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(54) RESEALABLE CONTAINER WITH A LABEL

(57) The present invention relates to a container (1) for consumer goods comprising an outer housing (3) comprising a box (5) and a lid (7) hinged to the box (5) along a hinge line extending across a side wall of the container (1), wherein the box (5) and the lid (7) have an inner and an outer surface. The container further comprises an inner package (11) within the outer housing (3) comprising an access opening (13) through which the consumer goods can be removed, and an inner and an outer surface. Moreover, the container comprises an adhesive label (17) covering the access opening (13) on the outer surface of the inner package and extending beyond the periphery of the access opening (17) of the inner package (11). The inner package (11) comprises a first coated area (15) at the periphery of the access opening (13) on the outer surface of the inner package (11) enabling the adhesive label (17) to be initially peeled off with a reduced adhesive force. The adhesive label (17) comprises a first adhesive area (21) and a second adhesive area (23) on the inner surface of the adhesive label (17) facing the outer surface of the inner package (11). The first adhesive area (21) is at least partially covered with a resealable adhesive and is provided at least partially along the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label (17). The second adhesive area (23) is covered with a permanent adhesive and is provided at least partially in the center of inner surface and at least partially on the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label (17) such that, when the adhesive label (17) is applied to the inner package (11) to cover the access opening (13), a hinge area is formed opposite to the side of access opening (13) where the first coated area (15) is located.

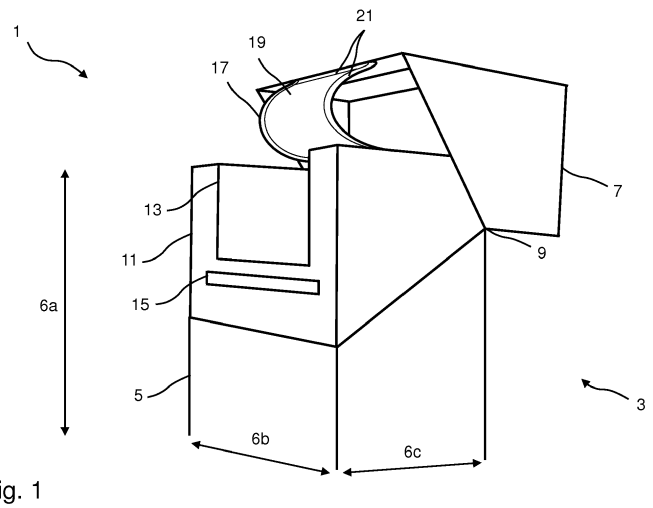

Fig. 1

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a container for consumer goods comprising an outer housing, an inner package within the outer housing and an adhesive label covering the access opening on the outer surface of the inner package through which the consumer goods can be removed.

[0002] In practice, it is known that consumer goods, like smoking articles, are wrapped in an inner package and the inner package is packaged in a container typically made of cardboard blanks with a hinged lid. The inner package has an access opening through which the smoking articles, like cigarettes, can be extracted. To improve inter alia shelf life in areas having hostile climatic conditions, like increased humidity, to cigarettes the access opening is preferably sealed with a resealable adhesive label to guarantee protection against those environmental impacts and thus, to keep the quality of the cigarettes at a high level. The adhesive label is usually permanently affixed to two points: the outside of the inner package and the inner surface of the lid. Thus, the adhesive label forms an S-shaped fold when opening the lid of the container. Consequently, the surface of the adhesive label facing the inner package has a resealable adhesive layer enabling the access opening to be uncovered and reliably resealed.

[0003] A respective resealable adhesive label is known from EP 3 299 314 A1 disclosing a container for consumer goods comprising an outer housing, wherein the outer housing comprises a box and a lid hinged to the box. An inner package of consumer goods has an access opening through which the consumer goods can be removed. An adhesive label is provided to cover the access opening and extends beyond the periphery of the access opening of the inner package. The adhesive label is at least partially releasably affixed to the inner package by a resealable adhesive provided on a first area of the inner surface of the adhesive label extending about at least the lower periphery of the access opening of the inner package. A second area of the inner surface of the adhesive label is permanently affixed to the inner surface of the front wall of the lid of the outer container. A further, third area of the inner surface of the adhesive label disposed between the first and second areas is substantially free of adhesive.

[0004] Accordingly, such an adhesive label has three different areas each comprising a different coverage or treatment: adhesive free, resealable adhesive and permanent adhesive. However, the manufacturing of such kind of adhesive label requires costly equipment and is complex and in particular, the initial resistance exerted by the adhesive label sealing the inner package while being opened is inconvenient for the user.

[0005] Therefore, it is an object of the present invention to provide a resealable container for consumer goods reliably protecting against environmental impacts while being enabled to be opened easily and conveniently. Moreover, it is a further object that manufacturing is reduced in complexity.

[0006] The aforesaid object with respect to the container is achieved by the features of claim 1. Advantageous configurations of the invention regarding the container are described in claims 2 to 15.

[0007] According to the present invention, there is provided a container for consumer goods comprising an outer housing. The outer housing comprises a box and a lid hinged to the box along a hinge line extending across a side wall of the container wherein the box and the lid have an inner and an outer surface. Within the outer housing, the container further comprises an inner package which comprises an access opening through which the consumer goods can be removed, and an inner and an outer surface. The container also comprises an adhesive label covering the access opening on the outer surface of the inner package and extending beyond the periphery of the access opening of the inner package, wherein the inner package comprises a first coated area at the periphery of the access opening on the outer surface of the inner package enabling the adhesive label to be initially peeled off with a reduced adhesive force. The adhesive label comprises a first adhesive area and a second adhesive area on the inner surface of the label facing the outer surface of the inner package. The first adhesive area comprises is at least partially covered with a resealable adhesive and is provided at least partially along the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label. The second adhesive area is covered with a permanent or releasable adhesive and is provided in the center of inner surface and/or on at least a section of the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label such that, when the adhesive label is applied to the inner package to cover the access opening, a hinge area is formed opposite to the side of access opening where the first coated area is located.

[0008] While the second adhesive area covered with a permanent adhesive is configured to ensure that the access opening is reliably uncovered, the first adhesive area ensures the sealing of the access opening when the container is closed. The first coated area, however, is configured to reduce the adhesive force of the adhesive label in the area where the adhesive label is initially peeled off when the user opens the container to extract a consumer good from the container. The reduction of the adhesive force at the beginning of the opening movement of the container by pivoting the lid around the hinge line facilitates the opening of the container.

[0009] Due to the first coated area on the outer surface of the inner package, there is no need to provide space on the inner surface of the adhesive label for an adhesive free area reducing the initial adhesive resistance when the adhesive label is peeled off the inner package. Therefore, the contact area of the adhesive label and the inner package is maximised.

[0010] Preferably, the manufacturing of the container according to the present invention is performable on ex-

isting packing machinery with little or no modification.

[0011] The container is preferably a rectangular parallelepiped comprising two wider side walls spaced apart by two narrower walls. The container may be formed from any suitable material including, but not limited to, cardboard, paperboard, plastic, metal, or combinations thereof. The outer surface of the container may be printed, embossed or otherwise embellished with manufacturer or brand logos, trademarks, slogans and other consumer information and indicia.

[0012] The lid is hinged to the box of the outer housing along one of the wider side walls, called the back side wall. Thereby, the lever of the lid to be opened is short. It is also possible to hinge the lid along one of the narrower side walls, whereby the lever of the lid is extended. The hinge formed between the lid and the box defines a hinge line around which the lid is pivotable.

[0013] Preferably, the consumer goods are smoking articles. However, the container may be suitable for a variety of consumer goods, such as dry foodstuff, confectionary or the like. The inner package may preferably be formed from any suitable material including, but not limited to, metal foil, metallised paper, metallised film or printed film. The inner package material may be formed as a laminate of metallised or printed polypropylene film, metallised or printed polyethylene terephthalate film, laminates made of film and paper, such as metallised or printed polypropylene film, metallised or printed polyethylene terephthalate film with supercalandered paper or other laminates.

[0014] The access opening is preferably a polygon with a rectangular or quadratic shape, but other shapes, like circles, are also possible. The access opening is provided at a position of the inner package in the direct vicinity of the inner surface of the lid when the inner package is accommodated inside the closed container. The access opening is preferably die-cut along its periphery; in case of a rectangular shape, at least along three edges. The weakened line along the periphery of the access opening may also be prepared by a creasing or scoring line. Upon the first opening of the container, the material of the inner package within the access opening is detached from the surrounding area of the inner package along the pre-cut periphery, wherein the detached portion adheres to the adhesive label.

[0015] The adhesive label provided for sealing the access opening preferably has a peripheral shape corresponding to the peripheral shape of the access opening at least fully covering the access opening, but other shapes are also possible. For example, the shape may be rectangular, triangular, semi-circular, semi-oval or trapezoid, or may have any other suitable shape. More preferably, the shape and size of the label have to sufficiently extend beyond the periphery of the access opening to provide enough contact area for a circumferential sealing around the periphery of the access opening.

[0016] The adhesive label is preferably plane, i.e. flat and planar, wherein the adhesive label has an inner surface facing the outer surface of the inner package and an outer surface on the opposite side of the inner surface facing the inner surface of the lid. Moreover, the adhesive label is preferably flexible to be enabled to adapt its shape during the opening and closing of the container.

[0017] The adhesive label comprises a resealable adhesive in the first adhesive area, such that the adhesive label can be peeled off the outer surface of the inner package and reattached to the inner package for a number of times. Preferably, the adhesive label can be peeled off the outer surface of the inner package and reattached to it at least as many times as there are consumer goods, e.g. cigarettes, within the inner package. This allows for a repeated opening and closing the inner package without contaminating the consumer goods. The resealable adhesive preferably provides sufficient adhesion for the label to be reattached.

[0018] Suitable resealable adhesives are known to a skilled person and a wide variety of adhesives are commercially available from a number of suppliers. The selection of suitable adhesives may depend on the material forming the inner package and the coating of the coated areas on the outer surface of the inner package to which the label is sealed or resealed during use. For example, the resealable adhesive may be a synthetic pressure sensitive hotmelt adhesive, a water based polyethylene adhesive, or a removable acrylic based adhesive.

[0019] The second adhesive area of the adhesive label comprising a permanent adhesive at least partially corresponds to the size and position of the access opening, preferably may be smaller than the size of the access opening, and more preferably may be 3 mm smaller than the size of the access opening. The permanent adhesive of the second adhesive area may be a standard hotmelt adhesive.

[0020] The second adhesive area additionally extends from the center of the label to the periphery and at least partially along the edge of that periphery side to form a hinge area between the adhesive label and outer surface of the inner package. The hinge area is preferably arranged parallel to the hinge formed by the lid and the box. The portion of the second adhesive area in the center of the label and the portion at least partially along one edge of the periphery of the label do not necessarily have to be connected.

[0021] Although a reliable sealing of the access opening is ensured, the first coated area on the outer surface of the inner package reduces the adhesive force between the inner package and the adhesive label when the container is opened, i.e. the adhesive label is peeled off the inner package. By providing such a combination of an inner package with a coated area facilitating the release of the adhesive label and weak adhesives on the inner surface of the adhesive label, a container may be provided that can be easily opened. The first coated area particularly facilitates the beginning of the opening movement of the container, i.e. the beginning of the lifting of the lid.

[0022] The coating of first coated area may be made from any suitable material such as siliconized varnish, release coating or wax.

[0023] The first coated area on the outer surface of the inner package may be applied by printing. The printing can be carried out with one of the usual printing techniques, e.g. rotogravure printing, flexographic printing, offset printing, letterpress printing, silk screen printing or digital printing.

[0024] In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the adhesive label further comprises a third adhesive area on the outer surface of the adhesive label, and wherein the third adhesive area is permanently affixed to the inner surface of the lid of the outer housing.

[0025] The third adhesive area of the adhesive label comprising also a permanent adhesive is affixed to the inner surface of the lid such that the adhesive label forms a S-shaped fold and uncovers the access opening when the lid is lifted, i.e. when the container is opened. Moreover, the permanent adhesive connection between the third adhesive area of the adhesive label and the inner surface of the lid ensures that the adhesive label fittingly returns to its sealing position when the lid is closed.

[0026] Due to the reduction of the adhesive force movement between the first adhesive area of the adhesive label and the outer surface of the inner package at the beginning of opening caused by the first coated area, it is additionally achieved that the force which is countering the adhesion between the third adhesive area of the adhesive label and the inner surface of the lid is reduced.

[0027] According to another preferred embodiment, the first adhesive area and the first coated area overlie each other at least partially, when the adhesive label fully covers the access opening in the closed state of the container.

[0028] According to another preferred embodiment, the first coated area is spaced apart from the access opening, i.e. there is a gap between the periphery of the access opening and the first coated area. In between the access opening and the first coated area, there can be arranged at least another coated area such that the reduction of the adhesive force of the first adhesive area of the adhesive label can be a stepwise reduction as regards the different coated areas.

[0029] In a further embodiment of the present invention, the first coated area is located below the access opening.

[0030] Given that the upwards direction is in direction of the lid and the downwards direction is in direction of the bottom of the box, there is an area of the inner package above and below the access opening. If the first coated area is located below the access opening, its adhesive reducing property has an impact on opening the container when the lid is lifted upwards.

[0031] In another preferred embodiment, the inner package further comprises a second coated area at least partially surrounding the periphery of the access opening on the outer surface of the inner package. The second coated area may be located between the access opening and the first coated area, wherein the inner surface of the label comprises only a second adhesive area of permanent adhesive.

[0032] An adhesive label with only one type of adhesive over the whole inner surface reduces the complexity of label manufacturing, since the manufacturing of different areas with permanent, resealable and no adhesive is avoided.

[0033] Preferably, the coating of the second coated area is less effective in reducing the adhesion of an adhesive than the coating of the first coated area which can be achieved by using different coatings or different thicknesses of the respective coating layers. Hence, the first adhesive area still enables that the beginning of the lifting of the lid and consequently, the peeling of the adhesive label is eased, whereas the bonding or adhesive force between the second coated area and the adhesive label is higher than that between the first coated area and the adhesive label. Thus, the resistance force against the peeling of the adhesive label is nominally higher, but by peeling the adhesive label the effective lever is elongated continuously. Accordingly, the force needed to peel off the adhesive label reduces continuously, provided that the peeling torque is kept constant.

[0034] By using a less effective coating surrounding the periphery of the access opening the quality of the sealing between the adhesive label and the access opening is improved.

[0035] Preferably, in another embodiment, the effectiveness of the coated areas on the outer surface of the inner package reduces stepwise from the first coated area towards the access opening.

[0036] In a further preferred embodiment, the container has a first dimension in direction from the lid to the box, a second dimension perpendicular to the first dimension and parallel to the hinge line, and a third dimension perpendicular to the first and the second dimension. The first dimension is the height, the second dimension is the width, and the third dimension is the depth.

[0037] According to another preferred embodiment of the present invention, the width of the first coated area on the inner package is at least wider than the width of the access opening but smaller than the width of the adhesive label but smaller than the width of the adhesive label.

[0038] Since the adhesive label at least extends along the periphery of the access opening, the width of the first coated area should be at least wider than the width of the access opening to generate a sufficient reduction effect on the adhesive force of the inner surface of the adhesive label.

[0039] Furthermore, if the width of the first coated area does not exceed the width of the adhesive label, no coating will be wasted and the inner surface will not be contaminated with the coating of the first coated area.

[0040] In a further preferred embodiment, the width of the first coated area on the inner package is at least wider

than the width of the adhesive label.

[0041] Thus, the reduction effect of the first coated area on the adhesive force of the inner surface of the adhesive label applies for the whole width of the adhesive label.

[0042] In yet another preferred embodiment, the height of the first coated area is at least 6 mm, preferably at least 9 mm, and more preferably at least 12 mm.

[0043] The first coated area on the outer surface of the inner package is preferably larger than the first adhesive area on the inner surface of the adhesive label to allow for a reduced peeling force needed to peel off the adhesive label from the inner package. If the first coated area is larger than the first adhesive area of the adhesive label, the reducing effect on said peeling force affects the first adhesive area of the adhesive label to the full extent.

[0044] According to another preferred embodiment, the height of the third adhesive area of the adhesive label is at least 3 mm, preferably at least 6 mm, and more preferably at least 9 mm.

[0045] The greater the height of the third adhesive area, the greater the bonding surface and consequently, the bonding between the third adhesive area on the outer surface of the adhesive label and the inner surface of the lid. Thus, an unaffected peeling and resealing of the adhesive label is ensured every time the lid is opened and closed.

[0046] In another preferred embodiment, the width of the first and the second coated area exceeds the width of the adhesive label on each side by at least 1 mm, preferably by at least 2 mm, and more preferably by at least 3 mm.

[0047] Hence, the reducing effect on said peeling force for the adhesive on the inner surface of the adhesive label reliably applies across the whole width of the adhesive label.

[0048] According to a further embodiment of the present invention, the coating of the first coated area and/or the second coated area comprises a silicone.

[0049] The coatings of the first and/or second coated area may be made from any suitable material such as siliconized varnish, release coating or wax. The level of reducing the adhesive bond between the adhesive label and the respective coated area depends on the coating's amount of silicone additive, wax or any other substance which reduces adhesive bonding. The higher the amount of silicone additive, wax, or any other substance, the lower the force needed to lift the lid.

[0050] In another preferred embodiment, the width of the first coated area and the first adhesive area have a ratio of 1:2, preferably 1:1.5, and more preferably 1:1.

[0051] If the width of the first coated area and the first adhesive area are the same, the pursued effect of reducing the adhesive resistance between the adhesive label and the inner package at the beginning of the opening movement of the container is maximised.

[0052] In the following, further advantages and embodiments of the inventive system are described in conjunction with the attached drawings. Thereby, the expression "left", "right", "below", and "above" are referred to the drawings in an orientation of the drawings which allows the normal reading of the reference numbers.

[0053] In the drawings:

Fig. 1: shows portion of a container according to the present invention in an opened state; and

Fig. 2: shows a cross sectional side view of the container in a closed state; and

Fig. 3: shows an inner package having an access opening and a first coated area; and

Fig. 4: shows the inner surface of a label according to the present invention; and

Fig. 5: shows the outer surface of the label; and

Fig. 6: shows another inner package having an access opening, a first and a second coated area; and

Fig. 7: shows the inner surface of another label.

[0054] An opened container 1 for consumer goods, like smoking articles, according to the present invention is shown in Fig. 1 comprising an outer housing 3 with a box 5 and a lid 7 hinged to box 5.

[0055] The double arrow 6a indicates the height direction, the double arrow 6b indicates the width direction, and the double arrow 6c indicates the depth direction of the container 1, wherein lid 7 is on top or above of box 5 in the height direction.

[0056] Between lid 7 and box 5 a hinge 9 is formed along the rear side of outer housing 3 in the width direction of container 1.

[0057] An inner package 11 is arranged within outer housing 3 having an access opening 13 through which consumer goods (not shown) wrapped in inner package 11 can be extracted.

[0058] Inner package 11 may be formed from any suitable material including, but not limited to metal foil, metallised paper, metallised film or printed film. Inner package 11 may be formed as a laminate of metallised or printed polypropylene film, metallised or printed polyethylene terephthalate film, laminates made of film and paper, such as metallised or printed polypropylene film, metallised or printed polyethylene terephthalate film with supercalandered paper or other laminates.

[0059] Below access opening 13, there is a first coated area 15 on the outer surface of inner package 11.

[0060] A resealable adhesive label 17 is attached to the outer surface of inner package 11 and the inner surface of lid 7. As container 1 shown in Fig. 1 is opened, i.e. lid 7 is lifted and rotated in direction of the rear side of container 1 around hinge 9, adhesive label 17 forms a S-shaped fold. Adhesive label 17 comprises a first ad-

hesive area 21 with a resealable adhesive and a second adhesive area 23 (not visible in Fig. 1) with a permanent adhesive. Access opening 13 is die-cut along its periphery in inner package 11 such that, upon the first opening of the container 1, the blank material 19 inside the die-cut line of access opening 13 is detached from inner package 11, since blank material 19 is permanently affixed to second adhesive area 23 of adhesive label 17. Adhesive label 17 extends beyond the periphery of access opening 13.

[0061] In Fig. 2, in which for purposes of presentation the thickness of adhesive areas 21, 23, and 25 as well as that of first coated area 15 does not necessarily correspond to the size as manufactured, container 1 is presented in a cross sectional view, wherein lid 7 is closed. In the closed state of container 1, adhesive label 17 covers access opening 13 and seals inner package 11. Adhesive label 17 is permanently affixed to the inner surface of lid 7 by a third adhesive area 25 as well as to the outer surface of inner package 11 by a portion of second adhesive area 23. The adhesive force of the resealable adhesive of first adhesive area 21 is reduced by first coated area 15, wherein first adhesive area 21 and first coated area 15 overlie each other in the closed state of container 1.

[0062] The level of reduction of the adhesive bond between first adhesive area 21 and first coated area 15 depends on the amount of silicone additive, wax or any other substance contained in the coating of the first coated area, which reduces adhesive bonding in first coated area 15. The higher the amount of additive, the lower the force needed to lift lid 7.

[0063] Fig. 3 shows a portion of the outer surface of inner package 11 with access opening 13 and first coated area 15 below access opening 13. First coated area 15 is spaced apart from the periphery of access opening 13. The height of the gap between access opening 13 and first coated area 15 depends on the position of first area 21 of adhesive label 17; both areas preferably overlie each other.

[0064] Access opening 13 can be formed by die-cutting, perforating or through-cutting along at least three edges at the periphery; the left, right, and lower edge in Fig. 3. Thus, blank material 19 inside access opening can detach from inner package 11 at a predefined periphery.

[0065] In Fig. 4, the inner surface of adhesive label 17 is presented, wherein first adhesive area 21 comprising a resealable adhesive is provided at least partially along the periphery of the inner surface of adhesive label 17. Second adhesive area 23 is arranged in the center of the inner surface of adhesive label 17 and at least partially along one edge of the periphery.

[0066] Second adhesive area 23 comprising a permanent adhesive at least partially corresponds to the size and position of access opening 13. Preferably, second adhesive area 23 may be smaller than the size of the access opening, and more preferably may be 3 mm smaller than the size of the access opening such that blank material 19 is reliably detached from inner package 11 upon the first opening of container 1. The portion of second adhesive area 23 along the edge and that in the center do not have to be connected. The portion along the periphery forms a hinge area when adhesive label 17 is attached to inner package 11.

[0067] Fig. 5 shows the outer surface of adhesive label 17 comprising a third adhesive area 25 with permanent adhesive and an adhesive free area 27. Third adhesive area 25 is attached to the inner surface of lid 7, wherein the adhesive bond between third adhesive area 25 and lid 7 enables adhesive label 17 to be peeled off and resealed when lid 7 is lifted and closed, respectively.

[0068] In Fig. 6, another preferred embodiment of the present invention with regard to the arrangement of inner package 11 is depicted. The periphery of access opening 13 can be surrounded by a second coated area 29 whose adhesive force reducing capability is less than that of first coated area 15. Due to second coated area 29 it is possible to provide the inner surface of adhesive label 17 just with second adhesive area 23 comprising a permanent adhesive, as shown in Fig. 7. Consequently, the manufacturing of adhesive label 17 is simplified.

[0069] Container 1 may be filled with consumer goods and assembled using conventional apparatuses and methods, but modified to include the steps of applying adhesive label 17 to inner package 11 covering access opening 13.

Claims

1. A container (1) for consumer goods comprising:

an outer housing (3) comprising a box (5) and a lid (7) hinged to the box (5) along a hinge line extending across a side wall of the container (1), wherein the box (5) and the lid (7) have an inner and an outer surface; an inner package (11) within the outer housing (3) comprising
an access opening (13) through which the consumer goods can be removed, and an inner and an outer surface; and
an adhesive label (17) covering the access opening (13) on the outer surface of the inner package and extending beyond the periphery of the access opening (17) of the inner package (11),
wherein the inner package (11) comprises
a first coated area (15) at the periphery of the access opening (13) on the outer surface of the inner package (11) enabling the adhesive label (17) to be initially peeled off with a reduced adhesive force, and
wherein the adhesive label (17) comprises
a first adhesive area (21) and a second adhesive area (23) on the inner surface of the adhesive

label (17) facing the outer surface of the inner package (11),
wherein the first adhesive area (21) is at least partially covered with a resealable adhesive and is provided at least partially along the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label (17), and
wherein the second adhesive area (23) is covered with a permanent or releasable adhesive and is provided in the center of the inner surface and/or on at least a section of the periphery of the inner surface of the adhesive label (17) such that, when the adhesive label (17) is applied to the inner package (11) to cover the access opening (13), a hinge area is formed opposite to the side of access opening (13) where the first coated area (15) is located.

2. The container (1) according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive label (17) further comprises a third adhesive area (25) on the outer surface of the adhesive label (17), and wherein the third adhesive area (25) is permanently affixed to the inner surface of the lid (7) of the outer housing (3).

3. The container (1) according to claims 1 and 2, wherein the first adhesive area (21) and the first coated area overlie each other at least partially, when the adhesive label (17) fully covers the access opening (13).

4. The container (1) according to claims 1 to 3, wherein the first coated area (15) is spaced apart from the access opening (13).

5. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the first coated area (15) is located below the access opening (13).

6. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the inner package (11) further comprises at least a second coated area (29) at least partially surrounding the periphery of the access opening (13) on the outer surface of the inner package (11) and being located between the access opening (13) and the first coated area (15), wherein the inner surface of the adhesive label (17) comprises only a second area (23) covered with a permanent adhesive.

7. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the effectiveness of the coated areas on the outer surface of the inner package reduces stepwise from the first coated area towards the access opening.

8. The container (1) according to one of the claims 1 to 7, wherein the container (1) has a first dimension (6a) in direction from the lid to the box, a second dimension (6b) perpendicular to the first dimension (6a) and parallel to the hinge line, and a third dimension (6c) perpendicular to the first and the second dimension (6a, 6b), wherein the first dimension (6a) is the height, the second dimension (6b) is the width, and the third dimension (6c) is the depth.

9. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the width of the first coated area (15) on the inner package (11) is at least wider than the width of the access opening (13) but smaller than the width of the adhesive label (17).

10. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the width of the first coated area (15) on the inner package (11) is at least wider than the width of the adhesive label (17).

11. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the height of the first coated area (15) is at least 6 mm, preferably at least 9 mm, and more preferably at least 12 mm.

12. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the height of the third adhesive area (25) is at least 3 mm, preferably at least 6 mm, and more preferably at least 9 mm.

13. The container (1) according to one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the width of the first and second coated area (15, 29) exceeds the width of the adhesive label (17) on each side by at least 1 mm, preferably by at least 2 mm, and more preferably by at least 3 mm.

14. The container (1) according to one of the claims 1 to 13, wherein the coating of the first coated area (15) and/or the second coated area (29) comprises a silicone.

15. The container (1) according to one of the claims 1 to 14, wherein the width of the first coated area and the first adhesive area have a ratio of 1:2, preferably 1:1.5, and more preferably 1:1.

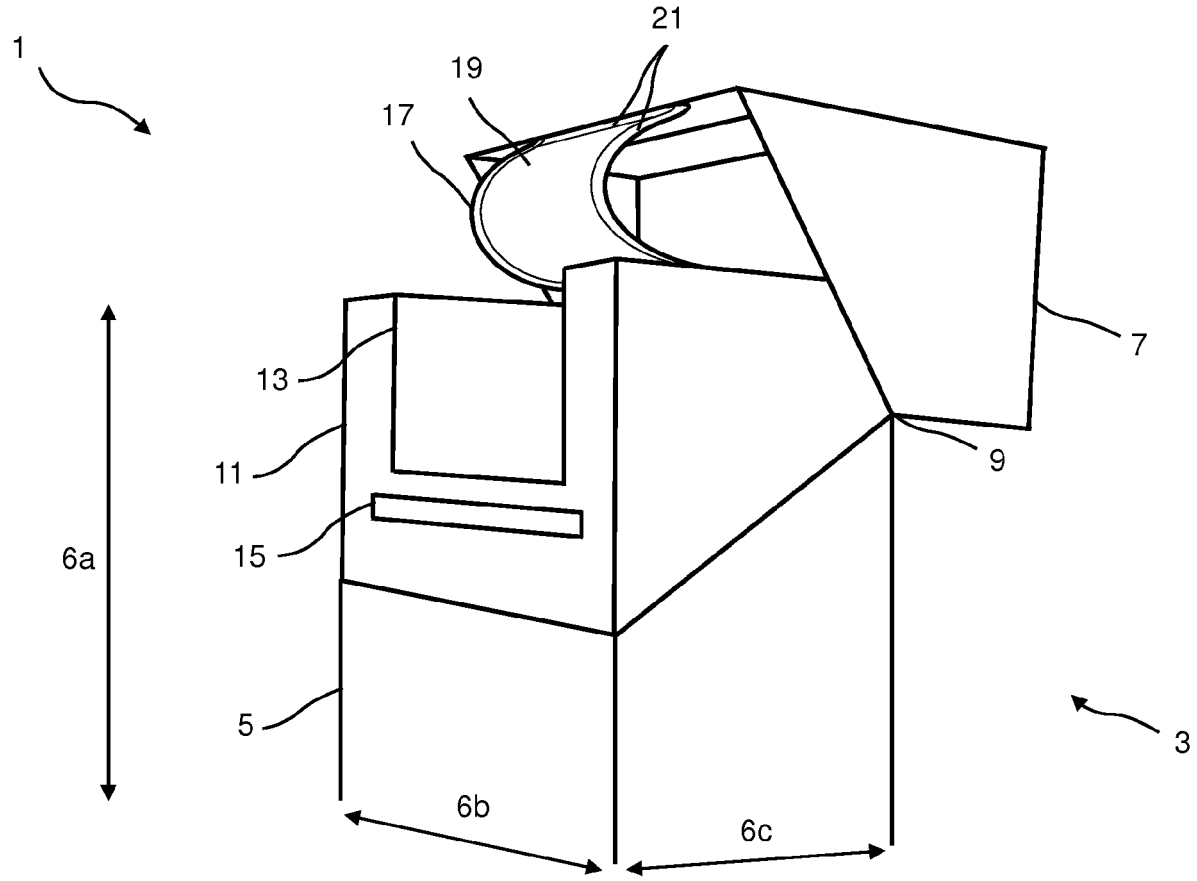

Fig. 1

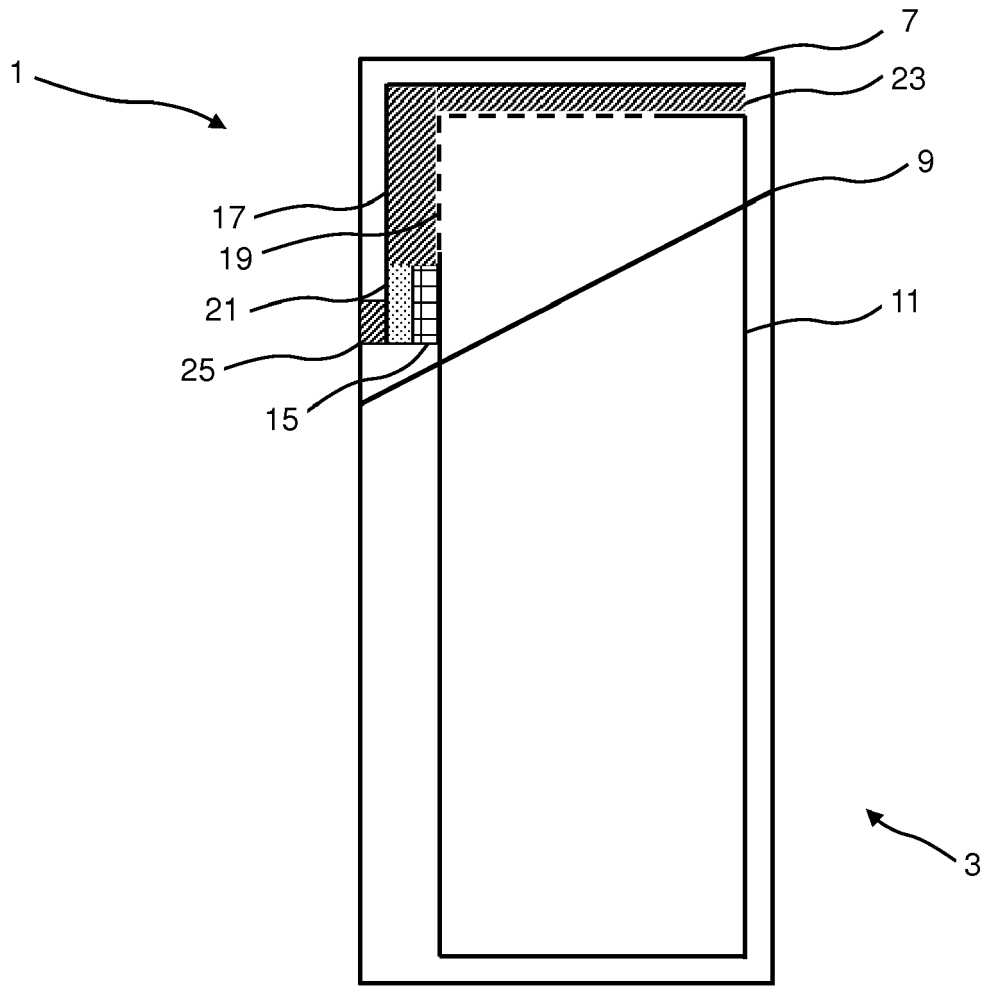

Fig. 2

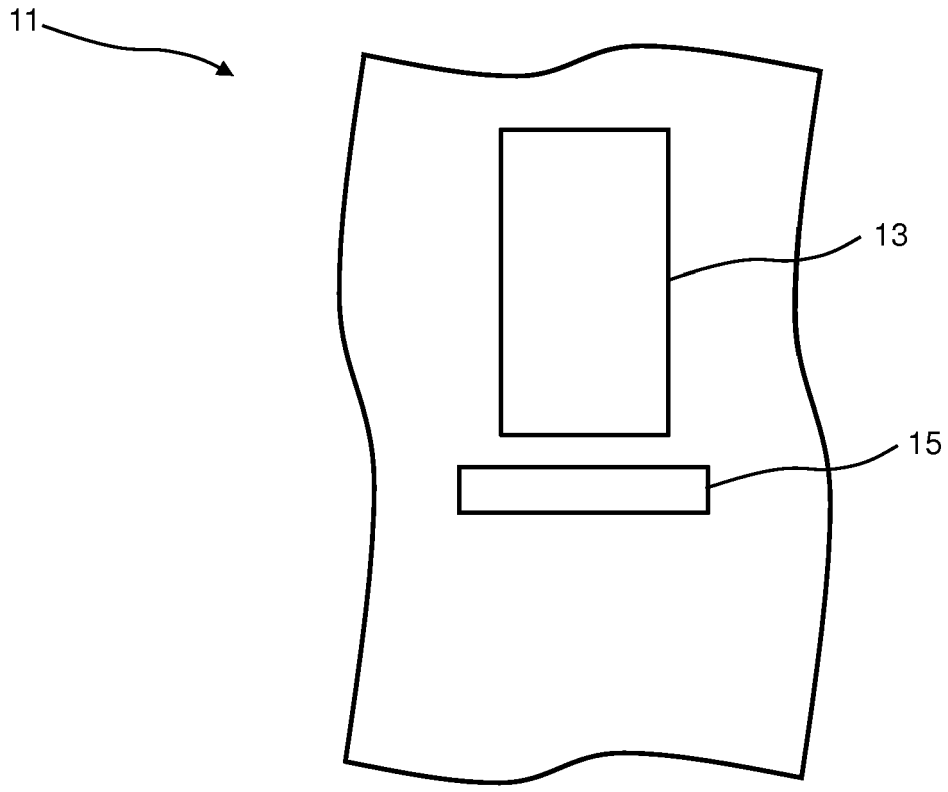

Fig. 3

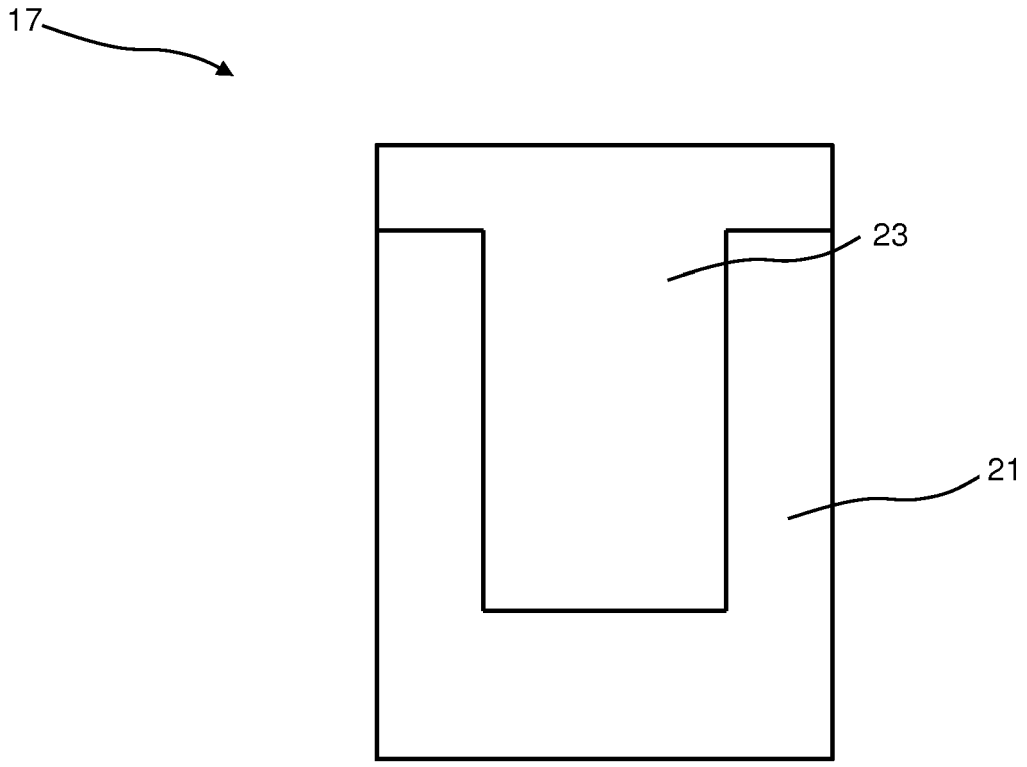

Fig. 4

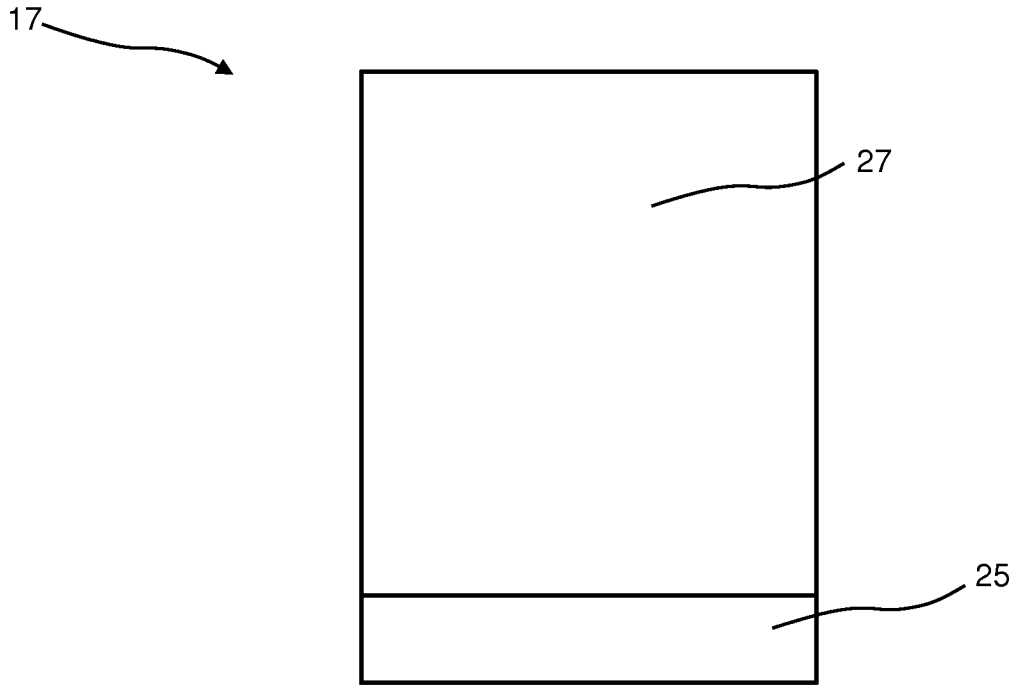

Fig. 5

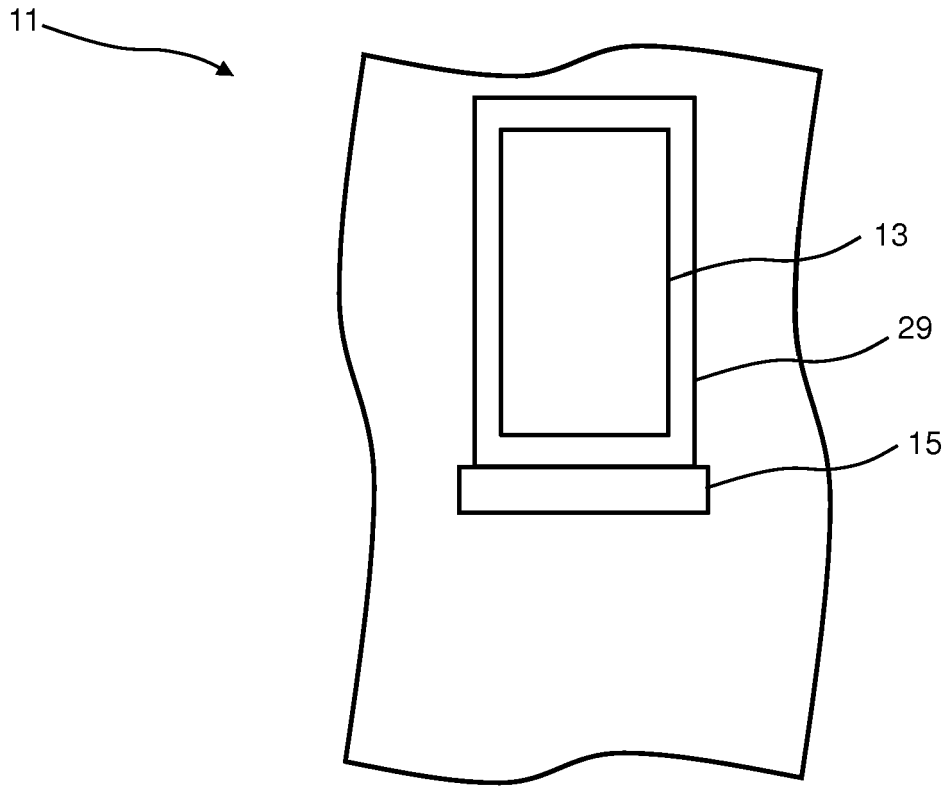

Fig. 6

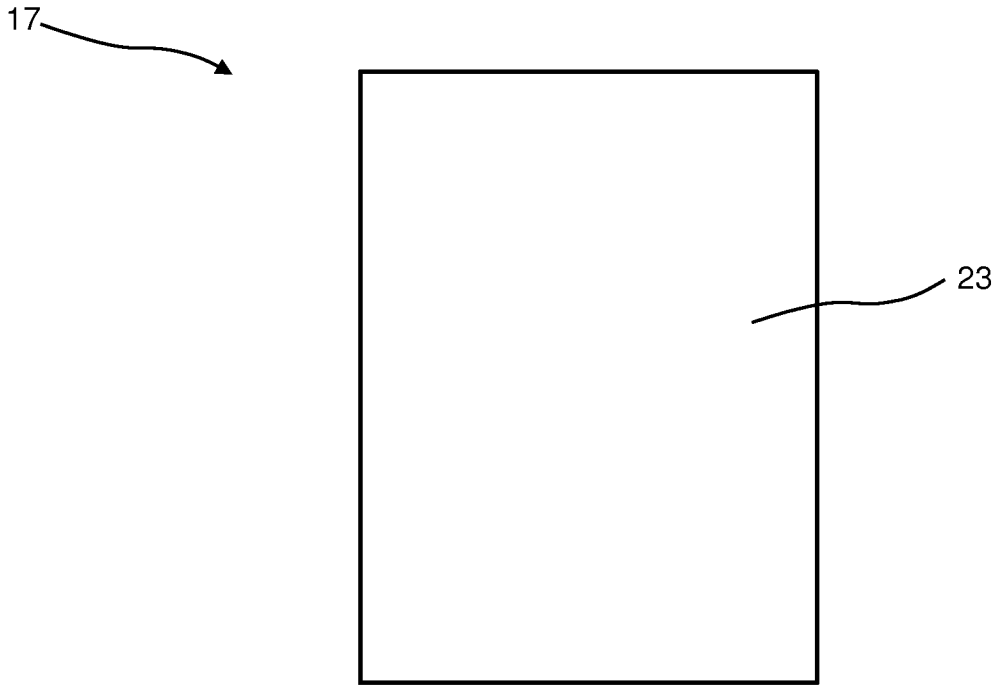

Fig. 7

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	26 March 2020	Grondin, David

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