

(19)



(11)

EP 1 854 739 B1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:
05.12.2012 Bulletin 2012/49

(51) Int Cl.:
B65D 85/10 (2006.01) **B65D 5/20** (2006.01)

(21) Application number: **07107787.9**

(22) Date of filing: **09.05.2007**

(54) **A rigid wrapper containing packets of cigarettes**

Zigarettenpackungen enthaltende starre Verpackung

Emballage rigide contenant des paquets de cigarettes

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MT NL PL PT RO SE
SI SK TR**

(30) Priority: **09.05.2006 IT BO20060349**

(43) Date of publication of application:
14.11.2007 Bulletin 2007/46

(73) Proprietor: **G.D S.p.A.**
40133 Bologna (IT)

(72) Inventors:
• **Bertuzzi, Ivanoe**
40033 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna) (IT)

• **Biondi, Andrea**
40133 Bologna (IT)

(74) Representative: **Bianciardi, Ezio**
Bugnion S.p.A.
Via di Corticella, 87
40128 Bologna (IT)

(56) References cited:
EP-A2- 0 905 053 WO-A-01/98179
DE-U1- 8 031 041 DE-U1- 29 822 665
US-A- 2 803 391 US-A1- 5 337 948

EP 1 854 739 B1

Note: Within nine months of the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent in the European Patent Bulletin, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to that patent, in accordance with the Implementing Regulations. Notice of opposition shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European Patent Convention).

Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a rigid wrapper according to the preamble of claim 1.

[0002] The term wrapper is employed generically herein to indicate rigid containers, known as "cartons", designed to accommodate packets of cigarettes which as a general rule are of substantially rectangular parallelepiped geometry.

[0003] A first type of wrapper appears substantially as a flattened parallelepiped with sharp corner edges, referable to a predominating longitudinal axis, and contains a plurality of packets disposed one beside the next, placed in contact one with another in such a way as to form one or more rows extending along the longitudinal axis.

[0004] A second type of wrapper presents a substantially parallelepiped appearance with sharp corner edges, in this instance referable to a vertical axis, and comprises a cupped container with a lid likewise of cupped embodiment, connected to the container by way of a hinge and capable thus of rotating between open and closed positions respectively exposing and concealing an open top end of the container, also a reinforcing frame projecting from the open top end, by which the lid is retained when in the closed position. With this type of wrapper, packets are placed in contact one with another and ordered in two rows aligned along respective axes disposed transversely to the vertical axis of the selfsame wrapper.

[0005] The two types of rigid wrapper outlined above are not suitable as cartons for packets of cigarettes exhibiting a shape other than that of a rectangular parallelepiped. From EP 1,240,088 and WO 01/44077 rigid wrappers four wrapping cigarette packages of isosceles triangular section are known.

[0006] The object of the present invention is to provide a rigid wrapper obtainable starting from a flat diecut blank embodied as simply and economically as possible, able to accommodate packets of cigarettes presenting a shape notably different to that of a rectangular parallelepiped, and moreover, requiring a relatively modest quantity of wrapping material for its manufacture.

[0007] The stated object is duly realized according to the present invention in a rigid wrapper according to claim 1.

[0008] The invention will now be described in detail, by way of example, with the aid of the accompanying drawings, in which:

- figure 1 illustrates a first embodiment of the rigid wrapper according to the present invention, viewed in perspective;
- figure 2 is a plan view of a diecut blank from which to fashion the wrapper of figure 1;
- figure 3 illustrates a second embodiment of the rigid wrapper according to the present invention, viewed in perspective.

[0009] With reference to figure 1, numeral 1 denotes a rigid wrapper, in its entirety, designed to hold multiple packets 2 of cigarettes of the type, in particular, as disclosed in patent EP 1,240,088, incorporated here by reference in the interests of providing a full description; the single packet 2 comprises an outer wrapper 3 appearing as a prism of substantially triangular cross section, hence with three adjoining side faces 4 of substantially rectangular outline all disposed parallel with a predominating longitudinal axis 5 of the prism, and two substantially triangular end faces 6.

[0010] The wrapper 1 is referable to a predominating longitudinal axis denoted "L" disposed transversely to the axes 5 of the packets 2 of cigarettes, and appears as a prism of substantially trapezoidal longitudinal section.

[0011] In particular, it will be seen that the wrapper 1 presents a longitudinal section identifiable as isosceles trapezoidal in outline, and that the trapezoidal outline is displayed by a front face 7 and a rear face 8.

[0012] more exactly, the aforementioned front and rear faces 7 and 8 of the wrapper 1 extend parallel to the predominating longitudinal axis "L", adjoining two respective longer sides 9 of a substantially rectangular bottom face 10 and two flank faces 11 disposed transversely to these same three faces 7, 8 and 10, the two flank faces 11 in turn similarly adjoining relative shorter sides 12 of the bottom face 10. Thus, the longer and shorter sides 9 and 12 of the bottom face coincide with bottom corner edges of the wrapper 1.

[0013] The wrapper 1 also presents an access opening of rectangular outline, denoted 13, occupying a plane parallel to the bottom face 10 and affording a passage through which the packets 2 contained in the wrapper 1 can be removed.

[0014] As discernible in the drawings, the front and rear faces 7 and 8 of isosceles trapezoidal outline occupy planes perpendicular to the plane occupied by the bottom face 10. Each of the two trapezoidal faces 7 and 8 presents a longer base 7a and 8a adjoining the longer side 9 of the bottom face 10, a shorter base 7b and 8b adjoining a longer side of the opening 13, and two angled sides 7c and 8c each adjoining a relative flank face 11.

[0015] The two flank faces 11 are of rectangular outline and inclined relative to the plane occupied by the bottom face 10. Also, each flank face 11 presents a top edge 11a adjoining a respective shorter side of the access opening 13, a bottom edge 11b adjoining a shorter side 12 of the bottom face 10, and two side edges 11c each adjoining one angled side 7c or 8c of a respective front or rear face 7 or 8.

[0016] In practice, each bottom edge 11b coincides with an acute corner edge, whilst each top edge 11a coincides with an obtuse corner edge, given that the flank faces 11 converge upwardly toward the opening 13.

[0017] In the example of figure 1, the rigid wrapper 1 presents a top face 14 of which the outline matches the outline of the opening 13. In short, the top face 14

presents a rectangular outline of the same dimensions as the opening 13, which are smaller than the dimensions of the bottom face 10.

[0018] The top face 14 of the wrapper 1 is joined to the rear face 8 along a hinge line "A" coinciding with the shorter base 8b aforementioned, and capable of movement thus between a closed position (not shown in the accompanying drawings), disposed parallel to the bottom face 10 and occluding the opening 13, and an open position (as in figure 1), distanced from the opening 13.

[0019] In the example of figure 3, the rigid wrapper 1 is not furnished with a top face 14 as in figure 1. In this instance the opening 13 remains uncovered and the packets 2 contained in the wrapper 1 are exposed to view.

[0020] In both the examples mentioned (figures 1 and 3), the rigid wrapper 1 can also be furnished with an outer protective covering, or overwrap, fashioned from a transparent and heat-shrinkable material such as polypropylene. In the example of figure 3, accordingly, where the wrapper 1 has an open top, the packets 1 contained in the selfsame wrapper are held in place by the overwrap.

[0021] Still referring to figures 1 and 3, the packets 2 of cigarettes, illustrated in phantom lines, are arranged within the respective wrapper 1 mutually parallel and in contact one with another, so as to form at least one group denoted 15. The assembled group 15 is of prismatic geometry, presenting a trapezoidal longitudinal section matching that of the wrapper 1.

[0022] The group 15 of packets comprises a first row 15a of packets 2 disposed with respective side faces 4 offered to and resting on the inside surface of the bottom face 10, and with respective triangular end faces 6 offered to the inside surfaces of the front face 7 and the rear face 8. In this situation, the packets 2 of the first row 15a are placed side by side with respective corner edges directed toward the opening 13.

[0023] The group 15 further comprises a second row 15b of packets 2 disposed with respective side faces 4 offered to and facing the access opening 13, and with respective triangular end faces 6 offered to the inside surfaces of the front and rear faces 7 and 8. The packets 2 of this second row 15b are placed with respective corner edges directed toward the bottom face 10.

[0024] It will be seen that each packet 2 of the second row 15b is interposed between two corresponding packets 2 of the first row 15a. Consequently, the number of packets 2 making up the second row 15b is less than the number of packets 2 making up the first row 15a.

[0025] For example, as illustrated in figures 1 and 3, the group 15 includes nine packets 2 of cigarettes, of which five make up the first row 15a and four the second row 15b.

[0026] The wrapper 1 might be proportioned to contain any given number of packets 2, arranged with the packets of the second row 15b interposed between those of the first row 15a.

[0027] Referring to figure 2, the wrapper 1 is fashioned from a flat diecut blank 16 of wrapping material, of which

the component parts will be indicated where possible using the same numbers, primed, as those used to indicate the corresponding parts of the wrapper 1.

[0028] The blank 16 is substantially rectangular, with an axis of symmetry 17 disposed transversely to the predominating longitudinal axis "L", and presents two transverse crease lines 18 and 19, also a plurality of longitudinal precreased areas 20, 21, 22 and 23 extending parallel to the aforementioned longitudinal axis "L". The areas 20, 21, 22 and 23 in question delimit a plurality of longitudinal panels 7', 8', 10' and 14' extending between the transverse crease lines 18 and 19 and coinciding respectively with corresponding faces 7, 8, 10 and 14 of the finished wrapper 1, as well as at least one longitudinal connecting flap 14a.

[0029] At least one of the aforementioned longitudinal panels is associated at the opposite ends with two end folds 11' of substantially rectangular outline. In effect, the two end folds 11' are joined along the aforementioned transverse crease lines 18 and 19 to the central panel 10' of the flat blank, as seen in figure 2, which corresponds to the bottom face 10 of the wrapper.

[0030] To advantage, at least two further panels 7' and 8' located on either side of the central panel 10' are furnished at the opposite ends with respective tongues 24 that will be connected ultimately to the respective end folds 11', with which they combine to establish the flank faces 11 of the wrapper 1.

[0031] The panels 7' and 8' presenting the tongues 24, which coincide respectively with the front and rear faces 7 and 8 of the wrapper 1, are associated with the central panel 10' along respective longitudinal precreased areas 20 and 21 coinciding each with a longer side 9 of the bottom face 10.

[0032] Accordingly, once the blank is bent along the areas 20 and 21 delimiting the panels denoted 7' and 8', and the end folds 11' are bent along the transverse crease lines 18 and 19, the tongues 24 can be offered to the inside surfaces of the end folds 11'. The tongues 24 are bent advantageously along respective end portions 18a and 19a of the transverse crease lines 18 and 19, by way of which the selfsame tongues 24 are joined to the relative panels 7' and 8'.

[0033] As discernible in figure 1, the tongues 24 are united with the inside surfaces of the relative end folds 11' to form the two flank faces 11.

[0034] The step of bending the end folds 11' involves rotating each of the folds into alignment with the end portions 18a and 19a of the transverse crease lines 18 and 19, which coincide with the angled sides 7c and 8c of the front and rear faces 7 and 8. Thus, the end folds 11' will be inclined in the manner already described, and the assembly of the flank faces 11 can be completed.

[0035] Also forming part of the blank 16 illustrated in figure 2, which produces the wrapper shown by way of example in figure 1, is a panel 14' extending from the panel 8' that provides the rear face 8 of the wrapper 1.

[0036] The panel 14' in question coincides with the top

face 14 of the wrapper (figure 1), and is joined to the adjacent panel 8' via a longitudinal precreased area 22 providing the hinge line "A" about which the selfsame top face 14 rotates between the open and closed positions aforementioned.

[0037] The connecting flap 14a is associated with the panel 14' defining the top face 14, on the side opposite from the side associated with the panel 8' defining the rear face 8.

[0038] The connecting flap 14a presents an isosceles trapezoidal outline and is joined to the panel 14' along a precreased longitudinal area 23 coinciding with one longer side of the top face 14.

[0039] As illustrated to better advantage in figure 1, the flap 14a can be offered to the inside surface of the front face 7 when the top face 14 is in the closed position.

[0040] The wrapper 1 presents longitudinal corner edges, afforded by the precreased longitudinal areas 20, 21, 22 and 23, which might be rounded or bevelled. Similarly (as in the case of the cigarette packet disclosed in European Patent Application EP 764595, incorporated here by reference in the interests of providing a full description), the wider transverse corner edges generated by the transverse crease lines 18 and 19 could be non-rectilinear edges, again rounded or bevelled; alternatively, certain of the longitudinal corner edges and certain of the transverse corner edges could be non-rectilinear, thereby combining both longitudinal and transverse non-rectilinear rounded or bevelled corner edges in the same pack.

[0041] The wrapper 1 described above offers important advantages.

[0042] Firstly, the wrapper 1 is able to accommodate cigarette packets 2 of shape appreciably different to the familiar rectangular parallelepiped format. In effect, the cigarette packets 2 described and illustrated in this instance present a triangular cross-sectional profile.

[0043] In addition, the wrapper 1 is fashioned from a flat blank 16 that can be produced in one piece and therefore, to advantage, using a relatively limited amount of material. Accordingly, the wrapper 1 is structurally simple, and economical to manufacture.

Claims

1. A rigid wrapper containing packets of cigarettes, wherein the cigarette packets (2) are of prismatic geometry, presenting a substantially isosceles triangular section and being arranged mutually parallel and in contact one with another, referable to a given predominating longitudinal axis (L), **characterized in that** the packets (2) are disposed inside the wrapper (1) with respective longitudinal axes (5) extending perpendicular to the predominating longitudinal axis (L) of the wrapper (1) in such a way as to form one group (15) of packets (5) appearing prismatic in shape and presenting a trapezoidal longitudinal sec-

tion matching that of the wrapper (1), and in that the wrapper (1) comprises a bottom face (10) of rectangular outline, two mutually opposed flank faces (11) associated with respective shorter sides (12) of the bottom face (10), a front face (7) and a rear face (8) parallel one with another and associated with respective longer sides (9) of the bottom face (10) an access opening (13) parallel to the bottom face (10) and of rectangular outline so that the wrapper (1) is of prismatic appearance, presenting a trapezoidal longitudinal section, and

in that the group (15) of packets comprises a first row (15a) of packets (2) disposed with respective side faces (4) offered to and resting on the bottom face (10), and a second row (15b) of packets (2) disposed with respective side faces (4) offered to and facing the access opening (13), in such a way as to interpose each packet (2) of the second row (15b) between two corresponding packets (2) of the first row (15a).

2. A wrapper as in claim 1, wherein the front and rear faces (7, 8) occupy planes perpendicular to the plane occupied by the bottom face (10) and present an isosceles trapezoidal outline composed of a longer base (7a, 8a) adjoining the longer side (9) of the bottom face (10), a shorter base (7b, 8b) adjoining a longer side of the access opening (13), and two angled sides (7c, 8c) each adjoining a respective flank face (11).
3. A wrapper as in claim 2, wherein each of the flank faces (11) occupies a plane inclined relative to the plane occupied by the bottom face (10) and presents a top edge (11a) adjoining a shorter side of the access opening (13), a bottom edge (11b) adjoining a shorter side (12) of the bottom face (10), and two side edges (11c) each adjoining a respective angled side (7c, 8c) of the front and rear face (7, 8).
4. A wrapper as in claims 1 to 3, further comprising a top face (14) of which the outline matches the outline of the opening (13), joined to at least the front face (7) or the rear face (8) along a hinge line (A) and capable of movement thus between a closed position in which it is disposed parallel to the bottom face (10), occluding the opening (13), and an open position in which it is distanced from the opening (13).
5. A wrapper as in claims 1 to 4, further comprising a protective overwrap fashioned from transparent and heat-shrinkable material.
6. A wrapper as in claims 1 to 5, fashioned from a flat diecut blank (16) of wrapping material with an axis of symmetry (17) disposed transversely to the predominating longitudinal axis (L), presenting two transverse crease lines (18, 19), also a plurality of

precreased areas (20, 21, 22, 23) extending parallel to the longitudinal axis (L), delimiting a plurality of longitudinal panels (7', 8', 10', 14') compassed between the transverse crease lines (18, 19) and coinciding with the faces (7, 8, 10, 14) of the wrapper (1), and at least one longitudinal connecting flap (14a), wherein at least one of the longitudinal panels (7', 8', 10', 14') presents two substantially rectangular opposite end folds (11'), and at least two of the longitudinal panels (7', 8', 10', 14') present respective tongues (24) at their two opposite ends, designed to unite and combine with the respective end folds (11') in forming the flank faces (11) of the wrapper (1).

7. A wrapper as in claim 6, wherein the panel (10') presenting the end folds (11') provides the bottom face (10), and the two panels (7', 8') presenting the respective tongues (24) are positioned one on either side of the panel (10') providing the bottom face (10), in such a way as to provide the front face (7) and the rear face (8) respectively.
8. A wrapper as in claim 6 or 7, wherein the two panels (7', 8') presenting the respective tongues (24) are of isosceles trapezoidal outline.
9. A wrapper as in claim 7, wherein the blank (16) comprises at least one longitudinal panel (14') providing the top face (14), positioned adjoining the panel (8') that provides the rear face (8).
10. A wrapper as in claim 9, wherein the longitudinal connecting flap (14a) is of isosceles trapezoidal outline, joined to the longitudinal panel (14') providing the top face (14) on the side remote from the panel (8') providing the rear face (8), and matchable to the longitudinal panel (7') providing the front face (7).

Patentansprüche

1. Zigarettenpackungen enthaltende starre Verpackung, wobei die Zigarettenpackungen (2) eine prismatische Geometrie besitzen, aufweisend einen im Wesentlichen gleichschenkelig dreieckigen Schnitt und zueinander parallel und in Kontakt miteinander angeordnet, beziehbar auf eine vorgegebene vorherrschende Längsachse (L),
dadurch gekennzeichnet,
dass die Packungen (2) in der Verpackung (1) mit jeweiligen Längsachsen (5) angeordnet sind, die sich lotrecht zur vorherrschenden Längsachse (L) der Verpackung (1) so erstrecken, dass eine Gruppe (15) von Packungen (5) gebildet wird, die in einer prismatischen Form erscheint und einen trapezförmigen Längsschnitt aufweist, der mit dem der Verpackung (1) übereinstimmt, und dadurch, dass die

Verpackung (1) eine untere Fläche (10) mit einem rechteckigen Grundriss, zwei gegenüberliegend angeordnete Seitenflächen (11), verbunden mit jeweiligen kürzeren Seiten (12) der unteren Fläche (10), eine frontseitige Fläche (7) und eine rückseitige Fläche (8), die parallel zueinander angeordnet und mit den jeweiligen längeren Seiten (9) der unteren Fläche (10) verbunden sind, und eine Zugangsöffnung (13) aufweist, die parallel zur unteren Fläche (10) angeordnet ist und einen rechteckigen Grundriss besitzt, sodass die Verpackung (1) ein prismatisches Aussehen besitzt, aufweisend einen trapezförmigen Längsschnitt, und dadurch, dass die Gruppe (15) von Packungen eine erste Reihe (15a) von Packungen (2) umfasst, angeordnet mit jeweiligen Seitenflächen (4) der unteren Fläche (10) zugewandt und auf dieser bleibend, sowie eine zweite Reihe (15b) von Packungen (2), angeordnet mit jeweiligen Seitenflächen (4) der Zugangsöffnung (13) zugewandt und dieser gegenüberliegend, sodass jede Packung (2) der zweiten Reihe (15b) zwischen zwei entsprechenden Packungen (2) der ersten Reihe (15a) eingesetzt wird.

2. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1, wobei die frontseitige und die rückseitige Fläche (7, 8) Ebenen besetzen, die lotrecht zur von der unteren Fläche (10) besetzten Ebene angeordnet sind und einen gleichschenkligen trapezförmigen Grundriss aufweisen, bestehend aus einer längeren Basis (7a, 8a), angrenzend an die längere Seite (9) der unteren Fläche (10), einer kürzeren Basis (7b, 8b), angrenzend an eine längere Seite der Zugangsöffnung (13), und zwei abgewinkelten Seiten (7c, 8c), die jeweils an eine jeweilige Seitenfläche (11) angrenzen.
3. Verpackung nach Anspruch 2, wobei jede der Seitenflächen (11) eine zur Ebene, die von der unteren Fläche (10) besetzt ist, geneigte Ebene besetzt und eine Oberkante (11a), angrenzend an eine kürzere Seite der Zugangsöffnung (13), eine Unterkante (11b), angrenzend an eine kürzere Seite (12) der unteren Fläche (10) und zwei Seitenkanten (11c), jeweils angrenzend an eine jeweilige abgewinkelte Seite (7c, 8c) der frontseitigen und rückseitigen Fläche (7, 8) aufweist.
4. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1 bis 3, zudem umfassend eine obere Fläche (14), deren Grundriss mit dem Grundriss der Öffnung (13) übereinstimmt, verbunden zumindest mit der frontseitigen Fläche (7) oder der rückseitigen Fläche (8) entlang einer Gelenklinie (A), die in der Lage ist, sich so zwischen einer geschlossenen Stellung, in der sie parallel zur unteren Fläche (10) angeordnet ist und die Öffnung (13) verschließt, und einer offenen Stellung, in der sie von der Öffnung (13) entfernt ist, zu bewegen.

5. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1 bis 4, zudem umfassend eine schützende Umverpackung, ausgestaltet aus durchsichtigem, aufschumpfbarem Material.
6. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1 bis 5, ausgestaltet aus einem flachen, gestanzten Zuschnitt (16) aus Verpackungsmaterial mit einer Symmetrieachse (17), angeordnet quer zur vorherrschenden Längsachse (L), aufweisend zwei quer verlaufende Falzlinien (18, 19) sowie mehrere vorgefaltzte Bereiche (20, 21, 22, 23), die sich parallel zur Längsachse (L) erstrecken, begrenzend mehrere Längspaneele (7', 8', 10', 14'), eingeschlossen zwischen den quer verlaufenden Falzlinien (18, 19) und übereinstimmend mit den Flächen (7, 8, 10, 14) der Verpackung (1), sowie mindestens eine Längsverbindungsclappe (14a), wobei mindestens eines der Längspaneele (7', 8', 10', 14') zwei im Wesentlichen rechteckige gegenständige Endfalze (11') aufweist, und mindestens zwei der Längspaneele (7', 8', 10', 14') jeweilige Laschen (24) an ihren zwei gegenüberliegenden Enden aufweisen, ausgestaltet, um sich mit den jeweiligen Endfalzen (11') beim Formen der Seitenflächen (11) der Verpackung (1) zu verbinden und zu kombinieren.
7. Verpackung nach Anspruch 6, wobei das Paneel (10'), das die Endfalze (11') aufweist, die untere Fläche (10) zur Verfügung stellt, und jeweils eines der beiden Paneele (7', 8'), die die jeweiligen Laschen (24) aufweisen, an jeder Seite des Paneels (10'), das die untere Fläche (10) zur Verfügung stellt, angeordnet ist, sodass jeweils die frontseitige Fläche (7) und die rückseitige Fläche (8) zur Verfügung gestellt werden.
8. Verpackung nach Anspruch 6 oder 7, wobei die zwei Paneele (7', 8'), die die jeweiligen Laschen (24) aufweisen, einen gleichschenkligen trapezförmigen Grundriss besitzen.
9. Verpackung nach Anspruch 7, wobei der Zuschnitt (16) mindestens ein Längspaneel (14') umfasst, das die obere Fläche (14) zur Verfügung stellt, positioniert angrenzend an das Paneel (8'), das die rückseitige Fläche (8) zur Verfügung stellt.
10. Verpackung nach Anspruch 9, wobei die Längsverbindungsclappe (14a) einen gleichschenkligen trapezförmigen Grundriss besitzt, verbunden mit dem Längspaneel (14'), das die obere Fläche (14) zur Verfügung stellt, an der vom Paneel (8'), das die rückseitige Fläche (8) zur Verfügung stellt, entfernten Seite, und passbar zum Längspaneel (7'), das die frontseitige Fläche (7) zur Verfügung stellt.

Revendications

1. Emballage rigide contenant des paquets de cigarettes, dans lequel les paquets de cigarettes (2) ont une forme prismatique, présentant une section substantiellement en forme de triangle isocèle et étant disposés mutuellement en parallèle et en contact les uns avec les autres, par rapport à un axe longitudinal prédominant donné (L),
caractérisé en ce que
les paquets (2) sont disposés à l'intérieur de l'emballage (1) avec les axes longitudinaux respectifs (5) se développant perpendiculairement à l'axe longitudinal prédominant (L) de l'emballage (1) de manière à former un groupe (15) de paquets (5) ayant l'apparence d'un prisme et présentant une section longitudinale trapézoïdale correspondant à celle de l'emballage (1) et **en ce que** l'emballage (1) comprend une base (10) au contour rectangulaire, deux flancs mutuellement opposés (11) associés aux côtés respectifs les plus courts (12) de la base (10), une face avant (7) et une face arrière (8) parallèles l'une à l'autre et associées aux côtés respectifs les plus longs (9) de la base (10), une ouverture d'accès (13) parallèle à la base (10) et au contour rectangulaire de manière à ce que l'emballage (1) ait l'apparence d'un prisme, présentant une section longitudinale trapézoïdale, et **en ce que** le groupe (15) de paquets comprend une première rangée (15a) de paquets (2) disposés avec les côtés latéraux (4) respectifs tournés et placés sur la base (10), et une seconde rangée (15b) de paquets (2) disposés avec les côtés latéraux (4) respectifs tournés et faisant face à l'ouverture d'accès (13), de manière à interposer chaque paquet (2) de la seconde rangée (15b) entre deux paquets correspondants (2) de la première rangée (15a).
2. Emballage selon la revendication 1, dans lequel les faces avant et arrière (7, 8) occupent des plans perpendiculaires au plan occupé par la base (10) et présentent un contour trapézoïdal isocèle composé d'une base plus longue (7a, 8a) adjacent au côté le plus long (9) de la base (10), une base plus courte (7b, 8b) adjacente au plus long côté de l'ouverture d'accès (13), et deux côtés angulaires (7c, 8c) chacun adjacent au flanc respectif (11).
3. Emballage selon la revendication 2, dans lequel chacun des flancs (11) occupe un plan incliné par rapport au plan occupé par la base (10) et présente un bord supérieur (11a) adjacent au côté le plus court de l'ouverture d'accès (13), un bord inférieur (11b) adjacent au côté le plus court (12) de la base (10), et deux bords latéraux (11c) chacun adjacent au côté angulaire respectif (7c, 8c) de la face avant et arrière (7, 8).

4. Emballage selon les revendications de 1 à 3, comprenant de plus une face supérieure (14) dont le contour correspond à celui de l'ouverture (13), reliée au moins à la face avant (7) ou à la face arrière (8) le long d'une ligne de charnière (A) et mobile entre une position de fermeture dans laquelle elle est située parallèlement à la base (10), en bloquant l'ouverture (13), et une position d'ouverture dans laquelle elle est éloignée de l'ouverture (13).

5
5. Emballage selon les revendications de 1 à 4, comprenant de plus un suremballage protecteur fabriqué à partir d'un matériau transparent et thermorétractable.

10
6. Emballage selon les revendications de 1 à 5, fabriqué à partir d'une ébauche découpée plate (16) d'un matériau d'emballage ayant un axe de symétrie (17) disposé transversalement par rapport à l'axe longitudinal prédominant (L), présentant deux lignes de pliage transversal (18, 19), ainsi qu'une pluralité de zones pré-pliées (20, 21, 22, 23) se développant parallèlement à l'axe longitudinal (L), délimitant une pluralité de panneaux longitudinaux (7', 8', 10', 14') arrondis entre les lignes de pliage transversal (18, 19) et coïncidant avec les faces (7, 8, 10, 14) de l'emballage (1), et au moins un volet longitudinal de raccordement (14a), dans lequel au moins un des panneaux longitudinaux (7', 8', 10', 14') présente deux pliages d'extrémités opposées substantiellement rectangulaires (11'), et au moins deux des panneaux longitudinaux (7', 8', 10', 14') présentent des languettes respectives (24) à leurs deux extrémités opposées, conçues pour s'unir et se combiner aux pliages d'extrémités respectifs (11') formant ainsi les flancs (11) de l'emballage (1).

20
25
30
35
7. Emballage selon la revendication 6, dans lequel le panneau (10') présentant les pliages d'extrémités (11') définit la base (10), et les deux panneaux (7', 8') présentant les languettes respectives (24) sont positionnés de chaque côté du panneau (10') définissant la base (10), de manière à définir respectivement la face avant (7) et la face arrière (8).

40
45
8. Emballage selon les revendications 6 ou 7, dans lequel les deux panneaux (7', 8') présentant les languettes respectives (24) ont la forme de triangles isocèles trapézoïdaux.

50
9. Emballage selon la revendication 7, dans lequel l'ébauche (16) comprend au moins un panneau longitudinal (14') définissant la face supérieure (14), positionnée de façon adjacente au panneau (8') qui définit la face arrière (8).

55
10. Emballage selon la revendication 9, dans lequel le volet longitudinal de raccordement (14a) a la forme d'un triangle isocèle trapézoïdal, relié au panneau longitudinal (14') définissant la face supérieure (14) sur le côté opposé par rapport au panneau (8') définissant la face arrière (8), et associable au panneau longitudinal (7') définissant la face avant (7).

FIG. 1

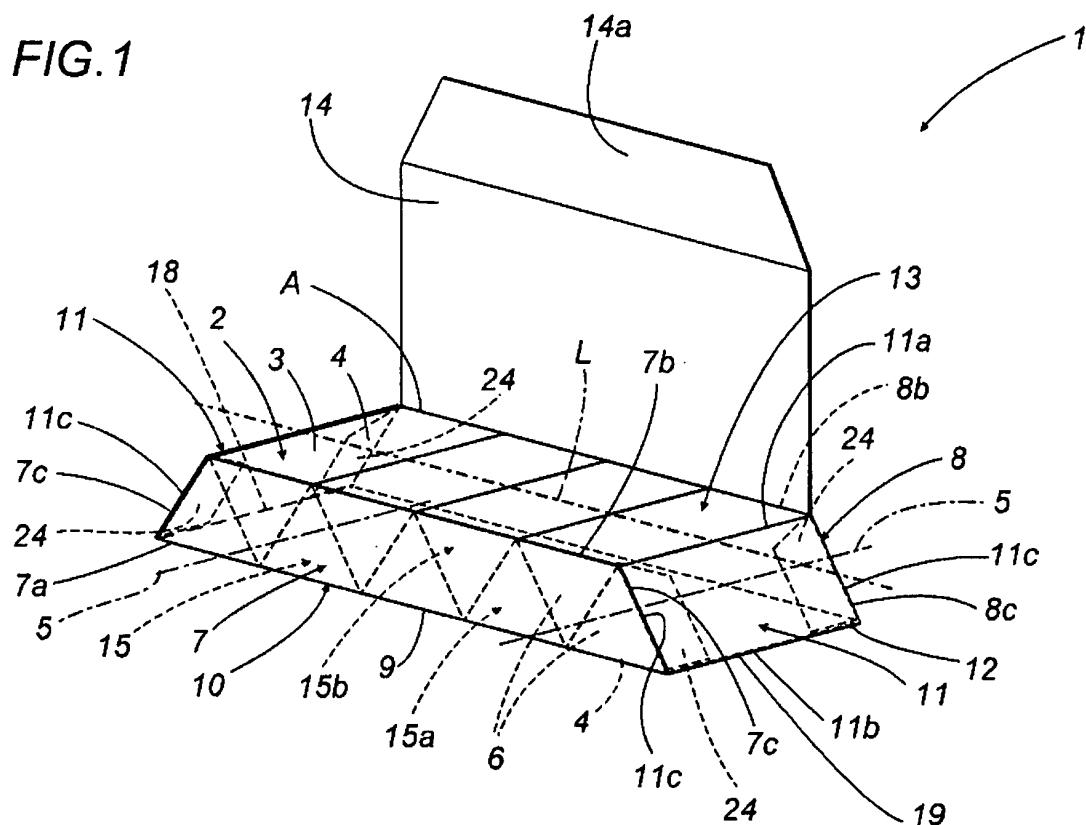
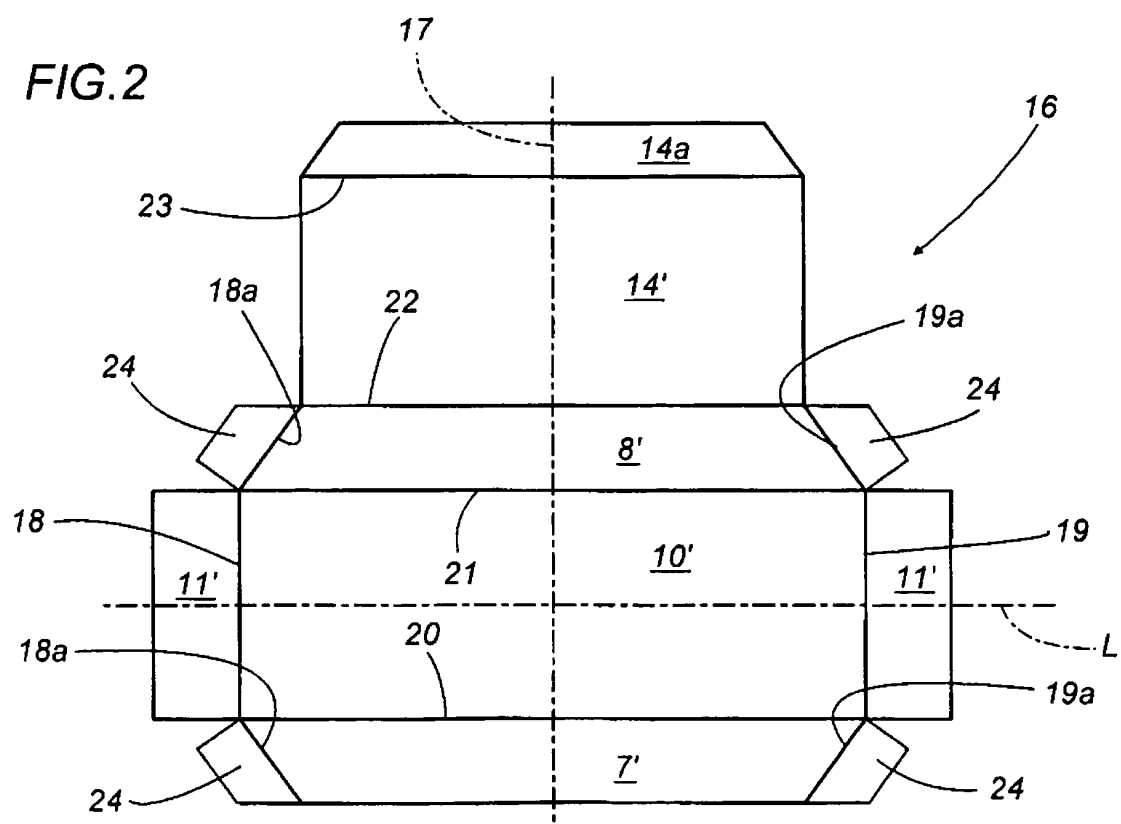
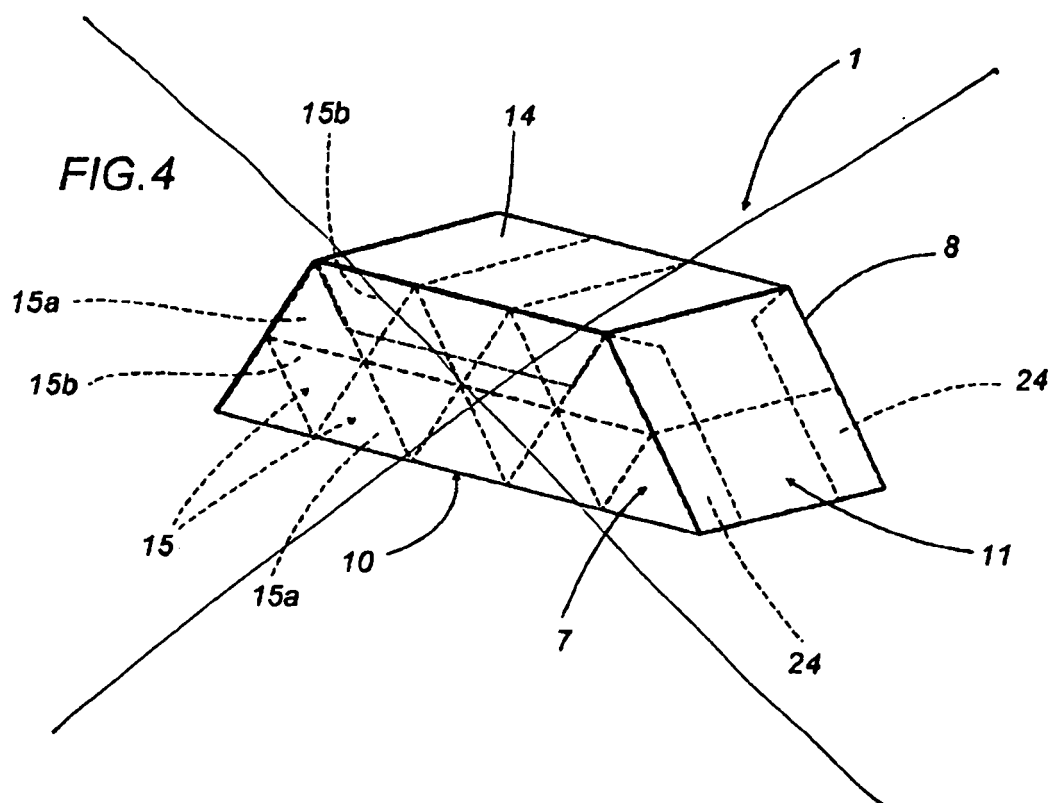
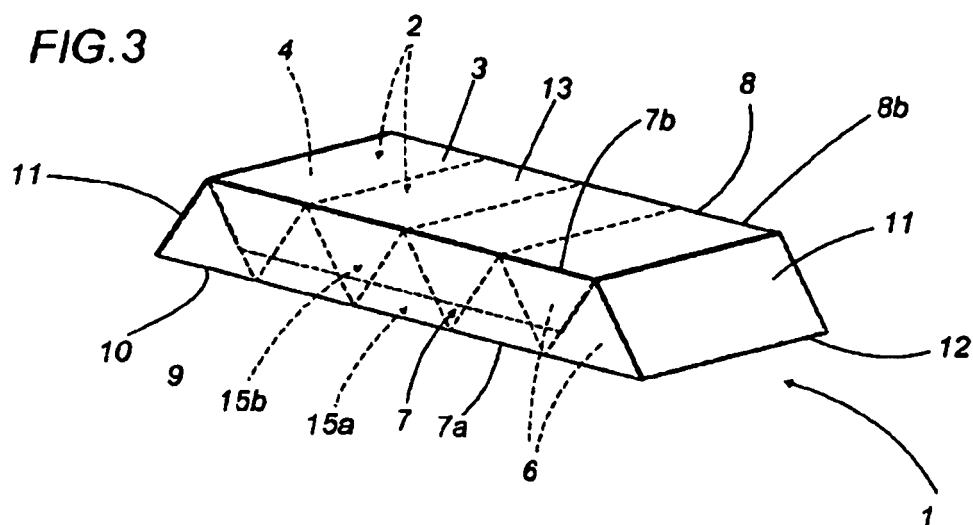


FIG.2





REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

- EP 1240088 A [0005] [0009]
- WO 0144077 A [0005]
- EP 764595 A [0040]