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(54) **Pack for smoker's articles**

(57) There is provided a pack 60 for smokers articles. The pack 60 includes a first section in the form of a hull 52 and slide 37 arrangement for containing filter rods 21 and a second section in the form of a slotted

carton 11 containing cigarette papers 12. The carton 11 is glued to an extension 53 which is hingedly connected to the hull 52. The extension 53 folds around the front of the hull 52 and is removably held by means of a tab 59 and slot 61 combination.

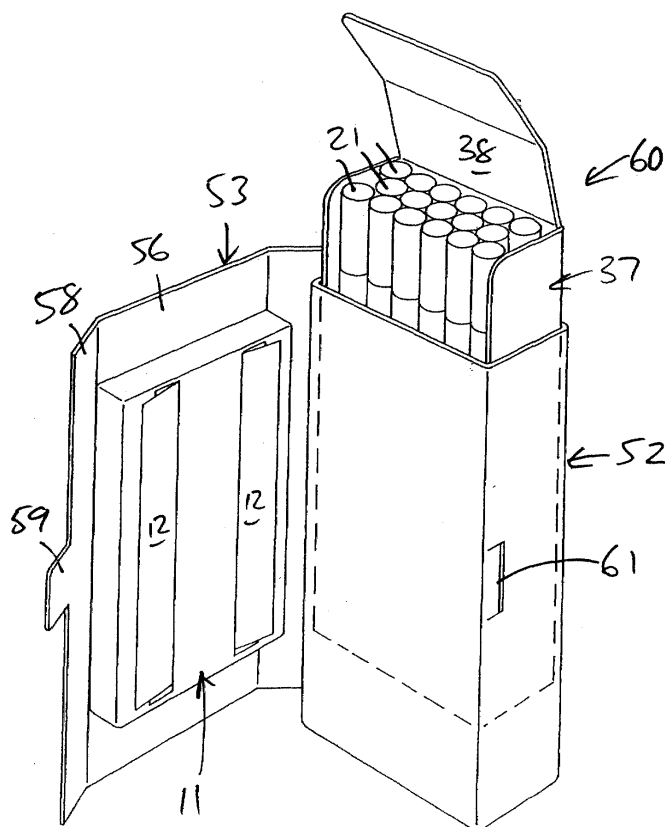


FIGURE 15

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Description

[0001] This invention relates to packs for smoker's articles, particularly filter tips and cigarette papers for roll-your-own cigarettes. Many people roll their own cigarettes and choose to incorporate filter tips into the cigarettes which they have rolled.

[0002] According to the present invention there is provided a pack comprising a first section containing filter tips and a second section containing cigarette papers.

[0003] Preferably a number of individual filter tips are retained end to end in a sleeve, said first section of the pack containing a number of said sleeves. Ideally each sleeve is made from clear plastic film. Alternatively the sleeve may carry branding or other written/graphic information.

[0004] Normally the first section is provided with first access means for enabling access to the filter tips. In some arrangements said first access means enables access to the second section and in other arrangements said second section is provided with second access means.

[0005] In some embodiments the first section is in the form of a hull and slide carton thereby constituting said first access means whilst in other embodiments the first section is in the form of a flip top carton having a hinged lid which constitutes said first access means.

[0006] With one embodiment, the first section incorporates an extension flap to which the second section is attached, so that when the pack is closed the second section lies against the first section, thereby constituting said second access means. Preferably the extension flap is formed with engagement means so that the engagement flap can be engaged with the first section to retain the second section in its closed condition.

[0007] In another embodiment the second section is in the form of a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots and a hingedly connected closure panel to cover the one or more dispensing slots, which slotted carton is affixed to one face of the first section, said closure panel constituting said second access means. In a further embodiment the second section is in the form of a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots and a hingedly connected closure panel to cover the one or more dispensing slots, which slotted carton is inserted into a space provided in said first section. Conveniently the first section provides a divider panel to define said space for the slotted carton.

[0008] With a still further embodiment the interior of the flip top carton is divided into a front portion which incorporates the first section for filter tips and a rear portion which constitutes the second section for cigarette papers, the rear panel of the flip top carton having a hingedly connected panel cut therefrom, which panel constitutes said second access means. Preferably the second section comprises a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots, which carton is adhesively secured to the inside of the rear panel of the flip

top carton with said dispensing slots facing rearwardly. It is a preferred feature that the hingedly connected panel at the rear has a retention tab for engagement in an opening in the flip top carton thereby to retain the panel in a closed position preventing access to the paper dispensing slots of the slotted carton.

[0009] In another arrangement the two sections are provided side by side on a rear panel, the second section having a front facing paper dispensing slot, the first section having an open top area to provide access to the filters and the rear panel having a hingedly connected extension which constitutes said first access means and which in its closed position extends over said open top area and over at least a portion of the front to prevent access to the paper dispensing slots. Ideally the extension has end tabs remote from the rear panel for engagement with cooperating openings in the front of the pack.

[0010] Embodiments of the present invention will now be described in more detail. The description makes reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a blank for producing a known slotted carton for cigarette papers,

Figure 2 is a perspective side view of a sleeve of filter tips,

Figure 3 is a front perspective view of a pack according to the present invention,

Figure 4 is a rear perspective view of the figure 3 pack,

Figure 5 is a section on line 5-5 of figure 3,

Figure 6 is a front perspective view of a second embodiment of pack according to the present invention,

Figure 7 is a rear perspective view of the figure 6 pack,

Figure 8 is a front perspective view of a third embodiment of pack according to the present invention,

Figure 9 is a section on line 9-9 of figure 8,

Figure 10 shows blanks for producing the figure 8 pack,

Figure 11 is a front perspective view of a fourth embodiment of pack according to the present invention,

Figure 12 is a rear perspective view of the figure 11 pack,

Figure 13 is a section on line 13-13 of figure 11,

Figure 14 shows blanks for producing the figure 11 pack,

Figure 15 is a front perspective view of a fifth embodiment of pack according to the present invention,

Figure 16 shows blanks for producing the figure 15 pack,

Figure 17 is a front perspective view of a sixth pack according to the present invention,

Figure 18 is a rear perspective view of the figure 17

pack,

Figure 19 is a section on line 19-19 of figure 17,
Figure 20 shows a blank for producing the figure 17
pack,

Figure 21 is a front perspective view of a seventh
pack according to the present invention in an open
condition,

Figure 22 is a front perspective view of the figure
21 pack in a closed condition, and

Figure 23 shows a blank for producing the figure 21
pack.

[0011] Figure 1 shows a paperboard blank 10 for producing a conventional slotted carton 11 which is folded about two adjacent piles of interleaved cigarette papers 12. The blank 10 provides a front panel 13 having two slots 14 through which the papers 12 are dispensed, a rear panel 15 and a hingedly connected cover panel 16 which in use lies over the slots 14 to offer some protection to the papers 12. A number of side panels and tuck panels are also shown, but need no further discussion as this is a known product. A similar type of blank is used to form a single-slotted carton about a single pile of interleaved cigarette papers. Again such a package is conventional and needs no further discussion.

[0012] Figure 2 shows a number of cylindrical filter tips 20 arranged end to end and retained together by a sleeve formed from clear plastic film. Six filter tips 20 are shown in one sleeve thus forming a rod 21, but the number can vary according to the size of rod 21 desired. Individual filter tips 20 can be taken from the rod 21 when required but until then the sleeve retains the filter tips 20 together.

[0013] In figures 3 to 5 there is shown a first embodiment of the invention. A 'crushproof' or 'fliptop' carton 30 has a main body 31 and a hingedly connected lid 32. An inner frame 33 is provided within the main body 31 and a number of filter rods 21 are provided inside the inner frame 33 which extends around the front and sides of the group rods 21. In the embodiment shown there are seventeen rods 21 but the number can be varied, as can the size of the carton 30. If each rod comprises six filter tips 20 then the carton 30 holds 102 filter tips 20. The inner frame 33 has a cut away portion 39 at its front to facilitate removal or partial removal of the rods 21. Attached to the rear surface 34 of the main body 31 is a slotted carton 11 of the type produced by the figure 1 blank.

[0014] It will be apparent that the lid 32 offers protection to the filter rods 21 and enables access thereto, whilst the cover panel 16 of the carton 11 offers protection to the cigarette papers 12 and enables access thereto. The consumer, therefore, has ready access to cigarette papers and filter tips for producing roll-your-own cigarettes.

[0015] In figures 6 and 7 there is shown an embodiment which is similar in many respects to that shown in figures 3 to 5. Like features have been given like refer-

ence numerals. Instead of a 'crushproof' or 'fliptop' carton, the carton 35 is in the form of a 'hull and slide' pack comprising an outer hull 36 and an inner slide 37 which is capable of sliding within the hull 36 and which contains the filter rods 21. The slide 37 has an end cover flap 38 at its top and bottom to protect the rods 21 and, together with some movement of the slide 37 relative to the hull 36, enables access to the filter rods 21. As in the previous embodiment, a slotted carton 11 is affixed to the rear surface 34 of the carton 35, preferably using adhesive. In the embodiment shown the outer hull 36 is taller than the slotted carton 11, but the dimensions could be altered so that the hull 36 and the carton 11 are the same height.

[0016] The pack 40 shown in figures 8 to 10 comprises a 'crushproof' or 'fliptop' carton 30 having a main body 31 and a hingedly connected lid 32. The blank 40 for producing such a carton 30 is shown in figure 10 together with a blank 41 for producing an inner sleeve 33. The blank 40 is well known and needs no further explanation as to how it is folded to produce the carton 30. The blank 41 has a known cut away 39 at the top of its front face and has a series of folds 42 so that when folded it forms an E shape thus forming two compartments when inserted in the main body 31 of the carton 30. In use, a single pile slotted carton 43 is inserted in one compartment and a bundle of six filter rods 21 are inserted in the other compartment.

[0017] A further alternative pack 50 is shown in figures 11 to 14. The pack 50 comprises a slide 37 for housing the filter rods 21, which slide is folded from blank 51 shown in figure 14. The slide 37 is slidably received in a hull arrangement 52 which has an extension 53 from its rear wall 54. The extension 53 comprises a side panel 55 hingedly connected to rear wall 54 and a front panel hingedly connected to the side panel 55. The rear surface of a modified single pile slotted carton 57 is affixed to the front panel 56 in the position 58 indicated to figure 14. The carton 57 is similar to known slotted cartons except the cover panel has been omitted. To provide protection for the papers 12 the front panel 56 is folded around the front of the hull arrangement 52 so that the front panel of the slotted carton lies generally against the front of the hull arrangement 52. To gain access to the papers 12, the pack 50 is opened somewhat like a book.

[0018] The pack 60 shown in figures 15 and 16 is similar to the previously described embodiment except the dimensions are larger so that more rods 21 are accommodated in the slide 37. Also the front panel 56 of the extension 53 is such that a double pile slotted carton 11 is attached, again with the cover panel 16 omitted. In addition the extension 53 has a second side panel 58 with a retaining tab 59 for engagement in a slot 61 formed in the hull arrangement 52, thereby constituting means for holding the pack 60 in a closed condition.

[0019] In figures 17 to 20 there is shown a 'crushproof' or 'flip-top' pack 70 which is produced from a blank 71

which is similar to a standard blank for this type of pack. The rear panel 72 of the pack 70 has a closure portion 73 cut from it but retained by a fold hinge 74. Opposite the hinge tab 74 the closure portion 73 has a tab 75 which is cut from the adjacent inner side panel 76. The pack 70 also has an inner frame 77 which extends around the front and sides of a group of filter rods 21. The front of the inner frame 77 has a cut away portion 78 to facilitate access to the rods 21. Between the back of the group of filter rods 21 and the rear panel 72 of the pack 70, a double pile slotted carton 11 is disposed. During assembly the marginal edge portions of the front panel 13 of the carton 11 are glued to the inside of the rear panel 72. The inner frame 77 and its contents are placed over the rear of the carton 11 and the blank 71 is folded and adhered to form the pack 70.

[0020] In use, the closure portion 73 can be hinged about hinge 74 to allow access to the cigarette papers. The closure portion can be closed again by way of the tab 75 engaging in the resulting opening in the inner side panel 76 from which it is cut, said opening being covered by the associated outer side panel 80. Prior to first use, the closure portion may be held in place by frangible retention nibs which are well known in the packaging industry.

[0021] The pack 90 shown in figures 21 to 23 has a front 91, rear 92 and side panels 93. The front 91 has an opening 94 for alignment with the slot of a coverless single pile slotted carton 57 containing cigarette papers which is glued to the inner surface of the front 91. Adjacent the carton 57 a number of filter rods 21 are provided, with a cut away portion 39 being provided in the front 91 to facilitate access to the filter rods 21. The rear 92 has a hingedly connected extension 95 comprising a top panel 96 and a front cover panel 97. The corners 98 of the cover panel 97 remote from the top panel 96 can constitute tabs for engaging in slits 99 formed in the front 91. The cover panel 97 can, therefore, be retained in a closed condition relative to the front 91 as shown in figure 22, giving protection to the papers 12 and filter tips 20.

[0022] It will be appreciated that the arrangements described above are just examples of suitable packs. Alternatives will be apparent. Furthermore, the precise shapes and dimensions can be varied as desired.

Claims

1. A pack comprising a first section containing filter tips and a second section containing cigarette papers.
2. A pack as claimed in claim 1 wherein a number of filter tips are retained end to end in a sleeve, said first section of the pack containing a number of said sleeves.

3. A pack as claimed in claim 2 wherein each sleeve is made from plastic film which is clear and/or incorporates written/graphic information.

4. A pack as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the first section is provided with first access means.

5. A pack as claimed in claim 4 wherein said first access means enables access to the second section.

6. A pack as claimed in claim 4 wherein said second section is provided with second access means.

7. A pack as claimed in claim 6 wherein the first section is in the form of a hull and slide carton thereby constituting said first access means.

8. A pack as claimed in claim 6 wherein the first section is in the form of a flip top carton having a hinged lid which constitutes said first access means.

9. A pack as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the first section incorporates an extension flap to which the second section is attached, so that when the pack is closed the second section lies against the first section, thereby constituting said second access means.

10. A pack as claimed in claim 9 wherein the extension flap is formed with engagement means so that the engagement flap can be engaged with the first section to retain the second section in its closed condition.

11. A pack as claimed in claim 10 wherein said engagement means comprises one or more tabs for engagement with one or more cooperating slots in the first section.

12. A pack as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the second section is in the form of a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots and a hingedly connected closure panel to cover the one or more dispensing slots, which slotted carton is affixed to one face of the first section, said closure panel constituting said second access means.

13. A pack as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the second section is in the form of a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots and a hingedly connected closure panel to cover the one or more dispensing slots, which slotted carton is inserted into a space provided in said first section.

14. A pack as claimed in claim 13 wherein the first section provides a divider panel to define said space for the slotted carton.

15. A pack as claimed in claim 8 wherein the interior of the flip top carton is divided into a front portion which incorporates the first section for filter tips and a rear portion which constitutes the second section for cigarette papers, the rear panel of the flip top carton having a hingedly connected panel cut therefrom, which panel constitutes said second access means. 5
16. A pack as claimed in claim 15 wherein the second section comprises a slotted carton having one or more paper dispensing slots, which carton is adhesively secured to the inside of the rear panel of the flip top carton with said dispensing slots facing rearwardly. 10
17. A pack as claimed in claim 16 wherein the hingedly connected panel at the rear has a retention tab for engagement in an opening in the flip top carton thereby to retain the panel in a closed position preventing access to the paper dispensing slots of the slotted carton. 15 20
18. A pack as claimed in claim 5 wherein the two sections are provided side by side on a rear panel, the second section having a front facing paper dispensing slot, the first section having an open top area to provide access to the filters and the rear panel having a hingedly connected extension which constitutes said first access means and which in its closed position extends over said open top area and over at least a portion of the front to prevent access to the paper dispensing slots. 25 30
19. A pack as claimed in claim 18 wherein the extension has end tabs remote from the rear panel for engagement with cooperating openings in the front of the pack. 35

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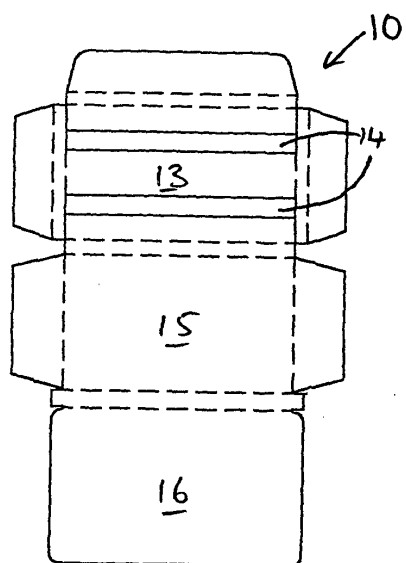


FIGURE 1

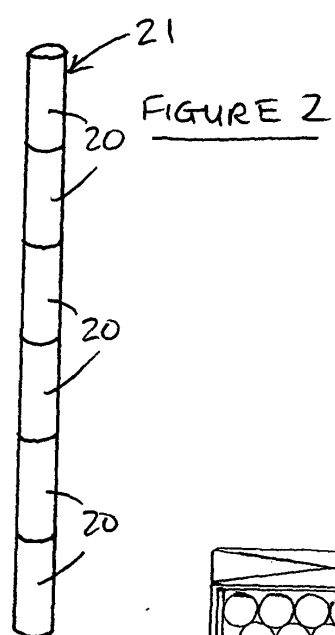


FIGURE 2

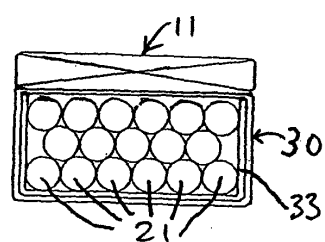


FIGURE 5

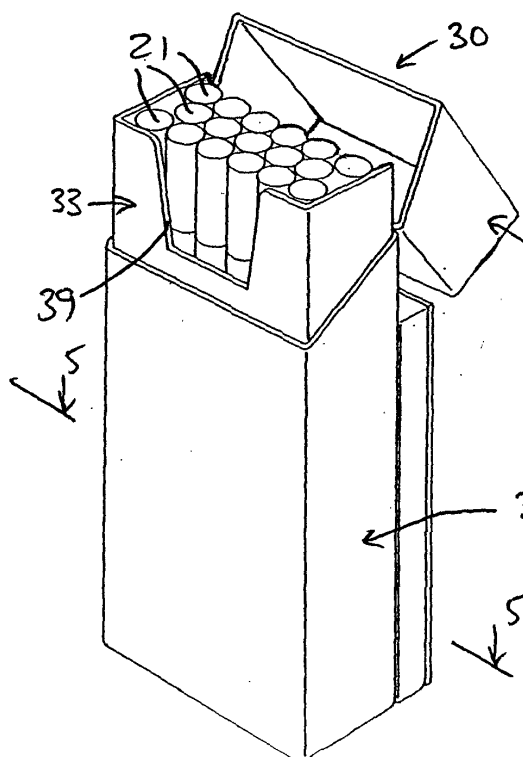


FIGURE 3

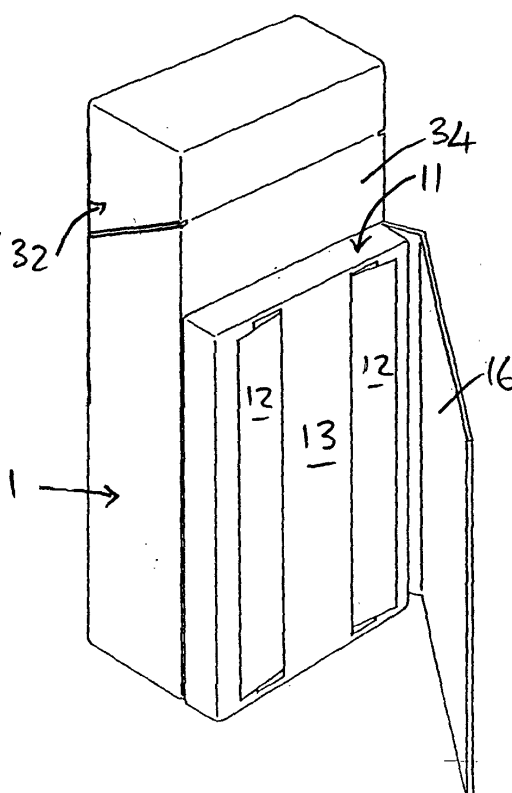


FIGURE 4

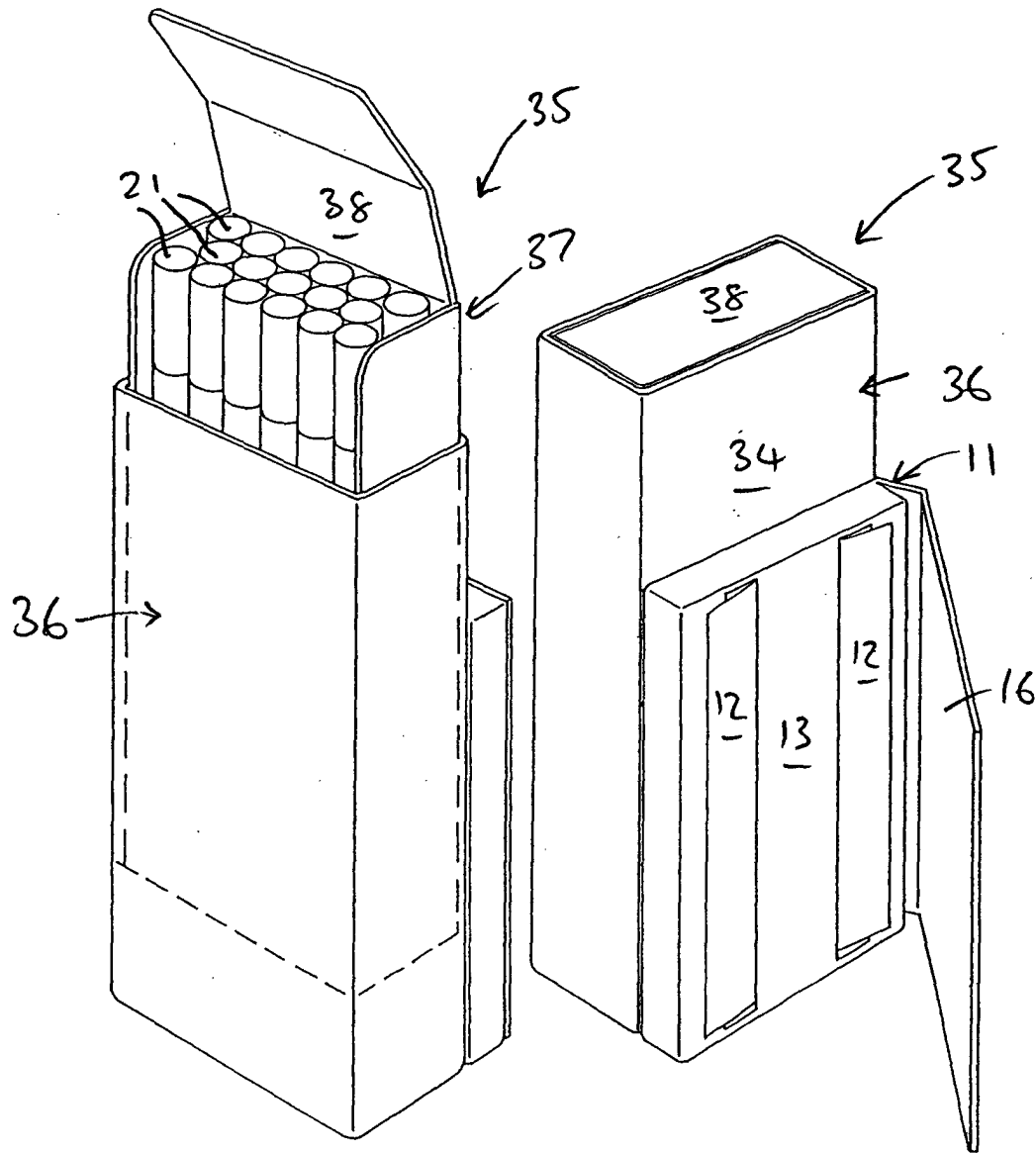


FIGURE 6

FIGURE 7

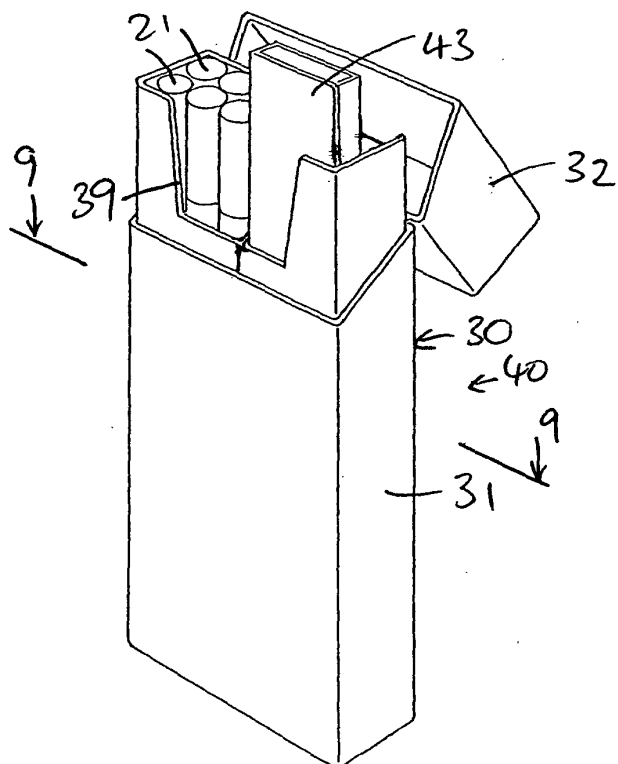


FIGURE 8

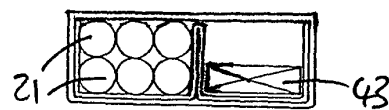


FIGURE 9

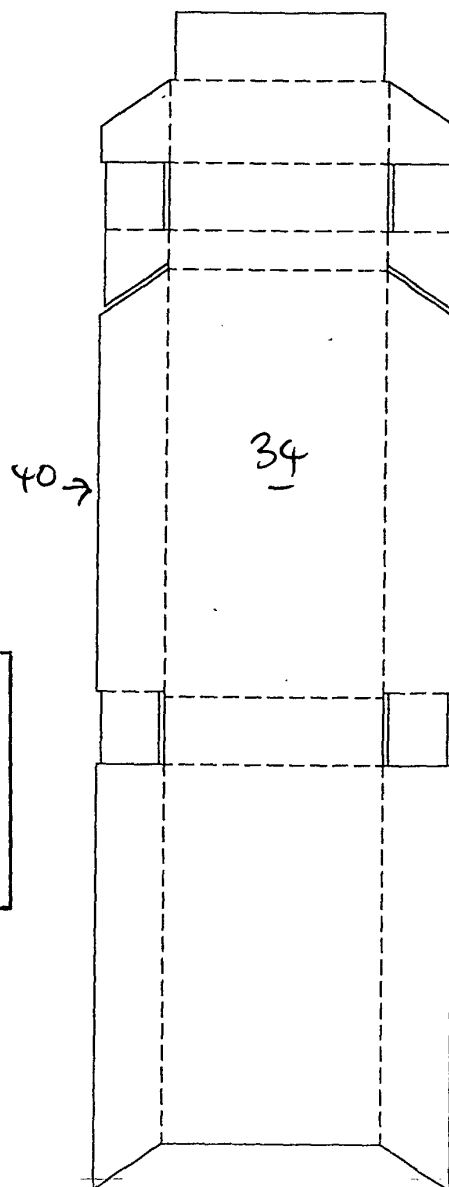
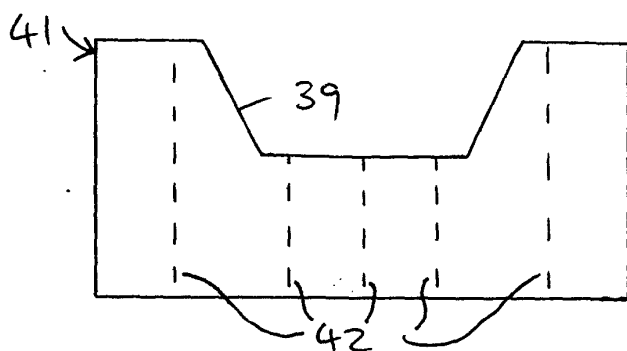


FIGURE 10

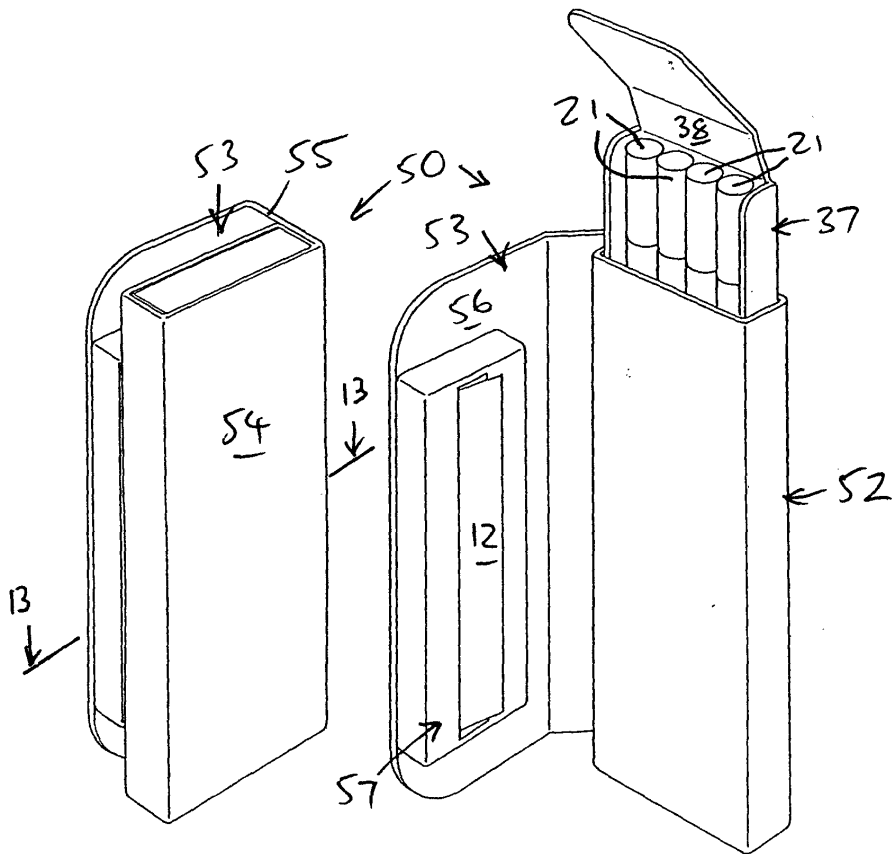


FIGURE 12

FIGURE 11

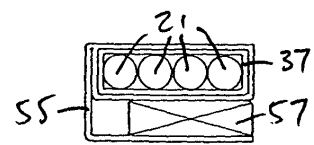


FIGURE 13

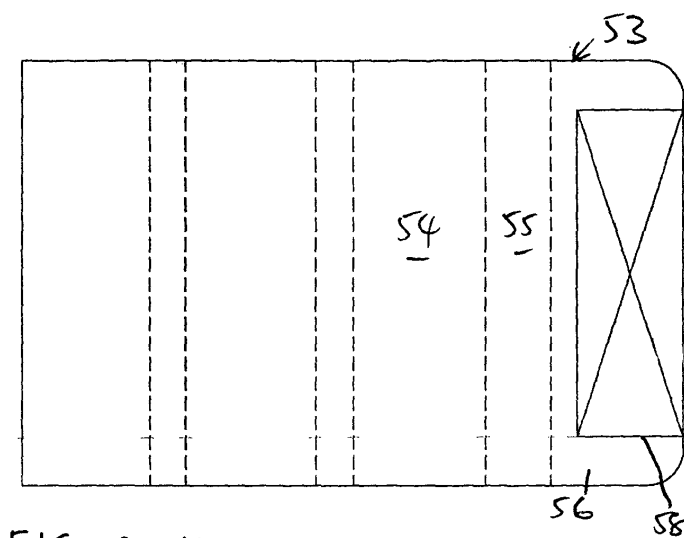
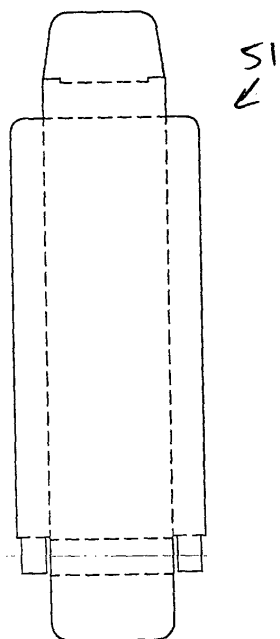


FIGURE 14

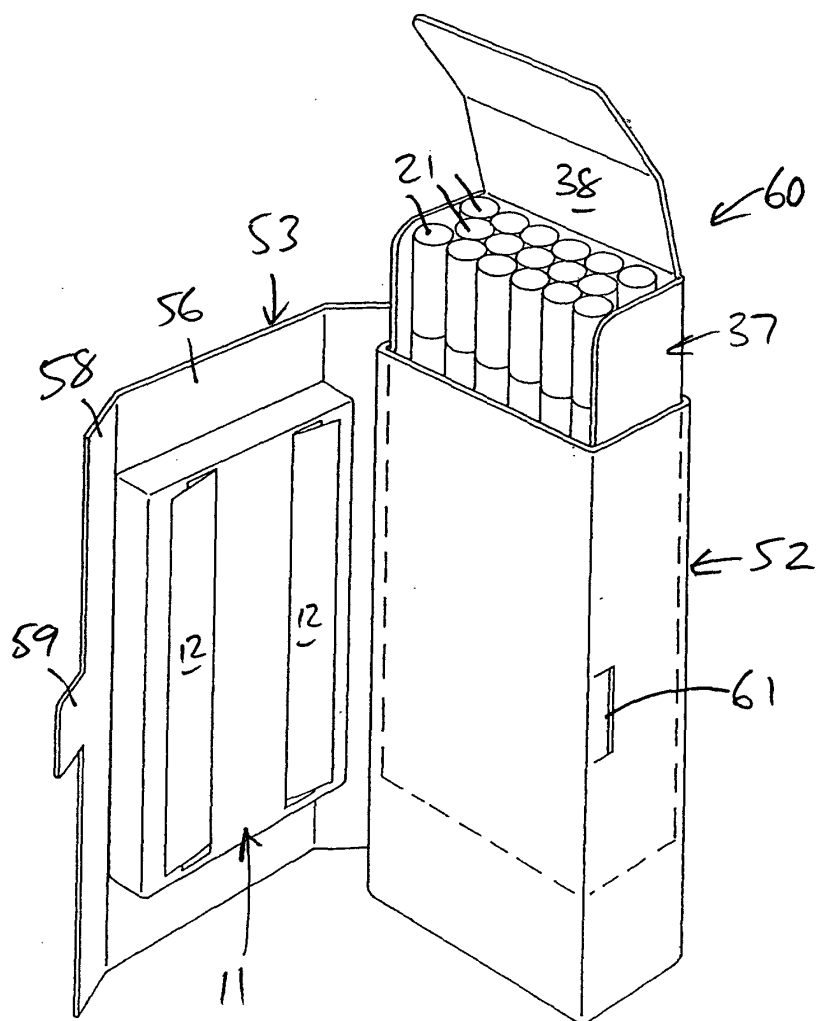


FIGURE 15

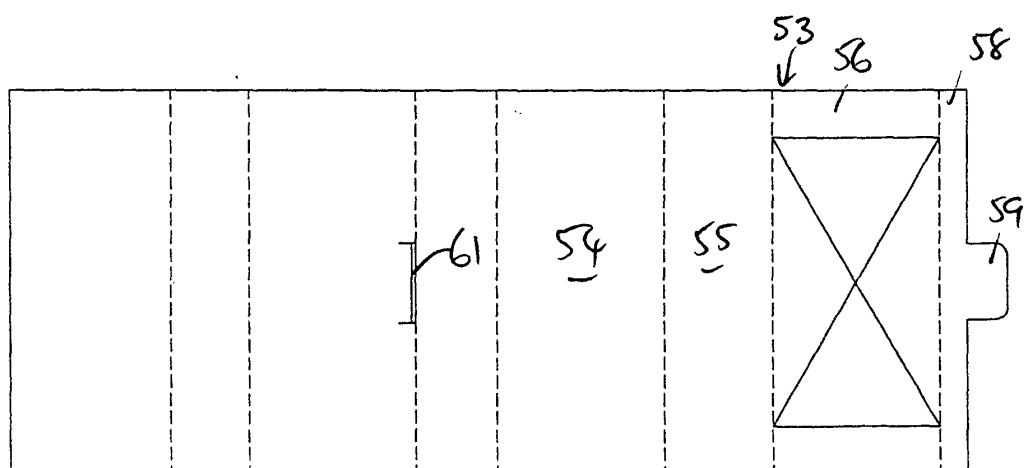


FIGURE 16

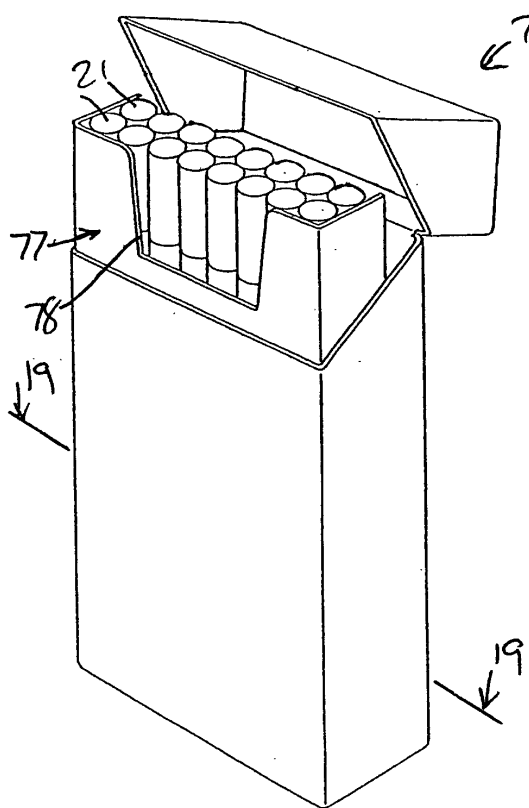


FIGURE 17

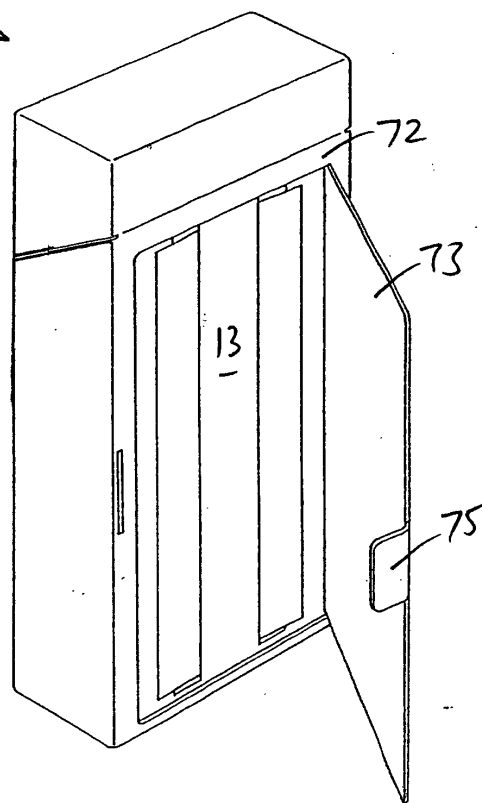


FIGURE 18

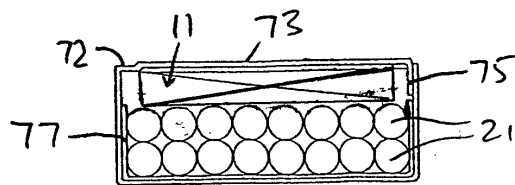


FIGURE 19

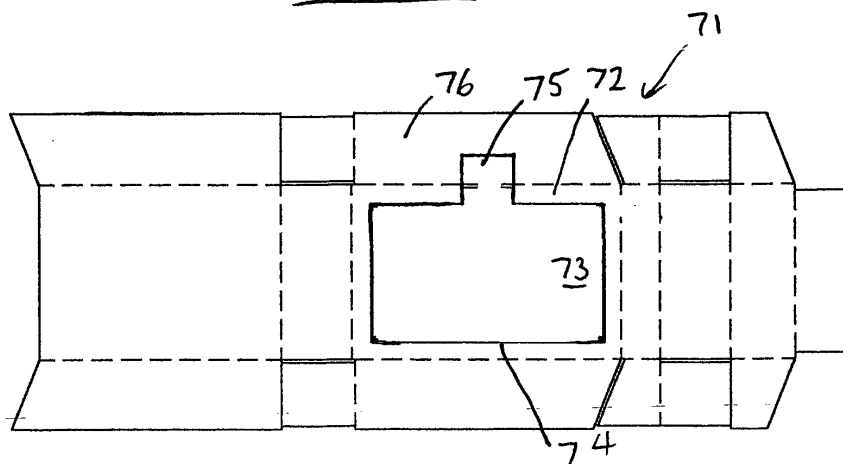
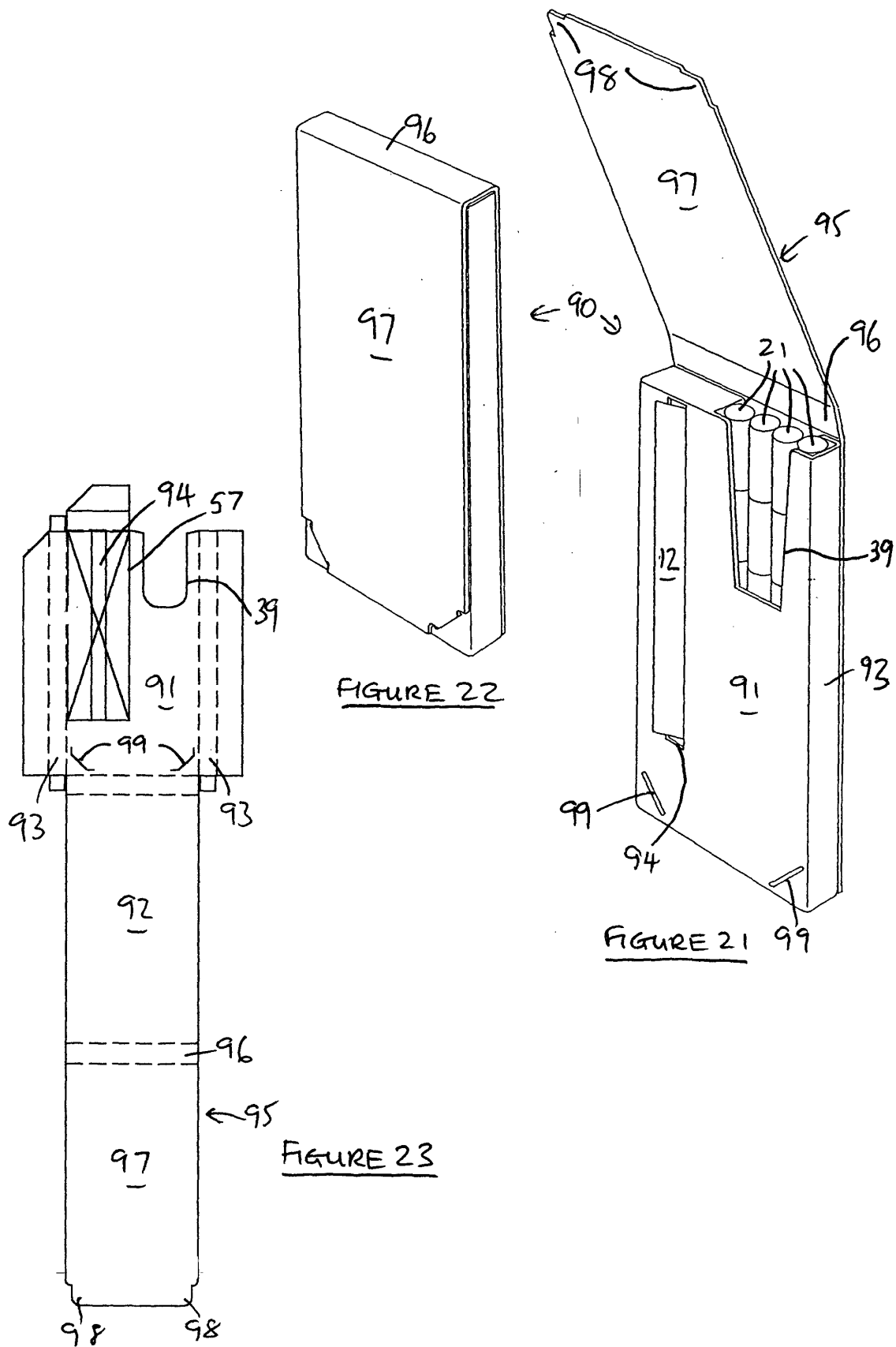


FIGURE 20





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 4095

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.7)
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A	US 5 927 488 A (GRAY) 27 July 1999 (1999-07-27) * abstract; figures *	1	
A	US 2 831 571 A (SEYFERT) 22 April 1958 (1958-04-22) * the whole document *	1	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 October 2000	Examiner Gino, C
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