherein, a portion of the planar perimeter defines at least two distinct sides of the second planar area and wherein, the at least one lid hole is disposed at least generally adjacent to the first planar area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds to and mates with the at least two distinct sides of the second planar area, to expose the second planar area wherein, facilitating the at least one surface configuration, to provide the substantially flat area.

36.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the lid hole edge is substantially planar and wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the lid hole edge and the at least one lid hole are entirely encompassed within a perimeter of the substantially flat area.

37.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinged side of the lid and the substantially planar frontal extension; the entire label having a first flat label portion, a second flat label portion, and a third flat label portion located between the first and second flat label portions, wherein the first flat label portion comprising the substantially flat portion of the entire label; wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the entire label is received by the container, the third flat label portion substantially spans the width of the substantially flat lid top area and is located directly above the floor, the first flat label portion is separated from the second flat label portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area, and the substantially flat area is both, substantially parallel and immediately adjacent with respect to the first flat label portion.

38.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds with the flat portion of the primary surface area wherein, the formed section of the at least one base extension protrudes from the base, generally into the at least one lid hole, to provide the substantially flat area

wherein, the substantially flat area is substantially coplanar with the planar perimeter of the flat portion.

39.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 36 wherein, a portion of the margin of the lid extends from, a first opening area adjacent to a first of the at least one lid hole to, a second opening area adjacent to a second of the at least one lid hole wherein, the portion of the margin includes a most forwardly extended point of the lid when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the most forwardly extended point of the lid is generally disposed at the front of the container, on a directly opposite side of the container to the hinged attachment.

40.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 39 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the portion of the margin includes at least one point which is closer, to either of, the first lid hole and the second lid hole, than to the floor of the base.

41.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the container comprising at least one mechanical locking mechanism disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area, to lock the lid to the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

42.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the margin of the lid extends from

a first lock area adjacent to a first of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism to

a second lock area adjacent to a second of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism;

wherein between the first lock area and the second lock area, the margin has at least one convex curvature portion.

43.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 further comprising a chamfered abutment of an edge of the first planar area and at least a part of the second planar area disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

44.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, the first planar area and the second planar area partially overlap when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position;

further comprising an overlap of a lid material portion and a base material portion, disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

45.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 44 wherein, the overlap includes the first planar area located adjacent to the second planar area and disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

46.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, first planar area of the overlap is separated from the second planar area of the overlap by the dimension of the material thickness.

47.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, the substantially flat area is covered with the substantially flat portion of the entire label in the generally flat fashion, to span the overlap.

48.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

the lid portion of the cavity is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having a lid area comprising a first area disposed on the first material surface to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces, and

a base extension extending from the base, comprising a base area having a second area disposed on the second material surface, to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

a label location area is disposed substantially on a first part of the first area of the lid and a first part of the second area of the base,

the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area are substantially coplanar to

each other and

an adjacent flat part of the lid area,

the label location area is configured to receive, on an outermost part of the container, a flat portion of a label that

is substantially coplanar to the adjacent flat part of the lid area,

covers the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area, and transverses the label location area.

49.(**New**) The container of claim 48 wherein,

the material is a thermoformed structure forming the unitary construction of the base, lid, and hinge;

the container includes the flat portion the label;

the base includes ribs adapted hold the product;

the lid further includes a substantially flat lid top area and, when the lid is in the closed position,

the label location area is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area.

50.(**New**) The container for packaging the product of claim 49 wherein,

the packaged product is fresh retail produce.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16360964
Filing Date:	21-Mar-2019
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004

Filed as Micro Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
CLAIMS IN EXCESS OF 20	3202	2	25	50
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
		Total in USD ($)		**50**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	41854673
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	64194
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	05-FEB-2021
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	18:01:27
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

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Payment Type	CARD
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The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		2021_02_05_Fifth_Prelim_Amendement.pdf	150266 6f382cf3917d8473379bc8225f89bbe142ecb139	yes	20
	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description				
	Document Description		Start	End	
	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter		1	1	
	Claims		2	20	
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30439 6abbff381ad62caf42f221b3658c326779c99db2	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	180705		

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☑ LARGE ☐ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $100 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $460 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	02/05/2021	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 30	Minus	** 28	= 2		x $100 =	200
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 4	Minus	*** 4	= 0		x $480 =	0
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	200

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	LIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/PEGGY S YARBOROUGH/
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".	
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Examiner: Kirsch
Tabone, Maurice	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Serial No. **16/360,964**	)	
	)	Confirmation No. 9424
Filed: **March 21, 2019**	)	
	)	

Mail Stop: Responses
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fourth Preliminary Amendment

Enclosed is a fourth preliminary amendment adding claim 48. Additional fees for claims in excess of 20 and more than three independent claims are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **January 15, 2021**

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In the claims:

Please add claim 48 as follows:

1-20. **(Cancelled)**

21.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position,

wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein

the lid portion is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat top disposed parallel to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein

the bottom edge is between, and outward from both, the substantially flat lid top and the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

the substantially planar frontal extension extends obliquely to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

having a first planar area on the substantially planar frontal extension's portion of the first material surface, and

having a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces,

a base extension

extending from the base,

having

a primary surface area with a flat portion facing external to the cavity wherein the flat portion is bounded by a first boundary and a second boundary,

a second planar area on the flat portion disposed obliquely to the floor, and

a secondary surface area that is

on the direct opposite side of the material from the flat portion and is an extension of the sidewall's portion of the first material surface; and

wherein in the closed position

the first planar area, the second planar area, and the first and second boundaries of the flat portion are all generally coplanar,

a first flat portion of a label covers both

the primary surface area of the base extension and the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the primary surface area is adjacent to the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

22.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the lid has a lid rim that generally defines an opening for the lid portion of the cavity,

the bottom edge of the lid is located on the lid rim, and

the first flat portion of the label fully extends

from adjacent the substantially flat top

to the bottom edge of the lid.

23.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is fully circumscribed by a planar lid hole edge of the substantially planar lid area.

24.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 23 wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position, and

the bottom edge of the lid is distant from the floor when the lid is in the closed position.

25.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the label has a second flat portion located between a third flat portion and the first flat portion of the label, wherein

the second flat portion is located on the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat top of the lid.

26.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the bottom edge of the lid extends from nearly adjacent the first lid hole to nearly adjacent a second lid hole in the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

27.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 26 wherein

between the first lid hole and the second lid hole the bottom edge of the lid has a convex curvature.

28.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the floor of the base has a length and a width, wherein

the length of the floor is bounded by a first end and a second end, and the substantially planar frontal extension fully extends the length of the floor.

29.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 28 wherein

the label fully extends the length of the floor.

30.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is entirely located between the bottom edge of the lid and the substantially flat top of the lid.

31.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging a product,

the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid moveable about a hinge with respect to the base from:

a substantially open position to

a substantially closed position,

wherein the substantially closed position substantially defines a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid, the base and lid both formed from a container material;

the cavity having

a base portion of the cavity dimensioned to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base, and

a lid portion of the cavity having a shape suitable to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed outside the base portion of the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position, wherein the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outward from the base portion of the cavity;

the container material having

a material thickness generally defined by a first material surface disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material to a second material surface, and

wherein a portion of the first material surface is substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat lid top area

disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and including

a lid top portion of the first material surface disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top area to a bottom edge of the lid, wherein the bottom edge of the lid is between the substantially flat lid top area and the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and beyond an area directly between the substantially flat lid top area and floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position, and having a lid front portion of the first material surface disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area when the lid is in the substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontal with the substantially flat lid top area located above the floor, wherein the

substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor, and

a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid, and

a lid hole substantially defined in the container material

by a lid hole edge and

fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area,

wherein the second material surface of the substantially flat lid top area and the second material surface of the substantially planar frontal extension intersect at an obtuse angle;

the base having

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprises an external floor surface area disposed on the first material surface and an internal floor surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor having, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first material surface and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a rim wherein, a portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity, and

a base extension generally extending from the rim, the base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity, wherein the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface

area of the second material surface, and wherein the base extension having a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first material surface

wherein when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally away from the hinge from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

a label

covering the substantially flat lid top area of the lid,

having a substantially flat portion covering the substantially planar frontal extension,

wherein

the label extends beyond the substantially planar frontal extension,

when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the label covers the flat portion of the base extension; and

the lid having a first planar area disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension, the base having a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface disposed obliquely to the floor,

wherein the first planar area and the second planar area are

generally coplanar and

disposed facing externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position.

32.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 31 wherein,

in the substantially closed position, both, the lid hole and the lid hole edge are entirely encompassed within the substantially planar frontal extension.

33.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 31 wherein

the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinge and the substantially planar frontal extension;

the label has

a first flat portion encompassing the substantially flat portion,

a second flat portion covering the substantially flat lid top area, and

a third flat portion,

wherein the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area.

34.(**Previously Presented**) A container for packaging contents intended for sale wherein, the contents comprising a product, the container comprising:

a container material substantially comprising a base, a floor and, a lid moveable with respect to the base from, at least one substantially open position to, at least one substantially closed

position wherein, the at least one substantially closed position substantially defining a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the cavity comprising:

a base portion of the cavity to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base; and

a lid portion of the cavity modified to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed substantially outside the base portion of the cavity wherein,

the container material further comprising:

a material thickness having a dimension generally defined by two material surfaces wherein, a first of the two material surfaces is disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material with respect to a second of the two material surfaces and wherein, at least one portion of the first of the two material surfaces is disposed substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second of the two material surfaces;

the lid comprising:

the lid portion of the cavity comprising a shape suitable to contain at least the second portion of the product disposed outside the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outwardly with respect to the base portion of the cavity;

a hinged attachment to the base disposed generally adjacent to a hinged side of the lid wherein, the lid is movable about the hinged attachment between, the at least one substantially open position and, the at least one substantially closed position;

a substantially flat lid top area disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the substantially flat lid top area comprising a lid top portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area;

a substantially planar frontal extension comprising a lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontally, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor and, wherein comprising a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid wherein, the substantially planar frontal extension is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area; and

at least one lid hole comprising an opening substantially defined in the container material by a lid hole edge wherein, the at least one lid hole is fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area having the lid hole edge;

the base comprising:

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprising, at least one external floor surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and at least one internal floor surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

at least one sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor and comprising, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first

of the two material surfaces and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

a rim wherein, at least one portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity; and

at least one base extension generally extending from the at least one portion of the rim, the at least one base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity wherein, the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second of the two material surfaces and, wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first of the two material surfaces wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the container is orientated wherein the floor is substantially horizontal and the at least one external floor surface area faces substantially downwardly, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally downwardly in a direction generally away from the hinged side of the lid from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

the container further comprising:

a first planar area disposed on the lid, within the bounds of the substantially planar frontal extension; and

a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface, disposed obliquely with respect to the floor wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position,

the first planar area and the second planar area face substantially in the same direction wherein,

the container comprising;

a substantially flat area, inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area wherein, the substantially flat area comprising:

a circumferential dimension which is substantially less than each of, a largest internal perimeter of the base opening and an outermost perimeter of the lid;

an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area, disposed facing at least substantially externally with respect to the cavity; and

at least one surface configuration between the lid and the base comprising, at least, the first planar area of the lid, at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area and, the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension wherein, the flat portion comprising the second planar area disposed substantially co-planar with respect to, both, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces and the at least two distinct boundary portions, to comprise the substantially flat area, wherein,

the substantially flat area is disposed substantially outside of the cavity of the container and is suitable to be covered in a generally flat fashion by a substantially flat portion of an entire label wherein, the entire label is proposed to be received by the container wherein the entire label is larger than the substantially flat area and wherein,

the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to contour substantially to the substantially flat area, in the generally flat fashion, to cover at least two immediately adjacent surface portions of the container with respect to the at least one surface configuration wherein, a first of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is the entire flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension and, a second of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension wherein,

when contouring to the substantially flat area and covering the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions in the generally flat fashion, the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to at least generally contour to an outermost shape of the container including, at least each of, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces of the substantially planar frontal extension, the second planar area and, the at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension.

35.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a formed section wherein, the formed section stands proud of the at least one portion of the rim wherein, the second planar area comprising a planar perimeter wherein, a portion of the planar perimeter defines at least two distinct sides of the second planar area and wherein, the at least one lid hole is disposed at least generally adjacent to the first planar area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds to and mates with the at least two distinct sides of the second planar area, to expose the second planar area wherein, facilitating the at least one surface configuration, to provide the substantially flat area.

36.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the lid hole edge is substantially planar and wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the lid hole edge and the at least one lid hole are entirely encompassed within a perimeter of the substantially flat area.

37.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinged side of the lid and the substantially planar frontal extension; the entire label having a first flat label portion, a second flat label portion, and a third flat label portion located between the first and second flat label portions, wherein the first flat label portion comprising the substantially flat portion of the entire label; wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the entire label is received by the container, the third flat label portion substantially spans the width of the substantially flat lid top area and is located directly above the floor, the first flat label portion is separated from the second flat label portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area, and the substantially flat area is both, substantially parallel and immediately adjacent with respect to the first flat label portion.

38.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 35 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds with the flat portion of the primary surface area wherein, the formed section of the at least one base extension protrudes from the base, generally into the at least one lid hole, to provide the substantially flat area

wherein, the substantially flat area is substantially coplanar with the planar perimeter of the flat portion.

39.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 36 wherein, a portion of the margin of the lid extends from, a first opening area adjacent to a first of the at least one lid hole to, a second opening area adjacent to a second of the at least one lid hole wherein, the portion of the margin includes a most forwardly extended point of the lid when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the most forwardly extended point of the lid is generally disposed at the front of the container, on a directly opposite side of the container to the hinged attachment.

40.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 39 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the portion of the margin includes at least one point which is closer, to either of, the first lid hole and the second lid hole, than to the floor of the base.

41.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 34 wherein, the container comprising at least one mechanical locking mechanism disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area, to lock the lid to the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

42.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the margin of the lid extends from

a first lock area adjacent to a first of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism to

a second lock area adjacent to a second of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism;

wherein between the first lock area and the second lock area, the margin has at least one convex curvature portion.

43.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 further comprising a chamfered abutment of an edge of the first planar area and at least a part of the second planar area disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

44.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 41 wherein, the first planar area and the second planar area partially overlap when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position;
further comprising an overlap of a lid material portion and a base material portion, disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

45.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 44 wherein, the overlap includes the first planar area located adjacent to the second planar area and disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

46.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, first planar area of the overlap is separated from the second planar area of the overlap by the dimension of the material thickness.

47.(**Previously Presented**) The container of claim 45 wherein, the substantially flat area is covered with the substantially flat portion of the entire label in the generally flat fashion, to span the overlap.

48.(**New**) A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

the lid portion of the cavity is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having a lid area comprising a first area disposed on the first material surface to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces, and

a base extension extending from the base, comprising a base area having a second area disposed on the second material surface, to face substantially externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the closed position;

wherein, when the lid is in the closed position,

a label location area is disposed substantially on a first part of the first area of the lid and
a first part of the second area of the base,
the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area are substantially
coplanar to
each other and
an adjacent flat part of the lid area,
the label location area is configured to receive, on an outermost part of the container, a
flat portion of a label that
is substantially coplanar to the adjacent flat part of the lid area,
covers the first part of the first area and the first part of the second area,
and transverses the label location area.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16360964
Filing Date:	21-Mar-2019
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004

Filed as Micro Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
CLAIMS IN EXCESS OF 20	3202	1	25	25
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS IN EXCESS OF 3	3201	1	120	120
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
		Total in USD ($)		**145**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	41657706
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	64194
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	15-JAN-2021
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	12:09:25
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$145
RAM confirmation Number	E20211EC10142251
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		2021_01_15_Fourth_Prelim_Amendement.pdf	149117 61f33976117205e30c159299d3418999ec9c52cf	yes	20
	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description				
	Document Description		Start	End	
	Preliminary Amendment		1	1	
	Claims		2	20	
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	31916 c496da60f1263e4adb9064977314e82407544618	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	181033		

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If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
Approved for use through 1/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☑ LARGE ☐ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $100 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $460 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	01/15/2021	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 28	Minus	** 27	= 1		x $100 =	100
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 4	Minus	*** 3	= 1		x $480 =	480
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	580

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	LIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/PAULA D MCCRAY STANLEY/
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16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004

CONFIRMATION NO. 9424

64194
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POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000121073577

Date Mailed: 11/03/2020

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 10/30/2020.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/qnguyen/

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16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004

CONFIRMATION NO. 9424

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POWER OF ATTORNEY NOTICE

OC000000121073539

Date Mailed: 11/03/2020

NOTICE REGARDING CHANGE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 10/30/2020.

- The Power of Attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the applicant. Future correspondence will be mailed to the new address of record(37 CFR 1.33).

Questions about the contents of this notice and the requirements it sets forth should be directed to the Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit, at **(571) 272-4000** or **(571) 272-4200** or **1-888-786-0101**.

/qnguyen/

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No. 16/360,964
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Examiner: Kirsch	Confirm. No. 9424
		Applicant: Tabone	
		Filing Date: March 21, 2019	Group: 3733

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		10574956	7/31/2018	Tietschert	H04N9/31
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		20070017845	01/25/2007	Tietschert	206/52.1
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class
		CA2541375	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
		JP2007508207	04/05/2007	Tietschert	
		CN1863717	11/15/2006	Tietschert	
		WO2005035392	04/21/2005	Tietschert	
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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No. 16/360,964
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Examiner: Kirsch	Confirm. No. 9424
		Applicant: Tabone	
		Filing Date: March 21, 2019	Group: 3733

NON-PATENT LITERATURE

Examiner Initial		Description
		Internet Archive record of January 25, 2005 capture of http://www.avolo.de/s24htm. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 2 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/HART_IMAGIC_BROSCH_ENGLISCH.pdf/$file/HART_IMAGIC_BROSCH_ENGLISCH.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/E-FINAL 02-09-05.pdf/$file/E-FINAL 02-09-05.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Internet Archive record of October 4, 2017 capture of http://www.polskiefermy.com.pl/en/10/products/eggs-from-an-alternative-culture/free-range-eggs-86.html. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 2 pages.
		Screen capture of http://www.pulpcrafts.com/shows-49-213.html#main. Accessed October 30, 2020. 8 pages.
		Screen capture of https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/woman-shopping-eggs-organic-grocery-store-1722076957. Accessed October 30, 2020. 1 page.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/Sortiment-Englisch.pdf/$file/Sortiment-Englisch.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 33 pages.
		Internet Archive record of September 24, 2006 capture of http://www.hartmann.dk/primary_cms/CMSResources.nsf/filenames/HA_SF_BROSCH%EF%BF%BDRE_ENGLISCH.pdf/$file/HA_SF_BROSCH%EF%BF%BDRE_ENGLISCH.pdf. Accessed on October 30, 2020. 4 pages.
		Screen captures of http://www.vintex-green.com/cgi-bin/i8_user_data.cgi?a=d_3nvknFSDuVQ9LhuDoXFhhs35V2wcyjxKNfMN8Vc7-I8ECS-0veFJq8e7NRCmXSKl6WYrWfDBysIDLUGq8BvA483 and http://www.vintex-green.com/cgi-bin/i8_user_data_category.cgi?access_code=advanced. Accessed October 30, 2020. 2 pages.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

[19] 中华人民共和国国家知识产权局

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B65D 85/32 (2006.01)

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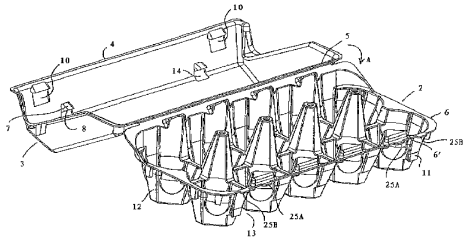
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权利要求书 3 页 说明书 8 页 附图 7 页

[54] 发明名称

具有保持装置的包装件

[57] 摘要

本发明涉及由纤维材料制成的容纳易碎产品如鸡蛋的包装件，包装件具有底部件(2)和铰接到底部件上的盖部件(3)，本发明还涉及将盖部件以简单但可靠方式可释放地保持到底部件的各种保持装置。本发明还提供位于盖部件上的保持装置，用于与底部件的上类似凸缘边缘部分(6)的适当部接合，根据一实施例的保持装置包括设在盖部件前侧面(4)内表面上的突起(7)。当盖部件(3)从打开位置转至位于底部件(2)上的闭合位置时，盖部件(3)上的一个或多个突起与底部件(2)上边缘部分的下表面接合，从而将盖部件(3)可释放地保持到底部件(2)上。可选的，还公开底部件上边缘区域上的与盖部件内的合适形状开口相接合的适当突起。



1、一种由纤维材料真空模制成形的包装件（1），其用于容纳一个或多个诸如鸡蛋的要包装的易碎产品，所述包装件包括：

底部件（2），该底部件（2）包括非平的侧表面，从而与要包装的产品外形至少部分匹配，该底部件（2）的上边缘部分（6）从底部件（2）向外延伸；

盖部件（3），该盖部件（3）包括至少一个顶表面（16）和一前表面（4），它们倾斜相交形成边缘（17，18）；

该底部件（2）通过铰链（5）连接到盖部件（3），从而允许盖部件（3）在打开位置与闭合位置之间移动；

当盖部件（3）位于其闭合位置中时，前表面（4）从该边缘（17，18）向下延伸，并与铰链（5）相对的底部件（2）的非平的侧表面搭接；

其特征在于，当包装件（1）闭合时，盖部件（3）设有至少一个向内延伸的突起（7），用于与底部件（2）的所述上边缘部分（6）锁定接合，并且所述铰链（5）定位在底部件（2）的上边缘部分（6）的水平高度之上。

2、如权利要求 1 所述的包装件，其特征在于，农产品是鸡蛋，并且该包装件（1）的底部件（2）设置有用于容纳鸡蛋的凹室（12）的模型。

3、如权利要求 1 或 2 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该包装件（1）是模制产品。

4、如权利要求 3 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该包装件（1）模制为一体件。

5、如前述权利要求任一所述的包装件，其特征在于，该包装件（1）由模制纸浆制成。

6、如权利要求 1 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该前侧面（4）上的盖部件（3）设置有一边缘部分（19），并且一个或多个突起（7）大

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体邻近该边缘部分（19）设置。

7、如权利要求 2 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该一个或多个突起（7）与底部件（2）的上边缘部分（6）的锁定接合发生在相邻鸡蛋凹室（12）之间的类似凸缘的上边缘部分（6'）。

8、如权利要求 1 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该包装件还设置有保持装置，该装置包括盖部件（3）的前侧面（4）内的一个或多个开口（10），以及与铰链（5）相对的底部件（2）的侧表面（24）上的协作保持突起（11）。

9、如权利要求 1 或 8 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该底部件（2）的类似凸缘的上边缘部分（6）还设置有向外延伸的保持襟片（25）。

10、如权利要求 9 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该襟片（25）被设置用于与盖部件（3）上的突起（7）的接合表面（8）接合。

11、如权利要求 9 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该襟片（25）被设置用于与盖部件（3）内设置的开口（10）的边缘部分（23）接合。

12、一种由纤维材料真空模制成形的包装件（1），其用于容纳一个或多个诸如鸡蛋的要包装的易碎产品，所述包装件包括：

底部件（2），该底部件（2）包括非平的侧表面，从而与要包装的产品外形至少部分匹配，该底部件（2）设置有一个上边缘部分（6）；

盖部件（3），该盖部件（3）包括至少一个顶表面（16）和一前表面（4），它们倾斜相交形成一边缘（17，18）；

该底部件（2）通过铰链（5）连接到盖部件（3），从而允许盖部件（3）在打开位置与闭合位置之间移动；

当盖部件（3）位于闭合位置时，前表面（4）从该边缘（17，18）向下延伸，并与铰链（5）相对的底部件（2）的非平的侧表面搭接；

其特征在于，邻近上边缘部分（6）的该底部件（2）设置有至少一个向外延伸的用于与盖部件(3)上设置的协作装置锁定接合的突起，并且该铰链（5）定位在底部件（2）的上边缘部分（6）的水平高度之上。

13、如权利要求 12 所述的包装件，其特征在于，该盖部件（3）

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上的协作装置是盖部件（3）的前表面（4）内的一个或多个开口。

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具有保持装置的包装件

技术领域

本发明涉及权利要求 1 前序部分所描述的包装件，特别是涉及用于防止这种包装件的盖部件意外打开的保持装置。

发明背景

上述类型的包装件，即通过纤维材料真空成形的包装件用于容纳一个或多个被包装的，诸如鸡蛋的易碎产品，在现有技术中是众所周知的。其中已公开了很多专门用于鸡蛋的不同的包装件。这种包装件通常包括一底部件和一盖部件，该底部件具有一种用于容纳鸡蛋的凹形隔室的模板，该盖部件通常铰接到底部件上，从而能够在闭合与打开位置之间转动。此外，很多这种包装件还具有保持装置，该装置用于将盖部件可释放地保持在底部件上的闭合位置，并且用于该意图的多个不同保持装置已经被公开。

例如在美国专利 **US4,782,995** 和 **US5,860,528** 中公开了这种保持装置，这些装置的共同之处——区别于该类型的许多其它包装件的相应保持装置——在于在盖部件、底部件或两者上提供了专门的保持元件。

在 **EP1098826B1** 中公开了一种可比较的简单类型的保持装置，该装置包括位于盖部件前面边缘区域附近的开口，所述盖部件用于与底部件上设置的相应向外延伸的突出元件可释放地保持。当盖部件在底部件上闭合时，上述向外突出元件与孔的周边部分保持接合，然后在盖部件的该边缘区域向外并向上拉，有可能使突出元件从孔上脱开，从而有可能打开包装件。

上述包装件具有不同的缺陷。因此，盖部件与底部件上大体需要专门保持装置，且至少与 **EP1098826B1** 所公开的上述包装件相关，所得到的保持并不总是完全可靠，部分原因是因为盖部件内的保持开口设置在盖部件边缘区域附近，而该材料并不总是具有确保盖部件与底

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部件可靠保持的所需刚度。

发明内容

根据上述背景材料，本发明的一个目的是将包装件的盖部件提供到底部件的改进的保持装置，该包装件的盖部件与底部件沿着底部件的上边缘部分与盖部件的下边缘部分彼此相互铰接。

因此，根据本发明一方面，提供了一种由纤维材料真空成形的包装件，其用于容纳一个或多个诸如鸡蛋的易碎产品，所述包装件包括下述主要部分:

一底部件，该底部件包括非平的侧表面，从而与要包装的产品外形至少部分匹配，该底部件具有一个或多个沿着底部件上边缘区域离开并从底部件向外延伸的上边缘部分;

一盖部件，该盖部件包括至少一个顶表面和一前表面，它们倾斜相交形成一边缘;

该底部件通过一铰链连接到盖部件，从而允许盖部件在打开位置与闭合位置间移动;

当盖部件位于闭合位置时，该盖部件的前表面从上述边缘处向下延伸并相对铰链与底部件的非平的侧表面搭接;

当包装件闭合时，盖部件具有至少一个向内延伸的突起，用于与底部件的上边缘部分锁定接合;

铰链设置在底部件上边缘部分的水平高度之上。

提供与底部件上边缘部分接合的向内延伸的突起的优点在于该突起因此被设置远离盖部件的自由边缘部分分，即位于盖部件的整个刚度大于自由边缘部分分附近的刚度的盖部件的位置上。

此外,通过将铰链部分设置在底部件上边缘部分的水平高度之上，盖部件的侧截面形状相对盖部件的相应横截面形状有变化，其中铰链部分位于边缘部分，这种变化本身导致盖部件侧面刚度的增加，并因此产生盖部件与底部件的更可靠保持。

此外，铰链部分的位置的优点在于它允许盖部件上的保持突起转入沿底部件上边缘区域离开的上边缘部分下方的保持位置，在包装件

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的闭合与打开过程中，该相应的保持部分的材料仅有很轻微的变形。

虽然也可以预见使用其它合适的弹性材料，但该包装件最好由模制纸浆制成。

本发明利用了沿底部件上边缘区域离开并从底部件向外延伸的一个或多个上边缘部分在底部件上的存在。本文中所涉及的这种包装件底部件上的类似凸缘的上边缘部分例如从上述文件中是众所周知的，且形成连接鸡蛋托盘等底部件内不同凹室的桥结构的一部分。根据本发明，该特征，即底部件的类似凸缘的上边缘部分，能以一种有利的方式作为上述互补保持装置的一个被应用，该盖部件具有合适的互补突起，在包装件的闭合过程中，该突起与该上边缘部分保持接合。这种机构的一专门实施例在本发明说明书中被详细描述。

上述盖部件的一个或多个突起原则上能被设置在盖部件上的下述位置，即该突起沿着边缘部分的任何地方与底部件的上边缘部分接合。由于该边缘部分通常在底部件的那些区域中仅从底部件的相应部分向外延伸一非常有限的距离，而当边缘部分离开底部件内的鸡蛋凹室时，将突起设置在盖部件上是有利的，从而在包装件的闭合过程中，突起在相邻的鸡蛋凹室间的区域内与底部件上边缘部分接合。通过下文本发明说明书的详细描述，这将变得非常清楚。

虽然可能使用底部件未修改的类似凸缘的上边缘部分作为互补保持装置中的一个已作为本发明原理的一个优选实施例被描述，但是也可能提供一个或多个位于类似凸缘的上边缘部分上的一个或多个不相连的襟片。可以利用这种可能性，假如为某些理由可能希望将突起设置在盖部件上、在相应于与底部件上的类似凸缘的上边缘部分接合的位置上，在该位置，上边缘部分仅仅从底部件向外延伸一很短的距离，如上文所述，例如沿鸡蛋凹室外表面向外延伸很短的距离。

特别与上述文件 **EP1098826B1** 所公开的包装件相比较，本发明的保持装置提供了一种简单但可靠的针对包装件盖部件与底部件的偶然的不可靠保持问题的解决方式。因此，通过在盖部件上设置与底部件类似凸缘的上边缘部分接合的突起，互补保持装置中的一个，即突起，

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需要比 EP1098826B1 中公开的包装件更加远离盖部件前表面最下边缘区域设置，即在比 EP1098826B1 的包装件盖部件内的相应保持装置具有更小横向柔度（刚度增加）的盖部件区域。

根据本发明作为一种区别的互补的保持装置实施例，也可能将突起提供在包装件的底部件上，用于与盖部件上设置的协作装置锁定接合。因此，根据本发明的实施例，提供了一种用于容纳一个或多个被包装的易碎产品，如鸡蛋的通过纤维材料真空模制成形的包装件，其包括:

一底部件，该底部件包括非平的侧表面，从而与要包装的产品外形至少部分匹配，该底部件具有一个上边缘部分;

一盖部件，该盖部件包括至少一个顶表面和一前表面，它们倾斜相交形成一边缘;

该底部件（2）通过一铰链连接到盖部件，从而允许盖部件在打开位置与闭合位置之间移动;

当盖部件位于闭合位置时，前表面从上述边缘处向下延伸并与相对铰链的底部件的非平的侧表面搭接；其中，

邻近上边缘部分的底部件设置有至少一个向外延伸的用于与盖部件上设置的协作装置锁定接合的突起，且铰链（5）设置在底部件（2）上边缘部分（6）的水平高度之上。

特别是，本实施例的盖部件上的协作装置是盖部件前表面内的一个或多个开口，当然其它的等同装置也可以被本领域普通技术人员使用。

附图说明

本发明现在将参考附图被详细描述，其中:

图 1 显示根据本发明包装件实施例的透视图，该包装件位于打开状态，并带有多个相应保持装置，所述保持装置用于当包装件位于闭合状态时将盖部件保持到底部件上;

图 2A 是根据本发明的具有保持装置的包装件的最佳实施例的第一透视图;

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图 2B 根据本发明的具有保持装置的图 2A 所示的包装件的最佳实施例的第二透视图；

图 2C 是根据本发明的具有保持装置的包装件的一实施例的透视图；

图 3 是根据本发明的具有保持装置的包装件在打开状态的侧视图；

图 4 根据本发明的具有保持装置的另一更优选的包装件的透视图；

图 5 是根据本发明具有附加保持襟片的包装件的透视图。

具体实施方式

在下文中，结合包装件的例子将给出根据本发明的保持装置的特定实施例的详细描述，该包装件包括当包装件位于闭合状态时，为了提供包装件的盖部件相对底部件的可靠锁定的那些装置。

因此，参见图 1，已知用于鸡蛋的包装件 1 包括底部件 2 和盖部件 3，它们通过铰链部分 5 彼此铰接。盖部件 3 包括大体平的顶表面 16 和大体平的前侧面 4，在包装件的闭合状态下，该前侧面 4 在底部件 2 的整个高度上大致向下地延伸，即向下至图 1 和 3 中标号 15 所示的底部水平位置。

图 1 所示的包装件的底部件 2 包括总数为 12 个鸡蛋的凹室，通常用标号 12 表示。沿着底部件 2 的上边缘，延伸有上类似凸缘的边缘部分 6，其限定底部件本身的上部水平高度。在该水平高度之上定位将底部件 2 与盖部件 3 相连的铰链部分 5。

上类似凸缘的边缘部分 6 从鸡蛋凹袋 12 向外延伸几毫米，并跨接相邻鸡蛋凹袋间形成的间隙 13。上边缘部分 6 的这些跨接部分在图中用 6’表示，一个或多个跨接部分 6’的下表面根据本发明以下文所述的方式被有利地用作相应互补保持装置中的一个。

根据本发明实施例，盖部件 3 的前侧面 4 的内表面设置有向内延伸的突起 7，突起 7 的接合表面 8 面向盖部件的顶表面 16，接合表面 8 大体为平面，尽管突起 7 的该表面的其它形状也是可以的。当盖部

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件 3 被闭合时，突起 7 的最内部分经过上类似凸缘边缘部分 6 的相应最外部分，由于前侧面 4 的弹性，上述操作是可能的，并且突起 7 进入相应的跨接部分 6’ 下面的间隙 13，从而突起的接合表面 8 与跨接部分 6’ 的下表面进入保持接合，从而将盖部件 3 保持到底部件 2 上。为了再次打开包装件，盖部件 3 的前侧面 4 朝着向外的方向被拉动，从而突起 7 与相应的跨接部分 6’ 之间的接合被释放。

参见图 2A 和 2B，其显示了根据本发明包含保持装置的包装件的最佳实施例。该包装件被专门设计用于容纳两排鸡蛋，每排 5 个，该包装件包括一个单独的底部件 2 和相应的盖部件 3。图 2A 和 2B 中所示的包装件包括盖部件上的保持突起 7 和欧洲专利 No.EP1098826 最初引用的另外的保持装置 10，11。此外，根据包装件的实施例，底部件 2 的上边缘部分 6 设置有保持襟片 25A 和 25B，上述襟片用于分别接合设置于盖部件 3 上的相应的突起 7 和开口 10。图 2B 中显示了成对的保持襟片 25A 和 25B。

参见图 2C，其显示了一包装件的实施例，该包装件仅包括盖部件 3 上的保持突起 7 和底部件的上边缘部分上的相应襟片 25A。包装件的该实施例因而未设置欧洲专利 No.EP1098826 最初引用的保持装置。

现在参见图 3，其显示了图 1 所示包装件的侧视图。顶表面 16 与平的前侧面 4 之间的过渡借助圆形边缘部分 17 形成在包装件内，可以看出，突起 7 被设置在该边缘部分 17 与前侧面 4 的末端边缘部分 21 之间的近似中间位置。

图 4 显示了另一包装件的侧视图，其中图 3 中所示的包装件的圆形边缘部分 17 被一大体平面的由边缘部分 18 和 19 纵向限定的边缘区域 20 替代。在此情况下突起设置在边缘部分 19 的附近。

回到图 1，底部件 2 和盖部件 3，作为选择，还设置有欧洲专利 No.EP1098826 最初引用的保持装置。根据本发明的保持装置的主要优点通过 EP1098826 中公开的保持装置与本发明的保持装置之间的比较会很清楚。

根据 EP1098826 的保持装置包括一个或多个位于前侧面 4 内的长

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方形的孔 10，和设置在底部件 2 的一个或多个鸡蛋凹室 12 上的相应突起 11。从图 3 和 4 中很清楚，这些突起 11 向下终止于倾斜部分 22，且当盖部件 3 闭合时，倾斜部分 22 与前侧面 4 内的孔的相应边缘部分 23 之间建立保持接合。然而，突起仅从鸡蛋凹室 12 的相应表面向外伸出几毫米，通常近似 3 毫米，并且由这些装置形成的可靠保持需要前侧面 4 大体为平面，且不能相对底部件 2 显示有向外的弓形形状。实际中，这种需求并不总能实现，这结果产生在包装过程中并在商店期间，包装件趋于打开的问题。这些问题通过据本发明的保持装置得以解决。

最后参见图 5，其显示了根据本发明的保持装置的一个实施例，根据该装置，底部件 2 的类似凸缘的上边缘 6 另外设置有向外延伸的保持襟片 25。如上所述，这些襟片作为一种可能，相对盖部件 3 内的保持开口 10 的位置被设置在上边缘部分 6 的部分上，在此情况下，它们能够用作开口 10 与底部件 2 上的相应突起 11 所提供的保持装置的辅助保持装置，以便当开口 10 与突起 11 之间的接合释放时，由于开口 10 与相应的襟片 25 之间的连续接合，仍将阻止盖部件的完全打开。然而，也可能将保持襟片 25 设置在鸡蛋凹室 12 之间的底部件 2 的上边缘 6 的区域内，即图中标号 6’ 的区域内，在此情况下，襟片可以用作盖部件 3 上的突起 7 与底部件 2 上边缘 6 的部分 6’ 之间的接合的加固。

虽然本发明的各种实施例已被显示并被说明书的前述部分详细描述了，但是应理解，本领域普通技术人员可以想到本发明的其它实施例，而不会偏离本发明下文权利要求的范围。例如，可以使用上述保持装置的结合，并且根据特别要求，可以变化相应保持装置的适当数量，以及它们在盖部件与底部件上的位置。也如上所述，保持襟片可以适当地设在底部件的上边缘区域上，或围绕上边缘的区域内。

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附图标号清单

1、包装件

2、包装件底部件

3、包装件盖部件

4、盖部件前侧面

5、铰链部分

6、底部件的类似凸缘的上边缘部分

6'、鸡蛋凹室之间的底部件类似凸缘的上边缘部分

7、盖部件上的突起

8、突起接合表面

9、边缘

10、盖部件内的保持开口

11、底部件上的保持突起

12、凹室

13、相邻鸡蛋凹室间的区域

14、开口

15、搭接表面

16、顶表面

17、圆形边缘部分

18、边缘部分

19、边缘部分

20、平面边缘区域

21、盖部件前侧面远端边缘部分

22、保持突起上的倾斜部分

23、保持开口的边缘部分

24、相对铰链部分的底部件侧表面

25、保持襟片

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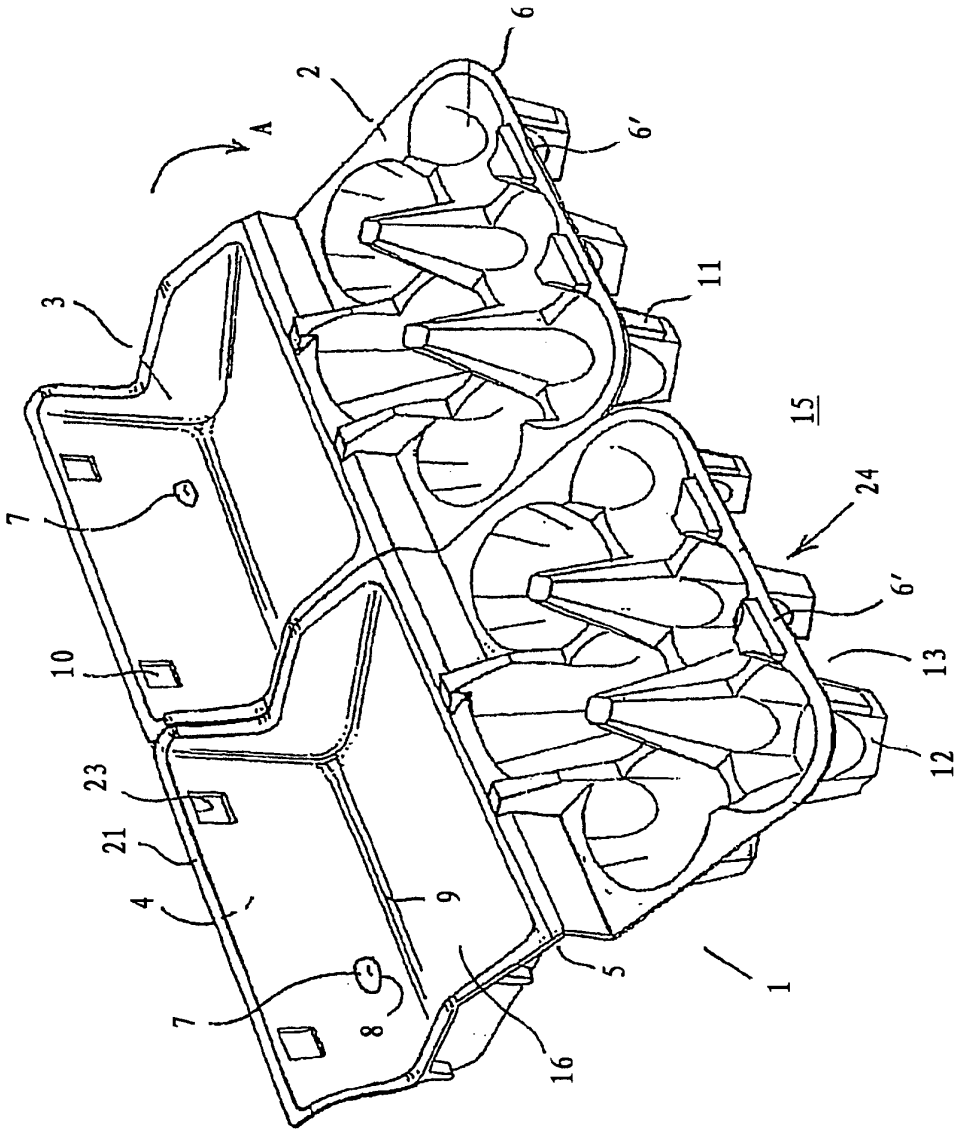


图1

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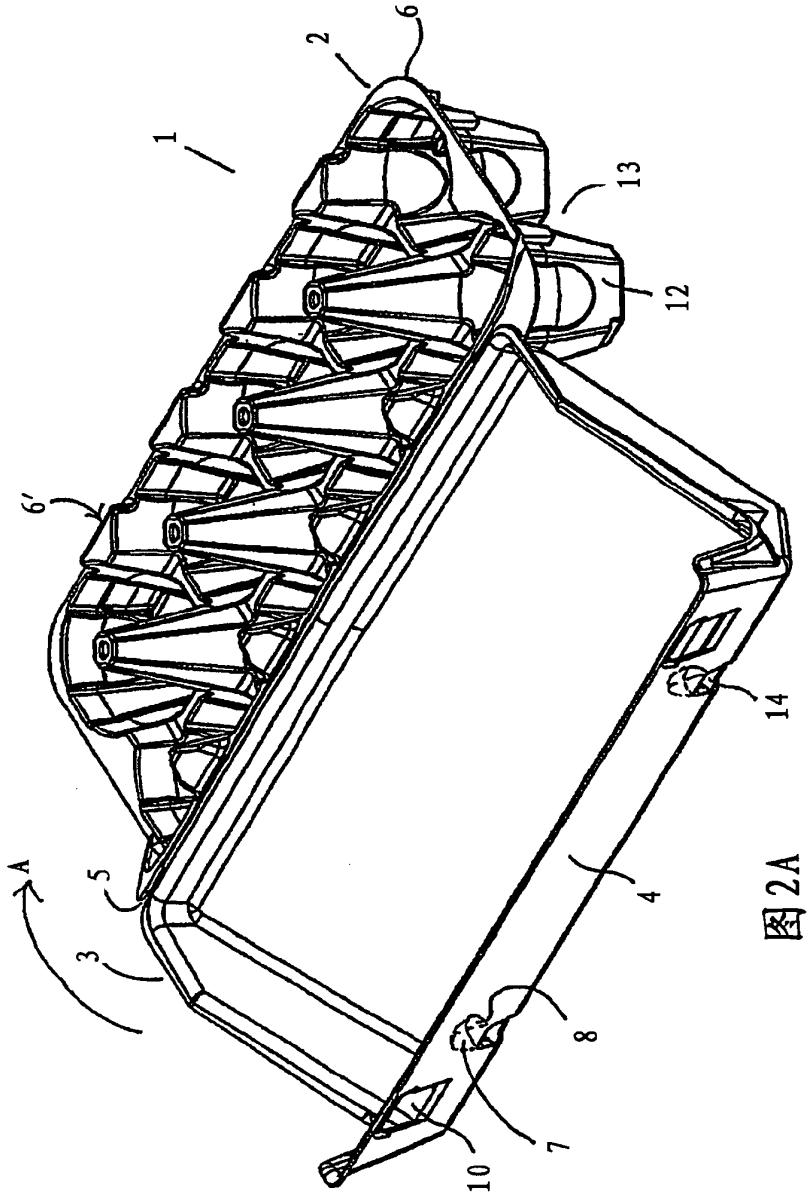


图2A

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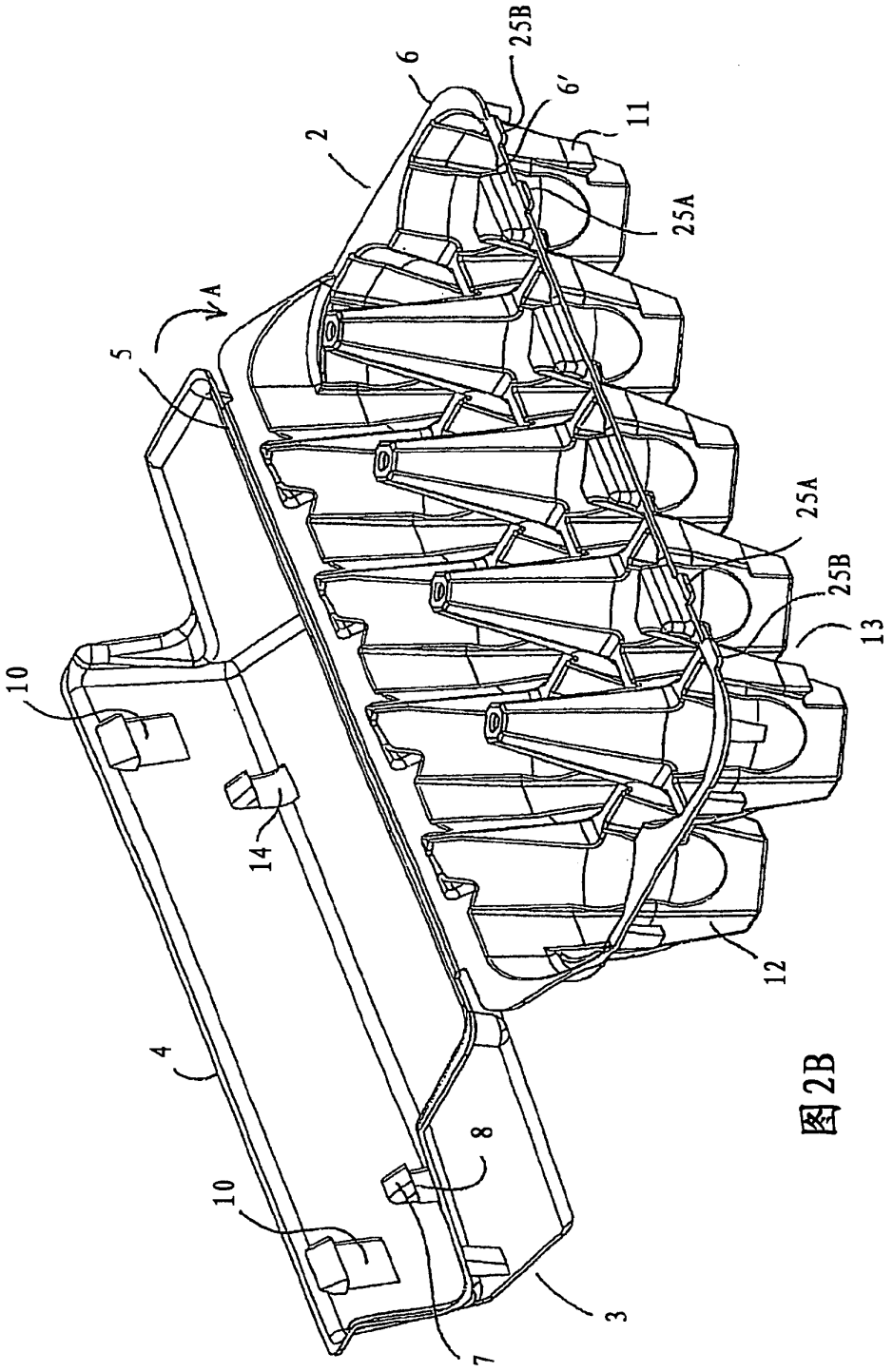


图2B

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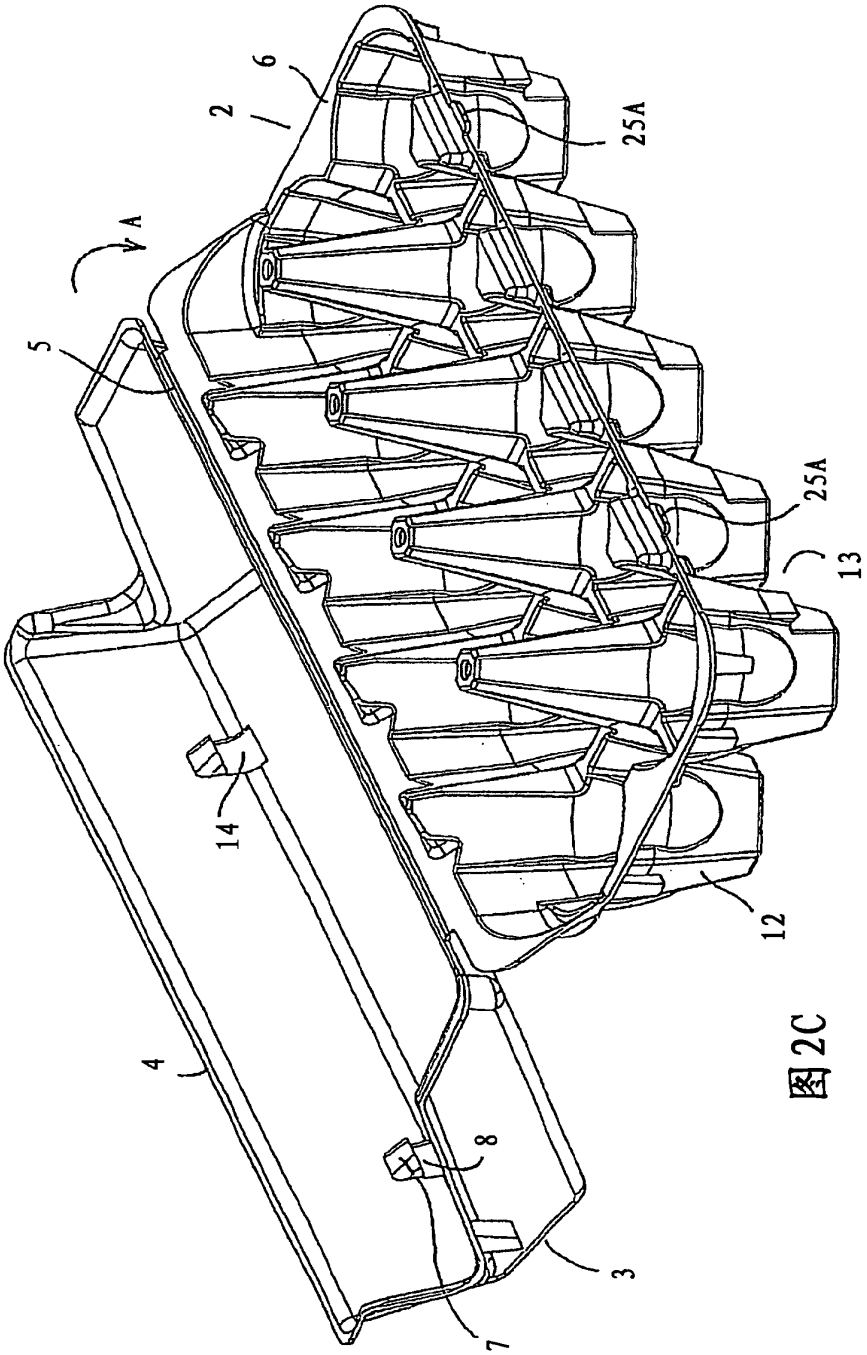


图2C

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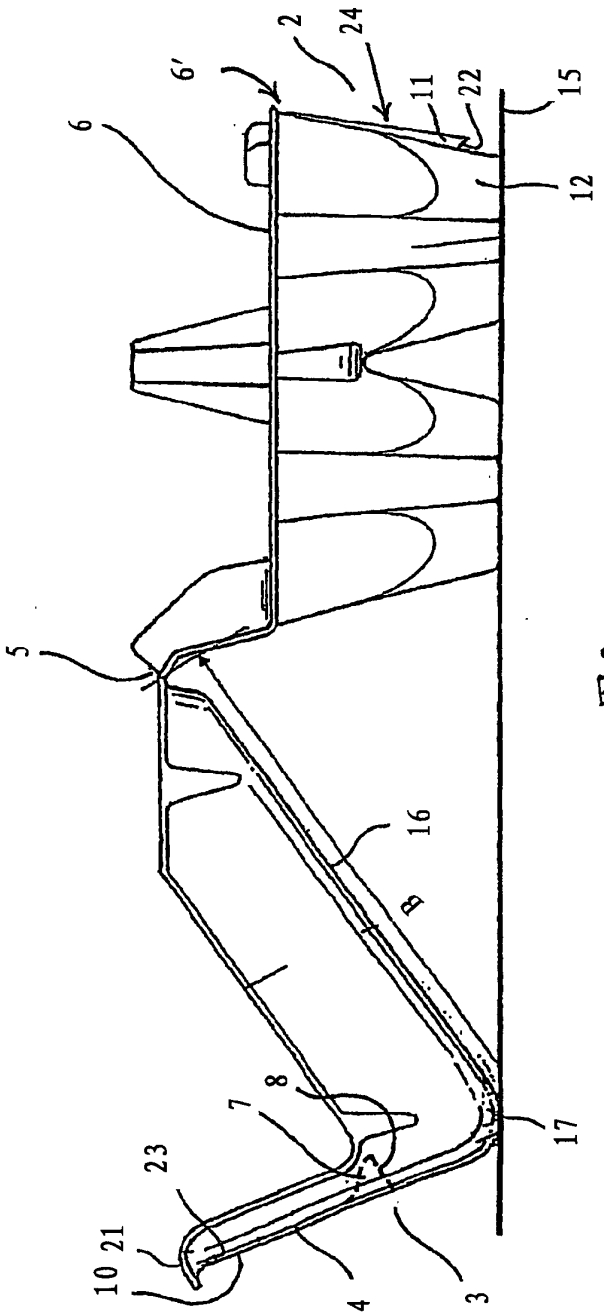


图 3

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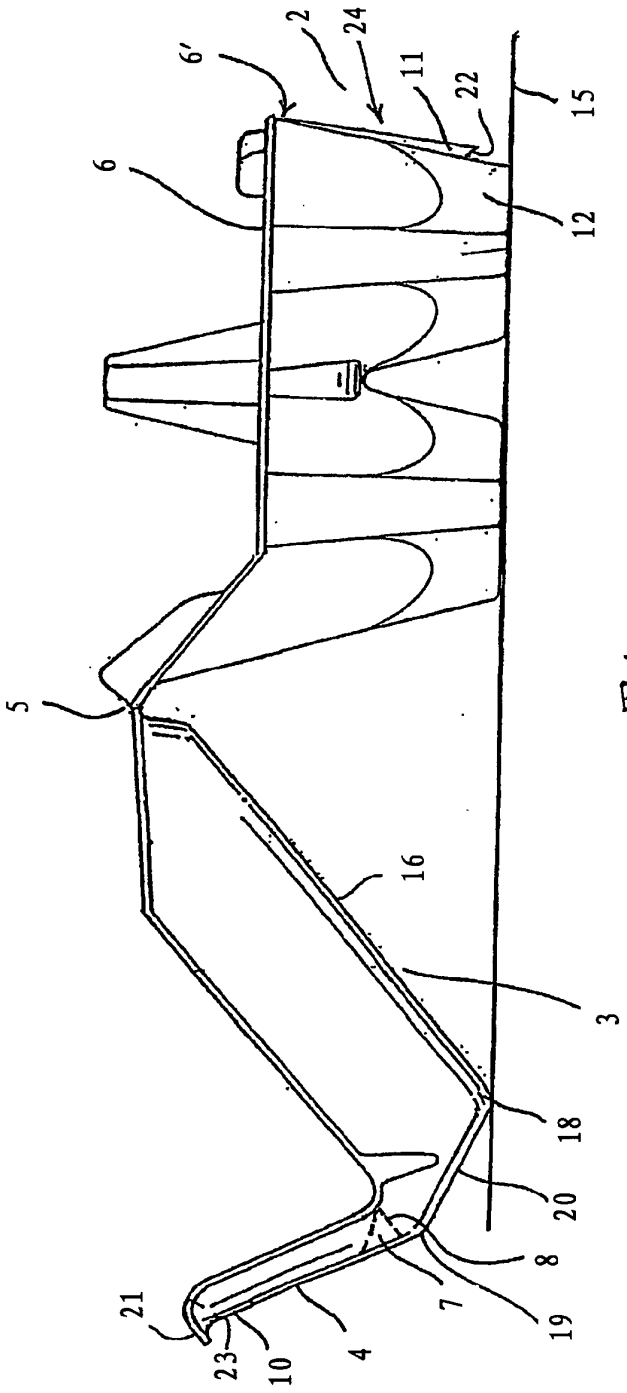


图4

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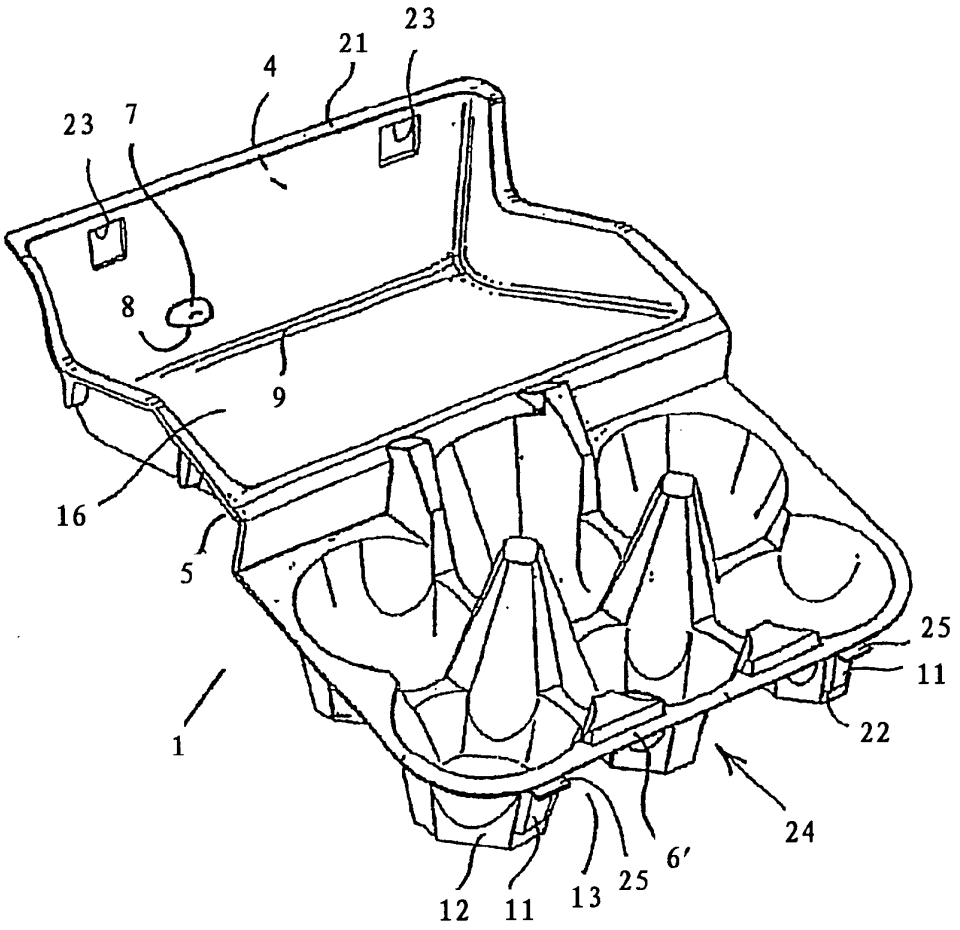


图5

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Google Patents CN1863717A

Package with retainment means

Abstract

The invention relates to packages of a fibrous material for receiving frangible products such as eggs, the packages being provided with a bottom part (2) and a cover part (3) hingedly connected to the bottom part and specifically to various retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part in a simple, yet reliable manner. According to the invention there is thus provided retainment means on the cover part for engagement with appropriate parts of an upper flange-like rim portion (6) of the bottom part, said means according to one embodiment consisting of protrusions (7) provided on the inner surface of the front side (4) of the cover part. When the cover part from an open position is swung to a closed position on the bottom part, one or more protrusions on the cover part are brought into engagement with the lower surface of said upper rim portion of the bottom part, thereby releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part. The alternative possibility, i.e. the provision of appropriate protrusions on the upper edge region of the bottom part for engagement for instance with suitably shaped openings in the cover part is also described.

Classifications

- B65D85/324 Containers with compartments made of pressed material

CN1863717A
China

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Other languages: Chinese

Inventor: H·塞特金格

Worldwide applications

2004 · CA DE AT BR AT DE EP JP WO RU CN EP

Application CNA2004800294404A events

2003-10-08 · Priority to DKPA200301483

2003-10-08 · Priority to DKPA200301483

2004-09-07 · Application filed by 希罗福塞特金格

2006-11-15 · Publication of CN1863717A

Info: Patent citations (17), Cited by (5), Legal events, Similar documents, Priority and Related Applications

External links: Espacenet, Global Dossier, Discuss

Description

Package with holding device

Technical field

The present invention relates to the described package of claim 1 preamble, particularly relate to the holding device that the cover accident that is used to prevent this package is opened.

Background of invention

The package of the above-mentioned type promptly is used to hold one or more packaged by lamination coating vacuum-formed package, the friable product such as egg is well known in the prior art.The different package that much is specifically designed to egg is wherein disclosed This package generally includes a bottom parts and a cover, and this bottom parts has a kind of template that is used to hold the spill compartment of egg, and this cover is hinged on the bottom parts usually, thereby can rotate between closure and open position.In addition, a lot of this packages also have holding device, and this device is used for cover is remained on make position on the bottom parts releasedly, and a plurality of different holding devices that are used for this intention are disclosed.

For example in U.S. Pat 4,782,995 and US5,650,—being different from the corresponding holding device of many other packages of the type—is at cover, bottom parts or special holding element is provided on both to disclose this holding device in 528, the something in common of these devices.

Claims (13)

Hide Dependent

1. a kind of package (1) that is shaped by the lamination coating vacuum moulded, it is used to hold the one or more friable products that will pack such as egg, and described package comprises:

Bottom parts (2), this bottom parts (2) comprises non-flat side surface, thereby mates with wanting packaged products profile to small part, the upper rim (6) of this bottom parts (2) stretches out from bottom parts (2);

Cover (3), this cover (3) comprise at least one top surface (16) and a front surface (4), and they tilt to intersect to form edge (17,18);

This bottom parts (2) is connected to cover (3) by hinge (5), thereby allows cover (3) to move between open position and make position;

When cover (3) was arranged in its make position, front surface (4) extended downwards from this edge (17,18), and the non-flat side surface overlap joint of the bottom parts (2) relative with hinge (5);

It is characterized in that, when package (1) is closed, cover (3) is provided with at least one projection that extends internally (7), be used for engaging, and described hinge (5) is positioned on the level height of upper rim (6) of bottom parts (2) with the locking of the described upper rim (6) of bottom parts (2).

2. package as claimed in claim 1 is characterized in that, for products is an egg, and the bottom parts (2) of this package (1) is

A kind of holding device of comparable simple types is disclosed in EP1098826B1, this device comprises near the opening that is positioned at the cover front edge zone, described cover be used for bottom parts on the corresponding outward extending outstanding element that is provided with keep releasedly.When cover was closed on bottom parts, above-mentioned outwards outstanding element kept engaging with the peripheral part in hole, and then outwards and upwards draw, might make and give prominence to element and throw off from the hole at this fringe region of cover, thus possible open package.

Above-mentioned package has different defectives.Therefore, need special holding device on cover and the bottom parts substantially, and it is relevant with the disclosed above-mentioned package of EP1098826B1 at least, resulting maintenance is always unreliable fully, partly cause is because the maintenance opening in the cover is arranged near the cover fringe region, and this material does not always have the required rigidity of guaranteeing cover and the reliable maintenance of bottom parts.

Summary of the invention

According to the above-mentioned background material, an object of the present invention is the cover of package is provided to the improved holding device of bottom parts, the cover of this package and bottom parts are hinged each other along the lower edge part of the upper rim of bottom parts and cover.

Therefore, according to an aspect of the present invention, provide a kind of by lamination coating vacuum-formed package, it is used to hold one or more friable products such as egg, and described package comprises following main portion:

One bottom parts, this bottom parts comprises non-flat side surface, thereby mates with wanting packaged products profile to small part, this bottom parts has and one or merely leaves and from the outward extending upper rim of bottom parts along the bottom parts upper edge region;

One cover, this cover comprise at least one top surface and a front surface, and they tilt to intersect to form an edge,

This bottom parts is connected to cover by a hinge, thereby allows cover to move between open position and make position;

When cover was positioned at make position, the front surface of this cover extended also the non-flat side surface overlap joint of hinge and bottom parts relatively downwards from above-mentioned edge;

When package was closed, cover had at least one projection that extends internally, and was used for engaging with the upper rim locking of bottom parts;

Hinge is arranged on the level height of bottom parts upper rim.

The free edge that provides the advantage of the projection that extends internally that engages with the bottom parts upper rim to be that therefore this projection is set up away from cover partly divides, near the position of the cover of the rigidity the whole rigidity that promptly is positioned at cover is partly divided greater than free edge.

In addition, by hinge fraction being arranged on the level height of bottom parts upper rim, the respective cross-sectional shapes of the relative cover of lateral section shape of cover changes, wherein hinge fraction is positioned at the marginal portion, this variation itself causes the increase of cover side rigidity, and the more reliable maintenance that therefore produces cover and bottom parts.

In addition, the advantage of the position of hinge fraction is that it allows the maintenance projection on the cover to change over to along the holding position of the upper rim below that the bottom parts upper edge region is left, in the closure and opening procedure of package, the material of this person and a retaining part only has very slight distortion.

provided with the model of the alcove (12) that is used to hold egg.

3, package as claimed in claim 1 or 2 is characterized in that, this package (1) is a moulded product.

4, package as claimed in claim 3 is characterized in that, this package (1) is integrally molded part.

5, the arbitrary described package of claim as described above is characterized in that this package (1) is made by molded pulp.

6, package as claimed in claim 1 is characterized in that, the cover (3) on this leading flank (4) is provided with an edge part (19), and contiguous substantially this marginal portion (19) of one or more projection (7) is provided with.

7, package as claimed in claim 2 is characterized in that, these one or more projections (7) engage the upper rim (6') that occurs in the similar flange between the adjacent egg alcove (12) with the locking of the upper rim (6) of bottom parts (2).

8, package as claimed in claim 1, it is characterized in that, this package also is provided with holding device, this device comprises the interior one or more openings (19) of leading flank (4) of cover (3), and the cooperation on the side surface (34) of the bottom parts (2) relative with hinge (5) keeps projection (11).

As claim 1 or 3 described packages, it is characterized in that 9, the upper rim (6) of the similar flange of this bottom parts (2) also is provided with outward extending maintenance flap sheet (25).

10, package as claimed in claim 9 is characterized in that, this flap sheet (25) is set for the composition surface (6) of projection (7) on the cover (3) and engages.

11, package as claimed in claim 9 is characterized in that, this flap sheet (25) is set for the marginal portion (23) of the interior opening (19) that is provided with of cover (3) and engages.

12, a kind of package (1) that is shaped by the lamination coating vacuum moulded, it is used to hold the one or more friable products that will pack such as egg, and described package comprises:

Bottom parts (2), this bottom parts (2) comprises non-flat side surface, thereby mates with wanting packaged products profile to small part, this bottom parts (2) is provided with a upper rim (6);

Cover (3), this cover (3) comprise at least one top surface (16) and a front surface (4), and they tilt to intersect to form an edge (17,18);

This bottom parts (2) is connected to cover (3) by hinge (5), thereby allows cover (3) to move between open position and make position,

When cover (3) when being positioned at make position, front surface (4) extends downwards from this edge (17,18), and the non-flat side surface overlap joint of the bottom parts (2) relative with hinge (5);

It is characterized in that, this bottom parts (2) of contiguous upper rim (6) is provided with at least one and outward extendingly is used for going up the cooperation device that is provided with cover (3) and locks the projection that engages, and this hinge (5) is positioned on the level height of upper rim (6) of bottom parts (2).

13, package as claimed in claim 12 is characterized in that, the cooperation device on this cover (3) is the interior one or more openings of front surface (4) of cover (3).

corresponding retaining part only has very slight deformation.

Use other suitable elastic materials though also can predict, this package is preferably made by molded pulp.

The present invention has utilized along the bottom parts upper edge region and has left and from the existance of the outward extending one or more upper rims of bottom parts on bottom parts.The upper rim of the similar flange on the related herein this package bottom parts is well-known from above-mentioned file for example, and forms the part of the bridge construction of different alcoves in the bottom parts such as connecting the egg pallet.According to the present invention, this feature, the i.e. upper rim of the similar flange of bottom parts, can be employed with a kind of favourable mode one as above-mentioned complementary holding device, this cover has suitable complementary projection, and in the closing course of package, this projection keeps engaging with this upper rim.One specially for carrying out example of this mechanism is described in detail in specification sheets of the present invention.

One or more projections of above-mentioned cover can be set at the following position on the cover in principle, i.e. this projection engaging with the upper rim of bottom parts Anywhere along the marginal portion.Since this marginal portion usually in those zones of bottom parts only from the appropriate section of the bottom parts very limited distance that stretches out, and during the egg alcove in bottom parts is left in the marginal portion, it is favourable that projection is arranged on the cover, thereby in the closing course of package, projection engages with the bottom parts upper rim in the zone between adjacent egg alcove.By the detailed description of specification sheets of the present invention hereinafter, this will become and be perfectly clear.

Though the upper rim that may use the unmodified similar flange of bottom parts has been described as a preferred embodiment of the principle of the invention as one in the complementary holding device, also may provide the one or more disjunct flap sheet on one or more upper rims that are positioned at similar flange.Can utilize this possibility, if for some reason may wish with projection be arranged on the cover, corresponding to position that the upper rim of similar flange on the bottom parts engages on, in this position, upper rim is only from the bottom parts very short distance that stretches out, as indicated above, for example along the egg alcove outside face very short distance that stretches out.

Compare with the disclosed package of above-mentioned file EP109882681 especially, holding device of the present invention provides the settling mode of a kind of simple but failure-free at the unreliable maintenance problem of the chance of package cover and bottom parts.Therefore, by the projection that engages with the upper rim of the similar flange of bottom parts is set on cover, in the complementary holding device one, it is projection, need be provided with in the edge zone bottom away from the cover front surface more than disclosed package among the EP109882681, promptly in the cover zone that has littler lateral flexibility (rigidity increase) than the corresponding holding device in the package cover of EP109882681.

, also projection may be provided on the bottom parts of package as a kind of holding device embodiment of complementation of difference according to the present invention, be used for engaging with the cooperation device looking that is provided with on the cover.Therefore, according to embodiments of the invention, provide a kind of one or more packaged friable products that are used to hold, as the package that the lamination coating vacuum moulded is shaped that passes through of egg, it comprises:

One bottom parts, this bottom parts comprises non-flat side surface, thereby mates with wanting packaged products profile to small part, this bottom parts has a upper rim;

One cover, this cover comprise at least one top surface and a front surface, and they tilt to intersect to form an edge;

This bottom parts (2) is connected to cover by a hinge, thereby allows cover to move between open position and make position;

When cover is positioned at make position, front surface from above-mentioned edge extend downwards and with the non-flat side surface overlap joint of the bottom parts of relative hinge; Wherein,

The bottom parts of contiguous upper rim is provided with at least one outward extending projection of engaging with the cooperation device locking that is provided with on the cover of being used for, and hinge (5) is arranged on the level height of bottom parts (2) upper rim (6).

Particularly, the cooperation device on the cover of present embodiment is the one or more openings in the cover front surface, and other equality unit also can be used by those of ordinary skills certainly.

Description of drawings

The present invention is described in detail referring now to accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 shows the transparent view of the package embodiment according to the present invention, and this package is positioned at open mode, and has a plurality of corresponding holding devices, and described holding device is used for when package is positioned at closure state cover being remained to bottom parts;

Fig. 2 A is first transparent view according to the most preferred embodiment of the package with holding device of the present invention;

Fig. 2 B is according to second transparent view of the most preferred embodiment of the package shown in Fig. 2 A with holding device of the present invention;

Fig. 2 C is the transparent view according to an embodiment of the package with holding device of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is the lateral plan that has the package of holding device in open mode according to of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is according to the transparent view with another preferred package of holding device of the present invention;

Fig. 5 has the additional transparent view that keeps the package of flap sheet according to the present invention.

The specific embodiment

Hereinafter, to provide detailed description in conjunction with the example of package according to the specific embodiment of holding device of the present invention, this package comprises when package is positioned at closure state, for those devices of the positive lock of the relative bottom parts of cover that package is provided.

Therefore, referring to Fig. 1, the package 1 that becomes known for egg comprises bottom parts 2 and cover 3, and they are hinged each other by hinge fraction 5.Cover 3 comprises flat substantially top surface 16 and flat substantially leading flank 4, and under the closure state of package, this leading flank 4 roughly down extends on the whole height of bottom parts 2, promptly down to the bottom level position shown in the label 15 in Fig. 1 and 3.

The bottom parts 2 of package shown in Figure 1 comprises the alcove that adds up to 12 eggs, represents with label 12 usually.Along the upper limb of bottom parts 2, be extended with the marginal portion 6 of similar flange, it limits the upper level height of bottom parts itself.The hinge fraction 5 that the location links to each other bottom parts 2 with cover 3 on this level height.

The marginal portion 6 of going up similar flange stretches out several millimeters from the recessed bag 12 of egg, and the gap 13 that forms between the recessed bag of the adjacent egg of cross-over

connection.These cross-over connections part of upper rim 6 is used 6 ' expression in the drawings, and the lower surface of one or more cross-over connection parts 6 ' is advantageously used in the respective complementary holding device one according to the present invention in described mode hereinafter.

According to the embodiment of the invention, the inside face of the leading flank 4 of cover 3 is provided with the projection 7 that extends internally, and the composition surface 8 of projection 7 is towards the top surface 16 of cover, and composition surface 8 is roughly the plane, although other shape on this surface of projection 7 also is fine.When cover 3 is closed, the penetrate of projection 7 is through the corresponding outermost portion of last similar flange edge part 6, because the elasticity of leading flank 4, aforesaid operations is possible, and projection 7 enters the gap 13 below the corresponding cross-over connection part 6 ', thereby the composition surface of projection 8 enters with the lower surface of cross-over connection part 6 ' and keeps engaging, thereby cover 3 is remained on the bottom parts 2.For open package once more, the leading flank 4 of cover 3 is pulled towards outside direction, thereby engaging between projection 7 and the corresponding cross-over connection part 6 ' is released.

Referring to Fig. 2 A and 2B, it has shown the most preferred embodiment that comprises the package of holding device according to the present invention.This package is used to hold two row's eggs by customized design, 5 of every rows, and this package comprises an independent bottom parts 2 and corresponding cover 3.Package shown in Fig. 2 A and the 2B comprises the other holding device 10,11 that maintenance projection 7 on the cover and European patent No EP1098826 quote at first in addition, according to the embodiment of package, the upper rim 6 of bottom parts 2 is provided with and keeps flap sheet 25A and 25B, and above-mentioned flap sheet is used for engaging respectively corresponding projection 7 and the opening 10 that is arranged on the cover 3.Double-type maintenance flap sheet 25A and 25B have been shown among Fig. 2 B.

Referring to Fig. 2 C, it has shown the embodiment of a package, and this package only comprises the corresponding flap sheet 25A on the upper rim of maintenance projection 7 on the cover 3 and bottom parts.This embodiment of package thereby the holding device that European patent No.EP1098826 quotes at first is not set.

Referring now to Fig. 3,, it has shown the lateral plan of package shown in Figure 1.Transition between top surface 16 and the flat leading flank 4 is formed in the package by circular edge part 17, and as can be seen, projection 7 is set at the approximate midway location between the terminal edge part 21 of this marginal portion 17 and leading flank 4.

Fig. 4 has shown the lateral plan of another package, wherein the circular edge part 17 of the package shown in Fig. 3 being substituted by marginal portion 18 and 19 fringe regions that vertically limit 20 by a substantially planar.In the case projection be arranged on marginal portion 19 near.

Get back to Fig. 1, bottom parts 2 and cover 3 as selection, also are provided with the holding device that European patent No.EP1098826 quotes at first.According to the major advantage of holding device of the present invention by between disclosed holding device among the EP1098826 and the holding device of the present invention relatively can be very clear

Comprise according to the holding device of EP1098826 and one or merely to be positioned at the rectangular hole 10 of leading flank 4 and to be arranged on complementary protuberance 11 on one or more egg alcoves 12 of bottom parts 2.Very clear from Fig. 3 and 4, these projections 11 end at sloping portion 22 downwards, and when cover 3 is closed, set up maintenance between the respective edges part 23 in the hole in sloping portion 22 and the leading flank 4 and engage.Yet, only protruding several millimeters of projections from the respective surfaces of egg alcove 12, approximate 3 millimeters usually, and the reliable maintenance that is formed by these devices needs leading flank 4 to be roughly the plane, and bottom parts 2 shows outside bowed shape relatively.In the reality, this

demand can not realize, this result is created in the packaging process and during the shop, the problem that package is tending towards opening.These problems are by being solved according to holding device of the present invention.

Referring to Fig. 5, it has shown an embodiment according to holding device of the present invention at last, and according to this device, the upper limb 6 of the similar flange of bottom parts 2 is provided with outward extending maintenance flap sheet 25 in addition.As mentioned above, these flap sheets are as a kind of possibility, the position of the maintenance opening 10 in the cover 3 is set on the part of upper rim 6 relatively, in the case, the auxiliary retainer of the holding device that they can be provided as the complementary protuberance 11 on opening 10 and the bottom parts 2, when discharging, because opening 10 and continuous joint the between the flap sheet 25 accordingly will stop opening fully of cover with engaging between convenient opening 10 and the projection 11.Yet, also may will keep flap sheet 25 be arranged in the zone of upper limb 6 of the bottom parts 2 between the egg alcove 12, be in the zone of number in the figure 6 ', in the case, flap sheet can be as the reinforcing that engages between the part 6 ' of the projection 7 on the cover 3 and bottom parts 2 upper limbs 6.

Though various embodiment of the present invention has been shown and has been illustrated the aforementioned part of book and described in detail, it should be understood that, those of ordinary skills can expect other embodiments of the invention, and can not depart from the hereinafter scope of claim of the present invention.For example, the combination of above-mentioned holding device can be used, and, the right quantity of corresponding holding device can be changed according to special requirement, and their positions on cover and bottom parts.Also as mentioned above, keep flap sheet suitably to be located on the upper edge region of bottom parts, or in the zone of upper limb.

The drawing reference numeral inventory

1, package

2, package bottom parts

3, package cover

4, cover leading flank

5, hinge fraction

6, the upper rim of the similar flange of bottom parts

6 ', the upper rim of the similar flange of bottom parts between the egg alcove

7, the projection on the cover

8, protrusion engagement surface

9, edge

10, the maintenance opening in the cover

11, the maintenance projection on the bottom parts

12, alcove

13, the zone between adjacent egg alcove

14, opening

15, overlap joint surface

16, top surface

17, circular edge part

18, marginal portion

19, marginal portion

20, horizontal edge zone

21, cover leading flank remote edge part

22, the sloping portion on the maintenance projection

23, the marginal portion that keeps opening

24, the bottom parts side surface of relative hinge fraction

25, keep flap sheet

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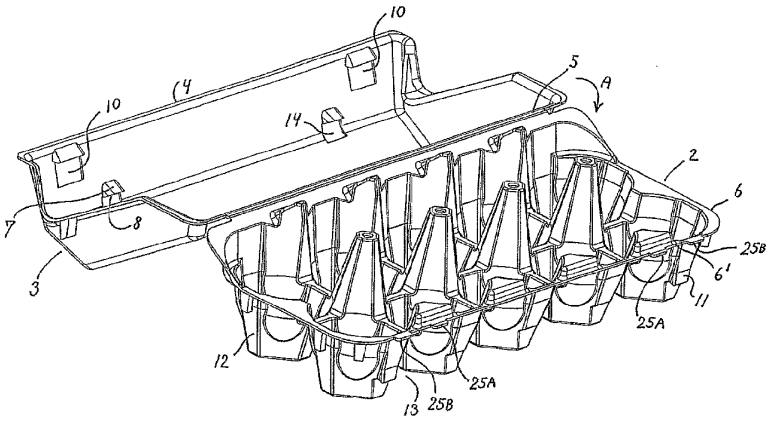
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(54) Title: PACKAGE WITH RETAINMENT MEANS



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to packages of a fibrous material for receiving frangible products such as eggs, the packages being provided with a bottom part (2) and a cover part (3) hingedly connected to the bottom part and specifically to various retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part in a simple, yet reliable manner. According to the invention there is thus provided retainment means on the cover part for engagement with appropriate parts of an upper flange-like rim portion (6) of the bottom part, said means according to one embodiment consisting of protrusions (7) provided on the inner surface of the front side (4) of the cover part. When the cover part from an open position is swung to a closed position on the bottom part, one or more protrusions on the cover part are brought into engagement with the lower surface of said upper rim portion of the bottom part, thereby releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part. The alternative possibility, i.e. the provision of appropriate protrusions on the upper edge region of the bottom part for engagement for instance with suitably shaped openings in the cover part is also described.

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PACKAGE WITH RETAINMENT MEANS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to packages of the kind set forth in the preamble of claim 1 and more particularly to retainment means for preventing unintentional opening of a cover part of such packages.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Packages of the above kind, i.e. packages formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, for instance eggs, are well-known within the art. Among these a large number of different packages specifically for eggs has been described. Such packages generally comprise a bottom part provided with a pattern of pocket-like compartments for accommodating the eggs and a cover part, which is often hingedly connected to the bottom part so that it can be swung between a closed and an open position. Most such packages are furthermore provided with retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part in its closed position on the bottom part and a large number of different retainment means for this purpose has been described.

Such retainment means are for instance disclosed in US 4,782,995 and US 5,860,528 and common for these means - and corresponding retainment means known from many other packages of the present kind - is the provision of dedicated retainment members on either cover part, bottom part or on both parts.

A comparatively simple type of retainment means is described in EP 1 098 826 B1, said means comprising openings in the vicinity of the edge region of the front face of the cover part provided for releasable retainment with corresponding outwardly extending projecting members located on the bottom part. When the cover part closes on the bottom part, these outwardly projecting members enter into retaining engagement with a part of the periphery of said holes and by afterwards pulling outwards and upwards in said edge region of the cover part it is possible to

disengage the projecting members from the holes, whereby it becomes possible to open the package.

The above packages suffer from different disadvantages. Thus, generally dedicated retainment means on both the cover part and the bottom part are required and at least in connection with the above-mentioned package disclosed in EP 1 098 826 B1 the retainment obtained is not always sufficiently reliable, partly due to the fact that the retainment openings in the cover part are placed in the vicinity of the edge region of the cover part, where the material does not always have the needed rigidity to ensure a reliable retainment of the cover part to the bottom part.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

On the above background it is an object of the present invention to provide improved retainment of the cover part of a package to the bottom part hereof, the cover part and the bottom part of the package being hingedly connected to each other along an upper rim portion of the bottom part and a lower edge portion of the cover part.

Thus according to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a package formed by a suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products, such as eggs, comprising the following main parts:

- a bottom part comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion or upper rim portions running along the upper edge region of the bottom part and extending outwards from the bottom part;

- a cover part comprising at least a top surface and a front surface which meet at an angle to form an edge;

- the bottom part being connected to the cover part by a hinge so as to allow the cover part to move between an open position and a closed position;

- the front surface of the cover part extending down from the edge and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part opposite the hinge when the cover part is in its closed position;

- where said cover part is provided with at least one inwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part when the package is being closed; and

- where the hinge is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion of the bottom part.

The provision of said inwardly extending protrusions for engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part is advantageous in that these protrusions are consequently placed further away from the free edge portion of the cover part, i.e. at positions of the cover part where the overall rigidity of the cover part is greater than in the vicinity of the free edge portion hereof.

Furthermore, by positioning the hinge portion above the level of the upper rim portion of the bottom part, the lateral cross sectional shape of the cover part becomes modified relative to the corresponding cross sectional shape of a cover part, in which the hinge portion was located at the rim portion, this modification in itself yielding an increased lateral rigidity of the cover part and hence a more secure retainment of the cover part to the bottom part.

Furthermore this positioning of the hinge portion is advantageous in that it allows the retainment protrusion(s) on the cover part to swing into its/their retaining position underneath the upper rim portion running along the upper edge region of the bottom part with only a slight deformation of the material of these corresponding retainment portions during closing and opening of the package.

The package is preferably made of moulded pulp, although other materials of suitable resiliency could also be envisaged.

The present invention takes advantage of the presence on the bottom part of said upper rim portion or upper rim portions running along the upper edge region of the

bottom part and extending outwards from the bottom part. Such flange-like upper rim portions on the bottom part of packages of the kind dealt with in the present context are well known for instance from the above-mentioned documents and form a part of the bridging structure connecting the different pockets in the bottom part of egg trays, etc. According to the present invention this feature, i.e. the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part, can in an advantageous manner be utilised as one of the complementary retainment means mentioned above, the cover part being provided with suitable complementary protrusions, which during closing of the package are brought into retaining engagement with said upper rim portion. A specific embodiment of this mechanism is described in the detailed description of the invention.

The above-mentioned protrusion or protrusions of the cover part can in principle be positioned on the cover part at such positions that it/they is/are brought into engagement with said upper rim portion of the bottom part anywhere along this edge portion. As the edge portion typically only extends outwardly from the corresponding portion of the bottom part over a very limited distance in those regions of the bottom part, where the edge portion runs along the pockets in the bottom part it might, however, be advantageous to place the protrusions on the cover part such that during closing of the package they are brought into engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part in the regions between adjacent pockets. This will become immediately apparent from the following detailed description of the invention.

Although the possibility to use the unmodified flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part as one of the complementary retainment means has been described as an advantageous embodiment of the principles of the invention it is, however, also possible to provide one or more separate flaps or the like on the flange-like upper rim portion. This possibility could for instance be utilised if for some reason it would be desirable to provide said protrusions on the cover part at places corresponding to engagement with the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part at places, where this portion only extends a short distance outwards from the bottom part, as for instance along the outer surface of the pockets, as described above.

Especially compared to the package disclosed in the above-mentioned document EP 1 098 826 B1 the retainment means according to the present invention offers a

simple and yet reliable solution to the problem of an occasionally unreliable retainment of the cover part to the bottom part of the package. Thus by placing the protrusions on the cover part for engagement with the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part, one of the complementary retainment means, i.e. the protrusions, necessarily becomes located further away from the lowermost edge region of the front surface of the cover part than in the package disclosed in EP 1 098 826 B1, i.e. in a region of the cover part with less transversal compliance (increased rigidity) than the corresponding retainment means in the cover part of the package according to EP 1 098 826 B1.

As a different - and complementary - embodiment of retainment means according to the present invention it is also possible to provide the bottom part of the package with protrusions for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part. Thus according to this embodiment of the invention there is provided a package formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion;
- a cover part comprising at least a top surface and a front surface which meet at an angle to form an edge;
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part by a hinge so as to allow the cover part to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface extending down from the edge and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part opposite the hinge when the cover part is in its closed position;

where the bottom part adjacent said upper rim portion is provided with at least one outwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part and where said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

Specifically the co-operating means on the cover part of this embodiment is one or more openings in the front surface of the cover part, although other equivalent means may also be envisaged be a person skilled in the art.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a package shown in its open state and provided with mutually corresponding retainment means according to the present invention for retainment of the cover part to the bottom part of the package when the package is in the closed state;

Figure 2A is a first perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a package provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 2B is a second perspective view of the preferred embodiment of a package shown in Figure 2A and provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 2C is a perspective view of an embodiment of a package provided with retainment means according to the invention;

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of a package in the open state and provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 4 is another and more preferred package provided with retainment means according to the present invention; and

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a package provided with additional retainment flaps according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the following, a detailed description of a specific embodiment of the retainment means according to the invention is given with reference to exemplifying packages comprising such means for the purpose of providing a reliable locking of the cover part of the package to the bottom part hereof, when the package is in its closed state.

Thus with reference to Fig.1 there is shown a package 1 for eggs comprising bottom parts 2 and cover parts 3 hingedly connected to each other by a hinge portion 5. The cover part 3 comprises a substantially planar top surface 16 and a substantially planar frontal side 4 which in the closed state of the package extends downwardly substantially over the entire height of the bottom part 2, i.e. down to the bottom level as indicated by reference numeral 15 in Figures 1 and 3.

The bottom part 2 of the package shown in Figure 1 comprises a total of 12 pockets for eggs, generally designated by 12. Along the upper edge of the bottom part 2 there extends an upper flange-like rim portion 6 defining the upper level of the bottom part itself. Elevated above this level, a hinge portion 5 connecting the bottom part 2 and the cover part 3 is situated.

The upper flange-like rim portion 6 extends a few millimetres outwardly from the egg pockets 12 and bridges the gaps 13 formed between adjacent egg pockets. These bridging portions of the upper rim portion 6 are designated 6' in the Figures and the lower surface of one or more of these bridging portions 6' can advantageously be used as one of the mutually corresponding retainment means according to the present invention in a manner to be described below.

The inner surface of the frontal side 4 of the cover part 3 is according to this embodiment of the invention provided with inwardly extending protrusions 7, the engagement surface 8 of which facing the top surface 16 of the cover part being substantially planar although other shapes of this surface - and of the protrusions 7 generally - would also be possible. When the cover part 2 is being closed the innermost part of the protrusions 7 passes over the corresponding outermost part of the upper flange-like rim portion 6, this being possible due to the resiliency of the

frontal side 4, and the protrusions 7 enter the gap 13 under the corresponding bridging portion 6', whereby the engagement surface 8 of the protrusions enters into retaining engagement with the lower surface of the bridging portion 6' and retain the cover part 3 to the bottom part 2. In order to open the package again, the frontal side 4 of the cover part 3 is pulled in an outward direction, whereby the engagement between the protrusions 7 and the corresponding bridging portions 6' can be released.

Referring to Figures 2A and 2B there is shown a preferred embodiment of a package comprising retainment means according to the invention. This package is specifically designed to accommodate two rows of five eggs and comprises a single bottom part 2 and corresponding cover part 3. The package shown in Figures 2A and 2B comprises both the retaining protrusions 7 on the cover part and additionally the retainer means 10, 11 known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826. Furthermore, according to this embodiment of a package, the upper rim portion 6 of the bottom part 2 is provided with retainment flaps 25A and 25B for engagement with the corresponding protrusions 7 and the openings 10, respectively, provided on the cover part 3. These pairs of retainment flaps 25A, 25B are shown in Figure 2B.

Referring to Figure 2C an embodiment of a package is shown which only comprises the retainment protrusions 7 on the cover part 3 and the corresponding flaps 25A on the upper rim portion of the bottom part. This embodiment of a package is thus not provided with the retainment means known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826.

Referring now to Figure 3 there is shown a side elevational view of the package shown in Figure 1. The transition between the top surface 16 and the planar frontal side 4 takes in this package place via the rounded edge portion 17 and the protrusion 7 is seen to be located approximately midways between this edge portion 17 and the distal edge portion 21 of the frontal side 4.

A side elevational view of an alternative package is shown in Figure 4, in which the rounded edge portion 17 of the package shown in Figure 3 has been replaced by a

substantially planar edge region 20 longitudinally bounded by edge portions 18 and 19. The protrusion is in this case located in the vicinity of the edge portion 19.

Returning to Figure 1, the bottom part 2 and the cover part 3 are furthermore - as an option - provided with those retainment means already known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826. The prime advantage of the retainment means according to the present invention becomes apparent by a comparison between the retainment means disclosed in EP 1 098 826 and those of the present invention.

The retainment means according to EP 1 098 826 comprises one or more rectangular holes 10 in the frontal side 4 and corresponding projections 11 placed on one or more of the pockets 12 of the bottom part 2. As apparent from Figures 3 and 4, these projections terminate downwardly in inclined portions 22 and when the cover part 3 is closed, a retaining engagement is established between these inclined portions 22 and the corresponding edge portion 23 of the hole in the frontal side 4. The projections, however, only project a few millimetres - typically approximately 3 mm - outwards from the corresponding surface of the pocket 12 and a reliable retainment by these means requires that the frontal side 4 be substantially plane and not exhibiting an outwardly arched shape relative to the bottom part 2. In practice, this requirement is not always fulfilled, and this has turned out to cause problems both during the packing process and in shops, where packages tend to open. These problems are solved by the retainment means according to the present invention.

Referring finally to Figure 5 there is shown an embodiment of retainment means as set forth in the invention according to which the flange-like upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 is additionally provided with outwardly extending retainment flaps 25. Such flaps can - as described above - as one possibility be placed at the portions of the upper edge 6 corresponding to the positions of the retainment openings 10 in the cover part 3, in which case they can serve as a supplementary retainment means to the retainment means provided by the openings 10 and the corresponding projections 11 on the bottom part 2, to the effect that when the engagement between the openings 10 and the projections 11 is released, the cover part will still be prevented from completely opening due to a subsequent engagement between the openings 10 and the corresponding flaps 25. It is, however, also possible to

place the retainment flaps 25 in the regions of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 between the pockets 12, i.e. in the regions designated 6' in the Figures, in which case the flaps may serve as a reinforcement of the engagement between the protrusions 7 on the cover part 3 and this portion 6' of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2.

Although various embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described in the preceding parts of the detailed description, it is understood that a person skilled in the art may conceive other embodiments of the invention without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims. As an example, various combinations of the retainment means described above may be utilised and appropriate numbers of corresponding retainment means and their placement on the cover part and the bottom part may be varied according to specific requirements. Also as described, retainment flaps can be provided as appropriate on - or in the region about - the upper edge region of the bottom part.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

1. Package
2. Bottom part of package
3. Cover part of package
4. Front side of cover part
5. Hinge portion
6. Flange-like upper rim portion of bottom part
6' Flange-like upper rim portion of bottom part between egg pockets
7. Protrusions on cover part
8. Engagement surface of protrusion
9. Edge
10. Retainment opening in cover part
11. Retainment projection on bottom part
12. Pocket
13. Region between adjacent pockets
14. Opening
15. Underlying surface
16. Top surface
17. Rounded edge portion
18. Edge portion
19. Edge portion
20. Planar edge region
21. Distal edge portion of front side of cover part
22. Inclined portion on retainment projection
23. Edge portion of retainment opening
24. Side surface of bottom part opposite hinge portion
25. Retainment flaps

CLAIMS

1. Package (1) formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part (2) comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed, an upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) extending outwards from the bottom part (2);
- a cover part (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) which meet at an angle to form an edge (17, 18);
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part (3) by a hinge (5) so as to allow the cover part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface (4) extending down from the edge (17, 18) and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5) when the cover part (3) is in its closed position;

characterised in that said cover part (3) is provided with at least one inwardly extending protrusion (7) for locking engagement with said upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) when the package (1) is being closed, and that said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

2. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that said agricultural products are eggs and that the bottom part (2) of the package (1) is provided with a pattern of pockets (12) for accommodating the eggs.

3. Package according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the package (1) is a moulded product.

4. Package according to claim 3, characterised in that the package (1) is moulded as one piece.

5. Package according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the package (1) is made of moulded pulp.

6. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that said cover part (3) on the front side (4) hereof is provided with en edge portion (19) and that said one or more protrusions (7) is/are provided substantially adjacent said edge portion (19).

7. Package according to claim 2, characterised in that said locking engagement of the one or more protrusions (7) with said upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) takes place at the flange-like upper rim portions (6') between adjacent pockets (12).

8. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that the package is furthermore provided with retainment means comprising one or more openings (10) in the front side (4) of the cover part (3) and co-operating retainment projections (11) on the side surface (24) of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5).

9. Package according to claim 1 or 8, characterised in that the flange-like upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) is furthermore provided with outwardly extending retainment flaps (25).

10. Package according to claim 9, characterised in that said flaps (25) are placed for engagement with the engagement surface (8) of the protrusions (7) on the cover part (3).

11. Package according to claim 9 when dependent on claim 9, characterised in that said flaps (15) are placed for engagement with an edge portion (23) of said openings (10) provided in the cover part (3).

12. Package (1) formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part (2) comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion (6);
- a cover part (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) which meet at an angle to form an edge (17, 18);
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part (3) by a hinge (5) so as to allow the cover part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface (4) extending down from the edge (17, 18) and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5) when the cover part (3) is in its closed position;

characterised in that

said bottom part (2) adjacent said upper rim portion (6) is provided with at least one outwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part (3) and that said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

5

13. Package according to claim 12, characterised in that said co-operating means on the cover part (3) is one or more openings in the front surface (4) of the cover part (3).

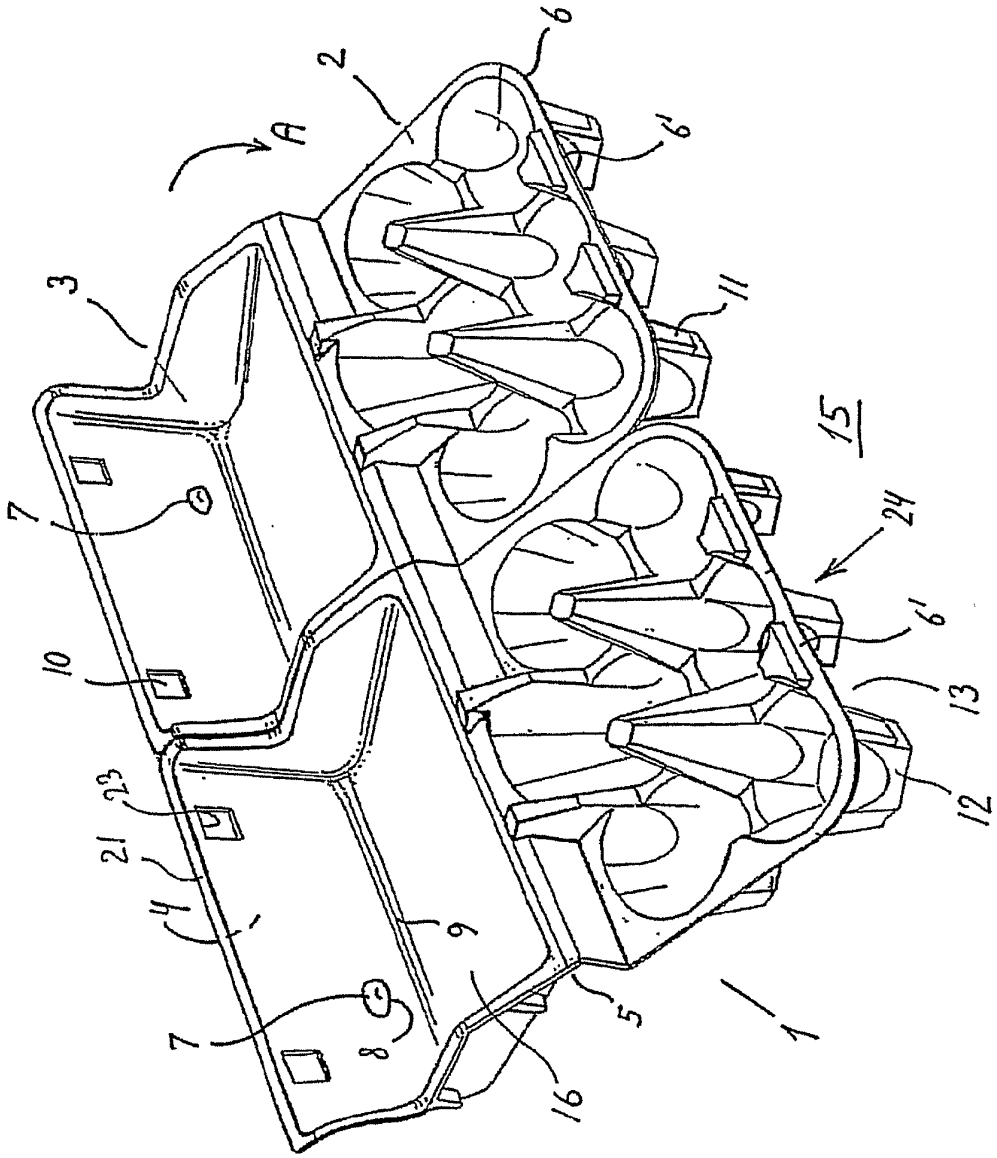


Fig. 1

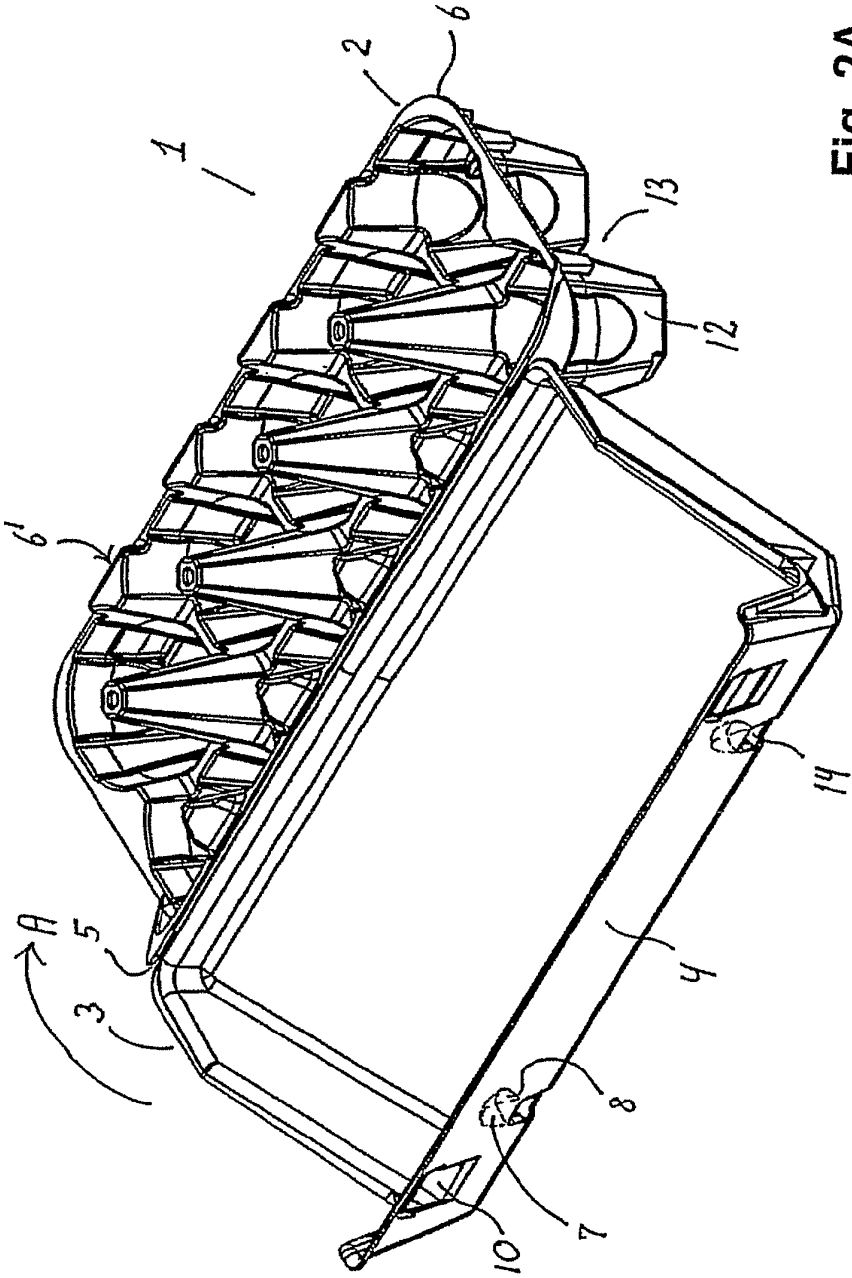


Fig. 2A

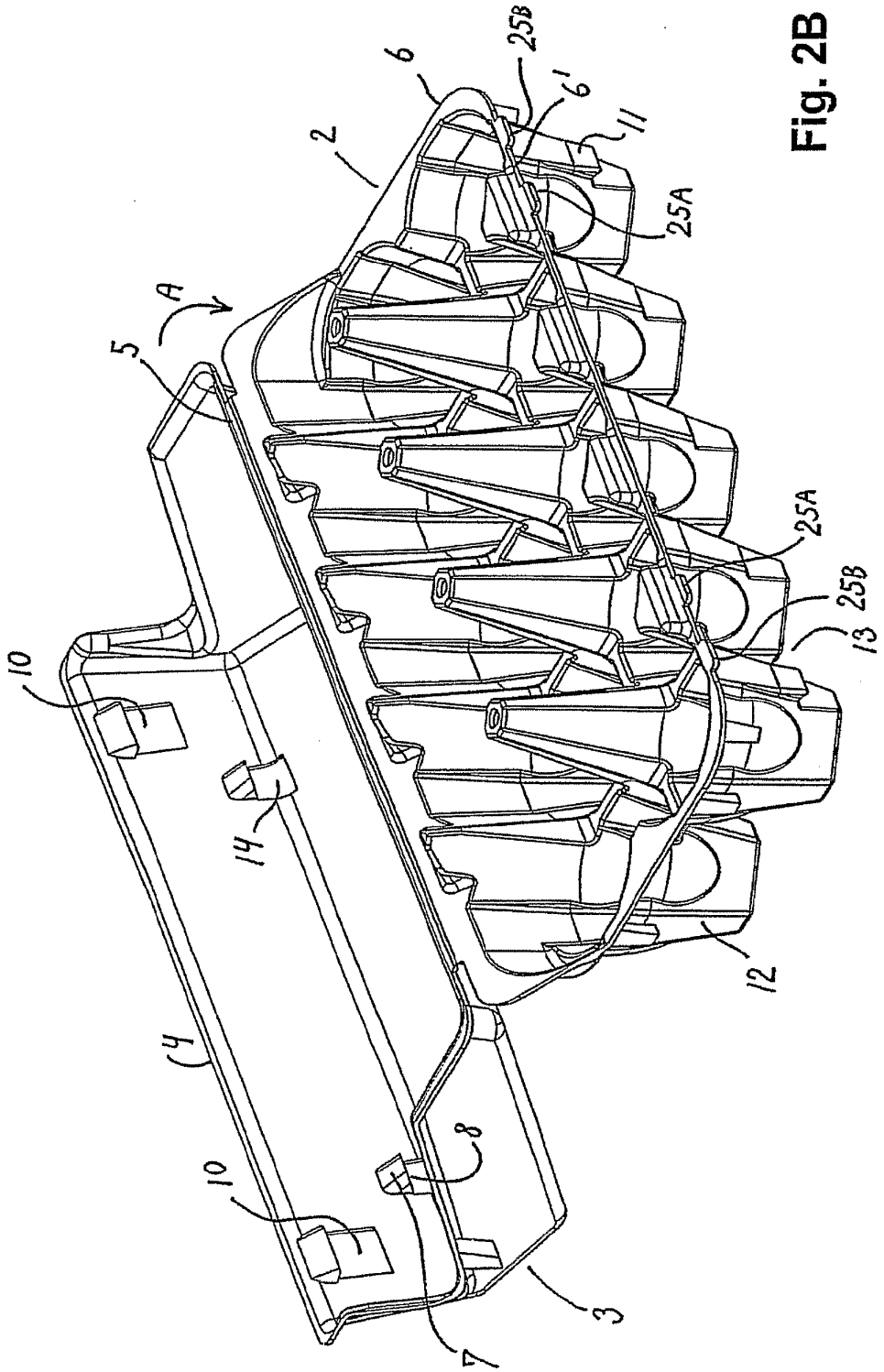
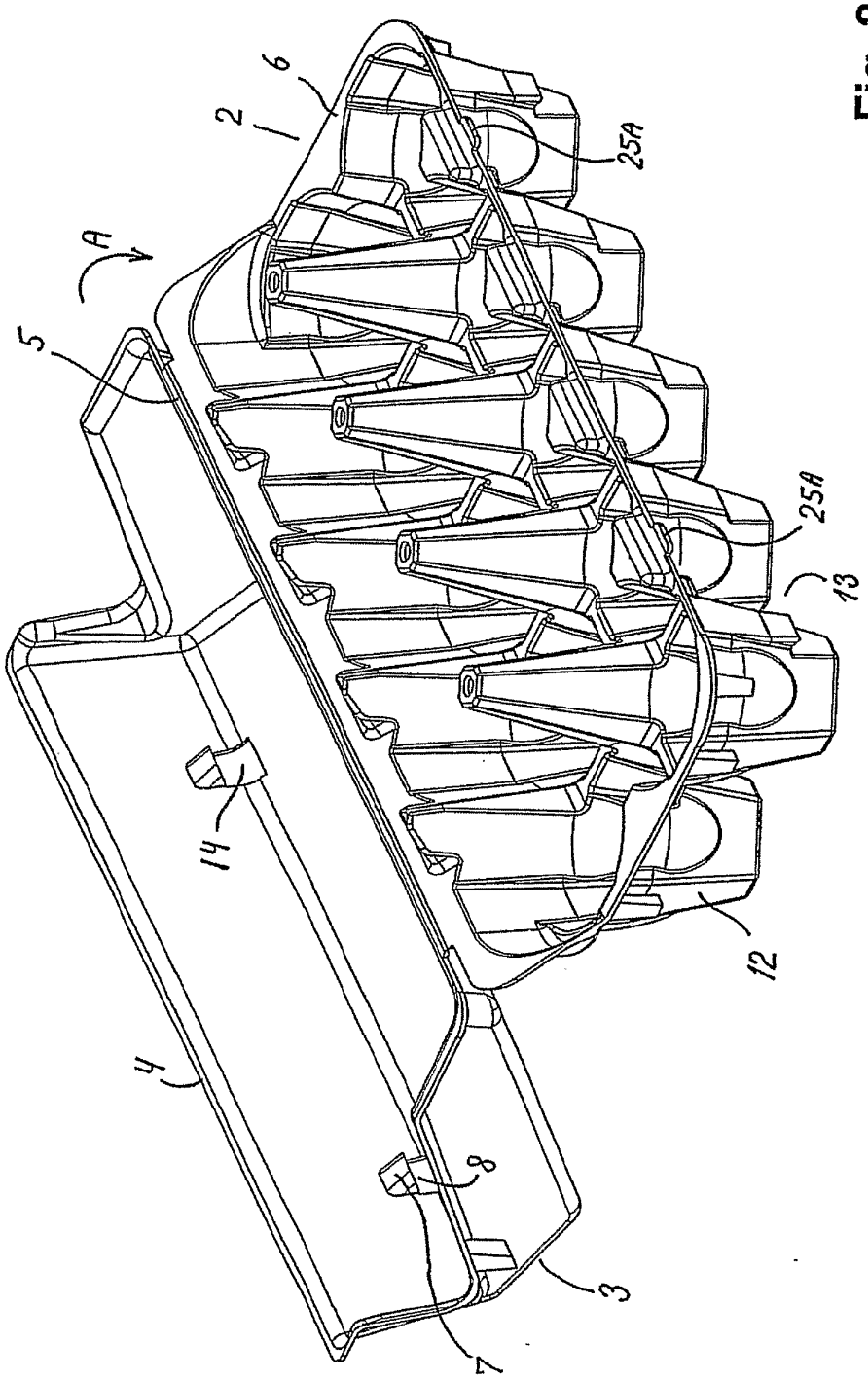


Fig. 2B

Fig. 2C



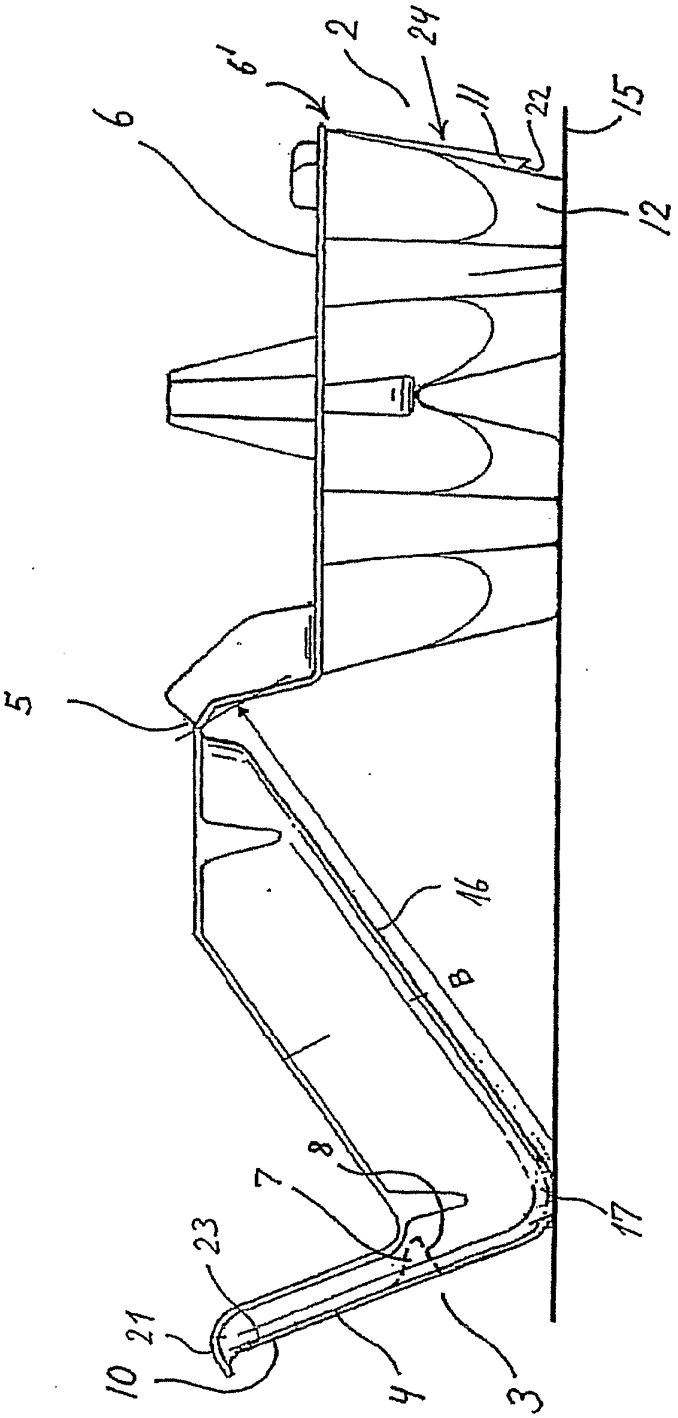


Fig. 3

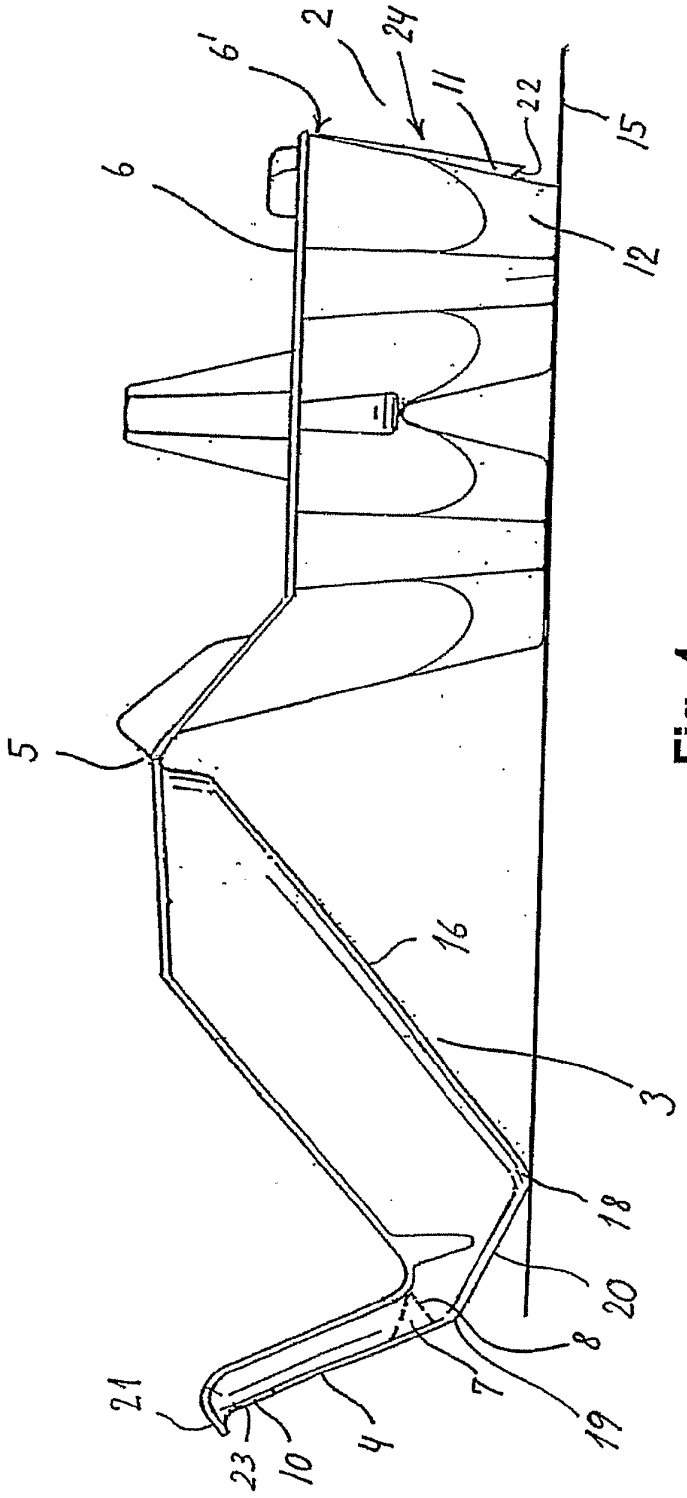


Fig. 4

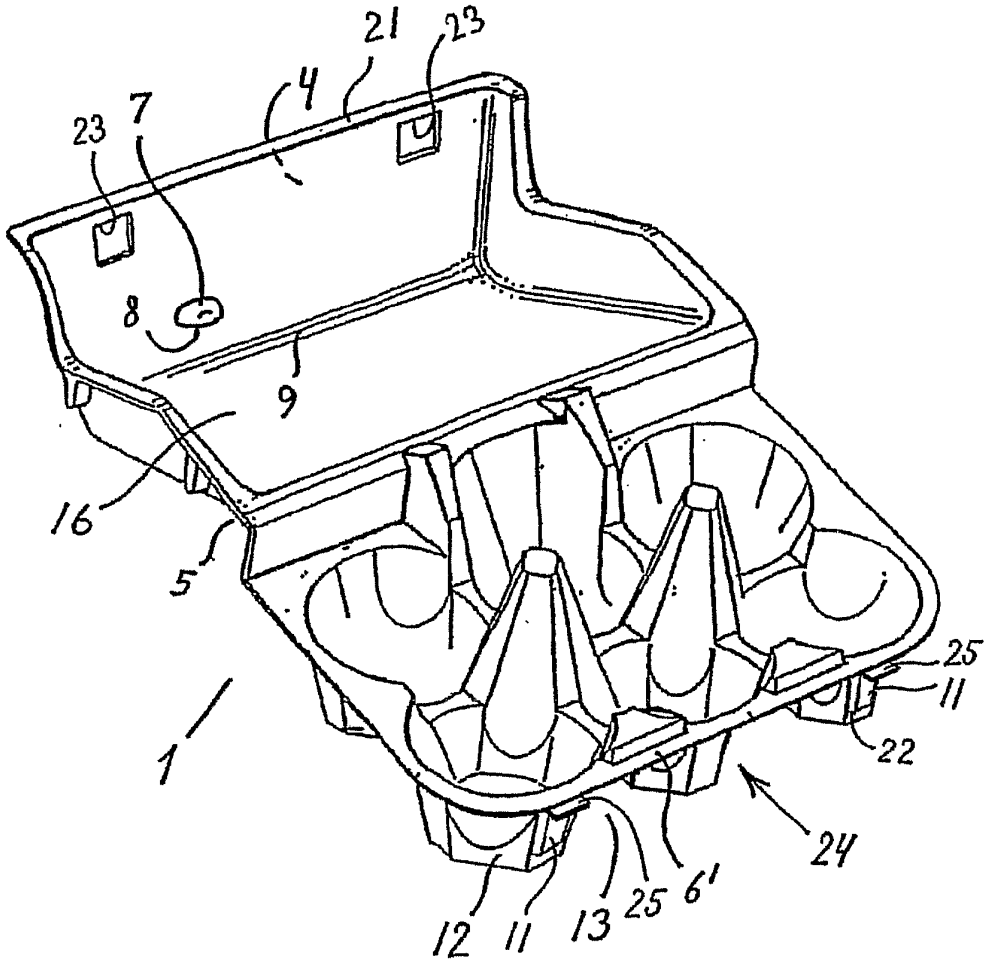


Fig. 5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No
/IB2004/051701

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B65D85/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y	FR 2 070 853 A (BRITISH PETROLEUM CO) 17 September 1971 (1971-09-17) page 3, line 14 - page 4, line 11 figures 1,2	12,13
Y	EP 0 972 724 A (HARTMANN AS BRDR) 19 January 2000 (2000-01-19) page 3, paragraphs 10,13 page 3, paragraph 18 - page 4, paragraph 18 figures 1-3	1-8,12, 13

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Piolat, O

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Information on patent family members

national Application No
T/IB2004/051701

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(12) DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN
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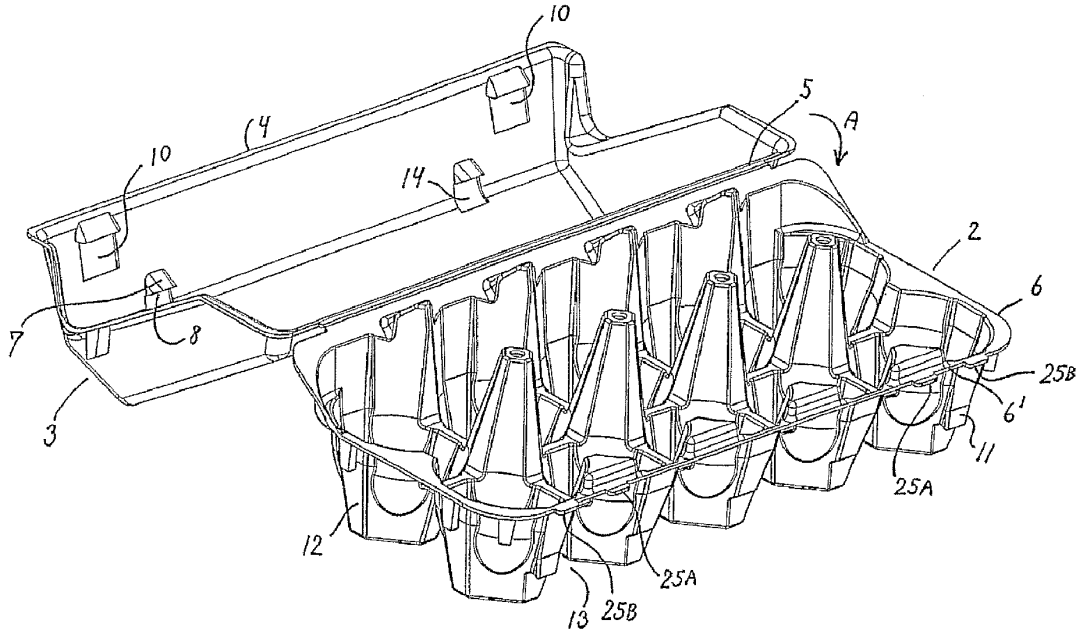
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BRODRENE HARTMANN A/S, DK

(72) Inventeur/Inventor:
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(74) Agent: FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO.

(54) Titre : EMBALLAGE POURVU DE MOYENS DE RETENUE
(54) Title: PACKAGE WITH RETAINMENT MEANS



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
The invention relates to packages of a fibrous material for receiving frangible products such as eggs, the packages being provided with a bottom part (2) and a cover part (3) hingedly connected to the bottom part and specifically to various retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part in a simple, yet reliable manner. According to the invention there is thus provided retainment means on the cover part for engagement with appropriate parts of an upper flange-like rim portion (6) of the bottom part, said means according to one embodiment consisting of protrusions (7) provided on the inner surface of the front side (4) of the cover part. When the cover part from an open position is swung to a closed position on the bottom part, one or more protrusions on the cover part are brought into engagement with the lower surface of said upper rim portion of the bottom part, thereby releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part. The alternative possibility, i.e. the provision of appropriate protrusions on the upper edge region of the bottom part for engagement for instance with suitably shaped openings in the cover part is also described.

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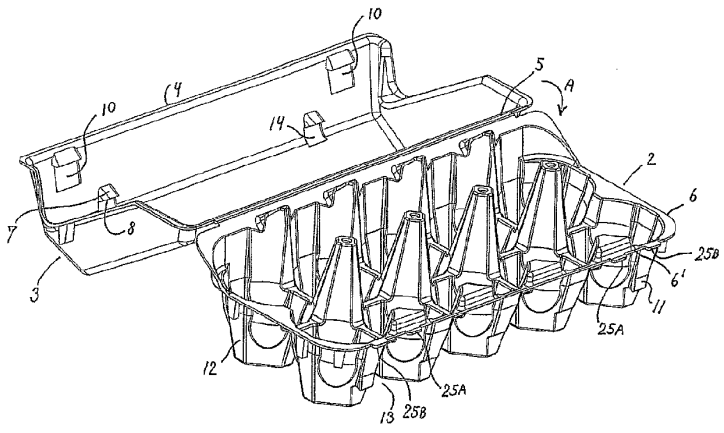
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(54) Title: PACKAGE WITH RETAINMENT MEANS



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to packages of a fibrous material for receiving frangible products such as eggs, the packages being provided with a bottom part (2) and a cover part (3) hingedly connected to the bottom part and specifically to various retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part in a simple, yet reliable manner. According to the invention there is thus provided retainment means on the cover part for engagement with appropriate parts of an upper flange-like rim portion (6) of the bottom part, said means according to one embodiment consisting of protrusions (7) provided on the inner surface of the front side (4) of the cover part. When the cover part from an open position is swung to a closed position on the bottom part, one or more protrusions on the cover part are brought into engagement with the lower surface of said upper rim portion of the bottom part, thereby releasably retaining the cover part to the bottom part. The alternative possibility, i.e. the provision of appropriate protrusions on the upper edge region of the bottom part for engagement for instance with suitably shaped openings in the cover part is also described.

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PACKAGE WITH RETAINMENT MEANS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to packages of the kind set forth in the preamble of claim 1 and more particularly to retainment means for preventing unintentional opening of a cover part of such packages.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Packages of the above kind, i.e. packages formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, for instance eggs, are well-known within the art. Among these a large number of different packages specifically for eggs has been described. Such packages generally comprise a bottom part provided with a pattern of pocket-like compartments for accommodating the eggs and a cover part, which is often hingedly connected to the bottom part so that it can be swung between a closed and an open position. Most such packages are furthermore provided with retainment means for releasably retaining the cover part in its closed position on the bottom part and a large number of different retainment means for this purpose has been described.

Such retainment means are for instance disclosed in US 4,782,995 and US 5,860,528 and common for these means - and corresponding retainment means known from many other packages of the present kind - is the provision of dedicated retainment members on either cover part, bottom part or on both parts.

A comparatively simple type of retainment means is described in EP 1 098 826 B1, said means comprising openings in the vicinity of the edge region of the front face of the cover part provided for releasable retainment with corresponding outwardly extending projecting members located on the bottom part. When the cover part closes on the bottom part, these outwardly projecting members enter into retaining engagement with a part of the periphery of said holes and by afterwards pulling outwards and upwards in said edge region of the cover part it is possible to

disengage the projecting members from the holes, whereby it becomes possible to open the package.

The above packages suffer from different disadvantages. Thus, generally dedicated retainment means on both the cover part and the bottom part are required and at least in connection with the above-mentioned package disclosed in EP 1 098 826 B1 the retainment obtained is not always sufficiently reliable, partly due to the fact that the retainment openings in the cover part are placed in the vicinity of the edge region of the cover part, where the material does not always have the needed rigidity to ensure a reliable retainment of the cover part to the bottom part.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

On the above background it is an object of the present invention to provide improved retainment of the cover part of a package to the bottom part hereof, the cover part and the bottom part of the package being hingedly connected to each other along an upper rim portion of the bottom part and a lower edge portion of the cover part.

Thus according to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a package formed by a suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products, such as eggs, comprising the following main parts:

- a bottom part comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion or upper rim portions running along the upper edge region of the bottom part and extending outwards from the bottom part;

- a cover part comprising at least a top surface and a front surface which meet at an angle to form an edge;

- the bottom part being connected to the cover part by a hinge so as to allow the cover part to move between an open position and a closed position;

- the front surface of the cover part extending down from the edge and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part opposite the hinge when the cover part is in its closed position;

- where said cover part is provided with at least one inwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part when the package is being closed; and

- where the hinge is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion of the bottom part.

The provision of said inwardly extending protrusions for engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part is advantageous in that these protrusions are consequently placed further away from the free edge portion of the cover part, i.e. at positions of the cover part where the overall rigidity of the cover part is greater than in the vicinity of the free edge portion hereof.

Furthermore, by positioning the hinge portion above the level of the upper rim portion of the bottom part, the lateral cross sectional shape of the cover part becomes modified relative to the corresponding cross sectional shape of a cover part, in which the hinge portion was located at the rim portion, this modification in itself yielding an increased lateral rigidity of the cover part and hence a more secure retainment of the cover part to the bottom part.

Furthermore this positioning of the hinge portion is advantageous in that it allows the retainment protrusion(s) on the cover part to swing into its/their retaining position underneath the upper rim portion running along the upper edge region of the bottom part with only a slight deformation of the material of these corresponding retainment portions during closing and opening of the package.

The package is preferably made of moulded pulp, although other materials of suitable resiliency could also be envisaged.

The present invention takes advantage of the presence on the bottom part of said upper rim portion or upper rim portions running along the upper edge region of the

bottom part and extending outwards from the bottom part. Such flange-like upper rim portions on the bottom part of packages of the kind dealt with in the present context are well known for instance from the above-mentioned documents and form a part of the bridging structure connecting the different pockets in the bottom part of egg trays, etc. According to the present invention this feature, i.e. the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part, can in an advantageous manner be utilised as one of the complementary retainment means mentioned above, the cover part being provided with suitable complementary protrusions, which during closing of the package are brought into retaining engagement with said upper rim portion. A specific embodiment of this mechanism is described in the detailed description of the invention.

The above-mentioned protrusion or protrusions of the cover part can in principle be positioned on the cover part at such positions that it/they is/are brought into engagement with said upper rim portion of the bottom part anywhere along this edge portion. As the edge portion typically only extends outwardly from the corresponding portion of the bottom part over a very limited distance in those regions of the bottom part, where the edge portion runs along the pockets in the bottom part it might, however, be advantageous to place the protrusions on the cover part such that during closing of the package they are brought into engagement with the upper rim portion of the bottom part in the regions between adjacent pockets. This will become immediately apparent from the following detailed description of the invention.

Although the possibility to use the unmodified flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part as one of the complementary retainment means has been described as an advantageous embodiment of the principles of the invention it is, however, also possible to provide one or more separate flaps or the like on the flange-like upper rim portion. This possibility could for instance be utilised if for some reason it would be desirable to provide said protrusions on the cover part at places corresponding to engagement with the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part at places, where this portion only extends a short distance outwards from the bottom part, as for instance along the outer surface of the pockets, as described above.

Especially compared to the package disclosed in the above-mentioned document EP 1 098 826 B1 the retainment means according to the present invention offers a

simple and yet reliable solution to the problem of an occasionally unreliable retainment of the cover part to the bottom part of the package. Thus by placing the protrusions on the cover part for engagement with the flange-like upper rim portion of the bottom part, one of the complementary retainment means, i.e. the protrusions, necessarily becomes located further away from the lowermost edge region of the front surface of the cover part than in the package disclosed in EP 1 098 826 B1, i.e. in a region of the cover part with less transversal compliance (increased rigidity) than the corresponding retainment means in the cover part of the package according to EP 1 098 826 B1.

As a different - and complementary - embodiment of retainment means according to the present invention it is also possible to provide the bottom part of the package with protrusions for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part. Thus according to this embodiment of the invention there is provided a package formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion;
- a cover part comprising at least a top surface and a front surface which meet at an angle to form an edge;
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part by a hinge so as to allow the cover part to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface extending down from the edge and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part opposite the hinge when the cover part is in its closed position;

where the bottom part adjacent said upper rim portion is provided with at least one outwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part and where said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

Specifically the co-operating means on the cover part of this embodiment is one or more openings in the front surface of the cover part, although other equivalent means may also be envisaged be a person skilled in the art.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a package shown in its open state and provided with mutually corresponding retainment means according to the present invention for retainment of the cover part to the bottom part of the package when the package is in the closed state;

Figure 2A is a first perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a package provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 2B is a second perspective view of the preferred embodiment of a package shown in Figure 2A and provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 2C is a perspective view of an embodiment of a package provided with retainment means according to the invention;

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of a package in the open state and provided with retainment means according to the present invention;

Figure 4 is another and more preferred package provided with retainment means according to the present invention; and

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a package provided with additional retainment flaps according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the following, a detailed description of a specific embodiment of the retainment means according to the invention is given with reference to exemplifying packages comprising such means for the purpose of providing a reliable locking of the cover part of the package to the bottom part hereof, when the package is in its closed state.

Thus with reference to Fig.1 there is shown a package 1 for eggs comprising bottom parts 2 and cover parts 3 hingedly connected to each other by a hinge portion 5. The cover part 3 comprises a substantially planar top surface 16 and a substantially planar frontal side 4 which in the closed state of the package extends downwardly substantially over the entire height of the bottom part 2, i.e. down to the bottom level as indicated by reference numeral 15 in Figures 1 and 3.

The bottom part 2 of the package shown in Figure 1 comprises a total of 12 pockets for eggs, generally designated by 12. Along the upper edge of the bottom part 2 there extends an upper flange-like rim portion 6 defining the upper level of the bottom part itself. Elevated above this level, a hinge portion 5 connecting the bottom part 2 and the cover part 3 is situated.

The upper flange-like rim portion 6 extends a few millimetres outwardly from the egg pockets 12 and bridges the gaps 13 formed between adjacent egg pockets. These bridging portions of the upper rim portion 6 are designated 6' in the Figures and the lower surface of one or more of these bridging portions 6' can advantageously be used as one of the mutually corresponding retainment means according to the present invention in a manner to be described below.

The inner surface of the frontal side 4 of the cover part 3 is according to this embodiment of the invention provided with inwardly extending protrusions 7, the engagement surface 8 of which facing the top surface 16 of the cover part being substantially planar although other shapes of this surface - and of the protrusions 7 generally - would also be possible. When the cover part 2 is being closed the innermost part of the protrusions 7 passes over the corresponding outermost part of the upper flange-like rim portion 6, this being possible due to the resiliency of the

frontal side 4, and the protrusions 7 enter the gap 13 under the corresponding bridging portion 6', whereby the engagement surface 8 of the protrusions enters into retaining engagement with the lower surface of the bridging portion 6' and retain the cover part 3 to the bottom part 2. In order to open the package again, the frontal side 4 of the cover part 3 is pulled in an outward direction, whereby the engagement between the protrusions 7 and the corresponding bridging portions 6' can be released.

Referring to Figures 2A and 2B there is shown a preferred embodiment of a package comprising retainment means according to the invention. This package is specifically designed to accommodate two rows of five eggs and comprises a single bottom part 2 and corresponding cover part 3. The package shown in Figures 2A and 2B comprises both the retaining protrusions 7 on the cover part and additionally the retainer means 10, 11 known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826. Furthermore, according to this embodiment of a package, the upper rim portion 6 of the bottom part 2 is provided with retainment flaps 25A and 25B for engagement with the corresponding protrusions 7 and the openings 10, respectively, provided on the cover part 3. These pairs of retainment flaps 25A, 25B are shown in Figure 2B.

Referring to Figure 2C an embodiment of a package is shown which only comprises the retainment protrusions 7 on the cover part 3 and the corresponding flaps 25A on the upper rim portion of the bottom part. This embodiment of a package is thus not provided with the retainment means known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826.

Referring now to Figure 3 there is shown a side elevational view of the package shown in Figure 1. The transition between the top surface 16 and the planar frontal side 4 takes in this package place via the rounded edge portion 17 and the protrusion 7 is seen to be located approximately midways between this edge portion 17 and the distal edge portion 21 of the frontal side 4.

A side elevational view of an alternative package is shown in Figure 4, in which the rounded edge portion 17 of the package shown in Figure 3 has been replaced by a

substantially planar edge region 20 longitudinally bounded by edge portions 18 and 19. The protrusion is in this case located in the vicinity of the edge portion 19.

Returning to Figure 1, the bottom part 2 and the cover part 3 are furthermore - as an option - provided with those retainment means already known from the initially cited European Patent No. 1 098 826. The prime advantage of the retainment means according to the present invention becomes apparent by a comparison between the retainment means disclosed in EP 1 098 826 and those of the present invention.

The retainment means according to EP 1 098 826 comprises one or more rectangular holes 10 in the frontal side 4 and corresponding projections 11 placed on one or more of the pockets 12 of the bottom part 2. As apparent from Figures 3 and 4, these projections terminate downwardly in inclined portions 22 and when the cover part 3 is closed, a retaining engagement is established between these inclined portions 22 and the corresponding edge portion 23 of the hole in the frontal side 4. The projections, however, only project a few millimetres - typically approximately 3 mm - outwards from the corresponding surface of the pocket 12 and a reliable retainment by these means requires that the frontal side 4 be substantially plane and not exhibiting an outwardly arched shape relative to the bottom part 2. In practice, this requirement is not always fulfilled, and this has turned out to cause problems both during the packing process and in shops, where packages tend to open. These problems are solved by the retainment means according to the present invention.

Referring finally to Figure 5 there is shown an embodiment of retainment means as set forth in the invention according to which the flange-like upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 is additionally provided with outwardly extending retainment flaps 25. Such flaps can - as described above - as one possibility be placed at the portions of the upper edge 6 corresponding to the positions of the retainment openings 10 in the cover part 3, in which case they can serve as a supplementary retainment means to the retainment means provided by the openings 10 and the corresponding projections 11 on the bottom part 2, to the effect that when the engagement between the openings 10 and the projections 11 is released, the cover part will still be prevented from completely opening due to a subsequent engagement between the openings 10 and the corresponding flaps 25. It is, however, also possible to

place the retainment flaps 25 in the regions of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 between the pockets 12, i.e. in the regions designated 6' in the Figures, in which case the flaps may serve as a reinforcement of the engagement between the protrusions 7 on the cover part 3 and this portion 6' of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2.

Although various embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described in the preceding parts of the detailed description, it is understood that a person skilled in the art may conceive other embodiments of the invention without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims. As an example, various combinations of the retainment means described above may be utilised and appropriate numbers of corresponding retainment means and their placement on the cover part and the bottom part may be varied according to specific requirements. Also as described, retainment flaps can be provided as appropriate on - or in the region about - the upper edge region of the bottom part.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

1. Package
2. Bottom part of package
3. Cover part of package
4. Front side of cover part
5. Hinge portion
6. Flange-like upper rim portion of bottom part
6' Flange-like upper rim portion of bottom part between egg pockets
7. Protrusions on cover part
8. Engagement surface of protrusion
9. Edge
10. Retainment opening in cover part
11. Retainment projection on bottom part
12. Pocket
13. Region between adjacent pockets
14. Opening
15. Underlying surface
16. Top surface
17. Rounded edge portion
18. Edge portion
19. Edge portion
20. Planar edge region
21. Distal edge portion of front side of cover part
22. Inclined portion on retainment projection
23. Edge portion of retainment opening
24. Side surface of bottom part opposite hinge portion
25. Retainment flaps

CLAIMS

1. Package (1) formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part (2) comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed, an upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) extending outwards from the bottom part (2);
- a cover part (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) which meet at an angle to form an edge (17, 18);
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part (3) by a hinge (5) so as to allow the cover part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface (4) extending down from the edge (17, 18) and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5) when the cover part (3) is in its closed position;

characterised in that said cover part (3) is provided with at least one inwardly extending protrusion (7) for locking engagement with said upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) when the package (1) is being closed, and that said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

2. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that said agricultural products are eggs and that the bottom part (2) of the package (1) is provided with a pattern of pockets (12) for accommodating the eggs.

3. Package according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the package (1) is a moulded product.

4. Package according to claim 3, characterised in that the package (1) is moulded as one piece.

5. Package according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the package (1) is made of moulded pulp.

6. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that said cover part (3) on the front side (4) hereof is provided with en edge portion (19) and that said one or more protrusions (7) is/are provided substantially adjacent said edge portion (19).

7. Package according to claim 2, characterised in that said locking engagement of the one or more protrusions (7) with said upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) takes place at the flange-like upper rim portions (6') between adjacent pockets (12).

8. Package according to claim 1, characterised in that the package is furthermore provided with retainment means comprising one or more openings (10) in the front side (4) of the cover part (3) and co-operating retainment projections (11) on the side surface (24) of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5).

9. Package according to claim 1 or 8, characterised in that the flange-like upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2) is furthermore provided with outwardly extending retainment flaps (25).

10. Package according to claim 9, characterised in that said flaps (25) are placed for engagement with the engagement surface (8) of the protrusions (7) on the cover part (3).

11. Package according to claim 9 when dependent on claim 9, characterised in that said flaps (15) are placed for engagement with an edge portion (23) of said openings (10) provided in the cover part (3).

12. Package (1) formed by suction moulding of a fibrous material for receiving one or more frangible products to be packed, such as eggs, comprising:

- a bottom part (2) comprising non-planar side surfaces so as to match at least partially the outer contours of the product(s) to be packed and provided with an upper rim portion (6);
- a cover part (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) which meet at an angle to form an edge (17, 18);
- the bottom part (2) being connected to the cover part (3) by a hinge (5) so as to allow the cover part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
- the front surface (4) extending down from the edge (17, 18) and overlapping the non-planar side surface of the bottom part (2) opposite the hinge (5) when the cover part (3) is in its closed position;

characterised in that

said bottom part (2) adjacent said upper rim portion (6) is provided with at least one outwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with co-operating means provided on the cover part (3) and that said hinge (5) is positioned above the level of the upper rim portion (6) of the bottom part (2).

13. Package according to claim 12, characterised in that said co-operating means on the cover part (3) is one or more openings in the front surface (4) of the cover part (3).

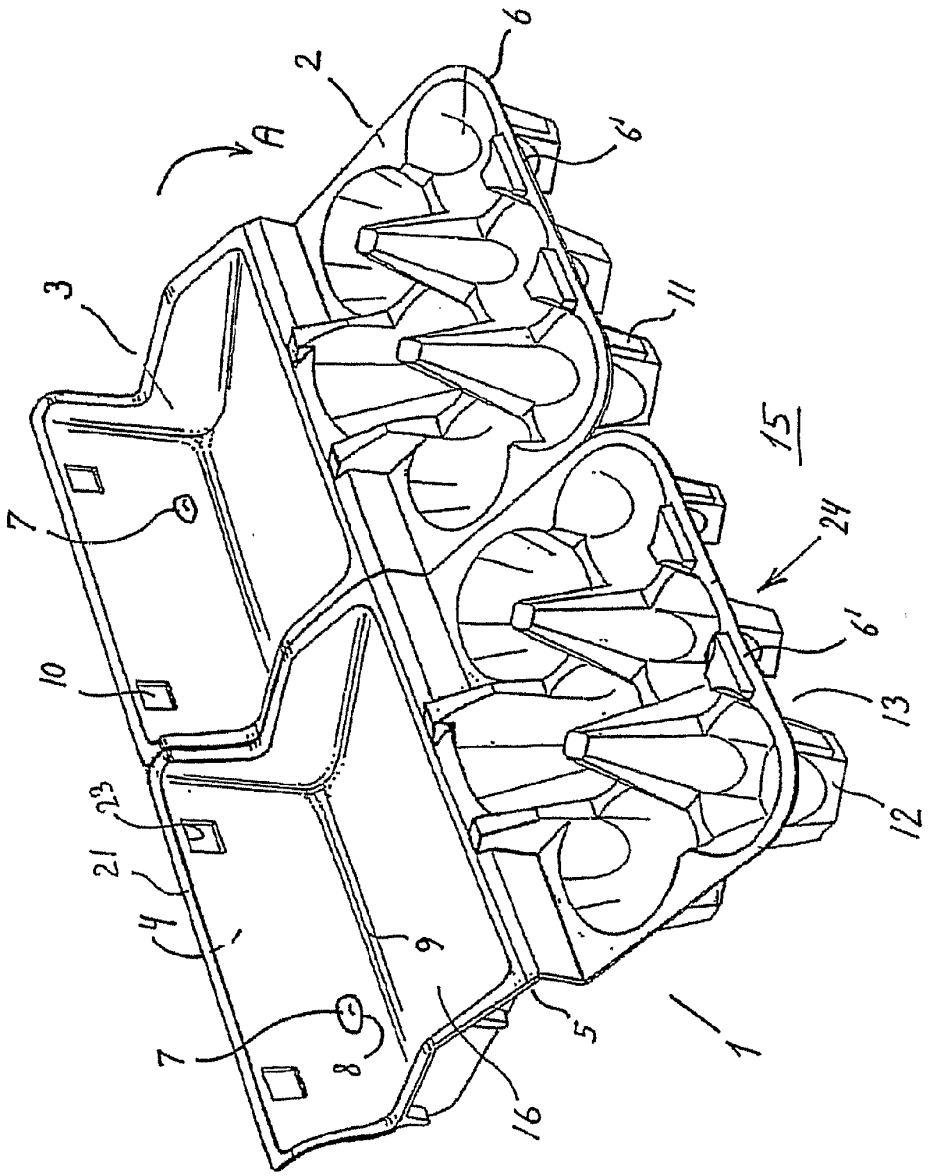


Fig. 1

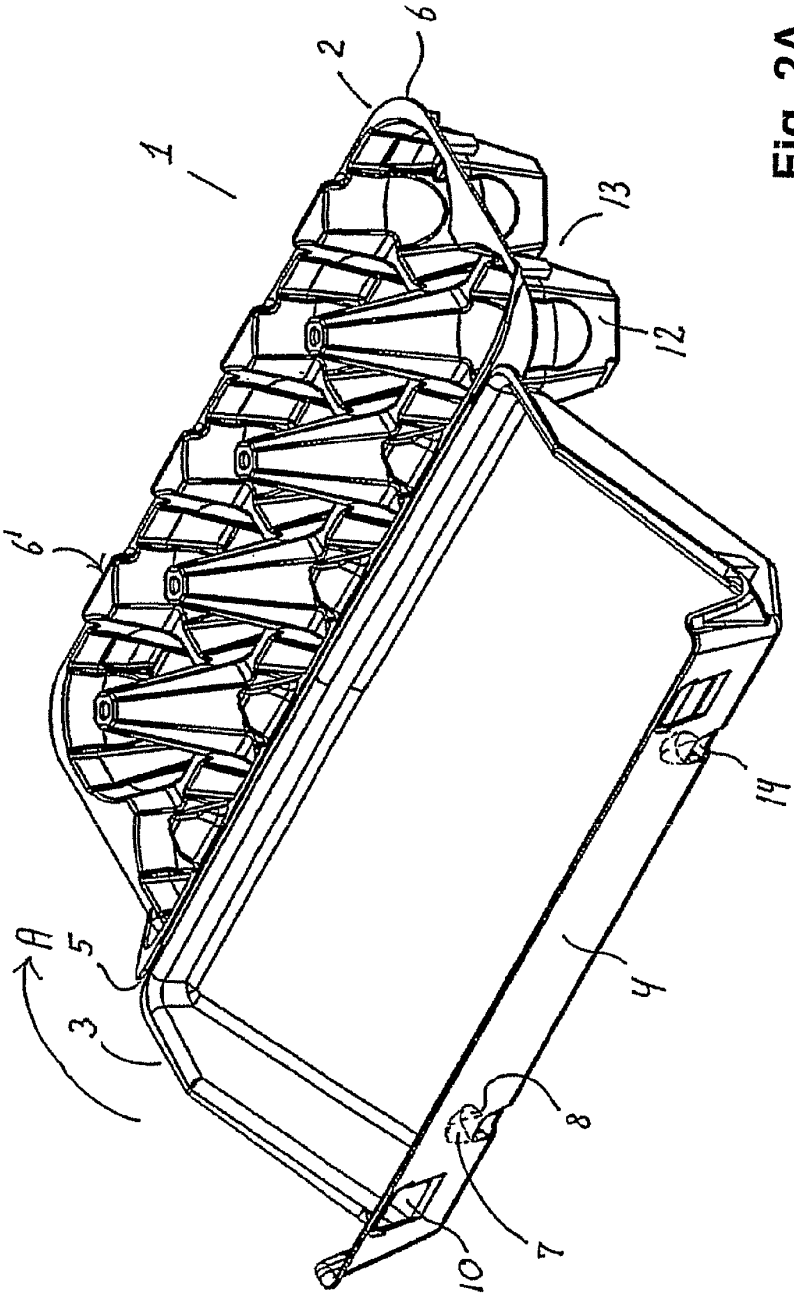


Fig. 2A

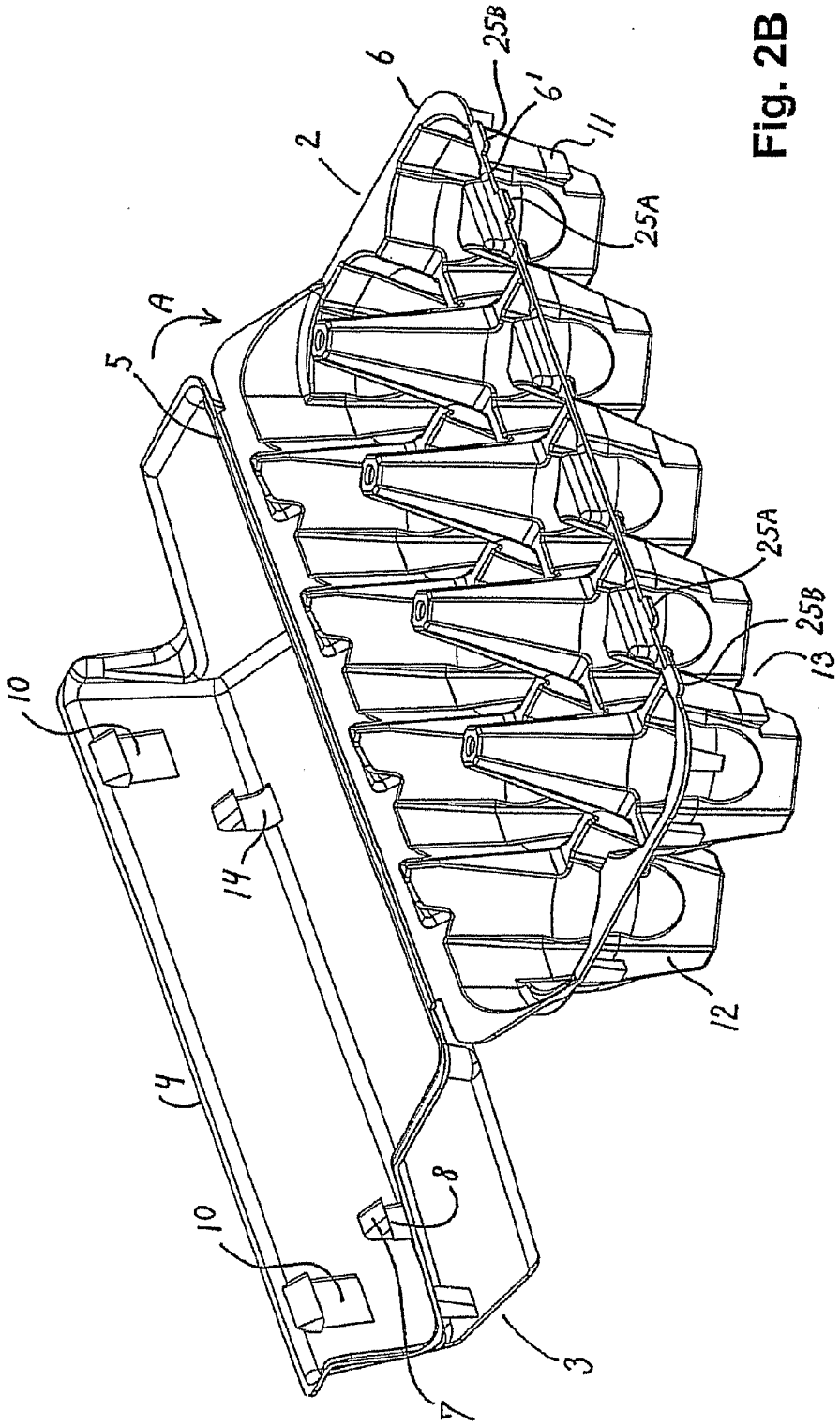
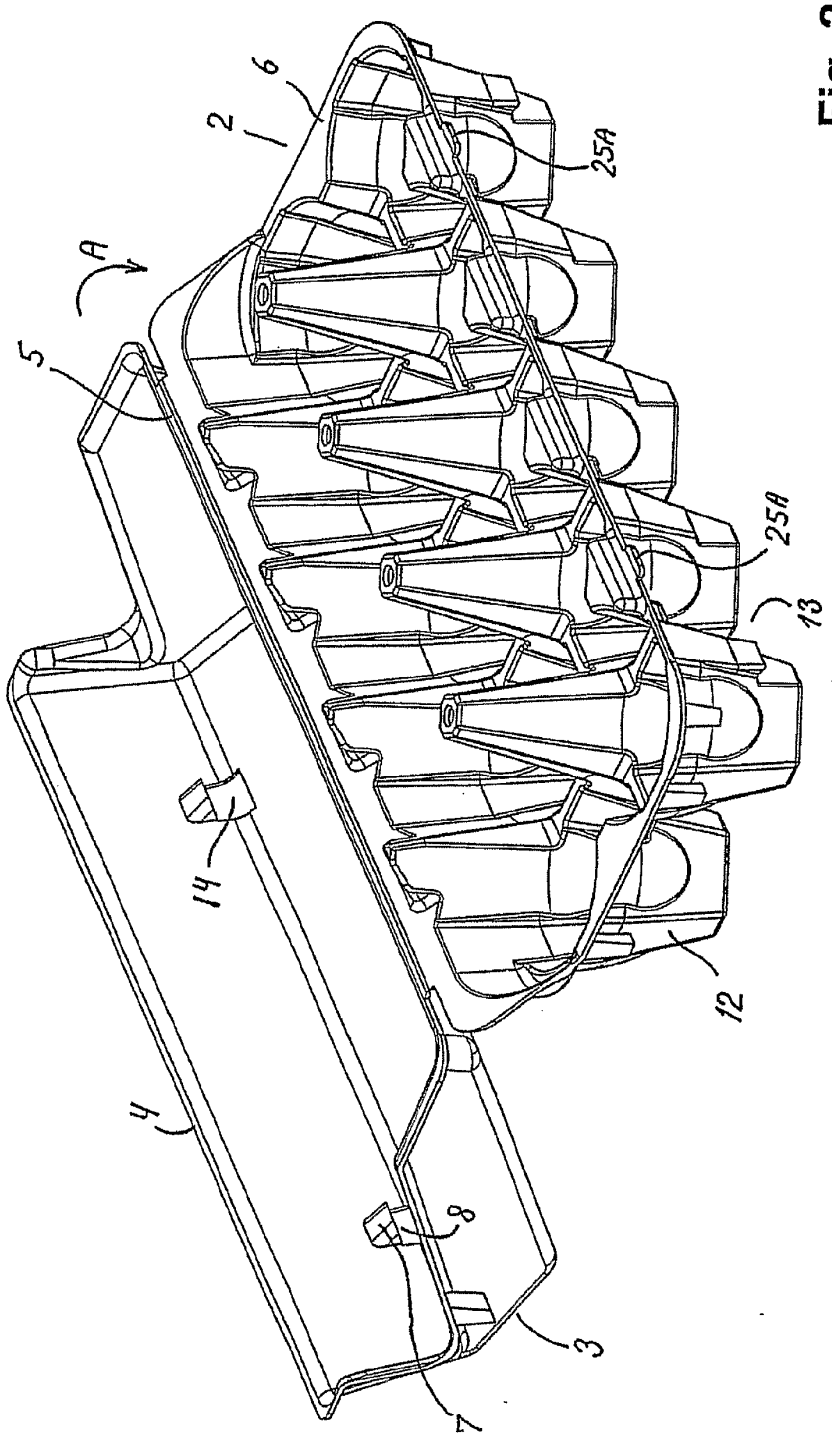


Fig. 2B

Fig. 2C



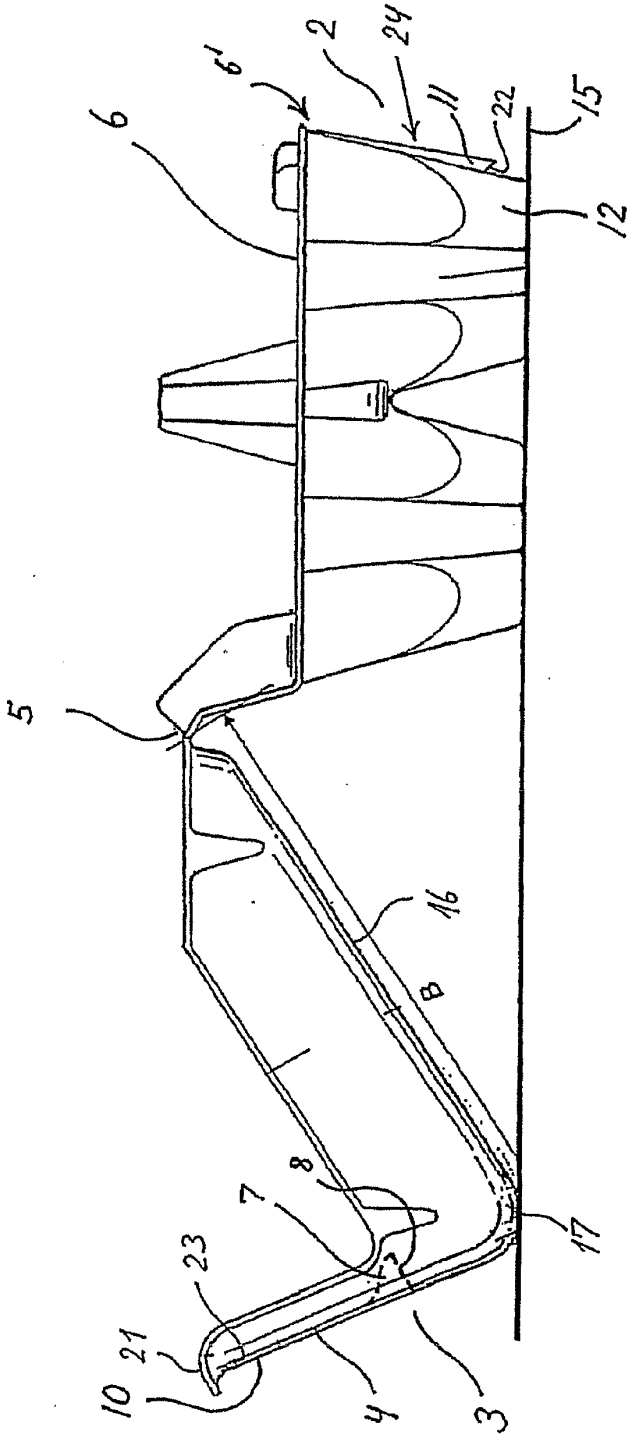


Fig. 3

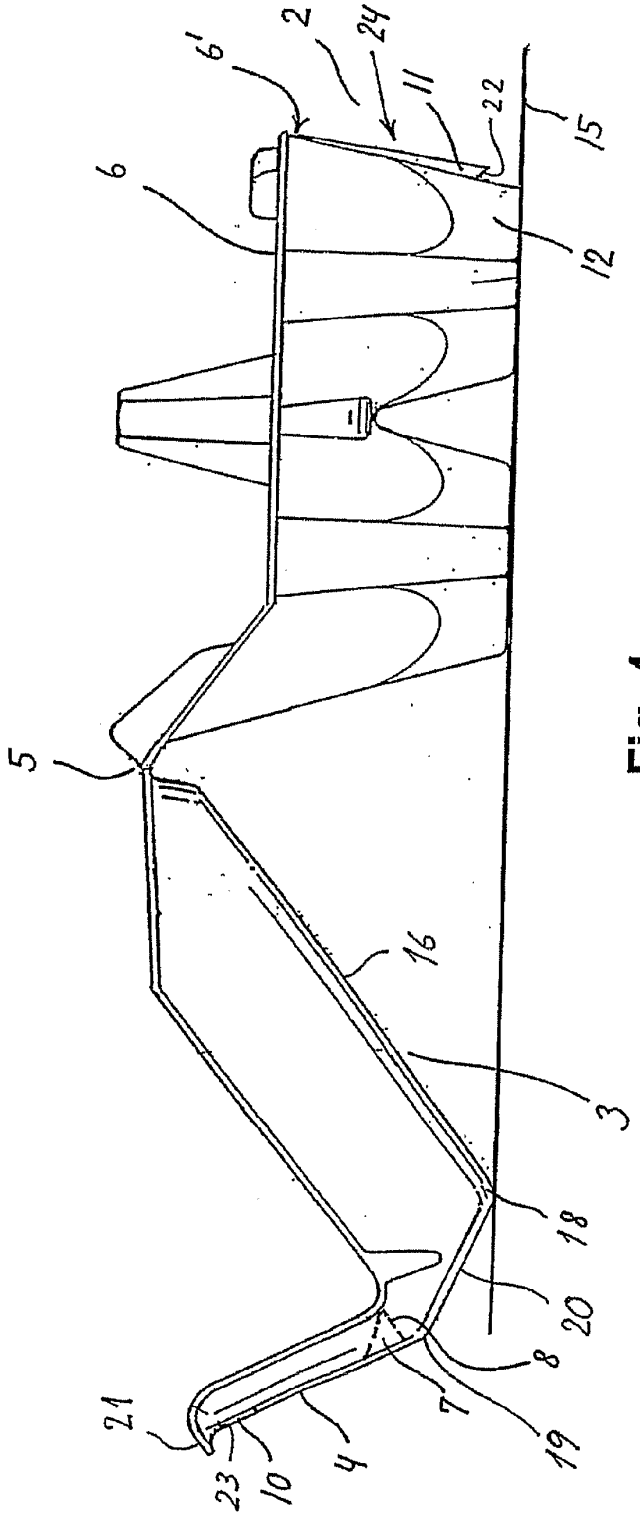


Fig. 4

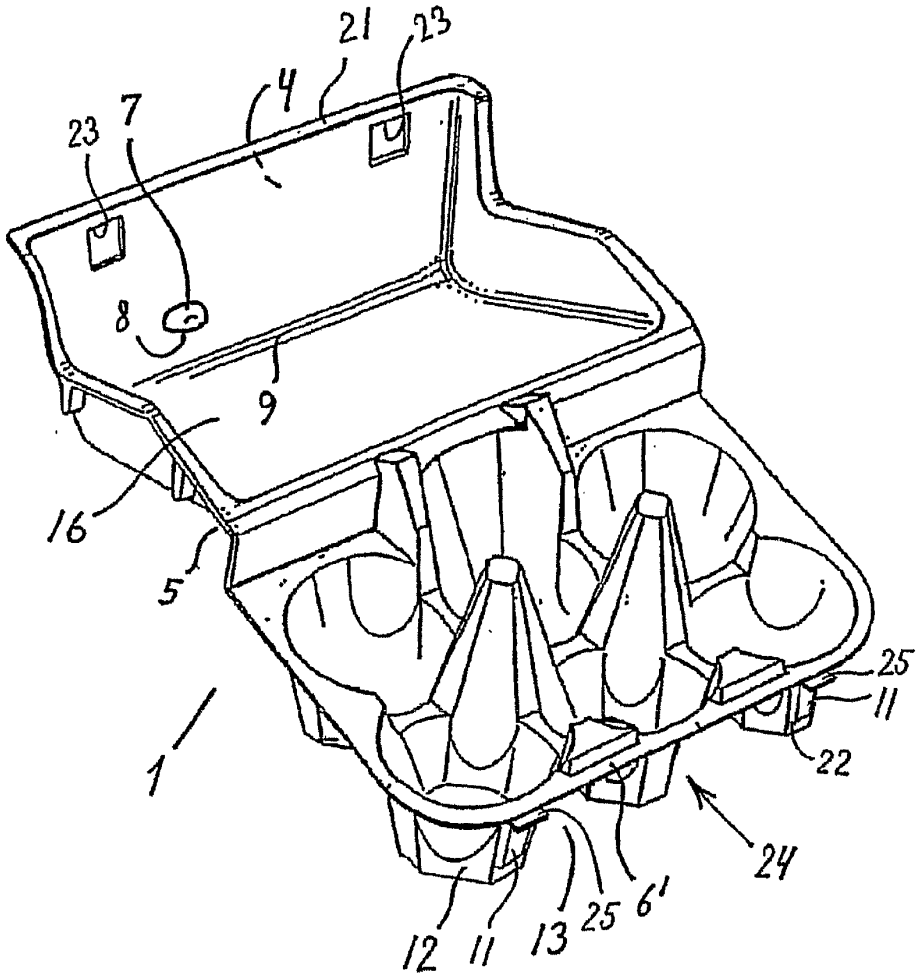
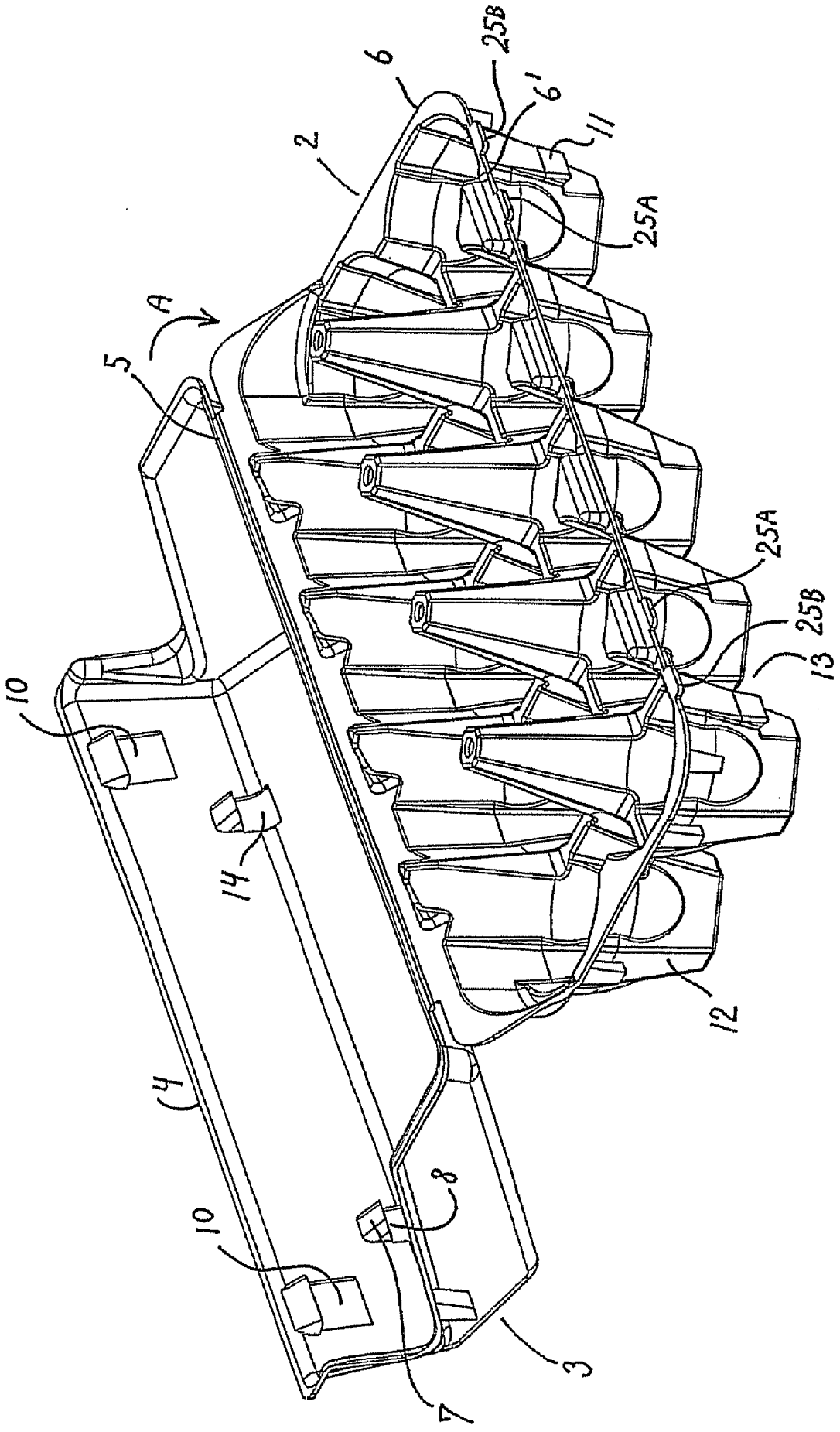


Fig. 5


25B
6
6'
11
2
25A
A
5
25A
25B
13
10
14
12
4
8
10
7
3

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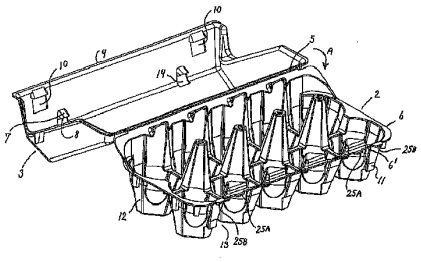
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(54)【発明の名称】保持手段を備えたパッケージ

(57)【要約】
本発明は卵のような壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質材料のパッケージであって、底部分（２）と該底部分にヒンジで接続された蓋部分（３）とを備えたパッケージに関し、特に簡単であるが、安定した要領で蓋部分を底部分に解除可能に保持するための各種の保持手段に関するものである。従って、本発明によれば、前記底部分のフランジ状の上側周縁部分（６）の適当な部分と係合するように前記蓋部分にある保持手段が提供され、前記保持手段は一実施例によれば前記蓋部分の前側部（４）の内面に設けられた突起（７）から構成される。前記蓋部分が開放位置から前記底部分の上に閉鎖位置まで旋回すると、前記蓋部分の１個以上の突起が前記底部分の前記の上側周縁部分の下面と係合するように持ってこられ、それによって前記蓋部分を底部分に対して解除可能に保持する。代替的な可能性、すなわち例えば蓋部分にある適当な形状の開口と係合するように前記底部分の上側縁領域に適当な突起を設けることも説明されている。



【特許請求の範囲】
【請求項１】
例えば卵のような包装すべき１個以上の壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質材料を吸引成形することによって形成されたパッケージ（１）であって、
― 包装すべき物品の外形と少なくとも部分的に適合するように非平坦の側面を含む底部分（２）であって、該底部分（２）の上側周縁部分（６）が該底部分（２）から外方に延在している底部分（２）と、
― 縁部（１７，１８）を形成するように角度をつけて合流する少なくとも上面（１６）と前面（４）とを含む蓋部分（３）と、を含み、
― 前記底部分（２）は前記蓋部分（３）が開放位置と閉鎖位置との間で動きうるようにするためヒンジ（５）によって前記蓋部分（３）に接続されており、
― 前記前面（４）が前記縁部（１７，１８）から下方へ延在しており、前記蓋部分（３）がその閉鎖位置にあるとき、前記ヒンジ（５）とは反対の側で前記底部分（２）の前記非平坦な側面と重なるようにされたパッケージ（１）において、
前記蓋部分（３）には、前記パッケージ（１）が閉鎖されつつあるとき、前記底部分（２）の上側周縁部分（６）とロッキング係合するための少なくとも１個の内方に延在している突起（７）が設けられていて、前記ヒンジ（５）は前記底部分（２）の上側周縁部分（６）の高さより上方に位置していることを特徴とするパッケージ（１）。
【請求項２】
農産物が卵であり、前記パッケージ（１）の底部分（２）には卵を収容するためのポケット（１２）がパターン配列で設けられていることを特徴とする請求項１に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項３】
前記パッケージ（１）が成形された製品であることを特徴とする請求項１または２に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項４】
前記パッケージ（１）が単品として成形されていることを特徴とする請求項３に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項５】
前記パッケージ（１）が成形されたパルプからつくられていることを特徴とする請求項１から４までのいずれか１項に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項６】
前記蓋部分（３）にはその前面（４）において縁部分（１９）が設けられており、前記の１個以上の突起（７）が前記縁部分（１９）に概ね隣接して設けられていることを特徴とする請求項１に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項７】
前記１個以上の突起（７）の前記底部分（２）の前記上側周縁部分（６）に対するロッキング係合が隣接するポケット（１２）の間のフランジ状上側周縁部分（６′）において行われることを特徴とする請求項２に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項８】
前記パッケージには更に、前記蓋部分（３）の前側部（４）にある１個以上の開口（１０）と前記ヒンジ（５）の反対側で前記底部分（２）の側面（２４）にある協働保持突起（１１）とからなる保持手段が設けられていることを特徴とする請求項１に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項９】
前記底部分（２）のフランジ状上側周縁部分（６）には更に、外方に延在した保持用フラップ（２５）が設けられていることを特徴とする請求項１または８に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項１０】
前記フラップ（２５）が前記蓋部分（３）の突起（７）の係合用面（８）と係合するよ

うに位置されていることを特徴とする請求項９に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項１１】
前記フラップ（１５）が前記蓋部分（３）に設けられた前記開口（１０）の縁部分（２３）と係合するように位置されていることを特徴とする請求項９に従属した場合の請求項９に記載のパッケージ。
【請求項１２】
例えば卵のような包装すべき１個以上の壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質材料を吸引成形することによって形成されたパッケージ（１）であって、
― 包装すべき物品の外形と少なくとも部分的に適合するようにした非平坦側面を含み、上側の周縁部分（６）を備えた底部分（２）と、
― 縁部（１７，１８）を形成するよう角度をつけて合流する少なくとも上面（１６）と前面（４）とを含む蓋部分（３）と、を含み、
― 前記底部分（２）は前記蓋部分（３）が開放位置と閉鎖位置との間で動きうるようにするためにヒンジ（５）によって前記蓋部分（３）に接続されており、
― 前記前面（４）が縁部（１７，１８）から下方に延在し、前記蓋部分（３）が閉鎖位置にあるとき前記ヒンジ（５）とは反対の側で前記底部分（２）の前記非平坦な側面と重なるようなパッケージ（１）において、
前記底部分（２）には前記上側周縁部分（６）に隣接して前記蓋部分（３）に設けられた協働手段とロッキング係合するよう少なくとも１個の外方に延在した突起が設けられており、前記ヒンジ（５）が前記底部分（２）の上側周縁部分（６）の高さより上方に位置していることを特徴とするパッケージ（１）。
【請求項１３】
前記蓋部分（３）における前記協働手段が前記蓋部分（３）の前面にある１個以上の開口であることを特徴とする請求項１２に記載のパッケージ。
【発明の詳細な説明】
【技術分野】
【０００１】
本発明は、特許請求の範囲請求項１の前提部に記載した種類のパッケージに関し、特にそのようなパッケージの蓋部分が故意ではなく開くのを阻止する保持手段（ｒｅｔａｉｎｍｅｎｔ　ｍｅａｎｓ）に関するものである。
【背景技術】
【０００２】
前述の種類のパッケージ、すなわち例えば卵のような包装すべき１個以上の壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質材料を吸引成形（ｓｕｃｔｉｏｎ　ｍｏｕｌｄｉｎｇ）することによって形成したパッケージは当該技術分野において周知である。これらの中で、特に卵用の諸々のパッケージが多数述べられてきた。そのようなパッケージは一般に、卵を収容するためのポケット状区画室のパターン配列（ａ　ｐａｔｔｅｒｎ　ｏｆ　ｐｏｃｋｅｔ－ｌｉｋｅ　ｃｏｍｐａｒｔｍｅｎｔｓ）を備えた底部分と、閉鎖位置と開放位置との間で動くことのできるように該底部分に対してヒンジ接続されることが多い蓋部分とを備える。殆どのそのようなパッケージには更に、閉鎖位置において底部分に前記蓋部分を解除可能に保持する保持手段を備えており、この目的に対して多数の諸々の保持手段が述べられてきた。
【０００３】
そのような保持手段は、例えば米国特許第４，７８２，９９５号公報（ＵＳ　４，７８２，９９５）および米国特許第５，８６０，５２８号公報（ＵＳ　５，８６０，５２８）に記載されており、これらの手段に共通して、またこの種のその他多くのパッケージから知られている同等の保持手段は、蓋部分あるいは底部分のいずれか、あるいはそれらの双方に専用の保持手段が設けられたものである。
【０００４】
比較的単純なタイプの保持手段が欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６Ｂ１号公報（ＥＰ１

０９８　８２６　Ｂ１）に記載されており、この保持手段は底部分に位置する相手側の外方に延在する突出部材を解除可能に保持するための蓋部分前面の縁領域（ｅｄｇｅ　ｒｅｇｉｏｎ）の近傍に開口を備えている。蓋部分が底部分に対して閉鎖されると、これらの外方に突出した部材が前記穴の周囲の一部と保持係合関係に入り、そして後で蓋部分の前記縁領域を外方および上方に引っ張ることによって前記突出部材を前記穴から外すことが可能で、それによってパッケージを開くことができるようになる。

【０００５】

前述のパッケージには色々な欠点がある。このように、一般的に専用の保持手段が蓋部分と底部分との双方に必要とされることであり、少なくとも前述した欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６Ｂ１号公報に開示されたパッケージに関していえば、それによって達成される保持性は、部分的には、蓋部分の縁領域の近傍に蓋部分の保持用開口が位置しており、その蓋部分はパッケージ材料が蓋部分を底部分に確実に安定的に保持するために必要とされる剛性を常に有するとは限らないという事実によって、常に十分信頼し得るとは限らない。

【発明の開示】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】

【０００６】

前述した背景に基づいて、本発明の目的は、パッケージの蓋部分と底部分とが底部分の上側の周縁部分（ｒｉｍ　ｐｏｒｔｉｏｎ）と蓋部分の下側の縁部分（ｅｄｇｅ　ｐｏｒｔｉｏｎ）とに沿って相互にヒンジ接続されているパッケージの底部分に対する蓋部分の保持性を改良することである。

【課題を解決するための手段】

【０００７】

従って、本発明の一局面によると、例えば、卵のような１個以上の壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質の材料を吸引成形によって形成したパッケージであって、以下の主要な部分、すなわち、

― 包装すべき物品の外形と少なくとも部分的に適合するように非平坦な側面を含む底部分であって、該底部分の上側縁領域に沿って延在し、かつ該底部分から外方へ延在する上側周縁部分を備えている底部分と、

― 角度をつけて合流して縁部（ｅｄｇｅ）を形成する少なくとも上面と前面とを含む蓋部分、とを含み、

― 前記蓋部分が開放位置と閉鎖位置との間で動きうるようにするために前記底部分がヒンジによって蓋部分に接続されており、

― 前記蓋部分の前面が前記縁部から下方に延在し、該蓋部分が閉鎖位置にあるとき、前記ヒンジとは反対の側で前記底部分の非平坦な側面と重なるようにされており、

― 前記蓋部分には、パッケージが閉鎖されているとき、底部分の上側の周縁部分とロッキング係合する少なくとも１個の内方に延在する突起が設けられており、

― 前記ヒンジが前記底部分の上側周縁部分の高さより上方に位置されている、パッケージが提供される。

【０００８】

底部分の上側周縁部分と係合する前記の内方に延在する突起を設けることは、これらの突起が結果的に蓋部分の自由縁部分からより離れて位置する、すなわち蓋部分の全体剛性がその自由縁部分の近傍におけるよりも大きい蓋部分の位置において配置されているという点で有利である。

【０００９】

更に、ヒンジ部分を底部分の上側周縁部分の高さよりも上に位置させることによって、蓋部分の横断面形状は、ヒンジ部分が周縁部分に位置されていた蓋部分における対応の断面形状と比較して修正されており、この修正されたもの自体は蓋部分の横方向剛性を増大させ、従って底部分に対する蓋部分の確実な保持性を高める。

【００１０】

更に、このようにヒンジ部分を位置させることで有利なのは、パッケージを開閉する間、蓋部分の保持突起が、これらの対応する保持部分の材料の変形をごく僅かにしながら、底部分の上側縁部領域に沿って延在する該上側縁部分の下方にあるそれらの保持位置へ旋回することを可能とすることである。

【００１１】

パッケージは適当な弾性を有するその他の材料も考えられるものの、成形パルプ（ｍｏｕｌｄｅｄ　ｐｕｌｐ）から作られることが好ましい。

【００１２】

本発明は、底部分の上側縁部領域に沿って延在し、該底部分から外方へ延在する前記の上側周縁部分を底部分に存在させるという有利性を利用している。本明細書で扱っている種類のパッケージの底部分にある前記のフランジ状の上側周縁部分は例えば前述した文書から周知であり、卵用トレイなどの底部分にある種々のポケットを接続するブリッジ構造（ｂｒｉｄｇｉｎｇ　ｓｔｒｕｃｔｕｒｅ）の一部を形成している。本発明によれば、この特徴、すなわち底部分のフランジ状上側周縁部分は、前述した補完的な保持手段の一つとして有利に利用可能であり、蓋部分は適当な補完的な突起であって、パッケージを閉鎖する間前記の上側の周縁部分と保持係合するようにされる突起を備えている。この機構の特定実施例は本発明の以下の詳細説明において説明されている。

【００１３】

蓋部分の前述の突起は原則として、それがこの縁部分に沿ったいずれかの箇所で前記底部分の該上側周縁部分と係合するようにされる位置において前記蓋部分に位置させることができる。前記縁部分は典型的には底部分の対応する部分から、該底部分におけるポケットに沿って前記縁部分が延在する前記底部分のこれらの領域において極めて限定された距離だけ外方に延在するだけなので、パッケージを閉鎖する間前記突起が隣接するポケットの間の領域において底部分の上側周縁部分と係合するようにされるよう前記突起を蓋部分に位置させることが有利である。このことは、本発明の以下の詳細説明から直ちに明らかとなる。

【００１４】

補完的な保持手段の一つとして底部分のそのままのフランジ状上側周縁部分を使用できるという可能性は本発明の原理の有利な実施例として説明してきたが、フランジ状の上側周縁部分に１個以上の個別のフラップなどを設けることも可能である。この可能性は例えば、前述のように、例えばポケットの外面に沿って、底部分から短い距離だけ外方へ該底部分のフランジ状上側周縁部分が延在する場所に、前記底部分のフランジ状上側縁部分と係合するのに対応する場所として蓋部分の前記突起を設けることが何らかの理由で望ましい場合に利用することができる。

【００１５】

特に前述の文書である欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６Ｂ１号公報に開示されているパッケージと比較して、本発明による保持手段はパッケージの底部分に対する蓋部分の保持が時折望ましくないという問題に対する単純ではあるが信頼できる方法を提供する。このように、底部分のフランジ状上側周縁部分と係合するように蓋部分に突起を位置させることにより、補完的保持手段の一つ、すなわち突起は、欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６Ｂ１号公報に記載のパッケージにおけるよりも蓋部分の前面の最下方縁部領域からより遠く離れて、すなわち欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６Ｂ１号公報に記載のパッケージの蓋部分における相応の保持手段よりも横断方向の伸展性（ｔｒａｎｓｖｅｒｓａｌ　ｃｏｍｐｌｉａｎｃｅ）が少ない（剛性が増している）蓋部分の領域に、必然的に位置するようになる。

【００１６】

本発明による保持手段の別の補完的な実施例として、パッケージの蓋部分に設けられた協働手段とロッキング係合するための突起をパッケージの底部分に設けることも可能である。このように、本発明のこの実施例によると、例えば卵のような包装すべき１個以上の壊れ易い物品を受け入れるための、繊維質材料を吸引成形して形成したパッケージであって、

― 少なくとも部分的に包装すべき物品の外形と適合するように非平坦な側面を含み、かつ上側の周縁部分を備えた底部分と、
― 角度をつけて合流し縁部を形成する少なくとも上面と前面とを含む蓋部分と、を含み、
― 前記底部分（２）は蓋部分が開放位置と閉鎖位置との間で動くようにしうるようにするためにヒンジによって前記蓋部分に接続されており、
― 前記前面が縁部から下方へ延在し、蓋部分がその閉鎖位置にあるときヒンジとは反対側の底部分の非平坦な側面と重なるパッケージであって、
前記上側周縁部分に隣接した底部分には蓋部分に設けられた協働手段とロッキング係合する少なくとも１個の外方に延在する突起が設けられ、前記ヒンジ（５）が前記底部分（２）の上側周縁部分（６）の高さよりも上方に位置されているパッケージが提供される。

【００１７】

特に、本実施例の蓋部分にある協働手段とは前記蓋部分の前面にある１個以上の開口である。もっとも当該技術分野の専門家にはその他の均等な手段も考えられうる。

【００１８】

添付図面を参照して本発明を以下詳細に説明する。

【００１９】

以下に、本発明による保持手段の特定実施例の詳細説明が、パッケージが閉鎖状態にあるとき、パッケージの蓋部分をその底部分に対して安定してロックするための手段を含む例示パッケージを参照して、提供される。

【００２０】

図１を参照すれば、ヒンジ部分５によって相互に蝶番的に接続されている底部分２と蓋部分３とを含む、卵用パッケージ１が示されている。蓋部分３は、概ね平坦な上面１６と、パッケージの閉鎖状態において底部分２の概ね全高に亘って、すなわち図１と図３とにおいて参照数字１５によって示される底の高さまで下方に延在する概ね平坦な前側部（ｆｒｏｎｔａｌ　ｓｉｄｅ）４とを含む。

【００２１】

図１に示すパッケージの底部分２は全体的に１２で示す、卵用の合計１２個のポケットを含む。底部分２の上側縁部に沿って、底部分それ自体の上側の高さを画成する上側のフランジ状周縁部分６が延在している。前記高さより上方には、前記底部分２と蓋部分３とを接続するヒンジ部分５が位置している。

【００２２】

上側のフランジ状周縁部分６は卵用ポケット１２から数ミリメートル外方へ延在し、また隣接する卵用ポケットとの間に形成された空隙１３をふさいでいる。上側周縁部分６のこれらのブリッジ部分（ｂｒｉｄｇｉｎｇ　ｐｏｒｔｉｏｎｓ）は図では６′で示されており、１個以上のこれらのブリッジ部分６′の下面は以下説明する要領で本発明による相互に対応する保持手段の一方として有利に利用することができる。

【００２３】

蓋部分３の前側部４の内面には、本発明の本実施例によれば、内方に延在した突起７を備えており、蓋部分の上面１６に面した前記突起の係合面８は概ね平坦である。もっともこの面および突起７の面は一般的にその他の形状も可能である。蓋部分２が閉鎖されつつあるとき、突起７の最内方部分はフランジ状の上側周縁部分６の対応する最外方部分の上を通過するが、これが可能なのは前記前側部４が弾性であるためであり、突起７は対応するブリッジ部分６′の下の空隙１３へ入り、これによって、突起の係合面８はブリッジ部分６′の下面との保持係合関係へ入り、蓋部分３を底部分２に対して保持する。パッケージを再度開放するには、蓋部分３の前側部４が外方へ引っ張られることによって、突起７と対応するブリッジ部分６′との間の係合を解除することができる。

【００２４】

図２Ａおよび図２Ｂを参照すれば、本発明による保持手段を含むパッケージの好適実施例が示されている。このパッケージは特に、５個ずつ二列の卵を収納するように設計され

、単一の底部分２と対応する蓋部分３とを含む。図２Ａと図２Ｂとに示すパッケージは、双方とも蓋部分に保持用突起７と、更に先に引用した欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６号公報から知られている保持手段１０，１１を含んでいる。更に、パッケージのこの実施例によれば、底部分２の上側の周縁部分６には、蓋部分３にそれぞれ設けられた対応する突起７と開口１０と係合するための保持フラップ２５Ａと２５Ｂとが設けられている。これらの対とされた保持用フラップ２５Ａ，２５Ｂは図２Ｂに示されている。

【００２５】

図２Ｃを参照すれば、蓋部分３において保持用突起７と、底部分の上側周縁部分において対応するフラップ２５Ａとのみを含むパッケージの実施例が示されている。従って、パッケージのこの実施例には最初に引用した欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６号公報から知られている保持手段は設けられていない。

【００２６】

さて図３を参照すれば、図１に示すパッケージの側面図が示されている。上面１６と平坦な前側部４との間の変移はこのパッケージにおいて丸みをつけた縁部分１７を介して行われ、突起７はこの縁部分１７と前側部４の遠位側の縁部分２１との間の概ね中間に位置していることが判る。

【００２７】

代替的なパッケージの側面図が図４に示されており、そこでは図３に示すパッケージの丸みをつけた縁部分１７が縁部分１８および１９によって長手方向に囲まれた概ね平坦な縁部２０に置き換わっている。

【００２８】

図１に戻れば、底部分２と蓋部分３とは、任意であるが、最初に引用した欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６号公報から既に知られている保持手段が更に設けられている。本発明による保持手段の主要な利点は欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６号公報に記載の保持手段と本発明によるものとの間を比較すれば明らかとなる。

【００２９】

欧州特許第１　０９８　８２６号公報による保持手段は前側部４に１個以上の長方形の孔（ｒｅｃｔａｎｇｕｌａｒ　ｈｏｌｅｓ）１０と底部分２の１個以上のポケット１２に位置した対応する突起１１とを含む。図３および図４から明らかなように、これらの突起は傾斜部分２２において下方に終わっており、蓋部分３が閉鎖されると、これらの傾斜部分２２と前側部４の孔の対応する縁部分２３との間に保持係合が達成される。しかしながら、前記突起はポケット１２の対応する面から外方に単に数ミリメートル、典型的には約３ミリメートル、突出するのみであり、これらの手段による安定した保持性は前側部４が概ね平面であり、底部分２に対して外方に弧状とされた形状を呈さないことを必要とする。実際に、この要件は常に満足されることはなく、このことが、パッケージが開放されようとする包装工程の間とか、店頭にあるときの双方において問題を発生させることが判明した。これらの問題は本発明による保持手段によって解決される。

【００３０】

最後に図５を参照すれば、本発明において説明されている保持手段の実施例が示されており、本発明による底部分２のフランジ状上側縁部６には更に外方に延在した保持フラップ２５が設けられている。そのようなフラップは一つの可能性としては、前述のように、蓋部分３にある保持開口１０の位置に対応する上側縁部６の部分に位置され、その場合、開口１０と突起１１との間の係合が解除されると開口１０と対応するフラップ２５との間がその後係合するため蓋部分が依然として完全に開放することがないようにされるという点に関して、開口１０と底部分２の対応する突起１１とによって提供された保持手段に対する補完的な保持手段として役立ちうる。しかしながら、保持フラップ２５をポケット１２間の底部分２の上側縁部６の領域、すなわち図において６′によって示された領域に位置させることも可能であり、その場合、フラップは蓋部分３の突起７と底部分２の上側縁部６のこの部分６′との間の係合の補強として作用しうる。

【００３１】

本発明の各種の実施例を詳細説明の前述した部分において図示し、かつ説明してきたが、当該技術分野の専門家には特許請求の範囲に記載の範囲から逸脱することなく本発明のその他の実施例も想起し得ることが理解される。例えば、前述した保持手段の各種の組み合わせを利用することが可能であり、適当数の対応する保持手段や、蓋部分や底部分におけるそれらの位置は特定の要件に従って変更することも可能である。また前述のように、保持フラップを底部分の上側縁領域上、あるいはその周りの領域に適当に設けることも可能である。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【００３２】

【図１】開放状態で示されているパッケージであって、前記パッケージが閉鎖状態にあるときに該パッケージの底部分に対して蓋部分を保持するための本発明による相互に対応した保持手段を備えたパッケージの実施例の斜視図である。

【図２Ａ】本発明による保持手段を備えたパッケージの好適実施例の第一の斜視図である。

【図２Ｂ】図２Ａに示した、本発明による保持手段を備えたパッケージの好適実施例の第二の斜視図である。

【図２Ｃ】本発明による保持手段を備えたパッケージの実施例の斜視図である。

【図３】開放状態で、本発明による保持手段を備えたパッケージの側面図である。

【図４】本発明による保持手段を備えた別の、より好適なパッケージである。

【図５】本発明による別の保持フラップを備えたパッケージの斜視図である。

【符号の説明】

【００３３】

１　パッケージ
２　パッケージの底部分
３　パッケージの蓋部分
４　蓋部分の前側部
５　ヒンジ部分
６　底部分のフランジ状上側周縁部分
６’　卵ポケット間の底部分のフランジ状上側周縁部分
７　蓋部分の突起
８　突起の係合面
９　縁部
１０　蓋部分の保持開口
１１　底部分の保持用突起
１２　ポケット
１３　隣接するポケット間の領域
１４　開口
１５　基礎面（ｕｎｄｅｒｌｙｉｎｇ　ｓｕｒｆａｃｅ）
１６　上面
１７　丸みをつけた縁部分
１８　縁部分
１９　縁部分
２０　平坦な縁部分
２１　蓋部分の前側部の遠位側の縁部分
２２　保持用突起の傾斜部分
２３　保持開口の縁部分
２４　ヒンジ部分の反対側の底部分の側面
２５　保持フラップ

【図１】

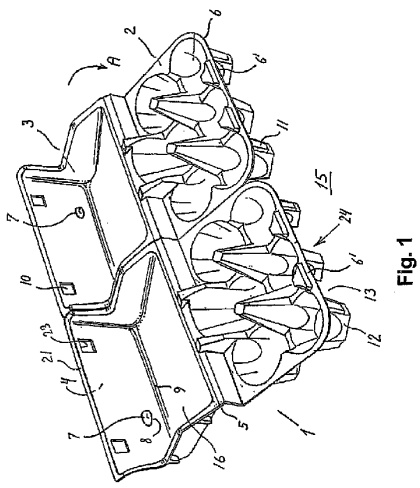


Fig. 1

【図２Ａ】

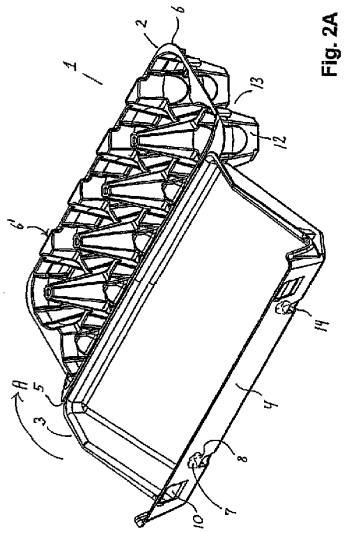


Fig. 2A

【図２Ｂ】

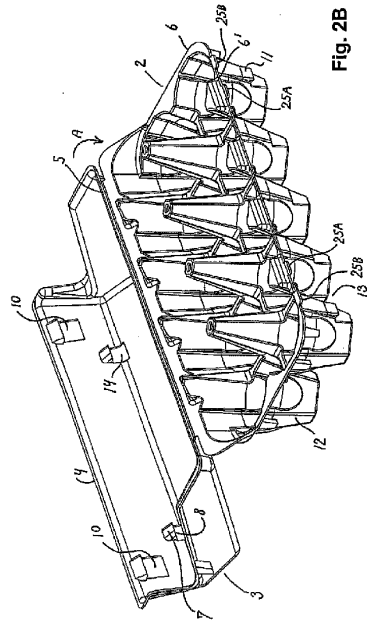


Fig. 2B

【図２Ｃ】

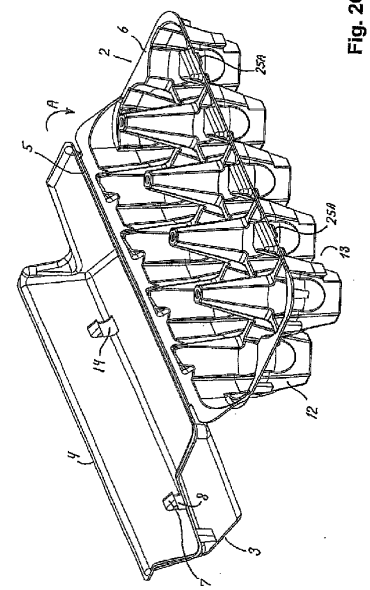


Fig. 2C

【図３】

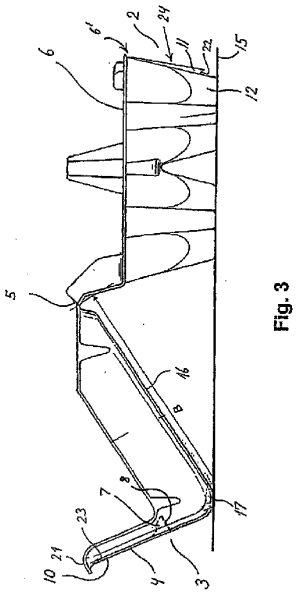


Fig. 3

【図４】

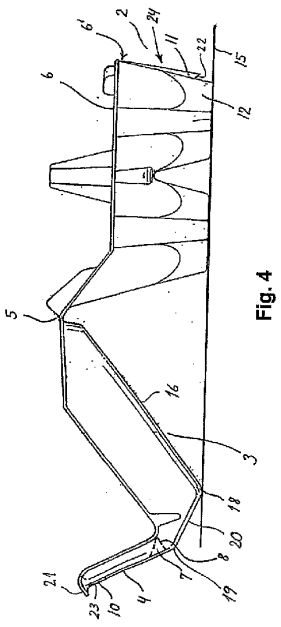


Fig. 4

【図５】

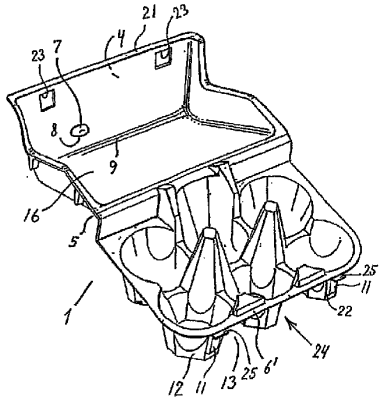


Fig. 5

【国際調査報告】

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No
/IB2004/051701

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B65D85/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

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Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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	-/--	

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. [X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
6 December 2004	15/12/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Piolat, O

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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national Application No
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ドイツ連邦共和国、シュヴェート、アウフバウヴェク ５

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3E084 AA05 AA14 AA24 AB10 BA01 CA03 CC07 DA03 DB13 DB18
DC07 FA03 FC04 FC09 GA06 GB06 LA18
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EA01 EA01X GA04 GA07

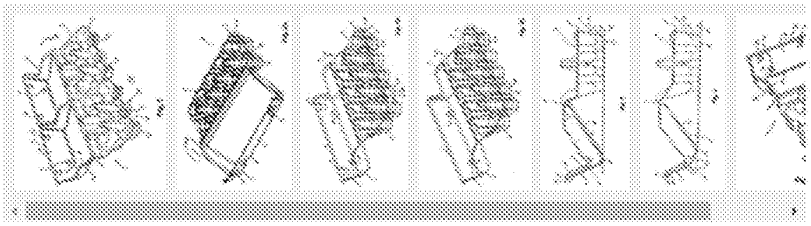
Google Patents JP2007508207A

Package with holding means

Abstract

The present invention relates to a package of fibrous material for receiving a fragile article such as an egg, comprising a bottom part (2) and a lid part (3) hinged to the bottom part. In particular, the present invention relates to various holding means for releasably holding the lid portion on the bottom portion in a stable manner. Therefore, according to the present invention, a holding means is provided on the lid portion to engage with a suitable portion of the flange-like upper peripheral portion (6) of the bottom portion, the holding means being in one embodiment. According to this, it is comprised from the protrusion (7) provided in the inner surface of the front side part (4) of the said cover part. When the lid portion pivots from an open position onto the bottom portion to a closed position, one or more protrusions of the lid portion are brought into engagement with the lower surface of the upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion; Thereby, the lid portion is releasably held with respect to the bottom portion. An alternative possibility is also described, i.e. providing a suitable protrusion in the upper edge region of the bottom part to engage a suitably shaped opening, e.g. in the lid part.

Images (7)



Classifications

- B65D65/324 Containers with compartments made of pressed material

JP2007508207A
Japan

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Other languages: Japanese

Inventor: [illegible]

Worldwide applications

2004 · CA DE AT US AT DE EP JP WO RU CN EP

Application JP2006530897A events

2003-10-08 · Priority to DKPA200301483

2004-09-07 · Application filed by [illegible]

2004-09-07 · Priority to PCT/IB2004/051701

2007-04-05 · Publication of JP2007508207A

Status · Pending

Info: Patent citations (17), Cited by (5), Similar documents, Priority and Related Applications

External links: Espacenet, Global Dossier, Discuss

Description

The present invention relates to a package of the kind described in the preamble of claim 1 and in particular to a retention means for preventing the lid portion of such a package from being opened unintentionally.

Packages of the aforementioned type, i.e. packages formed by suction molding of fibrous material to receive one or more fragile articles to be packaged, such as eggs, are well known in the art. is there. Among these, many packages have been mentioned, especially for eggs. Such packages are generally capable of moving between a bottom portion with a pattern of pocket-like compartments for containing eggs and between a closed position and an open position. And a lid portion that is often hinged to the bottom portion. Most such packages are further provided with retaining means for releasably retaining the lid portion on the bottom portion in the closed position, and a number of different retaining means have been described for this purpose.

Such holding means are described, for example, in US Pat. No. 4,782,995 (US 4,782,995) and US Pat. No. 5,860,528 (US 5,860,528). Common holding means common to these means and known from many other packages of this kind are provided with dedicated holding means in either the lid part or the bottom part or both. is.

Claims (13)

Hide Dependent

1. A package (1) formed by suction-molding a fibrous material to receive one or more fragile items to be packaged, such as eggs,
A bottom part (2) comprising a non-flat side so as to at least partly match the outer shape of the article to be packaged, the upper peripheral part (6) of the bottom part (2) being the bottom part (2) A bottom portion (2) extending outward from the
A lid portion (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) that meet at an angle to form edges (17, 18);
The bottom part (2) is connected to the lid part (3) by a hinge (5) to allow the lid part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
The front surface (4) extends downward from the edges (17, 18) and the lid portion (3) is in its closed position, on the side opposite to the hinge (5) in a package (1) adapted to overlap the non-planar side of the bottom part (2),
The lid portion (3) extends at least one inward for locking engagement with the upper peripheral portion (6) of the bottom portion (2) when the package (1) is being closed. And the hinge (5) is located above the height of the upper peripheral portion (6) of the bottom portion (2). .

A relatively simple type of holding means is described in EP 1 098 826 B1 (EP 1 098 626 B1), this holding means having a projecting member extending outwardly on the other side located in the bottom part. An opening is provided in the vicinity of the edge region on the front of the lid portion for releasably holding. When the lid portion is closed with respect to the bottom portion, these outwardly projecting members enter a retaining engagement with a portion of the periphery of the hole, and later on the edge region of the lid portion outward and By pulling upwards, the protruding member can be removed from the hole, thereby opening the package.

The aforementioned package has various drawbacks. Thus, in general, a dedicated holding means is required for both the lid portion and the bottom portion, and at least regarding the package disclosed in the above-mentioned European Patent No. 1 098 826 B1, The retainability achieved by the method is partly in the vicinity of the edge region of the lid part, the lid part holding opening being located, which ensures that the packaging material is stable on the lid part on the bottom part. Due to the fact that it does not always have the rigidity required to hold it, it is not always reliable enough.

Based on the above-mentioned background, the object of the present invention is that the lid portion and the bottom portion of the package are along the upper rim portion of the bottom portion and the lower edge portion of the lid portion. It is to improve the retention of the lid part against the bottom part of the package that is hinged together.

Thus, according to one aspect of the present invention, a package formed by suction molding of a fibrous material to receive one or more fragile articles such as eggs, for example, comprising the following main parts: .
-A bottom part comprising a non-flat side so as to at least partly match the outer shape of the article to be packaged, extending along the upper edge region of the bottom part and extending outwardly from the bottom part; A bottom portion having an upper peripheral edge portion;
A lid portion including at least a top surface and a front surface that merge at an angle to form an edge;
-The bottom part is connected to the lid part by a hinge to allow the lid part to move between an open position and a closed position;
The front surface of the lid portion extends downward from the edge so that when the lid portion is in the closed position, it overlaps the non-flat side of the bottom portion on the opposite side of the hinge; .
-The lid portion is provided with at least one inwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with the upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion when the package is closed;
A package is provided, wherein the hinge is located above the height of the upper peripheral part of the bottom part.

Providing said inwardly extending projections that engage the upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion results in these projections being located further away from the free edge portion of the lid portion, i.e. the overall stiffness of the lid portion is advantageously located at the position of the lid part which is larger than in the vicinity of its free edge part.

Furthermore, by positioning the hinge part above the height of the upper peripheral edge of the bottom part, the cross-sectional shape of the lid part is compared with the corresponding cross-sectional shape of the lid part where the hinge part was located at the peripheral part. This modification itself increases the lateral stiffness of the lid portion and thus increases the positive retention of the lid portion relative to the bottom portion.

Furthermore, it is advantageous to position the hinge part in this way, while the lid is holding the projections on the upper part of the bottom part, while the lid part holding projections negligibly deform the material of these corresponding holding parts during opening and closing of the package. It is possible to pivot to their holding position below the upper edge portion extending along the region.

The package is preferably made from molded pulp, although other materials with suitable elasticity are conceivable.

2. 2. Package according to claim 1, characterized in that the produce is an egg and the bottom part (2) of the package (1) is provided with pockets (12) for accommodating eggs in a pattern arrangement.

3. Package according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the package (1) is a molded product.

4. 4. Package according to claim 3, characterized in that the package (1) is molded as a single item.

5. 5. Package according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the package (1) is made from shaped pulp.

6. The lid portion (3) is provided with an edge portion (19) on the front surface (4) thereof, and the one or more protrusions (7) are provided substantially adjacent to the edge portion (19). The package according to claim 1, wherein

7. The locking engagement of the one or more protrusions (7) with the upper peripheral portion (6) of the bottom portion (2) is performed at the flange-like upper peripheral portion (6 ') between adjacent pockets (12). The package according to claim 2.

8. The package further includes one or more openings (10) in the front side (4) of the lid portion (3) and a side surface (24) of the bottom portion (2) opposite the hinge (5). 2. Package according to claim 1, characterized in that a holding means comprising a cooperating holding projection (11) is provided.

9. 9. Package according to claim 1 or 8, characterized in that a flange-like upper peripheral part (6) of the bottom part (2) is further provided with a retaining flap (25) extending outwards .

10. 10. Package according to claim 9, characterized in that the flap (25) is positioned to engage the engagement surface (8) of the projection (7) of the lid portion (3).

11. 10. When dependent on claim 9, characterized in that the flap (15) is positioned to engage an edge portion (23) of the opening (10) provided in the lid portion (3). The package according to claim 9.

12. A package (1) formed by suction-molding a fibrous material to receive one or more fragile items to be packaged, such as eggs,
A bottom part (2) comprising a non-flat side adapted to at least partly match the outer shape of the article to be packaged, with an upper peripheral part (6);
A lid portion (3) comprising at least a top surface (16) and a front surface (4) that meet at an angle to form edges (17, 18);
The bottom part (2) is connected to the lid part (3) by a hinge (5) to allow the lid part (3) to move between an open position and a closed position;
The bottom part (2) on the side opposite to the hinge (5) when the front face (4) extends downward from the edges (17, 18) and the lid part (3) is in the closed position; In a package (1) that overlaps the non-planar side of
The bottom portion (2) has at least one outwardly extending protrusion for locking engagement with cooperating means provided on the lid portion (3) adjacent to the upper peripheral portion (6). A package (1), characterized in that the hinge (5) is located above the height of the upper peripheral part (6) of the bottom part (2).

The present invention takes advantage of the fact that the upper peripheral portion extends along the upper edge region of the bottom portion and extends outwardly from the bottom portion. The flange-like upper peripheral edge at the bottom of a package of the type dealt with in this specification is well known, for example from the aforementioned documents, and bridge structures connecting various pockets at the bottom of eg egg trays. It forms part of (bridging structure). According to the invention, this feature, i.e. the flange-like upper peripheral part of the bottom part, can be advantageously used as one of the complementary holding means described above, and the lid part is a suitable complementary projection. A protrusion adapted to be held and engaged with the upper peripheral portion during closing of the package. Specific embodiments of this mechanism are described in the following detailed description of the invention.

The aforementioned protrusion of the lid part can in principle be located on the lid part in a position where it is adapted to engage the upper peripheral part of the bottom part anywhere along this edge part. . The edge portion typically extends outwardly from a corresponding portion of the bottom portion by a very limited distance in these regions of the bottom portion where the edge portion extends along a pocket in the bottom portion. As such, it is advantageous to position the protrusion on the lid portion so that the protrusion engages with the upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion in the region between adjacent pockets while closing the package. This will become readily apparent from the following detailed description of the invention.

The possibility of using the intact flange-like upper peripheral part of the bottom part as one of the complementary holding means has been described as an advantageous embodiment of the principle of the present invention, but one per flange-like upper peripheral part. It is also possible to provide the above individual flaps and the like. This possibility is, for example, as described above, for example where the flanged upper peripheral edge of the bottom part extends outwardly a short distance from the bottom part, eg along the outer surface of the pocket. It can be utilized if it is desirable for some reason to provide the protrusion on the lid portion as a corresponding location for engaging the edge portion.

In particular, compared with the package disclosed in the aforementioned document EP 1 098 826 B1, the holding means according to the invention is simple to the problem that it is sometimes undesirable to hold the lid part against the bottom part of the package. Provide a reliable way. Thus, by positioning the projection on the lid portion so as to engage with the flange-like upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion, one of the complementary holding means, ie the projection, is described in EP 1 098 826 B1. Farther away from the lowermost edge region of the front surface of the lid part than in the package of the latter, ie in the transverse direction than the corresponding holding means in the lid part of the package described in EP 1 098 826 B1 It inevitably lies in the region of the lid portion where the transversal compliance is small (the rigidity is increased).

As another complementary embodiment of the holding means according to the invention, it is also possible to provide a protrusion on the bottom part of the package for locking engagement with cooperating means provided on the lid part of the package. Thus, according to this embodiment of the present invention, a package formed by suction molding a fibrous material to receive one or more fragile articles to be packaged, such as eggs,
-A bottom part comprising a non-flat side to match the outer shape of the article to be wrapped at least partially and with an upper peripheral part;
A lid portion including at least an upper surface and a front surface that merge at an angle to form an edge;
The bottom part (2) is connected to the lid part by a hinge to allow the lid part to move between an open position and a closed position;
A package that extends downward from the edge and overlaps the non-planar side of the bottom portion opposite the hinge when the lid portion is in its closed position,
The bottom portion adjacent to the upper peripheral portion is provided with

19. 19. Package according to claim 12, characterized in that the cooperating means in the lid part (3) are one or more openings in the front surface of the lid part (3).

at least one outwardly extending projection for locking engagement with cooperating means provided on the lid portion, and the hinge (5) is connected to the bottom portion (A package is provided which is positioned above the height of the upper peripheral portion (6) of 2)

In particular, the cooperating means in the lid part of this embodiment is one or more openings in the front surface of the lid part. However, other equivalent means may be envisaged by the technical expert.

The present invention will be described in detail below with reference to the accompanying drawings.

In the following, a detailed description of a specific embodiment of the holding means according to the invention refers to an exemplary package comprising means for stably locking the lid portion of the package to its bottom portion when the package is in the closed state And provided.

Referring to FIG. 1, an egg package 1 is shown that includes a bottom portion 2 and a lid portion 3 that are hingedly connected to each other by a hinge portion 5. The lid part 3 extends downwards to a generally flat top surface 16 and substantially the entire height of the bottom part 2 in the closed state of the package, i.e. to the bottom level indicated by reference numeral 15 in FIGS. A generally flat front side 4.

The bottom portion 2 of the package shown in FIG. 1 includes a total of 12 pockets for eggs, indicated generally at 12. Extending along the upper edge of the bottom portion 2 is an upper flange-like peripheral portion 6 that defines the upper height of the bottom portion itself. A hinge portion 5 that connects the bottom portion 2 and the lid portion 3 is located above the height.

The upper flange-like peripheral portion 6 extends outward from the egg pocket 12 by several millimeters, and closes a gap 13 formed between adjacent egg pockets. These bridging portions of the upper peripheral portion 6 are indicated by 6 'in the figure, and the bottom surfaces of one or more of these bridge portions 6' are held in correspondence with each other in the manner described below. It can be advantageously used as one of the means.

According to this embodiment of the present invention, the inner surface of the front side portion 4 of the lid portion 3 is provided with a projection 7 extending inward, and the engagement surface 8 of the projection facing the upper surface 16 of the lid portion. Is generally flat. However, in general, other shapes are possible for this surface and the surface of the projection 7. When the lid part 2 is being closed, the innermost part of the projection 7 passes over the corresponding outermost part of the flange-like upper peripheral part 6 but this is possible because the front part 4 is elastic. For this reason, the projections 7 enter the gaps 13 below the corresponding bridge portions 6 ', whereby the engagement surfaces 8 of the projections enter a holding engagement relationship with the lower surface of the bridge portions 6', Hold against the bottom part 2. To reopen the package, the front side 4 of the lid part 3 can be pulled outwards to release the engagement between the projection 7 and the corresponding bridge part 6 '.

Referring to FIGS. 2A and 2B, a preferred embodiment of a package including holding means according to the present invention is shown. This package is specifically designed to house two rows of eggs, five each, and includes a single bottom portion 2 and a corresponding lid portion 3. The packages shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B both include a holding projection 7 on the lid and holding means 10 and 11 known from EP 1 098 626 cited earlier. Furthermore, according to this embodiment of the package, the upper peripheral edge portion 6 of the bottom portion 2 is provided with retaining flaps 25A and 25B for engaging the corresponding projections 7 and the openings 10 respectively provided on the lid portion 3. Is provided. These paired retaining flaps 25A, 25B are shown in FIG. 2B.

Referring to FIG. 2C, an embodiment of a package is shown that includes only the retaining projection 7 in the lid portion 3 and the corresponding flap 25A in the upper peripheral portion of the bottom portion. Thus, this

embodiment of the package is not provided with holding means known from the first cited European Patent No. 1 098 826.

Referring now to FIG. 3, a side view of the package shown in FIG. 1 is shown. The transition between the upper surface 16 and the flat front side 4 takes place in this package via a rounded edge portion 17, and the projection 7 is connected to this edge portion 17 and the distal edge portion 21 of the front side 4. It can be seen that it is located approximately in the middle.

A side view of an alternative package is shown in FIG. 4 where the rounded edge portion 17 of the package shown in FIG. 3 is generally flat edge 20 longitudinally surrounded by edge portions 18 and 19. Has been replaced.

Returning to FIG. 1, the bottom part 2 and the lid part 3 are optional, but are further provided with holding means already known from the first cited European Patent No. 1 098 826. The main advantages of the holding means according to the invention will become clear when comparing the holding means described in EP 1 098 826 with that according to the invention.

The holding means according to EP 1 098 825 includes one or more rectangular holes 10 in the front side 4 and corresponding projections 11 located in one or more pockets 12 in the bottom part 2. As can be seen from FIGS. 3 and 4, these projections end downward in the inclined portion 22, and when the lid portion 3 is closed, the corresponding edge portions of the holes in the inclined portion 22 and the front side 4. Retention engagement is achieved between However, the protrusions protrude only a few millimeters, typically about 3 millimeters, outward from the corresponding surface of the pocket 12, and the stable retention by these means is that the front side 4 is generally planar. The bottom portion 2 needs not to have an arcuate shape outwardly. In practice, this requirement has not always been met, and this has been found to cause problems both during the packaging process where the package is being opened and at the point of sale. These problems are solved by the holding means according to the invention.

Finally, referring to FIG. 5, an embodiment of the holding means described in the present invention is shown, in which the flange-like upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 according to the invention further extends outwardly. A flap 25 is provided. One possibility for such a flap is to be located in the part of the upper edge 6 corresponding to the position of the holding opening 10 in the lid part 3 as described above, in which case the opening 10 and the projection 11 The opening 10 and the bottom part 2 are in that the lid part is still not fully opened when the engagement between the opening 10 and the corresponding flap 25 is subsequently engaged. It can serve as a complementary holding means for the holding means provided by the corresponding projection 11 of the. However, it is also possible for the retaining flap 25 to be located in the region of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2 between the pockets 12, i.e. in the region indicated by 6 'in the figure, in which case the flap is a protrusion of the lid part 3 7 and can act as a reinforcement of the engagement between this part 6 ' of the upper edge 6 of the bottom part 2.

While various embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated and described in the foregoing portions of the detailed description, those skilled in the art will recognize other embodiments of the invention without departing from the scope described in the claims. It will be appreciated that embodiments may also be recalled. For example, various combinations of the holding means described above can be used, and the appropriate number of corresponding holding means and their positions in the lid and bottom portions can be changed according to specific requirements. In addition, as described above, the holding flap can be appropriately provided on the upper edge region of the bottom portion or in the region around it.

A package shown in an open state, comprising a corresponding holding means according to the invention for holding a lid part against the bottom part of the package when the package is in the closed state. It is a perspective view of an Example. 1 is a first perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a package with holding means according to the present invention. FIG. 2B is a second perspective view of the preferred embodiment

of the package with holding means according to the invention shown in FIG. 2A. FIG. FIG. 3 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a package provided with holding means according to the present invention. FIG. 3 is a side view of a package with holding means according to the present invention in an open state. Another more preferred package with retaining means according to the present invention. FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a package with another retaining flap according to the present invention.

Explanation of symbols

DESCRIPTION OF SYMBOLS 1 Package 2 Package bottom part 3 Package lid part 4 Front part of lid part 5 Hinge part 6 Flange-like upper peripheral part 6 'of flange part Upper flange part of flange part of egg pocket 7 Protrusion of lid part 8 Engagement surface of protrusion 9 Edge 10 Retaining opening of lid portion 11 Retaining protrusion of bottom portion 12 Pocket 13 Region between adjacent pockets 14 Opening 15 Base surface (underlying surface) 16 upper surface 17 rounded edge portion 18 edge portion 19 edge portion 20 flat edge portion 21 edge portion distal side of front side portion of lid portion 22 inclined portion of holding projection 23 edge portion of holding opening 24 hinge portion of hinge portion Side of bottom part on opposite side 25 Retaining flap

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	16360964
Filing Date:	21-Mar-2019
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004

Filed as Micro Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
Pages:				
Claims:				
CLAIMS IN EXCESS OF 20	3202	7	25	175
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
			Total in USD ($)	**175**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt	
EFS ID:	40995969
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	20575
Filer:	Brian Patrick Lynch
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	30-OCT-2020
Filing Date:	21-MAR-2019
Time Stamp:	13:39:36
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$175
RAM confirmation Number	E20200TD40376948
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Power of Attorney	POA.pdf	261081 f31a9902ab7ca6f62052b815482acaa23745e87a	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Certification of Micro Entity (Gross Income Basis)	Micro_Entity.pdf	225504 d065d1df2a071700e99b93b9f3fe6be76aa295fb	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
3		2020_10_30_Preliminary_Amendement.pdf	141623 950330f537518a80c61f625cd6bec4db364679bb	yes	16

Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
Document Description	**Start**	**End**
Claims	2	16
Transmittal Letter	1	1

Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	IDS.pdf	108836 5f4f6172b7d457207b9475b15ebfca6969874c34	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
This is not an USPTO supplied IDS fillable form					
5	Foreign Reference	CN1863717A_Total.pdf	6830509 007d174efcc18eb8da84cdf1ba13b3f89934cb15	no	26
Warnings:					

Information:					
6	Foreign Reference	WO2005035392A1.pdf	1081988 478c33dc5b6e00ef3fec7aeff10728b0d0d75747	no	25
Warnings:					
Information:					
7	Foreign Reference	01_CA2541375A1.pdf	1083650 3f3433d15326ad0ce37aabcc96cf024b32779ed9	no	24
Warnings:					
Information:					
8	Foreign Reference	01_JP2007508207A_Total.pdf	7068977 f5a1be31f9dadd52fe52db2ba7b1b57799c83011	no	20
Warnings:					
Information:					
9	Non Patent Literature	Avolo_Website.pdf	316082 6946719af4a0473c1efe4f27873c34cbd5d26f94	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
10	Non Patent Literature	Polskie_Fermy.pdf	1366937 02fa81f756476058a1d0c25685c5c92bcd4ecbf7	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
11	Non Patent Literature	Pulpcrafts_Website.pdf	4631647 49201b91ba8473604f2e5df34bf5194759003282	no	8
Warnings:					
Information:					
12	Non Patent Literature	Shutterstock.pdf	413702 ac7427b41a6057610054de3b0a05d157077220f8	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					

13	Non Patent Literature	Sortiment_Englisch_Total.pdf	795037 370ec0db0f1e74a253b2cf1fcff10f8a319fa821	no	33
Warnings:					
Information:					
14	Non Patent Literature	Vintext_Website.pdf	539405 c305f3b865bf22f3ab2cb976d1ed0762ce8614ad	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
15	Non Patent Literature	01_imagic_Brochure_Total.pdf	1525128 e1bd085ea658ffe5ba8999479a72e7921383c311	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
16	Non Patent Literature	01_imagic_MAX_brochure_total.pdf	1419310 c0aa1a12d5dea4cb310af9a56b5b70d096ad34f4	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
17	Non Patent Literature	01_Superface_Brochure_Total.pdf	1817946 5b3fd309e11ed18628fbca43a06f484fa1443af2	no	4
Warnings:					
Information:					
18	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30439 605eef536660f16999b37596ac4eed0fc74660d7	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	29657801		

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82B (07-13)
Approved for use through 03/31/2021. OMB 0651-0035
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POWER OF ATTORNEY BY APPLICANT

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in either the attached transmittal letter or the boxes below.

Application Number	Filing Date
16/360,964	03/21/2019

(Note: The boxes above may be left blank if information is provided on form PTO/AIA/82A.)

☑ I hereby appoint the Patent Practitioner(s) associated with the following Customer Number as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above: 84194

OR

☐ I hereby appoint Practitioner(s) named in the attached list (form PTO/AIA/82C) as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the patent application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above. (Note: Complete form PTO/AIA/82C.)

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached transmittal letter or the boxes above to:

☑ The address associated with the above-mentioned Customer Number

OR

☐ The address associated with Customer Number:

OR

☐ Firm or Individual Name	
Address	
City	State / Zip
Country	
Telephone	Email

I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone

☑ Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

☐ Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature	Date (Optional) 25 October 2020
Name	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Title	Me

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☐ Total of forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.131, 1.32, and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

25/10/20, 3:15 p

CERTIFICATION OF MICRO ENTITY STATUS
(GROSS INCOME BASIS)

Application Number or Control Number (if applicable):	Patent Number (if applicable):
16/360,964	
First Named Inventor:	**Title of Invention:**
Maurice Tabone	Container Base and Lid with Planar Area

The applicant hereby certifies the following—

(1) **SMALL ENTITY REQUIREMENT** – The applicant qualifies as a small entity as defined in 37 CFR 1.27.

(2) **APPLICATION FILING LIMIT** – Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor has been named as the inventor or a joint inventor on more than four previously filed U.S. patent applications, excluding provisional applications and international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) for which the basic national fee under 37 CFR 1.492(a) was not paid, and also excluding patent applications for which the applicant has assigned all ownership rights, or is obligated to assign all ownership rights, as a result of the applicant's previous employment.

(3) **GROSS INCOME LIMIT ON APPLICANTS AND INVENTORS** – Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor, in the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the applicable fee is being paid, had a gross income, as defined in section 61(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 61(a)), exceeding the "Maximum Qualifying Gross Income" reported on the USPTO Web site at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/law/micro_entity.jsp which is equal to three times the median household income for that preceding calendar year, as most recently reported by the Bureau of the Census.

(4) **GROSS INCOME LIMIT ON PARTIES WITH AN "OWNERSHIP INTEREST"** – Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor has assigned, granted, or conveyed, nor is under an obligation by contract or law to assign, grant, or convey, a license or other ownership interest in the application concerned to an entity that, in the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the applicable fee is being paid, had a gross income, as defined in section 61(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, exceeding the "Maximum Qualifying Gross Income" reported on the USPTO Web site at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/law/micro_entity.jsp which is equal to three times the median household income for that preceding calendar year, as most recently reported by the Bureau of the Census.

SIGNATURE by an authorized party set forth in 37 CFR 1.33(b)

Signature					
Name	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone				
Date	25 Oct 2020	Telephone		Registration No.	

☐ There is more than one inventor and I am one of the inventors who are jointly identified as the applicant. The required additional certification form(s) signed by the other joint inventor(s) are included with this form.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20 and add claims 21-47 as follows:

1-20.**(Cancelled)**

21.**(New)** A container for packaging a product, the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid movable about a hinge with respect to the base from an open position to a closed position, wherein the closed position defines a cavity inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the base, lid, and hinge having a unitary construction from a material having a generally defined thickness between a first material surface and a second material surface disposed on immediately opposite sides of the material, wherein at least a portion of the first material surface is parallel to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the cavity having

a base portion dimensioned to contain a first portion of the product in the base and

a lid portion dimensioned to contain a second portion of the product in the lid, and

wherein

the lid portion is disposed beyond the base and outward from the base portion, and

the cavity is generally defined by the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat top disposed parallel to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top to a bottom edge of the lid,

wherein

the bottom edge is between, and outward from both, the substantially flat lid top and the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

the substantially planar frontal extension extends obliquely to the floor when the lid is in the closed position,

having a first planar area on the substantially planar frontal extension's portion of the first material surface, and

having a first lid hole fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area;

the base having

a sidewall extending from the floor to a base rim that generally defines an opening for the base portion of the cavity, wherein the sidewall and floor each includes portions of both the first and second material surfaces,

a base extension

extending from the base,

having

a primary surface area with a flat portion facing external to the cavity wherein the flat portion is bounded by a first boundary and a second boundary,

a second planar area on the flat portion disposed obliquely to the floor, and

a secondary surface area that is

on the direct opposite side of the material from the flat portion and

is an extension of the sidewall's portion of the first material surface; and

wherein in the closed position

the first planar area, the second planar area, and the first and second boundaries of the flat portion are all generally coplanar,

a first flat portion of a label covers both

the primary surface area of the base extension and the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension, and

the primary surface area is adjacent to the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

22.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the lid has a lid rim that generally defines an opening for the lid portion of the cavity,

the bottom edge of the lid is located on the lid rim, and

the first flat portion of the label fully extends

from adjacent the substantially flat top

to the bottom edge of the lid.

23.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is fully circumscribed by a planar lid hole edge of the substantially planar lid area.

24.**(New)** The container of claim 23 wherein the base extension extends into the first lid hole when the lid is in the closed position, and

the bottom edge of the lid is distant from the floor when the lid is in the closed position.

25.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the label has a second flat portion located between a third flat portion and the first flat portion of the label, wherein

the second flat portion is located on the substantially flat top of the lid, and

the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat top of the lid.

26.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the bottom edge of the lid extends from nearly adjacent the first lid hole to nearly adjacent a second lid hole in the substantially planar lid area of the substantially planar frontal extension.

27.**(New)** The container of claim 26 wherein

between the first lid hole and the second lid hole the bottom edge of the lid has a convex curvature.

28.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the floor of the base has a length and a width, wherein

the length of the floor is bounded by a first end and a second end, and the substantially planar frontal extension fully extends the length of the floor.

29.**(New)** The container of claim 28 wherein

the label fully extends the length of the floor.

30.**(New)** The container of claim 21 wherein

the first lid hole is entirely located between the bottom edge of the lid and the substantially flat top of the lid.

31.**(New)** A container for packaging a product,

the container comprising:

a base having a floor;

a lid moveable about a hinge with respect to the base from:

a substantially open position to

a substantially closed position,

wherein the substantially closed position substantially defines a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid, the base and lid both formed from a container material;

the cavity having

a base portion of the cavity dimensioned to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base, and

a lid portion of the cavity having a shape suitable to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed outside the base portion of the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position, wherein the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outward from the base portion of the cavity;

the container material having

a material thickness generally defined by a first material surface disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material to a second material surface, and

wherein a portion of the first material surface is substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second material surface;

the lid having

a substantially flat lid top area

disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and including

a lid top portion of the first material surface disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area,

a substantially planar frontal extension

extending from the substantially flat lid top area to a bottom edge of the lid, wherein the bottom edge of the lid is between the substantially flat lid top area and the floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position and beyond an area directly between the substantially flat lid top area and floor when the lid is in the substantially closed position, and having a lid front portion of the first material surface disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area when the lid is in the substantially closed position and the

floor is positioned substantially horizontal with the substantially flat lid top area located above the floor, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor, and

a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid, and

a lid hole substantially defined in the container material

by a lid hole edge and

fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area,

wherein the second material surface of the substantially flat lid top area and the second material surface of the substantially planar frontal extension intersect at an obtuse angle;

the base having

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprises an external floor surface area disposed on the first material surface and an internal floor surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor having, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first material surface and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second material surface,

a rim wherein, a portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity, and

a base extension generally extending from the rim, the base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity, wherein the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second material surface, and wherein the base extension having a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first material surface

wherein when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally away from the hinge from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion, wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

a label

covering the substantially flat lid top area of the lid,

having a substantially flat portion covering the substantially planar frontal extension,

wherein

the label extends beyond the substantially planar frontal extension,

when the lid is in the substantially closed position, the label covers the flat portion of the base extension; and

the lid having a first planar area disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension, the base having a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface disposed obliquely to the floor,

wherein the first planar area and the second planar area are

generally coplanar and

disposed facing externally with respect to the cavity when the lid is in the substantially closed position.

32.**(New)** The container of claim 31 wherein,

in the substantially closed position, both, the lid hole and the lid hole edge are entirely encompassed within the substantially planar frontal extension.

33.**(New)** The container of claim 31 wherein

the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinge and the substantially planar frontal extension;

the label has

a first flat portion encompassing the substantially flat portion,

a second flat portion covering the substantially flat lid top area, and

a third flat portion,

wherein the first flat portion is separated from the third flat portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area.

34.**(New)** A container for packaging contents intended for sale wherein, the contents comprising a product, the container comprising:

a container material substantially comprising a base, a floor and, a lid moveable with respect to the base from, at least one substantially open position to, at least one substantially closed position wherein, the at least one substantially closed position substantially defining a cavity disposed substantially inside the container between the floor and the lid;

the cavity comprising:

a base portion of the cavity to contain at least a first portion of the product disposed substantially inside the base; and

a lid portion of the cavity modified to contain at least a second portion of the product disposed substantially outside the base portion of the cavity wherein,

the container material further comprising:

a material thickness having a dimension generally defined by two material surfaces wherein, a first of the two material surfaces is disposed on an immediately opposite side of the container material with respect to a second of the two material surfaces and wherein, at least one portion of

the first of the two material surfaces is disposed substantially parallel with respect to an immediately opposite portion of the second of the two material surfaces;

the lid comprising:

the lid portion of the cavity comprising a shape suitable to contain at least the second portion of the product disposed outside the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the lid portion of the cavity is disposed at least generally beyond the base and generally outwardly with respect to the base portion of the cavity;

a hinged attachment to the base disposed generally adjacent to a hinged side of the lid wherein, the lid is movable about the hinged attachment between, the at least one substantially open position and, the at least one substantially closed position;

a substantially flat lid top area disposed at least generally parallel to the floor when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the substantially flat lid top area comprising a lid top portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a first predominantly external lid surface area;

a substantially planar frontal extension comprising a lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces disposed on a second predominantly external lid surface area extending generally downwardly from the substantially flat lid top area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the floor is positioned substantially horizontally, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed facing substantially upwardly with respect to the floor and, wherein comprising a lid end portion defined generally at a margin of the lid wherein, the substantially planar frontal extension is inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area; and

at least one lid hole comprising an opening substantially defined in the container material by a lid hole edge wherein, the at least one lid hole is fully encompassed within a substantially planar lid area having the lid hole edge;

the base comprising:

the floor wherein, with respect to the cavity, the floor comprising, at least one external floor surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and at least one internal floor surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

at least one sidewall extending generally upwardly from the floor and comprising, with respect to the cavity, a predominantly external sidewall surface area disposed on the first of the two material surfaces and a predominantly internal sidewall surface area disposed on the second of the two material surfaces;

a rim wherein, at least one portion of the rim partially defines a base opening suitable for at least partial receipt of the product into the base portion of the cavity; and

at least one base extension generally extending from the at least one portion of the rim, the at least one base extension comprising a primary surface area disposed facing substantially externally with respect to the base portion of the cavity wherein, the primary surface area comprising a flat portion disposed on an extension of the predominantly internal sidewall surface area of the second of the two material surfaces and, wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a secondary surface area on an immediately opposite side of the container material to the flat portion of primary surface area, the secondary surface area disposed on an extension of the predominantly external sidewall surface area of the first of the two material surfaces wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the container is orientated wherein the floor is substantially horizontal and the at least one external floor surface area faces substantially downwardly, the substantially planar frontal extension is disposed obliquely to the floor and projects generally downwardly in a direction generally away from the hinged side of the lid from, the substantially flat lid top area to, the lid end portion wherein the substantially planar frontal extension terminates substantially at the margin;

the container further comprising:

a first planar area disposed on the lid, within the bounds of the substantially planar frontal extension; and

a second planar area disposed on the flat portion of the primary surface, disposed obliquely with respect to the floor wherein,

when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position,

the first planar area and the second planar area face substantially in the same direction wherein,

the container comprising;

a substantially flat area, inclined at a reflex angle of less than 270 degrees with respect to the substantially flat lid top area wherein, the substantially flat area comprising:

a circumferential dimension which is substantially less than each of, a largest internal perimeter of the base opening and an outermost perimeter of the lid;

an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area, disposed facing at least substantially externally with respect to the cavity; and

at least one surface configuration between the lid and the base comprising, at least, the first planar area of the lid, at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area and, the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension wherein, the flat portion comprising the second planar area disposed substantially co-planar with respect to, both, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces and the at least two distinct boundary portions, to comprise the substantially flat area, wherein,

the substantially flat area is disposed substantially outside of the cavity of the container and is suitable to be covered in a generally flat fashion by a substantially flat portion of an entire label wherein, the entire label is proposed to be received by the container wherein the entire label is larger than the substantially flat area and wherein,

the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to contour substantially to the substantially flat area, in the generally flat fashion, to cover at least two immediately adjacent surface portions of the container with respect to the at least one surface configuration wherein,
a first of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is the entire flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension and, a second of the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions is disposed on the substantially planar frontal extension wherein,
when contouring to the substantially flat area and covering the at least two immediately adjacent surface portions in the generally flat fashion, the substantially flat portion of the entire label is proposed to at least generally contour to an outermost shape of the container including, at least each of, the lid front portion of the first of the two material surfaces of the substantially planar frontal extension, the second planar area and, the at least two distinct boundary portions of the flat portion of the primary surface area of the at least one base extension.

35.**(New)** The container of claim 34 wherein, the at least one base extension comprising a formed section wherein, the formed section stands proud of the at least one portion of the rim wherein, the second planar area comprising a planar perimeter wherein, a portion of the planar perimeter defines at least two distinct sides of the second planar area and wherein, the at least one lid hole is disposed at least generally adjacent to the first planar area wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds to and mates with the at least two distinct sides of the second planar area, to expose the second planar area wherein, facilitating the at least one surface configuration, to provide the substantially flat area.

36.**(New)** The container of claim 35 wherein, the lid hole edge is substantially planar and wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the lid hole edge and the at least one lid hole are entirely encompassed within a perimeter of the substantially flat area.

37.**(New)** The container of claim 35 wherein, the substantially flat lid top area has a width disposed generally between the hinged side of the lid and the substantially planar frontal extension; the entire label having a first flat label portion, a second flat label portion, and a third flat label portion located between the first and second flat label portions, wherein the first flat label portion comprising the substantially flat portion of the entire label; wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position and the entire label is received by the container, the third flat label portion substantially spans the width of the substantially flat lid top area and is located directly above the floor, the first flat label portion is separated from the second flat label portion by the width of the substantially flat lid top area, and the substantially flat area is both, substantially parallel and immediately adjacent with respect to the first flat label portion.

38.**(New)** The container of claim 35 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponds with the flat portion of the primary surface area wherein, the formed section of the at least one base extension protrudes from the base, generally into the at least one lid hole, to provide the substantially flat area wherein, the substantially flat area is substantially coplanar with the planar perimeter of the flat portion.

39.**(New)** The container of claim 36 wherein, a portion of the margin of the lid extends from, a first opening area adjacent to a first of the at least one lid hole to, a second opening area adjacent to a second of the at least one lid hole wherein, the portion of the margin includes a most forwardly extended point of the lid when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position wherein, the most forwardly extended point of the lid is generally disposed at the front of the container, on a directly opposite side of the container to the hinged attachment.

40.**(New)** The container of claim 39 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the portion of the margin includes at least one point which is closer, to either of, the first lid hole and the second lid hole, than to the floor of the base.

41.**(New)** The container of claim 34 wherein, the container comprising at least one mechanical locking mechanism disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area, to lock the lid to the base when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

42.**(New)** The container of claim 41 wherein, when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position, the margin of the lid extends from

a first lock area adjacent to a first of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism to

a second lock area adjacent to a second of the at least one mechanical locking mechanism;

wherein between the first lock area and the second lock area, the margin has at least one convex curvature portion.

43.**(New)** The container of claim 41 further comprising a chamfered abutment of an edge of the first planar area and at least a part of the second planar area disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

44.**(New)** The container of claim 41 wherein, the first planar area and the second planar area partially overlap when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position;
further comprising an overlap of a lid material portion and a base material portion, disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area when the lid is in the at least one substantially closed position.

45.**(New)** The container of claim 44 wherein, the overlap includes the first planar area located adjacent to the second planar area and disposed within the perimeter of the substantially flat area.

46.**(New)** The container of claim 45 wherein, first planar area of the overlap is separated from the second planar area of the overlap by the dimension of the material thickness.

47.**(New)** The container of claim 45 wherein, the substantially flat area is covered with the substantially flat portion of the entire label in the generally flat fashion, to span the overlap.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Examiner: Kirsch
Tabone, Maurice	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Serial No. **16/360,964**	)	
	)	Confirmation No. 9424
Filed: **March 21, 2019**	)	
	)	

Mail Stop: Responses
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Third Preliminary Amendment

Enclosed is a third preliminary amendment replacing claims 1-20 with claims 21 through 47. Additional fees for claims in excess of 20 are enclosed. An additional information disclosure statement, power of attorney, and certification of micro-entity status are also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **October 30, 2020**

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PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☑ LARGE ☐ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $100 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $460 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	10/30/2020	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 27	Minus	** 20	= 7		x $100 =	700
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	*** 3	= 0		x $480 =	0
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	700

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	LIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/MARSHA R RICHARDS/
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".	
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 408889-0004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone — Confirmation No. 9424

Serial No. 16/360,964 — Examiner: TBA

Filed: March 21, 2019 — Group Art Unit: TBA

For: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Date: September 16, 2019

SUBMITTED VIA EFS

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to Examination, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

4820-0372-4966.1

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process of covering an exterior area of a container with a portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container in the closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponding to and, exposing, at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area when the container is in the closed position wherein, ~~both,~~ the exposed portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area~~,~~ are substantially co-planar and face generally outwardly ~~in a similar direction~~ with respect to the interior cavity of the base wherein, the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, together, comprise a substantially flat area, the substantially flat area being suitable for at least a portion of the label to be affixed to in a substantially flat fashion, the substantially flat fashion being substantially contoured to the outer shape of the container including the portion of the primary surface, to bind the portion of the primary surface to the at least one lid surface area with the portion of the label, when the container is in the closed position;

the process comprising:

affixing at least a part of the label to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface area;

covering at least a part of the edge of the at least one lid hole with a substantially planar part of the label; and

covering at least a part of the at least one lid hole with the substantially planar part of the label, the substantially planar part of the label at least partially disposed on the at least one lid surface area.

2. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein the container comprising at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism with the substantially planar part of the label.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprise~~s~~ing a ~~simple~~ partial overlap between the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ and the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, the ~~simple~~ partial overlap comprising a substantially parallel arrangement of a substantially planar surface portion of each of, the lid and, the base, resulting in a small step from the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ to the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, and wherein the ~~simple~~ partial overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with the substantially planar part of the label ~~when the container is in the closed position~~.

5. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

6. (Currently Amended) A process of covering a portion of a surface area of a base of a container with portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening disposed on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one

sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

wherein the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container in the closed position, the at least one lid hole mating with at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area when the container is in the closed position,

wherein the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area are substantially co-planar and face ~~in a substantially similar direction and~~ generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base wherein, the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, together, comprise a substantially flat area, the substantially flat area being suitable for at least a portion of the label to be affixed to in a substantially flat fashion, the substantially flat fashion being substantially contoured to the outer shape of the container including the portion of the primary surface, to bind the portion of the primary surface to the at least one lid surface area with the portion of the label, when the container is in the closed position;

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the edge are, each, at least partially covered with a substantially planar part of the label, the label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface area;

the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the portion of the primary surface with the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

7. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 6 wherein, the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism~~s~~ with the substantially planar part of the label.

8. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

9. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the lid comprises of two or more parts.

10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprise~~s~~ing a ~~simple~~ partial overlap between the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ and the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, the ~~simple~~ partial overlap comprising a substantially parallel arrangement of a substantially planar surface portion of each of, the lid and, the base, resulting in a small step from the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ to the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, and wherein the ~~simple~~ partial overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with the substantially planar part of the label ~~when the container is in the closed position~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position,

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container in the closed position, the at least one lid hole corresponding to at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area when the container is in the closed position, wherein, ~~both,~~ the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area are substantially co-planar and face generally outwardly ~~in a similar direction~~ with respect to the interior cavity of the base wherein, the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, together, comprise a substantially flat area, the substantially flat area being suitable for at least a portion of the label to be affixed to in a substantially flat fashion, the

substantially flat fashion being substantially contoured to the outer shape of the container including the portion of the primary surface, to bind the portion of the primary surface to the at least one lid surface area with the portion of the label, when the container is in the closed position; and

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface are at least partially covered with a substantially planar part of a single label, the single label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface when the container is in the closed position.

12. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 11 wherein the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the at least one locking mechanism being at least partially covered with the substantially planar part of the single label.

13. (Original) The container of claim 11 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

14. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprise~~s~~ing a ~~simple~~ partial overlap between the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ and the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, the ~~simple~~ partial overlap comprising a substantially parallel arrangement of a substantially planar surface portion of each of, the lid and, the base, resulting in a small step from the ~~at least one~~ lid ~~surface area~~ to the ~~primary surface of the at least one~~ base ~~area~~, and wherein the ~~simple~~ partial overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with the substantially planar part of the label ~~when the container is in the closed position~~.

15. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 11 wherein the single label is an adhesive label.

16. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 11 comprising:

two or more of each of, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base area, wherein the single label is adhesively applied to some of these.

17. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 11 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is substantially disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

18. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

20. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 17 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area are, each, substantially covered with the substantially planar part of the single label.

REMARKS

This Second Supplemental Preliminary Amendment follows the Supplementary Preliminary Amendment filed March 26, 2019, and the Preliminary Amendment filed March 25, 2019. Claims 1, 4, 6, 10, 11, and 14 are currently amended.

The claims have been amended to more clearly set out what Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 360-619-7028 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case. Allowance of all claims is requested.

Customer No. 20575

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L. Reed

Julie L. Reed
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503.224.5858

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	37169619
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	20575
Filer:	Julie L. Reed/Dawn Kowalewski
Filer Authorized By:	Julie L. Reed
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
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Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		408889-0004_2Supplemental-Preliminary-Amendment.pdf	65591 d7c69d89df08bedef1dd0ac792b662d93b02b845	yes	8

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Preliminary Amendment	1	1
	Claims	2	7
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	8	8
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	65591	

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
16/360,964	03/21/2019	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone	408889-0004

CONFIRMATION NO. 9424

20575
Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
3400 U.S. Bancorp Tower
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PUBLICATION NOTICE

OC000000109737926

Title:CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Publication No.US-2019-0218003-A1
Publication Date:07/18/2019

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

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Office of Data Managment, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 16/360,964

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A	75		N/A	
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A	330		N/A	
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A	380		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	20 minus 20 =	*	x 50 =	0.00	OR		
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3 minus 3 =	*	x 230 =	0.00			
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).			0.00			
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))				0.00			
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL	785		TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT A	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT B	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x =		OR	x =	
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest found in the appropriate box in column 1.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
16/360,964	03/21/2019	3781	785	408889-0004	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 9424

FILING RECEIPT

20575
Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
3400 U.S. Bancorp Tower
111 SW Fifth Avenue
PORTLAND, OR 97204

OC000000107185378

Date Mailed: 04/08/2019

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections**

Inventor(s)

Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone, Moorebank, AUSTRALIA;

Applicant(s)

Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone, Moorebank, AUSTRALIA;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 20575

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 15/656,623 07/21/2017
which is a CON of 12/449,556 08/12/2009 ABN
which is a 371 of PCT/AU2008/000173 02/12/2008

Foreign Applications (You may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.)
AUSTRALIA 2007902246 04/30/2007 No Access Code Provided
AUSTRALIA 2007900654 02/12/2007 No Access Code Provided

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The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 16/360,964**

Projected Publication Date: 07/18/2019

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No
**** SMALL ENTITY ****
Title

CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Preliminary Class

220

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications: No

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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 408889-0004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone — Confirmation No. 9424

Serial No. 16/360,964 — Examiner: N/A

Filed: March 21, 2019 — Group Art Unit: N/A

For: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Date: March 26, 2019

SUBMITTED VIA EFS

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to Examination, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

4842-8395-5855.1

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	35535290
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	20575
Filer:	Julie L. Reed/Dawn Kowalewski
Filer Authorized By:	Julie L. Reed
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	26-MAR-2019
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	16:46:57
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		408889-0004_Supplemental-Preliminary-Amendment.pdf	62853 19bb8ad6d2d2645b17e343c16407783b5e0f9f9d	yes	8

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Abstract	8	8
	Claims	2	7
	Supplemental Response or Supplemental Amendment	1	1
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	62853	

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REMARKS

This Supplemental Preliminary Amendment follows the Preliminary Amendment filed March 25, 2019. Claims 15, 19, and 20 were further amended to correct the claim dependencies.

The claims as shown here include the amendments previously filed in the Preliminary Amendment, if those have already been entered, they can be disregarded and only the amendments to claims 15, 19 and 20 need be entered.

The claims have been amended to more clearly set out what Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18-20 have been added by this amendment.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 360-619-7028 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case. Allowance of all claims is requested.

Customer No. 20575

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L. Reed

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Reg. No. 35,349

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4842-8395-5855.1

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process of covering an exterior area of a container with a portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole corresponding to and, exposing, at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position wherein, both, the exposed portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, face generally outwardly in a similar direction with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

the process comprising:

affixing at least a part of the label to at least a ~~part~~ portion of the at least one lid surface area;

covering at least a part of the edge of the at least one lid hole with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of the label; and

covering at least a part of the at least one lid hole with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label, the substantially planar part of the label at least partially disposed on the at least one lid surface area.

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the container comprising at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprises a simple overlap between the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, and wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

5. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

6. (Currently Amended) A process of covering a portion of a surface area of a base of a container with portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

wherein the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole mating with at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position,

wherein the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face in a substantially similar direction and generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the edge are, each, at least partially covered with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of the label, the label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface area;

the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the portion of the primary surface with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein, the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism~~s~~ with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label.

8. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

9. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the lid comprises of two or more parts.

10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area,

wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

11. (Currently Amended) A container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position,

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole corresponding to at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position wherein, both, the

portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face generally outwardly in a similar direction with respect to the interior cavity of the base; and

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface are at least partially covered with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of a single label, the single label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface when the container is in the closed position.

12. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the at least one locking mechanism being at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the single label.

13. (Original) The container of claim 11 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

14. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein when the container is in the closed position,

the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the single label when the container is in the closed position.

15. (Currently Amended) The container of claim ~~13~~ 11 wherein the single label is an adhesive label.

16. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 comprising:

two or more of each of, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, wherein the single label is adhesively applied to some of these ~~surfaces~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is ~~at least partially~~ substantially disposed at an oblique angle to the ~~opening~~ floor of the base.

Please add the following claims:

18. (New) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

19. (New and Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~7~~ 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

20. (New and Currently Amended) The container of claim ~~19~~ 17 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area are, each, substantially covered with the substantially planar part of the single label.

PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
Approved for use through 1/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875	Application or Docket Number 16/360,964	Filing Date 03/21/2019	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☑ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA		RATE ($)	FEE ($)
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	minus 20 =	*		x $50 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $230 =	
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is $310 ($155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).				
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))					
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT	03/26/2019	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 20	Minus	** 20	= 0		x $50 =	0
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	*** 3	= 0		x $230 =	0
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	0

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)			
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.	SLIE
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".	/SHARON M WEST/
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".	
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.	

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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 408889-0040

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone — Confirmation No. 9424

Serial No. 16/360,964 — Examiner: N/A

Filed: March 21, 2019 — Group Art Unit: N/A

For: CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Date: March 25, 2019

SUBMITTED VIA EFS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to Examination, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	35521555
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Customer Number:	20575
Filer:	Julie L. Reed/Dawn Kowalewski
Filer Authorized By:	Julie L. Reed
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	25-MAR-2019
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	17:03:42
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		408889-0004_Preliminary-Amendment.pdf	61323 e914029d8c368003b9f0bad107ad64754d448603	yes	8

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	8	8
	Claims	2	7
	Preliminary Amendment	1	1
Warnings:			
Information:			
	Total Files Size (in bytes):	61323	

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly set out what Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18-20 have been added by this amendment.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 360-619-7028 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case. Allowance of all claims is requested.

Customer No. 20575

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L. Reed

Julie L. Reed
Reg. No. 35,349

MILLER NASH GRAHAM & DUNN LLP
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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process of covering an exterior area of a container with a portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole corresponding to and, exposing, at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position wherein, both, the exposed portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, face generally outwardly in a similar direction with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

the process comprising:

affixing at least a part of the label to at least a ~~part~~ portion of the at least one lid surface area;

covering at least a part of the edge of the at least one lid hole with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of the label; and

covering at least a part of the at least one lid hole with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label, the substantially planar part of the label at least partially disposed on the at least one lid surface area.

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the container comprising at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprises a simple overlap between the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, and wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

5. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

6. (Currently Amended) A process of covering a portion of a surface area of a base of a container with portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

wherein the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole mating with at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position,

wherein the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face in a substantially similar direction and generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the edge are, each, at least partially covered with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of the label, the label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface area;

the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the portion of the primary surface with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein, the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism~~s~~ with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label.

8. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

9. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the lid comprises of two or more parts.

10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area,

wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

11. (Currently Amended) A container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position,

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity comprising an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base ~~surface~~ area disposed at an oblique angle to the opening on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area outside the interior cavity and beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole comprising an edge in common with at least one lid surface area disposed in a substantially flat area of the exterior area of the container, the at least one lid hole corresponding to at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area when the container is in the closed position wherein, both, the

portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face generally outwardly in a similar direction with respect to the interior cavity of the base; and

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface are at least partially covered with ~~at least~~ a substantially planar part of a single label, the single label being affixed to at least a portion of the at least one lid surface when the container is in the closed position.

12. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the at least one locking mechanism being at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the single label.

13. (Original) The container of claim 11 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

14. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein when the container is in the closed position,

the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with ~~at least a~~ the substantially planar part of the single label when the container is in the closed position.

15. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 13 wherein the single label is an adhesive label.

16. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 comprising:

two or more of each of, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base ~~surface~~ area, wherein the single label is adhesively applied to some of these ~~surfaces~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 11 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is ~~at least partially~~ substantially disposed at an oblique angle to the ~~opening~~ floor of the base.

Please add the following claims:

18. (New) The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

19. (New) The process of claim 7 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is disposed at an oblique angle to the floor of the base.

20. (New) The container of claim 19 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface of the at least one base area are, each, substantially covered with the substantially planar part of the single label.

Doc Code: PA..
Document Description: Power of Attorney

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☐ Firm or Individual Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip	
Country					
Telephone		Email			

I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone

☑ Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)

☐ Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

☐ Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature		Date (Optional)	
Name	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone		
Title			

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☑ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

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DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION USING AN APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)

Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is directed to:

- [■] The attached application, or
- [ ] United States application or PCT international application number _____

filed on _____.

The above-identified application was made or authorized to be made by me.

I believe that I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application.

I hereby acknowledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or imprisonment of not more than five (5) years, or both.

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LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR

Inventor: Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone Date (Optional) :_____

Signature: _____

Note: An application data sheet (PTO/SB/14 or equivalent), including naming the entire inventive entity, must accompany this form or must have been previously filed. Use an additional PTO/AIA/01 form for each additional inventor.

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(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	
Filing Date	2019-03-21
First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

U.S.PATENTS Remove

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4312451		1982-01-26	Forbes, Jr., Hampton E.	
	2	5636737		1997-06-10	Marsilio	
	3	6540074		2003-04-01	Sankey et al.	
	4	5405009		1995-04-11	Hackenbracht	
	5	5893587		1999-04-13	Wong	
	6	6352170		2002-03-05	Brown et al.	
	7	5018622		1991-05-28	Hartley	
	8	4570818		1986-02-18	Borst et al.	

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code[1]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	20040226955		2004-11-18	Frantz	
	2	20170341833		2017-11-30	Tabone	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Remove

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number[3]	Country Code[2] i	Kind Code[4]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[5]
	1	1558504	EP		2005-08-03	Brodrene Hartmann		
	2	2008098288	WO		2008-08-21	Tabone		
	3	2349182	FR		1977-11-18	Moll Gerard		
	4	2003234951	AU		2004-06-10	Tacca-Plastics		

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Remove

Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[5]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

	1	International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP), PCT/AU2008/000173 (WO2008098288), 2009-04-30	

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	2019-03-21
	First Named Inventor	Maurice Joseph Paul Tabone
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

See attached certification statement.

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Julie L. Reed/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-03-21
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Abstract

The embodiments provide a container (40) of the type to hold fresh food or produce. Container (40) has a base (42) and a lid (44) moveable with respect to the base (42) between an open position and a closed position. The lid (44) has a planar area (54). The base has a second planar area (56). In the closed position, the first planar (54) and the second planar area (56) include a substantially flat area suitable for receipt of an adhesive membrane, such as a self-adhesive label. The substantially flat area includes an edge (55) of the first planar area (54) and at least part of the second planar area (56).

The Claims

1. A process of covering an exterior area of a container with a portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base surface area disposed on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole corresponding to and, exposing, at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base surface area when the container is in the closed position wherein, the exposed portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area, face generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

the process comprising:

affixing at least a part of the label to at least a part of the at least one lid surface area;

covering at least a part of the edge of the at least one lid hole with at least a part of the label; and

covering at least a part of the at least one lid hole with at least a part of the label.

2. The process of claim 1 wherein the container comprising at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the at least one locking mechanism with at least a part of the label.

3. The process of claim 1 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

4. The process of claim 1 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprises a simple overlap between the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, and wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with at least a part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

5. The process of claim 1 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

6. A process of covering a portion of a surface area of a base of a container with portion of a sheet material comprising a label;

the container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position;

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base surface area disposed on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

wherein the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole mating with at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base surface area when the container is in the closed position,

wherein the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base;

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the edge are, each, at least partially covered with at least a part of the label;

the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the portion of the primary surface with at least a part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

7. The process of claim 6 wherein, the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the process comprising:

covering at least a part of the locking mechanisms with at least a part of the label.

8. The process of claim 6 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

9. The process of claim 6 wherein the lid comprises of two or more parts.

10. The process of claim 6 wherein when the container is in the closed position the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base surface area,

wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with at least a part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

11. A container comprising a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position,

the base comprising a floor, at least one sidewall upwardly extending to at least partially define an interior cavity having an opening through which product may be at least partially inserted into the interior cavity when the container is in the open position;

at least one base surface area disposed on an extension from the base comprising a primary surface on a continuation of an interior surface of the at least one sidewall with respect to the interior cavity of the base, the primary surface facing generally away from the floor and comprising an opposing secondary surface;

the lid comprising a lid shape to at least partially contain product which may extend from inside the interior cavity of the base to an area beyond the opening when the container is in the closed position;

the lid comprising at least one lid hole having an edge in common with at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole corresponding to at least a portion of the primary surface of the at least one base surface area when the container is in the closed position wherein, the portion of the primary surface and the at least one lid surface area face generally outwardly with respect to the interior cavity of the base; and

wherein the at least one lid surface area, the at least one lid hole and, the portion of the primary surface are at least partially covered with at least a part of a label when the container is in the closed position.

12. The container of claim 11 wherein the container comprises at least one locking mechanism disposed on the lid and the base, the at least one locking mechanism being at least partially covered with at least a part of the label.

13. The container of claim 11 wherein the lid comprises two or more parts.

14. The container of claim 11 wherein when the container is in the closed position, the container comprising a simple overlap between, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, the simple overlap resulting in a small step from the at least one lid surface area to the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, wherein the simple overlap and the small step are at least partially covered with at least a part of the label when the container is in the closed position.

15. The container of claim 11 wherein the label is an adhesive label.

16. The container of claim 11 comprising:

two or more of each of, the at least one lid surface area and the primary surface of the at least one base surface area, wherein the label is adhesively applied to some of these surfaces.

17. The container of claim 11 wherein in the closed position, the at least one lid surface area is at least partially disposed at an oblique angle to the opening of the base.

CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE

Related Applications

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 15/656,623 filed July 21, 2017, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 12/449,556, filed August 12, 2009, now abandoned, which is a U.S. National Phase entry under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/AU2008/000173, filed February 12, 2008, which claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) of Australian Application No. 2007902246, filed April 30, 2007, and Australian Application No. 2007900654, filed February 12, 2007.

Technical Field

[0002] This disclosure relates to containers. In particular, this disclosure relates to containers intended to hold fresh food or produce, although the scope is not limited to this area. The disclosure is especially concerned with containers in a form which can facilitate application of labels, such as tamper evident labels.

[0003] Priority is claimed of Australian Patent Application Nos 2007900654 and 2007902246, the contents of the specifications of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Background

[0001] Thermoformed containers suitable for holding fresh food or produce are in common use. Traditionally, these have consisted of a base with a lid, the lid being hinged to the base or separate therefrom. In order to secure the lid to the base, these known containers require one or more labels to be adhered to both the lid and the base in a "wrap around" fashion. In high output

operations, there is a problem in applying a "wrap around" (non-flat) label because automated equipment is generally designed for flat label application.

[0002] In addition, labels applied to containers of this type often carry a barcode, usually along with other information. There can be problems in scanning barcodes on non-flat labels. Consequently, from this point of view, a flat label would be preferred.

[0003] It is an object of the present embodiments, at least in some embodiments, to provide a container configuration which permits flat application of labels.

[0004] More recently, a dual hinged lid container has been devised. Reference is made to Australian patent No 2003234951. The specification of this patent discloses a container having a lid provided in two parts, each part being hinged to the base. When both lids are closed, there is available a generally flat area across the lid edges in the center of the container top to permit a flat label to be applied. The flat label so applied can act as a tamper evident seal.

[0005] While this prior art dual hinged lidded container can work admirably in many applications, there are instances where it is undesirable to apply a label across a join in the center of a container lid in this manner. For example, the label may obstruct a consumer's view of contents of the container, especially where there is a relatively high label-to-lid area ratio. As another example, on larger containers, a regular sized label may prove inadequate to give a tamper evident seal. If the size of the label were to be increased, this would add to label cost and may prove uneconomical. In other instances, it may be desirable to provide a container with increased security.

[0006] It is an object of the present embodiments, at least in some embodiments, to alleviate some or all of these concerns or, at the least, to provide a useful alternative which is appropriate for containers of different shapes and sizes.

Disclosure

[0007] Accordingly, the present embodiment provides a container having a base and a lid moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position, the lid having a first planar area and the base having a second planar area, wherein, in the closed position, the first and second planar areas include a substantially flat area suitable for receipt of an adhesive membrane, the substantially flat area including an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area.

[0008] The container may be made of any suitable material but preferably is a thermoformed, relatively thin plastic material, as is presently known in the art. Examples of suitable thermoformable plastic material are polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene, polylactide (PLA) and biaxially oriented polystyrene (BOPS). The container may be of any desirable shape. Currently, most popular containers of this type are square or rectangular in cross section and these are encompassed by the present embodiments, along with other shapes.

[0009] The base preferably includes a floor and upwardly extending side walls. Preferably, all or at least one of the side walls end at a rim which, in some embodiments, may include the second planar area. If desired, the rim may include means for supporting the container during the selling process. For example, the rim may include a hang sell hole for "off-shelf ' display.

[00010] The lid or the base may include ventilation holes, ribs or arches or any other modifications suited to intended contents and/or conditions of sale.

[00011] The base and upstanding side walls may define an opening which, in use, is horizontal. However, other variations are possible. For example, the base may define an opening which, in use, is vertical and intended to be closed by a lid in a vertical orientation in use.

[00012] The lid is moveable with respect to the base between an open position and a closed position. The lid may be hinged or otherwise attached to the base in any suitable manner. Alternately, the lid may be separate from the base, in which case it may be desirable to have two or more first planar areas on the lid and correspondingly two or more second planar areas on the base if tamper evidence is required.

[00013] The lid may be generally flat or it may include shaped portions (such as one or more domes, ribs or arches) in addition to the first planar area. Optionally, the lid may include one or more recessed portions which may be useful for storing items which a consumer may require once the container has been opened. Such items may include cutlery, dressings and condiments.

[00014] The lid may be of known type, for example an "inside fitting" or an "outside fitting" lid in relation to the base when closed.

[00015] The lid may be a single lid or may be a multi-part lid. For example, the embodiments are applicable to the type of dual-lidded container in Australian patent No. 2003234951. An embodiment is shown in the drawings, below. The lid may have more than two parts.

[00016] The lid and/or the base may include any suitable mechanical locking mechanisms, such as one or more projections, each receivable in a recess with an interference- type fit. These may be located on surfaces which, in use, are horizontal or vertical, for example. Another example of a locking mechanism is a channel style lock.

[00017] The first planar area is on the lid and preferably is greater than 5cm2. The first planar area is preferably located adjacent an edge of the lid since, when a label or other adhesive

membrane is applied, at least part of the purpose is to secure the lid to the base. In a preferred embodiment, the first planar area is located opposite a hinged edge of the lid, when the lid is hinged to be base. However, it is to be understood that the embodiments are not limited to this. The first planar area may be located adjacent any edge of the lid or in any other desired location. For example, the first planar area may be located on a side of the lid (approximately vertical in use.)

[00018] The first planar area may be generally parallel to a floor in the base. However, other configurations are possible. For example, the first planar area may be disposed at an angle to some or all of the remainder of the lid. An example is illustrated in the drawings, below.

[00019] The second planar area is on the base. This may take any suitable form and many variations are possible. By way of example, the second planar area may be located on a rim for the base or on an extension thereof, optionally inclined at an angle to the rim. The lid may be contoured for a snug fit with the second planar area.

[00020] The substantially flat area suitable for receipt of an adhesive membrane includes an edge of the first planar area and at least part of the second planar area. It is intended, or course, that the adhesive membrane (preferably an adhesive label) may be applied to the substantially flat area, connecting the lid and the base in the area of the edge of the first planar area included in the substantially flat area. The first and second planar areas may be adjacent or they may partially overlap. In one view, they may be regarded as generally coplanar, although, strictly speaking, where there is a simple overlap there will be a small step from the first planar area to the second planar area.

[00021] The edge of the first planar area may simply abut at least part of the second planar area. In another embodiment, the edge of the first planar area may form a chamfered abutment with at

least part of the second planar area. In yet another embodiment, an edge of the first planar area surrounds the second planar area.

[00022] The substantially flat area is preferably located at an opposite side of the container to the hinge, or opposite each hinge when there is more than one. However, the embodiments are not limited to this configuration.

[00023] It will be appreciated that when the lid is in the closed position, the substantially flat area is preferably suitable for application of an adhesive membrane, such as a self-adhesive label applied by an automated applicator in a generally flat fashion.

[00024] While the adhesive membrane is preferably a self-adhesive label, it may also take other forms. For example, it may be a heat sealable lidding film of plastic, foil or other sheet material.

[00025] If desired, the adhesive membrane may have a perforation or other area of weakness locatable at or adjacent the edge of the first planar area within the substantially flat area. The purpose of this is to simplify opening of the container by the consumer.

[00026] If there are two or more first planar areas and second planar areas, the adhesive membrane may be applied to all of these, or some of these, or to one first planar area and one second planar area only.

[00027] If desired, the container of the embodiments may be designed so as to be nestable or stackable with identical or similar containers.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[00028] The embodiments will now be described in relation to certain non-limiting examples thereof in the accompanying drawings, in which:

[00029] Figure 1 is a plan view of a first embodiment of container, showing a lid, hinged to the base in the open position;

[00030] Figure 2 corresponds to the embodiment in Figure 1, but showing the lid in the closed position;

[00031] Figure 3 is a side elevation of the embodiment of Figures 1 and 2, with the lid in the closed position;

[00032] Figure 4 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of container, having a lid separate from the base;

[00033] Figure 5 is an exploded view of the embodiment in Figure 4;

[00034] Figure 6 is a detail of the circled portion of Figure 4;

[00035] Figure 7 is a top plan view of the embodiment of Figure 4;

[00036] Figure 8 is a front elevation of the embodiment of Figure 4;

[00037] Figure 9 is a side elevation of the embodiment of Figure 4;

[00038] Figure 10 is a top plan view of a further embodiment in the open position;

[00039] Figure 11 is a top plan view of the embodiment of Figure 10, showing the lid in the closed position;

[00040] Figure 12 is a top plan view of a further embodiment in the open position;

[00041] Figure 13 is a top plan view of the embodiment of Figure 12 in the closed position;

[00042] Figure 14 is a top plan view of a further embodiment in the open position;

[00043] Figure 15 is a top plan view of the embodiment of Figure 14 in the closed position;

[00044] Figure 16 is a top plan view of a further embodiment in the open position;

[00045] Figure 17 is a top plan view of the embodiment of Figure 16 in the closed position;

[00046] Figure 18 is a side elevation of a further embodiment, where the first and second planar areas are at an angle to the base and lid, the lid being in the open position in this Figure;

[00047] Figure 19 shows the embodiment of Figure 18, with the lid in the closed position;

[00048] Figure 20 is a side elevation of a further embodiment where the first and second planar areas are at an angle to the lid and base, showing the open position;

[00049] Figure 21 shows the embodiment in Figure 20 in the closed position;

[00050] Figure 22 is a top plan view of a further embodiment wherein the lid is in more than one part, showing the lid parts in the open position;

[00051] Figure 23 shows the Figure 22 embodiment with the lid parts in the closed position;

[00052] Figure 24 is a top plan view of a further embodiment, showing the open position;

[00053] Figure 25 shows the Figure 24 embodiment in the closed position;

[00054] Figure 26 shows yet a further embodiment, being a top plan view in the open position; and

[00055] Figure 27 shows the Figure 26 embodiment in the closed position.

Detailed Description of the Drawings

[00056] Referring first to Figures 1, 2 and 3, the first embodiment of the container, designated generally as 10, has a base 12 and a lid 14, hinged to base 12 at hinge 16. Rims 15 have ramp portions 17.

[00057] Base 12 has upwardly extending sidewalls 18 defining an opening 20 through which products are inserted into container 10 before lid 14 is closed. At the top end of walls 18 of base 12 are rims 22 (refer Figure 1), each of which has a ran1p portion 23.

[00058] Lid 14 in this embodiment has a first planar area 24 which, in this embodiment, comprises virtually the whole of lid 14. The second planar area is formed by rim portion 26 which, as can be seen in Figure 1, is wider than rims 22. Ramp portion 23 is inclined upwardly from rim 22 to rim 26.

[00059] In the closed position, illustrated in Figure 2, first planar area 24 has mated with second planar area - rim 26 - to form a substantially flat area in which edge 28 of lid 14 has mated with rim 26 of base 12, chamfer 30 being formed between them, using ramp portion 23. Adhesive label 32 is shown in place in Figure 2.

[00060] As can be seen in Figure 1, sidewalls 18 of base 12 are tapered towards floor 34, comers 36 being rounded as illustrated.

[00061] Margin 15 on lid 14 can include locking means to lock lid 14 to base 12 via rims 22.

[00062] Turning now to the second embodiment illustrated in Figures 4 to 9, the container, designated generally as 40, has a base 42 and a separate lid 44, with upwardly extending side walls 48 defining an opening 50 through which product may be inserted before lid 44 is closed. Base 42 has a rim 52 with a pair of enlarged portions 56, comprising in this embodiment second planar areas.

[00063] Lid 44 has a first planar area 54 defined by ribs 38 and edges 55.

[00064] A single label (not shown) can extend over the whole of first planar area 54 and both second planar areas 56. Alternately, two separate labels may be used, the first covering part of first planar area 54 and one of the adjacent second planar areas 56, while the over covers part of first planar area 54 and the adjacent second planar area 56, leaving free central portion 46 of lid 44.

[00065] As shown in Figure 6, each of second planar areas 56 may include an aperture or recess 58. A sharp object may be inserted through a label (not shown) covering first planar area 54, second planar area 56 and aperture 58, to tear the label through aperture 58, to assist in removing lid 44 from base 42.

[00066] In this embodiment, lid 44 also includes removal tabs 62, to assist in removing lid 44 from base 42.

[00067] Container 40 may include vents (not shown) and depression 64 in floor 66 of base 42, as desired (refer Figure 8). Container 40 may also include one or more recessed portions in lid 44. These may be included in central portion 46 or in another desired location. Itis preferred that any such recessed portion is sealed by a label.

[00068] A third embodiment is shown in Figures 10 and 11, where container 70 has base 72 hinged to lid 74 at 16. Lid 74 is cut away at 76 and base 72 has flat portions 78. As can be seen in Figure 11, when lid 74 is closed on base 72, cut aways 76 leave flat portions 78 exposed. When a label 60, shown in dotted outline in Figure 11, is placed over first planar area 68 of lid 74 and over flat portion 78 (second planar areas) of base 72, lid 74 is effectively sealed to base 72. Flat portions 78 stand proud of rim 22, so that when exposed by cut-outs 76 of lid 74, first planar area 68 is substantially co-planar with flat portions 78.

[00069] The next embodiment in Figures 12 and 13 is similar to that in Figures 10 and 11 and the same numbers have been used to indicate the same or similar parts, with the addition of the letter "a". Whereas in the Figure 10 and 11 embodiment the cut-away portions 76 on lid 74 were centered in an edge of lid 74, in the Figure 12 and 13 embodiment cut-away portions 76a are located in two opposite corners of lid 74a.

[00070] Similarly, flat portions 78a are located at comers of base 72a.

[00071] As was the case with the previous embodiment, when lid 74a is closed on base 72a, flat portions 78a are substantially co-planar with first planar area 68a.

[00072] The next embodiment shown in Figures 14 and 15 shows container 80 having base 82 and lid 84. Base 82 has narrow rims 22 and expanded rim 86. Expanded rim 86 includes further portion 88 with hang sell hole 90, to enable container 80 to be displayed on a hanger.

[00073] Expanded rim 86 is designed so that, when lid 84 is closed on container 82, expanded rim 86 is substantially co-planar with lid 84, which in this embodiment comprises the first planar area.

[00074] As can be seen in Figure 15, label 60 can be affixed to cover the right-hand side of lid 84 and expanded rim 86.

[00075] The embodiment in Figures 16 and 17 is similar to that shown in Figures 10 and 11 and 12 and 13. The same labels will be used to designate the same or similar parts, with the addition of the letter "b".

[00076] Container 70b has base 72b and lid 74b, hinged at 16. Cut-away 76b on lid 74b is designed to expose flat portion 78b on base 72b in the closed position (Figure 17). Flat portion 78b stands proud of rim 22 so that first planar area 68b is substantially co-planar with flat portion 78b.

[00077] This embodiment includes lock lugs 92 designed for a friction fit into lock recesses 94 on base 72b. As can be seen from Figure 17, when label 60 is affixed, it covers not only first planar area 68b and flat portion 78b but also lock lugs 92.

[00078] The embodiments in Figures 18 to 21 illustrate how the first and second planar areas may be disposed at an angle to the lid and to a rim on the base.

[00079] Referring first to Figures 18 and 19, container 100 has lid 104 hinged to base 102 at 16. Lid 104 includes extension 106 which, in use, is inclined upwardly at an obtuse angle from lid 104.

[00080] Base 102 has rim 22 which has extension 108, in use inclined at an obtuse angle from rim 22.

[00081] In the closed position, extension 106 is designed to mate with extension 108. Extension 106 has one or more cut-outs, similar to those already illustrated in Figures 10 to 13 or 16 and 17, so that a flat label 60 applied to extension 106 will bind extension 106 to extension 108, exposed by the cut-out or cut-outs.

[00082] The embodiment in Figures 20 and 21 is a variation of that in Figures 18 and 19 and the same labels will be used, with the addition of the letter "a". In this embodiment, lid 104a ends in flat portion 106a. Rim 22 on base 102a has a downwardly extending extension 108a.

[00083] In the closed position, extension 106a mates with extension 108a along margin 98 to provide a substantially co-planar surface 96 on which a label 60 (not shown) may be placed to seal lid 104a to base 102a.

[00084] It will be apparent to one skilled in the art that the embodiments in Figures 18 to 21 may be adapted to containers with separate lids. In that case, it is preferred that there are two extensions 106 (or 106a) and two extensions 108 (or 108a).

[00085] Reference is now made to the embodiment in Figures 22 and 23. In this embodiment, container 110 has base 112 as shown in Figure 22. However, the lid is in two parts, 114a and 114b. Lid part 114a is hinged to base 112 at 16a while lid part 114b is hinged to base 112 at hinge 16b.

[00086] Each of lid parts 114a and 114b has a pair of cut-aways, 116a and 116b. When lid parts 114a and 114b are in the closed position as shown in Figure 23, cut-aways 116a and 116b expose flat portions 118 on base 112. Lid parts 114a and 114b may meet or overlap in known manner, for example as described in Australian patent specification No 2003234951, the contents of

which are incorporated herein by reference. Nevertheless, each of lid parts 114a and 114b provide a first planar area which is substantially co-planar with flat portion 118 on base 112. In this way, when lid parts 114a and 114b are in the closed position, label 60 can be applied on the substantially flat area so provided.

[00087] Referring now the embodiment in Figures 24 and 25, container 130 has base 122 hinged to lid 124 at hinge 16. Lid 124 has diecut holes 126. Lid 124 is generally flat to provide the first planar area.

[00088] Base 122 has formed sections 128, the top, flat part of which comprise the second planar areas. As can be seen by Figure 25, in the closed position formed sections 128 mate with diecut holes 126 to form a substantially flat surface. A label (not shown) may be applied to cover both formed sections 128 and the intervening part of lid 124. Alternately, separate labels may be applied.

[00089] The embodiment in Figures 26 to 27 is similar to that in Figures 24 to 25; however, in container 140 in Figures 26 to 27, base 132 is separate from lid 134. In addition, there are four diecut holes 136 and correspondingly four formed sections 138. Like the embodiment in Figures 24 and 25, when lid 134 which is of the "outside fitting" type, is placed on base 132, sections 138 protrude into diecut holes 136 to provide a substantially flat area for label application.

[00090] It will be appreciated from the various embodiments described above that the container can be produced in a wide number of forms and that, in addition, a single form may be suitable for application of different types of labels. Lids may be hinged or separate.

[00091] Lids may be substantially flat or they may be shaped, with ridges, ribs, domes as non-limiting examples of shaping. Especially in the case of substantially flat lids, these may be designed to mate with the base so that the second planar area or areas can appear on, for

example, opposing sides of the lid, opposing comers of the lid or on one side of the lid, opposite the hinge. In the case of a lid which is a dual lid, with two hinges, the second planar areas may be on two opposing sides (viewing the closed lid in plain view), or on four comers, for example.

[00092] In the case of a separate lid, once again viewing the container in plain view in the closed position, the second planar areas may be in each of four comers, on two opposing sides, on two diagonal comers, around all four sides or separately on each of four sides. These are a selection only of possible combinations. Others will be apparent to one skilled in the art.

Industrial Applicability

[00093] The container can be adapted to any currently known container design, whether having a single lid or a multi-part lid. The embodiments allow for manual or high speed automatic closure and flat, self-adhesive label application providing tamper evidence, while at the same time employing a minimum number of moving parts.

[00094] The container can offer important tamper evidence capabilities while maintaining minimal obstruction of vision through the container lid. For certain applications, the container will also allow alternate graphic methods to be successfully used, such as pre-printing, branding and nutritional information onto the lid area, thus reducing label requirements to a smaller, basic tamper evident label only.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	
Filing Date:	
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	MAURICE JOSEPH PAUL TABONE
Filer:	Julie L. Reed/Dawn Kowalewski
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004

Filed as Small Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Basic Filing:				
UTILITY FILING FEE (ELECTRONIC FILING)	4011	1	75	75
UTILITY SEARCH FEE	2111	1	330	330
UTILITY EXAMINATION FEE	2311	1	380	380
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD($)
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
		Total in USD ($)		**785**

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	35496547
Application Number:	16360964
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	9424
Title of Invention:	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	MAURICE JOSEPH PAUL TABONE
Customer Number:	20575
Filer:	Julie L. Reed/Dawn Kowalewski
Filer Authorized By:	Julie L. Reed
Attorney Docket Number:	408889-0004
Receipt Date:	21-MAR-2019
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	18:12:40
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	DA
Payment was successfully received in RAM	$785
RAM confirmation Number	032219INTEFSW00004669501531
Deposit Account	501531
Authorized User	Dawn Kowalewski
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows: 37 CFR 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees) 37 CFR 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)	

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Application Data Sheet	408889-0004_ADS.pdf	1823020 d374af7338d4da7e260debf26bc0fef00dff1995	no	8
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	408889-0004_Drawings.pdf	193908 b759da919584d129ece3f957b1780508ed7f703e	no	7
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Power of Attorney	408889-0004_POA.pdf	1209393 deb4414097f0c014e2e19fe10dec7a60f83b9107	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
4	Oath or Declaration filed	408889-0004_Declaration-signed.pdf	4113120 5fb19441c761b7f8aa2c2a9525c4400f6294a93b	no	1
Warnings:					
Information:					
5	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	408889-0004_IDS.pdf	1035718 b5a33ef572933b5b4d24ab1c856df90ebf38ea8d	no	5
Warnings:					
Information:					
6		408889-0004_Continuation.pdf	99751 31962a3cea85e1720c603cb17bda87bf58f0db34	yes	20

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	**Start**	**End**

	Abstract		20	20	
	Claims		15	19	
	Specification		1	14	
Warnings:					
Information:					
7	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	35248 8fc9aa2416d2a8eb3d7d819306c0f197019fc941	no	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	8510158		

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111
If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371
If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office
If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

The application data sheet is part of the provisional or nonprovisional application for which it is being submitted. The following form contains the bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as outlined in 37 CFR 1.76.
This document may be completed electronically and submitted to the Office in electronic format using the Electronic Filing System (EFS) or the document may be printed and included in a paper filed application.

Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2:

☐ Portions or all of the application associated with this Application Data Sheet may fall under a Secrecy Order pursuant to 37 CFR 5.2 (Paper filers only. Applications that fall under Secrecy Order may not be filed electronically.)

Inventor Information:

Inventor 1 — Remove

Legal Name

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
	Maurice	Joseph Paul	Tabone	

Residence Information (Select One) US Residency ● Non US Residency Active US Military Service

City	Moorebank	Country of Residence [i]	AU

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	33 Stockton Avenue		
Address 2			
City	Moorebank	**State/Province**	
Postal Code	NSW 2170	**Country** [i]	AU

All Inventors Must Be Listed - Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button. Add

Correspondence Information:

Enter either Customer Number or complete the Correspondence Information section below.
For further information see 37 CFR 1.33(a).

☐ **An Address is being provided for the correspondence Information of this application.**

Customer Number	20575		
Email Address	patdocketing@millernash.com	Add Email	Remove Email

Application Information:

Title of the Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE		
Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004	**Small Entity Status Claimed**	☒
Application Type	Nonprovisional		
Subject Matter	Utility		
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	7	**Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)**	

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
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Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

Filing By Reference:

Only complete this section when filing an application by reference under 35 U.S.C. 111(c) and 37 CFR 1.57(a). Do not complete this section if application papers including a specification and any drawings are being filed. Any domestic benefit or foreign priority information must be provided in the appropriate section(s) below (i.e., "Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information" and "Foreign Priority Information").

For the purposes of a filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b), the description and any drawings of the present application are replaced by this reference to the previously filed application, subject to conditions and requirements of 37 CFR 1.57(a).

Application number of the previously filed application	Filing date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Intellectual Property Authority or Country

Publication Information:

☐ Request Early Publication (Fee required at time of Request 37 CFR 1.219)

☐ **Request Not to Publish.** I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) and certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not** be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Representative Information:

Representative information should be provided for all practitioners having a power of attorney in the application. Providing this information in the Application Data Sheet does not constitute a power of attorney in the application (see 37 CFR 1.32).
Either enter Customer Number or complete the Representative Name section below. If both sections are completed the customer Number will be used for the Representative Information during processing.

Please Select One:	● Customer Number	US Patent Practitioner	○ Limited Recognition (37 CFR 11.9)
Customer Number	20575		

Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information:

This section allows for the applicant to either claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c) or indicate National Stage entry from a PCT application. Providing benefit claim information in the Application Data Sheet constitutes the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120, and 37 CFR 1.78.
When referring to the current application, please leave the "Application Number" field blank.

Prior Application Status	Pending		Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
	Continuation of	15656623	2017-07-21

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

Prior Application Status	Abandoned		Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
15656623	Continuation of	12449556	2009-08-12
Prior Application Status	Expired		Remove
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
12449556	a 371 of international	PCTAU2008000173	2008-02-12
Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.			Add

Foreign Priority Information:

This section allows for the applicant to claim priority to a foreign application. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the claim for priority as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) and 37 CFR 1.55. When priority is claimed to a foreign application that is eligible for retrieval under the priority document exchange program (PDX)[i] the information will be used by the Office to automatically attempt retrieval pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55(i)(1) and (2). Under the PDX program, applicant bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that a copy of the foreign application is received by the Office from the participating foreign intellectual property office, or a certified copy of the foreign priority application is filed, within the time period specified in 37 CFR 1.55(g)(1).

			Remove
Application Number	Country[i]	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Access Code[i] (if applicable)
2007902246	AU	2007-04-30	
			Remove
Application Number	Country[i]	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Access Code[i] (if applicable)
2007900654	AU	2007-02-12	
Additional Foreign Priority Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.			Add

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications

☐ This application (1) claims priority to or the benefit of an application filed before March 16, 2013 and (2) also contains, or contained at any time, a claim to a claimed invention that has an effective filing date on or after March 16, 2013.
NOTE: By providing this statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78, this application, with a filing date on or after March 16, 2013, will be examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access:

When this Application Data Sheet is properly signed and filed with the application, applicant has provided written authority to permit a participating foreign intellectual property (IP) office access to the instant application-as-filed (see paragraph A in subsection 1 below) and the European Patent Office (EPO) access to any search results from the instant application (see paragraph B in subsection 1 below).

Should applicant choose not to provide an authorization identified in subsection 1 below, applicant **must opt-out** of the authorization by checking the corresponding box A or B or both in subsection 2 below.

NOTE: This section of the Application Data Sheet is **ONLY** reviewed and processed with the **INITIAL** filing of an application. After the initial filing of an application, an Application Data Sheet cannot be used to provide or rescind authorization for access by a foreign IP office(s). Instead, Form PTO/SB/39 or PTO/SB/69 must be used as appropriate.

1. Authorization to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

A. Priority Document Exchange (PDX) - Unless box A in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and any other foreign intellectual property office participating with the USPTO in a bilateral or multilateral priority document exchange agreement in which a foreign application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed, access to: (1) the instant patent application-as-filed and its related bibliographic data, (2) any foreign or domestic application to which priority or benefit is claimed by the instant application and its related bibliographic data, and (3) the date of filing of this Authorization. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(1).

B. Search Results from U.S. Application to EPO - Unless box B in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the EPO access to the bibliographic data and search results from the instant patent application when a European patent application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(2).

The applicant is reminded that the EPO's Rule 141(1) EPC (European Patent Convention) requires applicants to submit a copy of search results from the instant application without delay in a European patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

2. Opt-Out of Authorizations to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

☐ A. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to permit a participating foreign IP office access to the instant application-as-filed. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing a participating foreign IP office with any documents and information identified in subsection 1A above.

☐ B. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to transmit to the EPO any search results from the instant patent application. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing the EPO with search results from the instant application.

NOTE: Once the application has published or is otherwise publicly available, the USPTO may provide access to the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14.

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

Applicant Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Applicant 1 Remove

If the applicant is the inventor (or the remaining joint inventor or inventors under 37 CFR 1.45), this section should not be completed. The information to be provided in this section is the name and address of the legal representative who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.43; or the name and address of the assignee, person to whom the inventor is under an obligation to assign the invention, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest in the matter who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46. If the applicant is an applicant under 37 CFR 1.46 (assignee, person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest) together with one or more joint inventors, then the joint inventor or inventors who are also the applicant should be identified in this section.

Clear

Assignee	Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117	Joint Inventor
Person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign.	Person who shows sufficient proprietary interest	

If applicant is the legal representative, indicate the authority to file the patent application, the inventor is:

Name of the Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor:

If the Applicant is an Organization check here. ☐

Prefix	**Given Name**	Middle Name	**Family Name**	Suffix

Mailing Address Information For Applicant:

Address 1			
Address 2			
City		**State/Province**	
Country		Postal Code	
Phone Number		Fax Number	
Email Address			

Additional Applicant Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add

Assignee Information including Non-Applicant Assignee Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

Assignee 1

Complete this section if assignee information, including non-applicant assignee information, is desired to be included on the patent application publication. An assignee-applicant identified in the "Applicant Information" section will appear on the patent application publication as an applicant. For an assignee-applicant, complete this section only if identification as an assignee is also desired on the patent application publication.

Remove

If the Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee is an Organization check here. ☐

Prefix	**Given Name**	Middle Name	**Family Name**	Suffix

Mailing Address Information For Assignee including Non-Applicant Assignee:

Address 1			
Address 2			
City		**State/Province**	
Country i		Postal Code	
Phone Number		Fax Number	
Email Address			

Additional Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add

Signature:

Remove

NOTE: This Application Data Sheet must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). **However, if this Application Data Sheet is submitted with the INITIAL filing of the application and either box A or B is not checked in subsection 2 of the "Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access" section, then this form must also be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c).**

This Application Data Sheet **must** be signed by a patent practitioner if one or more of the applicants is a **juristic entity** (e.g., corporation or association). If the applicant is two or more joint inventors, this form must be signed by a patent practitioner, **all** joint inventors who are the applicant, or one or more joint inventor-applicants who have been given power of attorney (e.g., see USPTO Form PTO/AIA/81) on behalf of **all** joint inventor-applicants.

See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the manner of making signatures and certifications.

Signature	/Julie L. Reed/			Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2019-03-21
First Name	Julie L.	Last Name	Reed	Registration Number	35349

Additional Signature may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	408889-0004
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	CONTAINER BASE AND LID WITH PLANAR AREA FOR FLAT APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE MEMBRANE	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.76. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 23 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application data sheet form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1 The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.

2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.

3 A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.

4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent CooperationTreaty.

6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).

7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.

8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.

9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

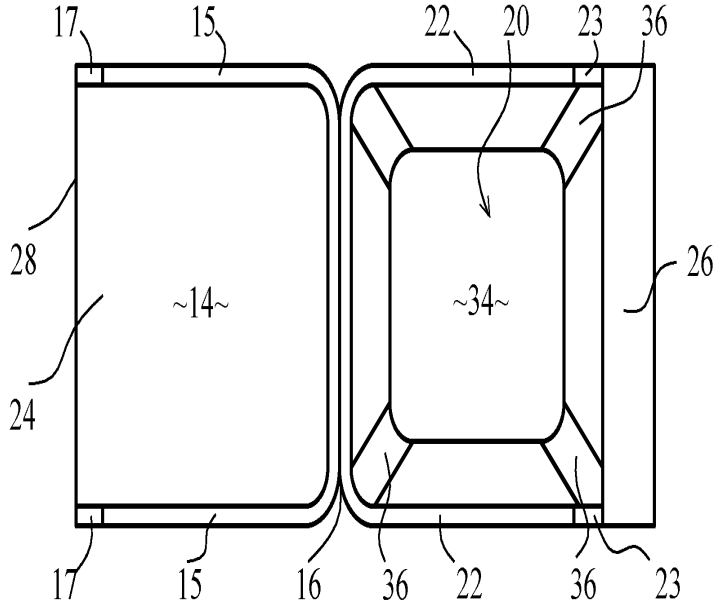


FIGURE 1

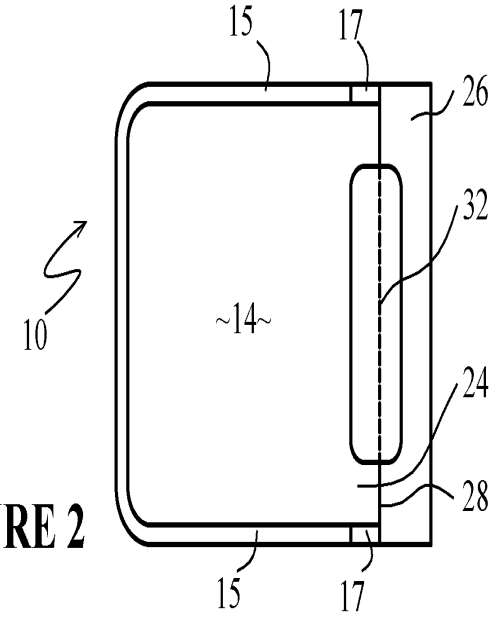


FIGURE 2

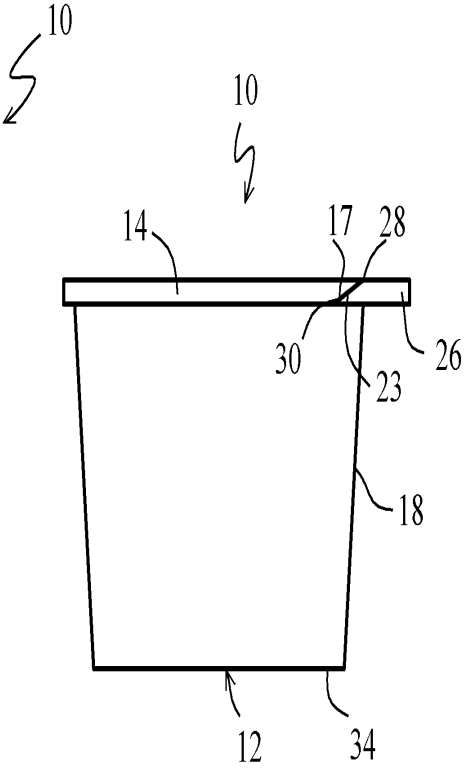


FIGURE 3

1/7

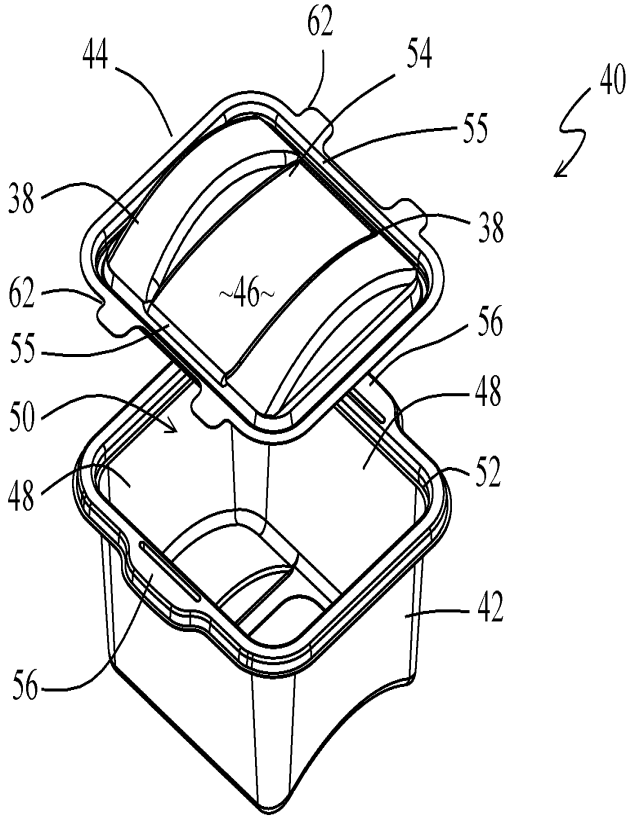


FIGURE 5

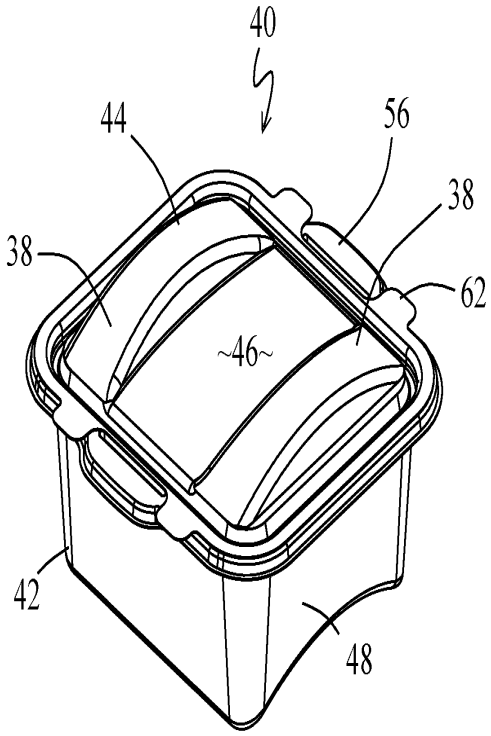


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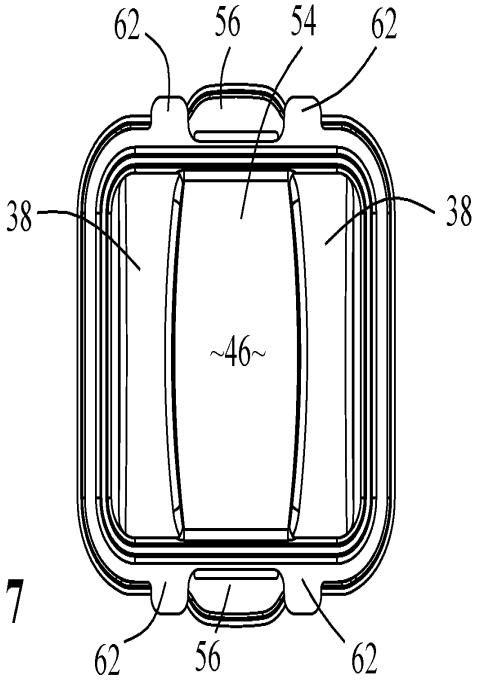


FIGURE 7

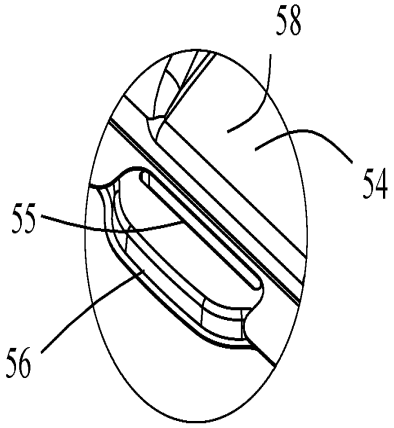


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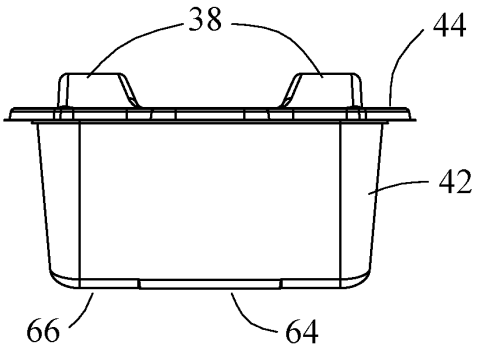


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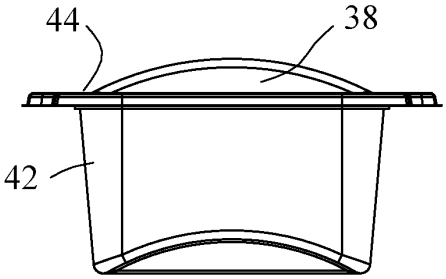


FIGURE 9

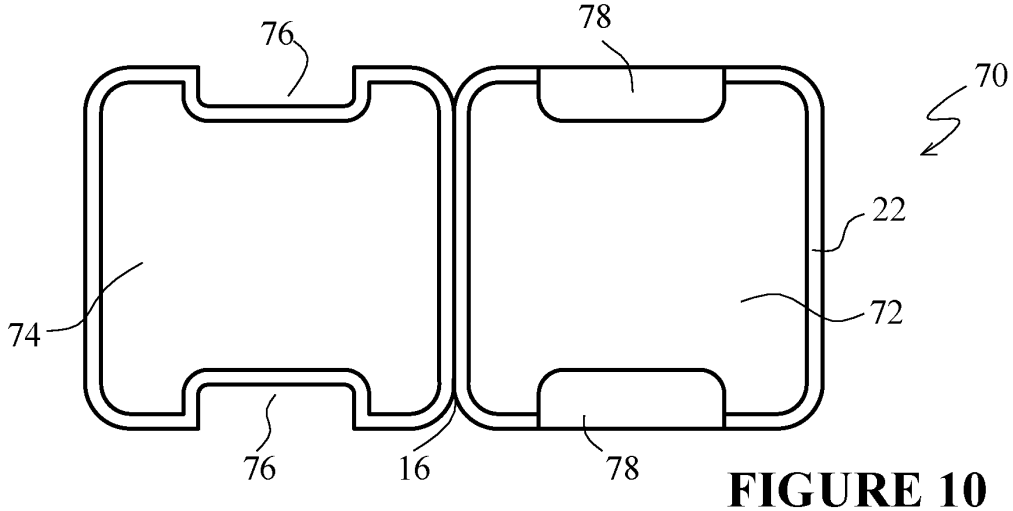


FIGURE 10

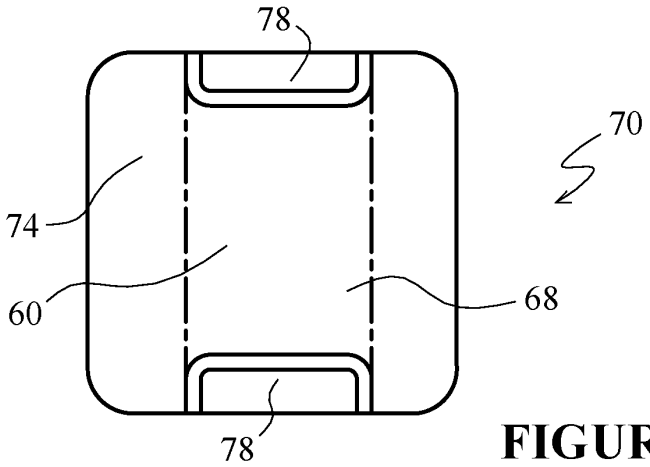


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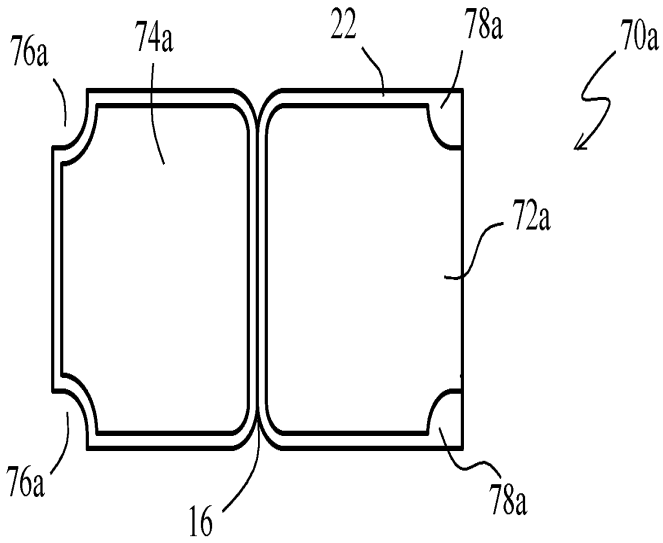


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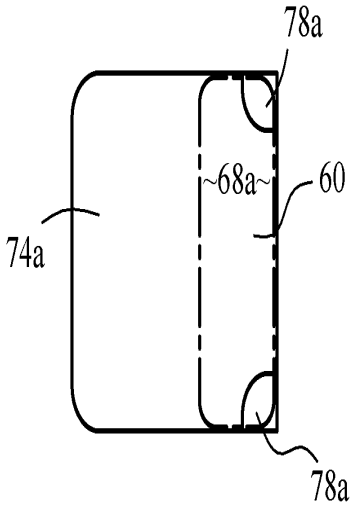


FIGURE 13

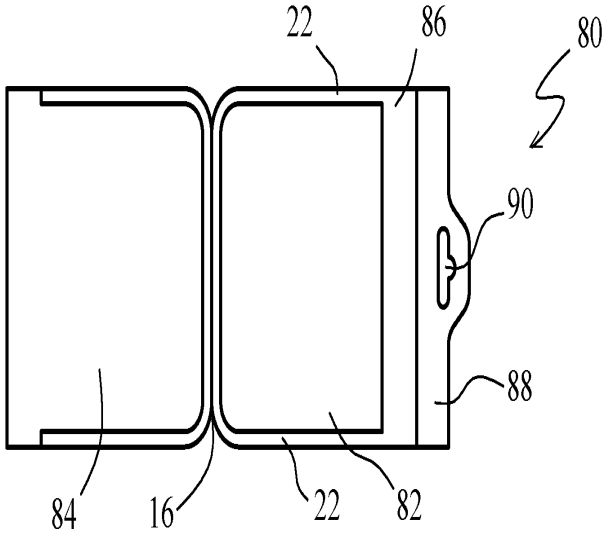


FIGURE 14

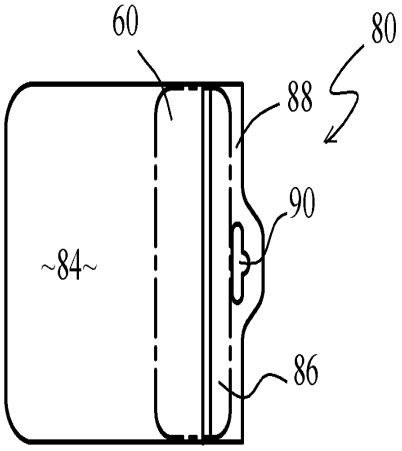


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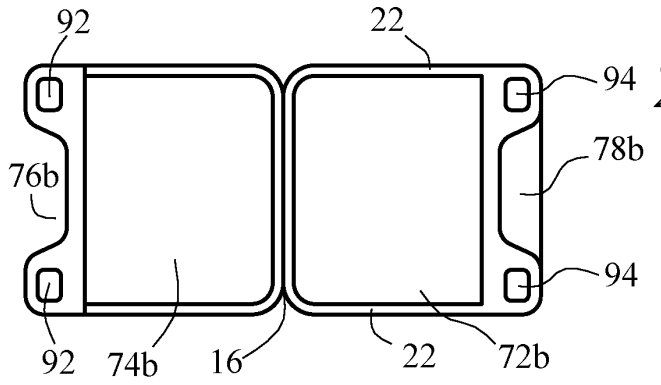


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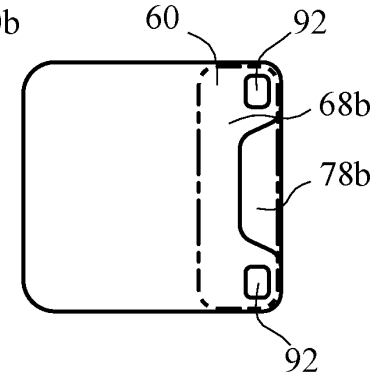


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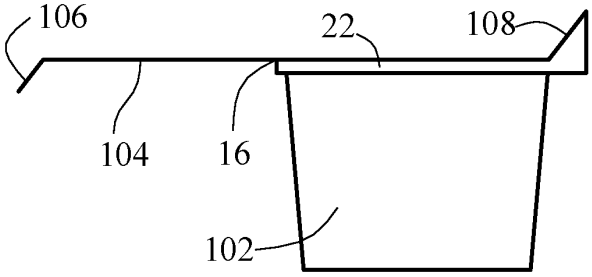


FIGURE 18

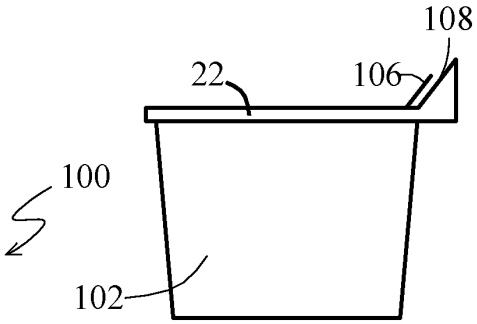


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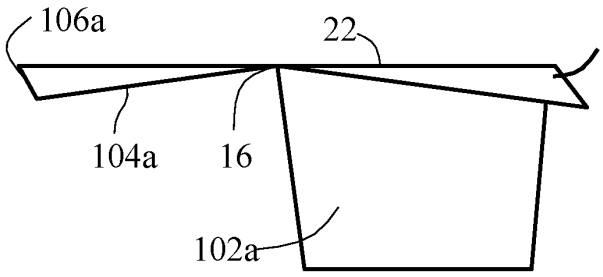


FIGURE 20

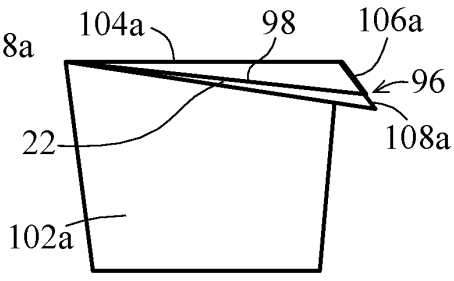


FIGURE 21

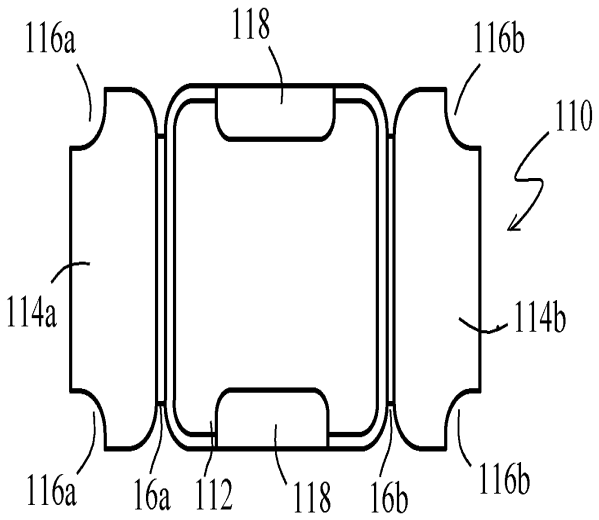


FIGURE 22

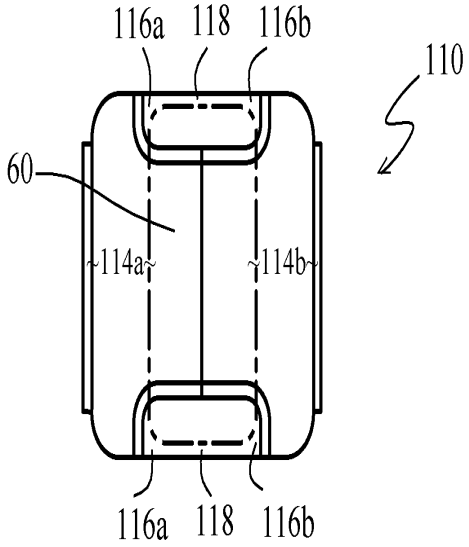


FIGURE 23

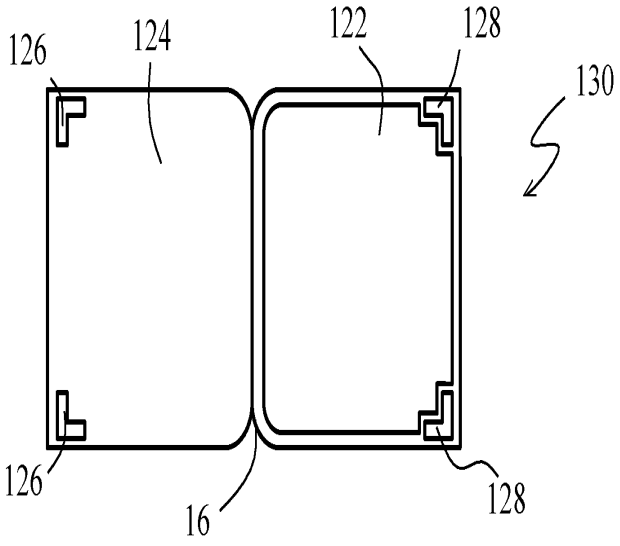


FIGURE 24

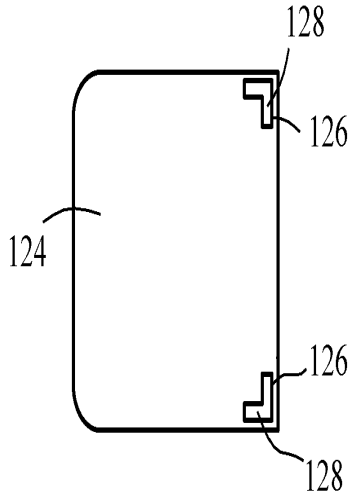


FIGURE 25

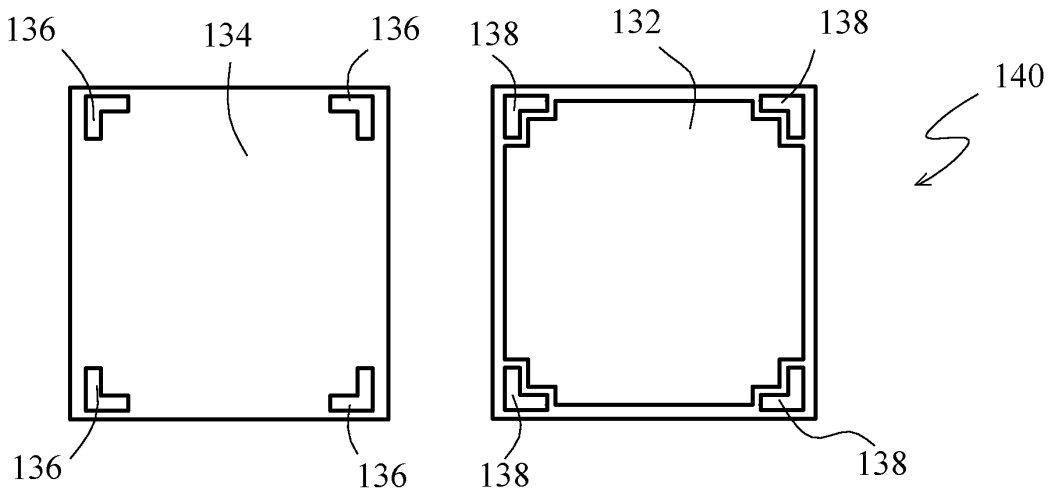


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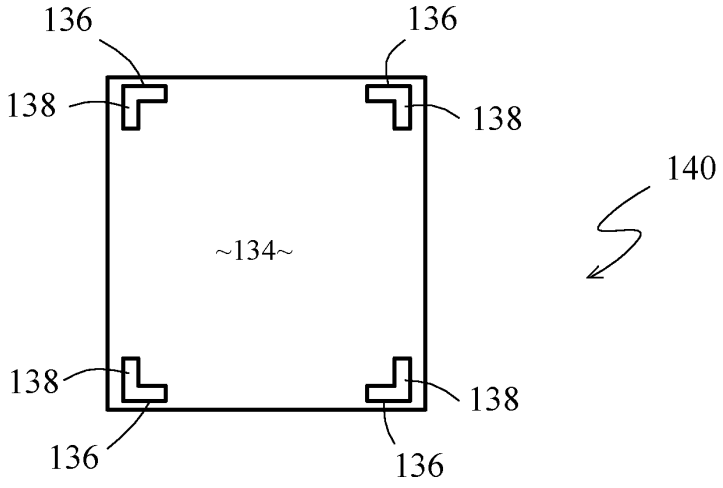


FIGURE 27