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(54) **A multi-pack of rolls of tissue paper**

(57) The pack of rolls of tissue paper (R) comprises an outer wrapping composed of a plastic film in the shape

of a bag (1) housing a plurality of rolls and comprising an opening (21) equipped with reversible closing means.

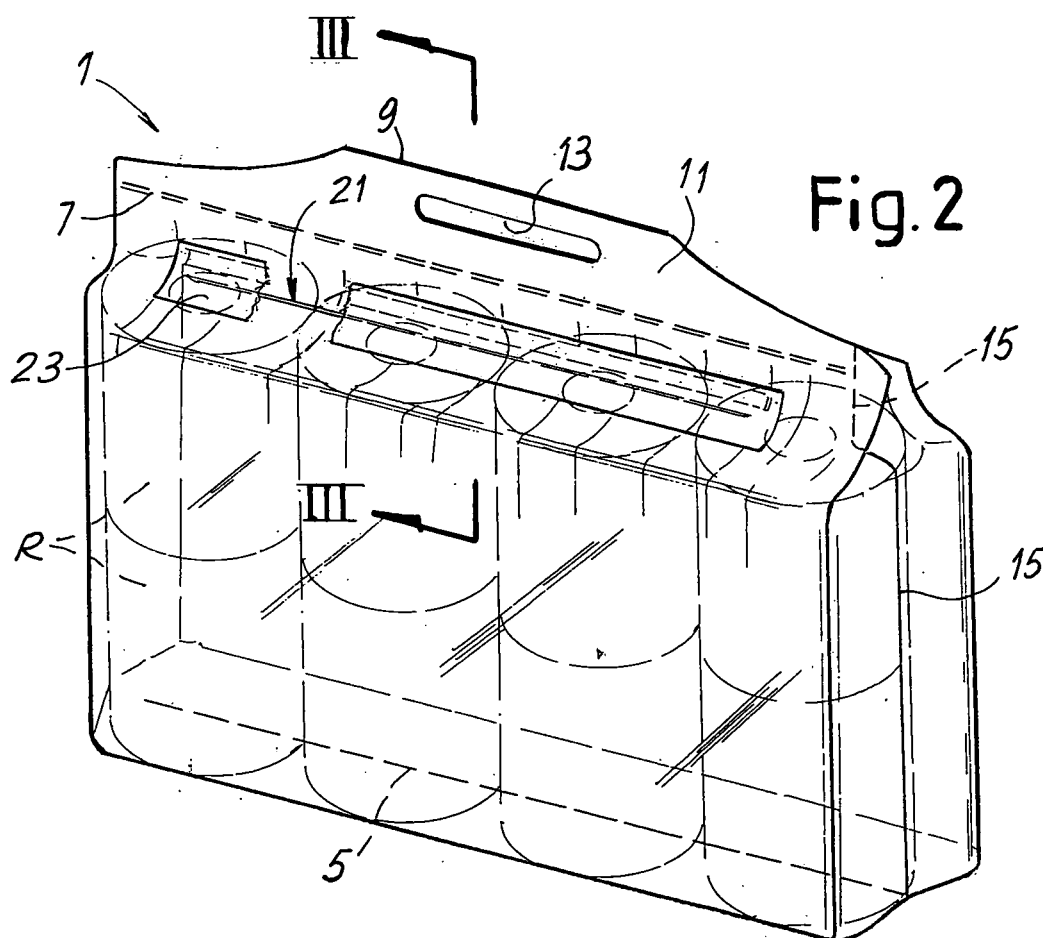


Fig. 2

Description

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to a pack of tissue paper articles and more in particular to a pack of rolls of tissue paper, such as toilet paper or kitchen towels.

State of the art

[0002] Rolls of toilet paper, kitchen towels for domestic or professional use and other rolls of tissue paper are currently normally packaged and marketed in multi-packs, with six or more rolls. The trend is towards the production of increasingly large packs to reduce packaging costs and increase sales volumes and also to allow the user to obtain large supplies of product in a practical and rapid manner.

[0003] However, these multi-packs have the drawback that, once opened, they do not protect the product adequately, and this problem increases in proportion to the size of the pack, which is thus intended to last for some time.

Summary of the invention

[0004] According to one aspect, the invention provides a pack, which entirely or partly overcomes the drawbacks of conventional packs. According to one embodiment, the pack comprises an outer covering composed of a plastic film in the form of a bag housing a plurality of rolls and comprising an opening provided with reversible closing means. In this manner, it is possible to remove single rolls from the pack through the opening which is then resealed each time through the aforesaid reversible closing means, to protect the remaining part of the product optimally until final consumption.

[0005] In some preferred embodiments of the invention, the pack is also provided with a gripping handle. This can advantageously be formed by mutually welded flaps of the sheet of plastic material forming the bag. The opening with the respective reversible closing means can be arranged parallel to the flaps of plastic film forming the handle and preferably in a position adjacent to said handle. The reversible closing means can be formed by any system suitable for the purpose, for example by a strip of "Velcro", welded or glued along the flaps defining the opening of the pack. In other embodiments, the reversible closing means can be formed by an adhesive or by a double-sided adhesive, or by a closing system of the "minigrip" type or other known systems, such as a strip of "Velcro", a slider zipper, a zipper with minizip, a zipper with handle.

Brief description of the drawings

[0006] The invention will be better understood by following the description and accompanying drawing, which

shows a non-limiting practical embodiment of the invention. More in particular, in the drawing:

Fig.1 shows a front view of a wrapping according to the invention before it is filled with the rolls;

Fig.2 shows a pack produced with the wrapping of Fig.1; and

Figs.3A and 3B each show a respective local section according to III-III of Fig.1 in two alternative embodiments of the reversible closing means.

Detailed description of embodiments of the invention

[0007] Fig.1 shows, in an extended configuration, a bag made of preformed plastic film, for packaging a plurality of rolls R of tissue paper, such as toilet paper or the like. The bag, indicated as a whole with 1, is defined by a transverse weld line 3, a longitudinal bottom weld line 5 and a parallel longitudinal top weld line 7. This latter defines, together with a further shaped weld line 9, a handle 11 with a cutout 13 forming the grip of the pack. On the opposite side to the weld line 3, a flap 15 is provided, which, after the pack has been filled with rolls, is welded to close the bag.

[0008] Fig.2 shows the complete pack with a plurality of rolls R inside.

[0009] In a suitable position on the surface of the pack formed by the bag 1, an opening is provided, having reversible closing means which allow the user to open the pack, remove one or more rolls and re-close the pack to hygienically and functionally protect the remaining rolls.

[0010] In some embodiments, the opening is provided on the top surface of the pack, adjacent to the handle 11. In the accompanying drawing the opening is indicated with 21. It would also be possible to provide the opening 21 in a different position, for example parallel to the weld 3.

[0011] In some embodiments (Fig. 3A) the opening 21 is delimited by two cut edges 21A, 21 B obtained in the plastic film forming the bag 1. In the closed configuration, the edges 21A, 21 B are mutually adjacent and are held closed, for example, by a strip 23 of adhesive material provided with a glue suitable to allow multiple opening and closing operations. In this manner, during initial use the user lifts the strip 23, separates the edges 21A, 21 B to gain access to the rolls R, removes the number of rolls required and re-closes the pack making the strip 23 adhere again. The opening 21 could be defined during production by a perforation line, which is opened during initial use, so as to simultaneously form a warranty seal.

[0012] In other embodiments, the reversible closing means can, for example, comprise strips of "Velcro", as indicated schematically in Fig.3B with 25A, 25B. These are formed by a first strip provided with a plurality of hook members and by a second strip with projecting fibers or filaments, with which with the hooks couple when the two strips are pressed against each other.

[0013] The strips of "Velcro" 25A, 25B can be glued or

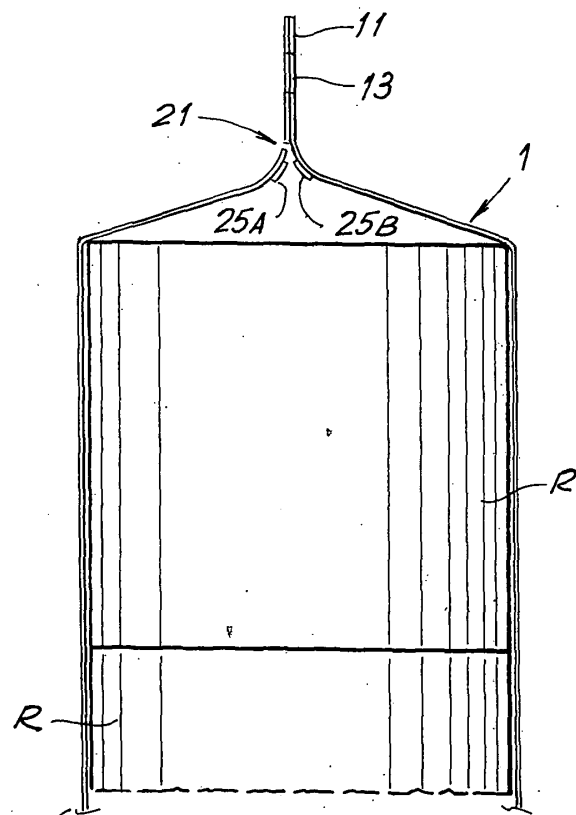
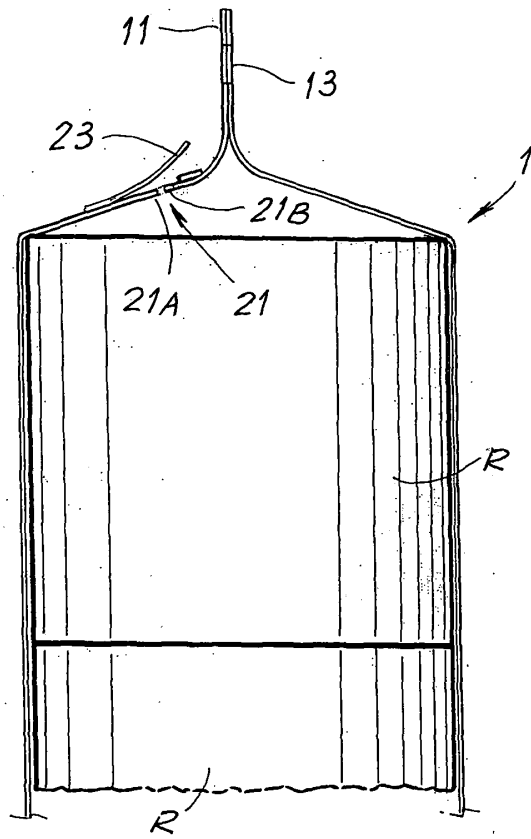
welded along the edges 21A, 21 B of the opening 21. Alternatively, different closing systems can be utilized, such as interlocking male and female profiles, commercially known with the name "minigrip" or other equivalent systems, applicable to the plastic film forming the bag 1. 5

[0014] Regardless of the position and form of the opening 21 and of the type of reversible closing means used, the pack according to the invention overcomes the drawbacks of conventional multi-packs, allowing correct storage of the product remaining in the pack after initial opening. 10

[0015] It is understood that the drawing only shows practical embodiments of the invention, which may vary in forms and arrangements, without however departing from the scope of the concept on which the invention is based. 15

Claims

1. A pack of rolls of tissue paper comprising an outer wrapping formed by a plastic film in the shape of a bag housing a plurality of rolls and comprising an opening equipped with reversible closing means. 20
2. A pack as claimed in claim 1, comprising a gripping handle. 25
3. A pack as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said bag comprises two opposite longitudinal weld lines and one transverse weld line. 30
4. A pack as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said gripping handle extends approximately parallel to said longitudinal weld lines. 35
5. A pack as claimed in claim 2 or 4, wherein said opening extends approximately parallel to said gripping handle. 40
6. A pack as claimed in claim 2, 4 or 5, wherein said handle is delimited by two weld lines which mutually join two flaps of the plastic film forming the outer wrapping of the pack, a cutout forming a grip for holding said pack being provided between said weld lines. 45
7. A pack as claimed in one or more of the preceding claims, wherein said opening is formed by two adjacent flaps formed in the plastic film forming the outer wrapping of the pack. 50
8. A pack as claimed in one or more of the preceding claims, wherein said reversible closing means are chosen from the group comprising: a strip of Velcro, a double-sided adhesive, a slider zipper, a zipper with minizip, a zipper with handle, a minigrip closing system. 55





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Application Number
EP 09 42 5149

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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		25 August 2009	Serrano Galarraga, J
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			

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