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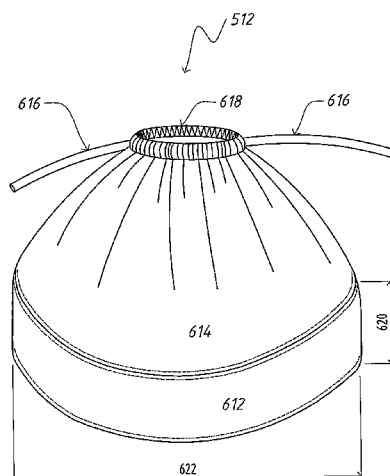


FIG 6

(57) Abstract: A bag (110) which may be in the form of a sleeve or compendium or bag for carrying independently or for carrying within a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel or the like. The bag (110) may be used to carry one or more shirts, accessories and/or toiletry articles. The bag (110) maintains the shirt in a ready to wear condition and is adapted to allow security inspection of required articles.

A BAG

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to a bag for carrying and maintaining shirts or blouses. The bag may also carry articles for overnight travel.

2. Description of the Art

[0002] Modern business travel, networking and other travel often necessitates an overnight absence with the requirement to maintain a professional appearance the following day. Accordingly, overnight clothing, accessories and toiletry articles may need to be packed and carried. In addition air travel for efficient and timely business and/or regular travel is often best done without check-in or luggage hold baggage so that a time efficient and smooth entry and exit may be had from the airport / transit centre without time consuming check-in of baggage and then at arrival, the wait at the baggage carousel for one's check-in baggage to appear.

[0003] Restrictions on carry-on cabin luggage often restrict the business or other traveller to a single item such as their computer laptop or tablet personal computer and possibly one other small item such as a handbag or the like. In addition airport security inspection requirements often mandate that cabin luggage be readily, visually inspected and in particular any liquids that are often present with toiletry articles. Bags that may readily facilitate airport security inspections and scanning techniques enable the business traveller to smoothly and rapidly negotiate security formalities at the airport.

[0004] Pleasure travellers may also be plagued with the above problems when wishing to make a decision to travel or stay overnight.

[0005] None of the prior art bags, cases and the like for travel provides an entirely satisfactory solution to the provision of items of clothing, accessories and toiletry articles for overnight travel. Nor to facilitating the rapid and smooth negotiation of airports and other travel centres' formalities requirements regarding accompanying baggage.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] The present invention aims to provide an alternative bag arrangement which overcomes or ameliorates the disadvantages of the prior art, or at least provides a useful choice.

[0007] In one form, the invention provides a bag for one or more shirts comprising: two opposed panels, a first fastening means between the panels and a securing means for one or more articles to an outer surface of one or both panels. Where the bag maintains the one or more shirts ready for wear, is resistant to compression by use of one or more of the first fastening means, a stiffening member and/or a stiffened gusset. Preferably the bag further includes a first hinge member joining the two opposed panels. Optionally the securing means comprises a first flap attached to an outer surface of one panel, where the first flap has a second fastening means to secure the articles to the bag by enclosing the articles between the first flap and the outer surface of one panel. Preferably there is also a joining member between the first flap and the outer surface of one panel. The bag can have a substantially rectangular outline with a major dimension, a minor dimension, and a depth adapted to receive a folded shirt.

[0008] Preferably the one or more articles may include toiletries articles and these articles are contained in a clear receptacle or case. In addition the first flap may be transparent. Preferably articles in a transparent case or a clear receptacle are secured to the bag by the securing means. The clear receptacle or transparent case may be a toiletries bag adapted for the task or the like. Preferably the clear receptacle or transparent case are adapted to allow a security inspection of the one or more articles.

[0009] Optionally the stiffening member is one or more of a rib or a corner insert. Preferably the bag may also include a strap adapted to carry the bag with.

[0010] Optionally the bag may have at least one pocket on an inside surface of one or more panels or flaps. Also optionally a pouch for shirt collar support may be used. Where the pouch may also be used to contain accessories.

[0011] Preferably the bag is adapted to form a sleeve in a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel, a filing cabinet, desk drawer, a conference

registration pack, a hotel welcome pack, a retail gift, a presentation pack, a merchandising pack or a corporate wardrobe pack. Optionally the bag may be further adapted to be carried independently and for a security inspection.

[0012] Preferably the bag is further adapted to carry only one shirt. Optionally the bag may be further adapted to allow a tablet personal computer to be secured to one of the panels. The computer can be secured on the panel's outer surface.

[0013] In an alternate form, the invention may provide a method of travelling with one or more shirts by the steps of: enclosing one or more shirts in a sleeve bag and the sleeve bag is either carried independently by a traveller or inserted into a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack or a satchel of the traveller. Where the sleeve bag maintains the one or more shirts ready for wear and the sleeve bag resists compression, deformation and/or crumpling of the shirt/s within it. Preferably the method of travelling may further include the step of providing a securing means for attaching one or more articles to the sleeve bag; where the articles may include toiletry items.

[0014] Optionally another step may be included of providing the sleeve bag prepacked with one or more of: shirt, blouse, underwear, toiletry items or jewellery items.

[0015] In further alternate forms the invention may provide: a bag for one or more shirts substantially as described herein, a bag adapted to form a sleeve in a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel, a filing cabinet, desk drawer, a conference registration pack or a hotel welcome pack substantially as described herein and/or a method of travelling with one or more shirts substantially as described herein.

[0016] Further forms of the invention are as set out in the appended claims and as apparent from the description.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0017] The description is made with reference to the accompanying drawings; of which:

[0018] FIG 1 is a schematic, perspective view of a bag.

[0019] FIG 2 is an alternate embodiment of FIG 1 for women as well as showing a carry/shoulder strap.

[0020] FIG 3 is an alternate perspective view of the other side of the bag of FIG 1.

[0021] FIG 4 is a plan view of an open, pre-packed bag of FIG 1.

[0022] FIG 5A is an alternate embodiment of FIG 4, illustrating an optional addition of a drawstring pouch.

[0023] FIG 5B illustrates an alternative shirt strap and clasp arrangement.

[0024] FIG 6 is a perspective view of the partially open drawstring pouch shown in FIG 5.

[0025] FIGs 7 to 9A illustrate the opening and closing of the pouch of FIGs 5 and 6.

[0026] FIG 9B illustrates an alternative pouch arrangement in the open and closed states.

[0027] FIG 10A is a schematic representation of an optional collar stiffener.

[0028] FIG 10B and 10C illustrate an alternate collar stiffener.

[0029] FIG 11 is schematic representation in perspective view of an optional shirt folding guide.

[0030] FIG 12 is a schematic representation of a set of supporting illustrations to a shirt folding instruction set.

[0031] FIG 13 is an alternate view of the bag shown in FIG 1.

[0032] FIG 14 is a schematic representation of toiletry articles contained within a clear plastic receptacle.

[0033] FIG 15A is an alternate embodiment of FIG 13 without the use of the clear plastic receptacle.

[0034] FIG 15B illustrates alternative views of a bag according to an embodiment of the invention..

[0035] FIGS 16 & 17 illustrate a bag according to a further embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0036] FIG 1 schematically shows a perspective view of a bag 110 which may be in the form of a sleeve or compendium or bag for carrying independently or for carrying within a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel or the like. The bag 110 may be used to carry one or more shirts, accessories and/or toiletry articles. However in the interests of producing a compact, slim and streamline bag 110, preferably only one shirt or blouse may be contained in the bag. The bag 110 has two opposed panels, a first panel 112 and a second panel 114. A side wall may be formed by a fastening means 116 between and joining the two opposed panels 112, 114. The panels may be of a material or composite of materials/textiles that render them resistant to deformation whilst still being lightweight, fashionable and pleasant to handle.

[0037] The fastening means 116 may be a zipper 116 as illustrated or any number of fastening means available and suitable for use with bags for example Velcro straps, an arrangement of clasps and flaps or the like. The two opposed panels 112, 114 may also be joined by a first hinge member 118 formed of a flexible material such as plastic or fabric or a composite material. In an alternate embodiment the hinge member 118 may be fully or partially substituted by an extension of the fastening means 116 from joining three sides of the opposed panels to joining all four sides of the opposed panels.

[0038] In an alternate embodiment the zippered first fastening means 116 as a side wall may also have an expandable gusset (not shown). In addition stiffening members (not shown) may also be inserted about the first fastening means 116 or within the expandable gusset to provide additional resistance to compression between the two opposed panels 112, 114. However it will be appreciated that minimal first fastening means may be used without any expandable gusset, or the like, in order to have a compact and slim bag which may contain only one shirt or blouse.

[0039] The volume of the main panelled section of the bag 112, 114, 116 may be used to contain one or more shirts / blouses and accessories as will be detailed below with respect to FIG 4 to 12.

[0040] The bag 110 also features a first flap 122 attached to an outer surface of the upper panel 112. The first flap may be substantially rectangular with a depth dimension. The first flap 122 may be secured to the upper panel 112 by a second fastening means 124 which may vary in the manner described above for the first fastening means 116. The flap 122 may also be connected to the upper, first panel 112 by a joining member 126 which may also be in the forms as described above for the first hinge member 118 or simply an extension of the flap 122 joining to the upper panel 112. In an alternate embodiment the joining member 126 may be substituted by the second fastening means 124 in the manner described for the first hinge member 118. The volume formed by the flap 122 with the second fastening means 124, upper panel 112 and joining member 126 may be used to contain articles such as toiletry items as will be described below with respect to FIGs 13 to 15.

[0041] The first flap 122 and joining member 126 may be of a material or composite of materials/textiles as per the panels 112, 114 described above. However in alternate embodiments described below with respect to FIGs 13 to 15 the flap and joining member may be of other materials to provide more flexibility and/or transparency.

[0042] The dimensions of the bag 110 may be selected according to whether a male or female user is envisaged for the bag and whether that user is a petite or well proportioned individual; so as to accommodate the required garment sizes or number of garments e.g. a compact or slimmer bag for containing only one shirt or blouse. In addition the dimensions may be selected to suit the particular baggage item that the bag 110 may be inserted into, for example smaller dimensions for a computer notebook bag compared with larger dimensions for a larger baggage. In FIG 1 the dimensions are given by way of example only: the main panelled section of the bag 112, 114, 116 may be substantially rectangular and have a major dimension 128 of 30 cm, a height or minor dimension 130 of 25 cm as well as a depth or thickness of 132 of 5 cm. Whilst the volume formed by the flap 122 with the second fastening means 124 may have the dimensions of length 134 of 22 cm, width 136 of 14 cm and depth or thickness 138 of 2 cm. Preferably, the length and width of the second flap do not exceed the corresponding dimensions of the sleeve.

[0043] In use the bag 110 may be inserted into other items of personal, carry-on / cabin baggage such as a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack or a satchel of the traveller. The above described dimensions may be selected such that the bag readily forms a readily accommodated sleeve in another item of personal baggage. Such a sleeve bag may also be readily carried independently as described below with respect to FIG 2.

[0044] Eyelets 120 may be provided on the upper panel 112 to enable a shoulder strap to be attached to the bag to facilitate the carrying of the bag. Alternatively the pair of eyelets 120 may be on opposing panel 112, 114 corners.

[0045] FIG 2 is a perspective view of an alternate embodiment as a women's version of the bag 110. The panels 112, 114 and flap 122 feature a floral pattern 212. In addition a trim 214 may be used to provide a fashionable offset to the floral pattern as well as a protective edge. A woven canvas adjustable strap 216 may be attached via clasps 218 to the eyelets 120 of the bag 110. The strap 216 may be used to shoulder or hand carry the bag 110. The flap 122 may also feature a trademarked logo/label 220. In yet another alternate embodiment, a men's styling for the pattern 212, trim 214, strap 216 clasps 218, logo/label 220 and/or styling features may be readily used / substituted. In another alternate embodiment, the bag may be provided in two ranges: a "basic" range and a "prestige" / "VIP" range. By way of example the basic range may use sturdy canvas in construction whilst the prestige / VIP range may use leather with woven jacquard fabric.

[0046] FIG 3 is a perspective view of the other side of the bag 110, featuring the lower, second panel 114. Two business card holders 312 may be attached to the outer surface of the lower, second panel 114 as shown in FIG 3. The business card holder 312 may feature a clear plastic window to allow the bag's owner to display their business card in order to facilitate rapid identification of their bag 110 as it emerges from airport security scanners and the like.

[0047] FIG 4 is a plan view of an open bag 110 with a pre-packed shirt or blouse 412 enclosed. The shirt 412 may be retained in place by an arrangement of elasticised straps 414 with joining shirt clasp 418. To resist compression or deformation of the bag 110 rigid, moulded plastic corner inserts 418 may be included at the inner corners of the lower panel 114. Similarly other inserts (not shown) may be

provided at the inner periphery of the lower panel 114 to resist compression or deformation; where these other inserts may be appropriately slim when the bag is configured for only one shirt or blouse. The corner inserts may have a dimension 426 of 5 cm.

[0048] The inner surface of the upper panel 112 may have elasticised lining pockets 420. An opening 422 of a lining pocket 420 may have an elastic element inserted into the hem 424 to aid in retaining garment accessories that may be placed into the lining pockets 420. For example accessory items such as a tie, a scarf, sanitary items, a hair comb/brush, underwear, socks or stockings may be retained by the lining pockets 420.

[0049] The dimensions of the lining pockets 420 may be an overall width 428 of 25cm, width of a pocket 430 of 12.5 cm, a height 432 of 20 cm. The open width 434 of the bag 110 may be 50 cm. The dimensions supplied in the present example of FIG 4 are consistent with the dimensions given above with respect to the example shown in FIG 1.

[0050] FIG 5A is an alternate embodiment of FIG 4 but with an optional addition of a drawstring pouch 512 inserted within the collar 514 of the shirt 412. The pouch 512 provides additional support to the collar 514 to aid in preventing creasing and otherwise unwanted deformation or crushing of the collar 514. The pouch 512 may also provide a location for storage of jewellery, accessories and underwear. A detailed description of the pouch 512 is provided below with respect to FIGS 6 to 9.

[0051] Optionally, multiple shirts (not shown) may be packed into the bag 110. For example two shirts may be “top and tailed” such that the respective collar 514 of each shirt 412 may be at opposing ends within the bag. Alternatively the collar end of the shirt may be placed partially or wholly within a corner insert 418 such that the multiple shirts are located diagonally across the bag; this configuration also providing additional crushing protection to the collar.

[0052] FIG 5B is an alternate embodiment of the bag 110' to the bag of FIG 5A. In FIG 5B the shirt and strap clasp 516 is configured differently. The straps can extend between diagonal corners. The straps can be threaded through a rectangular clasp. Also the strap width 518 may have a dimension of 2.5 cm. The inside pocket casing depth 520 may have a dimension of 2 cm.

[0053] It will be readily appreciated that the dimensions given above and throughout for the bag 110 are by way of example only and may be varied as appropriate by a person skilled in the art but still be within the scope of the invention.

[0054] FIG 6 is a perspective view of a partially open drawstring pouch 512 as shown in use in FIG 5. The pouch 512 features semi-rigid or rigid side walls 612, a flexible fabric or other suitable material for the neck 614 and a drawstring 616 at the hem 618 of the neck 614. The pouch 512 may be closed by drawing upon the drawstrings 616 and opened in the usual fashion. A height 620 of the side wall 612 may be 5 cm and the diameter 622 of the pouch 512 may be 14.5 cm, consistent with an average men's shirt. However it will be readily appreciated that the dimensions of the pouch 512 may be varied as appropriate for a size or styling of a shirt or blouse. For example the diameter of the pouch 622 may vary from 14 to 15 cm if the pouch is approximately ellipsoidal or the like. In addition the profile of the side wall 612 may be less cylindrical. For example the front portion (not shown) of the pouch 512 may be sloped to provide support under the front sections of the collar 514.

[0055] FIGS 7, 8 and 9A illustrate an opening and closing of the pouch 512 in FIG 6. FIG 7 illustrates the open pouch 512 with a height 712 of 15 cm. Jewellery, accessories and underwear may be inserted into the pouch 512 via the opening 714. FIG 8 is the pouch 512 partially closed, with FIG 9A showing the pouch fully closed and the neck 614 collapsed. At FIG 9 the pouch is ready for inserting into the collar 514 of the shirt 412 to provide support to the collar 514 as illustrated in FIG 5.

[0056] FIG 9B is an alternate embodiment of the drawstring pouch of FIGS 6 to 9B. FIG 9B shows two pouches, one closed 512' and another opened 512". The pouch 512 may have a casing depth dimension of 1.5 cm. The pouch 512', 512" may also feature a press stud (male) 914 fitting for engaging with a female press stud 1016 fitting for a collar stiffener 1012, described in detail with respect to FIG 10B.

[0057] The pouch 512 may be used to store small accessories such as jewellery and the like. For example ties, cufflinks, tie clips, rings (finger), ear-rings, other piercing jewellery, brooches, underwear, hosiery, medals, bars of service or hair restraints (hair bands/pins/clips, combs, etc).

[0058] FIG 10A illustrates an additional, optional collar stiffener 1012 that may be inserted between the shirt front and under the front of the collar. In FIG 10A

the collar stiffener 1012 is shown as a rectangular strip sufficient for the front portion of the collar. The rectangular strip collar stiffener 1012 may have a length 1014 of 19.5 cm. However an elongated collar stiffener may be used which extends around the full length of the collar 514. In another embodiment the collar stiffener may be limited to an oval plate (not shown) suitable for insertion and support at the opening of the collar 514. The collar stiffener may be secured in place by use of a top shirt button inserted into an appropriate hole or slot in the collar stiffener or by use of a press stud fastener between the collar stiffener and the side wall 612 of the pouch 512. The collar stiffener may be constructed of any suitably stiff material, for example a stiff plastic or a disposable cardboard.

[0059] FIGs 10B and 10C illustrates the respective back and front views of an alternate collar stiffener 1012', 1012'' to FIG 10A. In FIG 10B a corresponding female press stud 1016 fitting is shown which may be used to secure the collar stiffener 1012' to the pouch 512 when the collar stiffener and pouch are mounted within the collar 514 of a shirt 412, as shown in FIG 5B. The press stud 1016 is mounted on a fold tag 1018 connecting to the rest of the body of the collar stiffener 1012'. The fold tag 1018 may have a width dimension 1020 of 1 cm and a depth dimension 1022 of 1.5 cm. The collar stiffener 1012' may have a collar tab length 1024 dimension of 26 cm. In FIG 10C the collar stiffener 1012'' may have a centre depth dimension 1024 of 2.5 cm and an end depth dimension of 3 cm.

[0060] FIG 11 is a perspective view of an optional shirt folding guide 1112 in its folded configuration but without a shirt. The shirt folding guide 1112 may be made of any suitably stiff material, for example a stiff plastic or a disposable cardboard. The shirt folding guide 1112 may have the following dimensions: folded length 1114 of 26 cm, width 1116 of 20 cm, collar tab height and width 1118 of 3 cm.

[0061] FIG 12 is a supporting illustration to an optional shirt folding instruction set for the shirt folding guide 1112. An example set of shirt folding instructions with general packing is given as follows:

- (a) Find a clean, flat surface and put the ironed shirt 412 face down on it. Place open folding frame/guide 512 on the back of the shirt putting the tab underneath the back of the collar as above, Fig 12A.

- (b) Fig 12B, fold one side of the body of the shirt around the open frame and lay the sleeve on top of it as shown previously in Fig 12A...
- (c) Repeat process with other side of shirt, as per Fig 12C. Smooth shirt at each fold to prevent creases forming.
- (d) At this point other items may be included with the shirt, for example socks, or boxers laid flat. Rest socks, stockings, lingerie, underwear etc folded flat against back of shirt. Fold hem of shirt over edge of plastic bottom of folding frame/guide, Fig 12D.
- (e) Bring bottom half of shirt on folding frame/guide 512 up to meet with top of shirt, Fig 12E.
- (f) Fig 12F, illustrates the front of the shirt 412 folded with drawstring cufflink / jewellery pouch holder 512 in place within the collar 514. The pouch may house essential wardrobe items / jewellery accessories such as scarves, ties, jewellery etc. Place the closed pouch in the neck of the shirt, insert the collar stiffener 1012 under the collar at the front and secure to the drawstring pouch. This may help to protect the collar from creases.
- (g) The folded shirt is shown in place in Fig 12G, with corner inserts 418, elasticised straps 414 and clip shirt securely into place with the brass metal clasp 416 as shown. Place folding frame/guide with shirt into the bag 110 such that the shirt is behind the moulded corner inserts 418 in each corner. Elasticised lining pockets 420 are shown on the left hand side of the open bag.
- (h) Insert other vital accessory items like hankies (handkerchiefs), additional underwear etc into the lining pockets 420 at start of trip and take advantage of these pockets to store soiled smalls (items) on the trip home, Fig 12G.

[0062] It will be readily apparent that different versions of the shirt folding guide 1112 and shirt folding instructions may be made to allow multiple shirts to be packed into the bag 110 as described above.

[0063] The following guide may be an example of an accompanying guide and instructions for the use of the bag 110; referred to in this example as the “The Shirt Sleeve” (TSS).

The World According to “The Shirt Sleeve”

The Shirt Sleeve is proudly brought to you by Tales From a Terrace House – the home of must-haves for the busy urban professional on the move.

Life is Too Short to Check in Luggage! Your Shirt Sleeve will hold everything you need to present beautifully when travelling overnight for business or pleasure. Your Sleeve will store perfectly a pressed collared shirt, all accessories (jewellery, ties, scarves etc), underwear, socks/stockings, and toiletries. All this is cased in an Airport Security friendly, luxury piece of luggage in classic leather and limited Edition “Ella and Sofia” woven print.

The Shirt Sleeve Guide to Snappy Dressing on the Road

The Shirt Sleeve is the ideal size to place in your laptop bag or briefcase.

Diagram of TSS going into Laptop Bag

Alternatively, if you are really travelling light The Shirt Sleeve has a handy strap to allow you to carry your Sleeve satchel style.

Diagram of putting strap on

External Toiletry Sleeve with airport security friendly bottles for travel size versions of your favourite toiletries plus room for your toothpaste and toothbrush. The three internal pockets can house travel essentials like cotton wool pads, medications, contact lenses and other personal hygiene items.

Diagram of inside of Toiletry Area

The Shirt Sleeve Main Pocket

The Shirt Sleeve Main Pocket is the perfect home for a Snappy Well Pressed Shirt on the move.

Follow the instructions below to ensure your outfit is as Fresh as a Daisy when you need it.

Diagram of Back of shirt with folding frame on it

1. Find a clean, flat surface and put the ironed shirt face down on it. Place open folding frame on the back of the shirt putting the tab underneath the back of the collar as above.

Diagram of shirt with sleeve folded down

2. Fold one side of the body of the shirt around the open frame and lie the sleeve on top of it as shown above.
3. Repeat process with other side of shirt.
4. Smooth shirt at each fold to prevent creases forming.

Diagram of shirt with socks, or boxers lain flat

5. Rest socks, stockings, lingerie, underwear etc folded flat against back of shirt

Diagram of shirt all nicely folded up

6. Bring bottom half of shirt on folding frame up to meet with top of shirt.

Diagram of shirt in place with corners and elastic on show

7. Place folding frame with shirt into The Shirt Sleeve Main Pocket behind the moulded Shirt Protectors in each corner.
8. Clip shirt securely into place with the brass metal clasp

Diagram of the Hardsided Pouch with Tie folded in it

9. The pouch will house essential wardrobe items such as scarves, ties, jewellery etc.

Diagram of the closed pouch with collar stiffener in place in neck of the shirt

10. Place the closed pouch in the neck of the shirt, insert the collar stiffener under the collar at the front and secure to the closed pouch. This will protect the collar from creases.

Diagram of pockets on left side of main pocket

11. Insert other vital items like Hankies, additional underwear etc into these pocket at start of trip and take advantage of these pockets to store soiled smalls on the trip home.

[0064] A shirt / blouse packed into the bag 110 as described above may be maintained in a state ready for wear. The features of the bag described above and/or the packing technique used resist undesirable compression, deformation and creasing of the shirt/blouse.

[0065] FIG 13 is an alternate view of the bag 110 shown in FIG 1 with the first flap 122 opened. The inner surface of the first flap 122 features three lining pockets 1320 with elasticised openings 1322 in the manner of the lining pockets described with respect to FIG 4. The three lining pockets 1320 may be used to store such toiletry items as: shaver, dental floss, comb/brush, cotton wool pads/buds, contact lenses with associated fluids, medications and analgesics (eg aspirin, paracetamol) and/or personal hygiene items.

[0066] The alternate view of FIG 13 also shows the first flap 122 opened to reveal toiletry articles. In FIG 13 liquid toiletry articles 1312, 1314 may be contained in a clear plastic receptacle 1316 with a zip, Velcro or other suitable fastener 1318 for the opening of the clear receptacle 1316. The liquid toiletry items may be contained in robust, transparent, screw cap, plastic bottles 1312. Such bottles may be suitable for containing shampoo, shaving cream (leg & face), perfume, eau de toilette, soap/body gel and/or hair gel. Cosmetics and the like may be contained in robust, transparent, screw cap, plastic pots 1314. The size and transparency of the bottles 1312 and pots 1314 may be chosen to be readily suitable for compliance with airport security inspections where maximum liquid / semi-liquid volume limits apply as well as a requirement for the liquids / semi-liquid and their vessels to be viewed. The clear receptacle 1316 containing the bottles 1312 and pots 1414 may also be selected for its compliance with airport security inspections, eg, displaying both imperial and metric

volumes, etc. A toothbrush 1324 may also be suitably secured with the clear plastic receptacle 1316

[0067] FIG 14 is a representation of three, 100 ml bottles 1312 with two 30 ml pots 1314 contained within a clear plastic receptacle 1316; removed from the bag 110 and ready for a security inspection. In another embodiment (not shown) to further facilitate security inspections the flap 122 may be transparent in part or wholly.

[0068] In an alternate embodiment (not shown) an alternate clear plastic receptacle may directly fasten to the outer surface of the upper panel 112. For example the second fastening means 124, in the absence of the flap 122 and joining hinge member 126, may be adapted to secure the alternate clear receptacle directly to the upper surface. In yet another alternate embodiment a commonly available toiletries / cosmetics bag or case (not shown) may be adapted to secure to the upper first panel 112. The toiletries / cosmetics case / bag may suitably contain a clear plastic receptacle 1316 with its associated toiletry articles such as bottles 1312 and/or pots 1314. In yet a further embodiment the toiletries / cosmetics case/bag may be wholly or partially transparent. The clear receptacle 1316 may either be a commonly available plastic envelope or other such which is commonly available for toiletries and cosmetics. Alternatively the clear receptacle may be designed and constructed as appropriate by a person skilled in the art.

[0069] The advantage of locating liquid and semi-liquid toiletry articles separately to the shirts / blouses and other garment accessories is that in the event of a liquid spill or loss, the garment items may not be affected. Leakages from toiletry articles may commonly occur due to normal travel wear and tear as well as the pressurising effect upon the articles when subjected to the lower cabin pressure of aircraft at cruising altitudes. In the event of a spill of liquids, gels, pastes, etc from a toiletry article the leak may be predominantly contained within the confines of the flap 122, second fastening means 116, joining hinge member 126 and the outer surface of the upper panel 112; where it may be easily dealt with. Alternatively in the embodiment where the clear receptacle 1316 is directly attached to the upper surface 112 without the use a first flap 122, the clear plastic receptacle 1316 may contain any spillage. In prior art baggage a leak of fluid amongst garments may be such a disaster that the overnight or short duration business, pleasure or other traveller does not have

the time or resources to recover from; consequently this may lead to a disastrous effect on their professional or otherwise appearance.

[0070] FIG 15A is an alternate embodiment of FIG 13. In this embodiment a number of containers 1512 for shampoo, hair/body gel, perfume, toothpaste, shaving cream, cosmetics and the like may be secured to the upper panel 112 by individual straps 1514. A toothbrush 1524 may also be secured by appropriate straps or clips 1518. The three lining pockets first shown in FIG 13 may have an overall width dimension 1524 of 20 cm and a height 1526 of 15 cm. Preferably, the length and width of the first flap do not exceed the corresponding dimensions of the sleeve.

[0071] FIG 15B is an alternate embodiment to FIG 15A illustrating open 110' and closed 110'' forms of the bag for the first flap. The shirt folding guide 1112 is also shown.

[0072] In further applications or uses the sleeve like dimensions selected for bag 110 may make it readily applicable to a range of other applications. For example the bag may be readily stored in a desk draw or filing cabinet ready for immediate use for work, after work functions or a change of clothes after working overnight in the office; as well as being available for overnight business or other travel. In such a role the self contained nature of the bag 110 and its prepacked items, as described above, allow the user to readily freshen up and immediately change their attire.

[0073] Similarly the prepacked bag may be deployed with hotel 'welcome' packs, themed conference registration packs or within automatic dispensing machines located at hotels, airports and other suitable locations. In this deployment of the bag a range of prepacked bags may be made available. For example the prepacked items may vary in terms of the sizes and styling of shirts / blouses available: male or female in small, medium, large and extra large garment sizes. In addition garment accessories such as underwear, stockings, ties etc may be included to match the shirt/blouse or the user as appropriate. Cost appropriate jewellery item accessories such as cufflinks, earrings and the like may also be included to match with the other items in the prepacked bag. Toiletry and cosmetic articles may also be included in match to the other prepacked items.

[0074] In yet another application area an appropriately prepacked bag may be used as a retail gift, a presentation pack or a merchandising pack obtained (by way of

example) from premium menswear and ladies wear retailers. Similarly a prepacked bag may contain part of a corporate wardrobe for airline staff, customer service officers at banks and the like.

[0075] FIGs 16 and 17 illustrate an alternate embodiment of the bag 1610 where a tablet personal computer (PC) 1612 may be secured. In this specification a tablet PC includes small computers that are particularly adapted to be portable. Examples of such tablet PCs may be: an iPad, a Kindle, an ultra-mobile personal computer, a laptop personal computer and a notebook personal computer. In the perspective view of FIG 16 the tablet PC 1612 may be secured to the bag 1610 in a similar manner to that described above for the toiletries articles. A second flap 1614 may be attached as shown to the outer surface of the second panel 114. Additionally a third fastening means 1616 such a zipper may be used to close the flap about the tablet PC 1612. Thus a pocket may be formed for the tablet PC 1612. Straps 1618 may be used to secure the tablet PC 1612 to the outer surface of the second panel 114. The straps 1618 may use Velcro overlapping 1620 for securing the tablet PC 1612 with the straps. The straps 1618 may have a width dimension 1622 of 2.5 cm. A length dimension 1624 of the second flap 1614 may be 18 cm. A width dimension 1626 of the second flap 1614 may be 14 cm. The second flap 1614 may also feature lining pockets 1628 with three individual pocket width dimensions 1630 of 5 cm, a depth dimension 1632 of 10 cm and a pocket casing depth dimension 1634 of 2 cm. Preferably, the length and width of the second flap do not exceed the corresponding dimensions of the sleeve.

[0076] FIG 17 is an end elevation view of the bag 1610 of FIG 16. The first flap 122 with second fastening means depth dimension 1714 may be 2.5 cm. The second flap 1614 with third fastening means 1616 depth dimension 1712 may also be 2.5 cm. However it will be readily appreciated that the depth dimension 1712 may be adjusted according to the tablet PC to be accommodated.

[0077] In an alternative arrangement, the PC pocket can be located between the shirt sleeve and the toiletries pocket. That is, the flap 1614 can be attached to the outside of the front panel or rear panel and the flap 122 can be attached to the outside of the panel 1614.

[0078] Although the invention has been herein shown and described in what is conceived to be the most practical and preferred embodiments, it is recognized that departures can be made within the scope of the invention, which are not to be limited to the details described herein but are to be accorded the full scope of the appended claims so as to embrace any and all equivalent assemblies, devices and apparatus.

[0079] In this specification, the word “comprising” is to be understood in its “open” sense, that is, in the sense of “including”, and thus not limited to its “closed” sense, that is the sense of “consisting only of”. A corresponding meaning is to be attributed to the corresponding words “comprise, comprised and comprises” where they appear.

[0080] It will further be understood that any reference herein to known prior art does not, unless the contrary indication appears, constitute an admission that such prior art is commonly known by those skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

CLAIMS

1. A bag for one or more shirts comprising:
 - a first panel opposed a second panel;
 - a first fastening means between the first panel and the second panel;
 - and
 - a first securing means for one or more articles to an outer surface of at least the first panel;wherein:
 - the bag maintains the one or more shirts ready for wear;
 - the bag resists a compression by use of one or more of the first fastening means, a stiffening member or a stiffened gusset.
2. A bag according to claim 1 further including a first hinge member joining the two opposed panels.
3. A bag according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the first securing means comprises a first flap attached to an outer surface of the first panel, wherein the first flap has a second fastening means to secure the articles to the bag by enclosing the articles between the first flap and the outer surface of the first panel.
4. A bag according to claim 3 further including a first joining member between the first flap and the outer surface of the first panel.
5. A bag according to claim 3 or 4 where the one or more articles include toiletries articles.
6. A bag according to any one of claims 3 or 5 where the one or more articles are contained in a clear receptacle
7. A bag according to claim 6 wherein the clear receptacle is adapted for a security inspection.

8. A bag according to any one of claims 3 or 7 where the first flap is transparent.
9. A bag according to claim 1 or 2 where a case for the one or more articles is secured to the bag by the first securing means.
10. A bag according to claim 9 where the case is a toiletries bag.
11. A bag according to claim 9 or 10 where the case is transparent.
12. A bag according to claim 11 wherein the clear case is adapted for a security inspection.
13. A bag according to any preceding claim wherein the stiffening member is one or more of a rib or a corner insert.
14. A bag according to any preceding claim further including a strap adapted to carry the bag with.
15. A bag according to any preceding claim further including at least one pocket on an inside surface of one or more panels or flaps.
16. A bag according to any preceding claim further including a pouch adapted for shirt collar support.
17. A bag according to claim 16 wherein the pouch is used to contain accessories.
18. A bag according to any preceding claim where in use the bag is adapted to form a sleeve in a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel, a filing cabinet, desk drawer or a conference registration pack..

19. A bag according to any preceding claim where in use the bag may be adapted to use in part or wholly as a hotel welcome pack, a retail gift, a presentation pack, a merchandising pack or a corporate wardrobe pack
20. A bag according to any preceding claim further adapted to be carried independently.
21. A bag according to any preceding claim further adapted for a security inspection.
22. A bag according to any preceding claim wherein the bag is further adapted to carry only one shirt.
23. A bag according to any preceding claim further including a second flap attached to the outer surface of the first or second panel.
24. A bag according to claim 20B wherein the second flap and with second panel are adapted to secure a tablet personal computer.
25. A bag according to claim 24 wherein the second flap has a second fastening means to secure the tablet personal computer to the bag by enclosing the articles between the second flap and the outer surface of one panel.
26. A bag according to any one of claims 23 or 25 wherein the tablet PC is at least one of an iPad, a Kindle, an ultra-mobile personal computer, a laptop personal computer and a notebook personal computer.
27. A bag as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the bag has a substantially rectangular outline with a major dimension, a minor dimension, and a depth adapted to receive a folded shirt.

28. A bag as claimed in claim 27 wherein the major dimension is of the order of 30 cm, the minor dimension is of the order of 25 cm, and the depth is of the order of 5 cm.

29 A bag as claimed in claim 27 or 28, including a first and second flaps having substantially rectangular outlines, wherein the major dimension and minor dimension of the first and second flaps do not exceed the corresponding major and minor dimensions of the bag.

30. A method of travelling with one or more shirts by the steps of:
enclosing one or more shirts in a sleeve bag; and
the sleeve bag is either carried independently by a traveller or inserted into a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack or a satchel of the traveller;

wherein:

the sleeve bag maintains the one or more shirts ready for wear; and
the sleeve bag resists a compression.

31. A method according to claim 30 further including the step of providing a securing means for one or more articles to the sleeve bag where the articles include toiletry items.

32. A method according to claim 31 further including the step of providing a security inspection means for the articles.

33. A method according to claim 30 or 31 or 32 further including the step of providing the sleeve bag prepacked with one or more of: shirt, blouse, underwear, toiletry items or jewellery items.

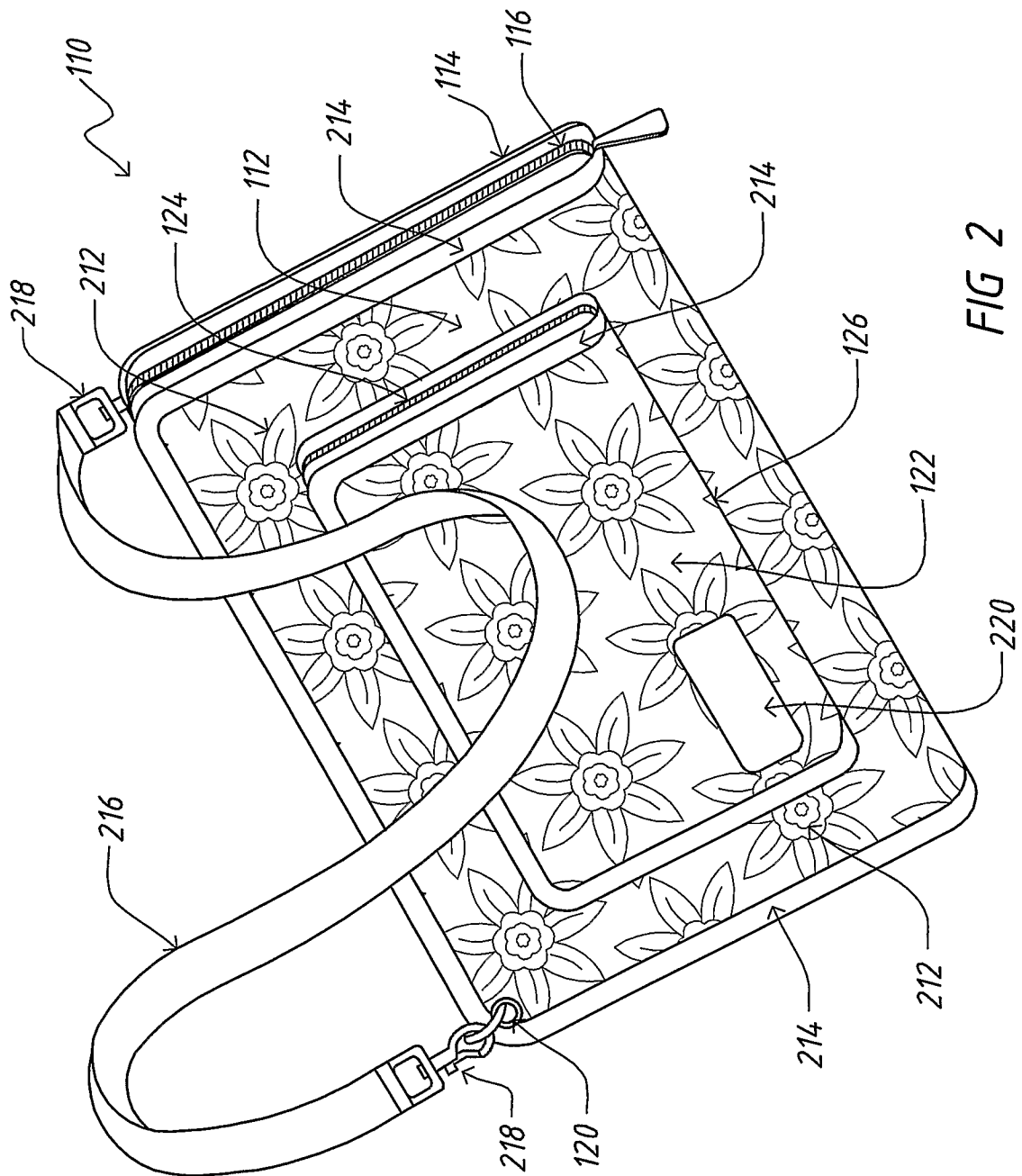
34. A method according to any one of claims 30 to 33 further including the step of providing a further securing means for a tablet personal computer to the sleeve bag,

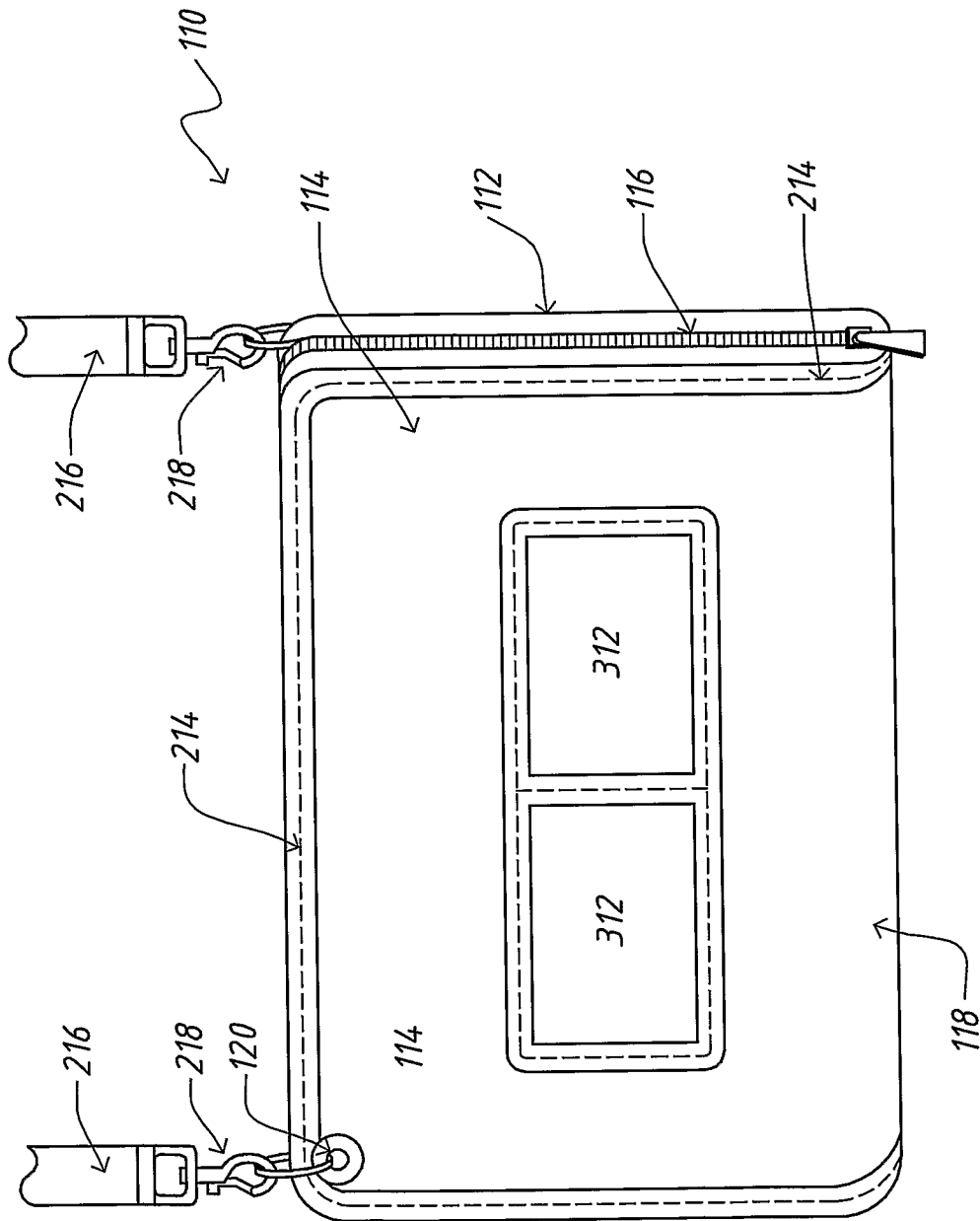
where tablet PC is at least one of an iPad, a Kindle, an ultra-mobile personal computer, a laptop personal computer and a notebook personal computer.

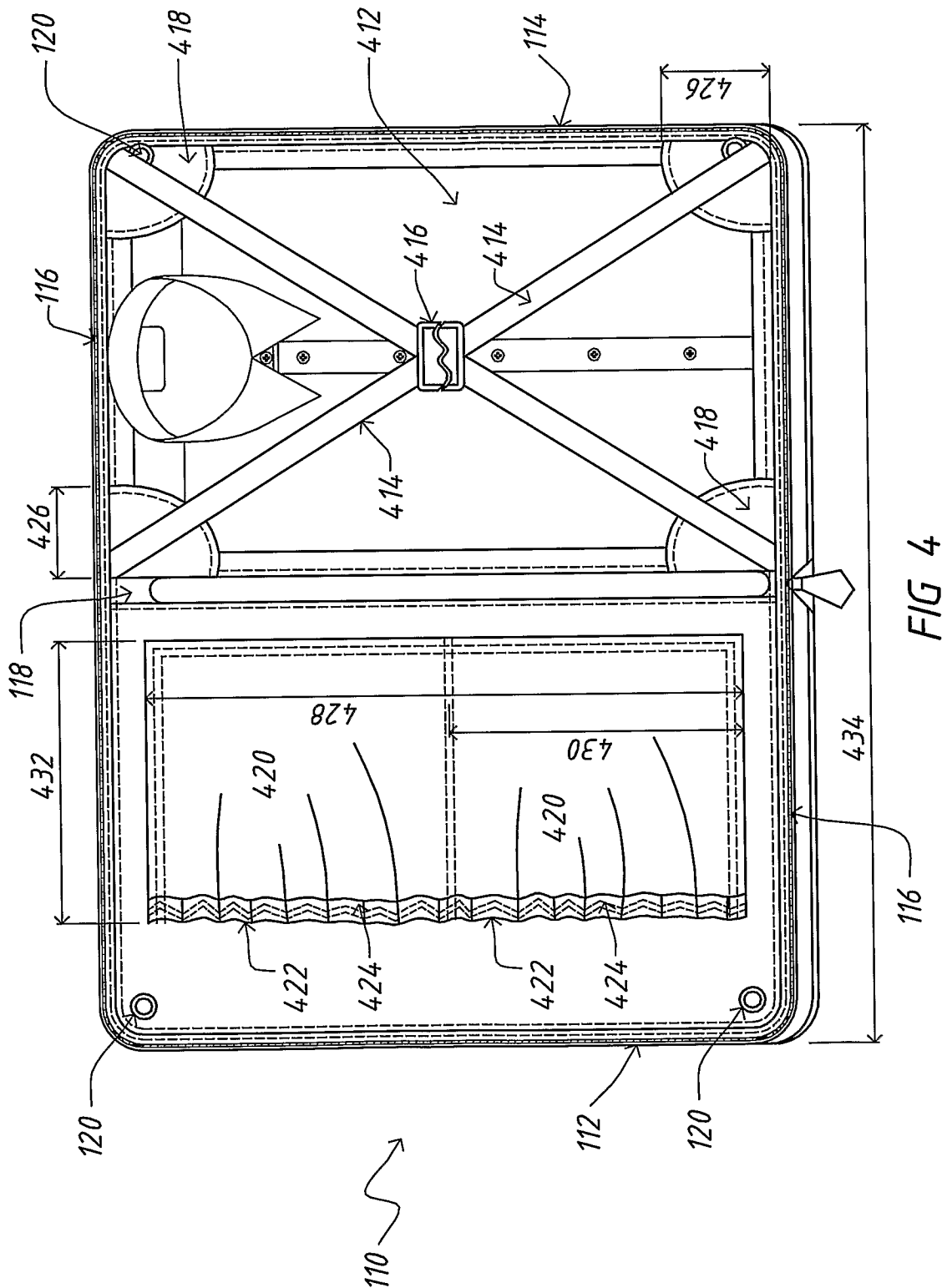
35. A bag for one or more shirts substantially as described herein.

36. A bag adapted to form a sleeve in a computer laptop bag, a briefcase, a backpack, a satchel, a filing cabinet, desk drawer, a conference registration pack or a hotel welcome pack substantially as described herein.

37. A method of travelling with one or more shirts substantially as described herein.







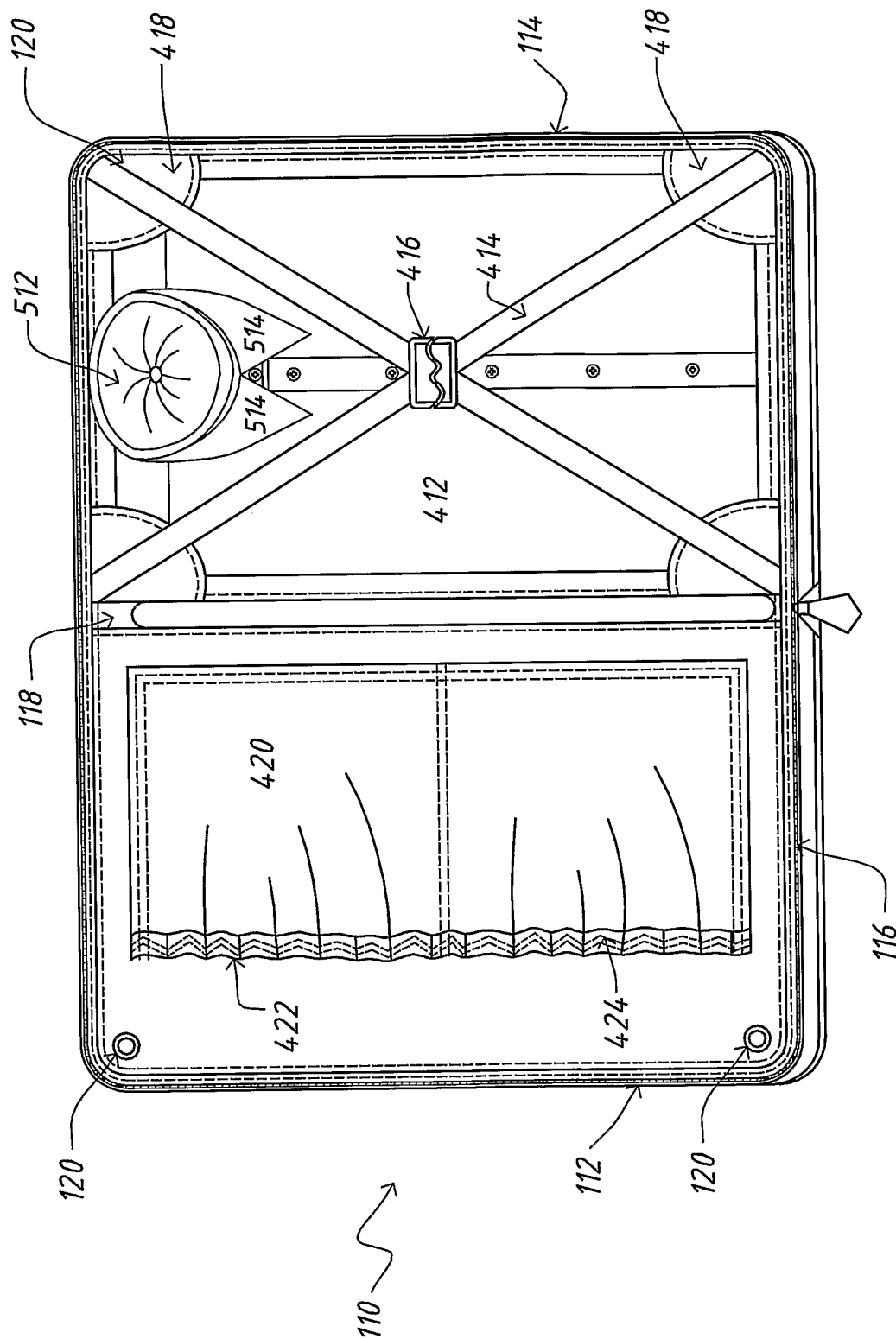
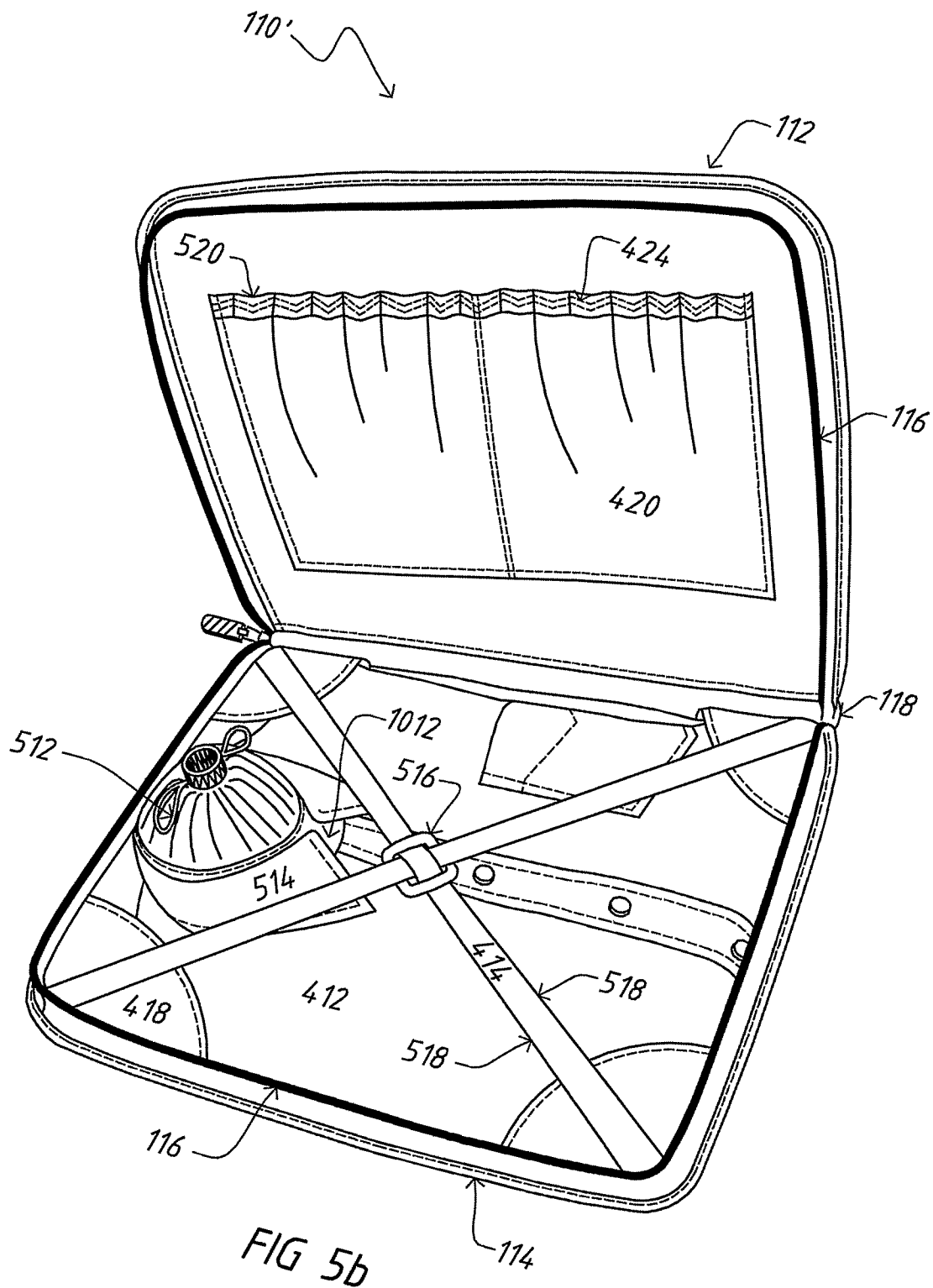


FIG 5a



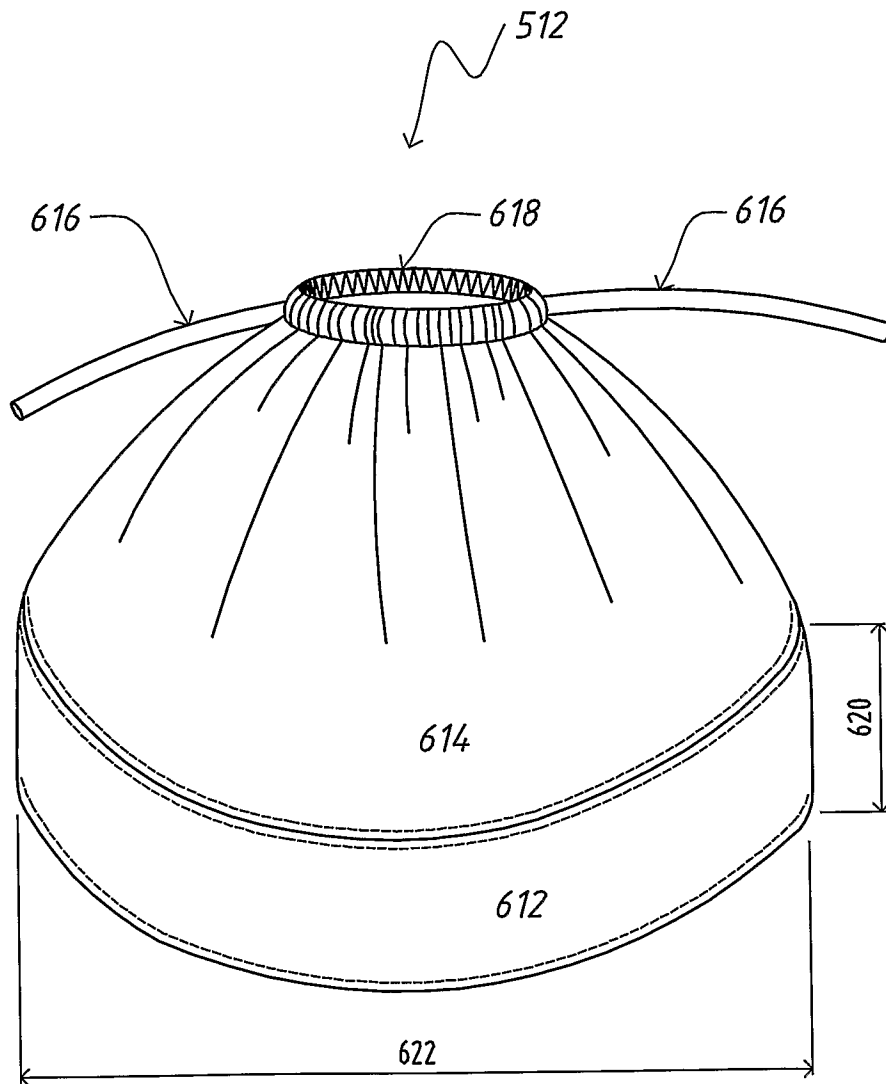


FIG 6

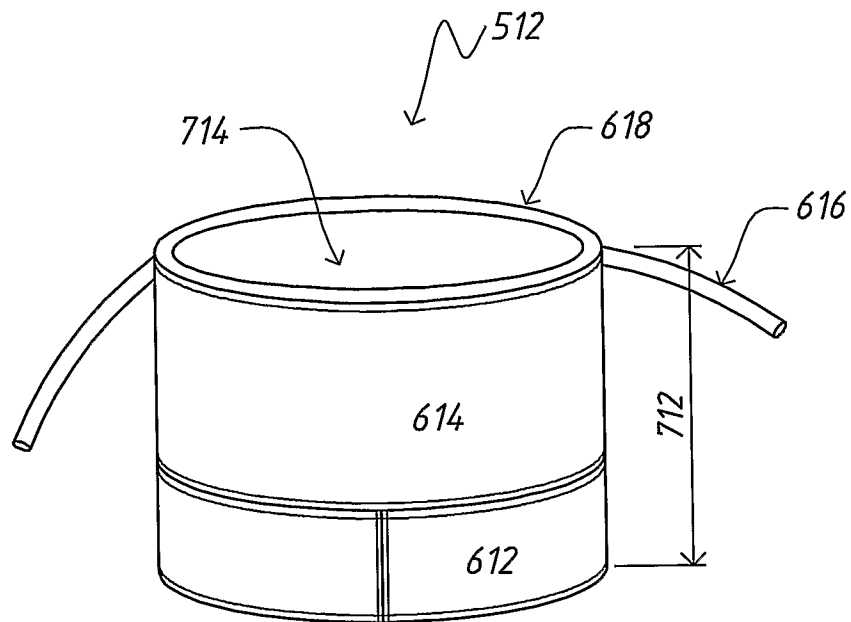


FIG 7

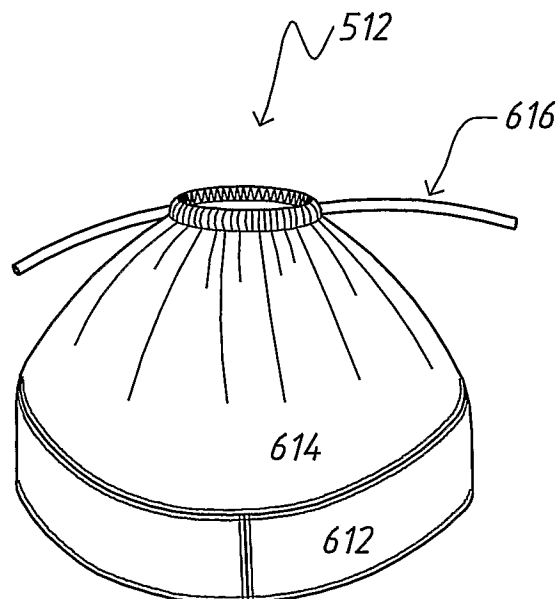


FIG 8

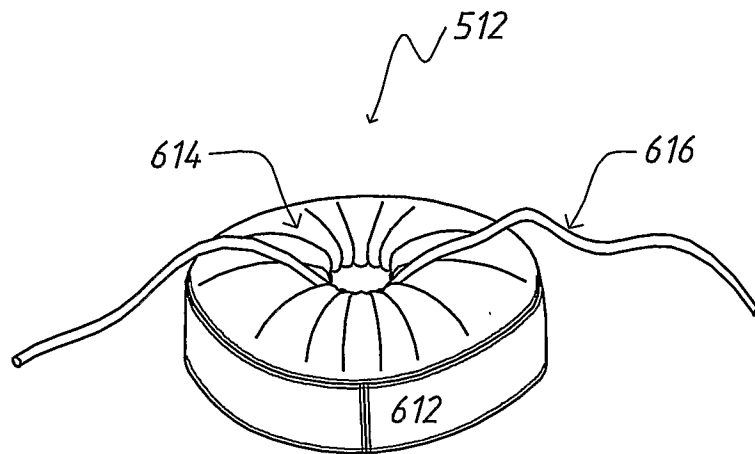


FIG 9a

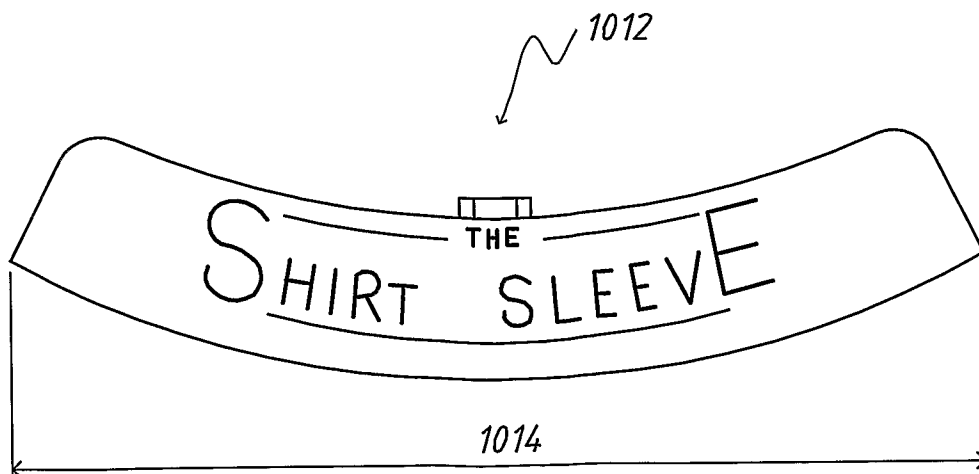


FIG 10a

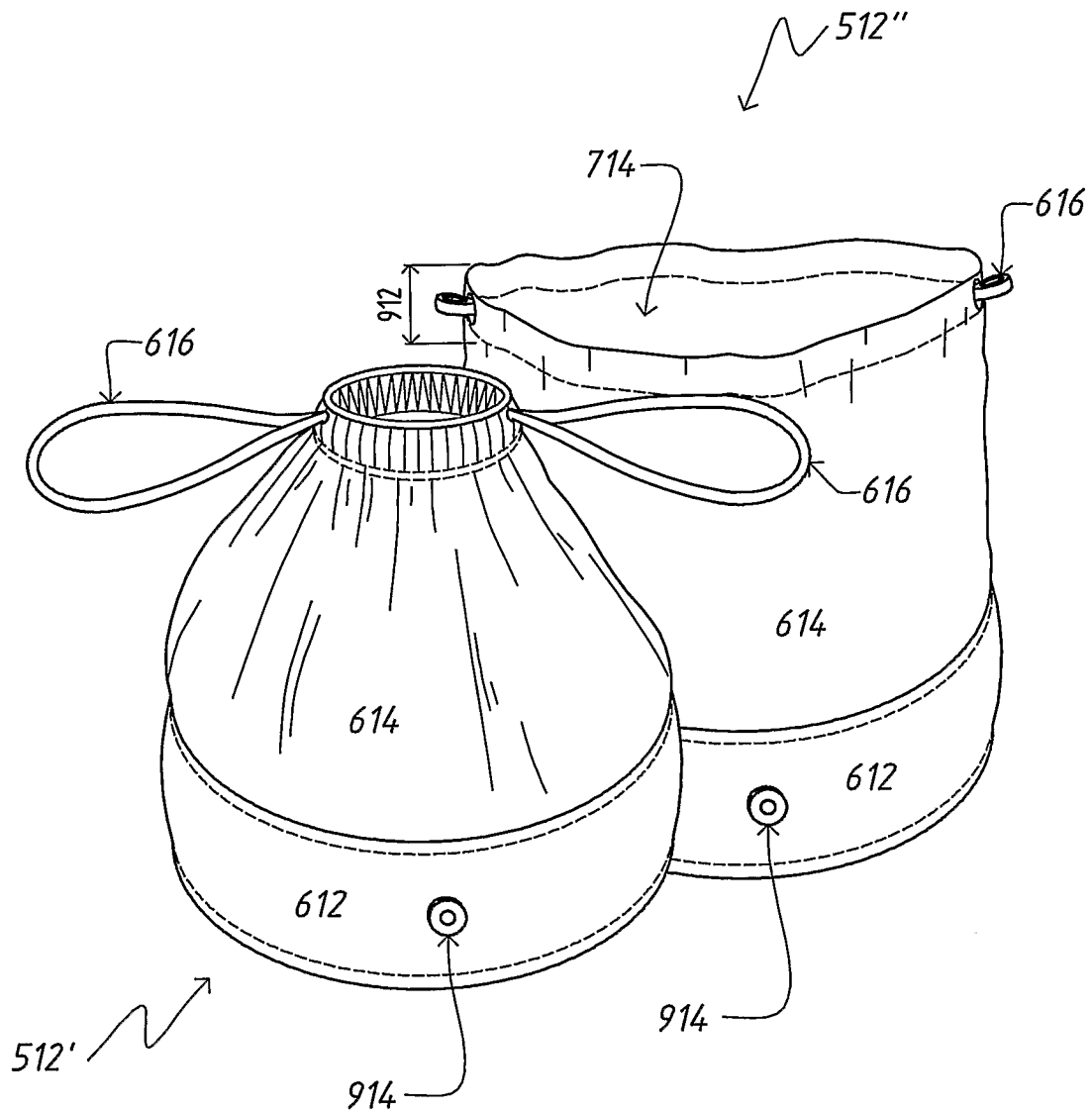


FIG 9b

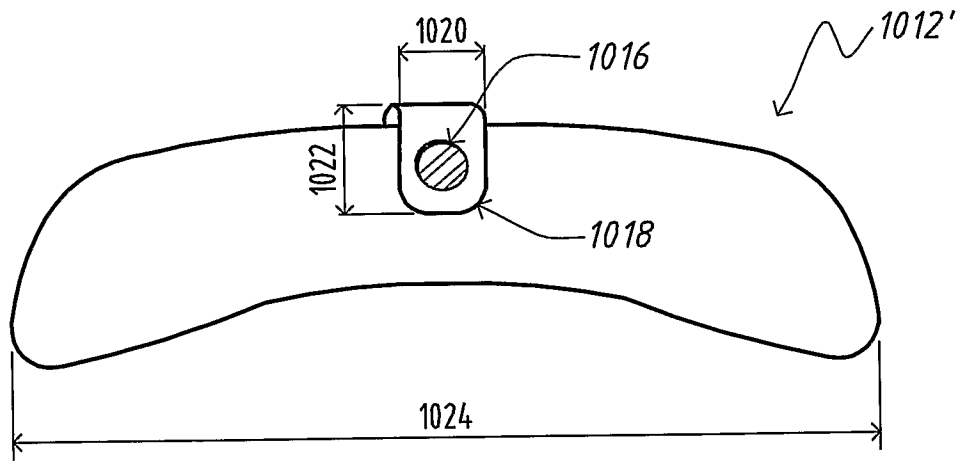


FIG 10b

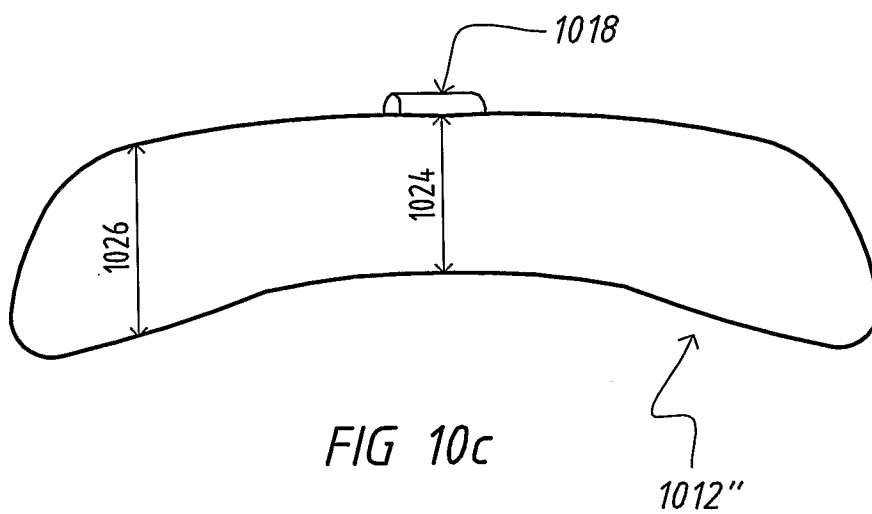


FIG 10c

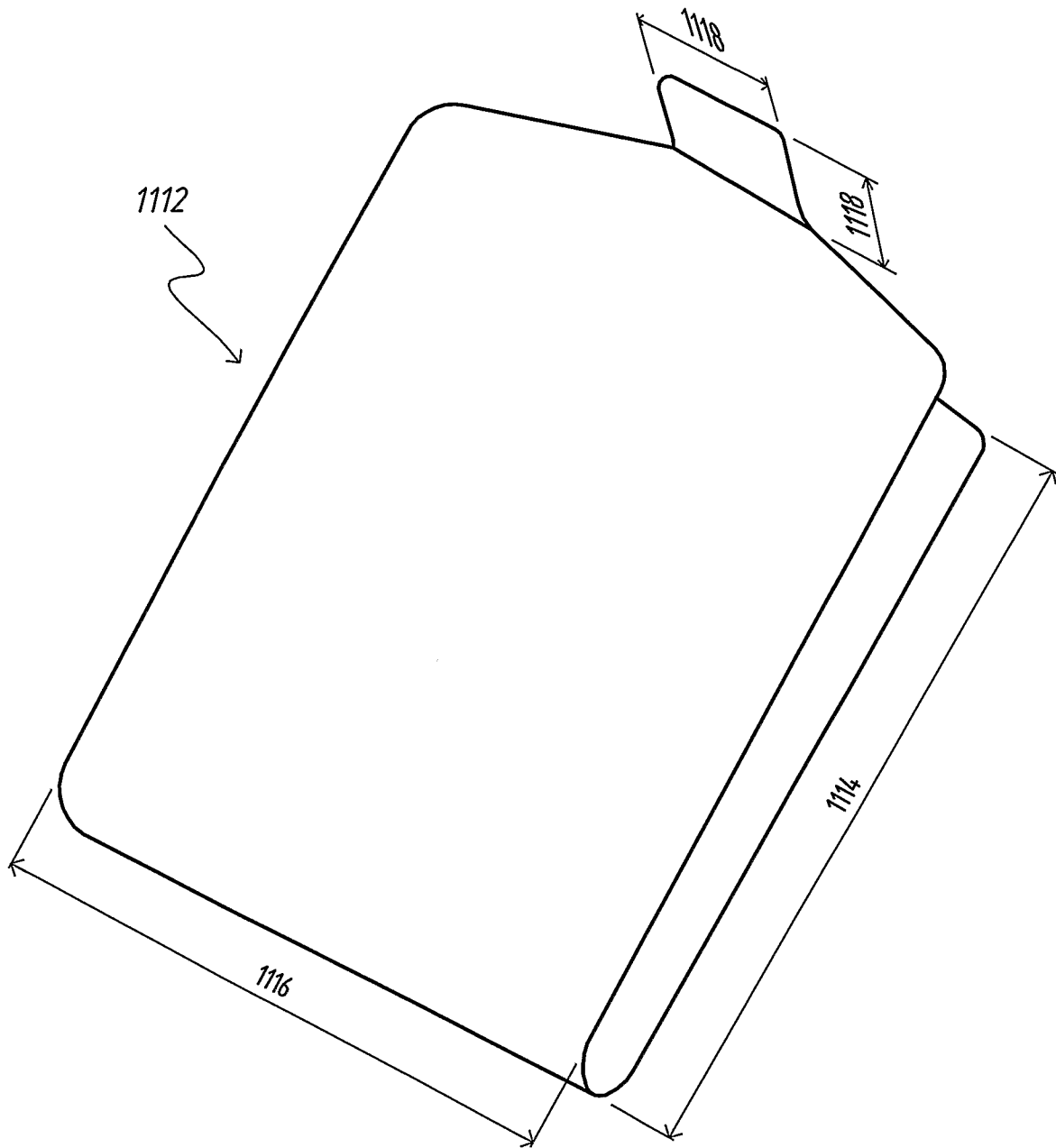
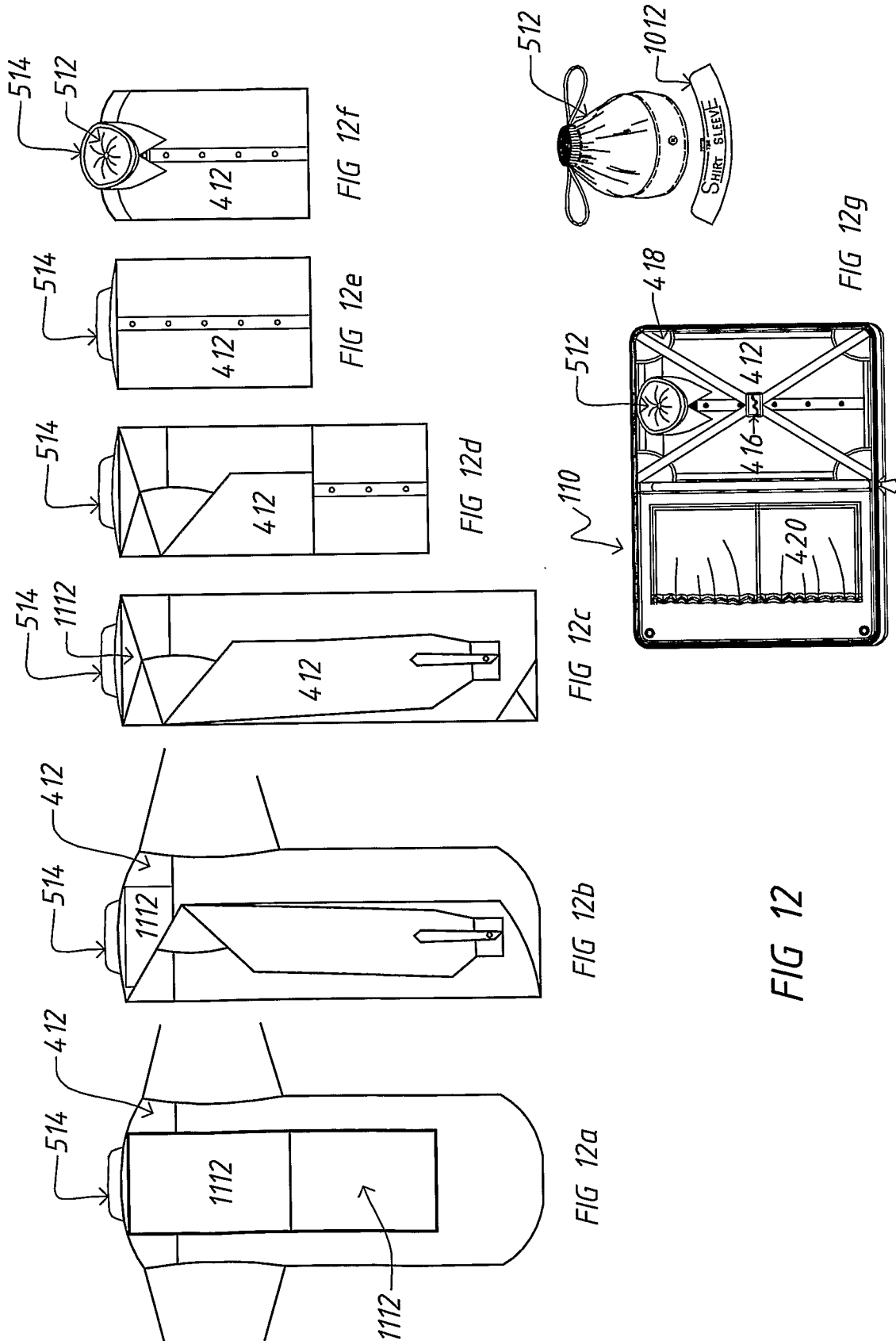


FIG 11



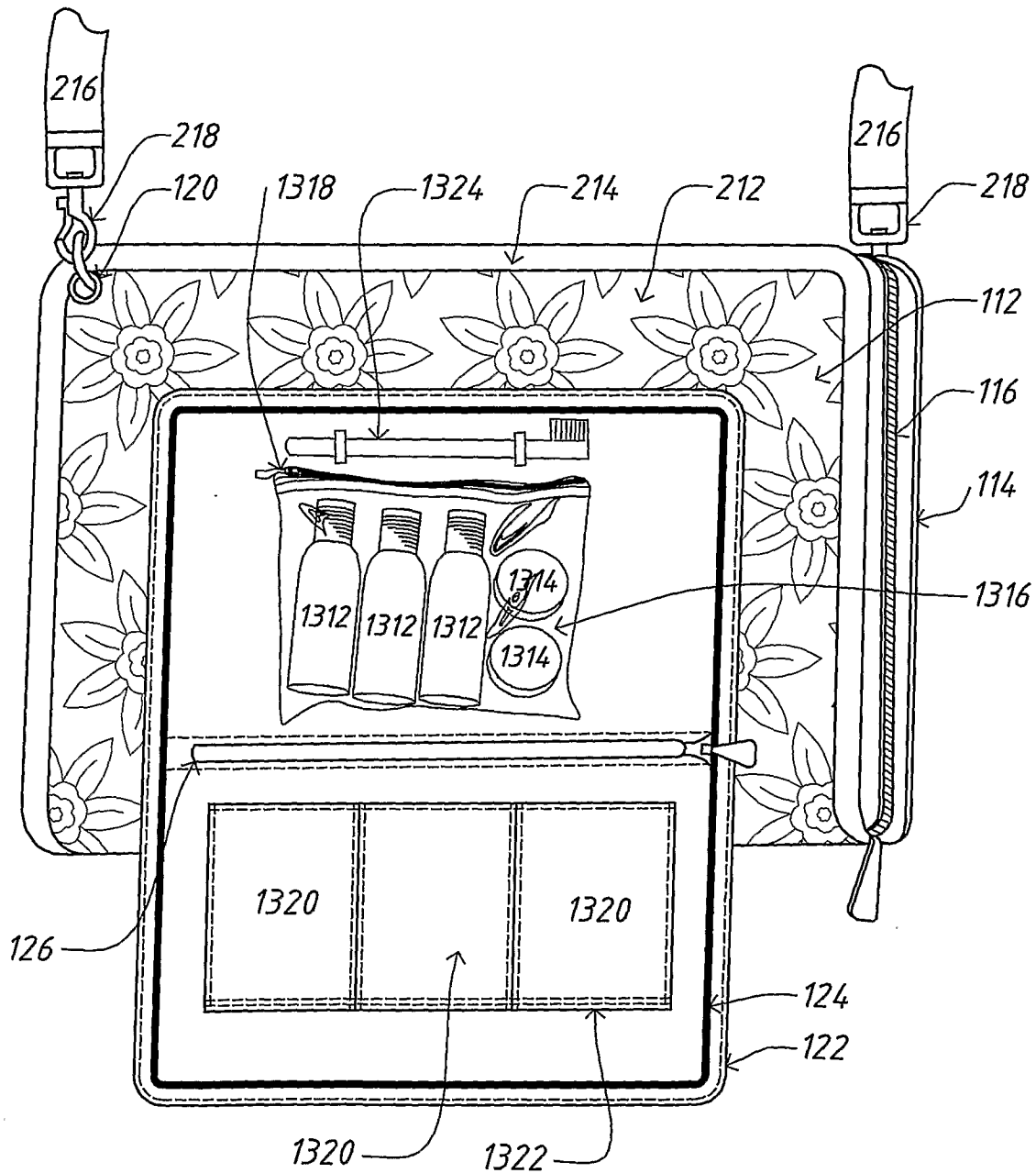


FIG 13

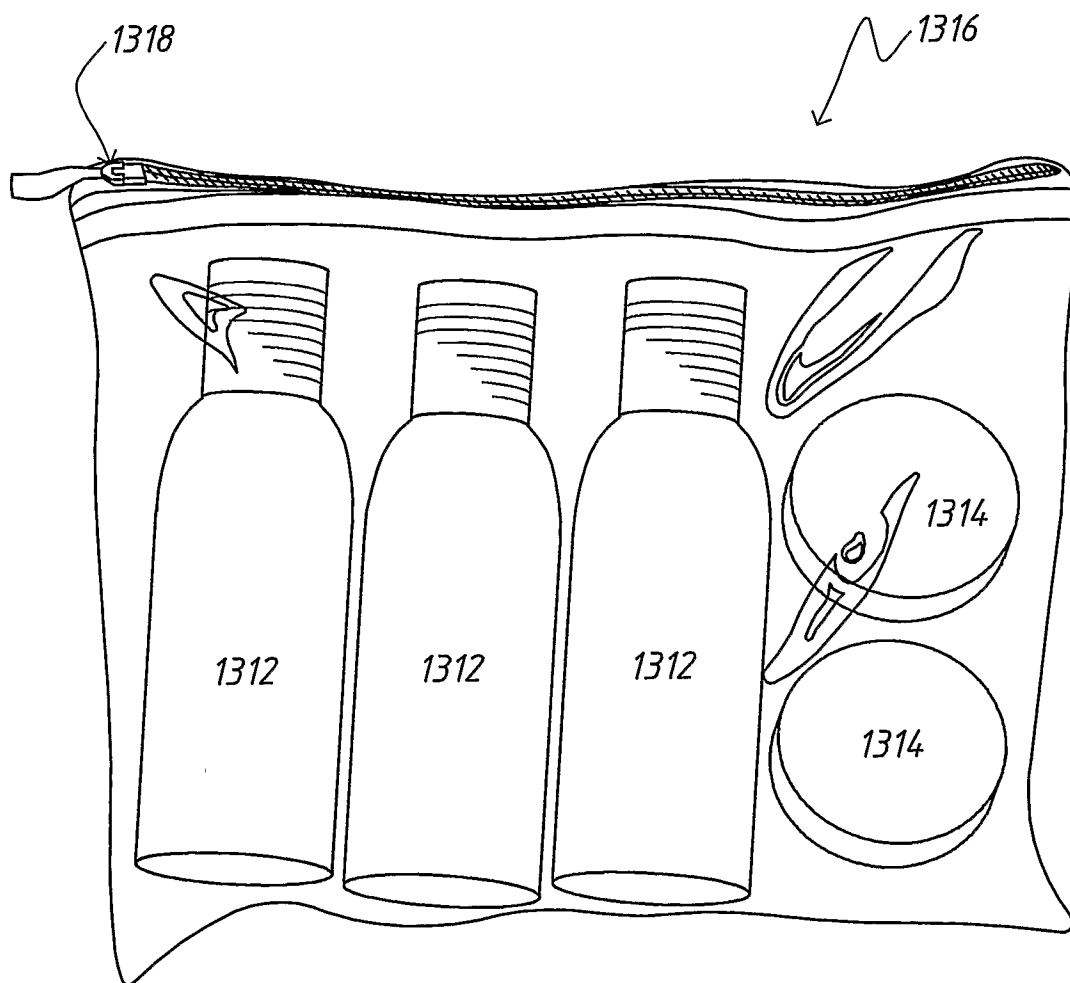
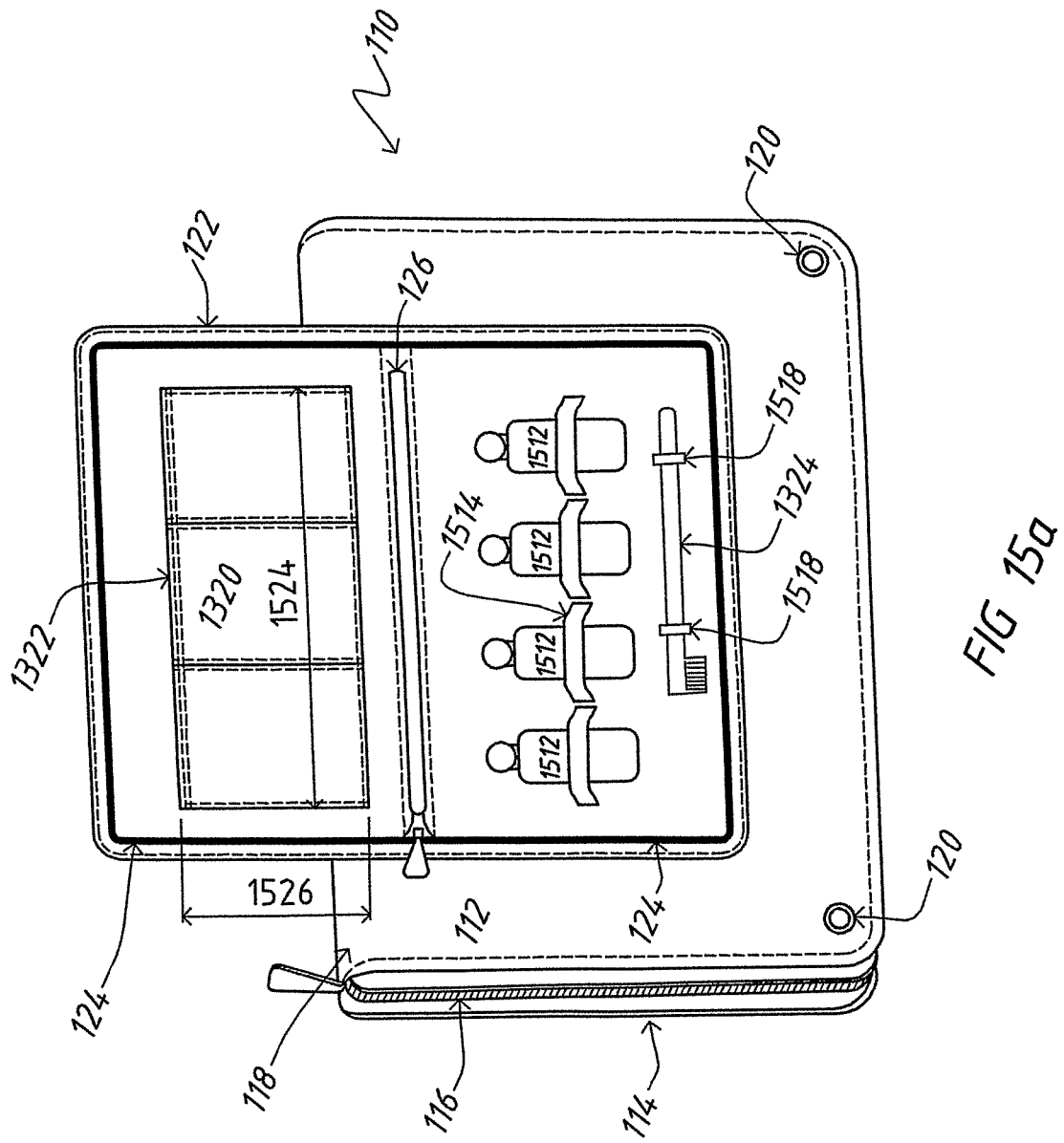
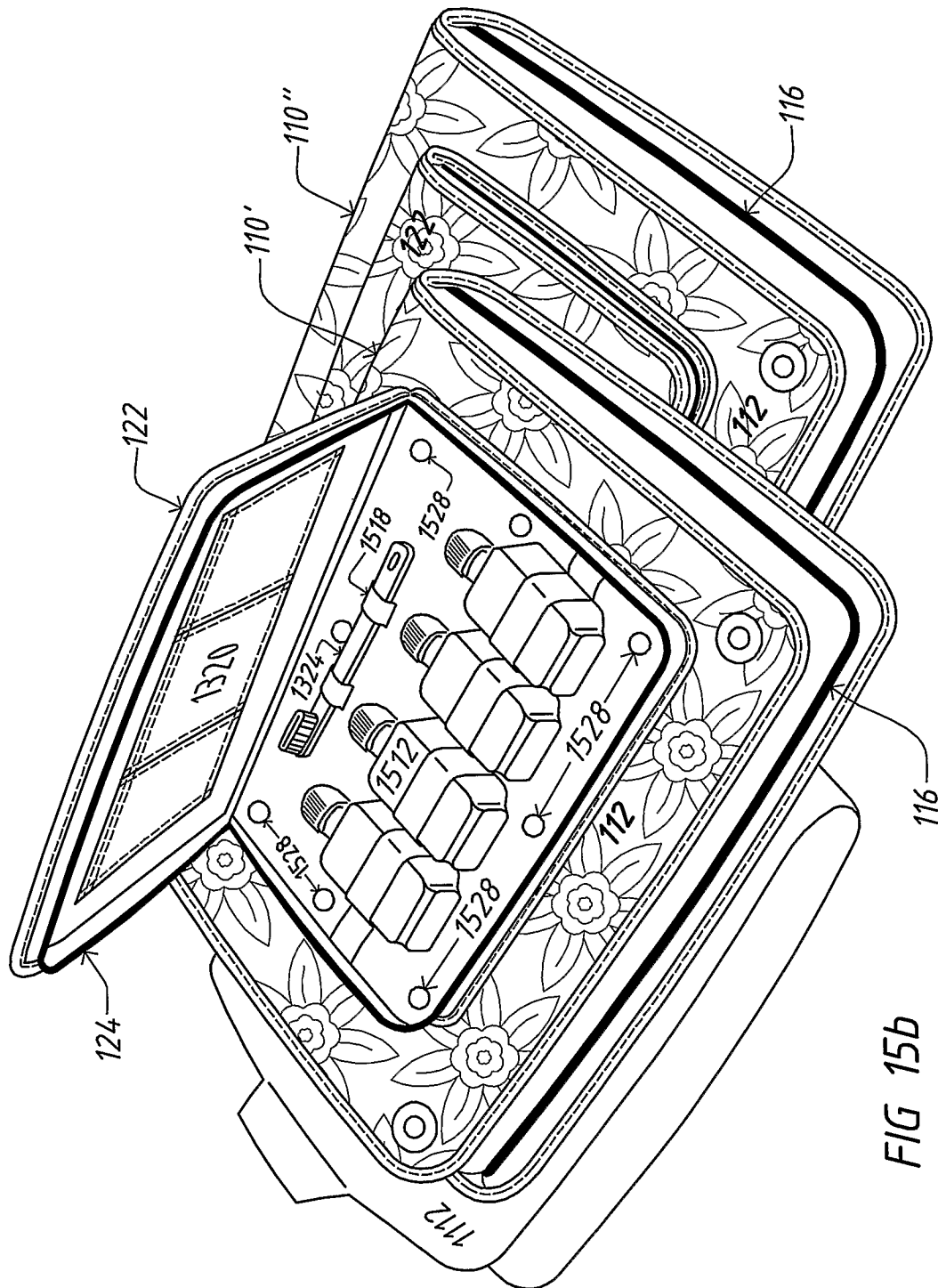


FIG 14





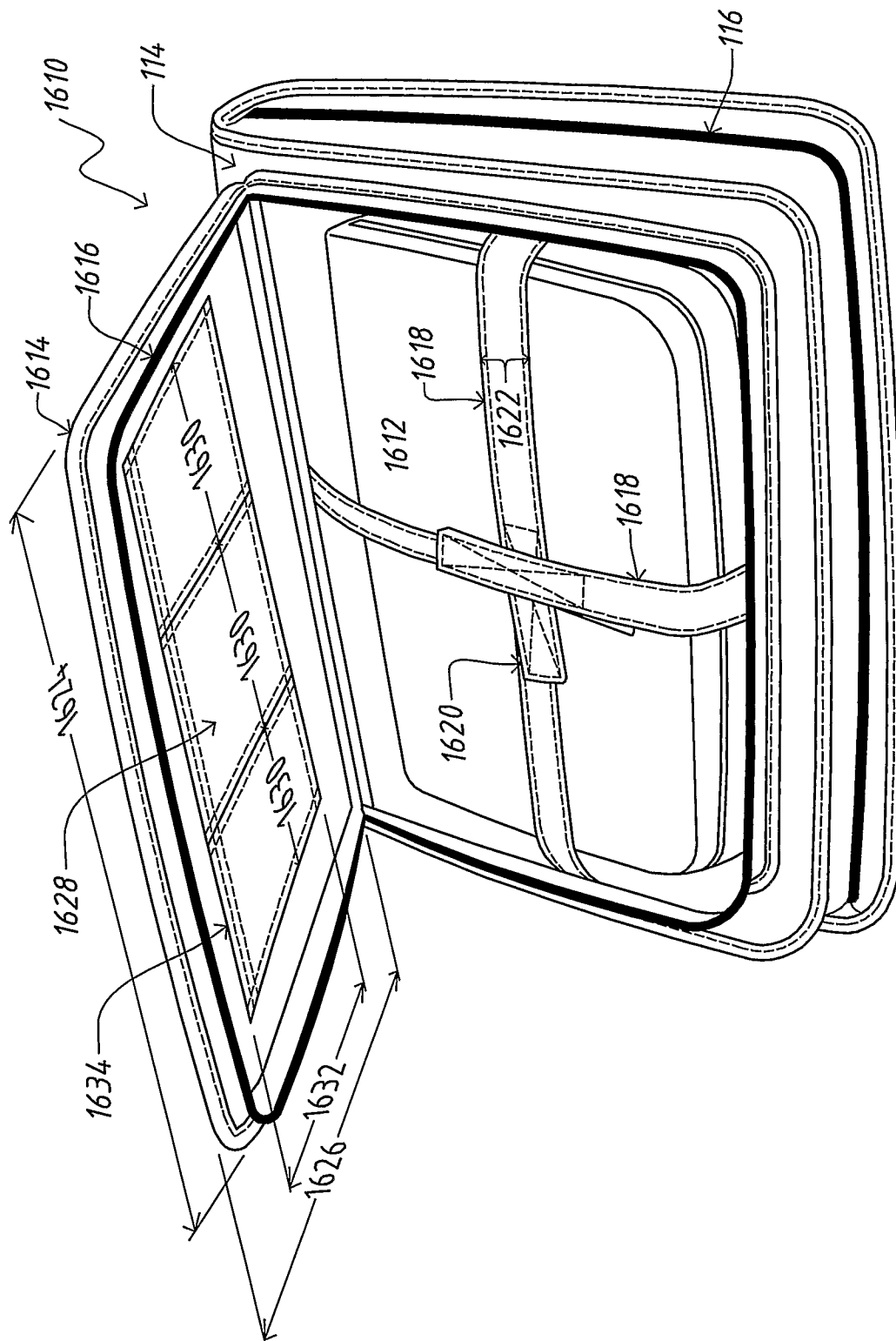


FIG 16

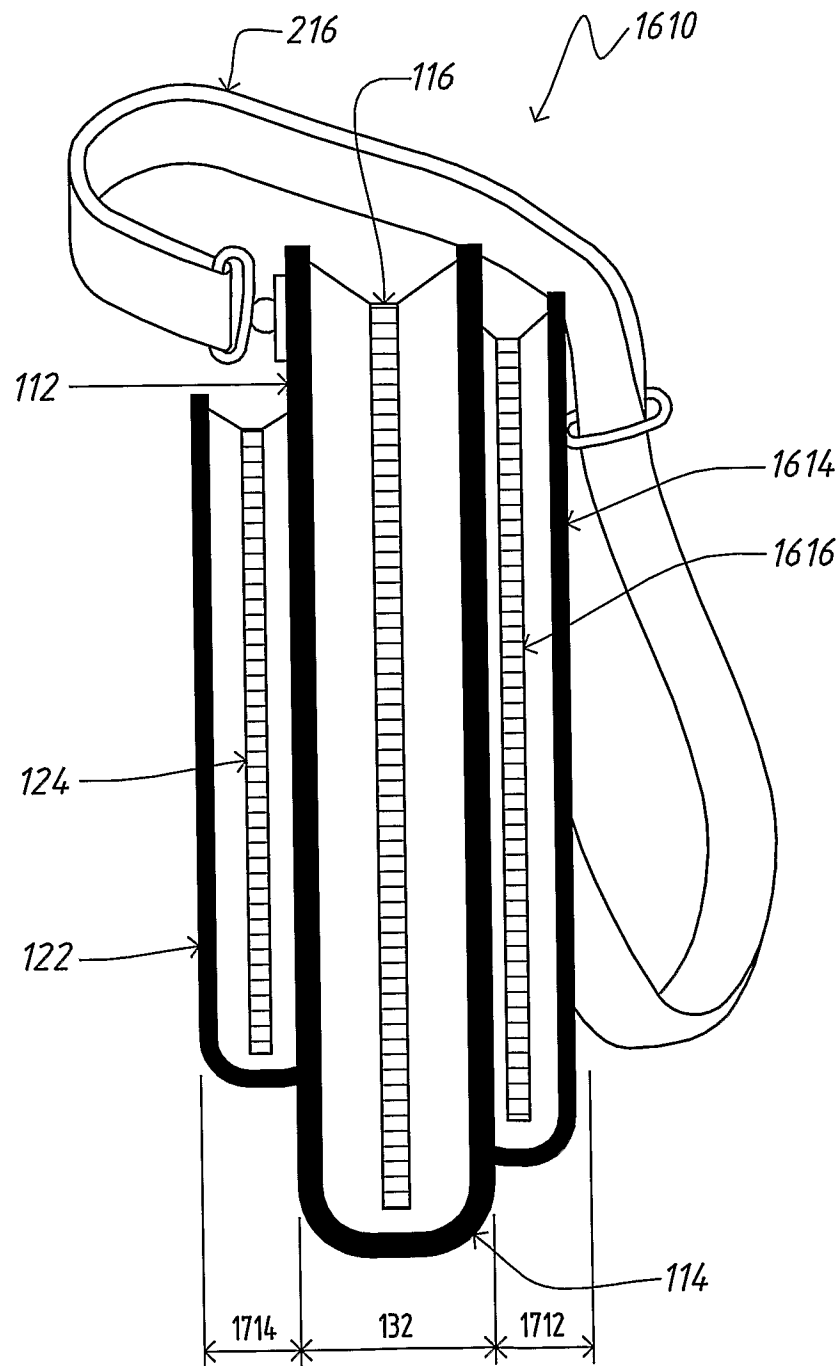


FIG 17

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2010/000888

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int. Cl. <i>A45C 3/00</i> (2006.01), <i>A45C 5/03</i> (2006.01), <i>B65D 85/18</i> (2006.01), <i>A45C 3/02</i> (2006.01), <i>A45C 13/02</i> (2006.01). According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPODOC, WPI, IPC, ECLA: <i>A45C 3/00, 3/02, 5/03, 13/02, A41B 1, B65D 85/18</i> and keywords (shirt or blouse), (travel), (clear, plastic, see, transparent, inspect), (compress, crush, crumple, squash, isolate, separate, retain).		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 612215 A (GORDON) 10 November 1948. Please see entire document especially figure 1.	1,20-22, 27-29.
X	US 6454089 B1 (PEASE) 24 September 2002. Please see entire document especially column 6 and figure 7.	1 to 13, 14, 16-18, 20-22,27-29, 30-32.
X	US 2002/0189959 A1 (PEASE) 19 December 2002. Please see entire document especially page 5 and figures 7, 8 and 9.	1 to 12, 18, 20-22, 27-29, 30-32.
X	US 2686580 A (DONNELLY) 17 August 1954. Please see entire document especially figures 1 and 2.	15.
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 13 September 2010		Date of mailing of the international search report 17 SEP 2010
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. +61 2 6283 7999		Authorized officer RON WEBER AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE (ISO 9001 Quality Certified Service) Telephone No : +61 2 6283 2546

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2010/000888

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: **35, 36 and 37.**
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Claims 35, 36 and 37 are deficient in that they rely on a reference to the description and drawings, PCT Rule 6.2 (a).

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2010/000888

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report			Patent Family Member				
GB	612215	NONE					
US	6454089	AU	65744/94	BR	9406640	CA	2160808
		CN	1125386	EP	0695130	EP	0765617
		GB	2291797	GB	2305904	GB	2310646
		GB	2310647	WO	9424899		
US	2002189959	NONE					
US	2686580	NONE					
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.							
END OF ANNEX							