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Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Canadian Intellectual Property Office

CA 3023636 A1 2019/05/14

(21) 3 023 636

(12) DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN
CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION

(13) A1

(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 2018/11/09

(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 2019/05/14

(30) Priorité/Priority: 2017/11/14 (US62/585,912)

(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *E04H 17/14* (2006.01)

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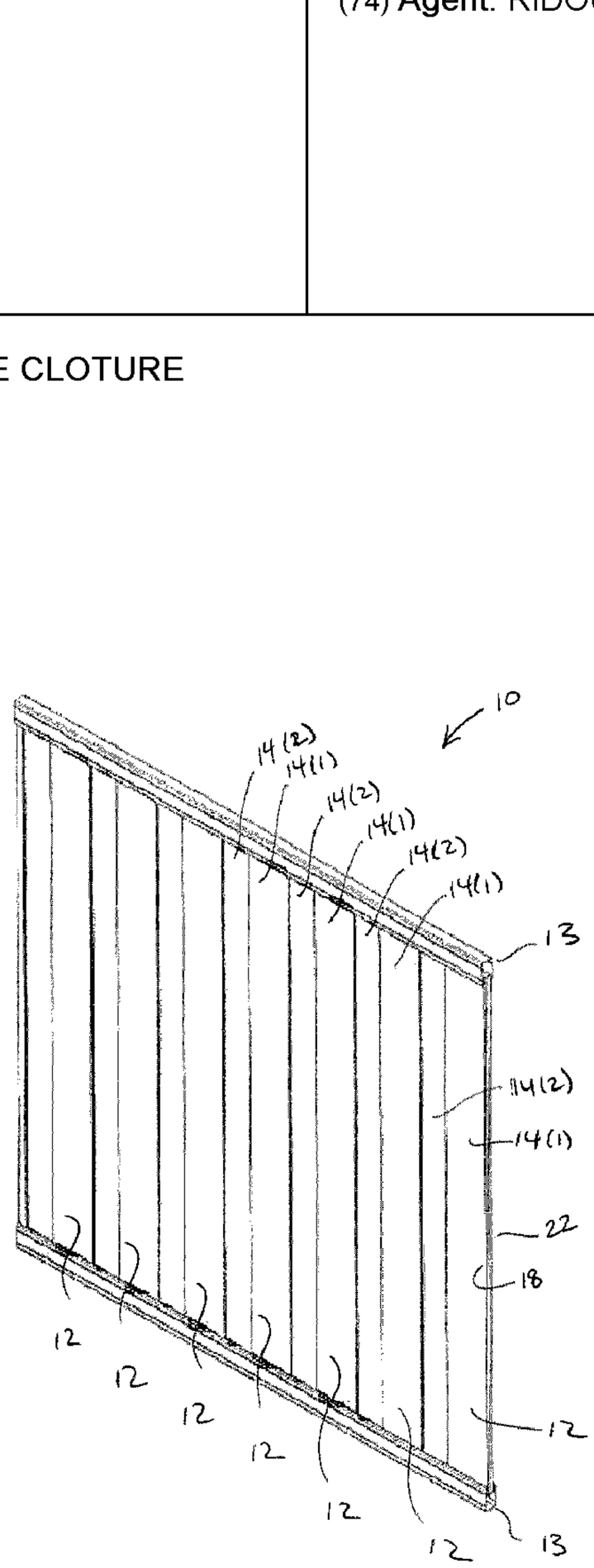
(54) Titre : SYSTEME DE PANNEAUX DE CLOTURE
(54) Title: FENCE PANEL SYSTEM



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
A modular privacy fence system, in particular, a modular privacy fence system having fence panels with a board-on-board appearance is disclosed. The fence system includes one or more fence panels having at least two fence panel portions that are

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(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):
cooperatively configured such that the fence panel portions are disposed in partial overlapping relationship such that one of the fence panel portions is offset relative to an adjacent one or ones of the fence panel portions. The fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction and may be in the form of plastic extrusions. The fence panels are configured for coupling to adjacent fence panels, the one or more fence panels being disposed between spaced apart upper and lower rails with the fence panels being connected, respectively, to the upper and lower rails.

ABSTRACT

A modular privacy fence system, in particular, a modular privacy fence system having fence panels with a board-on-board appearance is disclosed. The fence system includes one or more fence panels having at least two fence panel portions that are cooperatively configured such that the fence panel portions are disposed in partial overlapping relationship such that one of the fence panel portions is offset relative to an adjacent one or ones of the fence panel portions. The fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction and may be in the form of plastic extrusions. The fence panels are configured for coupling to adjacent fence panels, the one or more fence panels being disposed between spaced apart upper and lower rails with the fence panels being connected, respectively, to the upper and lower rails.

FENCE PANEL SYSTEM

FIELD

[0001] The present disclosure relates to modular privacy fence systems, in particular, to modular privacy fence systems having fence panels with a board-on-board appearance, and the structure and assembly of the elements of such a fence system.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Modular privacy fence systems are known and typically require assembly of a number of different components. For fence systems having a board-on-board appearance, typically, individual slats are layered in overlapping relationship to achieve the desired appearance. Assembly of these types of fence systems, therefore, requires a large number of components and can be labour intensive in order to achieve the desired appearance and privacy effect. A fence system that can achieve the board-on-board appearance and that offers increased privacy with no gaps between individual slats and that are more convenient to install is, therefore, desirable.

SUMMARY

[0003] According to one example embodiment of the present disclosure, there is provided a fence system comprising:

one or more fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0004] Reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawings which show example embodiments of the present application, and in which:

[0005] Figure 1 is an isometric view of a portion of a fence system according to an example embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0006] Figure 2 is a front or rear elevation view of the portion of the fence system of Figure 1;

[0007] Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the fence system of Figure 1 taken along section line A-A in Figure 2;

[0008] Figure 4 is an end view of the fence system of Figure 1;

[0009] Figure 5 is an exploded, perspective view of the portion of the fence system of Figure 1;

[0010] Figure 6A is a front, perspective view of one of the fence panels of the fence system shown in Figure 1;

[0011] Figure 6B is a rear, perspective view of the fence panel of Figure 6A;

[0012] Figure 7 is a top view of two adjacent, interior fence panels of the fence system of Figure 1 prior to assembly;

[0013] Figure 8 is a top view of the two adjacent, interior fence panels of Figure 7 in their assembled state;

[0014] Figure 9 is a top view of an end fence panel and an adjacent interior fence panel of the fence system of Figure 1 prior to assembly;

[0015] Figure 10 is a top view of the end fence panel and the adjacent interior fence panel of Figure 9 in their assembled state;

[0016] Figure 11 is a top view of a series of three interior fence panels in their assembled state;

[0017] Figure 12 is a top view of a two end fence panels with an interior fence panel disposed therebetween in their assembled state;

[0018] Figure 13A is a detail view of the encircled area of Figure 4 showing the lower connection system between the lower rail and the fence panels;

[0019] Figure 13B is a detail view of the upper connection system between the upper rail and the fence panels;

[0020] Figure 14 is a perspective view of the fence system of Figure 1 disposed between two fence posts;

[0021] Figure 15 is a front or rear elevation view of the fence system of Figure 14;

[0022] Figure 16 is a cross-sectional view of the fence system of Figure 15 taken along section line B-B of Figure 15;

[0023] Figure 17 is a perspective view of a fence system according to another example embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0024] Figure 18 is an exploded, perspective view of the fence system of Figure 17;

[0025] Figure 19 is a perspective view of an end portion of one of the fence panels of the fence system of Figure 17.

[0026] Similar reference numerals may have been used in different figures to denote similar components.

DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

[0027] Referring now to Figures 1-5 there is shown a portion of a privacy fence system 10 having a board-on-board appearance according to an example embodiment of the present disclosure.

[0028] The fence system 10 includes one or more fence panels 12. In some embodiments, for example, the one or more fence panels 12 are disposed between spaced apart upper and lower longitudinally extending rails 13.

[0029] In some example embodiments, the one or more fence panels 12 and the upper and lower rails 13 are made of a plastic material and, in some embodiments, the one or more fence panels 12 and the upper and lower longitudinally extending rails 13 are plastic extrusions.

[0030] Each one of the one or more fence panels 12, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions 14. The at least two fence panel portions 14 are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction.

[0031] The at least two fence panel portions 14 define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2). For each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2). Accordingly, the offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) are disposed in a partial overlapping relationship such that one

of the fence panel portions 14(1) is offset relative to the adjacent one 14(2) in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0032] For each one of the one or more fence panels 12, each one of the fence panels 12, independently, includes a first side 18 and a second side 22 opposite to the first side 18.

[0033] Referring now to Figures 6A and 6B, each one of the fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), independently, includes a respective first side surface portion 16(1), 16(2) of the first side 18 of the fence panel 12. For each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), independently, the first side surface portion 16(1) of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first side surface portion 16(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0034] The first side surface portions 16(1), 16(2) each define a first planar surface 17. The first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first planar surface 17 of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0035] The first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14(1) in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective first planar surface 17 of the second one of the fence panel portions 14(2).

[0036] In some embodiments, for example, the first planar surface 17 has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches. In some example

embodiments, the first planar surface 17 has a surface area between about 36 square inches and 480 square inches.

[0037] In some embodiments, for example, the first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first planar surface 17 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

[0038] In some embodiments, for example, the first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first planar surface 17 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

[0039] In some embodiments, for example, the first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first planar surface 17 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about 2 inches.

[0040] In some embodiments, for example, the first planar surface 17 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the first planar surface 17 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about 1/2 of an inch.

[0041] A first side fence panel longitudinal axis 19 extends between the first side surface portion 16(1) of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) and the first side surface portion 16(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), such that, the first side surface portion 16(1) of the first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis 19 relative to the first side surface portion 16(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0042] In some embodiments, for example, the first side surface portion 16(1) has a minimum length of between about 3 inches to about 5 inches, and in some embodiments, the first side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about 3 inches.

[0043] In some embodiments, for example, the first side surface portion 16(1), 16(2) has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches, and in some embodiments, the first side surface portion 16(1), 16(2) has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

[0044] The second side 22 of the one or more fence panels 12 will now be described in further detail with reference to Figure 6B. The second side 22 of the fence panel 12 is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel 12 relative to the first side 18.

[0045] Similar to the structure of the first side 18 of the one or more fence panels 12 described above, the fence panels 12 define a second side 22 opposite to the first side 18 wherein each one of the of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), independently, includes a respective second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) of the second side 22 of the fence panel 12. The second side surface portion

20(1) of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), is offset relative to the second side surface portion 20(2) of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0046] The second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) of each of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) defines a second planar surface 21. The second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2). The second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0047] In some embodiments, for example, the second planar surface 21 has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches. In some embodiments, for example, the second planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches to about 480 square inches.

[0048] In some embodiments, for example, the second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

[0049] In other embodiments, for example, the second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset

adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

[0050] In other embodiments, for example, the second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches.

[0051] In other embodiments, for example, the second planar surface 21 of a first one 14(1) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is offset relative to the second planar surface 21 of the second one 14(2) of the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

[0052] A second side fence panel longitudinal axis 23 extends between the second side surface portion 20(1) of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) and the second side surface portion 20(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), such that, the second side surface portion 20(1) of the first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is disposed on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis 23 relative to the second side surface portion 20(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0053] In some embodiments, for example, the second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) has a minimum length of at least about 3 inches.

[0054] In some embodiments, for example, the second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

[0055] In some embodiments, for example, the second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

[0056] In some embodiments, for example, the second side surface portion 20(1), 20(2) has a minimum height of at least of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

[0057] A web portion 30 extends from a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2). The web portion 30, therefore, spaces apart the first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) from the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0058] In some embodiments, for example, the web portion 30 extends from a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion 30.

[0059] In some embodiments, for example, the web portion 30 extends from a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion 30.

[0060] In some embodiments, for example, the web portion 30 extends from a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion 30.

[0061] In some embodiments, for example, the web portion 30 extends from a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

[0062] Referring to Figures 6A, 6B and 7-12, the fence panel portions 14 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) are disposed in a partial overlapping relationship. Each one of the fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), independently, has a pair of spaced apart vertically-oriented edge portions 34, 36. The offset relationship of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) relative to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is such that one of the vertically-oriented edge portions 34 of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is spaced apart from one of the vertically-oriented edge portions 34 of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0063] In some embodiments, for example, the offset relationship of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) relative to the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is such that a one of the vertically-oriented edge

portions 34, 36 of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) overlaps one of the vertically-oriented edge portions 34, 36 of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0064] In some embodiments, for example, the web portion 30 is disposed between the corresponding, overlapping vertically-oriented edge portions 34 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) of the fence panel 12. The web portion 30, therefore, in some embodiments, is inwardly disposed from the overlapping vertically-oriented edge portions 34 of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) of the fence panel 12.

[0065] Referring now to Figures 7 and 8, the one or more fence panels 12 of the fence system 10 are connected such that at least one pair of connected fence panels 12' is provided. For each pair of connected fence panels 12', independently, a first one 12(1) of the connected fence panels 12 includes a connector 40 that is coupled to a counterpart connector 40' of the second one 12(2) of the connectible fence panels 12 for effecting the connection of the pair of adjacent fence panels 12. The connection of the pair of adjacent fence panels 12 is with effect that the connected pair of fence panels 12' defines adjacent fence panels 12(1), 12(2).

[0066] The coupling of the connector 40 to the counterpart connector 40' is with effect that disconnection of the connected pair of adjacent fence panels 12 is resisted in response to the combination of: (i) a first tensile force applied to a first one 12(1) of the connected fence panels 12, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the first one 12(1) of the connected fence panels 12, and (ii) a second tensile force applied to the second one 12(2) of the connected fence panels 12, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective

longitudinal axis of the second one 12(2) of the connected fence panels 12, and in opposition to the first tensile force, as shown schematically in Figure 8 by directional arrows 25, 27.

[0067] Furthermore, in some embodiments, for example, the connector 40 and the counterpart connector 40' are cooperatively configured such that the coupling is with effect that disconnection of the connected pair of adjacent fence panels 12' is effectible in response to the combination of: (i) a first compressive force applied to a first one 12(1) of the connected fence panels 12', in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the first one 12(1) of the connected fence panels 12', and (ii) a second compressive force applied to the second one 12(2) of the connected fence panels 12, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the second one 12(2) of the connected fence panels 12, and in opposition to the first compressive force, as shown schematically in Figure 7 by directional arrows 25', 27'.

[0068] In some embodiments, for example, the coupling of the connector 40 to the counterpart connector 40' is effected by interlocking of the connector 40 and the counterpart connector 40'.

[0069] In some embodiments, for example, the connector 40 and the counterpart connector 40' are co-operatively configured such that the coupling is with effect that the fence panels 12 of the connected fence panels 12 are slidable relative to each other in a direction orthogonal, or substantially orthogonal relative to the respective longitudinal axis of either one of, or both of, the connected fence panels for effecting disconnection of the connected fence panels 12. The slidability of the fence panels 12 of the connected fence panels 12, relative to each other, is in a vertical direction.

[0070] Referring to Figure 5, the one or more fence panels 12 is a plurality of fence panels 12 such that an assembled plurality of fence panels portions 14(1), 14(2) is defined. The assembled plurality of fence panels 12 are disposed in series such that a plurality of pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is defined in the series.

[0071] In some embodiments, for example, the assembled plurality of fence panels 12 are opaque, or substantially, opaque.

[0072] The assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14 are cooperatively configured such that, for each one of the pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) in the series, a respective first side fence panel longitudinal axis 19 extends between the first side surface portion 16(1) of a first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) in the series and the first side surface portion 16(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) in the series, such that the first side surface portion 16(1) of the first one 14(1) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) in the series is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis 19 relative to the first side surface portion 16(2) of the second one 14(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) in the series.

[0073] The assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), therefore, are co-operatively disposed such that an alternating series of first side surface portions 16(1), 16(2) is provided, wherein extended first side surface portions 16(1) alternate with recessed first side surface portions 16(2).

[0074] The second side 22 of the assembled plurality of fence panels 12 is similarly structured in that the assembled plurality of fence panels 12

are cooperatively disposed such a respective second side fence panel longitudinal axis 23 extends between the second side surface portion 20(1) of a first one 14(1) of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) and the second side surface portion 20(2) of the second one 14(2) of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2), such that the second side surface portion 20(1) of the first one 14(1) of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) is disposed on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis 23 relative to the second side surface portion 20(2) of the second one 14(2) of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2).

[0075] Accordingly, the assembled plurality of fence panel portions 14(1), 14(2) are co-operatively disposed such that an alternating series of first side surface portions 16(1), 16(2) is provided, wherein extended first side surface portions 16(1) alternate with recessed first side surface portions 16(2), and an alternating series of second side surface portions 20(1), 20(2) is provided, wherein extended second side surface portions 20(2) alternate with recessed second side surface portions 20(1).

[0076] Referring now to Figures 14-16, the fence system 10 further comprises spaced-apart first and second fence posts 60. The assembled plurality of fence panels 12 is disposed between the first and second posts 60. The assembled plurality of fence panels 12 includes: a first end panel 12'' disposed at one end of the series and adjacent to one of the first and second posts 60, and a second end panel 12'' disposed at the other end of the series and adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts 60.

[0077] Referring now to Figures 12, one of the first and second end panels 12'' is a first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel. The first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel 12'' includes a first side

projection 45 extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed first side surface portion 16(2) disposed between the first side projection 45 and the other one of the first and second fence panel portions 14(1).

[0078] The adjacent disposition of the first symmetrical appearance-creating end panel 12", relative to the one of the first and second posts 60, is with effect that the first side projection 45 is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts 60. The distal end of the first side projection 45 defines a first side projection-defined surface 47 that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent first side surface portion 70 of the other one of the first and second end panels 12", wherein the post-adjacent first side surface portion 70 is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts 60.

[0079] The alignment, or substantial alignment, of the first side projection-defined surface 47 with a post-adjacent first side surface portion 70 of the other one of the first and second end panels 12", is along a vertical plane that is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the vertical plane that extends through the central longitudinal axis of the upper and/or lower longitudinally-extending rails 13, and/or such that the first side projection 45 and the post-adjacent first side surface portion 70 appear extended outwardly by the same, or about the same, extent.

[0080] In some embodiments, for example, the other one of the first and second end panels 12" is a second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel 12". The second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel includes a second side projection 45' extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed second side surface portion 20(1) disposed between the second side projection 45' and the one of the first and second end panels 12". The adjacent disposition of the second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel 12", relative to the other one of the first and second posts

60, is with effect that the second side projection 45' is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts 60. The distal end of the second side projection 45' defines a second side projection-defined surface 47' that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent second side surface portion of the one of the first and second end panels 12", wherein the post-adjacent second side surface portion 47' is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts 60.

[0081] In some embodiments, for example, the alignment, or substantial alignment, of the second side projection-defined surface 45' with a post-adjacent second side surface portion 47' of the one of the first and second end panels 12", is along a vertical plane that is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the vertical plane that extends through the central longitudinal axis of the upper and/or lower longitudinally-extending rails, and/or such that the second side projection 45' and the post-adjacent second side surface portion 47' appear extended outwardly by the same, or about the same, extent.

[0082] The assembly of the one or more fence panels 12 and the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails 13 will now be described in further detail having regard to Figures 5, and Figures 13A and 13B.

[0083] As set out above, the fence system 10 comprises spaced apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails 13, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels 12, independently, extends between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails 13. The one or more fence panels 12 are disposed within the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails 13 by

[0084] In some embodiments, for example, each one of the one or more fence panels 12, independently, is connected to the upper rail 13 and is also connected to the lower rail 13. The connection to the upper rail 13 is via

an upper connection system 80, and the connection to the lower rail is via a lower connection system 82.

[0085] In some embodiments, for example, the upper connection system 80 includes a first side connection system 81 and a second side connection system 83 wherein the first side connection system 81 includes a first upper connecting projection 50 extending from the upper rail 13, and a first side slot 48 defined within a first side 18 of the fence panel 12, wherein the first upper connecting projection 50 extends into the first side slot 48 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel relative to the upper rail 13. The second side connection system 83 includes a second upper connecting projection 50 extending from the upper rail 13, and a second side slot 48 defined within a second side 22 of the fence panel, wherein the second upper connecting projection 50 extends into the second side slot 48 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel relative to the upper rail 13.

[0086] The lower connection system 82 includes a first side connection system 84 and a second side connection system 86 wherein the first side connection system 84 includes a first lower connecting projection 50 extending from the lower rail 13, and a first side slot 48 defined within a first side of the fence panel 12, wherein the first lower connecting projection 50 extends into the first side slot 48 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel relative to the lower rail. The second side connection system 86 includes a second lower connecting projection 50 extending from the lower rail 13, and a second side slot 48 defined within a second side 22 of the fence pane 12, wherein the second lower connecting projection 50 extends into the second side slot 48 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel 12 relative to the lower rail 13.

[0087] Each one of the upper first side slot 48, the upper second side slot 48, the lower first side slot 48, and the lower second side slot 48, independently extends through a side surface portion 16(1), 20(2) that is extended relative to an adjacent recessed side surface portion 16(2), 20(1).

[0088] In some embodiments, for example, the fence panels 12 are hollow, or substantially hollow, structures defined by the spaced apart first side surface portions 16(1), 16(2) and the second side surface portions 20(1), 20(2). In some embodiments, for example, supports 33 are disposed between the spaced apart first side surface portions 16(1), 16(2) and the second side surface portions 20(1), 20(2) of the fence panels 12.

[0089] In some embodiments, for example, the upper first side slot 48, the upper second side slot 48, the lower first side slot 48, and the lower second side slot 48, are in the form of saw cuts.

[0090] In order to effect the connection between the one or more fence panels 12 and the upper and lower longitudinally extending rails 13, the fence panels 12 are slid into engagement with the upper and lower rails 13 via an open end of the rails 13 such that each one of the first upper connecting projection 50, the second upper connecting projection 50, the first lower connecting projection 50, and the second lower connecting projection 50, independently, becomes disposed within and engages the corresponding slot or saw cut 48.

[0091] In some embodiments, for example, the upper and lower rails 13 include a fence panel-receiving channel 15, the fence panel-receiving channel 15 having a base wall 90 and a pair of upstanding side walls 91. In some embodiments, for example, the fence panel-receiving channel 15 defines a fence panel-receiving channel entrance 52 disposed orthogonally, or substantially orthogonally, relative to a longitudinal axis of the upper or

lower rail 13, wherein the one or more fence panels 12 are disposed within the fence panel-receiving channel 15 via the fence panel-receiving channel entrance 52. The fence panel-receiving channel entrance 52, therefore, being defined by the open end of the rail 13.

[0092] In some embodiments, for example, the projections 50 extend into the fence panel-receiving channel 15 from respective sidewalls 91, the upper first side slot 48, the upper second side slot 48, the lower first side slot 48, and the lower second side slot 48 engaging the corresponding projection 50 while the fence panels 12 are disposed within the fence panel-receiving channel 15 via the fence panel-receiving channel entrance 52 and slid along the longitudinal axis of the fence panel-receiving channel 15.

[0093] In some embodiments, for example, the connection between the one or more fence panels 12 and the upper and lower longitudinally extending rails 13 is such that while the one or more fence panels 12 are disposed within the fence panel-receiving channel 15, the assembled one or more fence panels 12 are slidable relative to the upper and lower rails 13 along a longitudinal axis of the rails 13, and resistance to removal of the assembled one or more fence panels 12 from the fence panel-receiving channel 15 in a direction orthogonal, or substantially orthogonal, relative the longitudinal axis of the rails 13 is effected by interaction between the projections 50 and the first and second slots 48.

[0094] Referring now to Figures 17-19, there is shown another embodiment of the fence system 100 according to an example embodiment of the present disclosure.

[0095] In the subject example embodiment, the one or more fence panels 112 are similarly structured to the fence panels 12 described above in connection with the previously described example embodiments wherein like

features have been identified with similar reference numerals increased by a factor of 100.

[0096] In the subject example embodiment, rather than having upper and lower rails 13 with identical, or substantially identical, upper and lower connection systems 80, 82 as described above in connection with the previously described example embodiments, the fence system 100 includes a lower rail 170 having a lower connection system 182 that includes an interference member 174 extending from the lower rail 170.

[0097] The fence panels 112 include an interference member-receiving slot 176 extending through a bottom surface 178 of the fence panel 112 and disposed between respective fence panel portions 114(1), 114(2) of at least a one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 114(1), 114(2).

[0098] In some embodiments, for example, the interference member-receiving slot 176 extends through the web portion 130 the extends between the first fence panel portion 114(1) and the second fence panel portion 114(2) of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions 114(1), 114(2).

[0099] While the one or more fence panels 112 are disposed on the lower rail 170 so as to effect the connection between the one or more fence panels 112 and the lower rail 170, the interference member 174 extends through the interference member-receiving slot 176 such that lateral movement of the fence panel 112, relative to the lower rail 170, is prevented or substantially prevented.

[00100] In some embodiments, for example, the height of the interference member 174 is at least at least about 1/16 of an inch.

[00101] In some embodiments, for example, the height of the interference member 174 is at least at least about one (1) inch.

[00102] In some embodiments, for example, the height of the interference member 174 is between about 1/16 of an inch and about three (3) inches.

[00103] In some embodiments, for example, the height of the interference member 174 is between about is between about one (1) inch and about 1-1/2 inches.

[00104] In some embodiments, for example, the length of the interference member 174 is at least at least about 24 inches.

[00105] In some embodiments, for example, the length of the interference member 174 is between about 24 inches and about 96 inches.

[00106] In some embodiments, for example, while the one or more fence panels 112 are disposed on the lower rail 170 so as to effect the connection between the fence panels 112 and the lower connection system 182, the one or more fence panels 112 are slidable relative to the lower rail 170 in a direction parallel, or substantially parallel, to the longitudinal axis of the lower rail 170.

[00107] In some embodiments, for example, while the one or more fence panels 112 are disposed on the lower rail 170 so as to effect the connection between the fence panels 112 and the lower connection system 182, removal of the one or more fence panels 112 from the lower rail 170 in a direction orthogonal, or substantially orthogonal, relative to the longitudinal axis of the lower rail 170 is permitted.

[00108] In some embodiments, for example, the upper connection system 180 of the fence system 100 is similar in structure to the upper connection system 80 described above in connection with the previously described fence system 10. Accordingly, the upper connection system 180 includes a first side connection system 181 and a second side connection system 183 wherein the first side connection system 181 includes a first upper connecting projection 150 extending from the upper rail 113, and a first side slot 148 defined within a first side 118 of the fence panel 112, wherein the first upper connecting projection 150 extends into the first side slot 148. In some embodiments, for example, the first upper connecting projection 150 extends into the first side slot 148 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel 112 relative to the upper rail 113.

[00109] The second side connection system 182 includes a second upper connecting projection 150 extending from the upper rail 113, and a second side slot 148 defined within a second side 122 of the fence panel 112, wherein the second upper connecting projection 150 extends into the second side slot 148. In some embodiments, for example, the second upper connecting projection 150 extends into the second side slot 148 for preventing, or substantially preventing, vertical movement of the fence panel 112 relative to the upper rail 113.

[00110] In accordance with some example embodiments, the fence system 10, 100 is provided in the form of a kit for assembly of a fence. In some embodiments, for example, the kit includes any one of the example embodiments of the fence panels 12, 112, upper and lower rails 13, 113, 170 and fence posts 60 for assembly a fence.

While various example embodiments have been described, it will be understood that certain adaptations and modifications of the described

embodiments can be made. Therefore, the above discussed embodiments are considered to be illustrative and not restrictive.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fence system, comprising:

one or more fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction.

2. A fence system, comprising:

one or more plastic fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

3. A fence system, comprising:

one or more fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the one or more fence panels are plastic extrusions.

4. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3;

wherein the fence panel portions are disposed in series.

5. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein:

each one of the fence panels, independently, includes a first side;

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective first side surface portion of the first side of the fence panel; and

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

6. The fence system as claimed in claim 5;

wherein:

the first side surface portion is defined by a first planar surface; and

the first planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

7. The fence system as claimed in claim 6;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of the offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

8. The fence system as claimed in claim 6 or 7;

wherein the first planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

9. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

10. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

11. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel

portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about 2 inches.

12. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

13. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 12, wherein:

a first side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions, such that, the first side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

14. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 13, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

15. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 13, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

16. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 15, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about

12 inches.

17. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 15, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

18. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 17;

wherein:

each one of the fence panels, independently, includes a second side, wherein the second side of the fence panel is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel relative to the first side;

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective second side surface portion of the second side of the fence panel; and

the second side surface portion of a first one of the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

19. The fence system as claimed in claim 18;

wherein:

the second side surface portion defines a second planar surface; and

the second planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

20. The fence system as claimed in claim 19;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or

substantially parallel, to the respective second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

21. The fence system as claimed in claim 19 or 20;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

22. The fence system as claimed in claim 19 or 20;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

23. The fence system as claimed in any one claims 19 to 22;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

24. The fence system as claimed in any one claims 19 to 22;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

25. The fence system as claimed in any one claims 19 to 22;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches.

26. The fence system as claimed in any one claims 19 to 22;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

27. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 26, wherein:

a second side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the second side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, such that, the second side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

28. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 27, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

29. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 27, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

30. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 29, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

31. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 29, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

32. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 31, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

33. The fence system as claimed in claim 32;

wherein the web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

34. The fence system as claimed in claim 32;

wherein the web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

35. The fence system as claimed in claim 32;

wherein the web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

36. The fence system as claimed in claim 32;

wherein the web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

37. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 36;

wherein the offset of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is such that the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is recessed relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

38. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 37;

wherein the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, are disposed in a partial overlapping relationship.

39. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 38;

wherein:

the one or more fence panels are connected such that at least one pair of connected fence panels is provided;

for each pair of connected fence panels, independently, a first one of the connected fence panels includes a connector that is coupled to a counterpart connector of the second one of the connectible fence panels for effecting the connection of the pair of adjacent fence panels; and

the connection is with effect that the connected pair of fence panels defines adjacent fence panels.

40. The fence system as claimed in claim 39, wherein:

the coupling of the connector to the counterpart connector is with effect that disconnection of the connected pair of adjacent fence

panels, in response to the combination of: (i) a first tensile force applied to a first one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the first one of the connected fence panels, and (ii) a second tensile force applied to the second one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the second one of the connected fence panels, and in opposition to the first tensile force, is resisted.

41. The fence system as claimed in claim 39 or 40;

wherein coupling of the connector and the counterpart is effected by interlocking of the connector and the counterpart connector.

42. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 41; wherein:

the one or more fence panels is a plurality of fence panels such that an assembled plurality of fence panel portions is defined; and

the assembled plurality of fence panels are disposed in series.

43. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 17; wherein:

the one or more fence panels is a plurality of fence panels such that an assembled plurality of fence panel portions is defined;

the assembled plurality of fence panels are disposed in series such that a plurality of pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions is defined in the series; and

the assembled plurality of fence panels are cooperatively configured such that, for each one of the pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions in the series , a respective first side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions in the series and the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent

fence panel portions in the series, such that the first side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions in the series is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions in the series.

44. The fence system as claimed in claim 43, wherein:

the assembled plurality of fence panel portions are co-operatively disposed such that an alternating series of first side surface portions are provided, wherein extended first side surface portions alternate with recessed first side surface portions.

45. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 31, wherein:

the one or more fence panels is a plurality of fence panels such that an assembled plurality of fence panel portions is defined;

the assembled plurality of fence panels are disposed in series such that a plurality of pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions is defined in the series; and

the assembled plurality of fence panels are cooperatively configured such that, for each one of the pairs of offset adjacent fence panel portions in the series:

a respective first side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the first side surface portion of a first one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions and the first side surface portion of the second one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions, such that the first side surface portion of the first one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the first side surface

portion of the second one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions; and

a respective second side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the second side surface portion of a first one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions and the second side surface portion of the second one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions, such that the second side surface portion of the first one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the adjacent ones of the assembled plurality of fence panel portions.

46. The fence system as claimed in claim 45; wherein:

the assembled plurality of fence panel portions are co-operatively disposed such that:

an alternating series of first side surface portions is provided, wherein extended first side surface portions alternate with recessed first side surface portions; and

an alternating series of second side surface portions is provided, wherein extended second side surface portions alternate with recessed second side surface portions.

47. The fence system as claimed in claim 43 or 44, further comprising:

spaced-apart first and second posts;

wherein:

the assembled plurality of fence panels is disposed between the first and second posts;

the assembled plurality of fence panels includes:

a first end panel disposed at one end of the series and adjacent to one of the first and second posts;

a second end panel disposed at the other end of the series and adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts;

wherein:

a one of the first and second end panels is a first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel;

the first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel includes a first side projection extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed first side surface portion disposed between the first side projection and the other one of the first and second end panels;

the adjacent disposition of the first symmetrical appearance-creating end panel, relative to the one of the first and second posts, is with effect that the first side projection is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts; and

the outermost surface of the first side projection defines a first side projection-defined surface that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent first side surface portion of the other one of the first and second end panels, wherein the post-adjacent first side surface portion is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts.

48. The fence system as claimed in claim 47;

wherein the alignment, or substantial alignment, of the first side projection-defined surface with a post-adjacent first side surface portion of the other one of the first and second end panels, is along a vertical plane.

49. The fence system as claimed in claim 47 or 48;

wherein:

the other one of the first and second end panels is a second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel;

the second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel includes a second side projection extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed second side surface portion disposed between the second side projection and the one of the first and second end panels;

the adjacent disposition of the second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel, relative to the other one of the first and second posts, is with effect that the second side projection is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts; and

the outermost surface of the second side projection defines a second side projection-defined surface that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent second side surface portion of the one of the first and second end panels, wherein the post-adjacent second side surface portion is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts.

50. The fence system as claimed in claim 49;

wherein the alignment, or substantial alignment, of the second side projection-defined surface with a post-adjacent second side surface portion of the one of the first and second end panels, is along a vertical plane.

51. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 50, further comprising:

spaced-apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, extends between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails.

52. The fence system as claimed in claim 51, wherein:

each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, is connected to the upper rail and is also connected to the lower rail.

53. The fence system as claimed in claim 52;

wherein:

the connection to the upper rail is via an upper connection system; and

the connection to the lower rail is via a lower connection system.

54. The fence system as claimed in claim 53;

wherein:

the upper connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

wherein:

the first side connection system includes a first upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a first side slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first upper connecting projection extends into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second upper connecting projection extends into the second side slot;

and

the lower connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

wherein:

the first side connection system includes a first lower connecting projection extending from the lower rail, and a first side slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first lower connecting projection extends into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second lower connecting projection extending from the lower rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second lower connecting projection extends into the second side slot.

55. The fence system as claimed in claim 54;

wherein, relative to the second side of the fence panel, the first side of the fence panel is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel.

56. The fence system as claimed in claim 54 or 55;

wherein each one of the first upper connecting projection, the second upper connecting projection, the first lower connecting projection, and the second lower connecting projection, independently, is biased into extension into the corresponding slot.

57. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 54 to 56;

wherein each one of the upper first side slot, the upper second side slot, the lower first side slot, and the lower second side slot, independently, extends through a side surface portion that is extended relative to an adjacent recessed side surface portion.

58. The fence system as claimed in claim 57;

wherein the lower connection system includes:

an interference member extending from the lower rail;

an interference member-receiving slot extending through a bottom surface of the fence panel and disposed between respective fence panel portions of at least a one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the interference member extends through the interference member-receiving slot.

59. The fence system as claimed in claim 58;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about 1/16 of an inch.

60. The fence system as claimed in claim 58;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about one (1) inch.

61. The fence system as claimed in claim 58;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about 1/16 of an inch and about three (3) inches.

62. The fence system as claimed in claim 58;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about one (1) inch and about 1-1/2 inches.

63. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 58 to 62;

wherein the length of the interference member is at least about 24 inches.

64. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 58 to 62;

wherein the length of the interference member is between about 24 inches and about 96 inches.

65. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 58 to 64;

wherein:

the upper connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

the first side connection system includes a first upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a first side

slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first upper connecting projection extends into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second upper connecting projection extends into the second side slot.

66. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 48 to 65; wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the interference member-receiving slot extends through a portion of the web portion.

67. A kit for assembling a fence system, comprising

a plurality of fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions; and

spaced-apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails, wherein each one of the fence panels, independently, is connectable to both of the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails such that the fence panels extend between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction.

68. A kit for assembling a fence system, comprising

a plurality of plastic fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions; and

spaced-apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails, wherein each one of the fence panels, independently, is connectable to both of the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails such that the fence panels extend between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

69. A kit for assembling a fence system, comprising

a plurality of fence panels, wherein each one of the one or more fence panels, independently, includes at least two fence panel portions; and

spaced-apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails, wherein each one of the fence panels, independently, is connectable to both of the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails such that the fence panels extend between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the one or more fence panels are plastic extrusions.

70. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 69, wherein:

each one of the fence panels, independently, includes a first side;

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective first side surface portion of the first side of the fence panel; and

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

71. The kit as claimed in claim 70;

wherein:

the first side surface portion is defined by a first planar surface; and

the first planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

72. The kit as claimed in claim 71;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of the offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or

substantially parallel, to the respective first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

73. The kit as claimed in claim 71 or 72;

the first planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

74. The kit as claimed in claim 71 or 72;

the first planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

75. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 71 to 74;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

76. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 71 to 75;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

77. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 71 to 75;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about 2 inches.

78. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 71 to 75;

wherein the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

79. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 78, wherein:

a first side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions, such that, the first side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

80. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 79, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

81. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 79, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

82. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 81, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

83. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 81, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of between about

12 inches and about 96 inches.

84. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 70 to 83;

wherein:

each one of the fence panels, independently, includes a second side, wherein the second side of the fence panel is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel relative to the first side;

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective second side surface portion of the second side of the fence panel; and

the second side surface portion of a first one of the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

85. The kit as claimed in claim 84;

wherein:

the second side surface portion defines a second planar surface; and

the second planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

86. The kit as claimed in claim 85;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

87. The kit as claimed in claim 85 or 86;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

88. The kit as claimed in claim 85 or 86;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

89. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 85 to 88;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

90. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 85 to 88;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

91. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 85 to 88;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches.

92. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 85 to 88;

the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of

the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

93. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 84 to 92, wherein:

a second side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the second side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, such that, the second side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

94. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 84 to 93, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

95. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 84 to 93, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and five (5) inches.

96. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 84 to 95, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

97. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 84 to 95, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

98. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 97, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent

fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

99. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 97, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

100. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 97, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

101. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 97, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

102. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 97;

wherein the offset of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is such that the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is recessed relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

103. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 102;

wherein the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, are disposed in a partial overlapping relationship.

104. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 103;

wherein:

the one or more fence panels are connectible for obtaining at least one pair of connected fence panels;

for each pair of connected fence panels, independently, a first one of the connected fence panels includes a connector that is coupled to a counterpart connector of the second one of the connectible fence panels for effecting the connection of the pair of adjacent fence panels; and

the connection is with effect that the connected pair of fence panels defines adjacent fence panels.

105. The kit as claimed in claim 104, wherein:

the coupling of the connector to the counterpart connector is with effect that disconnection of the connected pair of adjacent fence panels, in response to the combination of: (i) a first tensile force applied to a first one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the first one of the connected fence panels, and (ii) a second tensile force applied to the second one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the second one of the connected fence panels, and in opposition to the first tensile force, is resisted.

106. The kit as claimed in claim 105, wherein:

the connector and the counterpart connector are co-operatively configured such that the coupling is with effect that the fence panels of the connected fence panels are slidable relative to each other, in a direction orthogonal, or substantially orthogonal, relative to the respective longitudinal axis of either one of, or both of, the connected fence panels for effecting disconnection of the connected fence panels.

107. The kit as claimed in claim 106;

wherein the slidability of the fence panels of the connected fence panels, relative to each other, is in a vertical direction.

108. The kit as claimed in claim 105 or 106;

wherein the connector and the counterpart connector are co-operatively configured such that the coupling is with effect that disconnection of the connected pair of adjacent fence panels, in response to the combination of: (i) a first compressive force applied to a first one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the first one of the connected fence panels, and (ii) a second compressive force applied to the second one of the connected fence panels, in a direction parallel to, or substantially parallel to, the respective longitudinal axis of the second one of the connected fence panels, and in opposition to the first compressive force, is effectible.

109. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 104 to 108;

wherein coupling of the connector and the counterpart is effected by interlocking of the connector and the counterpart connector.

110. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 109, further comprising:

spaced-apart first and second posts;

wherein:

the plurality of fence panels are configured to be assembled in series between the first and second posts;

the assembled plurality of fence panels includes:

a first end panel disposed adjacent to one of the first and second posts;

a second end panel disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts;

wherein:

a one of the first and second end panels is a first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel;

the first side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel includes a first side projection extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed first side surface portion disposed between the first side projection and the other one of the first and second end panels;

the adjacent disposition of the first symmetrical appearance-creating end panel, relative to the one of the first and second posts, is with effect that the first side projection is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts; and

the outermost surface of the first side projection defines a first side projection-defined surface that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent first side surface portion of the other one of the first and second end panels, wherein the post-adjacent first side surface portion is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts.

111. The kit as claimed in claim 110;

wherein the alignment, or substantial alignment, of the first side projection-defined surface with a post-adjacent first side surface portion of the other one of the first and second end panels, is along a vertical plane.

112. The kit as claimed in claim 110 or 111;

wherein:

the other one of the first and second end panels is a second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel;

the second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel includes a second side projection extending laterally outwardly relative to an adjacent recessed second side surface portion disposed between the second side projection and the one of the first and second end panels;

the adjacent disposition of the second side symmetrical appearance-creating end panel, relative to the other one of the first and second posts, is with effect that the second side projection is disposed adjacent to the other one of the first and second posts; and

the outermost surface of the second side projection defines a second side projection-defined surface that is aligned, or substantially aligned, with a post-adjacent second side surface portion of the one of the first and second end panels, wherein the post-adjacent second side surface portion is disposed adjacent to the one of the first and second posts.

113. The kit as claimed in claim 112;

wherein the alignment, or substantial alignment, of the second side projection-defined surface with a post-adjacent second side surface portion of the one of the first and second end panels, is along a vertical plane.

114. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 67 to 113;

wherein:

the connection of the fence panel to the upper rail is via an upper connection system; and

the connection of the fence panel to the lower rail is via a lower

connection system.

115. The kit as claimed in claim 114;

wherein:

the upper connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

wherein:

the first side connection system includes a first upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a first side slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first upper connecting projection is configured for extending into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second upper connecting projection is configured for extending into the second side slot;

and

the lower connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

wherein:

the first side connection system includes a first lower connecting projection extending from the lower rail, and a first side slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first lower connecting projection is configured for extending into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second lower connecting projection extending from the lower rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second lower connecting projection is configured for extending into the

second side slot.

116. The kit as claimed in claim 115;

wherein, relative to the second side of the fence panel, the first side of the fence panel is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel.

117. The kit as claimed in claim 115 or 116;

wherein each one of the first upper connecting projection, the second upper connecting projection, the first lower connecting projection, and the second lower connecting projection, independently, is biased into extension into the corresponding slot.

118. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 115 to 117;

wherein each one of the upper first side slot, the upper second side slot, the lower first side slot, and the lower second side slot, independently, extends through a side surface portion that is extended relative to an adjacent recessed side surface portion.

119. The kit as claimed in claim 114;

wherein the lower connection system includes:

an interference member extending from the lower rail;

an interference member-receiving slot extending through a bottom surface of the fence panel and disposed between respective fence panel portions of at least a one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the interference member is configured for extending into the interference member-receiving slot.

120. The kit as claimed in claim 119;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about 1/16 of an inch.

121. The kit as claimed in claim 119;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about 1/16 of an inch and about three (3) inches.

122. The kit as claimed in claim 119;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about one (1) inch.

123. The kit as claimed in claim 119;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about one (1) inch and about 1-1/2 inches.

124. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 119 to 123;

wherein the length of the interference member is at least about 24 inches.

125. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 119 to 123;

wherein the length of the interference member is between about 24 inches and about 96 inches.

126. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 119 to 125;

wherein the upper connection system includes a first side connection system and a second side connection system;

wherein:

the first side connection system includes a first upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a first side slot defined within a first side of the fence panel, wherein the first upper connecting projection extends into the first side slot; and

the second side connection system includes a second upper connecting projection extending from the upper rail, and a second side slot defined within a second side of the fence panel, wherein the second upper connecting projection is configured for extending into the second side slot.

127. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 119 to 126;

wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the interference member-receiving slot extends through a portion of the web portion.

128. A fence panel comprising:

at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the fence panel portions are formed within a unitary, one-piece construction.

129. A plastic fence panel comprising:

at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

130. A fence panel, comprising:

at least two fence panel portions;

wherein:

the at least two fence panel portions define at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions;

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions; and

the fence panel is a plastic extrusion.

131. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 130, further comprising:

a first side;

wherein:

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective first side surface portion of the first side of the fence panel; and

for each one of the at least one pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

132. The fence panel as claimed in claim 131;

wherein:

the first side surface portion is defined by a first planar surface; and

the first planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

133. The fence panel as claimed in claim 132;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of the offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

134. The fence panel as claimed in claim 132 or 133;

the first planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

135. The fence panel as claimed in claim 132 or 133;

the first planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

136. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 135;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

137. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 135;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

138. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 135;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches.

139. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 135;

the first planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the first planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about 1/2 of an inch.

140. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 139, wherein:

a first side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the first side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions, such that, the first side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent ones of the fence panel portions is disposed on an opposite side of the first side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the first side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

141. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 140, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

142. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 140, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

143. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 142, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

144. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 142, wherein:

the first side surface portion has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.'

145. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 132 to 144;

wherein:

each one of the fence panels, independently, includes a second side, wherein the second side of the fence panel is disposed on an opposite side of the fence panel relative to the first side;

each one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, independently, includes a respective second side surface portion of the second side of the fence panel; and

the second side surface portion of a first one of the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

146. The fence panel as claimed in claim 145;

wherein:

the second side surface portion defines a second planar surface; and

the second planar surface of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

147. The fence panel as claimed in claim 146;

wherein the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions in the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is parallel, or substantially parallel, to the respective second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

148. The fence panel as claimed in claim 146 or 147;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of at least about 36 square inches.

149. The fence panel as claimed in claim 146 or 147;

wherein the second planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

150. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 146 to 149;

wherein the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch.

151. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 146 to 149;

wherein the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch.

152. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 146 to 149;

wherein the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches.

153. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 146 to 149;

wherein the second planar surface, of a first one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, is offset relative to the second planar surface of the second one of the fence panel portions of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch.

154. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 145 to 153, wherein:

a second side fence panel longitudinal axis extends between the second side surface portion of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions and the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, such that, the second side surface portion of the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is disposed

on an opposite side of the second side fence panel longitudinal axis relative to the second side surface portion of the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

155. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 145 to 154, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of at least about three (3) inches.

156. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 145 to 154, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum length of between about three (3) inches and about five (5) inches.

157. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 145 to 156, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of at least about 12 inches.

158. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 145 to 156, wherein:

the second side surface portion has a minimum height of between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

159. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 158, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 1/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

160. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 158, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of at least about 3/8 of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

161. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 158, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 1/8 of an inch and about two (2) inches, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

162. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 158, wherein:

a web portion extends from a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions by a minimum distance of between about 3/8 of an inch and about ½ of an inch, as measured along a longitudinal axis of the web portion.

163. The fence panels as claimed in any one of claims 128 to 162;

wherein the offset of a first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is such that the first one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions is recessed relative to the second one of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions.

164. The fence panel as claimed in any one of claims 127 to 163;

wherein the fence panel portions, of the pair of offset adjacent fence panel portions, are disposed in a partial overlapping relationship.

165. A kit, comprising:

a fence panel including at two adjacent fence panel portions that are offset relative to one another;

a longitudinally extending rail;

an interference member extending from the rail;

and

an interference member-receiving slot extending through a bottom surface of the fence panel and disposed between the fence panel portions;

wherein the interference member is configured for extending into the interference member-receiving slot.

166. The kit as claimed in claim 165;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about 1/16 of an inch.

167. The kit as claimed in claim 165;

wherein the height of the interference member is at least about one (1) inch.

168. The kit as claimed in claim 165;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about 1/16 of an inch and about three (3) inches.

169. The kit as claimed in claim 165;

wherein the height of the interference member is between about one (1) inch and about 1-1/2 inches.

170. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 169;

wherein the length of the interference member is at least about 12 inches.

171. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 169;

wherein the length of the interference member is between about 12 inches and about 96 inches.

172. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 42 to 50;

wherein the assembled plurality of fence panels defines an opaque, or substantially opaque, surface.

173. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 42 to 50;

wherein the assembled plurality of fence panels is with effect that the fence system defines a privacy fence.

174. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 110 to 113;

wherein the assembled plurality of fence panels defines an opaque, or substantially opaque, surface.

175. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 110 to 113;

wherein the assembled plurality of fence panels are co-operatively disposed such that a privacy fence is defined.

176. The fence system as claimed in claim 6 or 7;

wherein the first planar surface has a surface area of between about 36 square inches and about 480 square inches.

177. A fence system comprising:

a side surface defined by a plurality of plastic fence panel portions, each one of the plastic fence panel portions, independently, including a side surface portion of the side surface;

wherein:

the plastic fence panel portions are co-operatively disposed such that an alternating series of side surface portions are provided, wherein extended side surface portions alternate with recessed side surface portions.

178. The fence system as claimed in claim 177, wherein

the plurality of plastic fence panel portions is at least six (6) plastic fence panel portions.

179. The fence system as claimed in claim 177, wherein

the plurality of plastic fence panel portions is at least ten (10) plastic fence panel portions.

180. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 177 to 179, further comprising:

spaced-apart upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails, wherein each one of the plastic fence panel portions, independently, extends between the upper and lower longitudinally-extending rails.

181. The fence system as claimed in claim 180, wherein:

each one of the plastic fence panel portions, independently, is connected to the upper rail and is also connected to the lower rail.

182. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 177 to 181;

wherein the plastic fence panel portions define an opaque, or substantially opaque, surface.

183. The fence system as claimed in any one of claims 177 to 181;

wherein the plastic fence panel portions are co-operatively disposed with effect that the fence system defines a privacy fence.

184. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 171;

wherein the slot and the interference member are co-operatively configured such that the length of the interference member is at least about 35% of the length of the fence panel.

185. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 171;

wherein the slot and the interference member are co-operatively configured such that the length of the interference member is at least about 50% of the length of the fence panel.

186. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 171;

wherein the slot and the interference member are co-operatively configured such that the length of the interference member is at least about 75% of the length of the fence panel.

187. The kit as claimed in any one of claims 165 to 171;

wherein the slot and the interference member are co-operatively configured such that the length of the interference member is at least about 100% of the length of the fence panel.

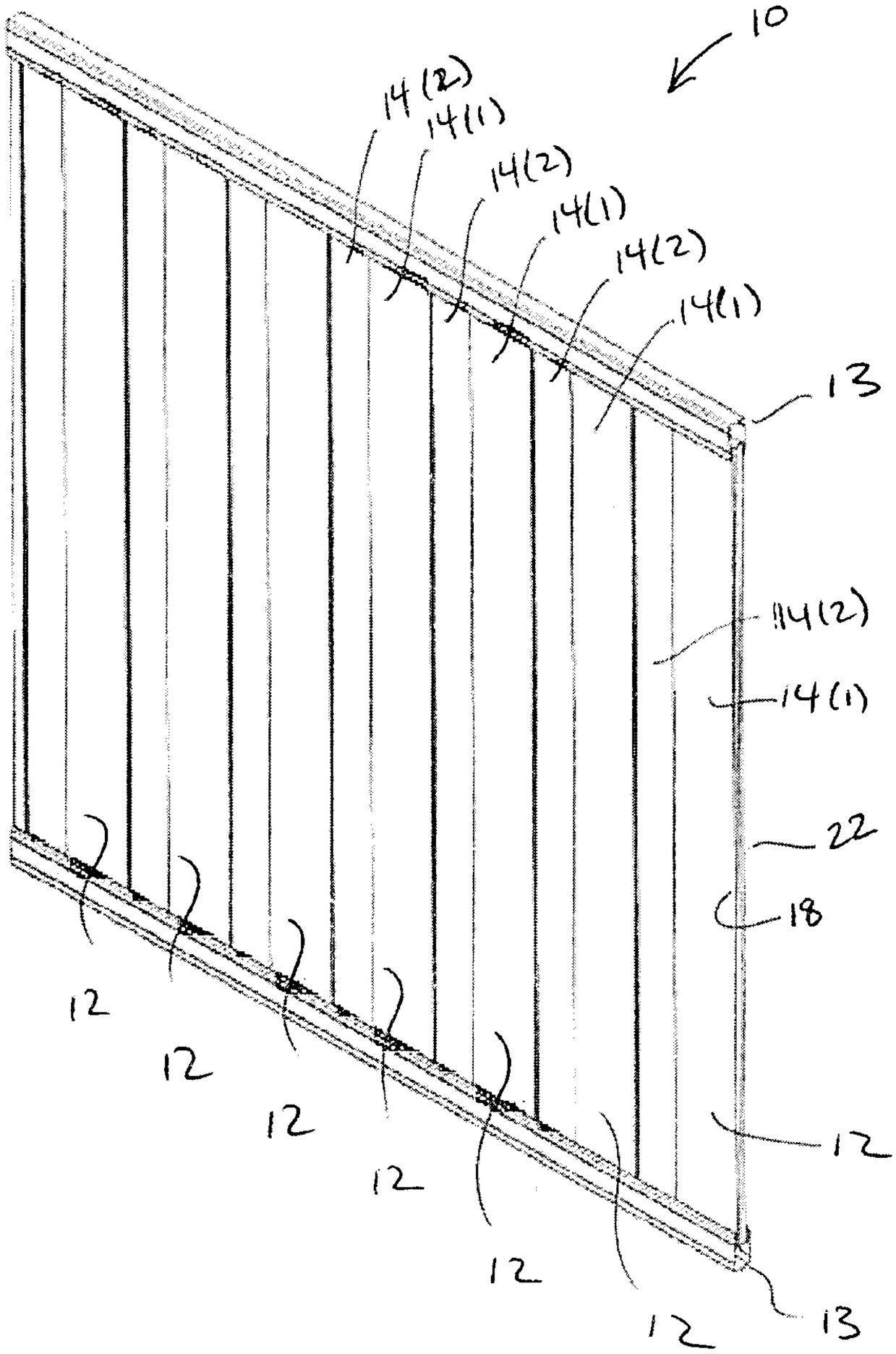


FIG. 1

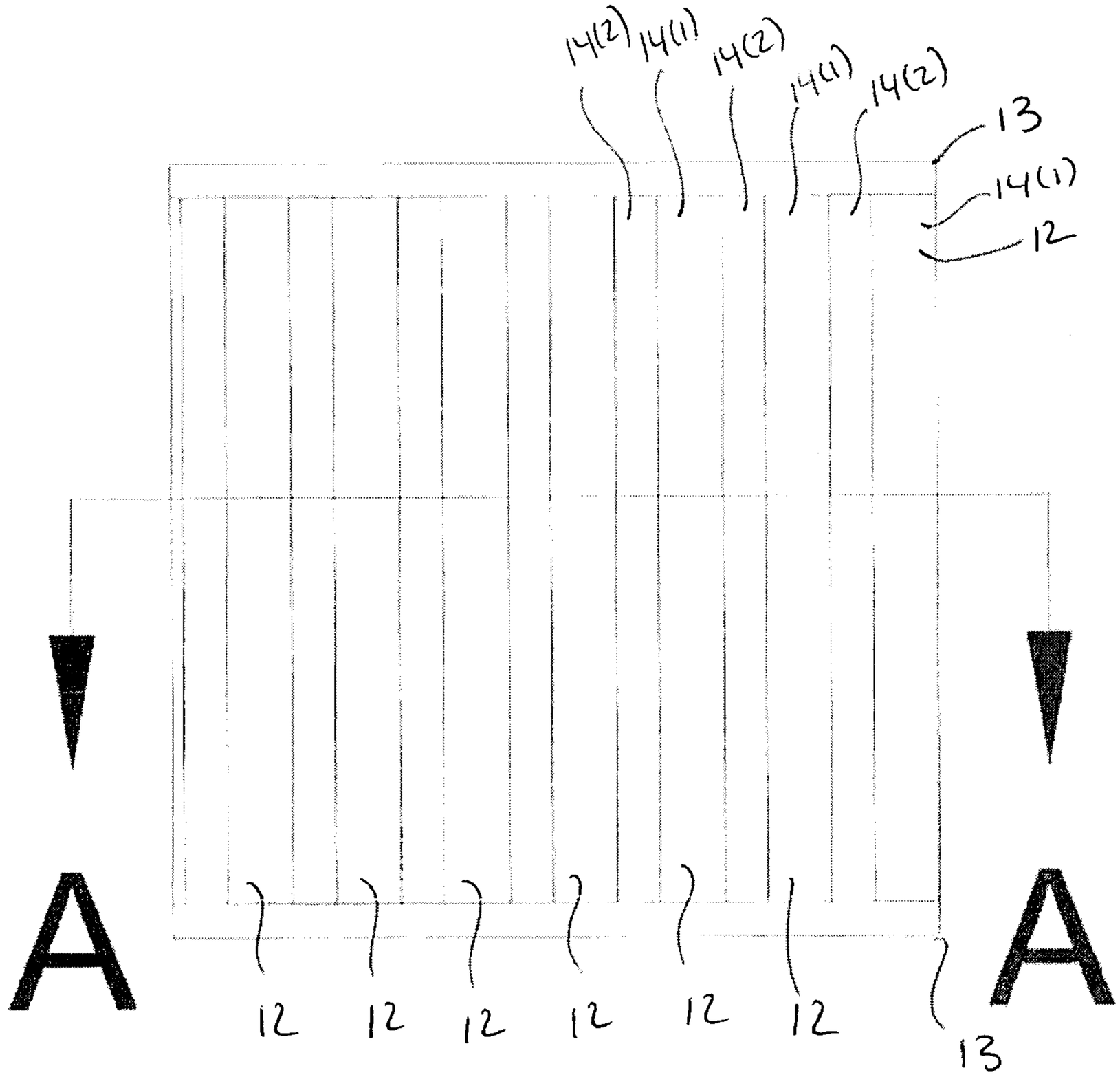
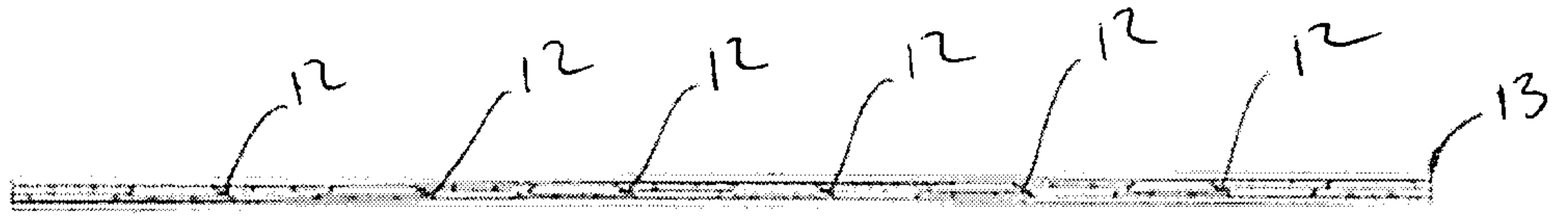


FIG. 2



Section A - A

FIG. 3

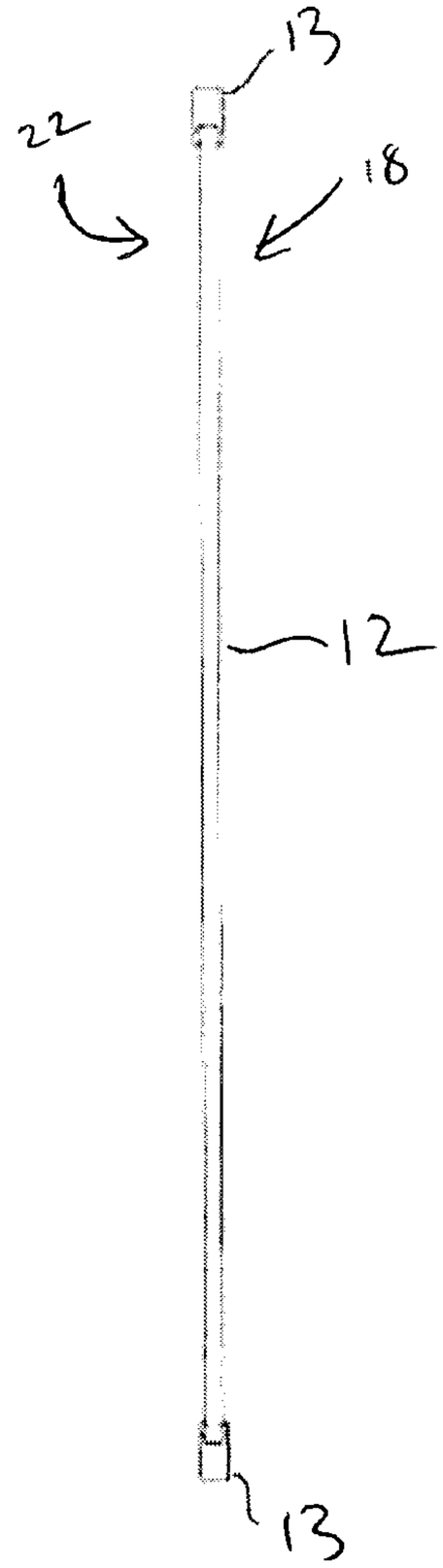


FIG. 4

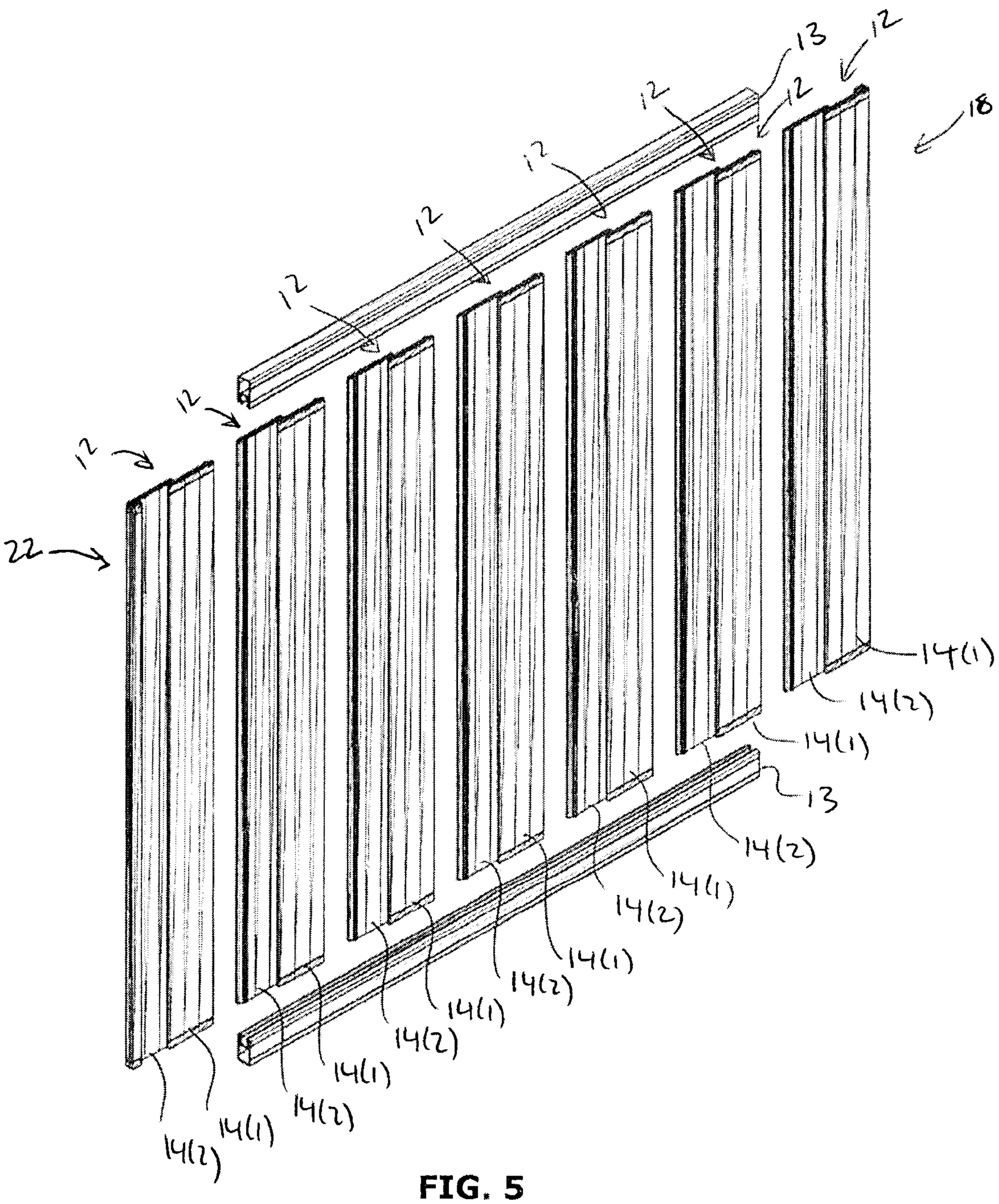

13
12
12
12
12
12
12
12
12
18
22
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
13
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
14(2)

FIG. 5

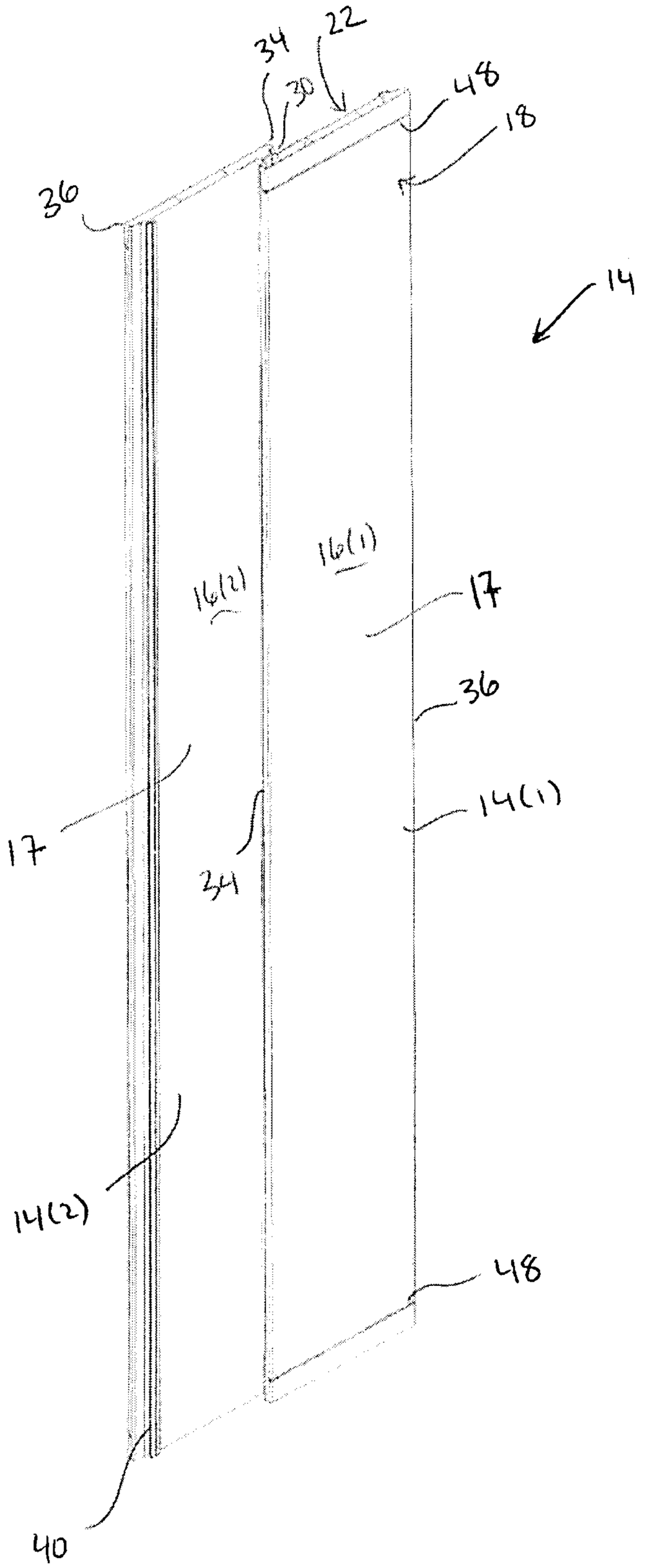


FIG. 6A

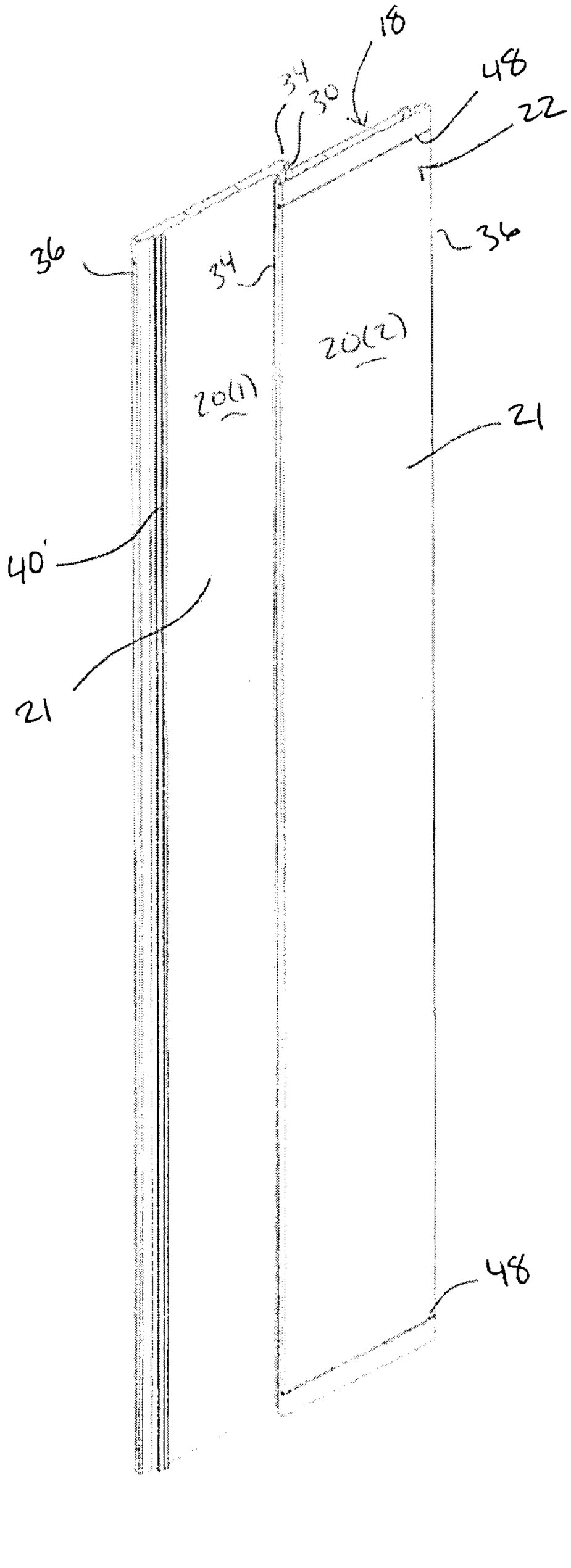


FIG. 6B

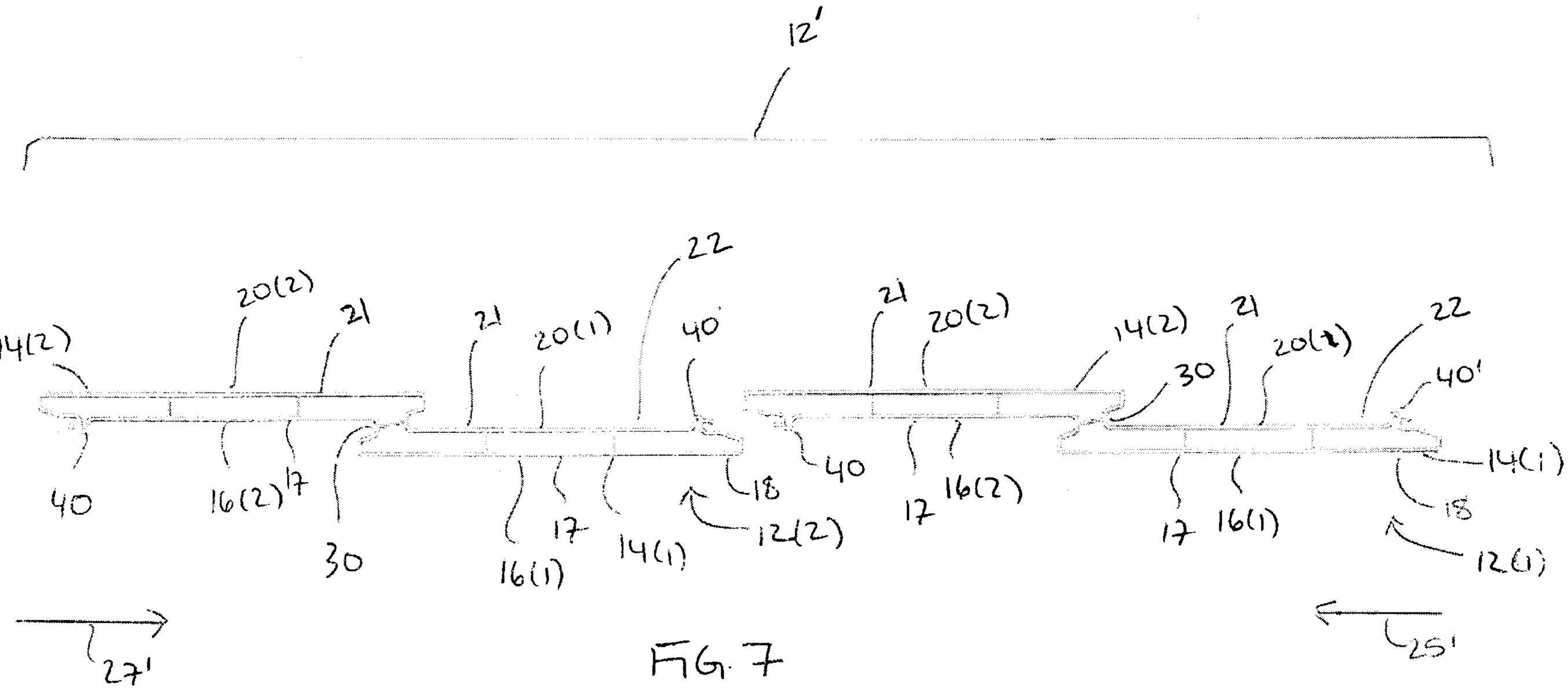

12'
14(2)
20(2)
21
21
20(1)
22
40'
21
20(2)
14(2)
30
21
20(2)
22
40'
14(1)
40
16(2)
17
30
16(1)
17
14(1)
18
12(2)
40
17
16(2)
17
16(1)
18
12(1)
27'
25'

FIG. 7

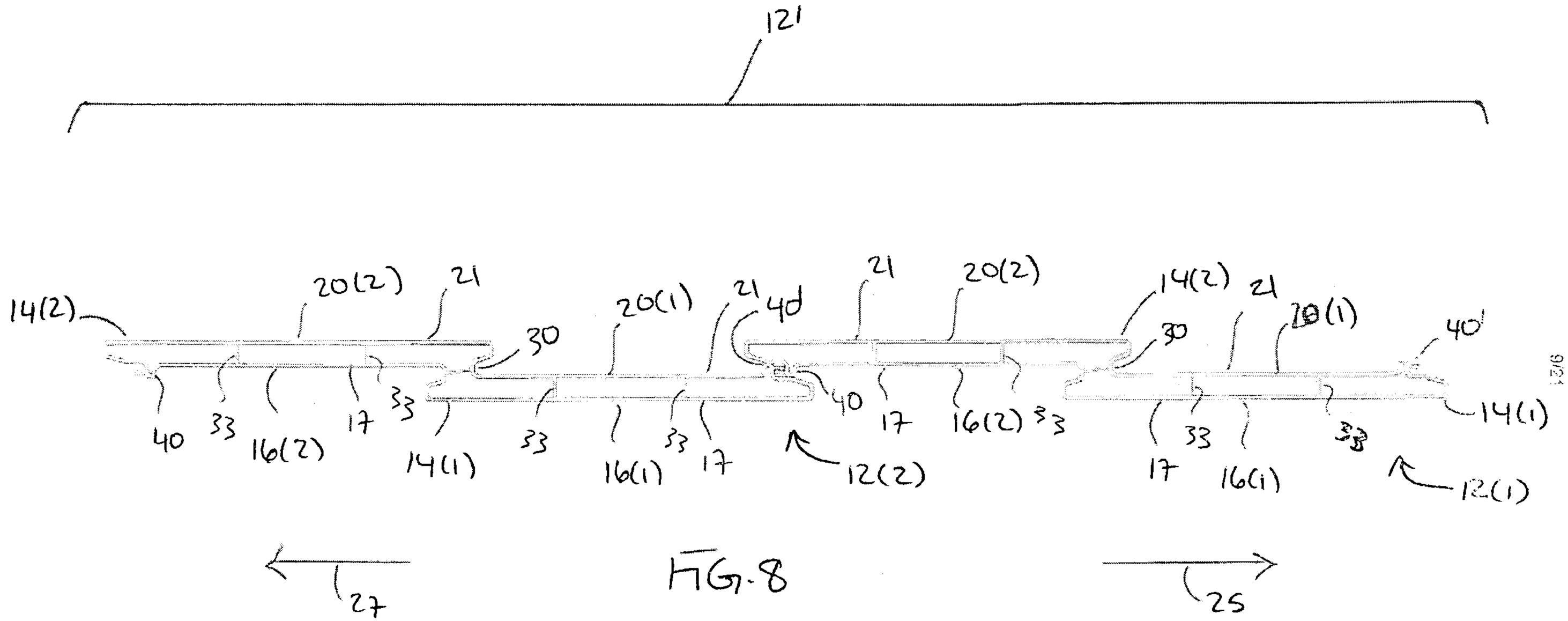
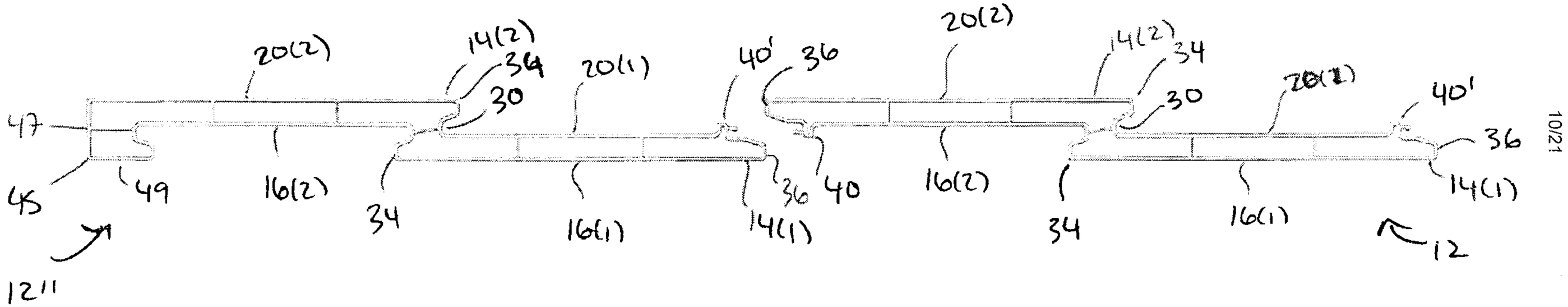

121
14(2)
20(2)
21
30
20(1)
21
40
21
20(2)
14(2)
30
21
20(1)
40
40
33
16(2)
17
33
14(1)
33
16(1)
33
17
40
17
16(2)
33
17
33
16(1)
33
14(1)
12(2)
12(1)
27
25

FIG. 8


20(2)
14(2)
34
30
20(1)
40'
36
47
45
49
16(2)
34
16(1)
36
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14(1)
1211
20(2)
14(2)
34
30
20(2)
40'
36
16(2)
34
16(1)
14(1)
12

FIG. 9

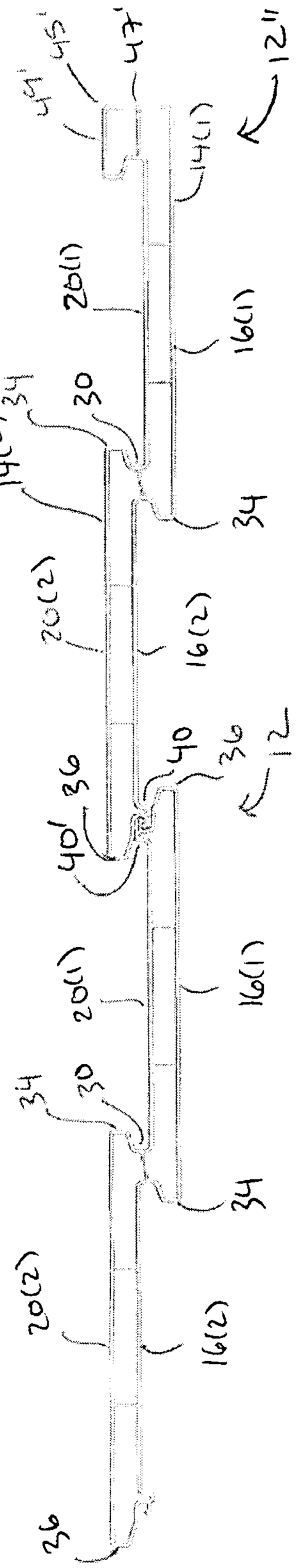
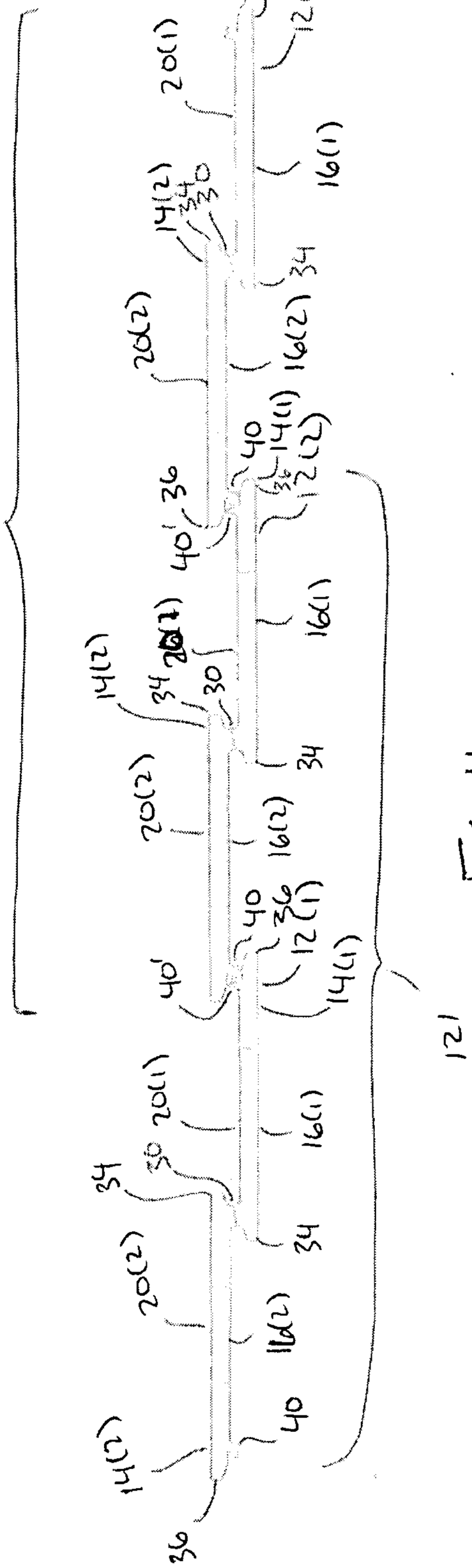

44'
45'
47'
12"
14(1)
20(1)
16(1)
14(2)
34
30
34
20(2)
16(2)
40'
36
40
36
12
20(1)
16(1)
34
30
34
20(2)
16(2)
36

FIG. 10


121
20(2)
14(2)
34
30
20(1)
16(2)
40
36
2(1)
14(1)
40'
36
34
16(1)
20(2)
14(2)
34
30
20(1)
16(2)
40
36
2(1)
14(1)
40'
36
34
16(1)
20(2)
14(2)
34
30
20(1)
16(2)
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36
2(1)
14(1)
40'
36
34
16(1)
20(2)
14(2)
121

FIG. 11

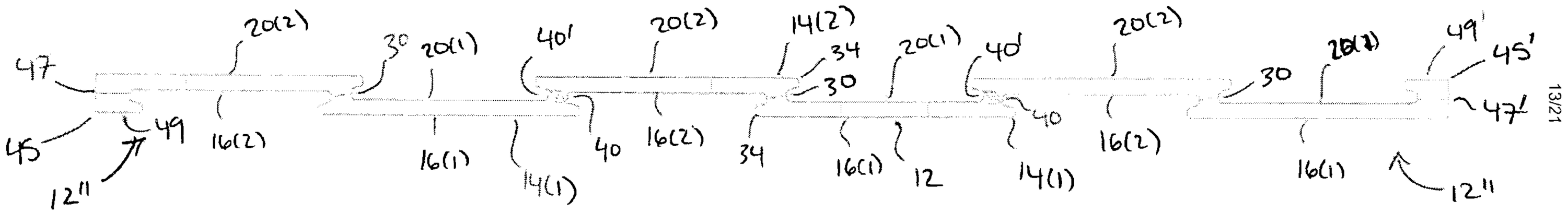


FIG. 12

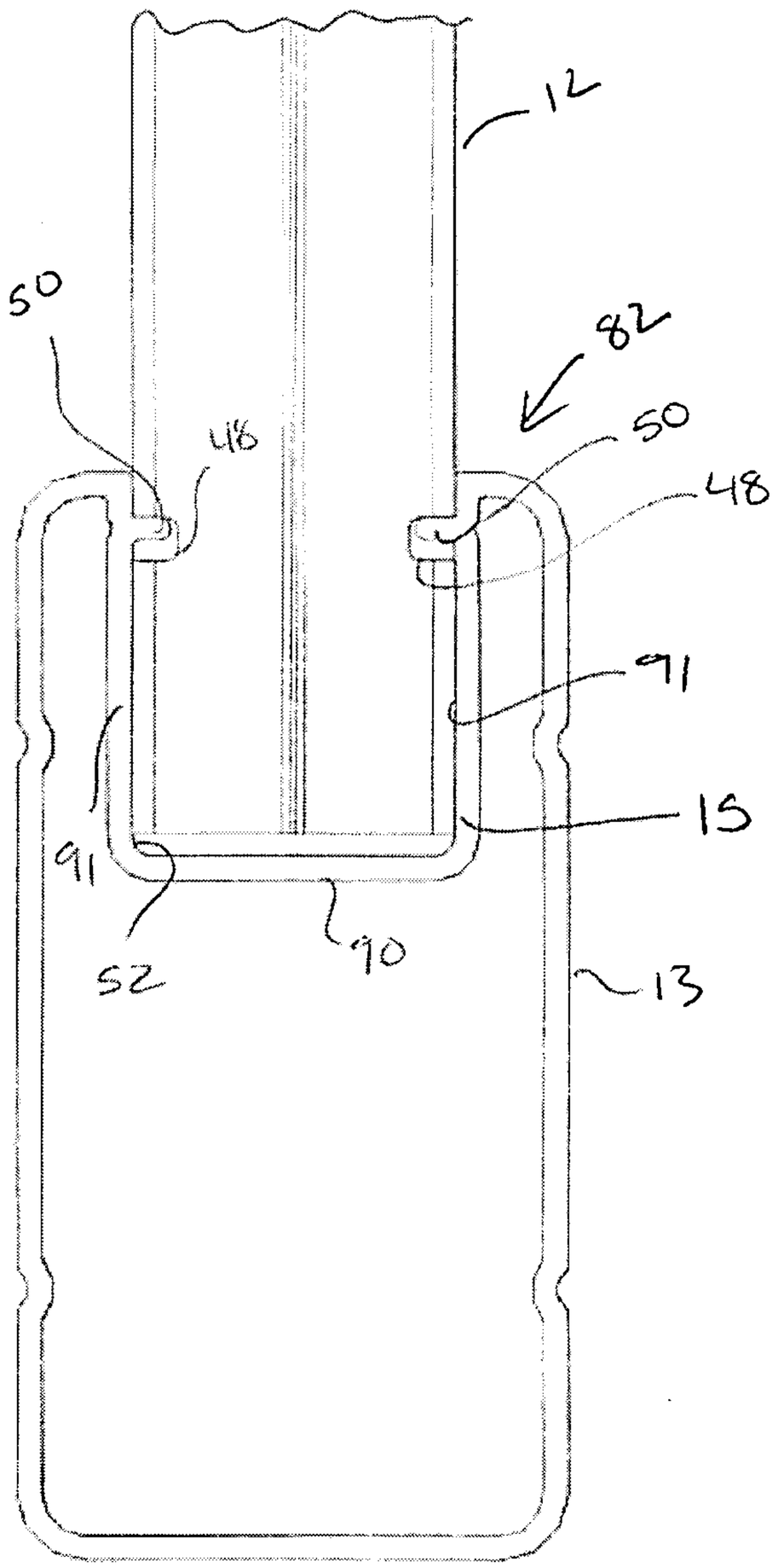


FIG 13A

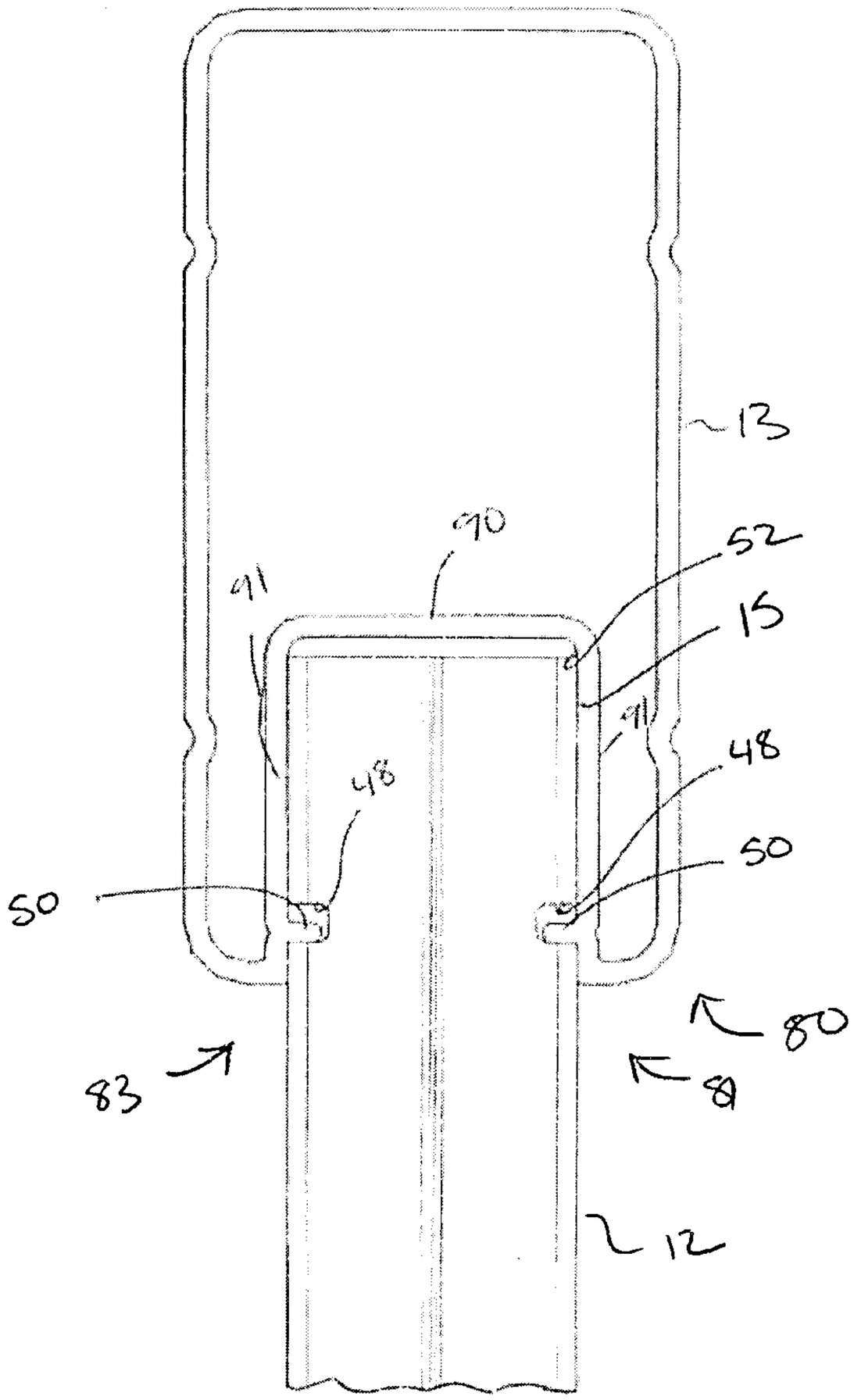


FIG. 13B

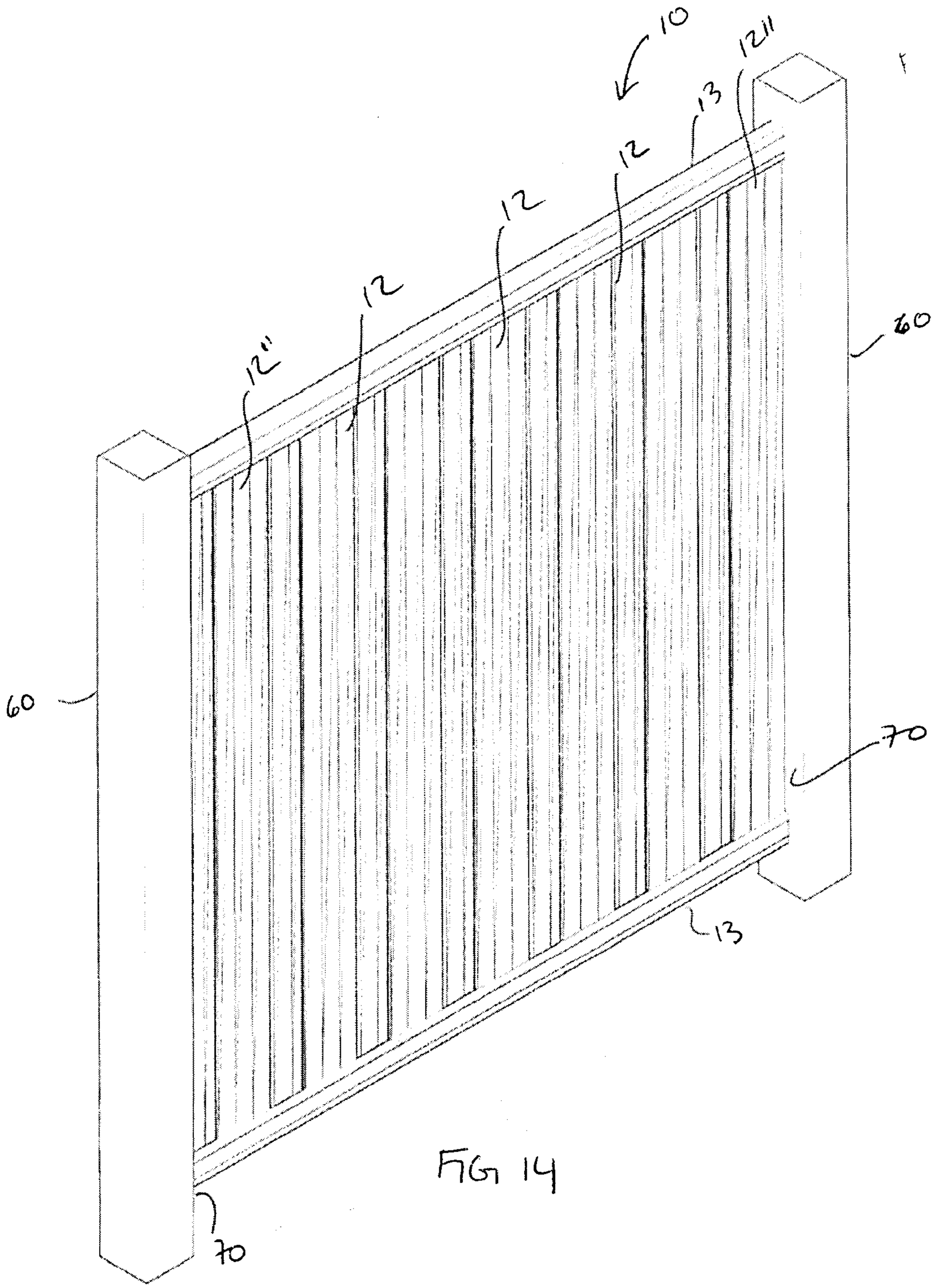
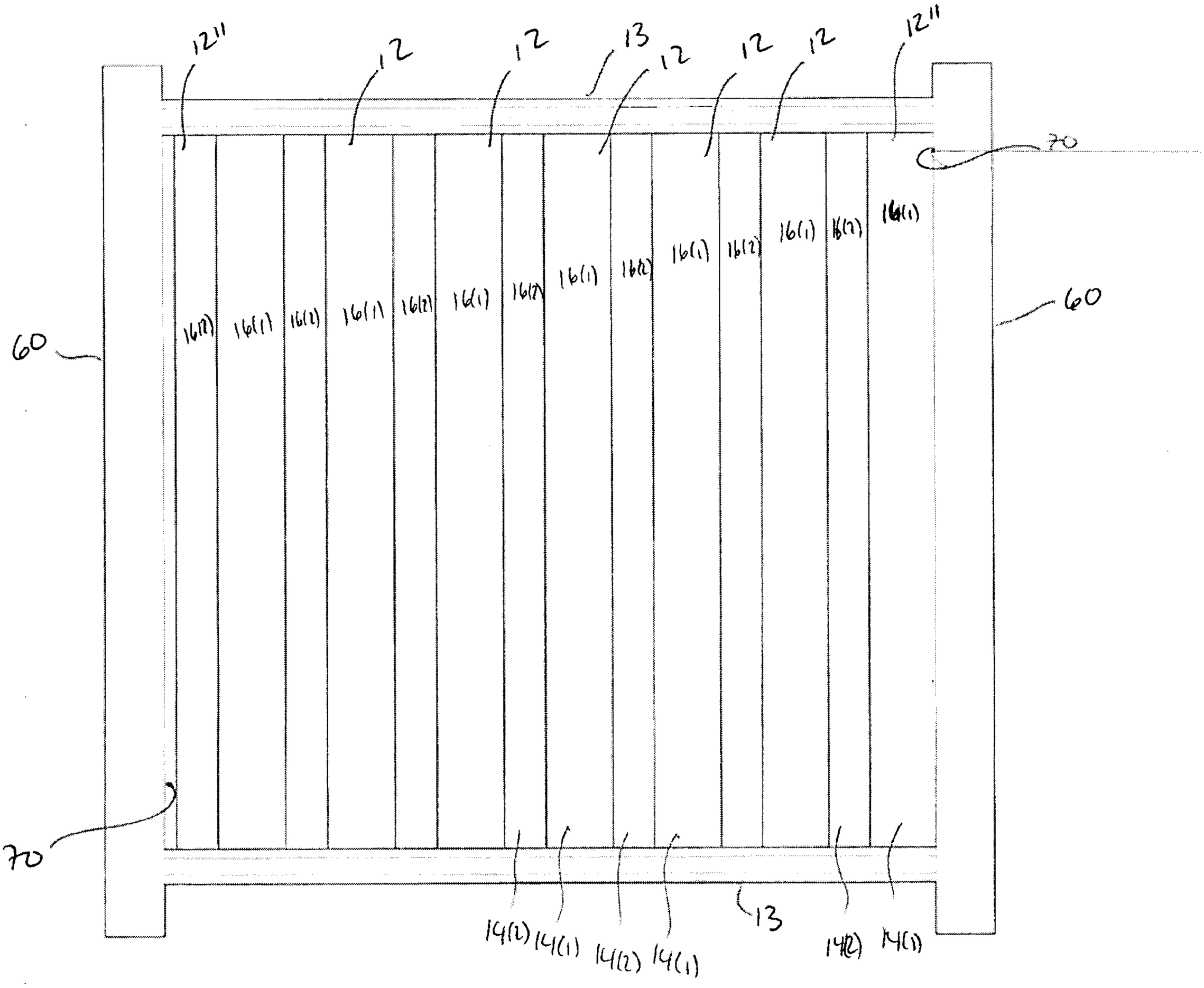


FIG 14


1211
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1211
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16(1)
16(2)
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14(2)
14(1)
14(2)
14(1)
13
14(2)
14(1)

FIG. 15

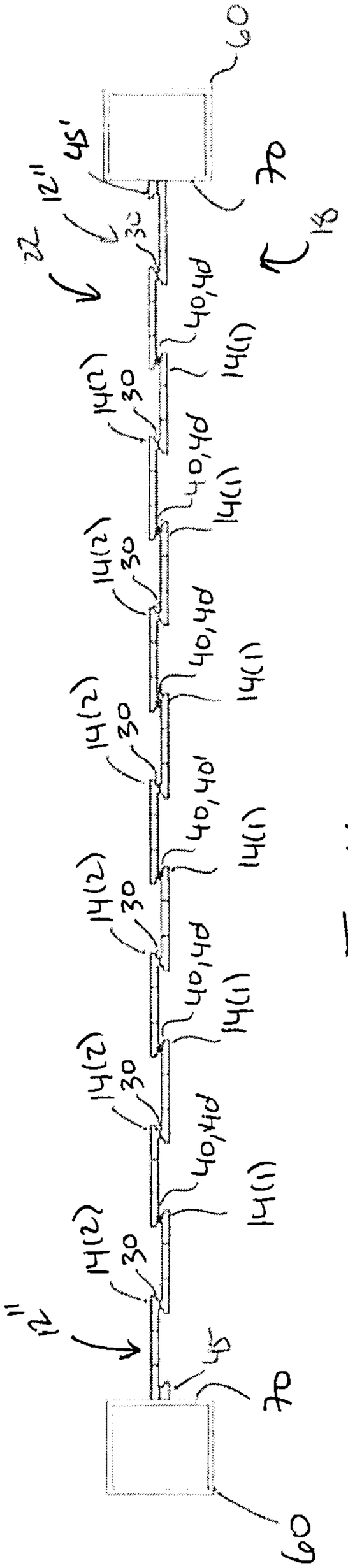
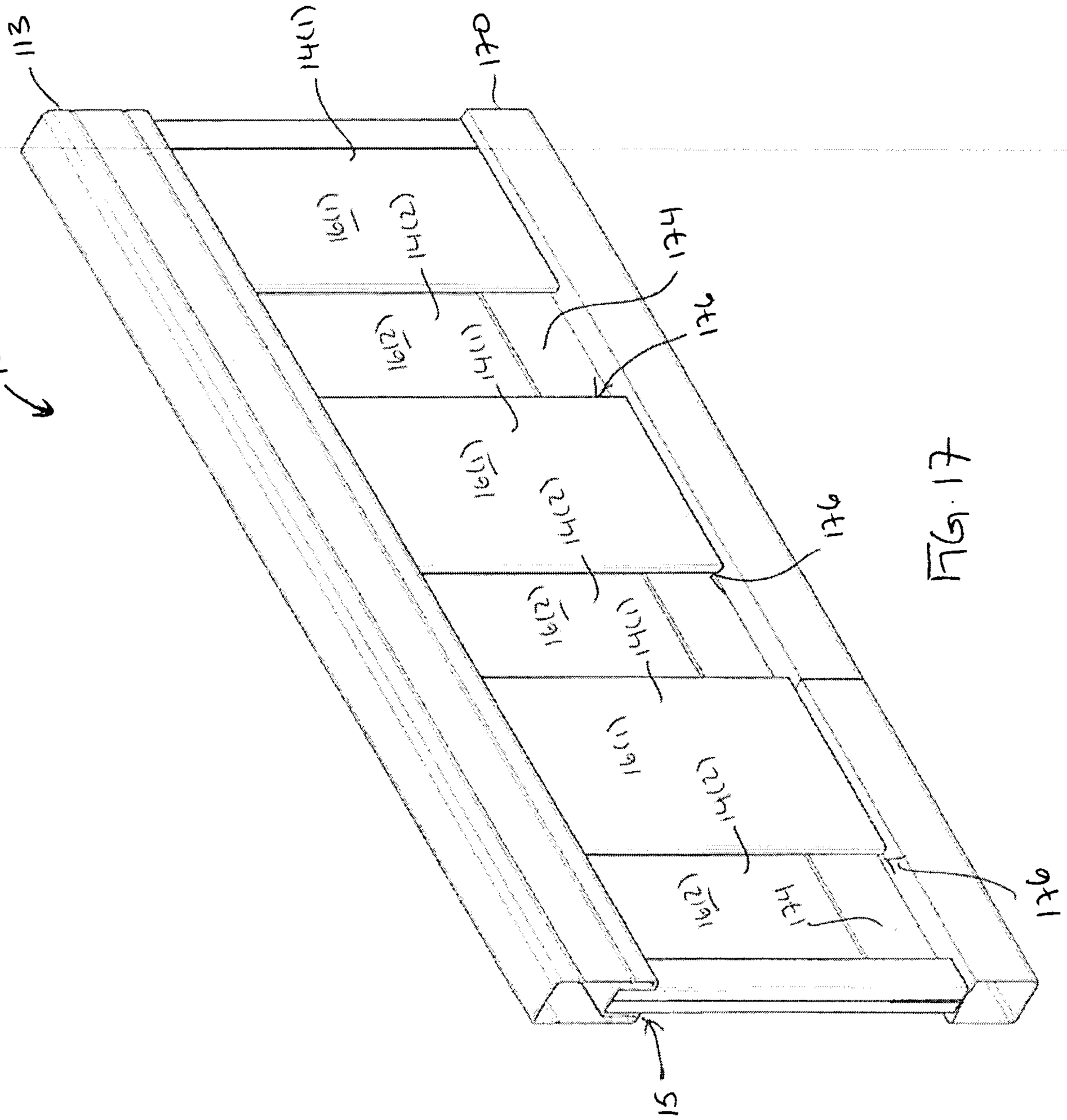


FIG. 16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162(2)
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121
151

FIG. 17

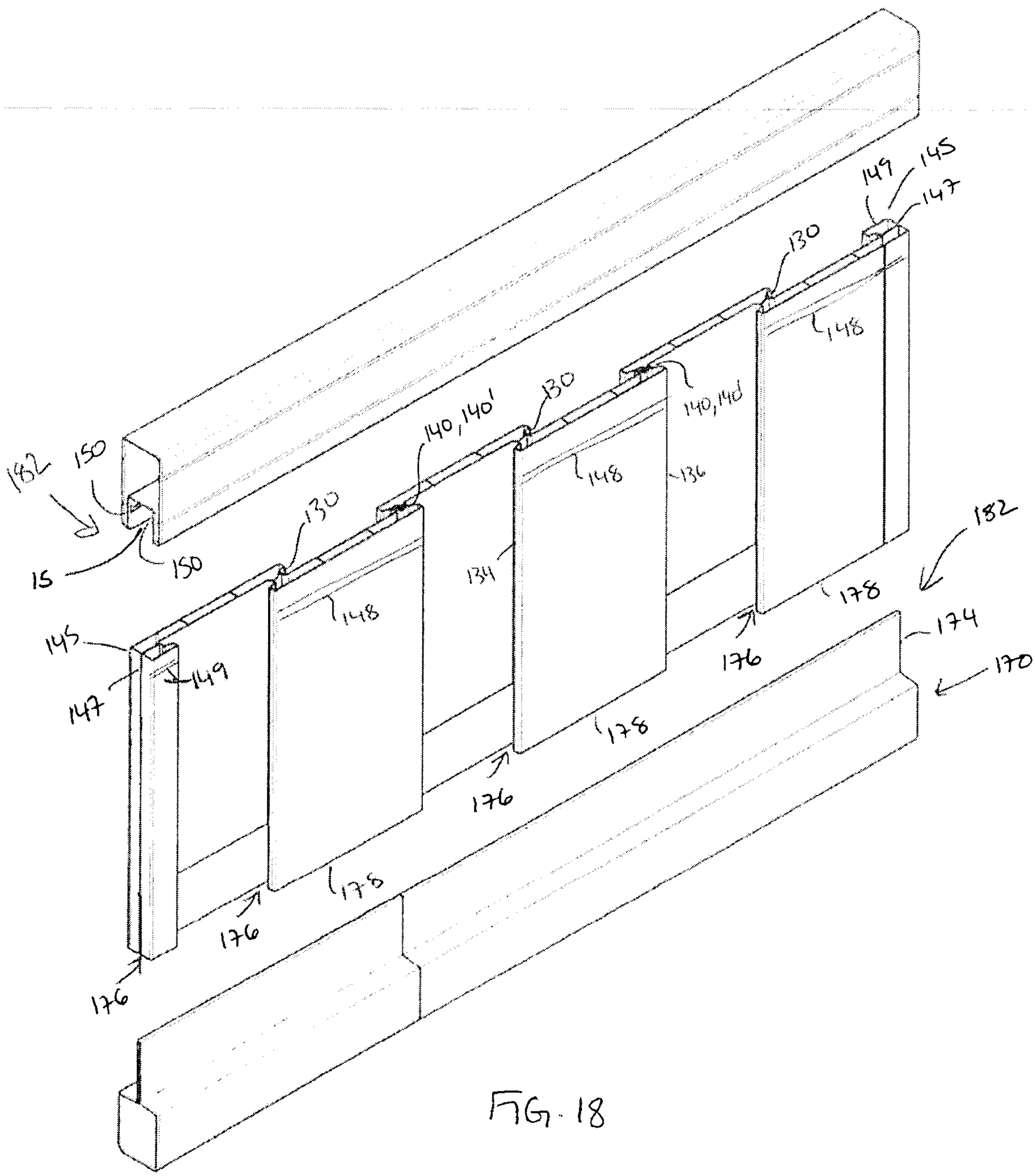
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FIG. 18

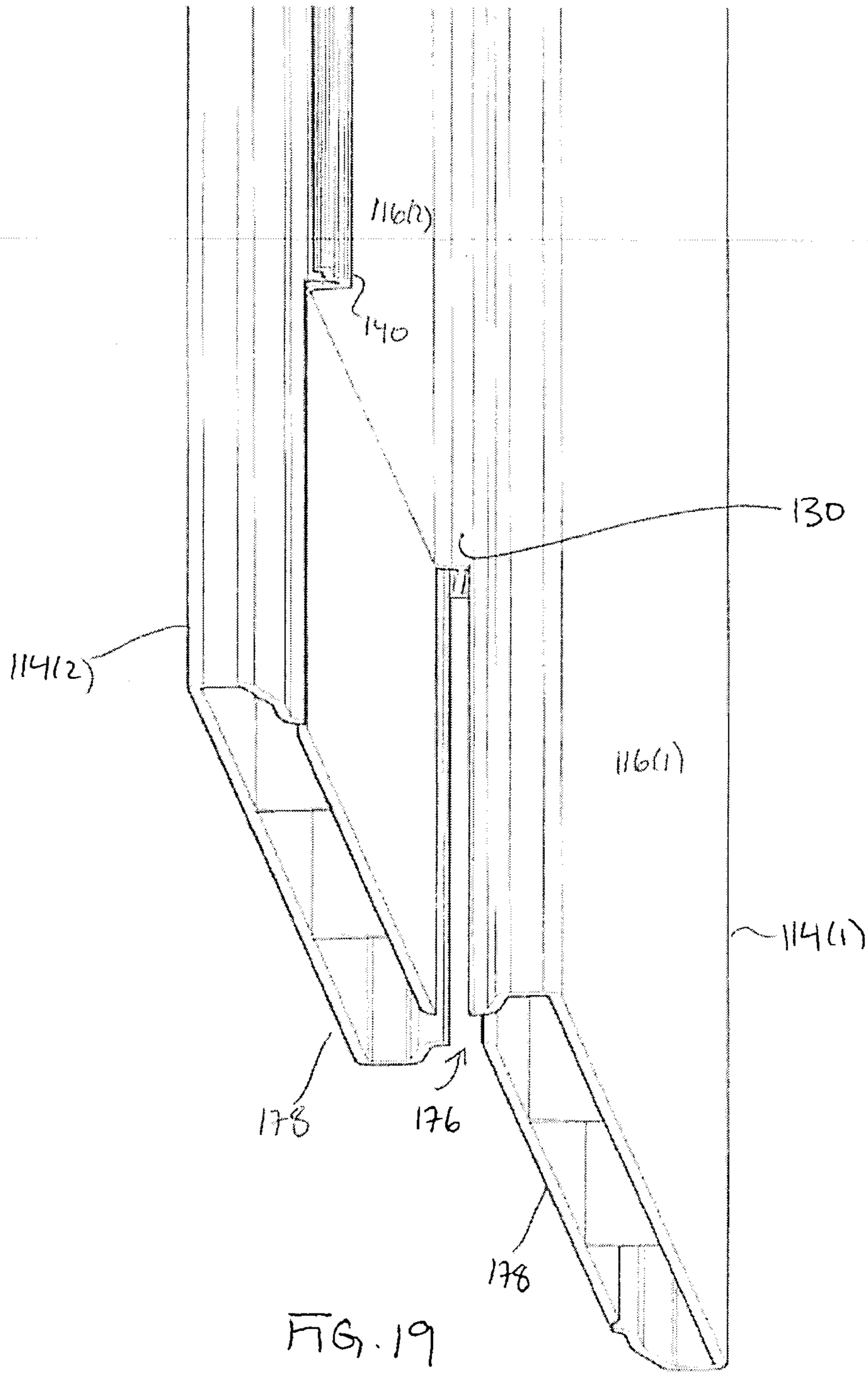
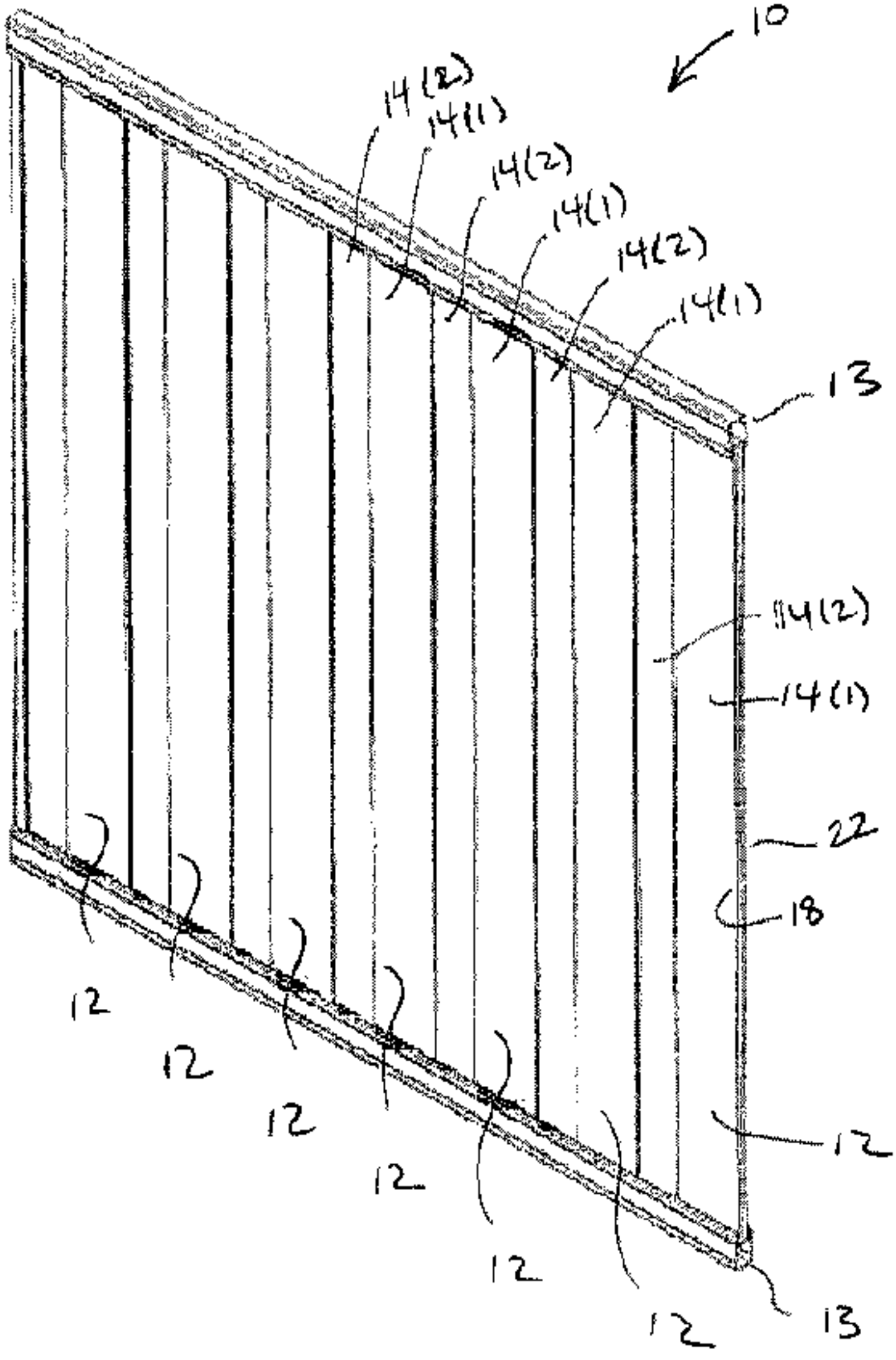


FIG. 19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