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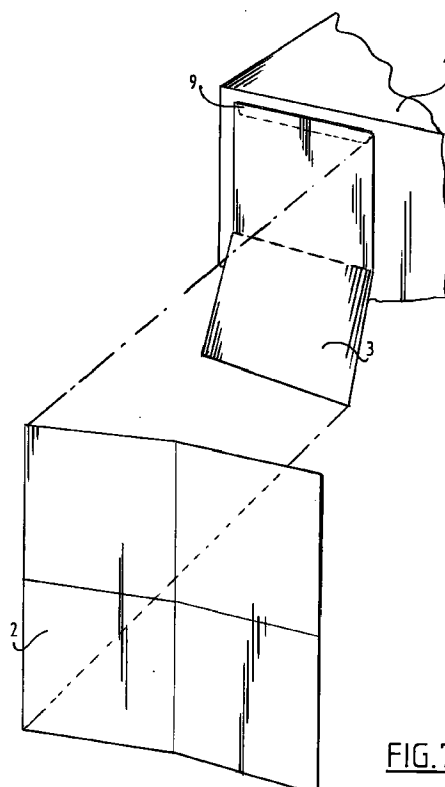
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**(54) Releasably connecting an information document to a holder**

(57) The invention relates to a method for identifying a holder (13) and adding to the holder at least one document (2) for separating from the holder, such as for instance a packing slip, information leaflet and/or guarantee certificate, by the steps of:

- folding together the construction, which is embodied as a sheet, of holder label (3) and releasable document, and
- adhering the folded construction to the holder.

The invention also relates to a construction of a document and a holder label for attaching on a holder, consisting of at least two separable sheet parts; which construction is foldable such that the information of the holder label is readable while another sheet part faces towards the holder.



**FIG. 7**

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## Description

[0001] The invention relates to a method for identifying a holder and adding to the holder at least one document for separating from the holder, such as for instance a packing slip, information leaflet and/or guarantee certificate. The invention also relates to a method for releasing at least one document for separating from the holder and to a construction of a document and a holder label to be used in these methods.

[0002] In for instance loose cargo and pallet transport it often occurs that the package or pallet has to be provided with a label for identifying the holder, arranging address information and/or other data. Frequently provided therein is inter alia a bar code on this label. In addition to a holder label often at least one document is added to the holder, for instance a packing slip, instructions for use, guarantee certificate et cetera. These documents are usually contained in a self-adhesive envelope, which is adhered to the outside of the holder. The holder label can be adhered at a random position on the holder, wherein it occurs that the holder label is adhered to the self-adhesive envelope for containing the documents.

[0003] The present invention has for its object to provide a method and device with which a holder label can be attached to a holder and at least one document can be added to the holder in a simplified manner.

[0004] For this purpose the invention provides a method of the type mentioned in the preamble with the steps of:

- folding together the construction, which is embodied as a sheet, of holder label and releasable document, and
- adhering the folded construction to the holder.

[0005] The construction is preferably adhered such that the folded-up sheet is fixed in the folded situation. Thus the holder label and document can be connected simultaneously to a holder. An advantage hereof is that this results in a considerable reduction in labour, but it is also possible to mechanize this method. Another advantage is that the holder label and document can be produced simultaneously and are subsequently not separated anymore from each other until the moment they are connected to the holder. The chance of errors is hereby reduced and the controllability of the process of arranging the holder label and document is less complex.

[0006] The invention also provides a method for releasing at least one document for separating from the holder by unfolding the folded sheet which has been arranged according to the method described above and separating the releasable document from the holder label, wherein at least an adhered part of the sheet remains behind on the holder. It is also possible therein that, after removal of the releasable document, the

holder label is subsequently further divided up into at least again a releasable part and an adhered part remaining behind on the holder. Thus the document can be released from the holder in a simple manner while the holder label remains behind on the holder. Holder label and document can now start to live their separate lives. It is also possible to release separate documents sequentially from the holder label. Here can for instance be envisaged first of all removing a packing slip and after the holder has been emptied to at least a considerable level for instance tearing off a kanban card. Very many variations hereon are of course conceivable.

[0007] The invention also provides a construction of a document and a holder label for attaching on a holder, consisting of at least two separable sheet parts; which construction is foldable such that the information of the holder label is readable while another sheet part faces towards the holder.

[0008] Hereby sensitive information can be arranged on the inside of the other sheet part, while identification codes are visible on the outside. So-called tracking and tracing can hereby be controlled in a simple manner and sensitive information such as an invoice is sufficiently protected.

[0009] Herein the construction is preferably provided with at least one weakened line for easily separating the separate sheet parts. This weakened line can for instance be embodied as perforation line. Such a construction can be printed in one printing and can be produced relatively simply. Another advantage is that relatively little material needs to be used for arranging the holder label and the document. This leads to a saving on material of at least 10% relative to the prior art as described above. Another advantage is that envelopes manufactured from plastic, such as frequently used to date, are no longer required. Thus the recyclability of the holder material is increased. This results in considerable environmental advantages.

[0010] In a preferred embodiment the sheet is provided at least locally with an adhesive layer such that the side of the construction facing towards the holder in folded situation is at least partly provided with an adhesive layer. Owing to the presence of the adhesive layer the folded construction can be adhered against the holder in a simple manner. It has been found in practice that an advantageous embodiment of the construction is embodied self-adhesively over the entire surface of the sheet. This has been found to be more economical than to embody the sheet self-adhesively only locally. Particularly envisaged herein is a paper so-called sticker, wherein the printing is preferably applied on the paper protective layer. By removing a punched out part of the protective layer a part of the sticker sheet is exposed which is placed such that it can engage on a holder in the folded situation of the sheet.

[0011] Another preferred embodiment of the sheet is provided with a projecting edge part which is separated from the remaining part of the sheet by a weakened line,

which edge part is placed such that, in folded situation of the construction, the edge part can engage on the side of the construction facing towards the holder to secure the construction in folded situation. After folding up the sheet the projecting edge part is folded against the self-adhesive side, for facing towards the holder, of the construction. Owing to this sheet part being self-adhesive a projecting edge part will be fixed relative to this self-adhesive side. Thus the folded sheet is secured in the folded situation. To release the document from the holder label the edge part has to be torn loose. To facilitate this the edge part is separated from the remaining part of the sheet by means of a weakened line. Thus no unwanted damage to the document and/or holder label will occur when the document is removed.

**[0012]** The present invention will now be further elucidated with reference to the non-limitative embodiments shown in the following figures. Herein:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic view of a construction of a document and a holder label according to the invention,

Fig. 2 shows a view of a variant of the construction shown in fig. 1 provided with a projecting side edge, Fig. 3 shows a view of a variant of the construction shown in fig. 2 provided with an extra weakened line,

Fig. 4 shows a perspective view of the construction shown in fig. 3 in a partly folded situation,

Fig. 5 shows a perspective view of the construction of fig. 4 in a situation folded together further,

Fig. 6 shows a perspective view of a folded construction, which is adhered against a holder, and

Fig. 7 shows a perspective view of a document released from a holder label attached on a holder.

**[0013]** Fig. 1 shows a construction 1 of a document 2 and a holder label 3 mutually separated by means of a perforation line 4. The holder label 3 is provided with a self-adhesive surface 5 for attaching the construction 1 against a holder in a simple manner. The construction 1 is further provided with fold lines 6,7 along which the construction 1 can be folded up, as it can along the perforation line 4. This will be further illustrated with reference to the figures 4 and 5.

**[0014]** The document 2 can be printed in a manner of choice. In the case of the holder label 3 the upper surface is provided with codes which have to be arranged on a holder.

**[0015]** The construction 8 shown in fig. 2 corresponds with the construction 1 shown in fig. 1 to a large degree. Holder label 3 and document 2 can be mutually separated by tearing along the perforation line 4.

**[0016]** The construction 8 is, in contrast to the construction 1, provided with a projecting edge part 9 which is connected with interposing of a perforation line 10 to the holder label 3. After folding up the construction 8 the edge part 9 can be folded over such that it engages on

the self-adhesive surface 5 of the holder label 3. Thus the construction 8 can be simply secured in folded situation. When the document 2 subsequently has to be released from the holder label 3 the connection of the projecting edge part 9 with the holder label 3 must first of all be broken along the perforation line 10. Subsequently the construction 8 can be unfolded so that the document 2 can be torn loose from the holder label 3.

**[0017]** Fig. 3 shows a construction 11 which corresponds to a large degree with the construction 8 as shown in fig. 2. The construction 11 however comprises an extra perforation line 12 relative to construction 8, such that the holder label 3 can be divided up into two separate parts. Thus the segment of the holder label 3 situated at the top right-hand side in the figure can be torn loose from the segment provided with the self-adhesive surface 5 which is adhered against a holder. In this manner it is possible to separate the holder label 3 into two separate parts. Hereby the possibility is for instance created of utilizing the releasable segment of the holder label 3 as kanban card or otherwise.

**[0018]** Fig. 4 shows the construction 11 in a partially folded situation, wherein a partial folding has taken place along fold line 7 and perforation line 4.

**[0019]** When the construction 11 is folded together further as shown in fig. 4 the situation as shown in fig. 5 results, in which the construction 11 is almost completely folded up. After the construction 11 has been folded up completely the projecting edge part 9 is pressed against the self-adhesive surface 5 so that a situation results as shown in fig. 6. The part of the self-adhesive surface 5 which is left free is subsequently pressed against the holder 13. The segment of the holder label 3 which is situated at the top righthand side in fig. 1-4 is facing towards the front side and is provided with the desired markings with which the holder 13 has to be provided. These markings can for instance consist of a bar code 14, a number code 15 and/or a letter code 16.

**[0020]** Fig. 7 shows the document 2 in a situation released from the holder label 3. For this purpose first of all the perforation line between the projecting edge part 9 and the holder label 3 is broken. The holder label 3 can now be unfolded so that the document 2 can be separated from the holder label 3. Holder label 3 remains behind on holder 13. When, relative to this figure, the holder label 3 is placed upside down on the holder 13 the holder label 3 will be able to close again owing to the force of gravity.

## Claims

1. Method for identifying a holder and adding to the holder at least one document for separating from the holder, such as for instance a packing slip, information leaflet and/or guarantee certificate, by the steps of:

- folding together the construction, which is embodied as a sheet, of holder label and releasable document, and
- adhering the folded construction to the holder.

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2. Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the construction is adhered such that the folded-up sheet is fixed in the folded situation.

3. Method for releasing at least one document for separating from the holder by unfolding the folded sheet which has been arranged as claimed in claim 1 or 2 and for separating the releasable document from the holder label, wherein at least an adhered part of the sheet remains behind on the holder.

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4. Method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the holder label after removal of the releasable document is subsequently further divided up into at least again a releasable part and an adhered part remaining behind on the holder.

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5. Construction of a document and a holder label for attaching on a holder, consisting of at least two separable sheet parts; which construction is foldable such that the information of the holder label is readable while another sheet part faces towards the holder.

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6. Construction as claimed in claim 5, wherein the construction is provided with at least one weakened line for easily separating the separate sheet parts.

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7. Construction as claimed in claim 6, wherein the weakened line is a perforation line.

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8. Construction as claimed in any of the claims 5-7, wherein the sheet is provided at least locally with an adhesive layer such that the side of the construction facing towards the holder in folded situation is at least partly provided with an adhesive layer.

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9. Construction as claimed in any of the claims 5-8, wherein the sheet is provided with a projecting edge part which is separated from the remaining part of the sheet by a weakened line, which edge part is placed such that, in folded situation of the construction, the edge part can engage on the side of the construction facing towards the holder to secure the construction in folded situation.

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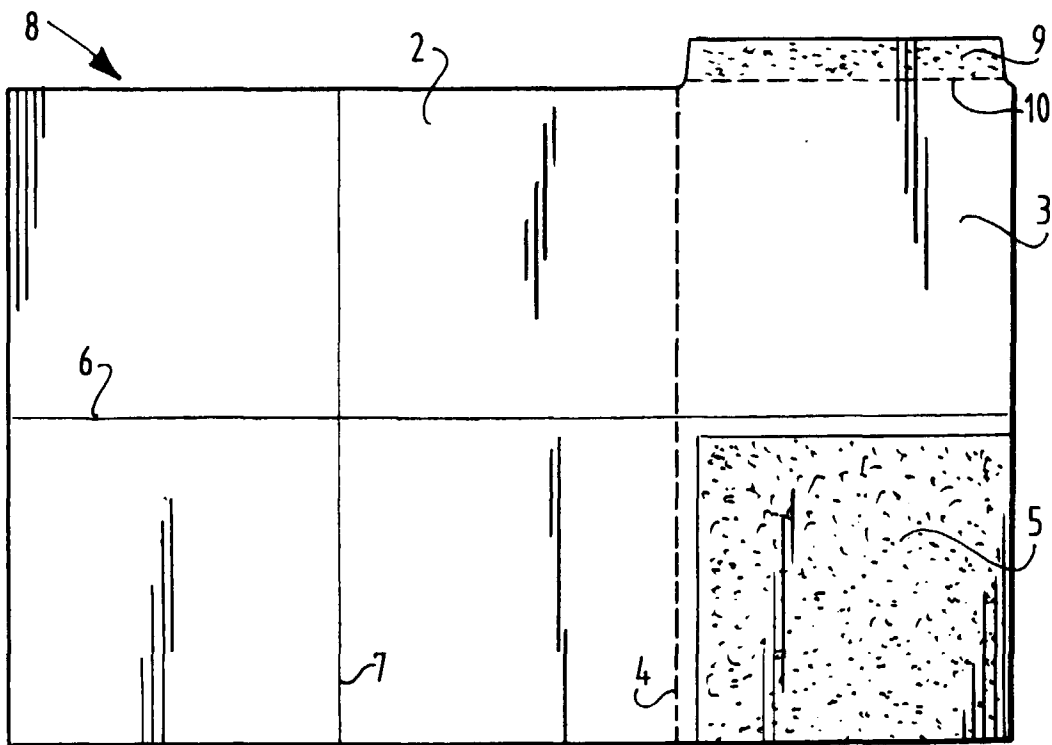
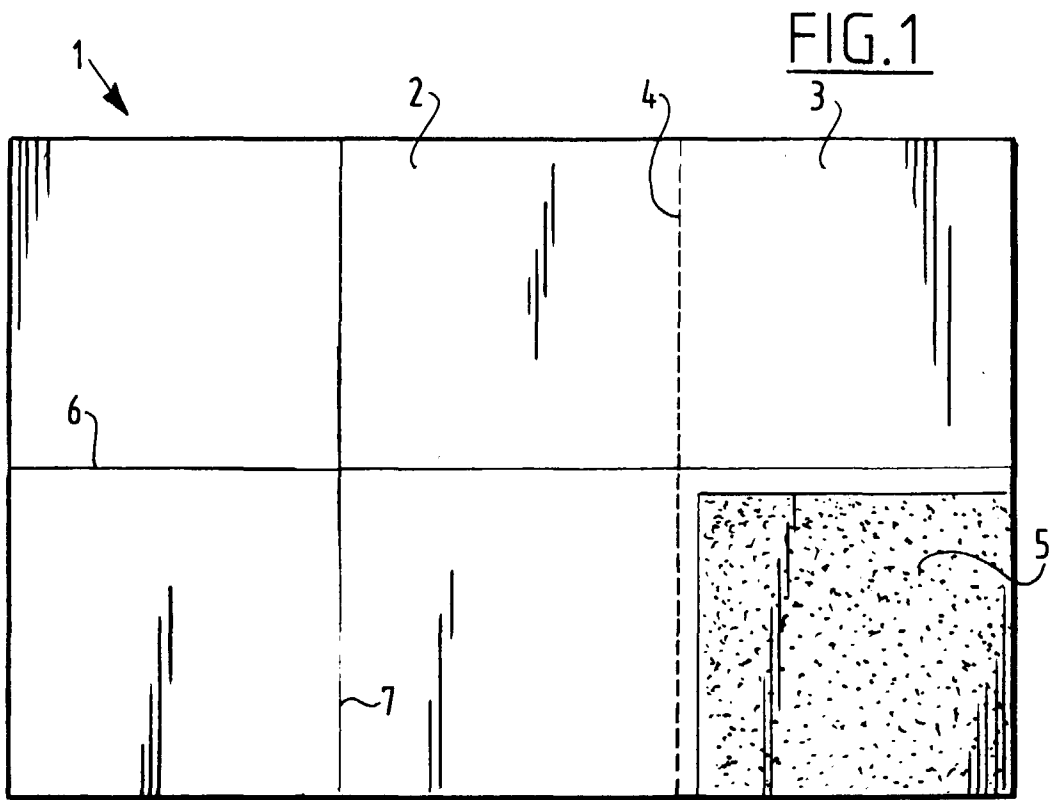


FIG.2

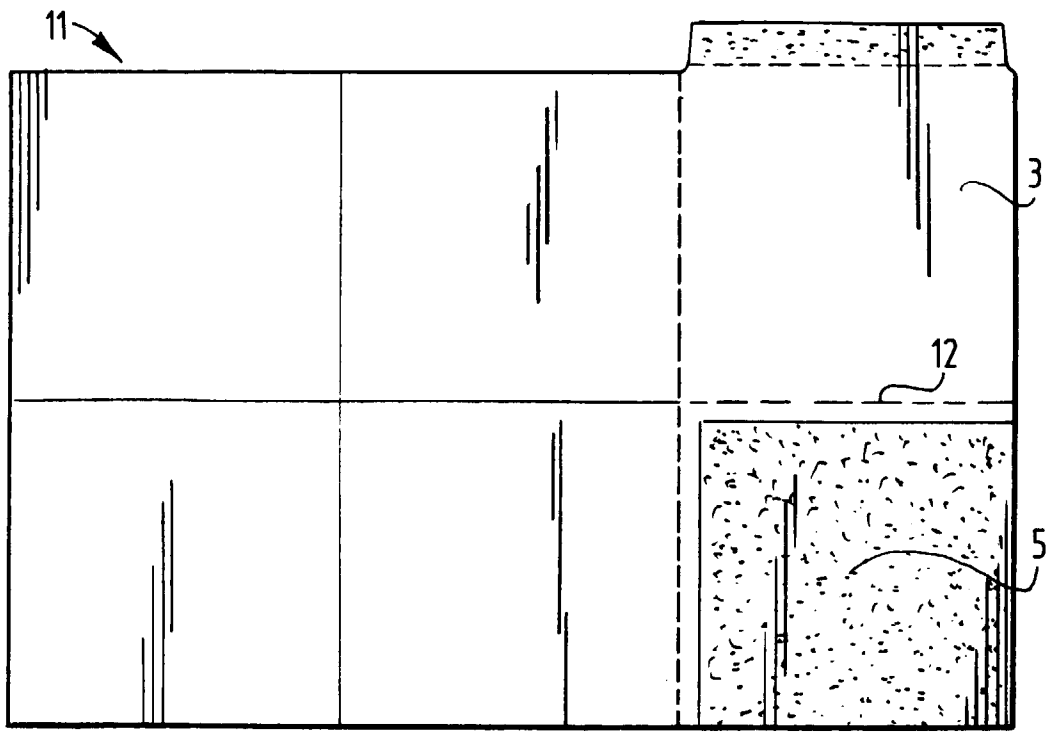


FIG. 3

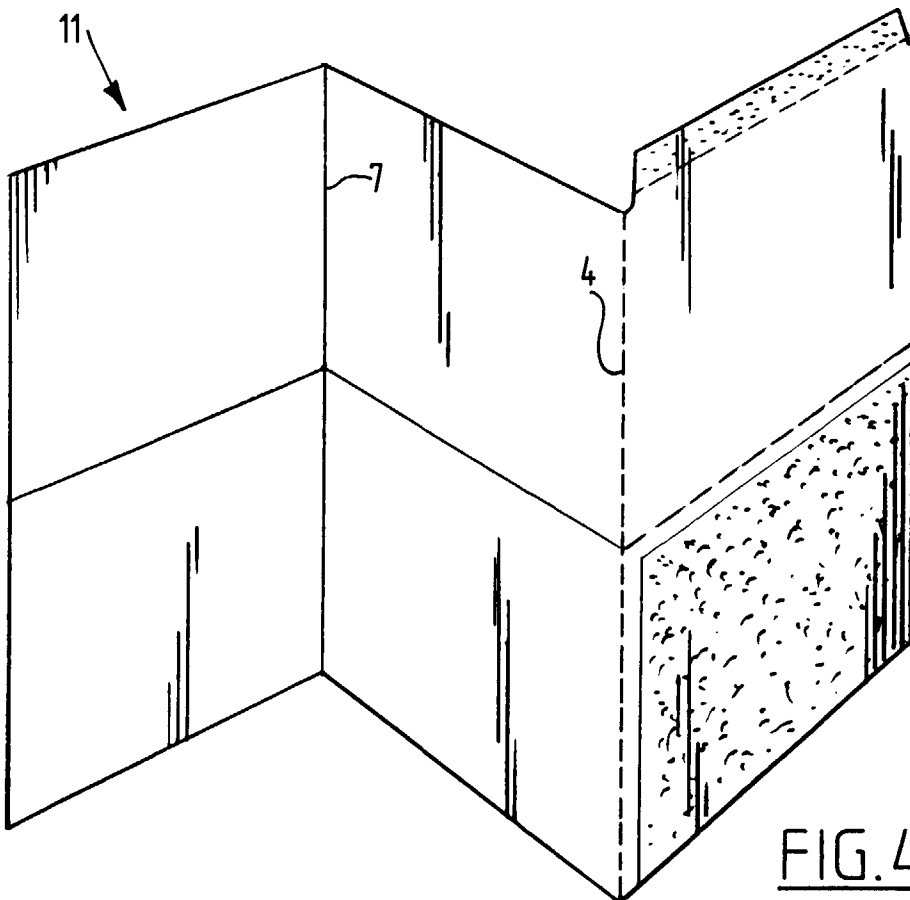
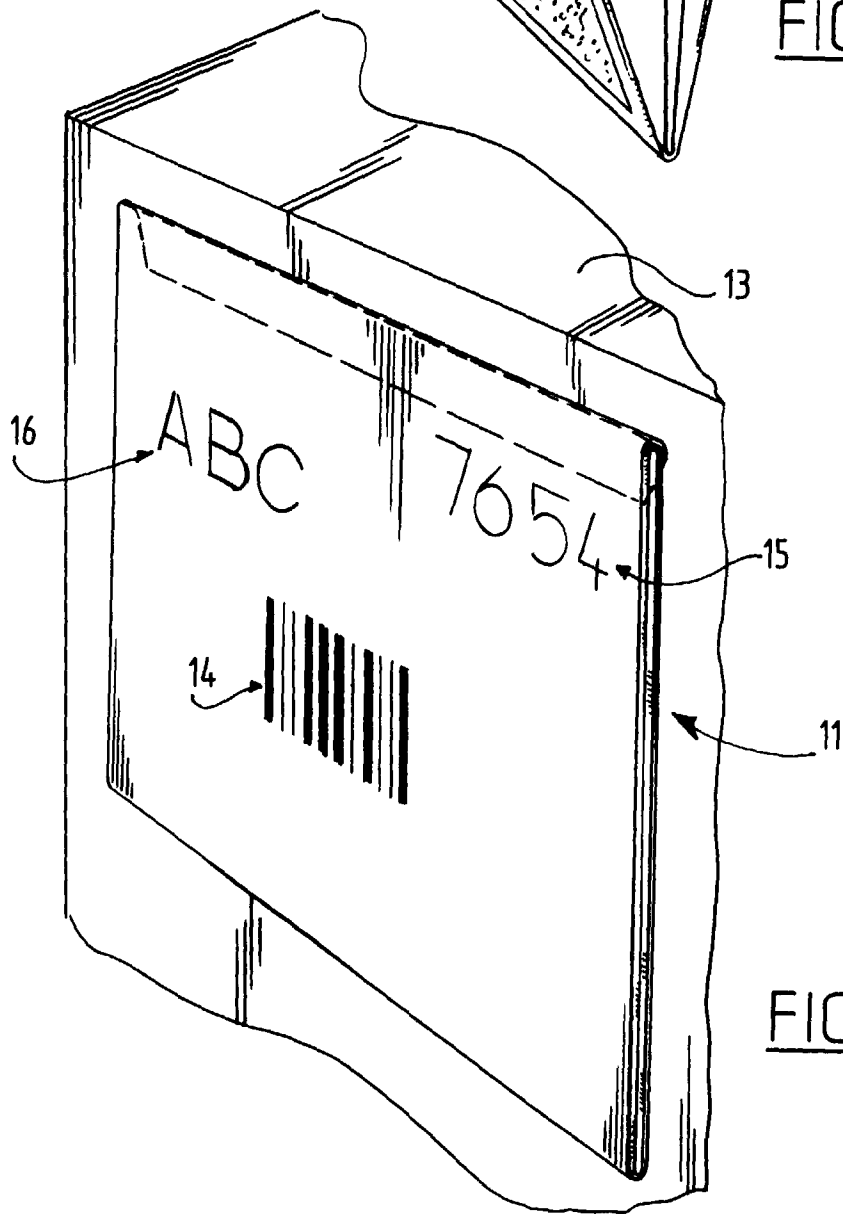
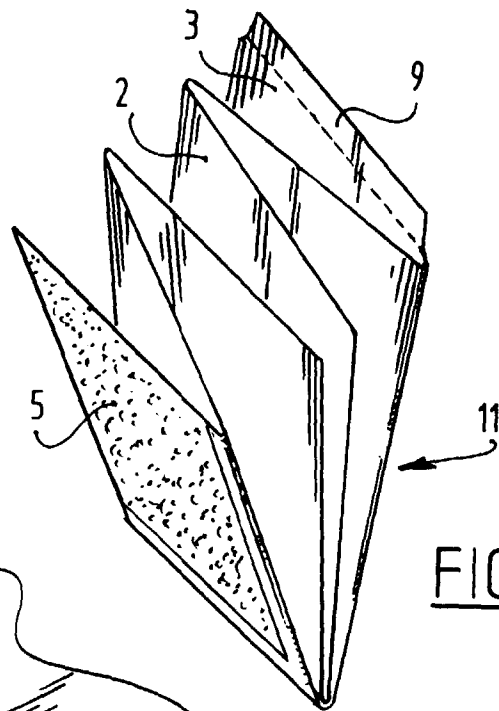


FIG. 4



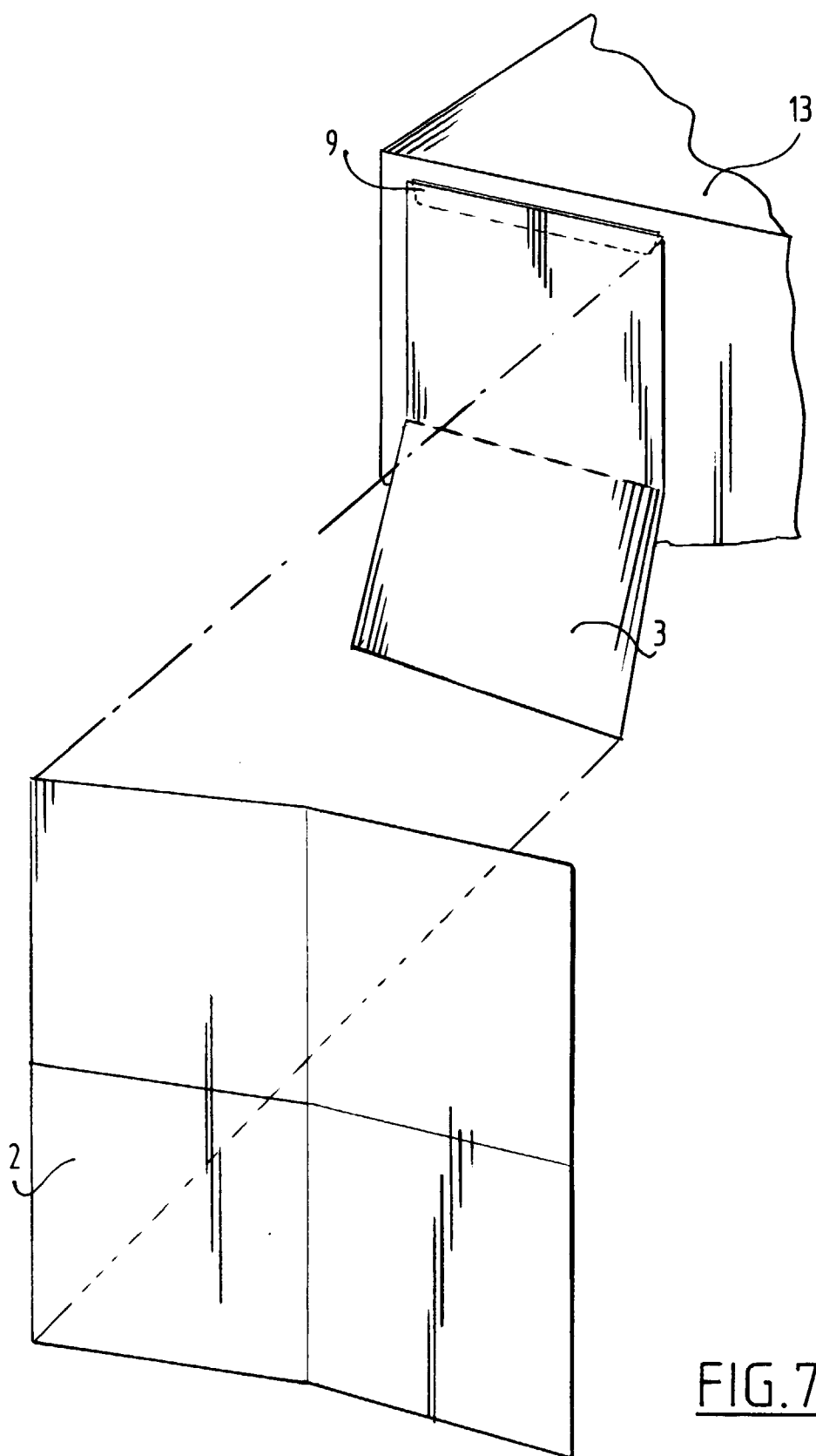


FIG. 7





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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 20 4032

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 301 814 A (D. J. INSTANCE)	1-3,5-9	G09F3/02
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B65D G09F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>5 March 1999</b>	Examiner <b>Martin, A</b>
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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EP 98 20 4032

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
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05-03-1999

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