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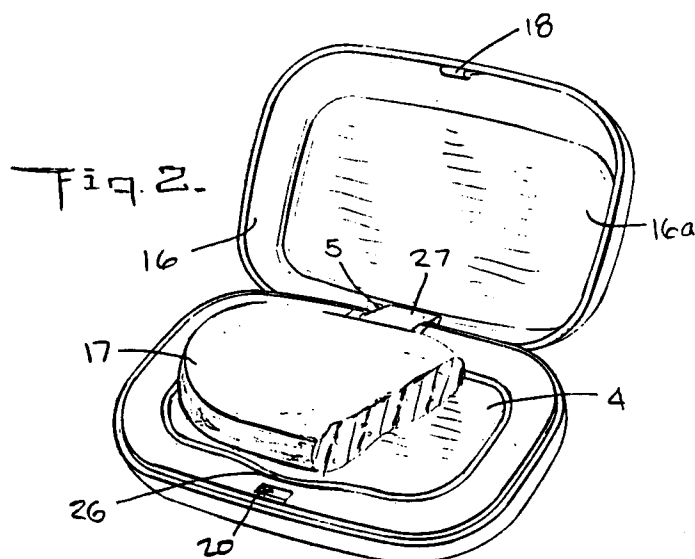
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London WC1V 6RY(GB)(54) **Compact container.**

(57) A compact container (1) comprises a tray (8) containing cosmetic and covered by a fine mesh screen (13), a mirror (23), and a separate compart-

ment suitable for storing a cosmetic applicator (17) to be used to apply said cosmetic.

**EP 0 465 021 A1**

Technical Field

The invention is directed to a cosmetic compact comprising a tray containing cosmetic covered by a fine mesh screen, a mirror, and a separate compartment suitable for containing a cosmetic applicator.

Background of the Invention

Compact containers for holding and storing powder, rouge, or other cosmetics are well known in the art. Generally these compacts contain a base compartment which holds the cosmetic and a cover compartment hinged to the base which provides for movement of the cover between an open and closed position. It is also well known in the art to use fine mesh screens to cover the cosmetic in the compact. Particularly if the cosmetic is face powder, such screens allow for an even application of powder to the powder puff and prevent spillage or blowing of the powder. In these compacts the applicator used with the cosmetic is either stored separately or just above the fine mesh screen within the compact. However, storing the applicator on top of the mesh screen is undesirable, particularly if the cosmetic is a liquid, oil, or paste. The cosmetic material tends to impregnate the applicator resulting in waste and the applicator becomes very messy to use making it more likely for cosmetic to get on hands, clothes, and throughout the compact itself. There is need for a compact which holds cosmetic covered by a fine mesh screen and which contains a separate compartment for storing the cosmetic applicator.

Summary of the Invention

The invention is directed to a compact comprising a bottom compartment containing a tray means for containing cosmetics, a fine mesh screen covering said tray means and a top compartment containing a cavity suitable for storage of an applicator for said cosmetic, and between said bottom and top compartments a divider section hinged to said bottom compartment which divider section has a mirror on its bottom side facing the tray means and wherein the top side of said divider section serves as a platform suitable for resting an applicator to be used with said cosmetic.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1: is a front perspective view of the closed compact.

Figure 2: is a front perspective view of the opened compact with the divider section flipped down to reveal a cross-sectional view of the

cosmetic applicator and the divider section platform.

Figure 3: is a front perspective view of the opened compact. A cross-sectional view of the divider section is shown in the "up" position to reveal the cosmetic tray and mirror as well as the cavity in the top compartment.

Figure 4: is an exploded front perspective view of the compact showing how the tray means of cosmetic is affixed into the bottom compartment.

Figure 5: is a front view showing the assembly of the cosmetic tray means covered by the fine mesh screen.

Figure 6: is a sectional view of the bottom compartment of the compact taken across 6-6 of Figure 3.

Detailed Description

Referring to the drawings in detail the compact or container **1** according to the present invention comprises a bottom compartment **2**, a top compartment **3** and a divider section **4**. A hinge assembly **5** pivotally connects the top compartment **3** to the bottom compartment **2** and the divider section **4** is connected to the bottom compartment. The bottom compartment **2** and top compartment **3** move between an open and closed position and permit the divider section **4** to be flipped up or down when the compact **1** is in the open position.

As shown in Figures 3-6 the bottom compartment **2** includes a bottom wall **6** a peripheral circumferential rim **19**, a peripheral circumferential recess **21**, and an inner peripheral wall **7** circumferentially disposed and integrally formed about bottom wall **6** so as to define a chamber or receptacle into which is affixed a cosmetic containing tray means **8**. The cosmetic tray means **8** is formed with a side wall **9** and a bottom wall **11** which is integral with said side wall **9** which is of similar circumferential configuration to downwardly extending sidewall **7** and which cosmetic tray is affixed into the chamber **10** of the base compartment. A fine mesh screen **13** of the same circumferential configuration as side wall **9** rests atop cosmetic tray means **8**. A frame **14** of the same circumferential configuration as the mesh screen **13** and sidewall **9** sits on top and is attached to the fine mesh screen **13**. The frame **14** snugly engages the sides of interior walls **7** of the bottom compartment **2**. The cosmetic tray means **8** is held affixed into the chamber **10** of base compartment due to the peripheral circumferential recess **21** which has an inner circumference which slightly extends over the downwardly extending sidewall **7**.

The top compartment **3** of the compact has a substantially identical configuration to the bottom

compartment **2** and has a top wall **15** and a peripheral wall **16** circumferentially disposed and integrally formed about top wall **15** to define a cavity **16a** which is suitable for holding an applicator **17** for the cosmetic. Bottom compartment **2** and top compartment **3** are molded as integral units from suitable materials such as plastics. The compact is held closed by a catch comprising a tongue **18** which projects downwardly from the inside central front wall of the top compartment **3**. In the central outer portion peripheral rim **19** of the bottom compartment **2** is a slot **20** which is complementary to and adapted to receive said tongue **18** in snapping relation.

The divider section **4** consists of an essentially flat planar surface with an attached peripheral lip which edges curves slightly upward to result in a dish-like configuration. The flat planar surface of the divider section has circumferential configuration similar to that of the peripheral circumferential recess **21** into which it fits. The bottom circumferential peripheral surface **22** of the divider section **4** fits removably into the circumferential recess **21**. When the divider section is in the upward position as in Figure **3** the cosmetic tray means **8** is exposed. On the bottom side of the divider section **4** is a mirror **23**. When the divider section **4** is in the downward position as in Figure **2** the top surface of the divider section **4** serves as a platform upon which a cosmetic applicator **17** used to apply said cosmetic is placed. The cosmetic applicator **17** rests on said platform **4** and fits into the recessed cavity **16a** of the top compartment. To assist in the divider section **4** being more easily flipped upward, at the outer circumferential edge **25** of the divider section **4** the peripheral circumferential edge is extended to a slightly greater degree to yield a slight projection **26** which can be gripped by the fingers.

As stated previously the hinge assembly **5** pivotally connects the top compartment **3** to the bottom compartment **2** and the divider section **4** is attached to the bottom compartment. The hinge assembly **5** consists of a tongue **27** which extends from the middle of the back inside circumferential periphery of the top compartment **1**. This tongue **27** is bored laterally through its distal end to allow a cylindrical means to fit through said bore. The divider section **4** has at the side opposite the projection **26** two projections **28** which are spaced apart a distance sufficient to allow said tongue **27** to fit between them. These projections **28** are bored laterally also so that a cylindrical means will thread through the bores of the projections and the tongue to hold the tongue **27** in place between the projections **28** and to secure them to the bottom compartment.

The screen covered cosmetic tray is suitable

for use with powders, rouges, but particularly with heavy liquid, oil or paste-type compositions such as foundation make-ups, rouge, concealer, eyecolor, etc. The fine mesh screen enables controlled application of cosmetic to the applicator thus protecting against waste. The mesh screen is of such a consistency that it may be easily depressed with pressure thus following the decreasing levels of cosmetic in the tray as it is used up. The separate storage compartment provided for the cosmetic applicator keeps the applicator from resting on the fine mesh screen. The applicator thus remains cleaner and is less likely to soil hands and clothes. The mirror facilitates cosmetic application by the user when a powder room is not convenient. The specific placement of the mirror on the opposite side of the divider from the applicator enables it to remain unsoiled.

While the invention has been described in connection with the preferred embodiment it is not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the particular form set forth but, on the contrary, it is intended to cover such alternatives, modifications, and equivalents as may be included within the spirit and scope of the intended claims.

Claims

1. A compact comprising a bottom compartment containing a tray means for containing cosmetic, a fine mesh screen covering said tray means, and a top compartment hinged to said bottom compartment and containing a cavity suitable for storage of an applicator for said cosmetic, and between said bottom and top compartments a divider section hinged to said bottom compartment which divider section has a mirror on its bottom side facing the tray means and wherein the top side of said divider section serves as a platform suitable for resting an applicator to be used with said cosmetic.
2. The compact of claim 1 wherein said cosmetic tray contains a heavy liquid, oil, or paste-type composition.
3. The compact of claim 2 containing a sponge applicator for said cosmetic.
4. The compact of claim 3 wherein the cosmetic tray contains foundation make-up, blush, eyecolor, or concealer.

Fig. 1.

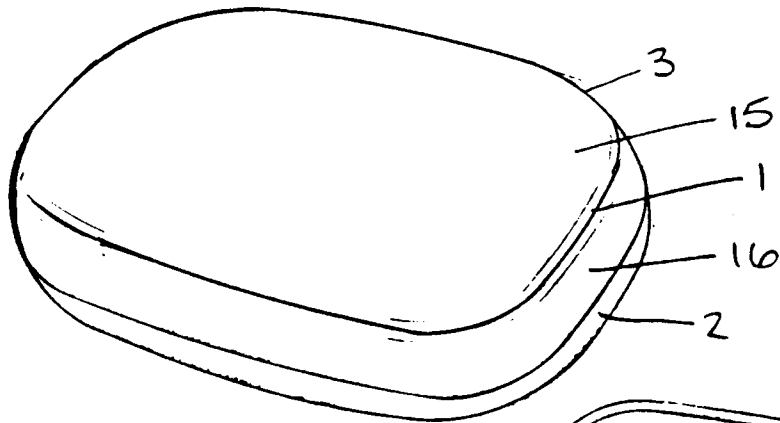


Fig. 2.

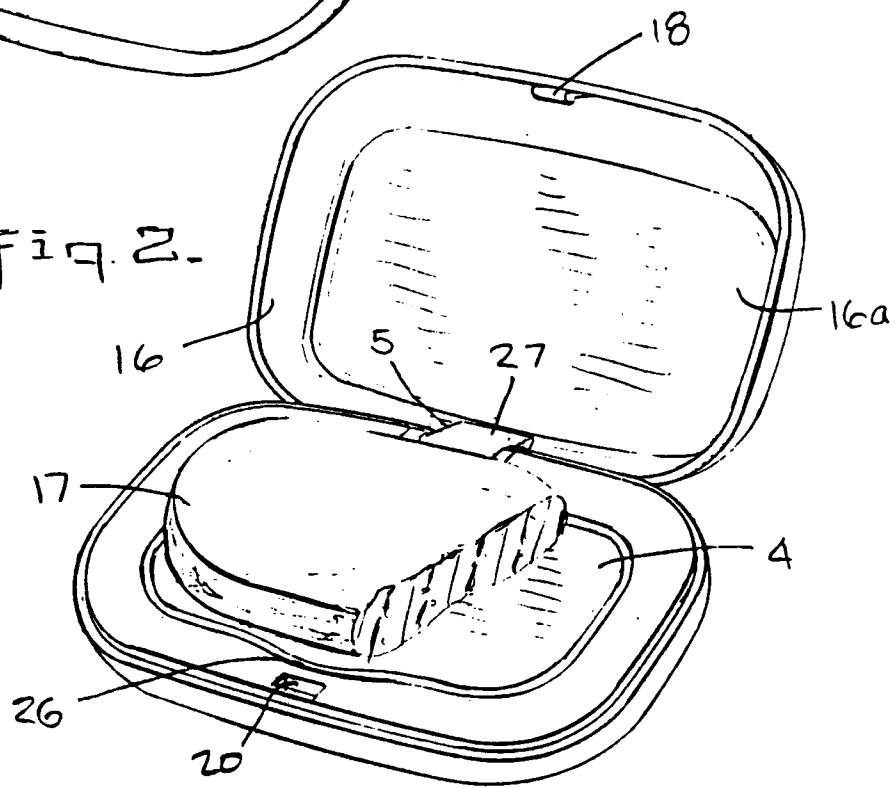
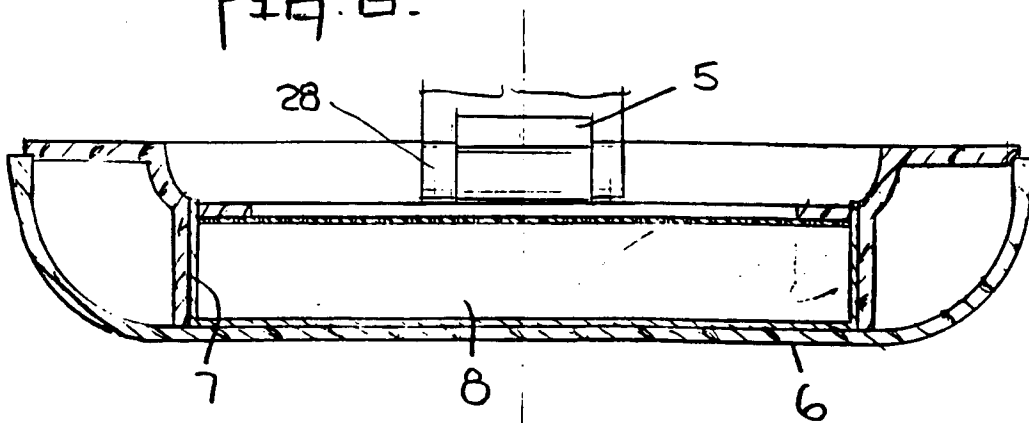
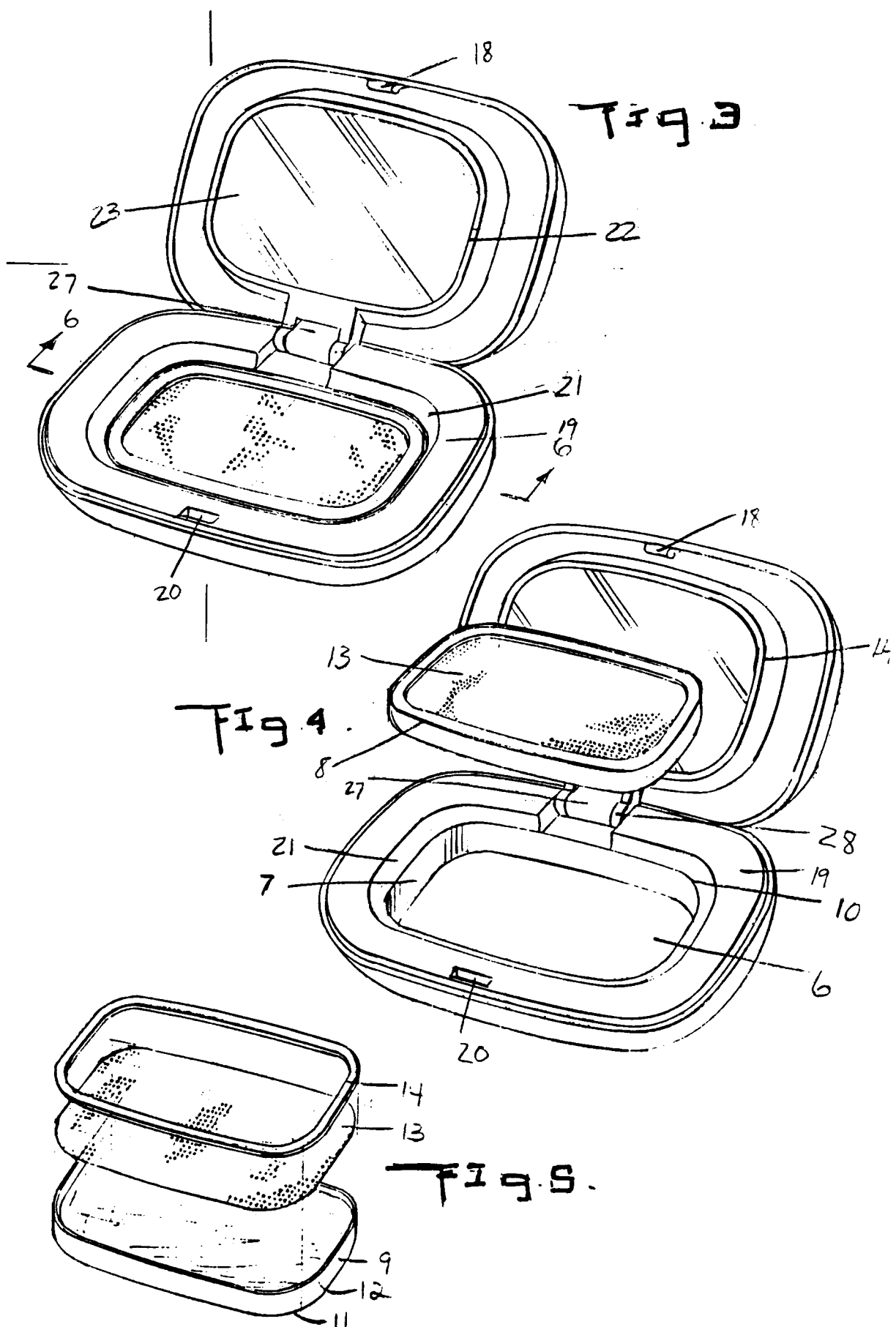


Fig. 6.







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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91305286.6

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
X	GB - A - 866 357 (FRIDA LESCHLY VEDEL) * Totality * --	1
X	US - A - 4 834 122 (YUHARA et al.) * Totality * -----	1
		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
		A 45 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search VIENNA	Date of completion of the search 25-07-1991	Examiner NETZER
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		