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(54) **Dispensing package comprising a ramp and method of assembly.**

(57) The present invention refers to a wrap around type packaging which is also provided with dispensing means of the packaged product by means of a configuration which includes a ramp. The packaging which is the object of the invention comprises a sheet of material provided with at least four sectors (1,2,3,4) defined by fold lines, which constitute the walls of the packaging once it has been configured. The packaging is charac-

terised in that one of the sectors (3) constitutes a ramp as the two adjacent sectors are provided with cuts (2.1,4.1) in the back part thereof which are introduced in the form of a tongue in the sector which configures the ramp so that in the operating position both cuts form back support blocks of the packaging thus forming the ramp thereof. The method of assembling the dispensing packaging is also the object of this invention.

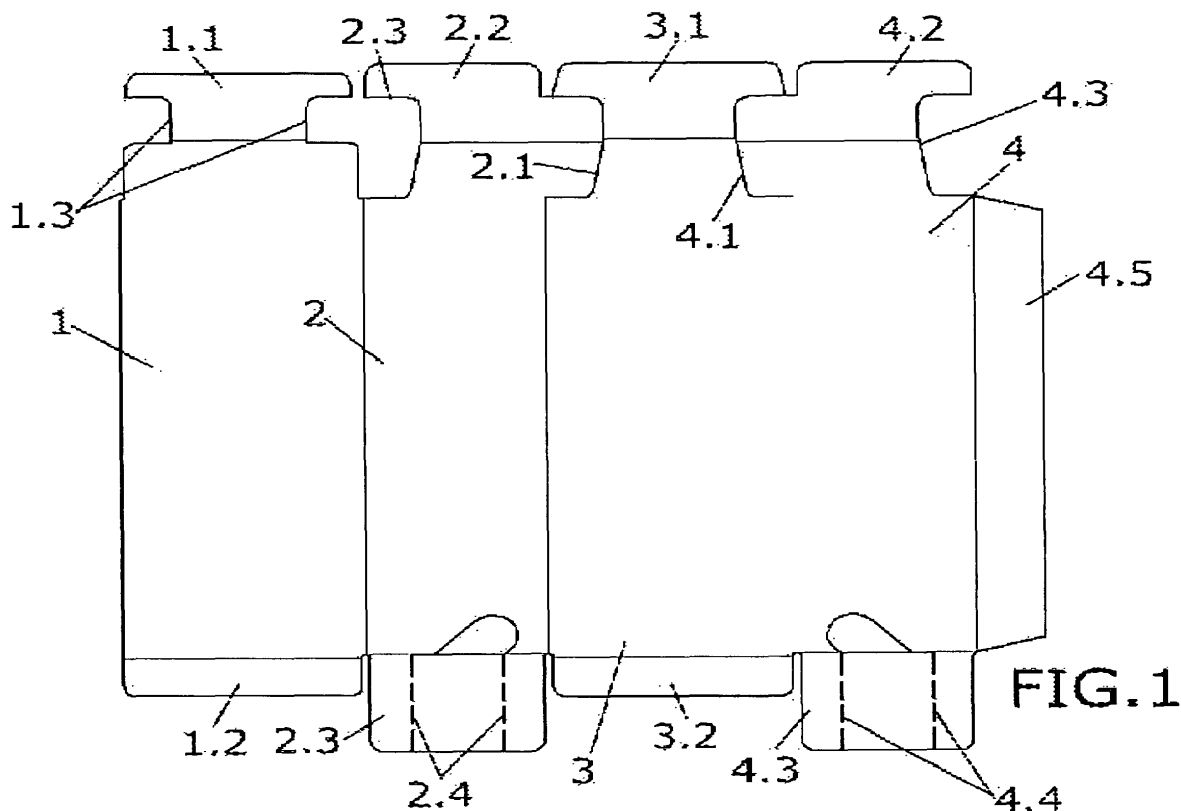


FIG. 1

Description

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention refers to wrap around type packaging which is also provided with dispensing functions of the packaged product by means of a configuration which includes an external ramp inside the packaging.

[0002] Wrap around packages are those in which the products to be packaged are grouped and subsequently a sheet of material is positioned perpendicular to or below this group of containers to form a packaging round it.

[0003] The packaging which is the object of the invention includes a sheet of material which can be stamped and which is provided with sectors defined by fold lines which constitute the walls of the container once it has been formed, as well as means of access to the product.

[0004] The packaging is particularly characterised by the fact that one of the end sectors comprises an extension designed to be situated in operating position inside the packaging with the extension being provided with means for positioning forming an angle with the sector designed to form the lower wall of the packaging so that it defines a ramp for dispensing the product.

[0005] The method of assembling the dispensing packaging is also the object of this invention.

BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION

[0006] One of the most frequent forms of protecting a group of containers, such as disposable bottles, tins, glasses, cans, tetra-briks, etc. is the cardboard box. This provides protection from light, impact, rubbing, and is easy to stack, it provides an information support in respect of the product it contains, in addition to providing appropriate promotional or advertising material at the sales point, due to the fact that it can be converted to a display stand, as the die-stamped cardboard can include tear-off zones.

[0007] Wrap around containers are those in which the products to be packaged are grouped, and subsequently a sheet of material, duly stamped and folded, is positioned perpendicular to or below the group of containers to form the box round it which will contain and protect them.

[0008] Prior to concluding closure thereon, during the formation process of the sheet of material which will form the box, an adhesive may be injected on the zones which will receive the closure tongues. Having finalised this process the box will be ready for storage.

[0009] Using wrap around type packaging as product dispensers involved making cuts to access the product, however this fact raises the difficulty of accessing the product inside without totally breaking the packaging.

[0010] There are models on the market which fulfil this function, however, they require handling of the back part of the box in order to obtain, by means of perforations, a

heel which provides the box with a slope.

[0011] The present invention resolves the previous problem by the fact that it has a ramp of the same material which makes up the box, in such a way that, by machining in a specific way, it is possible to form a sloping ramp which enables the product with a cylindrical or spherical form to descend through gravity.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0012] The present invention refers to wrap around type packaging which is also provided with the functions of dispenser of the packaged product by means of a configuration which includes an external ramp.

[0013] The container which is the object of the invention is provided with a sheet of material which comprises sectors defined by fold lines which constitute the walls of the container once it has been formed. It also provides means for accessing the product.

[0014] The dispensing packaging is characterised by the fact that one of the end sectors comprises an extension designed to be situated in an operating position externally in the packaging. This extension is provided with means for positioning in such a way that it forms an angle with the sector designed to form the lower wall of the packaging, in this way the extension defines a ramp for dispensing the product as it is slopes in respect to the wall on which the packaging will rest.

[0015] The sheet may be made from any material which can be die-stamped such as, for example, cardboard or plastic material.

[0016] The method of assembly of the dispensing packaging is also the object of this invention and comprises the following stages:

- Stage 1: the first fold is made along the fold line between the ramp sector and one of the adjacent sectors.
- Stage 2: in which the products to be packaged are situated with their base on a sector adjacent to the ramp sector.
- Stage 3: closure of the packaging.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0017] The present descriptive report is complemented by a series of drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention but which are at the same time in no way restrictive.

[0018] Figure 1 shows a view of a preferred embodiment of the laminar template which is the object of the invention.

[0019] Figure 2 shows a view of the first folding of the assembly of the laminar template corresponding to figure 1.

[0020] Figure 3 shows a view of a second folding of the assembly of the laminar template corresponding to figure 1.

[0021] Figure 4 shows a box corresponding to the laminar template of figure 1 in its assembled and transport position.

[0022] Figure 5 shows a view of the box corresponding to the laminar template of figure 1 in dispensing position without including the optional back openings which enable stacking.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

[0023] Figure 1 shows a preferred embodiment of the extended sheet of the wrap around box which is the object of the invention.

[0024] The sheet comprises four sectors (1, 2, 3, 4) defined by fold lines. These sectors define the walls of the container once it has been formed.

[0025] One of the sectors (3) shall constitute the ramp, as the two sectors 4, 2) adjacent thereto (3) are provided with cuts (2.1, 4.1) in the back ends thereof (3) which extend as a type of tongue towards the sector (3) which configures the ramp, in such a way that in operating position both cuts (2.1, 4.1) form support blocks in the back part of the packaging, thus configuring the ramp of the sector (3) which is situated in a sloping manner with respect to its supports.

[0026] Each sector (1, 2, 3, 4) comprises extensions (1.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.2) for configuring the back part of the box.

[0027] In the preferred embodiment the cuts, (2.1, 4.1) are extended up to the extensions (2.2, 3.1, 4.2), so that the support blocks are formed in operating position by two perpendicular sides.

[0028] The extensions (1.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.2) which give rise to the configuration of the back part of the box are provided with grooves (1.3, 2.3, 4.3) which, when the box is assembled, provide openings which admit the support blocks of the assembled boxes arranged on top in the stacking thereof.

[0029] The intermediate sectors (2, 4) which are adjacent to the sector (3) resulting in the form of a ramp have grooves (2.3, 4.2) which extend entering in the area of the appropriate sector (2, 4) according to its configuration in the sheet as shown in figure 1.

[0030] The end intermediate sector (1) which is not adjacent to sector (3) and which results in the form of a ramp is provided with two entrances (1.3), in this example, only in the extension (1.1).

[0031] The means of access to the product (5) comprise front extensions (1.2, 3.2) of the sectors corresponding to the sector (3) of the ramp and to the opposite sector (1) in operating position, which correspond to the upper and lower part of the packaging. They also comprise lateral extensions (2.3, 4.3) which have tear-off lines (2.4, 4.4) for extracting the product.

[0032] One of the end sectors (4) is provided with a tongue (4.5) connecting to the other end sector (1) for closing the packaging.

[0033] The assembly method is materialised in a preferred embodiment in which in stage 1, a first folding is

made along the fold line between the two sectors of the ramp (3) and an adjacent sector (2). In stage 2, the products to be packaged (5) are situated with their base on the sector (2) contiguous to sector (3) of the ramp, supporting the product thereon (3). In stage 3 or the closure stage, the other sector (4) adjacent to the ramp (3) is folded, subsequently raising the final sector (1) and closing by means of the flap(4.5).

Claims

1. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp comprising a sheet of material which consists of sectors (1, 2, 3, 4) defined by fold lines which constitute the walls of the packaging once it has been configured and means of access to the product (5) content, **characterised in that** one of the sectors (3) constitutes the ramp as it comprises the two sectors (2, 4) adjacent to it are provided with cuts (2.1, 4.1) in the back zone thereof, which extend in the form of a tongue towards the sector (3) comprising the ramp in such a way that in operating position, both cuts (2.1, 4.1) form back support blocks of the packaging, thus configuring its ramp.
2. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 1, **characterised in that** each sector (1, 2, 3, 4) comprises extensions (1.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.2) for configuring the back part of the packaging.
3. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the cuts (2.1, 4.1) are prolonged up to the extensions (2.2, 3.1, 4.2).
4. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the sectors (2, 4) adjacent to the sector (3) which gives rise to the ramp are provided with grooves (2.3, 4.3) which result in openings which admit the support blocks of the assembled boxes arranged on top in the stacking.
5. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 4, **characterised in that** the grooves (2.3, 4.3) invade the sector (2, 4) to which they belong.
6. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the end sector(1) which is not adjacent to sector (3) which gives rise to the ramp results in openings which admit support blocks of the assembled boxes arranged on top in the stacking.
7. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external

ramp according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the means of access to the product include front extensions (1.2, 3.2) of the sectors (1, 3) corresponding to the sector (3) of the ramp and the opposite sector (1), which in operating position are situated in the upper and lower part of the packaging and with lateral extensions (2.3, 4.3) which are provided with tear lines (2.4, 4.4) for extraction of the product. 5

8. Wrap around dispensing packaging with external ramp according to claim 1, **characterised in that** one of the end sectors (4) is provided with a tongue (4.5) connecting to the other end sector (1). 10

9. Method for assembling the wrap around dispenser with external ramp, according to the previous claims, **characterised in that** it comprises the following stages:: 15

- Stage 1: a first folding is made along the fold line between the ramp sector (3) and one of the adjacent sectors (2). 20
- Stage 2: in which the products to be packaged (5) are situated with their base on a sector (2) adjacent to the sector (3) of the ramp. 25
- Stage 3: closure of the packaging.

10. Method for assembling the wrap around dispenser with external ramp, according to claim 9, **characterised in that** in stage 3 the other sector (4) adjacent to that of the ramp (3) is folded and subsequent elevation and connection of the flap (4.5). 30

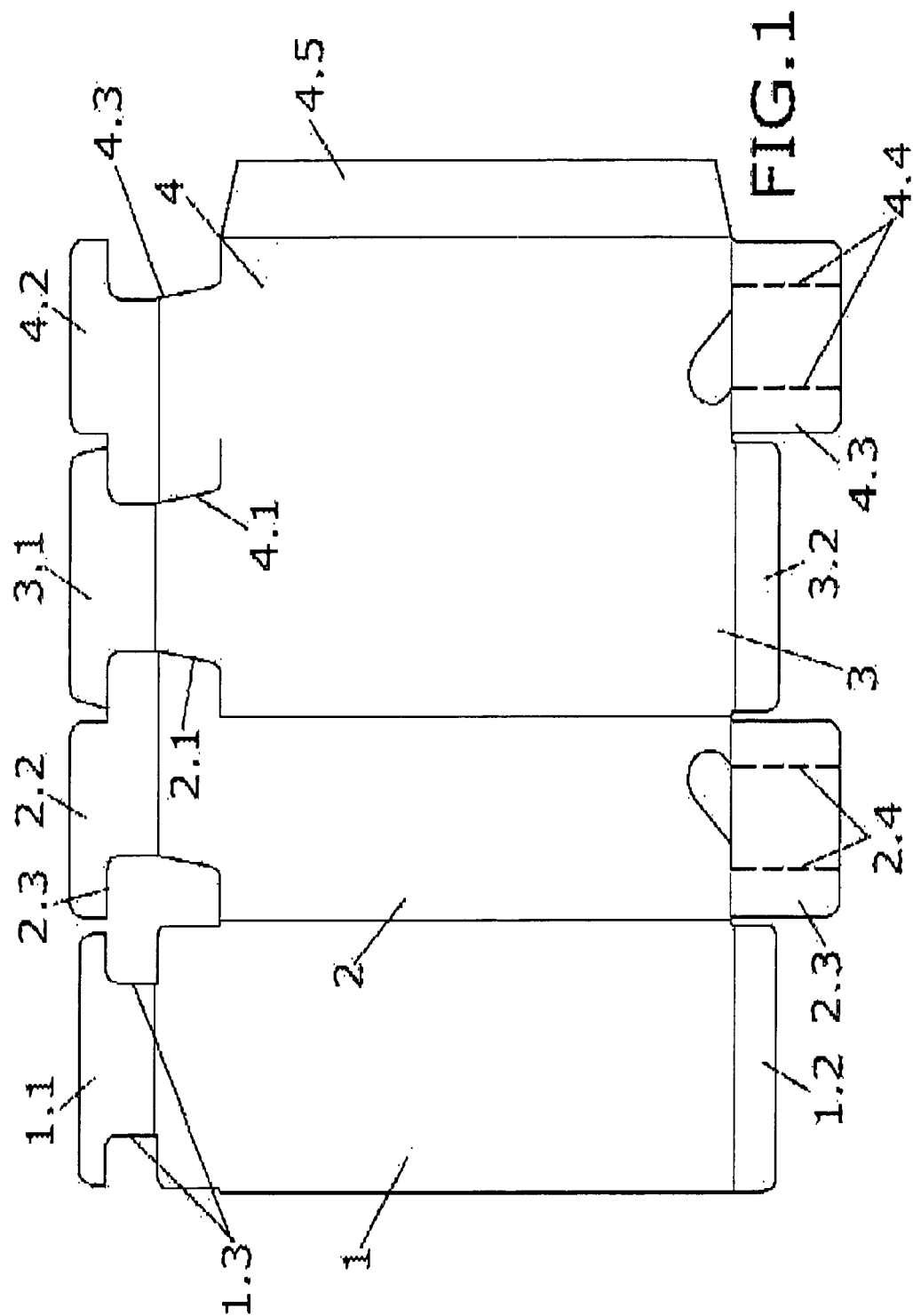
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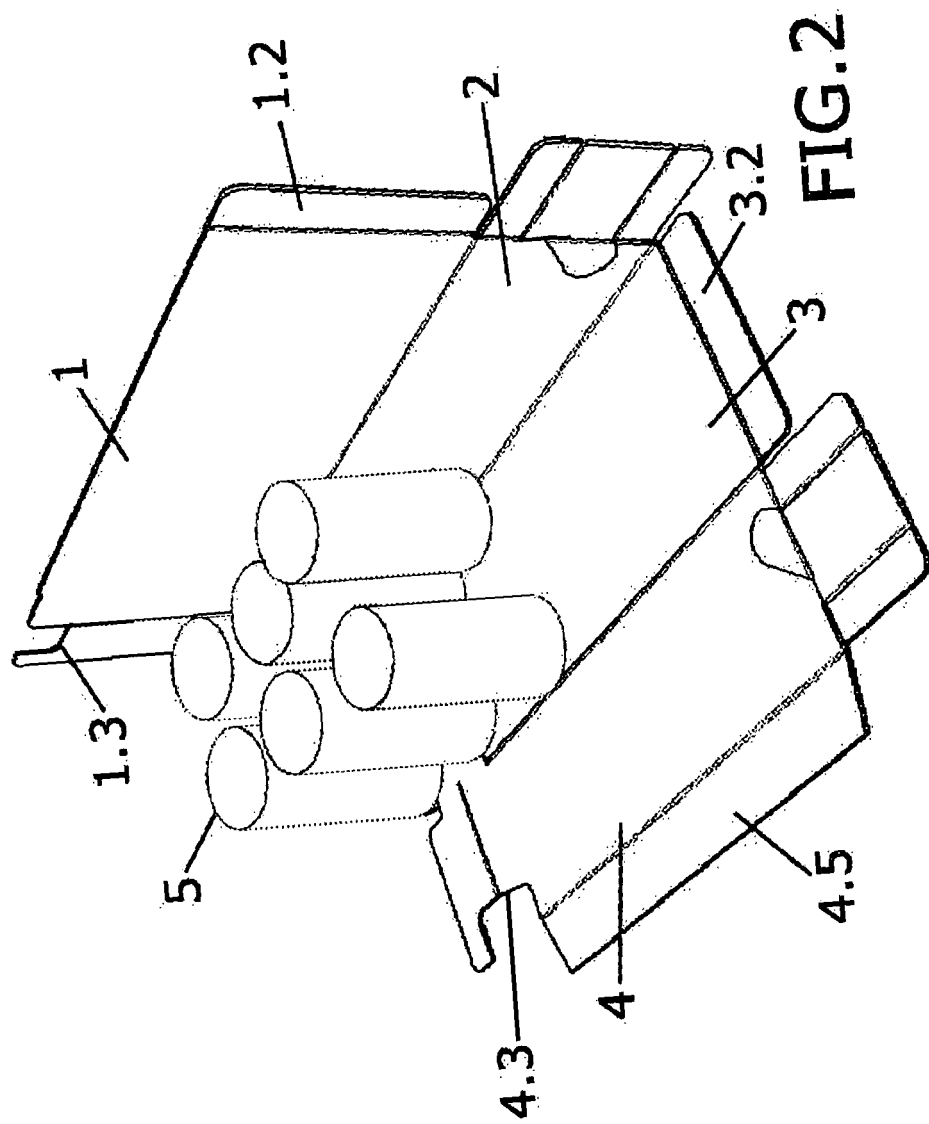
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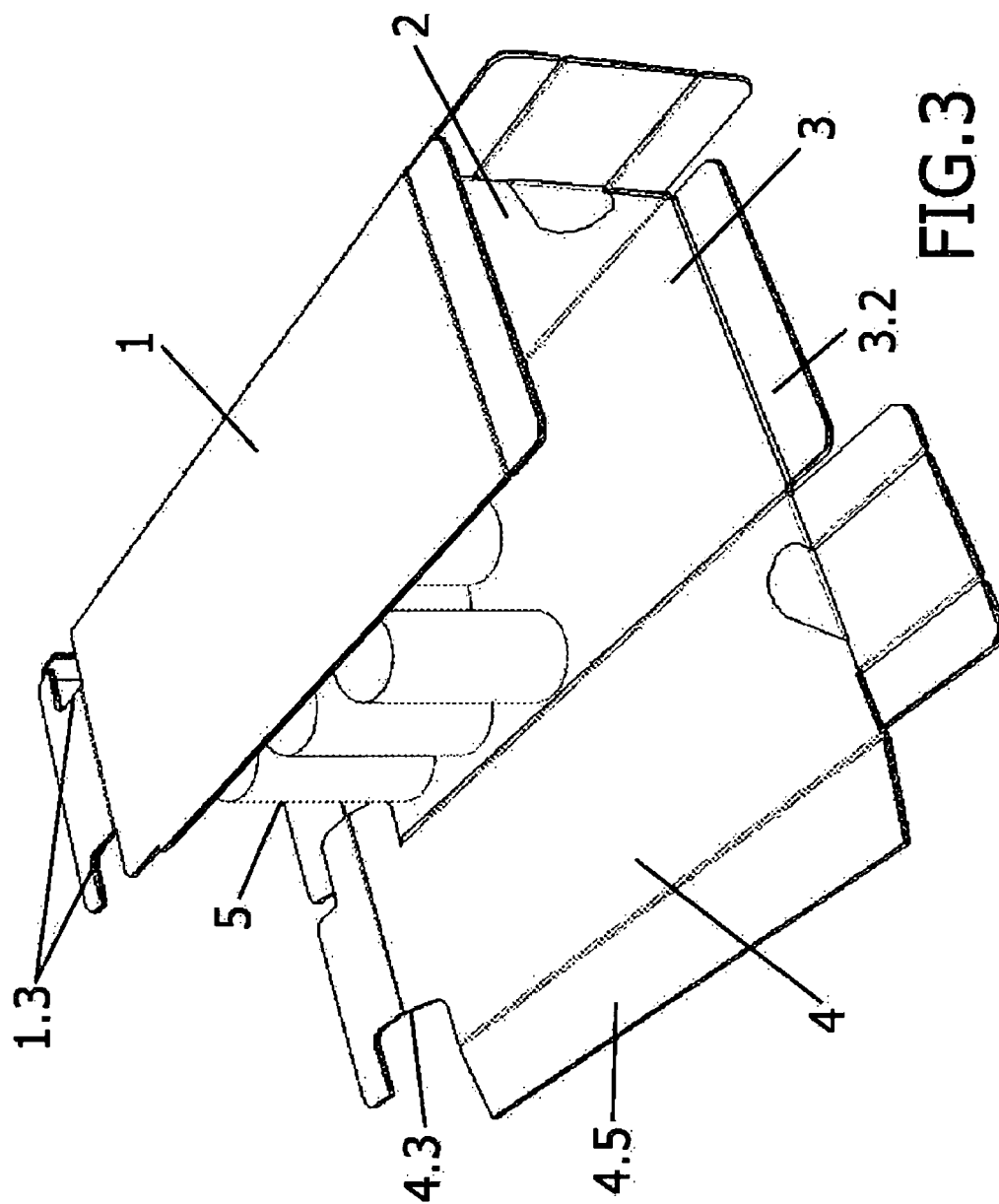
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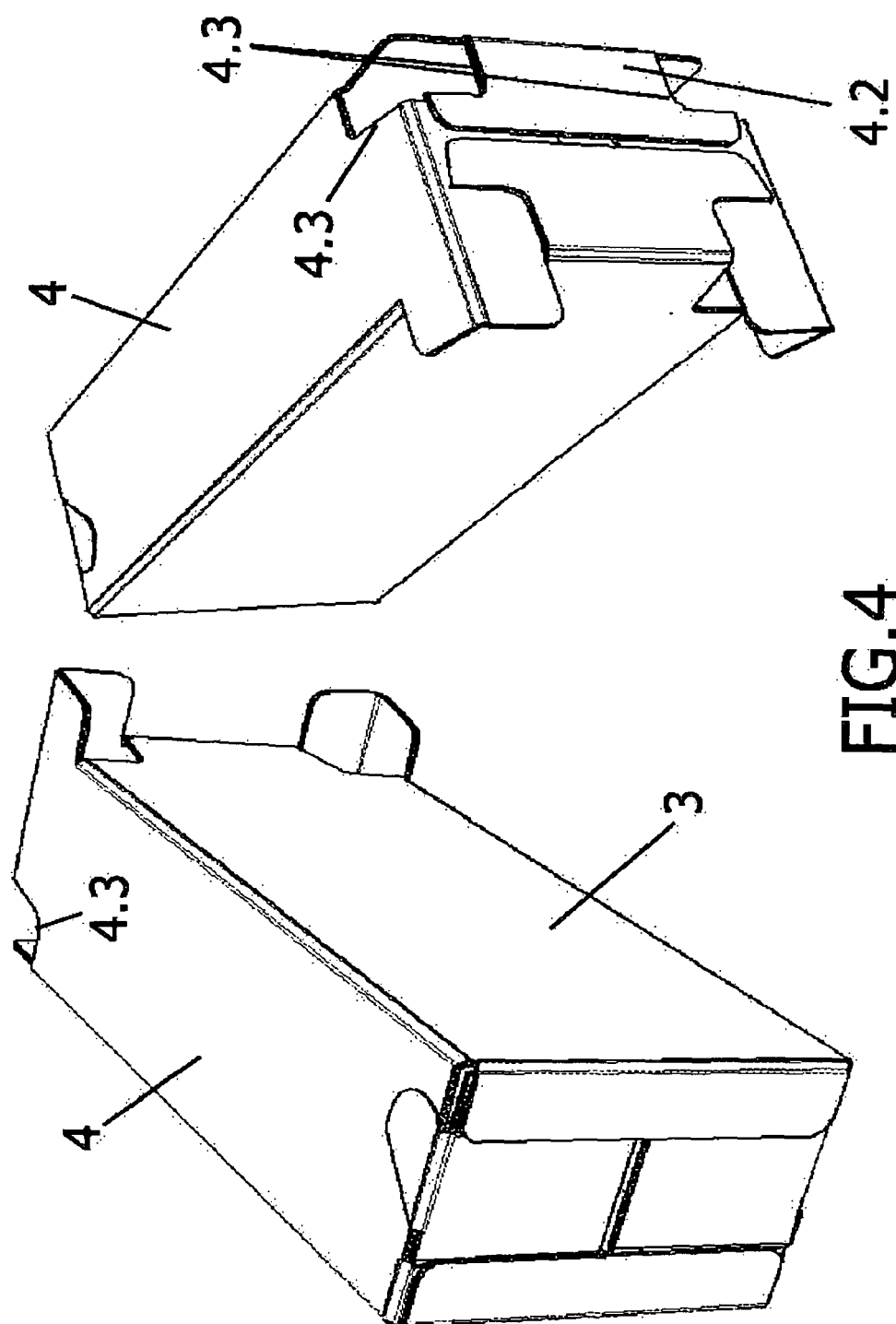
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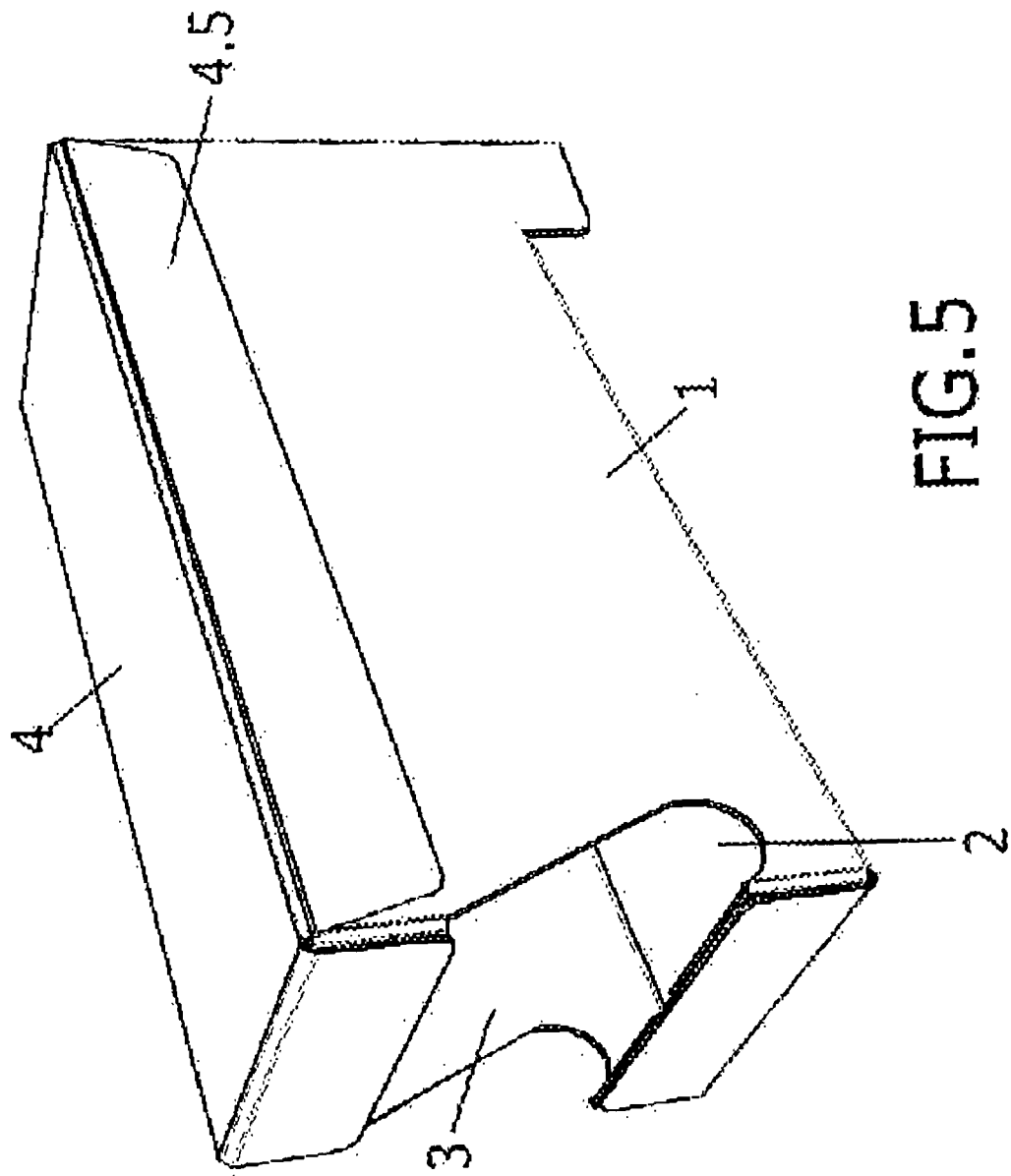
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European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 38 1077

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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 21 May 2008	Examiner Serrano Galarraga, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 07 38 1077

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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