Title (en)

PACKAGING SYSTEMS FOR INCREASED FOOD PRODUCT SHELF LIFE

Title (de)

VERPACKUNGSSYSTEM FÜR NAHRUNGSMITTEL MIT ERHÖHTER HALTBARKEIT

Title (fr)

SYSTEMES D'EMBALLAGE PERMETTANT UNE AUGMENTATION DE LA DUREE DE CONSERVATION DES DENREES ALIMENTAIRES

Publication

EP 0699157 A1 19960306 (EN)

Application

EP 94918018 A 19940516

Priority

- US 6470093 A 19930520
- US 9853093 A 19930728
- US 15475693 A 19931118
- US 22119494 A 19940331
- US 9405525 W 19940516

Abstract (en)

[origin: WO9427868A2] A tray having a peripheral flange with one or more raised ledges to secure a pair of membranes to enclose the tray. A lower membrane may be attached to a first ledge of the flange. An upper membrane may be attached to a second ledge or a recessed lip of the flange without connection to the lower membrane, except through the tray. The two attachment surfaces may be separated by a trough or by being positioned on different levels to facilitate trimming of the upper membrane in a continuous manufacturing process. A method and apparatus for modified atmosphere packaging uses a rotary conveyor to transport a plurality of trays to be packaged between a plurality of stations in a circular arrangement. The trays may be loaded onto a receiving platform by depositing them over movable beds which can reciprocate downwardly in order to permit the trays to be removably held inside slots in a removable platform. Since the platform is removable from the conveyor, it may be centered in any particular station by lifting the platform from the conveyor and guiding it into a precise alignment at a particular station. The package may then be filled, its atmosphere replaced with one lower in oxygen content, and then the desired atmosphere sealed within the package. This can be done in the continuous fashion so that the film is severed from a continuous web. A package, packaging method, and packaging apparatus for facilitating the packaging of large meat products and exchanging the ambient atmosphere to establish a desired gaseous atmosphere that extends the shelf life of the product. The package includes a pair of preformed relatively rigid plastic domed or cupped members which abut along a sealing surface. The upper (318) and lower (310) package portions include flanges (312, 336) which are adapted to facilitate not only the formation of the package but its subsequent opening. A reciprocatable filling tube (320) maintains the separation between the upper and lower package portions to permit gas exchange and then may be reciprocated downwardly to allow the upper package portion to abut atop the lower package portion for sealing connection.

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IPC 8 full level

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CPC (source: EP)

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