

United States Patent Application

For

An improved container

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Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to containers and more particularly to a container having a body which may be formed from plastic and a lid which may be formed from metal.

Background

Containers having an easy-open-end have been used with a metal lid and container in order to provide a source of merchandising beer and soda for a number of years. These metal containers are formed from cutting metal and folding the metal to an appropriate shape. Metal however does not lend itself well to being molded, and making a new shape by designing a mold out of the sheet of metal is time-consuming and expensive. Thus, it is difficult to achieve any type of design in order to increase the desirability of the package/container with a metal container. However, the pop top lid is very popular with consumers and fairly inexpensive to purchase.

Plastic containers have been molded into various shapes and may include various designs in order to increase the attractiveness of the container.

Summary

A container for storing a liquid or a solid may include a container body having a container side wall and a container bottom, and may include a container lid having an easy-open “pop-top arm” which cooperates with a weakened (scored metal) area which provides access to the interior of the container body. The container may also operate with no lid.

The container body may be formed from plastic and the container lid is formed from metal, and the container body may include a vertical or slightly angled neck.

The container body may include a lip, and the bottom wall may include a center protrusion or concave shape.

The bottom wall may include a depression, and the bottom wall may include a radial extending depression.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention may be understood by reference to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which, like reference numerals identify like elements, and in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a side view of the container body of the present invention;

Figure 2 illustrates a side view of another container body of the present invention;

Figure 3 illustrates a bottom view of the container body of the present invention;

Figure 4 illustrates a top view of the lids and container body of the present invention;

Figure 5 illustrates a section of the lid and lip of the container body of the present invention;

Figure 6 illustrates another lid for the container body of the present invention.

Detailed Description

The present invention combines the flexibility and desirability of a container body 105 which may be formed from molding plastic or other appropriate material and a metal lid to cooperate with the container body which may include a pop top (or easy-open) lid 131 to provide access to the user of the contents of the container body.

Figure 1 illustrates a side view of the container body 105 which may include a side wall 107 which may extend radially around a periphery of the container body 105 and may include a convex side wall 107 or a concave side wall (not shown). The container body 105 may be shaped as a truncated spherical body. The container body 105 may be hollow in order to provide for a solid or liquid which may be dispensed to the user.

The distal end of the container side wall 107 may be connected to a base/bottom wall 109 in order to seal the first end of the container 105 and the proximate end of the container side wall 107 may be connected to a substantially vertical neck 101 around the periphery of the container side wall 107. An aperture 111 may extend through the vertical neck 101 in order to provide access to the liquid/solid within the container body 105. A lip 103

may extend around the periphery of the substantially vertical neck 101 in order to cooperate with the lid 113 in order to provide a seal so that the liquid or solid within the container body 105 does not leak out.

Figure 2 illustrates a side view of another container body 105a which may include a cylinder side wall 107a which may extend radially around a periphery of the container body 105a and may include a substantially vertical side wall 107a. The container body 105a may be hollow in order to provide for a solid or liquid which may be dispensed to the user.

The distal end of the container side wall 107a may be connected to a base/bottom wall 109 in order to seal the first end of the container 105a and the proximate end of the container side wall 107a may be connected to a substantially vertical neck 101 around the periphery of the container side wall 107. An aperture 111 may extend through the vertical neck 101 in order to provide access to the liquid/solid within the container body 105. A lip 103 may extend around the periphery of the substantially vertical neck 101 in order to cooperate with the lid 113 (not shown in figure 2) in order to provide a seal so that the liquid or solid within the container body 105a does not leak out.

The container body 105, 105a may be formed from molded plastic and may be integral without seams or portions of the container body may be formed from molded plastic in sections which may be glued, welded or otherwise attached together.

Figure 3 illustrates a bottom view of the container body 105 and illustrates the container side wall 107 extending radially outwards and illustrates the bottom wall 109 which may be connected to the container side wall 107. The bottom wall 109 may include a multitude of radially extending depressions 115 which may increase in width as the radial distance from the center increases. The depression 115 may be defined by a depression side wall 117 which extends around the periphery of the depression 115. The bottom wall 109 may include a downward extending protrusion 119 which may be centered with respect to the depressions 115 and the bottom wall 109.

Figure 4 illustrates a top view of the container 100 which may include the container body 105 and the container lid 113 which may be deformable in order to provide access to the contents of the container body 105. The

container lid 113 may extend over the vertical neck 107 and may extend around the lip 103 as illustrated in Figure 5 in order to provide a substantially watertight seal/airtight seal for the contents of the container body 105.

The container lid 113 may be formed from metal such as steel, aluminum or other types of metals and may include a weakened (or scored) area 135 which deforms and provides an opening when the 'pull top' arm 133 which may include an aperture for a finger of the user and may be pivoted by the user. The weakened area 135 may extend substantially across the entire lid 131 to provide a full aperture lid to allow the user to add other contents to the container.

The container body 105 according to the present invention may be made of an appropriate plastic/synthetic resin, typically polyethylene terephthalate (PET) resin. Alternatively, however, the container 105 may be made from polyamid resin, polycarbonate resin, polyacetal resin, polybuthylene terephthalate resin or other synthetic resin having a sufficient resistance to chemicals. The container 1 may be formed by known molding processes,

such as biaxial orientation blow molding process or direct blow molding process or injection blow molding.

Figure 6 illustrates another container lid of the present invention. The container lid 613 may be formed from metal such as steel, aluminum or other types of metals and may include a weakened (or scored) area 635 which deforms and provides an opening when the 'pull top' arm 633 which may include an aperture for a finger of the user and may be pivoted by the user. The weakened area 635 may extend substantially across the entire lid 613 to provide a full aperture lid to allow the user to add other contents to the container.

While the invention is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiments thereof have been shown by way of example in the drawings and are herein described in detail. It should be understood, however, that the description herein of specific embodiments is not intended to limit the invention to the particular forms disclosed.

Claims

- 1) A container for storing a liquid or a solid, comprising:
a container body having a container convex side wall and a container bottom;
a container lid having a pop top arm to pivot and cooperate with a weakened area to provide access to the interior of the container body;
wherein the container body is formed from plastic and any container lid is formed from metal.
- 2) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the container body includes a vertical or angled neck.
- 3) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the container body includes a lip.
- 4) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the bottom wall includes a center protrusion.

5) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the bottom wall includes a depression.

6) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the bottom wall includes a radial extending depression.

7) A container for storing a liquid or a solid as in claim 1, wherein the container body is a truncated spherical shape.

Abstract

A container for storing a liquid or a solid may include a container body having a container side wall and a container bottom and a container lid having a pop top arm to pivot and cooperate with a weakened area to provide access to the interior of the container body. The container body may be formed from plastic and the container lid is formed from metal, and the container body may include a vertical neck. The container body may include a lip, and the bottom wall may include a center protrusion. The bottom wall may include a depression, and the bottom wall may include a radial extending depression.

Figure 1

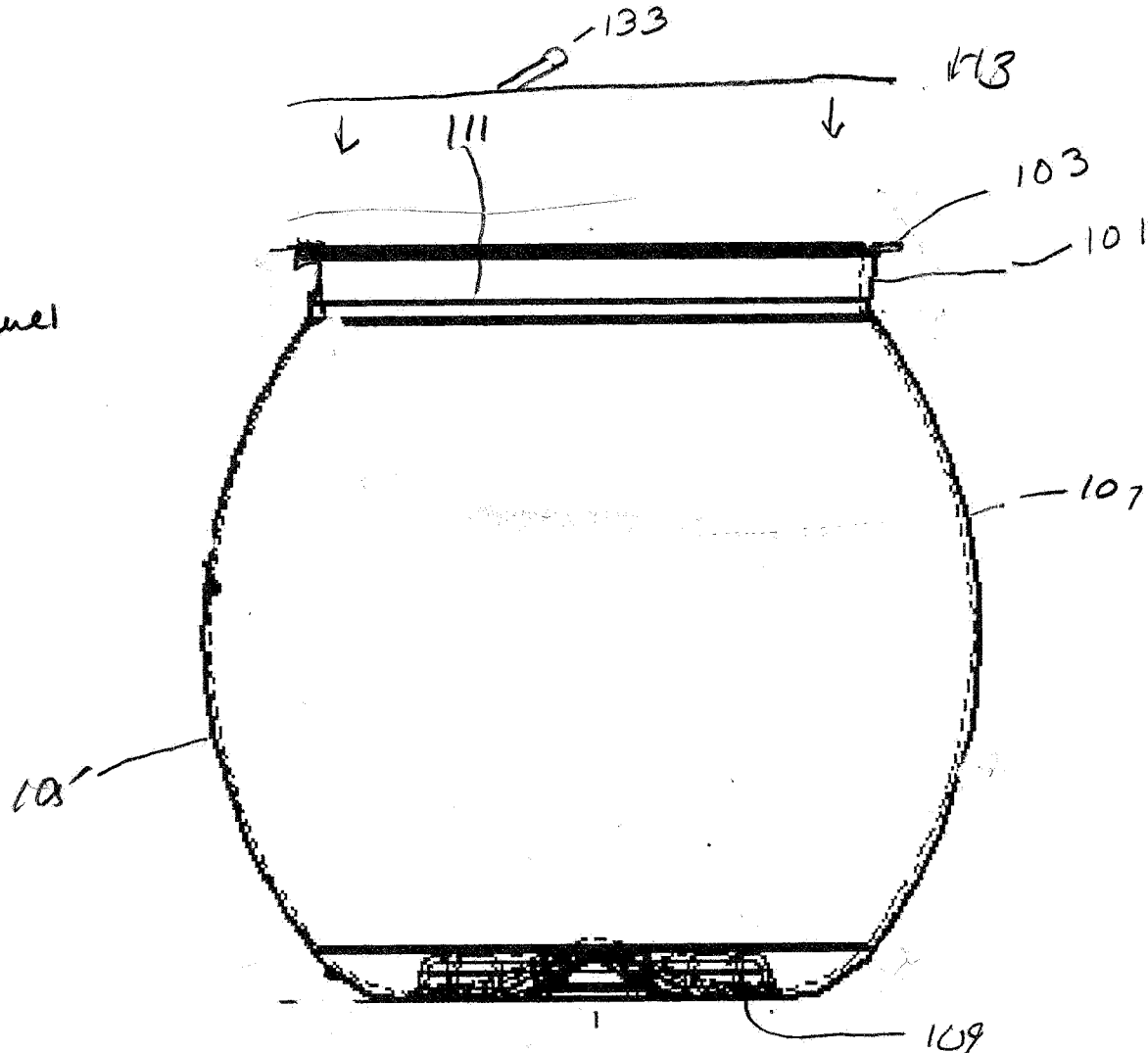
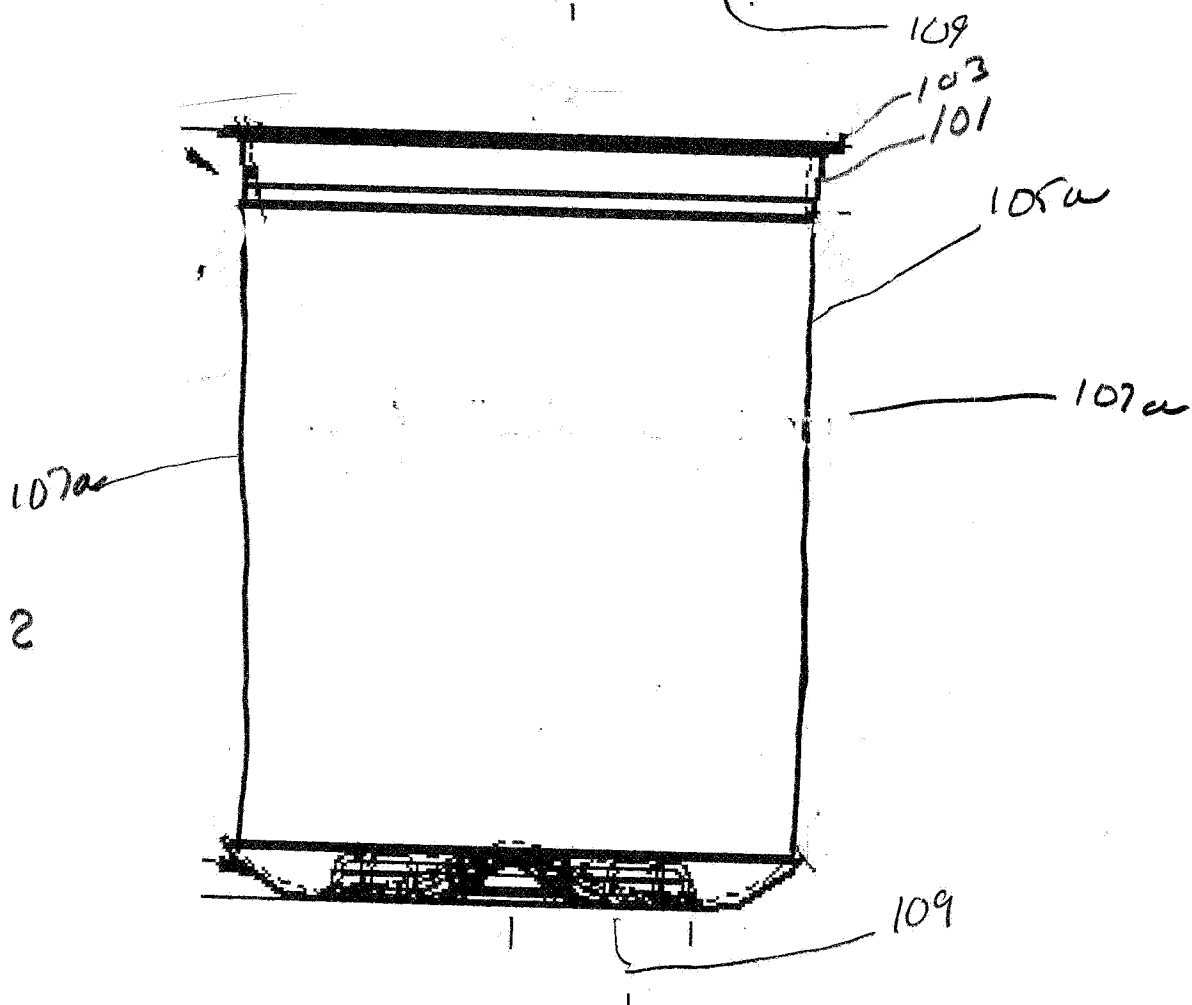


Figure 2



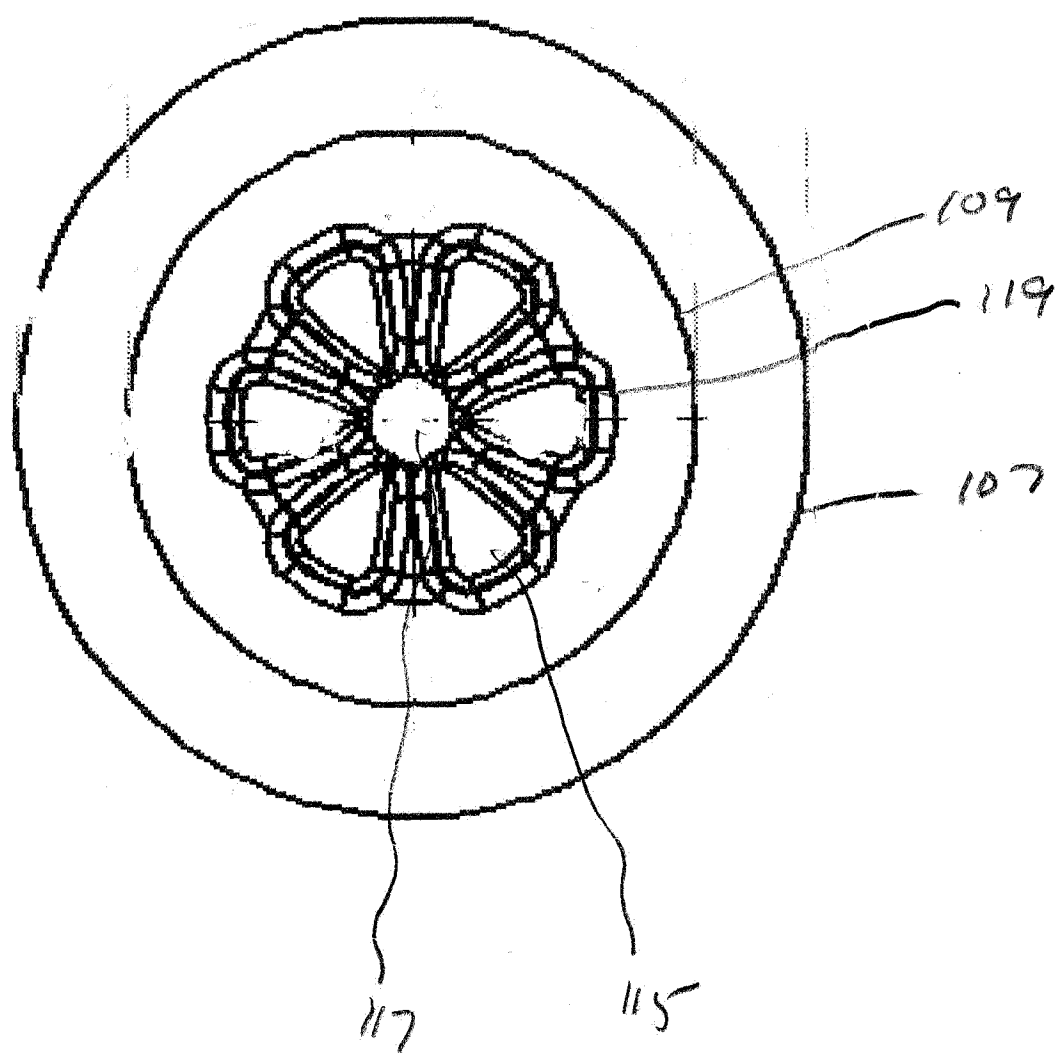


Figure 3

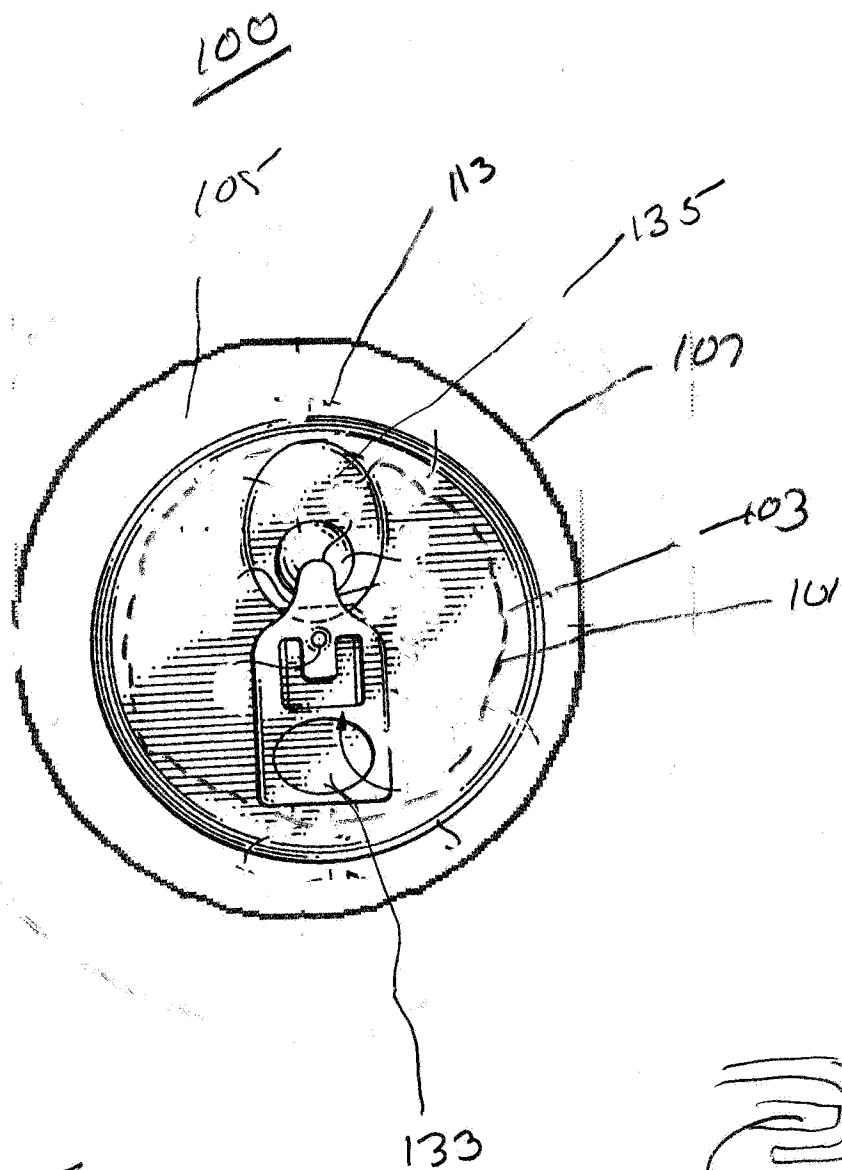


Figure 4

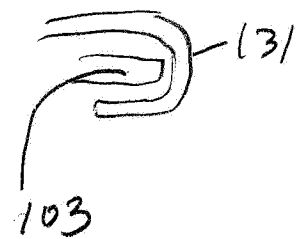


Figure 5

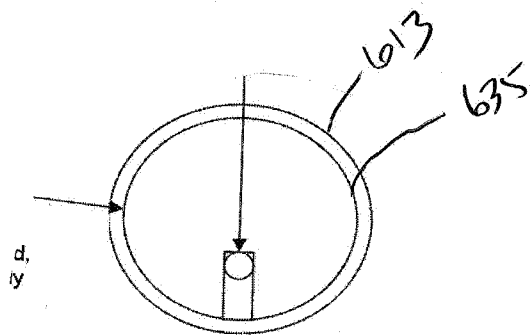


Figure 6