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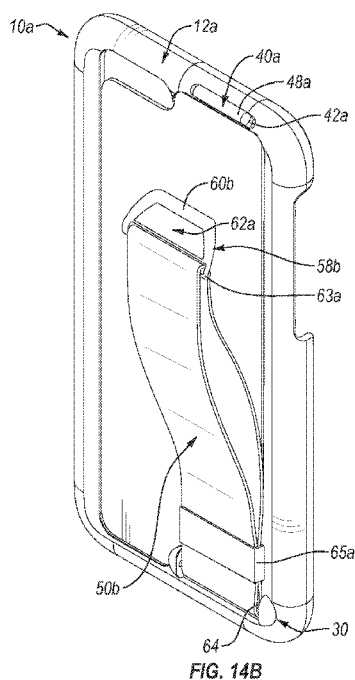
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(54) Title: DEVICE COVER AND METHODS INCLUDING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: Device covers for receiving a hand-held electronic device include a case having a backing element and a side wall that together bound a device receiving area. The backing element and side wall include openings for receiving, accessing, and/or accommodating features of the device and cover. The backing element can have a strap receiving member at a first end and a strap securing member at an opposing second end. The receiving member can receive a first portion of a detachable strap therein and the strap securing member can secure an opposing second portion of the strap thereto. The receiving member and/or securing member can be configured for quick release of the detachable strap therefrom. The strap can include a receiving member attachment element and/or securing member attachment element. The strap can be connected to one or both of the receiving member and the securing member during use.



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DEVICE COVER AND METHODS INCLUDING THE SAME

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

The present disclosure relates to device covers and related methods of assembly and use. In particular, the present disclosure relates to hand-held, electronic device covers having a detachable strap, and to methods of assembling and using the same.

2. Relevant Technology

Handheld electronic devices, such as mobile phones, MP3 players, tablets, mini-tablets, notebooks, laptops, 2-in-1s, PDAs, data organizers, etc., have continued to grow in popularity around the world. Such devices often include fragile components, such as glass, electrical circuits, batteries, and other features. A variety of device covers and/or cases are now available for protecting such devices against damage from impact, moisture, dust, and other harmful external factors.

Handheld devices are often carried from one place to another. Frequently, the device is carried in the open or even used during transit. For instance, cell phones are frequently used while walking, running, exercising, bike riding, driving, etc. During such mobile activities, mobile devices can be dropped and damaged, or even destroyed. Accordingly, a versatile, attachable, and/or re-arrangeable securing mechanism is needed to accommodate device use and safe transport.

BRIEF SUMMARY

Implementations of the present disclosure provide device covers and methods of assembling and using the same. In particular, various implementations include covers for hand-held electronic devices, the covers having a casing element having opposing first and second ends, and a detachable strap having opposing first and second portions removably and/or reversibly engaged with, attached to, connected to, secured to the casing element at the opposing first and second ends, respectively. The casing element can have a backing element and a side wall extending from a perimeter of the backing element. The side wall can at least partially encircle or surround a portion of the backing element and/or the backing element and the side wall can at least partially bound a device receiving area of the casing.

In at least one implementation, the backing element and/or side wall can have an interior surface adjacent to the device receiving area, an exterior surface opposite the device receiving area, and/or at one or more apertures extending therethrough. At least one of the one or more apertures extending through the backing element can comprise a strap

receiving opening configured for receiving a portion of the strap therein. Alternatively, or in addition, an aperture extending through the backing element and/or side wall can comprise an accessibility opening configured to provide access to a feature of a device disposed in the receiving area from the exterior surface.

5 The strap can comprise a band comprised of fabric, leather, elastomeric, polymeric, or other material. In certain implantations, the band can comprise a strip or (circular) loop connectable to one or more ends to the casing element. For instance, the strap can comprise a linear strip of having opposing first and second ends. Optionally, the first and second ends of the strip can be brought into proximity one with another and
10 secured into a loop. In at least one implementation, the strap can include one or more strap fastening elements (e.g., for securing opposing ends together) and/or one or more securing members adapted for interfacing and/or engaging with at least a portion of the casing element. In an alternative implementation, the strap can comprise a lanyard, rope, cord, cable, or other securing member. The strap can be configured for being worn around the
15 hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, neck, or other body part. In addition, the strap can be configured for being attached to an object, such as a hook, coat rack, key ring, or any other suitable securing means or object to which a casing may be attached. The strap can be adjustable in length and/or disposed about the exterior surface in some implementations. Furthermore, additional strap(s) can be attached to the first strap, thereby increasing utility and/or length.

20 In one or more implementations the cover can include at least one strap securing element disposed at the second end of the casing element and/or at least one strap receiving element disposed at the opposing first end of the casing element. The strap securing element can be adapted to releasably, removably and/or reversibly engaged with, attached to, connected to, and/or secure the second portion of the strap thereto. The second portion
25 of the strap can comprise a securing element attachment member adapted for being releasably secured to the at least one strap securing element.

 In certain implementations, the at least one strap securing element can comprise a stem protruding from the outer or exterior surface of the side wall opposite the receiving area. The stem can substantially prevent retraction or movement of the securing element
30 attachment member in a first direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the stem. The stem can have a proximal end connected to the casing element (e.g., to the side wall) and a distal end opposite the proximal end. The stem, or distal end thereof, can be removably coupled to the casing element in some implantations. Thus, the casing element (or side wall thereof) can include a stem receiving element. The stem

receiving element can comprise a hole or cavity into which the stem (or proximal end thereof) can be inserted, and/or an attachment member attached to which it can be secured.

The distal end of the stem can have a cap or retaining element disposed thereat, the retaining element substantially preventing retraction of the securing element attachment member in a second direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the capping element. The second direction is substantially perpendicular to the first direction in some implementations. The retaining element can also be removable in at least one implementation.

In some implementations, the at least one strap receiving element can be configured to receive at least a portion of the opposing first portion of the strap at least partially therein. The first portion of the strap can comprise a receiving element attachment member adapted for being at least partially received within the at least one strap receiving element. In at least one implementation, the at least one strap receiving element can comprise opposing first and second receiving members. The receiving element attachment member can comprise (an elongated) securing member comprising a first end and an opposing second end. The opposing first and second ends can be adapted for being at least partially received within the opposing first and second receiving members, respectively. The strap can be at least partially rotatable about or swively connected to the at least one strap receiving element such that the strap can rotate or swivel about the at least one strap receiving element when the second portion of the strap is in an unsecured configuration.

In at least one implementation, the at least one strap receiving element can comprise an opening extending through the casing element and at least one receiving member. The opening can be configured to permit passage of the strap therethrough in a feeding direction. The at least one receiving member can be configured to substantially prevent passage of the receiving element attachment member therethrough in the feeding direction.

In one or more implementations, the at least one strap securing element can comprise at least a first strap securing element disposed at the second end of the casing element and at least a second strap securing element disposed at the opposing first end of the casing element. One or more of the first and second strap securing elements can be adapted to releasably, removably, and/or reversibly engaged with, attached to, connected to, and/or secure the first and/or second portion of the strap thereto. The strap can comprise a first end and an opposing second end. The opposing first and second ends of the strap can be secured together at a third portion of strap. The third portion of the strap can be disposed

at least partially between the opposing first and second portions. In addition, the strap can further comprise a strap securing element configured to secure together the opposing first and second ends.

Certain implementations can be directed towards methods of assembling and/or using a hand-held device cover. For instance, at least one implementation can include a method of removably securing a detachable strap to a casing element of a hand-held device cover. The method can include inserting a first portion of a strap into a strap receiving element disposed at a first end of the casing element such that the strap is at least partially secured to the strap receiving element. The strap receiving element can substantially prevent movement of the first portion of the strap in at least a first direction. The method can also include removably securing an opposing second portion of the strap to a strap securing element disposed at an opposing second end of the casing element, the strap securing element substantially preventing movement of the opposing second portion of the strap in at least a second direction.

In one or more implementations, inserting the first portion of a strap into the strap receiving element can comprise inserting the second portion of a strap into an opening extending through the casing element from the interior surface and advancing the strap through the opening toward the exterior surface until the first portion of the strap engages with one or more receiving members. Accordingly, the second portion of the strap can be fed into the opening from the interior surface of the casing element and the strap advanced toward the exterior surface through the opening. The first portion of the strap can comprise a receiving element attachment member adapted for engaging with the one or more receiving members of the strap receiving element. The one or more receiving members can substantially prevent movement of the receiving element attachment member toward the strap securing element disposed at the opposing second end of the casing element.

Alternatively, the strap receiving element can comprise one or more receiving members disposed on an exterior surface of the casing element, the first portion of the strap comprising a receiving element attachment member adapted for engaging with the one or more receiving members of the strap receiving element. Accordingly, inserting the first portion of the strap into the strap receiving element can comprise inserting at least a portion of the receiving element attachment member at least partially into the one or more receiving members, the one or more receiving members substantially preventing movement of the receiving element attachment member toward the strap securing element disposed at the opposing second end of the casing element.

Furthermore, the strap securing element can comprise a stem protruding from the exterior surface of the casing element (e.g., side wall) and the second portion of the strap can comprise a securing element attachment member adapted for engaging with the stem, the stem substantially preventing movement of the securing element attachment member in the second direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the stem. The stem can have a proximal end connected to the exterior surface and a distal end opposite the proximal end, the distal end having a capping element disposed thereat, the capping element substantially preventing movement of the securing element attachment member in a third direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the capping element.

Additional features and advantages of exemplary implementations of the present invention will be set forth in the description which follows, and in part will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by the practice of such exemplary implementations. The features and advantages of such implementations may be realized and obtained by means of the instruments and combinations particularly pointed out in the appended claims. These and other features will become more fully apparent from the following description and appended claims, or may be learned by the practice of such exemplary implementations as set forth hereinafter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Various embodiments of the present disclosure will now be discussed with reference to the appended drawings. It is appreciated that these drawings depict only typical embodiments of the disclosure and are therefore not to be considered limiting of its scope.

Figure 1 illustrates a rear perspective view of a hand-held device cover in a secured configuration in accordance with an implementation of the present disclosure;

Figure 2 illustrates a front perspective view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

Figure 3 illustrates a right side view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

Figure 4 illustrates a left side view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

Figure 5 illustrates a top view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

Figure 6 illustrates a bottom view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

Figure 7 illustrates an exploded view of a hand-held device and cover in accordance with an implementation of the present disclosure;

Figure 8 illustrates a rear perspective view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1 in an unsecured configuration;

Figure 9 illustrates a rear perspective view of some components of the hand-held device cover of Figure 1;

5 Figure 10 illustrates a rear perspective view of some components of a hand-held device cover in accordance with another implementation of the present disclosure;

Figure 11 illustrates a rear perspective view of some components of a hand-held device cover in accordance with another implementation of the present disclosure;

10 Figures 12A-12D illustrate some components of a hand-held device cover strap in a series of assembled configurations in accordance with another implementation of the present disclosure;

Figures 13A-13B illustrate perspective views of a hand-held device cover in partially assembled and secured configurations in accordance with an implementation of the present disclosure;

15 Figure 14A illustrates a rear perspective view of a hand-held device cover in a secured configuration in accordance with another implementation of the present disclosure;

Figure 14B illustrates a rear perspective view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 14A in an unsecured configuration;

20 Figure 15 illustrates a front perspective view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 14A;

Figure 16A illustrates a left side elevation view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 14A;

Figure 16B illustrates a left side elevation view of the hand-held device cover of Figure 14A in an unsecured configuration;

25 Figure 17A illustrates a front perspective view of a hand-held device cover casing in accordance with an implementation of the present disclosure;

Figures 17B-17C illustrate detailed views of portions of the hand-held device cover casing of Figure 17A;

30 Figure 18 illustrates as an alternative implementation of the portion illustrated in Figure 17C;

Figure 19A illustrates a rear perspective view of the hand-held device cover casing of Figure 17A;

Figures 19B-19C illustrate detailed views of portions of the hand-held device cover casing of Figure 18A; and

Figure 20 illustrates a facing view of an accessory to a hand-held device cover or casing thereof in accordance with an implementation of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Before describing the present disclosure in further detail, it is to be understood
5 that this disclosure is not limited to the description of the particularly exemplified systems, methods, and/or products that may vary from one implementation to the next. Thus, while certain implementations of the present disclosure will be described in detail, with reference to specific configurations, parameters, features (e.g., components, members, elements, parts, and/or portions), etc., the descriptions are illustrative and are not to be construed as limiting
10 the scope of the claimed invention. In addition, the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing the implementations, and is not necessarily intended to limit the scope of the claimed invention.

Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which the present
15 disclosure pertains.

Various aspects of the present disclosure, including systems, processes, and/or products may be illustrated with reference to one or more implementations or embodiments, which are exemplary in nature. As used herein, the terms “embodiment” and “implementation” mean serving as an example, instance, or illustration, and should not
20 necessarily be construed as preferred or advantageous over other aspects disclosed herein. In addition, reference to an “implementation” of the present disclosure or invention includes a specific reference to one or more embodiments thereof, and vice versa, and is intended to provide illustrative examples without limiting the scope of the invention, which is indicated by the appended claims rather than by the following description.

25 As used herein, the term “systems” also contemplates devices, apparatus, compositions, assemblies, kits, and so forth. Similarly, the term “method” also contemplates processes, procedures, steps, and so forth. Moreover, the term “products” also contemplates devices, apparatus, compositions, assemblies, kits, and so forth.

As used throughout this application the words “can” and “may” are used in a permissive
30 sense (i.e., meaning having the potential to), rather than the mandatory sense (i.e., meaning must). Additionally, the terms “including,” “having,” “involving,” “containing,” “characterized by,” as well as variants thereof (e.g., “includes,” “has,” and “involves,” “contains,” etc.), and similar terms as used herein, including the claims, shall be inclusive and/or open-ended, shall have the same meaning as the word “comprising” and variants

thereof (*e.g.*, “comprise” and “comprises”), and do not exclude additional, un-recited elements or method steps, illustratively.

It will be noted that, as used in this specification and the appended claims, the singular forms “a,” “an” and “the” include plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to a “seam” includes one, two, or more seams. Similarly, reference to a plurality of referents should be interpreted as comprising a single referent and/or a plurality of referents unless the content and/or context clearly dictate otherwise. Thus, reference to “seams” does not necessarily require a plurality of such seams. Instead, it will be appreciated that independent of conjugation; one or more seams are contemplated herein.

As used herein, directional, positional, and/or orientational terms, such as “top,” “bottom,” “left,” “right,” “up,” “down,” “upper,” “lower,” “inner,” “outer,” “internal,” “external,” “interior,” “exterior,” “proximal,” “distal” and so forth can be used arbitrarily and/or solely to indicate relative directions, positions, and/or orientations and may not be otherwise intended to limit the scope of the disclosure, including the specification, drawings, and/or claims.

Various aspects of the present disclosure can be illustrated by describing components that are bound, coupled, attached, connected, and/or joined together. As used herein, the terms “bound,” “coupled,” “attached,” “connected,” and/or “joined” are used to indicate either a direct association between two components or, where appropriate, an indirect association with one another through intervening or intermediate components. In contrast, when a component is referred to as being “directly bound,” “directly coupled,” “directly attached,” “directly connected,” and/or “directly joined” to another component, no intervening elements are present or contemplated.

To facilitate understanding, like references (*i.e.*, like naming of components and/or elements) have been used, where possible, to designate like elements common to the figures. Specifically, in the exemplary implementations illustrated in the figures, like structures, or structures with like functions, will be provided with similar reference designations, where possible. Specific language will be used herein to describe the exemplary implementations. Nevertheless it will be understood that no limitation of the scope of the disclosure is thereby intended. Rather, it is to be understood that the language used to describe the exemplary implementations is illustrative only and is not to be construed as limiting the scope of the disclosure (unless such language is expressly described herein as essential).

It will also be appreciated that where multiple possibilities of values or a range of values (e.g., less than, greater than, at least, and/or up to a certain value, and/or between two recited values) is disclosed or recited, any specific value or range of values falling within the disclosed range of values is likewise disclosed and contemplated herein. Thus, disclosure of an illustrative measurement or amount less than or equal to about 10 units or between 0 and 10 units includes, illustratively, a specific disclosure of: (i) a measurement or amount of 9 units, 5 units, 1 units, or any other value between 0 and 10 units, including 0 units and/or 10 units; and/or (ii) a measurement or amount between 9 units and 1 units, between 8 units and 2 units, between 6 units and 4 units, and/or any other range of values between 0 and 10 units.

The headings used herein are for organizational purposes only and are not meant to be used to limit the scope of the description or the claims.

In general, implementations of the present disclosure are directed towards device cover assemblies and methods of assembling and using the same. In particular, various implementations include covers for hand-held electronic devices, the covers having a casing element having opposing first and second ends, and a detachable strap having opposing first and second portions secured to the casing element at the opposing first and second ends, respectively. An illustrative method of removably securing a detachable strap to a casing element of a hand-held device cover can include inserting a first portion of the strap into a strap receiving element disposed at a first end of the casing element such that the strap is at least partially secured to the strap receiving element, and removably securing an opposing second portion of the strap to a strap securing element disposed at an opposing second end of the casing element.

Device Covers

Depicted in Figure 1 is one implementation of a device cover 10 having a casing element 12 extending between a first end 14 and an opposing second end 16, and a detachable strap 50 releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to casing element 12 at first end 14 and at opposing second end 16. Strap 50 can comprise a first portion 52 and an opposing second portion 54. First end 14 of casing element 12 can be the bottom end thereof and second end 16 of casing element 12 can be the top end thereof. It will be appreciated, however, that first end 14 and opposing second end 16 can be disposed in any suitable orientation or configuration, including top to bottom, bottom to top, side to side, or diagonally. First portion 52 of strap 50 can be attached to

casing element 12 at first end 14 of casing element 12, and second portion 54 of strap 50 can be attached to casing element 12 at second end 16 of casing element 12.

Casing element 12 can comprise a backing element 18 and a sidewall 20 extending from backing element 18. For instance, sidewall 20 can extend from a perimeter 22 of backing element 18. Backing element 18 can have an exterior surface 24 disposed on one side thereof and an interior surface 26 (Figure 2) disposed opposite exterior surface 24. Similarly, sidewall 20 can have an outer surface 28 and an inner surface 29 (Figure 2). Casing element 12 can further include at least one strap receiving element 30. Strap receiving element 30 can be disposed at first end 14 of casing element 12. Strap receiving element 30 can comprise at least one receiving member 32. For instance, as illustrated in Figure 1, strap receiving element 30 can comprise opposing receiving members 32a and 32b. Strap 50 can also be adjustable in length such that strap 50 can be tightly or loosely associated with exterior surface 24 of backing element 18.

Strap receiving element 30 can also comprise at least one opening 34. As illustrated in Figure 1, an opening 34 can extend through casing element 12, or backing element 18 thereof, between exterior surface 24 and interior surface 26. In addition, casing element 12, or backing element 18 thereof, can include one or more additional openings 36. Similarly, casing element 12, or sidewall 20 thereof, can include one or more additional openings 38. Additional openings 36 and 38 can be adapted for providing access to one or more device features or accessories (e.g., buttons, switches, cameras, speakers, microphones, etc.) from outside device cover 10.

Casing element 12 can further include at least one strap securing element 40. Strap securing element 40 can be disposed at second end 16 of casing element 12. As illustrated in Figure 1, strap securing element 40 can comprise a stem 42. Stem 42 can extend from an exterior or outer surface of casing element 12. For instance, as illustrated in Figure 1, stem 42 extends from outer surface 28 of sidewall 20. In an alternative implementation, stem 42 can extend from exterior surface 24 of backing element 18. Turning briefly to Figure 8, stem 42 can have a proximal end 44 connected to casing element 12 (e.g., sidewall 20 and/or backing element 18) and a distal end 46 opposite proximal end 44. Strap securing element 40 can also include a capping and/or retaining element 48. Retaining element 48 can be disposed at distal end 46 of stem 42.

Returning to Figure 1, strap 50 can include a receiving element attachment member 56 disposed at or adjacent to the first portion 52. Receiving element attachment member 56 can engage with and/or be received at least partially within receiving element 34

or receiving member(s) 32 thereof. Receiving member 32 can comprise a mound-shaped socket or other cupping member extending from casing element 12 and/or backing element 18 thereof. Receiving element attachment member 56 can secure first portion 52 of strap 50 to first end 14 of casing element 12 when receiving element attachment member 56 is engaged with receiving element 30. As will be discussed in further detail below, receiving element attachment member 56 can be rotatably and/or swively connected to strap receiving element 30 and/or receiving member(s) 32 thereof.

Strap 50 can also include a securing element attachment member 58 disposed at or adjacent to second portion 54. Securing element attachment member 58 can engage with and/or be connected to securing element 40. For instance, securing element attachment member 58 can comprise a body 60 having a securing opening 62 disposed therein or therethrough. Body 60 and/or securing opening 62 can be disposed about stem 42 of securing element 40. For instance, body 60 can have an at least partially annular configuration such that body 60 at least partially surrounds stem 42. Accordingly, stem 42 can prevent substantial retraction and/or movement of securing element attachment member 58 in at least one direction. For instance, when securing element attachment member 58 is engaged with stem 42, stem 42 can prevent securing element attachment member 58 from moving across the outer surface 28 of sidewall 20, and thereby toward first end 14. Accordingly, sidewall 20 can also substantially prevent securing element attachment member 58 from moving toward first and 14.

Similarly, retaining element 48 can prevent securing element attachment member 58 from moving substantially in a second direction. In some implementations, the second direction can be substantially perpendicular to the first direction. For instance, retaining element 48 can substantially prevent securing element attachment member 58 from moving (upward) so as to disengage from stem 42. Thus, retaining element 48 can retain securing element attachment member 58 in an engaged configuration with stem 42. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that while securing element 40 (or stem 42 and/or retaining element 48 thereof) can substantially prevent movement of securing element attachment member 58 toward first end 14 in an engaged configuration, that securing element attachment member 58 can be released from securing element 40. For instance, securing element attachment member 58 can be releasably secured to securing element 40. In at least one implementation, securing element attachment member 58 can be released from securing element 40 by means of securing opening 62. For instance, securing element attachment member 58 can be connected to securing element 40 by a quick release

attachment mechanism. For instance, securing element 40 can be releasably connectable to casing element 12 (or side wall 20 thereof). Additional implementations can include a clip, snap, flip, or other quick release mechanism.

Body 60 of securing element attachment member 58 can be disposed at least partially beneath retaining element 48 of securing element 40. Thus, retaining element 48 can prevent upward movement of securing element attachment member 58 thereby retaining engagement of body 60 with securing element 40. Accordingly, in other implementations, securing element attachment member 58 can be disengaged from securing element 40 by removing contact between body 60 and stem 42, and then lifting securing element attachment member 58 over retaining element 48.

Turning now to Figure 2, cover 10 can include a receiving area 70. For instance, backing element 18 (or interior surface 26 thereof) and sidewall 20 (or inner surface 29 thereof) can at least partially bound receiving area 70. Receiving area 70 can be configured to receive one or more devices therein. For instance, various implementations of device cover 10 can be specifically configured and/or designed to accommodate and/or receive various types of devices. Figure 2 also illustrates one or more recessed portions 21 in sidewall 20. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that recessed portions 21 can be adapted for providing access to one or more device features or accessories (e.g., buttons, switches, speakers, microphones, cameras, etc.) from outside device cover 10.

As indicated above, strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof can be received at least partially within strap receiving element 30 and/or opening 34 thereof at first end 14 of casing element 12. For instance, opening 34 can comprise a major opening 34a and one or more minor openings 34b. Receiving element attachment member 56 can comprise a securing member 64. Securing member 64 can comprise an elongated member (e.g., rod or bar) configured to extend between opposing minor openings 34b. Opposing receiving members 32a and 32b (Figure 1) can be disposed at the rear end of opposing minor openings 34b, respectively. However, major opening 34a can have an open configuration at the rear end thereof (see Figure 9). Accordingly, strap 50 can be configured to pass through opening 34 or major opening 34a thereof. However, securing member 64 can be received into minor openings 34b can become engaged with receiving members 32a and 32b, thereby preventing securing member 64 from moving further through opening 34 (in a third direction).

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate opposing side views of device cover 10 having strap 50 secured and/or in a secured configuration about exterior surface 24 of backing element 18 of

casing element 12. Accordingly, securing element attachment member 58 is disposed at least partially beneath capping element 48 and receiving element attachment member 56 is disposed at least partially within receiving element 30. Strap 50 can be disposed at least partially against exterior surface 24. For instance, strap 50 can have a low-profile relative to backing element 18 or exterior surface 24 thereof.

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate, respectively, a top view and a bottom view of device cover 10 having strap 50 secured and/or in a secured configuration. Accordingly, securing element attachment member 58 is engaged with strap securing element 40 as depicted in Figure 5. In particular, body 60 of securing element attachment member 58 is disposed partially beneath retaining element 48 of securing element 40. However, securing opening 62 of body 60 can be larger than retaining element 48 such that proper positioning of securing element attachment member 58 will allow for disengagement of body 60 from retaining element 48. Figure 6 illustrates receiving element attachment member 56 engaged with strap receiving element 30. In particular, receiving members 32a and 32b are engaged with securing member 64. Figures 5 and 6 also illustrate top and bottom recessed portions 21.

Figure 7 illustrates a device 100 configured to be received within receiving area 70 of device cover 10. Accordingly, cover 10 and/or receiving area 70 thereof is specifically and/or precisely configured to receive device 100. Secured strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof, and/or securing member 64 thereof, can be disposed within opening 34 and may not extend and/or protrude into receiving area 70. In particular, secured strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof, and/or securing member 64 thereof, may not extend beyond interior surface 26 of backing element 18 such that device 100 can fit in and/or be received within receiving area 70 without interference from any portion or component of strap 50.

In addition, device 100 can further secure strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof and/or securing member 64 thereof within strap receiving element 30 and/or opening 34, such that strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof and/or securing member 64 thereof does not become disconnected from strap receiving element 30 and/or removed from opening 34 (by moving in the direction of receiving area 70) while device 100 is disposed in receiving area 70. It will be further appreciated that the connection of strap 50 and/or securing element attachment member 58 thereof by securing element 40 at the opposing upper end of device cover 10 can provide tension that also secures strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof

and/or securing member 64 thereof within strap receiving element 30 and/or opening 34, such that strap 50 and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof and/or securing member 64 thereof does not become disconnected from strap receiving element 30 and/or removed from opening 34 (by moving in the direction of receiving area 70) while device
5 100 is disposed in receiving area 70.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that device cover 10 can be custom made to accommodate and/or receive device 100. Accordingly, alternatively configured devices may not be compatible with certain configurations or implementations of device cover 10. However, alternatively designed and/or implemented device covers 10 may be compatible
10 with such alternatively configured devices.

Figure 8 illustrates a device cover 10 having strap 50 in an unsecured or disengaged configuration. Accordingly, securing element attachment member 58 is disengaged from securing element 40. However, receiving element attachment member 56 can still be engaged with and/or attached to receiving element 30 (or receiving member(s)
15 32 thereof). Figure 8 further illustrates that strap 50 can be rotatably and/or swivelly attached to casing element 12. For instance, receiving element attachment member 56 can be rotatably and/or swivelly attached to receiving element 30 (or receiving member(s) 32 thereof). Accordingly, in the illustrated unsecured or disengaged configuration, strap 50 may rotate or swivel away from backing element 18 to at least partially extend away from
20 casing 12.

In addition, strap 50 can be configured with strap members 57a and 57b, forming a loop 51. Loop 51 can comprise a hand, wrist, arm, or other receiving opening. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that loop 51 can also exist and/or be used when strap 50 is in a secured or engaged configuration.

Figure 9 illustrates cover 10 having strap 50 (not shown) removed entirely therefrom. As illustrated in Figure 9, major opening 34a can extend entirely through backing element 18 of casing element 12. However, minor opening 34b can extend only partially through casing element 12 in some implementations. In particular, minor opening 34b can extend into receiving element 30 and/or receiving member 32 thereof (e.g.,
30 opposing receiving members 32a and 32b). Accordingly, minor opening 34b may not extend entirely through backing element 18 of casing element 12. Rather, minor opening 34b may be configured as a cavity within receiving element 30 and/or receiving member 32 thereof. As indicated above, receiving member 32 can comprise a mound-shaped socket or other cupping member extending from casing element 12 and/or backing element 18

thereof. Figure 9 further illustrates that receiving member 32 can comprise an upper surface 35 sloping upwardly from casing element 12 and/or packing 18 thereof and terminating at an inner side wall 33 having minor opening 34b disposed therein.

Figure 10 illustrates an alternative embodiment of a casing element 12d (or cover 10d in which strap 50 has again been removed). Cover 10d can be configured similar to cover 10 with at least one notable difference. In particular, cover 10d can include an alternatively configured strap receiving element 30d. For instance, as illustrated in Figure 10, major opening 34a extends entirely through backing element 18d of casing element 12d, and minor opening 34b extends partially through backing element 18d of casing element 12d. However, receiving element 30d does not include opposing receiving members 32a and 32b. Instead, backing element 18d provides the rear end of minor opening 34a. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that receiving element attachment member 56 (Figure 2) can still be received at least partially into opening 34, including major opening 34a and minor opening 34b. In particular, securing member 64 (Figure 2) can be inserted into opposing openings 34, thereby securing strap 50 (Figure 2) thereto.

Figure 11 illustrates another alternative embodiment of a casing element 12e (or cover 10e in which strap 50 has again been removed). Cover 10e can also be configured similar to cover 10 with at least one notable difference. In particular, cover 10e can include an alternatively configured strap receiving element 30e. For instance, receiving element 30e does not include an opening 34 in casing element 12e and/or backing element 18e thereof. Instead, receiving element 30e comprises opposing receiving members 32c and 32d. As illustrated in Figure 11, receiving element 30e and/or receiving members 32c and 32d thereof, can (each) include an opening 34c. In certain implementations, opening 34c can comprise a tunnel or cavity extending at least partially into an inner side wall 33 of receiving element 30e and/or receiving members 32c and 32d thereof. However, opening 34c does not extend through to receiving area 70 (Figure 2). Those skilled in the art will appreciate that receiving element attachment member 56 (Figure 2) and/or securing member 64 thereof can still be received at least partially into opening 34c. For instance, securing member 64 (Figure 2) can comprise a rigid, flexible, spring-loaded, or other suitably configured rod or bar adapted for be inserted into opposing openings 34c, thereby securing strap 50 (Figure 2) thereto.

In at least one implementation, securing member 64 can be integral with one or more components of the cover. For instance, securing member 64 can be integral with strap

receiving element 30 and/or receiving member(s) 32 thereof, or strap fastening element 65 (Figure 1) in some implementations.

Additional alternative configurations are also contemplated herein. For instance, in addition to the configuration illustrated in Figures 1-8, strap 50 may be alternatively
5 disposed about casing element 12. As indicated above, first end 14 and opposing second end 16 can be disposed in any suitable orientation or configuration, including top to bottom, bottom to top, side to side, or diagonally. Accordingly, strap 50 can be disposed longitudinally, transversely, or diagonally across casing element 12 between first end 14 and second end 16.

10 Cover 10 can further comprise a second detachable strap 50 (not shown) removably secured to casing element 12 (e.g., at opposing third and fourth ends of casing element 12). The second strap can also comprise opposing first and second portions 52, 54 and/or the second strap can also be disposed longitudinally, transversely, or diagonally across casing element 12 (e.g., between the opposing third and fourth ends). The opposing
15 third and fourth ends can be arranged adjacent to or opposite from the first and second ends. Accordingly, the first and second straps can be disposed in a parallel configuration extending longitudinally, transversely, or diagonally across casing element 12. Alternatively, the first and second straps can be disposed crosswise about casing element 12. For instance, the first strap can extend substantially longitudinally about casing element
20 12 and a second strap can extend substantially transversely about casing element 12, or vice versa. In a further implementation, the first and second straps can extend diagonally crosswise from opposing sides, ends, and/or corners of casing element 12. Alternatively, a first strap can extend diagonally about casing element 12 and a second strap can extend longitudinally or transversely across casing element 12.

25 Figures 12A-12D illustrate various components of an exemplary strap 50a in a series of assembled configurations. For instance, strap 50a can include a band 49 having a first end 53a and an opposing second end 53b. In at least one implementation, band 49 can have a resiliently flexible, stretchable, and/or elastic property or configuration. Accordingly, when pulled into a stretched configuration, band 49 can be biased and/or
30 configured to return to an unstretched configuration.

Similar to securing element attachment member 58, a securing element attachment member 58a can include body 60a having securing opening 62 extending therethrough. Securing element attachment member 58a can also include a looping opening 63 extending therethrough. In at least one implementation, securing opening 62 can be disposed at a

rounded end of body 60a and/or looping opening 63 can be disposed at a flat end of body 60a.

Strap 50a can also include securing member 64 and/or a strap fastening element 65a. As illustrated in Figure 12C, securing member 64 can be disposed at least partially within loop 51 (or a lower loop 69 formed thereby). For instance, first end 53a of strap 50a can be partially wrapped around securing member 64. Second end 53b of strap 50a can be disposed and/or positioned adjacent to the first end 53a at a third portion 55 of strap 50a. Strap fastening element 65a can secure and/or retain the first end 53a and second end 53b in a secured configuration as in Figure 12D. For instance, strap fastening element 65a can comprise a clamp, clip, strap, wrap, or other suitable fastening element. In at least one implementation, third portion 55 of strap 50a can be disposed at least partially between first portion 52 and second portion 54.

Methods of Assembling

Exemplary methods of assembling strap 50a and/or cover 10 will now be described. In one embodiment, strap 50a can be preassembled prior to assembly of cover 10. For instance, as illustrated in Figures 12A-12B, second end 53b of band 49 can be fed through looping opening 63 of securing element attachment member 58a and/or body 60a thereof. As illustrated in Figure 12C, a portion of first end 53a of band 49 can be wrapped and/or looped around securing member 64 and/or second end 53b of band 49 can be brought into proximity with first end 53a of band 49, forming loop 51. First end 53a and second end 53b of band 49 can then be fastened and/or secured together by means of strap fastening element 65a, forming lower loop 69, as illustrated in Figure 12D, such that first portion 52 of strap 50a comprises securing member 64, second portion 54 of strap 50a comprises securing element attachment member 58, and third portion 55 of strap 50 comprises strap fastening element 65a. In other words, securing member 64 can be disposed at first portion 52 of strap 50, securing element attachment member 58 can be disposed at second portion 54 of strap 50, and strap fastening element 65 can be disposed at third portion 55 strap 50. As indicated above, third portion 55 can be disposed between first portion 52 and a second portion 54.

In at least one alternative implementation, securing member 64 can be associated with, integral with, attached to, connected to, and/or inserted into a portion of strap fastening element 65. For instance, as illustrated in Figure 1, receiving element attachment member 56 can comprise strap fastening element 65. First end 53a can be looped into a socket 66 of strap fastening element 65. For instance, first end 53a can be doubled-back or

folded and inserted into socket 66. Securing member 64 can be inserted through a portion of strap fastening element 65 (e.g., through one or more lateral openings 68) (Figure 1).

Second end 53b can again be fed through looping opening 63 of body 60a of securing element attachment member 58a and inserted into socket 66 and into proximity
5 with looped first end 53a. Strap fastening element 65a can then be clamped, clipped, crimped, and/or otherwise altered or adapted to secure first end 53a, second end 53b, and/or securing member 64 therein.

It will be appreciated that other methods for assembling strap 50, 50a are also contemplated herein. For instance, band 49 can comprise a continuous, seamless, and/or
10 preassembled circular body or configuration forming or having loop 51. Accordingly, first and second ends of band 49 may not need to be fastened or secured together by means of strap fastening element 65a. However, strap fastening element 65a may still be used to retain securing member 64 within a portion of loop 51 (e.g., lower loop 69). Securing
15 element attachment member 58 can be alternatively configured to associate with a second portion 54 of strap 50. For instance, securing element attachment member 58, securing opening 62, and/or looping opening 63 can include a releasable, removable and/or reversible attachment mechanism adapted for clipping and/or looping strap 50 at second
20 portion 54 thereof. Thus, securing element attachment member 58 can be configured for attachment to strap 50 without having a free end of strap 50 fed therethrough in some implementations.

Turning now to Figures 13A and 13B, (assembled) strap 50a can also or alternatively be connected to casing element 12 in order to form cover 10. In at least one implementation, second portion 54 (or securing element attachment member 58) of strap
25 50a can be inserted through opening 34 (or at least major opening 34a thereof) in a feeding (or retaining) direction (F). For instance, securing element attachment member 58a can be inserted through opening 34 from receiving area 70 (or in interior surface 26 of backing element 18) to or toward exterior surface 24 (Figure 1) of backing element 18. In an alternative implementation, first portion 54 (or receiving element attachment member 56
30 and/or securing member 64 thereof) can be inserted through opening 34 from exterior surface 24 to or toward interior surface 26 in a releasing direction opposite feeding (or retaining) direction (F).

It will be appreciated that securing element attachment member 58a, band 49, and/or at least a portion of strap fastening element 65a can be configured to pass (entirely) through opening 34 (or at least major opening 34a thereof). However, at least a portion of

receiving element attachment member 56 and/or securing member 64 thereof can be configured to be retained within opening 34 (or at least minor opening 34b thereof). For instance, securing member 64 (or opposing ends thereof) can be configured to removably and/or reversibly engaged with, attached to and/or connected to strap receiving element 30
5 and/or receiving member(s) 32 thereof.

By engaging with strap receiving element 30 and/or receiving member(s) 32 thereof, securing member 64 can be removably and/or reversibly retained at least partially within opening 34 (see Figure 13B). Accordingly, receiving element 30 and/or receiving member(s) 32 thereof can substantially prevent and/or inhibit (further) advancement and/or
10 movement of strap 50a and/or receiving element attachment member 56 thereof, and/or securing member 64 thereof, through opening 34 and/or in feeding (or retaining) direction (F). For instance, securing member 64 can be prevented from advancing further through opening 34 in one or more directions from interior surface 26 toward exterior surface 24 of backing element 18. Thus, securing member 64 can be prevented from moving to or
15 toward strap securing element 40 when securing member 64 is engaged with receiving element 30 and/or receiving members 32 thereof and/or secured at least partially within opening 34 and/or minor opening(s) 34b thereof.

In an alternative implementation, strap 50a, receiving element attachment member 56 thereof, and/or securing member 64 thereof can be removably and/or reversibly
20 engaged with, attached to and/or connected to strap receiving element 30 from exterior surface 24 of backing element 18. For instance, as illustrated in Figure 11, receiving element 30b may not include an opening 34 extending through backing element 18b. Accordingly, securing member 64 of receiving element attachment member 56 can be secured within opening(s) 34c without passing strap 50a through backing element 18b.

As illustrated in Figure 8, securing element attachment member 58a can be
25 rotated and/or swiveled upward and/or brought toward strap securing element 40. As illustrated in Figure 1, securing element attachment member 58 can then be removably and/or reversibly engaged with, attached to and/or connected to securing element 40. In at least one implementation, strap 50a has an unstretched length that is shorter than the
30 distance between strap receiving element 30 and strap securing element 40. Accordingly, in order for securing element attachment member 58 to be releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to strap securing element 40, receiving element attachment member 56 is releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to strap receiving element 30, strap 50 and/or band

49 thereof may need to be stretched by a stretching force extending from strap receiving element 32 towards strap securing element 40. Accordingly, in the dual-attached, connected, and/or secured configuration depicted in Figure 1, strap 50, 50a can be under (elastic) tension and/or biasing force.

5 Alternative Implementations

Various alternative implementations will now be discussed in further detail. For instance, Figures 14A-16B illustrate some of the features of an alternative device cover 10a comprising a casing element 12a and a detachable strap 50b releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to casing element 12a. Casing element 10 12a includes a backing element 18a having a recessed exterior surface 24a, and an at least partially encircling sidewall 20a extending about the perimeter of backing element 18a. Sidewall 20a extends from backing element 18a in the direction of interior surface 26a thereof. Opening 38a can comprise a recess extending into sidewall 20a and opening 36a can extend through backing element 18a.

15 Detachable strap 50b can be releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to a strap receiving element 30 at the lower end of casing element 12a and to a strap securing element 40a at the upper end of casing element 12a. Detachable strap 50b can have a looped configuration, with a band 49 secured at opposing ends thereof a means of a strap fastening element 65a. Strap fastening element 65a can 20 comprise a clamping member adapted for retaining and/or securing the opposing ends in proximity one to another to maintain the looped configuration and pinching the opposing ends and looped portion of band 49 together at a connection interface 67. In at least one implementation, connection interface 67 can be disposed adjacent to strap receiving element 30 (e.g., so as to at least partially retain securing member 64 within lower loop 69 formed 25 thereby).

Detachable strap 50b can also be looped through a looping opening 63 of a securing element attachment member 58b. Securing element attachment member 58b can also include a body 60b and a securing opening 62a. Securing element attachment member 58b can be releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or 30 secured to strap securing element 40a by means of body 60b and securing opening 62a. For instance, securing opening 62a can have an elongated or oblong configuration suitable for having strap securing element 40a pass therethrough. Indeed, securing opening 62a can have a shape substantially similar to that of strap securing element 40a or one or more portions thereof.

For instance, as illustrated in Figures 14B and 16B, strap securing element 40a can comprise a stem 42a and a retaining element 48a. As depicted in the illustrated implementation, stem 42a can comprise an elongated protrusion extending from an upper portion of casing element 12a (e.g., upper portion of side wall 20a, backing element 18a, or the transition or juncture therebetween) at least partially toward or in the direction of backing element 18a or exterior surface 24a thereof. Retaining element 48a can comprise a hooking element extending from stem 42a at least partially upward. For instance, retaining element 48a can extend from stem 42a in a direction substantially parallel to the exterior surface 24a of backing element 18a. Alternatively, retaining element 48a can extend from stem 42a toward or in the direction of receiving area 70a or interior surface 26a of backing element 18a.

In at least one implementation, retaining element 48a can be disposed at an angle relative to stem 42a. For instance, retaining element 48a can be disposed at an approximately 90° angle relative to stem 42a in some implementations. In other implementations, however, retaining element 48a can be disposed at an angle less than or greater than 90° relative to stem 42a. Similarly, stem 42a can extend from casing element 12a at an angle relative to backing element 18a. Accordingly, as illustrated in Figures 14A and 16A, stem 42a can engage with body 60b of strap securing element 40a to inhibit and/or substantially prevent strap securing element 40a from retracting in a first direction toward strap receiving element 30a (under the elastic tension and/or biasing force of detachable strap 50b). In at least one implementation, the first direction can extend the long backing element 18a, between strap securing element 40 and strap receiving element 30.

Similarly, retaining element 48a can (be configured and/or adapted to) inhibit and/or substantially prevent strap securing element 40a from retracting in a second direction (e.g., by sliding along the axis of stem 42a and unintentionally releasing therefrom at the distal end of stem 42a). It will again be appreciated that the first direction can be substantially perpendicular to the second direction. However, as depicted in the illustrated implementation, the second direction can be disposed at an angle of greater than 90° relative to the first direction. Indeed, in one or more implementations, the second direction can be substantially parallel to the direction that stem 42a extends from casing element 12a. Accordingly, as depicted in Figures 14A-14B and 16A-16B, with securing member 64a releasably, removably, and/or reversibly attached to, connected to, and/or secured to (or within) receiving element 30a (or opening(s) thereof), strap 50b may need to be further stretched toward strap securing element 40a in order for securing element attachment

member 58b to detach and/or disconnect from strap securing element 40a, stem 42a, and/or retaining element 48a thereof. Accordingly, retaining element 48a can be configured to inhibit movement (or retraction) of securing element attachment member 58b in (a direction at least partially similar to) feeding direction (F) (see Figure 13A).

5 Figure 17A illustrates an alternative casing element 12b comprising a backing element 18b and the sidewall 20b extending from the perimeter of backing element 18b. As depicted in the illustrated implementation, sidewall 20b includes one or more (opposing) recessed notch his 23 disposed therein. In at least one implementation, notches 23 can allow an upper portion 25 of sidewall 20b to flex substantially independent of one or more
10 (adjacent) portions of sidewall 20b. Casing element 12b also includes an upper securing element 40b and a lower receiving element 30b. As depicted in the detailed view illustrated in Figure 17B, receiving element 30b can be configured substantially similar to other receiving elements described herein, with an opening 34 comprising a major opening 34a and opposing minor openings 34b. Receiving element 30b can also comprise one or more
15 receiving members 32 (or opposing receiving members 32a and 32b, as further illustrated in Figure 19A). Minor openings 34b can extend into receiving members 32, thereby forming a socket 37 (e.g., for retaining securing member 64). Thus, major opening 34a can extend entirely through backing element 18b and minor openings 34b can extend into receiving members 32, thereby forming a socket 37.

20 As depicted in Figure 17C, a securing element 40b can have a substantially hooked shaped configuration with a concave surface or portion 41 facing or being oriented in the same direction as interior surface 26b and a convex surface or portion 43 facing or being oriented in the same direction as exterior surface 24b (see Figure 19A) of backing element 18b. The configuration of securing element 40b allows a stem portion 42b to
25 extend from casing element 12b (e.g., upper portion of side wall 20a, backing element 18a, or the transition or juncture therebetween) at least partially toward or in the direction of backing element 18b or exterior surface 24b thereof. Similarly, retaining element 48b can comprise an upper portion and/or hooking element extending from stem 42b at least partially upward and/or toward or in the direction of receiving area 70b or interior surface
30 26b of backing element 18b. Securing element 40b can also have an opening 59 extending therethrough from concave surface or portion 41 to convex surface or portion 43.

Figure 18 illustrates and alternative embodiment comprising a securing element 40c. Securing element 40c includes a plurality of support members 45 extending from casing element 12c and forming one or more recessed portions 47. As depicted in Figure

19, casing element 12b and/or backing element 18b thereof can also include a recessed exterior surface 24b. Recessed exterior surface 24b can have a substantially rectangular shape with rounded edges and opposing-corner recesses 72 and 74 (recessed in from upper and lower (shorter) side edges of the rectangular-shaped backing element 18b or exterior surface 24b thereof) for accommodating opening 36b and a receiving element 30b.

Figure 20 illustrates a backing element cover 80 having a substantially rectangular shape corresponding and/or congruent with the shape of backing element 18b or exterior surface 24b thereof. Accordingly, backing element cover 80 can also have opposing-corner recesses 82 and 84 (recessed in from upper and lower (shorter) side edges of the rectangular-shaped backing element cover 80. Backing element cover 80 can also have a display surface 86 and an opposing attachment surface 88 opposite display surface 86. Attachment surface 88 can have an adhesive formed thereon, in certain implementations, with a removable adhesive covering disposed thereon. Display surface 86 can comprise any suitable (combination of) color(s), design(s), images(s), and so forth.

Figure 21 illustrates an alternative embodiment of a securing element attachment member 58c. Securing element attachment member 58c can have a body 60c having securing opening 62b extending therethrough. Securing element attachment member 58c can also include a looping opening 63b extending therethrough. In at least one implementation, securing opening 62b can be disposed at a (tapered) top end 91 of body 60c and/or looping opening 63b can be disposed at a (flat) bottom end 92 of body 60c. Securing element attachment member 58c can also include a securing tab 90 extending from body 60c (e.g., a portion of body 60c opposite looping opening 63b) partially into securing opening 62b. Accordingly, securing tab 90 can comprise a tooth or protrusion extending partially into securing opening 62b from body 60c.

As illustrated in Figure 22, in at least one implementation, (body 60c of) securing element attachment member 58c can have a curved, arched, and/or arced side profile or configuration. For instance, the side profile of (body 60c of) securing element attachment member 58c can be shaped as a half parabola or an exponential, logarithmic, or power function curve. Accordingly, (body 60c of) securing element attachment member 58c can have at least one curved portion between top end 91 and bottom end 92.

As illustrated in Figure 23, in an alternative implementation, (the body of) securing element attachment member 58d can have a double curved, arched, and/or arced side profile or configuration. For instance, the side profile of (the body of) securing element attachment member 58d can be shaped as a tangent, cotangent, or sigmoidal curve.

Accordingly, (the body of) securing element attachment member 58c can have at least two curved portion between the top end and bottom end thereof.

A strap 50b can be formed in a manner similar to that depicted in Figures 12A-12D and described herein.

5 Securing element attachment member 58c, 58d can also be connected to securing element 40b of casing element 12b in a manner similar to that described herein. For instance, securing opening 62b can be hooked onto securing element 40b. In particular, retaining element 48b can be inserted through securing opening 62b such that body 60c contacts stem 42b and/or retaining element 48b. In addition, securing tab 90 can be inserted
10 at least partially through opening 59 (see Figures 17C and 18), such that securing element attachment member 58c, 58d does not inadvertently slide up, over the top of retaining element 48, and become disconnected therefrom. To disconnect securing element attachment member 58c, 58d from securing element 40b, securing element attachment member 58c, 58d may need to be repositioned (e.g., moved forward, away from opening 59,
15 and/or in a direction substantially opposite feeding direction (F) (see Figure 13A), such that securing tab 90 is outside of (or not within) opening 59. Securing element attachment member 58c, 58d can then be lifted over the top of retaining element 48b, thereby becoming released from securing element 40b.

20 Figures 22 and 23 also illustrate backing element cover 80 attached to the rear, exterior surface of casing element 12b (as described above).

Various alterations and/or modifications of the inventive features illustrated herein, and additional applications of the principles illustrated herein, which would occur to one skilled in the relevant art and having possession of this disclosure, can be made to the illustrated implementations without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as
25 defined by the claims, and are to be considered within the scope of this disclosure. Thus, while various aspects and implementations have been disclosed herein, other aspects and implementations are contemplated. While a number of methods and components similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used to practice implementations of the present disclosure, only certain components and methods are described herein.

30 It will also be appreciated that systems, processes, and/or products according to certain implementations of the present disclosure may include, incorporate, or otherwise comprise properties features (e.g., components, members, elements, parts, and/or portions) described in other implementations disclosed and/or described herein. Accordingly, the various features of certain implementations can be compatible with, combined with,

included in, and/or incorporated into other implementations of the present disclosure. Thus, disclosure of certain features relative to a specific implementation of the present disclosure should not be construed as limiting application or inclusion of said features to the specific implementation. Rather, it will be appreciated that other implementations can also include
5 said features without necessarily departing from the scope of the present disclosure. Moreover, unless a feature is described as requiring another feature in combination therewith, any feature herein may be combined with any other feature of a same or different implementation disclosed herein. Furthermore, various well-known aspects of illustrative systems, processes, products, and the like are not described herein in particular detail in
10 order to avoid obscuring aspects of the example implementations. Such aspects are, however, also contemplated herein.

The present disclosure may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from its spirit or essential characteristics. The described implementations are to be considered in all respects only as illustrative and not restrictive. The scope of the invention
15 is, therefore, indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description. Each of the appended claims, as well as the recited elements thereof, is intended to be combinable with any other claim(s) and/or element(s) in any suitable combination or dependency without regard to the dependency in which said claims are presented. While certain implementations and details have been included herein and in the attached disclosure
20 for purposes of illustrating implementations of the present disclosure, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes in the methods and apparatus disclosed herein may be made without departing from the scope of the invention, which is defined in the appended claims. All changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be embraced within their scope.

25

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A hand-held device cover, comprising:
 - a casing element sized to receive a hand-held electronic device, the casing
 - 5 element having:
 - a first end;
 - a second end opposite the first end;
 - a strap receiving element disposed at the first end, the strap receiving
 - 10 element comprising:
 - an opening extending through the casing element; and
 - at least one receiving member disposed adjacent to the
 - opening; and
 - a strap securing element disposed at the second end; and
 - a detachable strap having:
 - 15 a first portion reversibly secured to the first end of the casing
 - element;
 - a second portion opposite the first portion, the second portion being
 - releasably attached to the second end of the casing element;
 - a receiving element attachment member disposed at the first portion,
 - 20 the receiving element attachment member reversibly engaging the at least
 - one receiving member such that the at least one receiving member reversibly
 - secures the strap to the first end of the casing element; and
 - a securing element attachment member disposed at the second
 - 25 portion, the securing element attachment member releasably engaging the
 - strap securing element.
2. The cover of claim 1, wherein the casing element further comprises a backing
- element and a side wall extending from a perimeter of the backing element, the backing
- element and the side wall at least bounding a receiving area sized to receive a hand-held
- electronic device.
- 30 3. The cover of claim 2, wherein the at least one strap securing element comprises a
- stem protruding from an outer surface of the side wall, the outer surface being opposite the
- receiving area, the stem substantially preventing retraction of the securing element
- attachment member in a first direction when the securing element attachment member is

engaged with the stem, the stem having a proximal end connected to the side wall and a distal end opposite the proximal end.

4. The cover of claim 3, wherein the distal end of the stem has a capping element disposed thereat, the capping element substantially preventing retraction of the securing element attachment member in a second direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the capping element.

5. The cover of claim 4, wherein the capping element comprises a hooking member.

6. The cover of claim 4, wherein the second direction is substantially perpendicular to the first direction.

7. The cover of claim 2, wherein the backing element has an interior surface and an exterior surface opposite the interior surface, the side wall and the interior surface of the backing element at least partially bounding the receiving area, the opening extending from the interior surface to the exterior surface, the at least one receiving member substantially preventing the securing element attachment member to pass out of the opening in a direction extending from the interior surface to the exterior surface when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the strap securing element.

8. The cover of claim 1, wherein the strap extends from the opening.

9. The cover of claim 8, wherein a portion of the strap is disposed in the opening.

10. The cover of claim 1, wherein the opening is sized to permit passage of the second portion of the strap therethrough, the at least one receiving member being adapted to substantially prevent passage of the first portion of the strap entirely through the opening when the receiving element attachment member is engaged with the at least one receiving member.

11. The cover of claim 1, wherein the strap is at least partially rotatably or swivelly connected to the at least one strap receiving element such that the strap can rotate or swivel about the at least one strap receiving element when the second portion of the strap is in an unsecured configuration or when the securing element attachment member disengaged with the strap securing element.

12. The cover of claim 1, wherein a portion of the receiving element attachment member is at least partially received within the at least one strap receiving element.

13. The cover of claim 1, wherein the at least one strap receiving element comprises opposing first and second receiving members, the receiving element attachment member comprising an elongated securing member comprising a first end and an opposing second end, the opposing first and second ends of the elongated securing member being sized and

adapted for being received within the first and second receiving members, respectively, the first and second receiving members substantially preventing passage of the elongated securing member through the opening when the first and second ends of the elongated securing member are received within the first and second receiving members, respectively.

5 14. The cover of claim 13, wherein the opposing first and second receiving members each comprise a minor opening aligned with or extending from the opening extending through the casing element, the opposing first and second ends of the elongated securing member being received within the respective minor openings of the first and second receiving members.

10 15. The cover of claim 1, wherein the strap comprises a first end and opposing second end, the opposing first and second ends being secured together.

16. The cover of claim 15, wherein the strap further comprises a strap fastening element configured to secure together the opposing first and second ends.

15 17. The cover of claim 1, wherein the strap is disposed longitudinally, transversely, or diagonally across the casing element between the opposing first and second ends.

18. A hand-held device cover, comprising:

a casing element sized to receive a hand-held electronic device, the casing element having a strap receiving element disposed at a first end thereof, the strap receiving element comprising:

20 an opening extending through the casing element; and

at least one receiving member disposed adjacent to the opening; and

a detachable strap reversibly secured to the first end of the casing element, the strap extending from the opening, the at least one receiving member reversibly securing the strap to the first end of the casing element.

25 19. A method of manufacturing a hand-held device cover, comprising:

providing a casing element sized to receive a hand-held electronic device, the casing element having a strap receiving element disposed at a first end thereof, the strap receiving element comprising:

an opening extending through the casing element; and

30 at least one receiving member disposed adjacent to the opening; and

inserting a first portion of a strap into the strap receiving element such that the strap is at least partially secured to the strap receiving element, the strap receiving element substantially preventing movement of the first portion of the strap in at least a first direction.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the casing element further comprises a strap securing element disposed at an opposing second end thereof, the method further comprising removably securing an opposing second portion of the strap to the strap securing element, the strap securing element substantially preventing movement of the opposing second portion of the strap in at least a second direction.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the strap further comprises a receiving element attachment member disposed at the first portion, wherein inserting the first portion of a strap into the strap receiving element comprises:

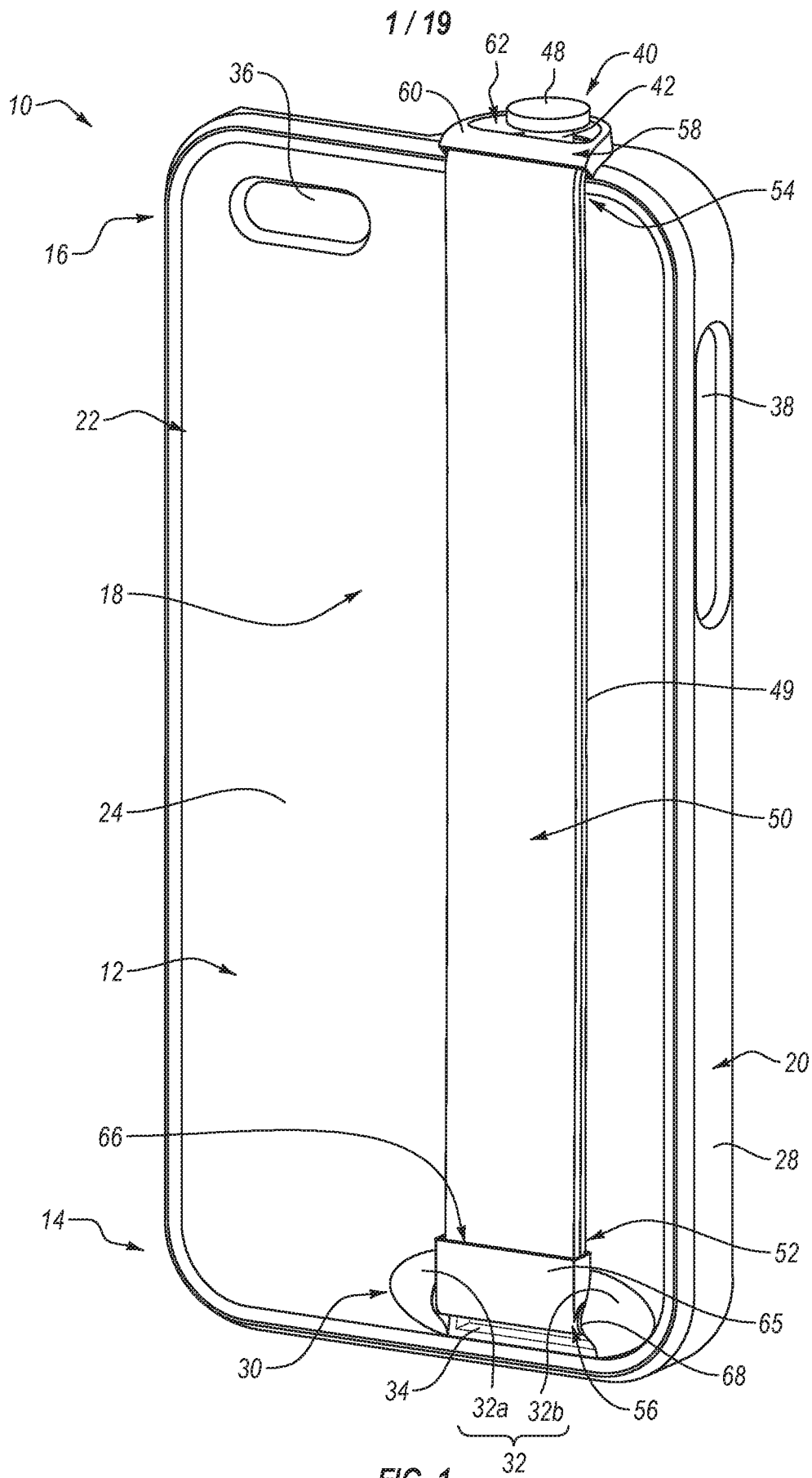
inserting at least a portion of the receiving element attachment member at least partially into the at least one receiving member such that at least a portion of the receiving element attachment member engages with the at least one receiving member; or

inserting the opposing second portion of the strap into the opening from an interior surface of the casing element and advancing the strap through the opening toward an opposing exterior surface of the casing element until at least a portion of the receiving element attachment member engages with the at least one receiving member,

wherein the at least one receiving member substantially prevents movement of the receiving element attachment member toward the strap securing element disposed at the opposing second end of the casing element when the portion of the receiving element attachment member is engaged with the at least one receiving member.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the at least one receiving member is disposed on the exterior surface of the casing element.

23. The method of claim 20, wherein the strap securing element comprises a stem protruding from the exterior surface of the casing element, the strap further comprises a securing element attachment member disposed at the second portion and adapted for engaging with the stem, the stem substantially preventing movement of the securing element attachment member in the second direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the stem, the stem having a proximal end connected to the exterior surface and a distal end opposite the proximal end, the distal end having a capping element disposed thereat, the capping element substantially preventing movement of the securing element attachment member in a third direction when the securing element attachment member is engaged with the capping element.



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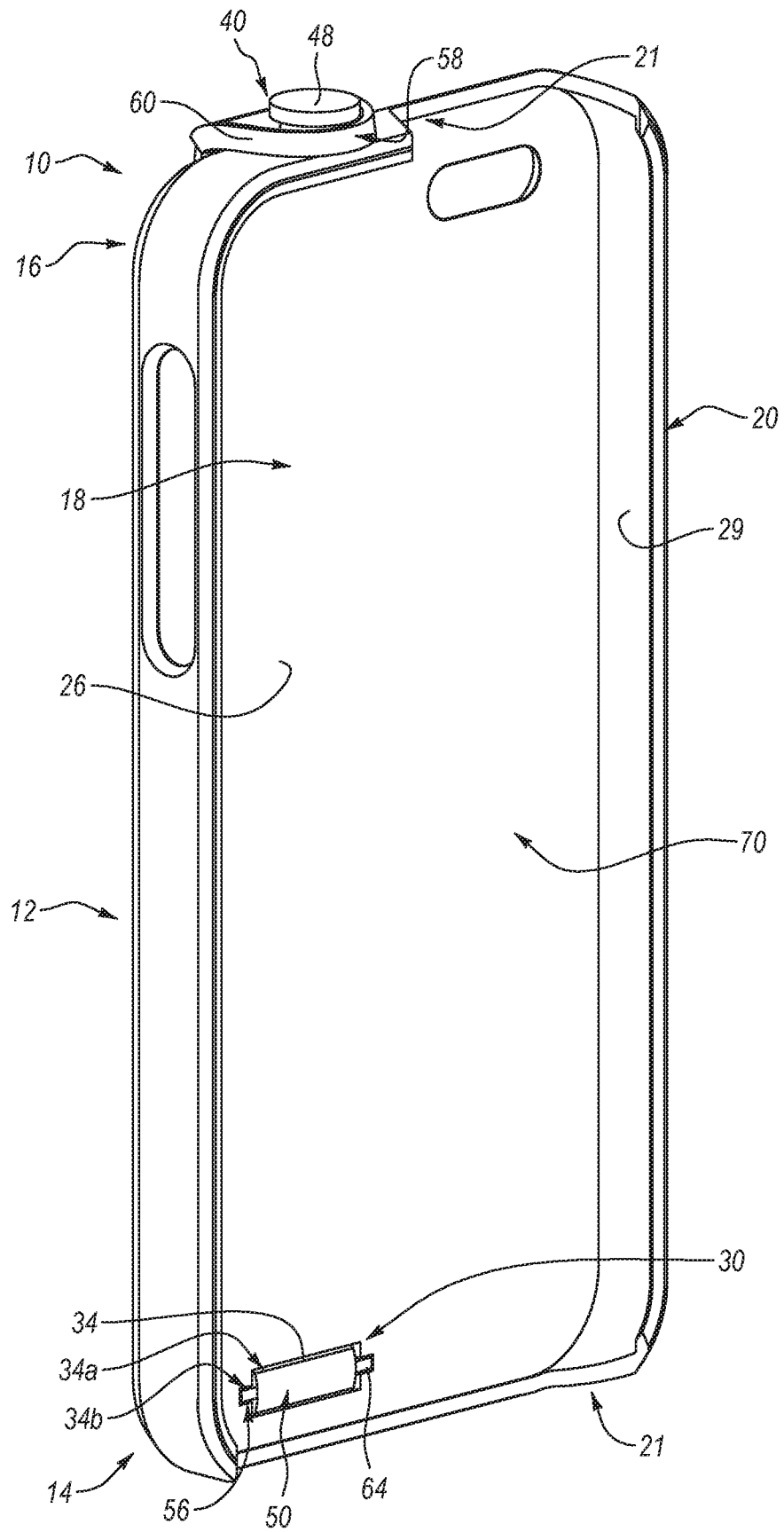
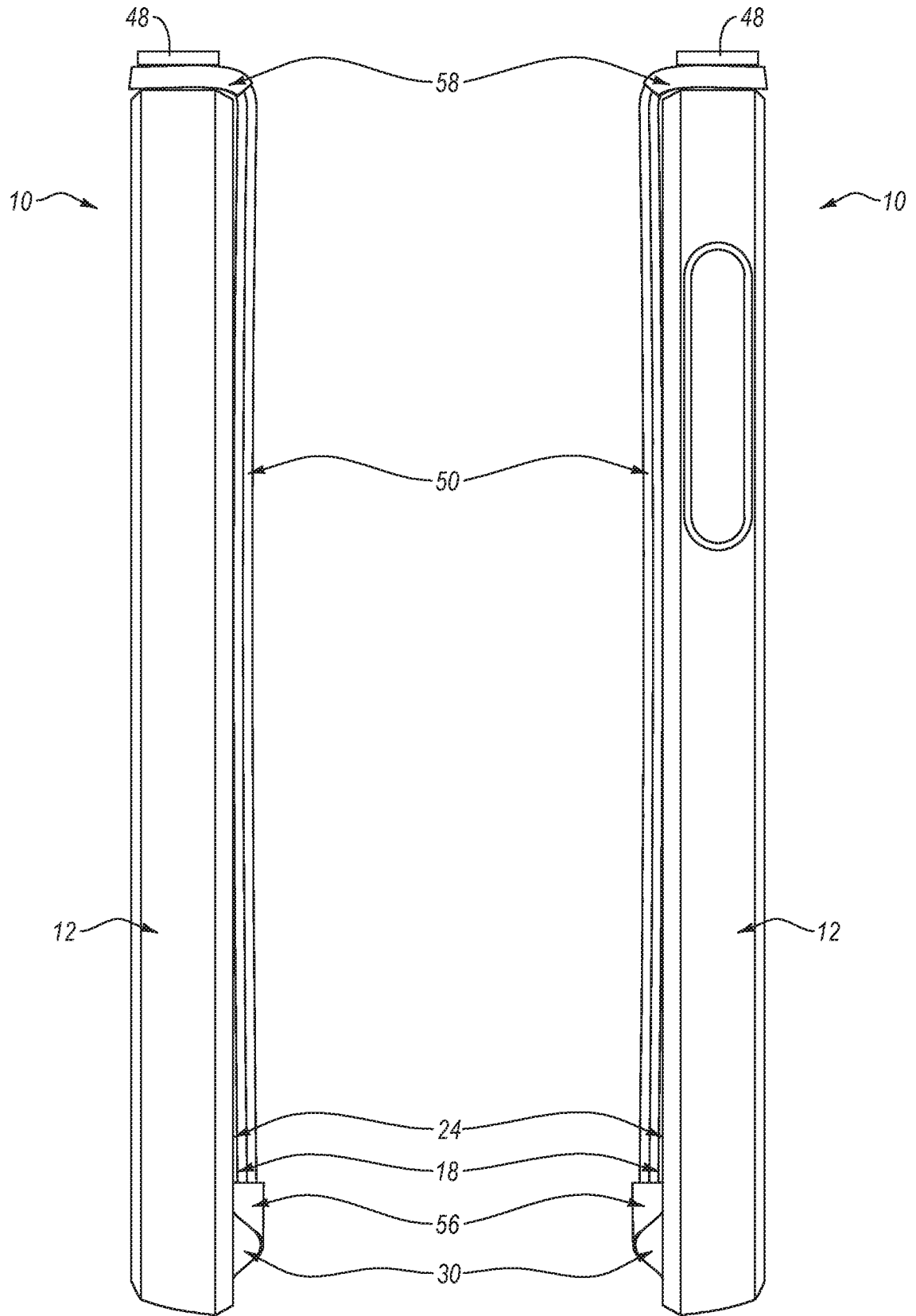


FIG. 2

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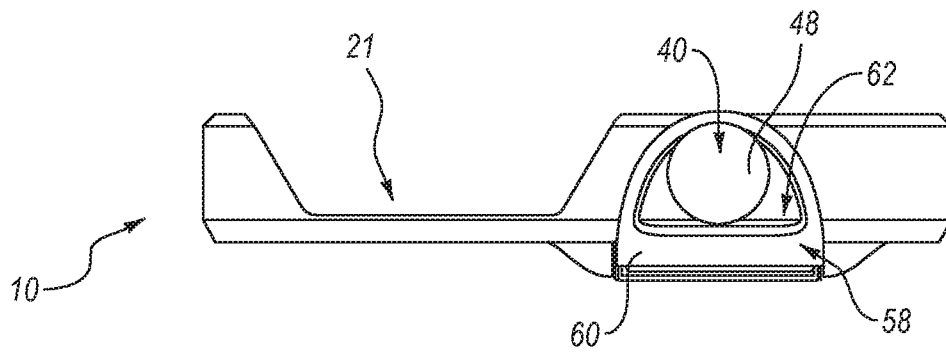


FIG. 5

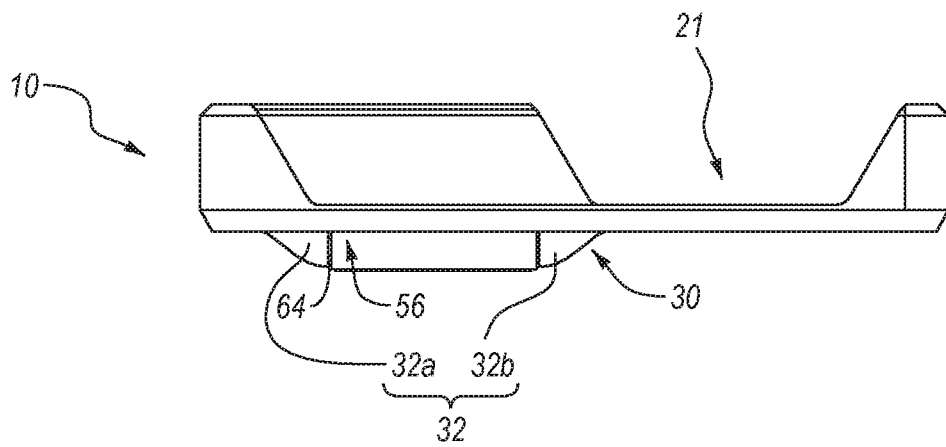


FIG. 6

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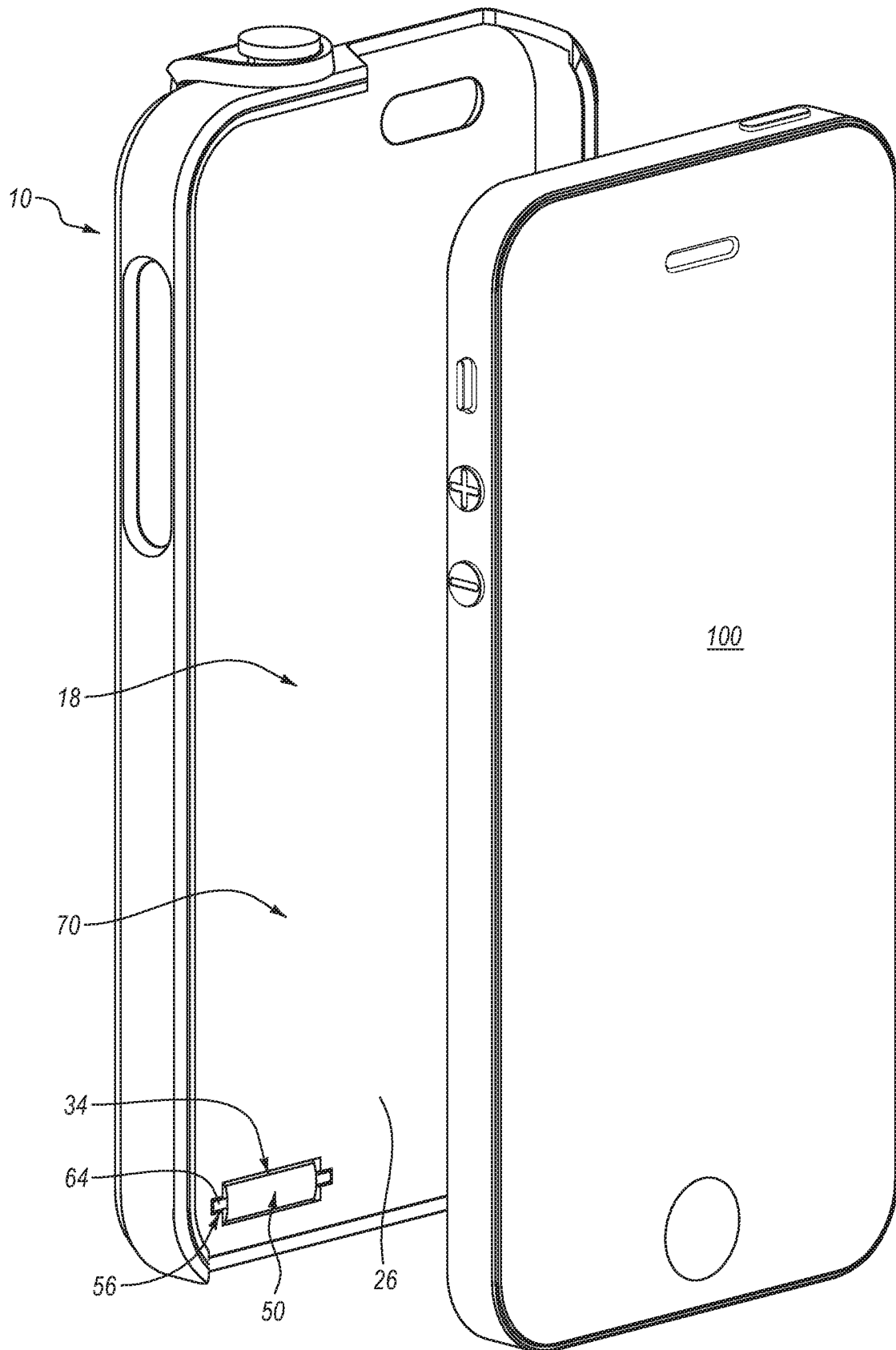


FIG. 7

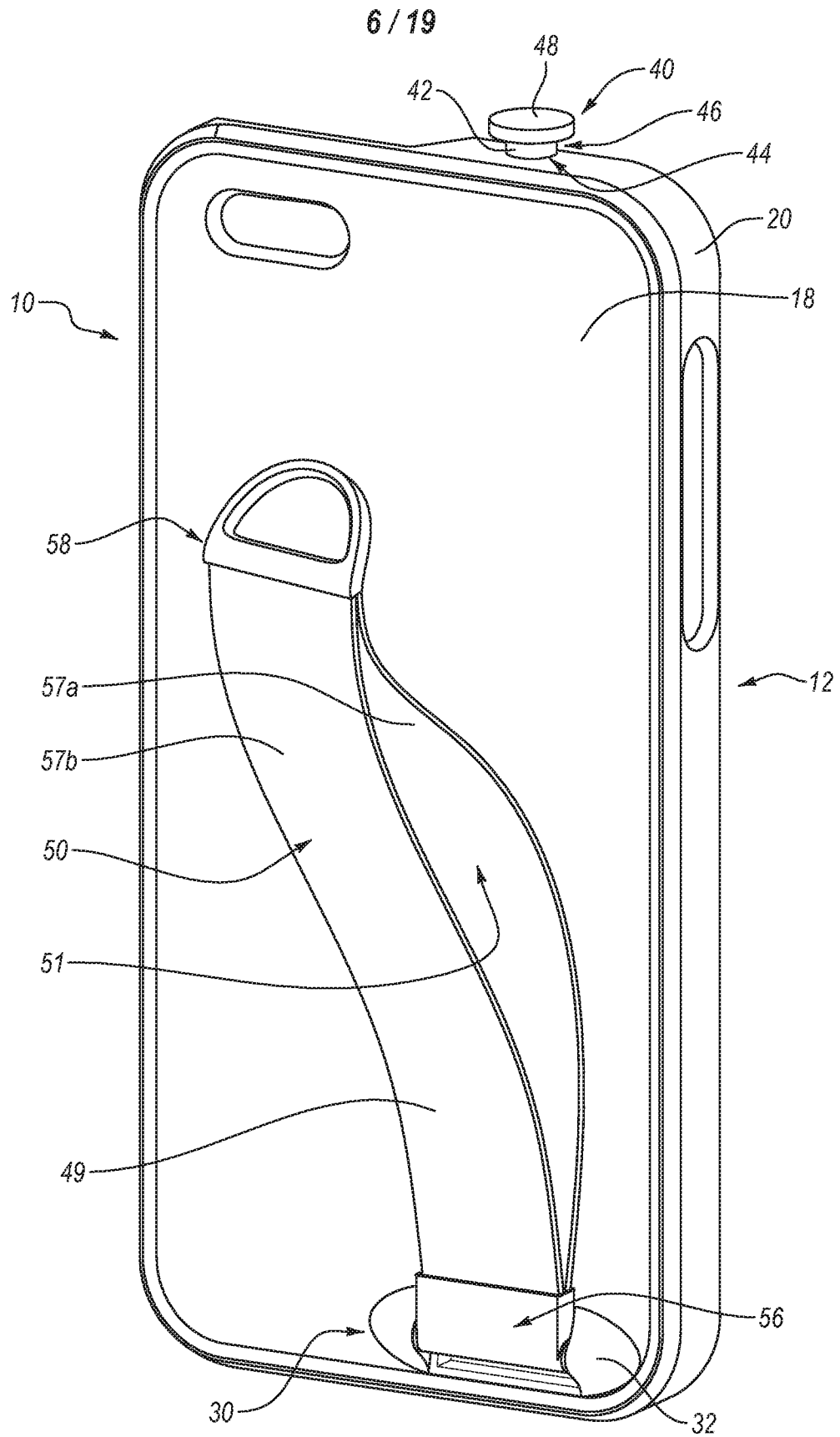


FIG. 8

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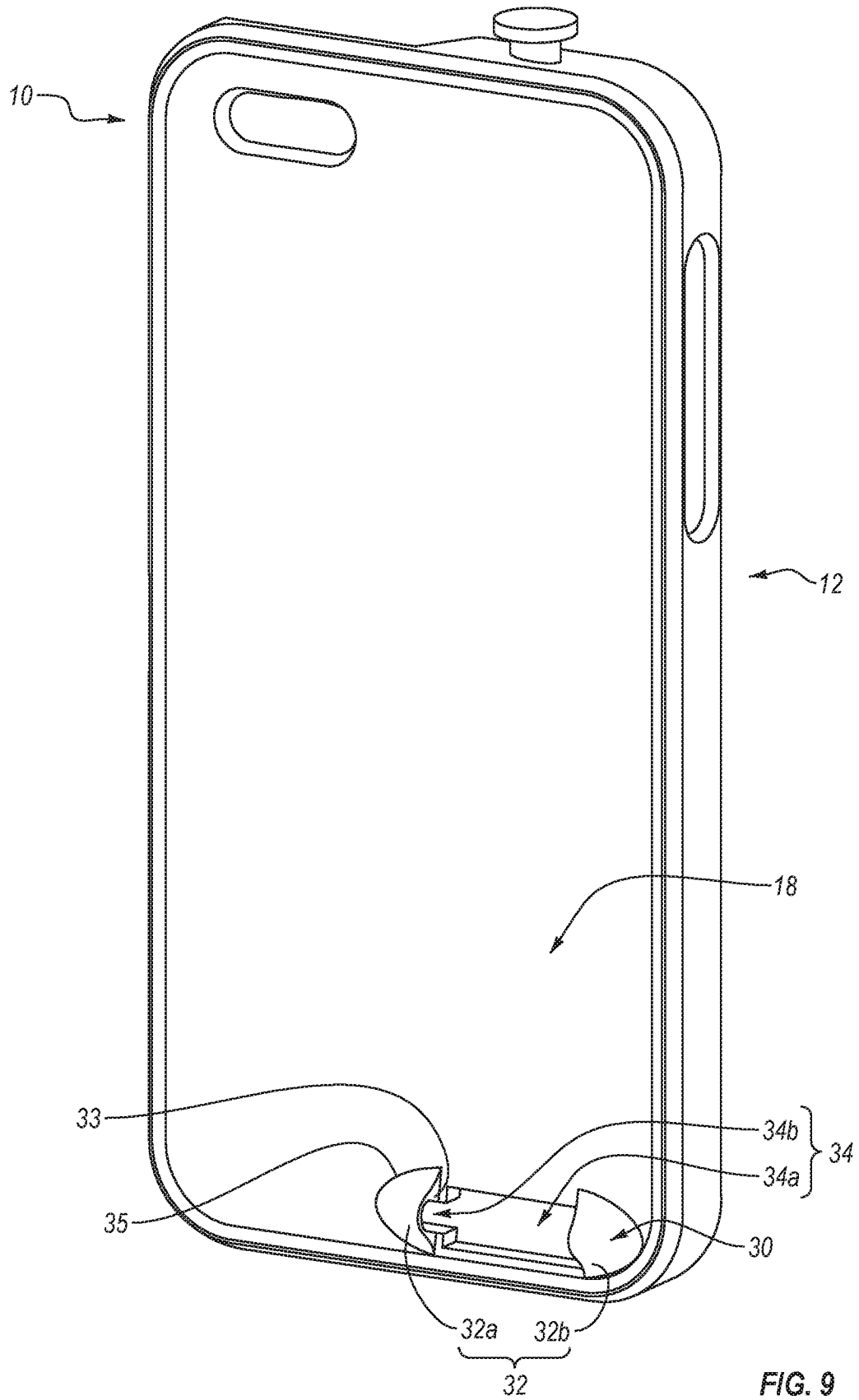


FIG. 9

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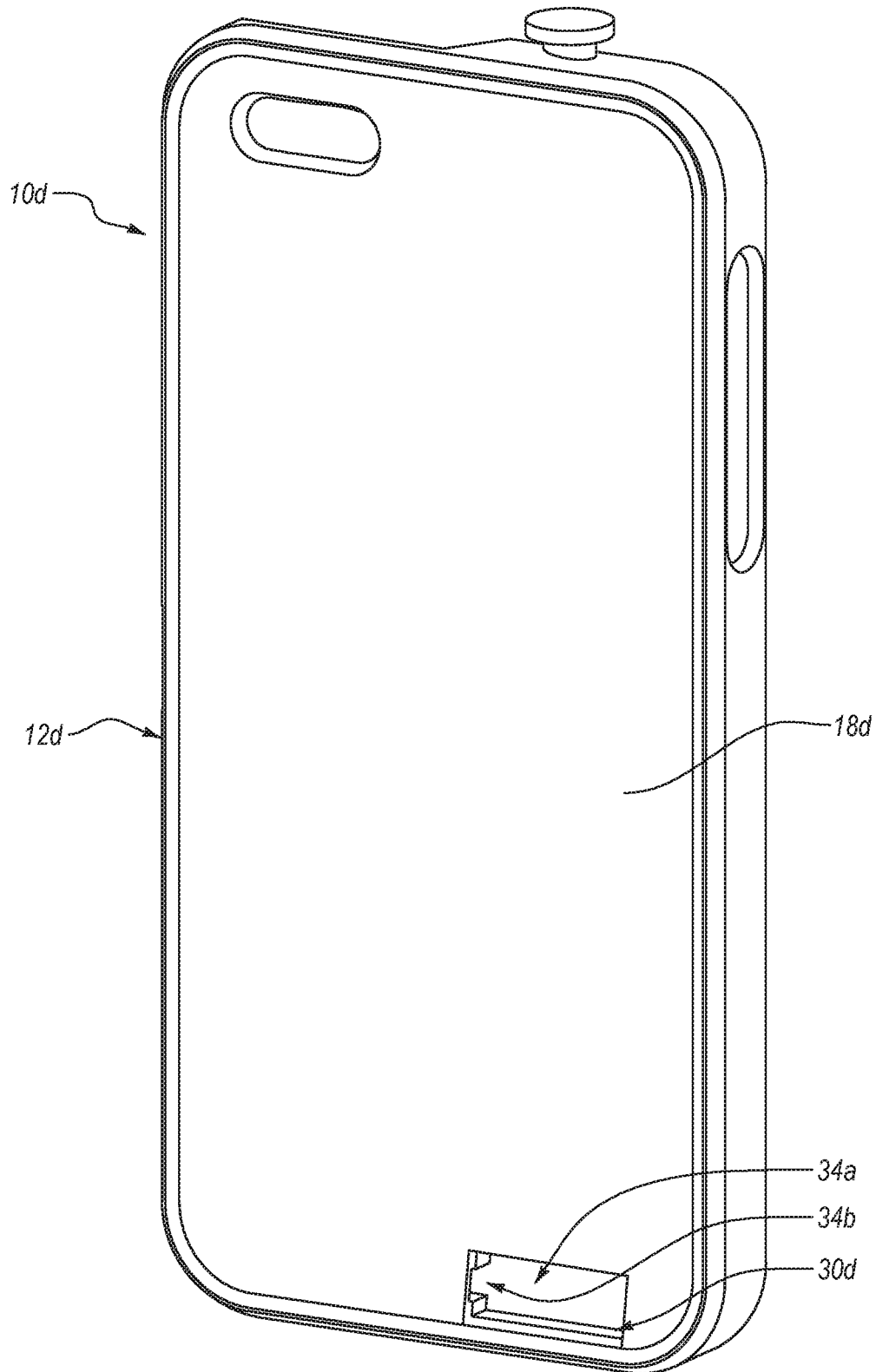


FIG. 10

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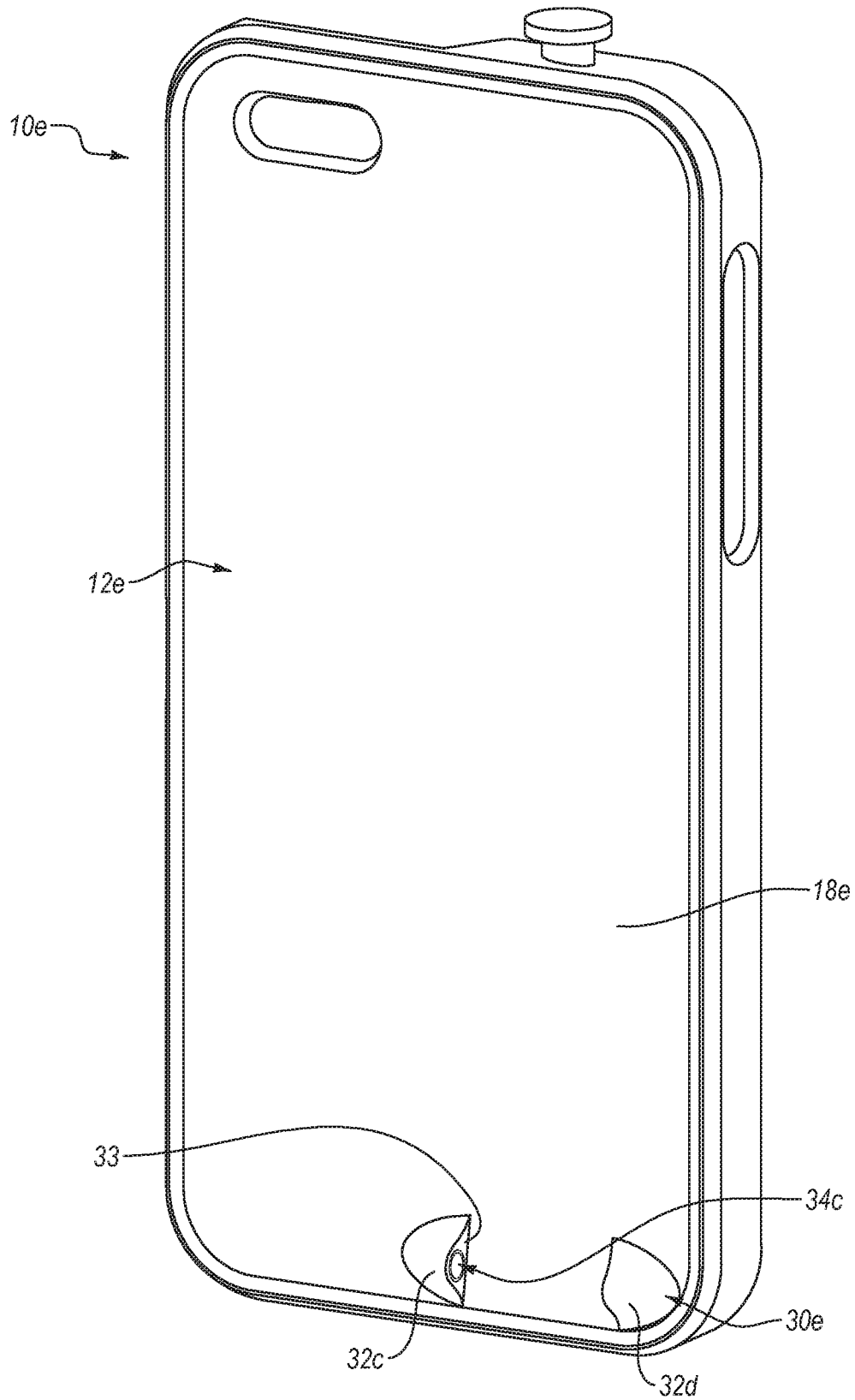
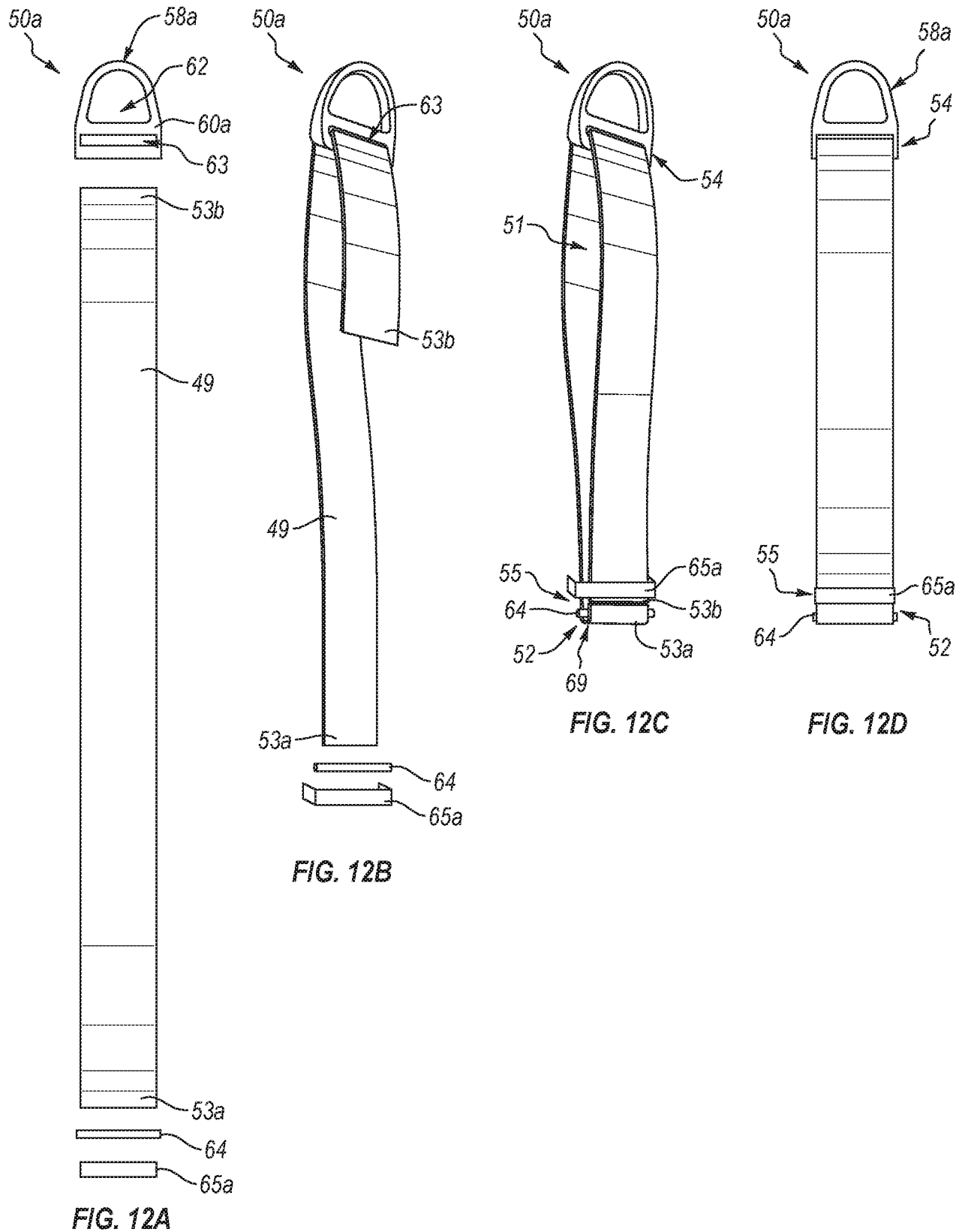


FIG. 11

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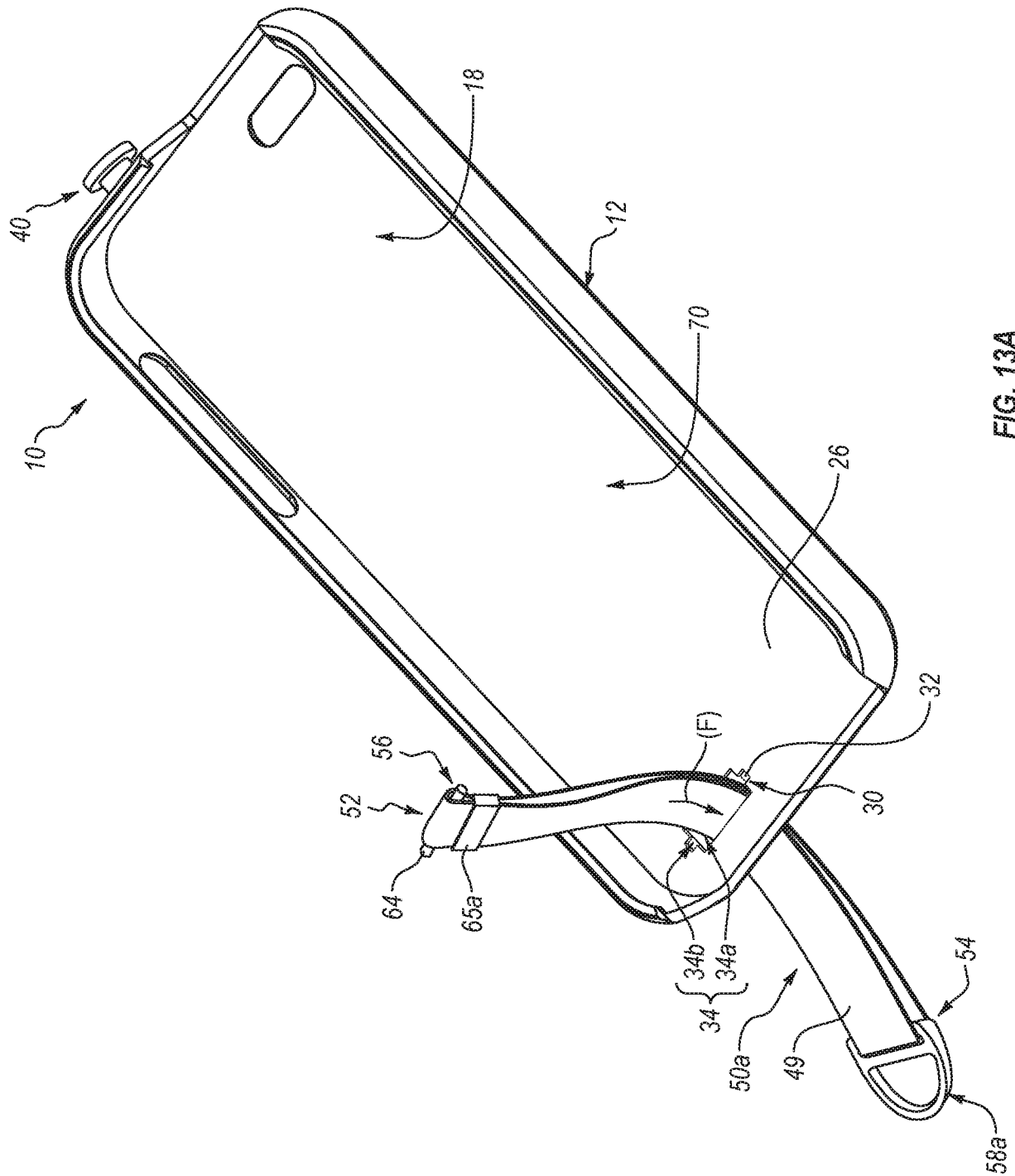


FIG. 13A

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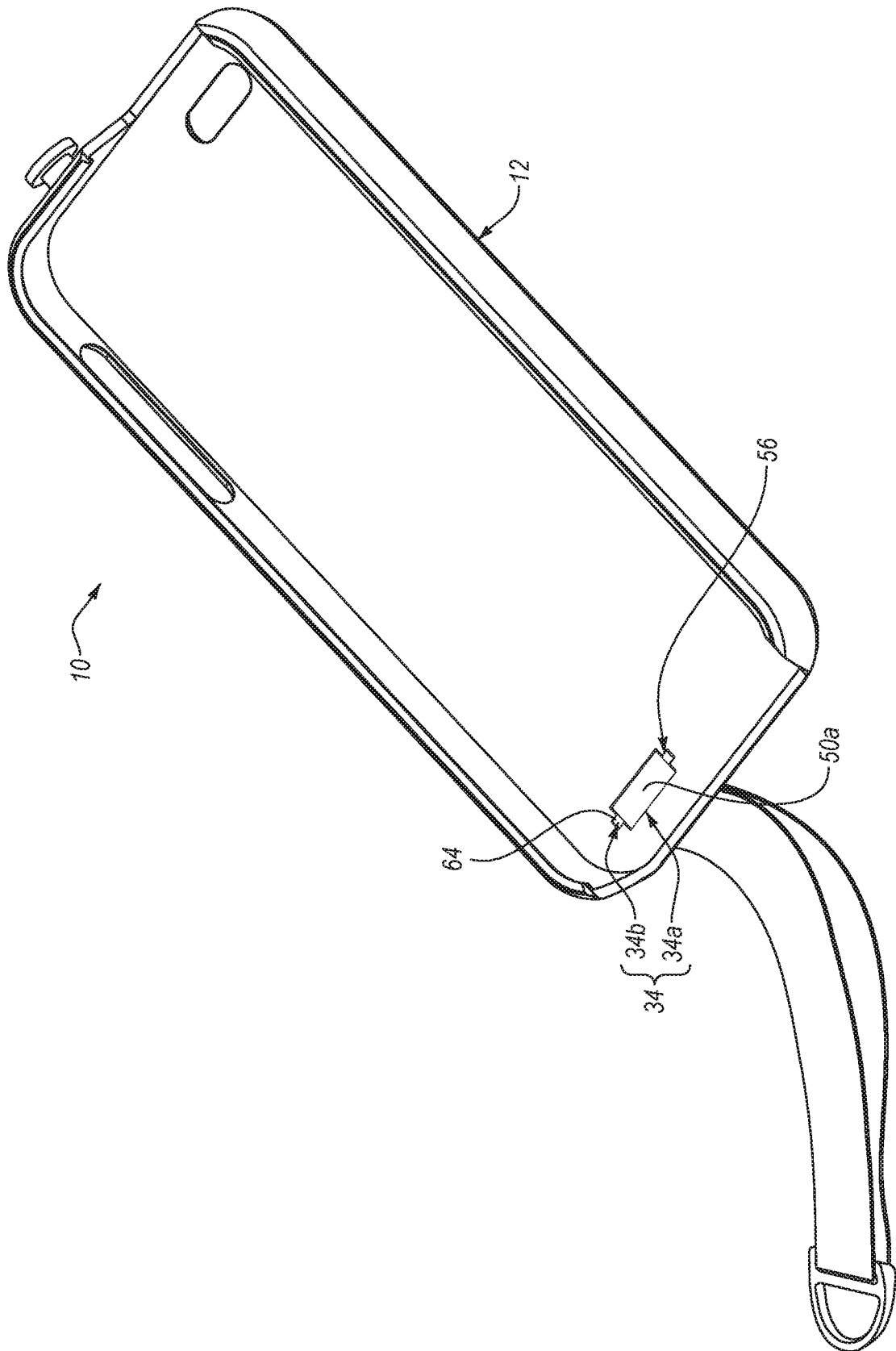
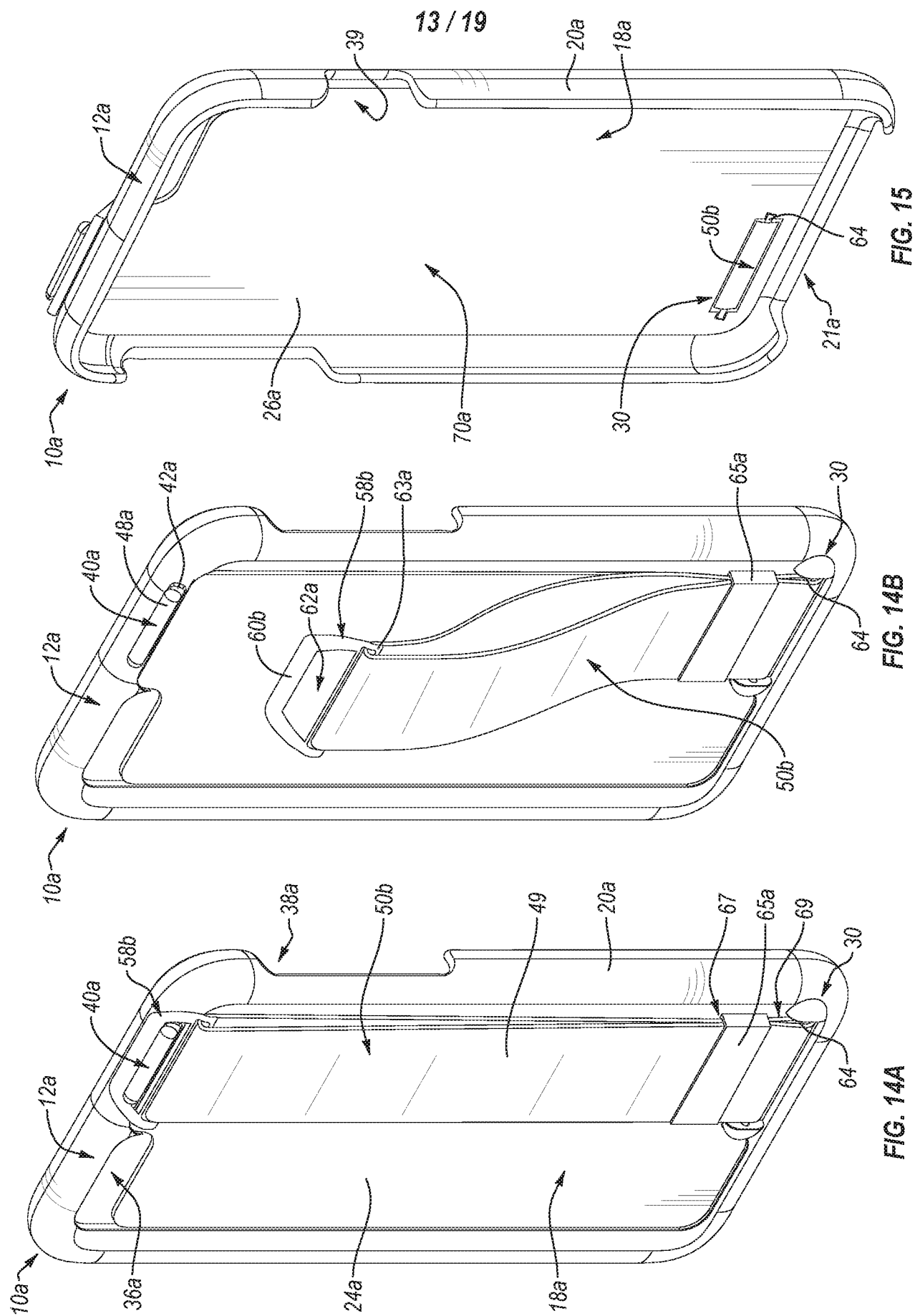


FIG. 13B



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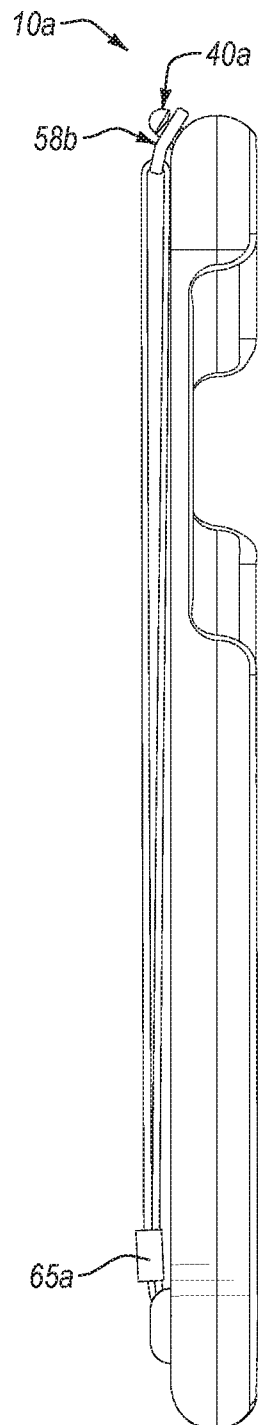


FIG. 16A

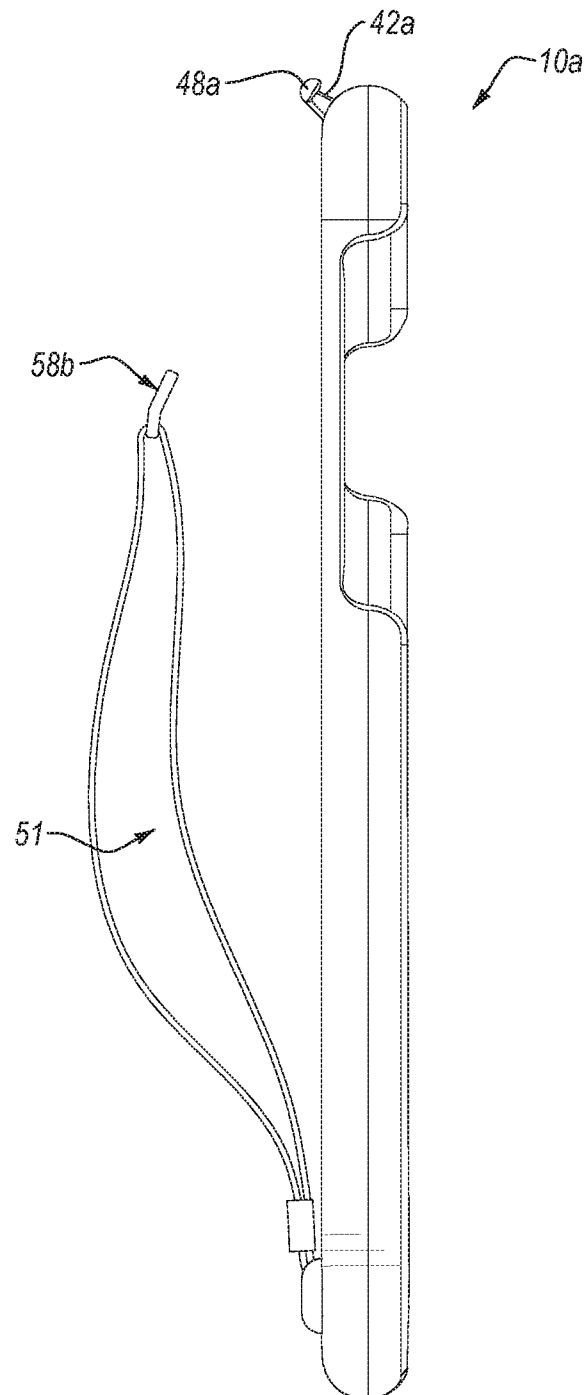


FIG. 16B

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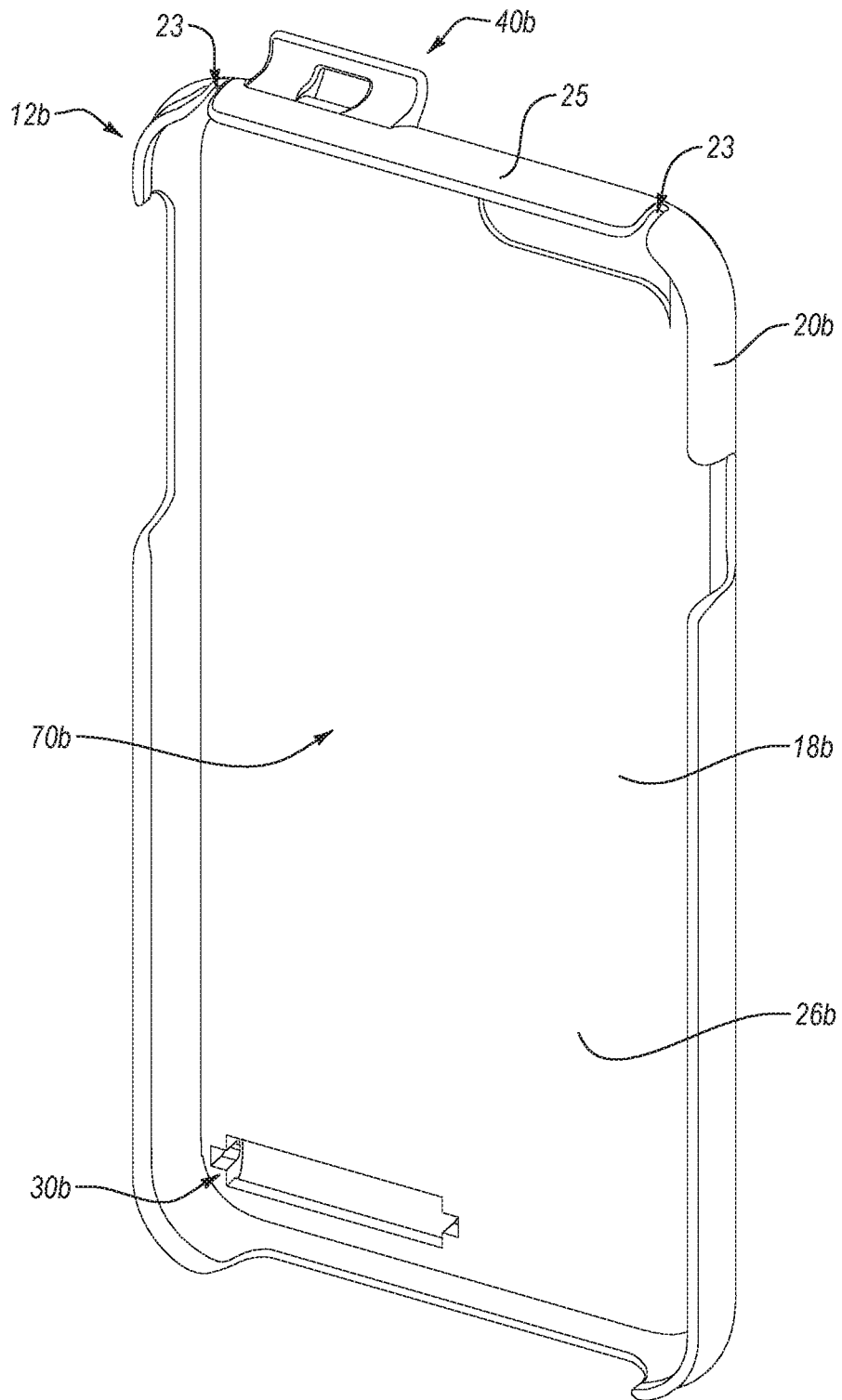
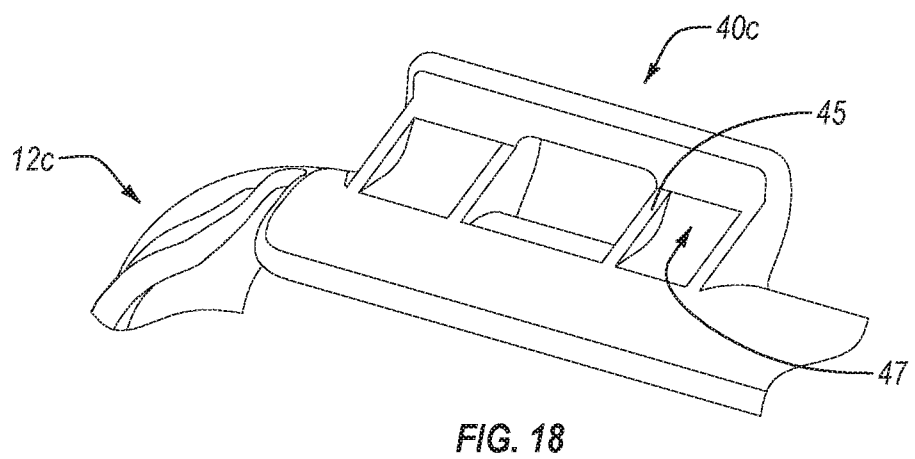
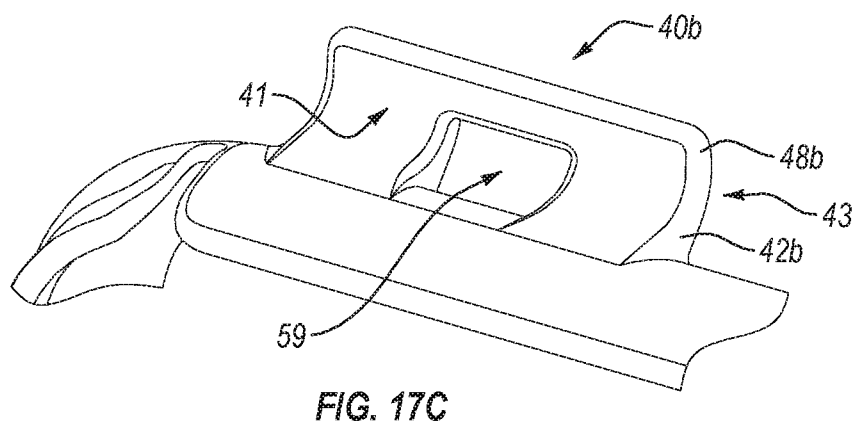
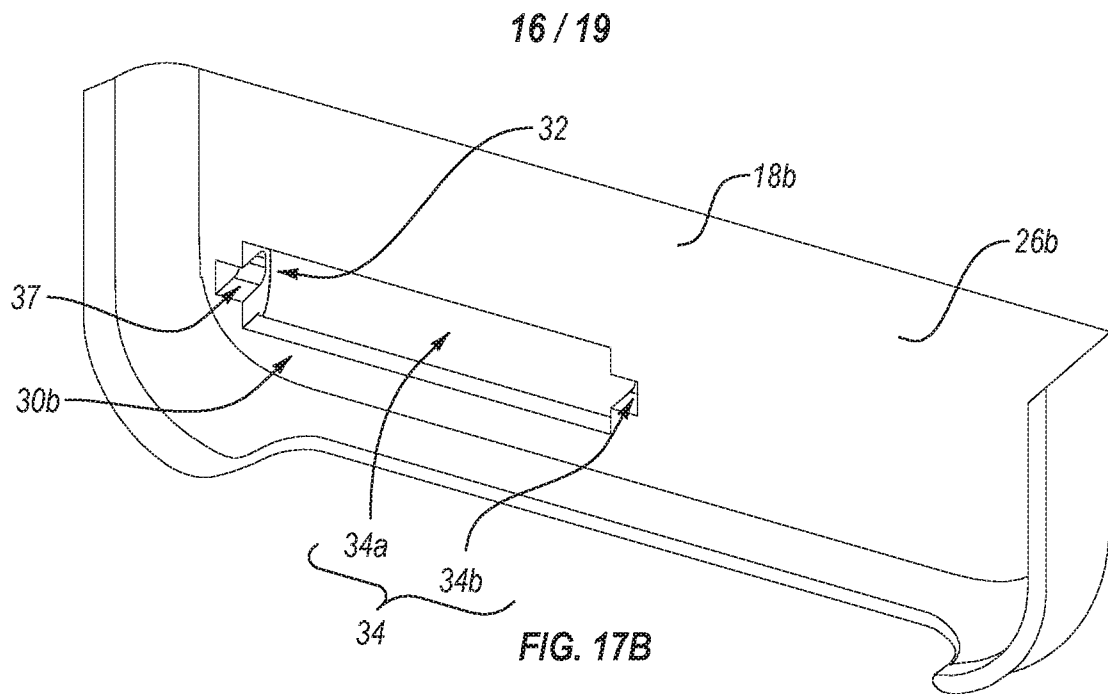


FIG. 17A



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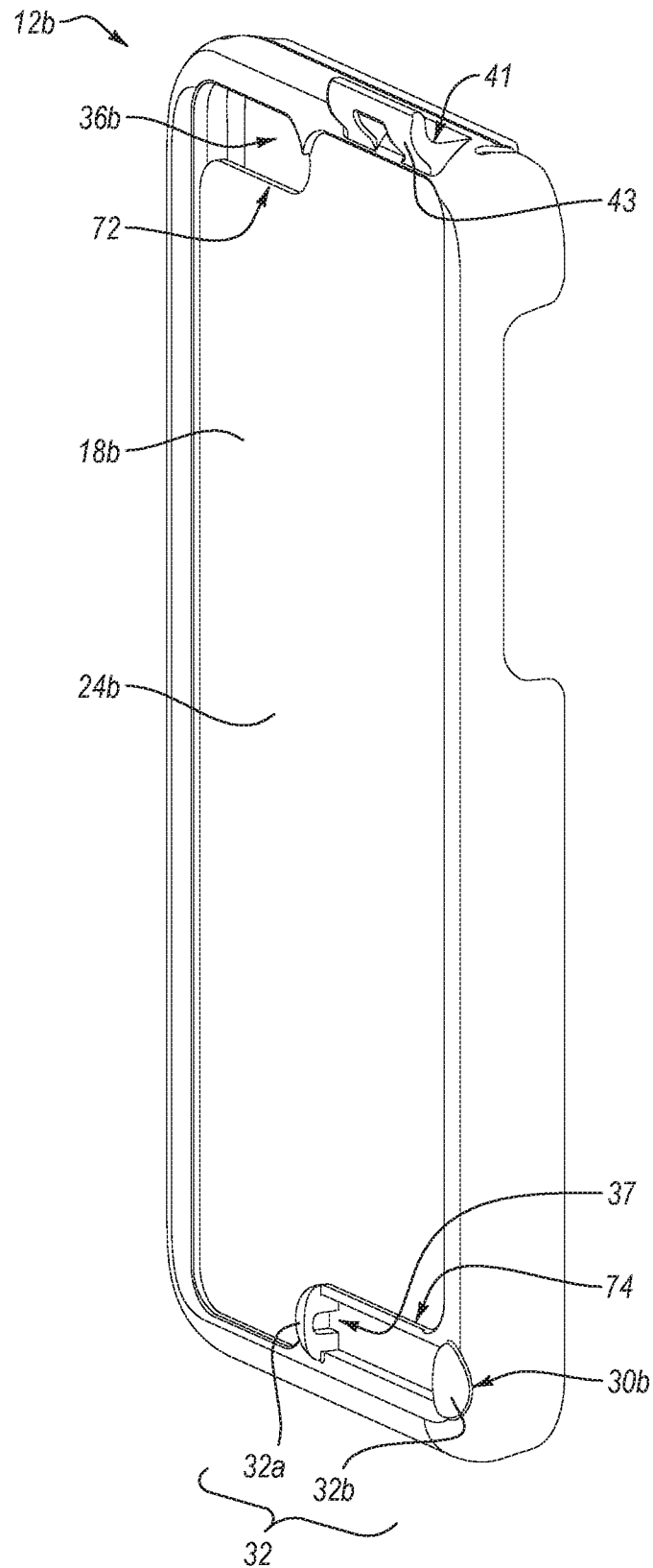


FIG. 19

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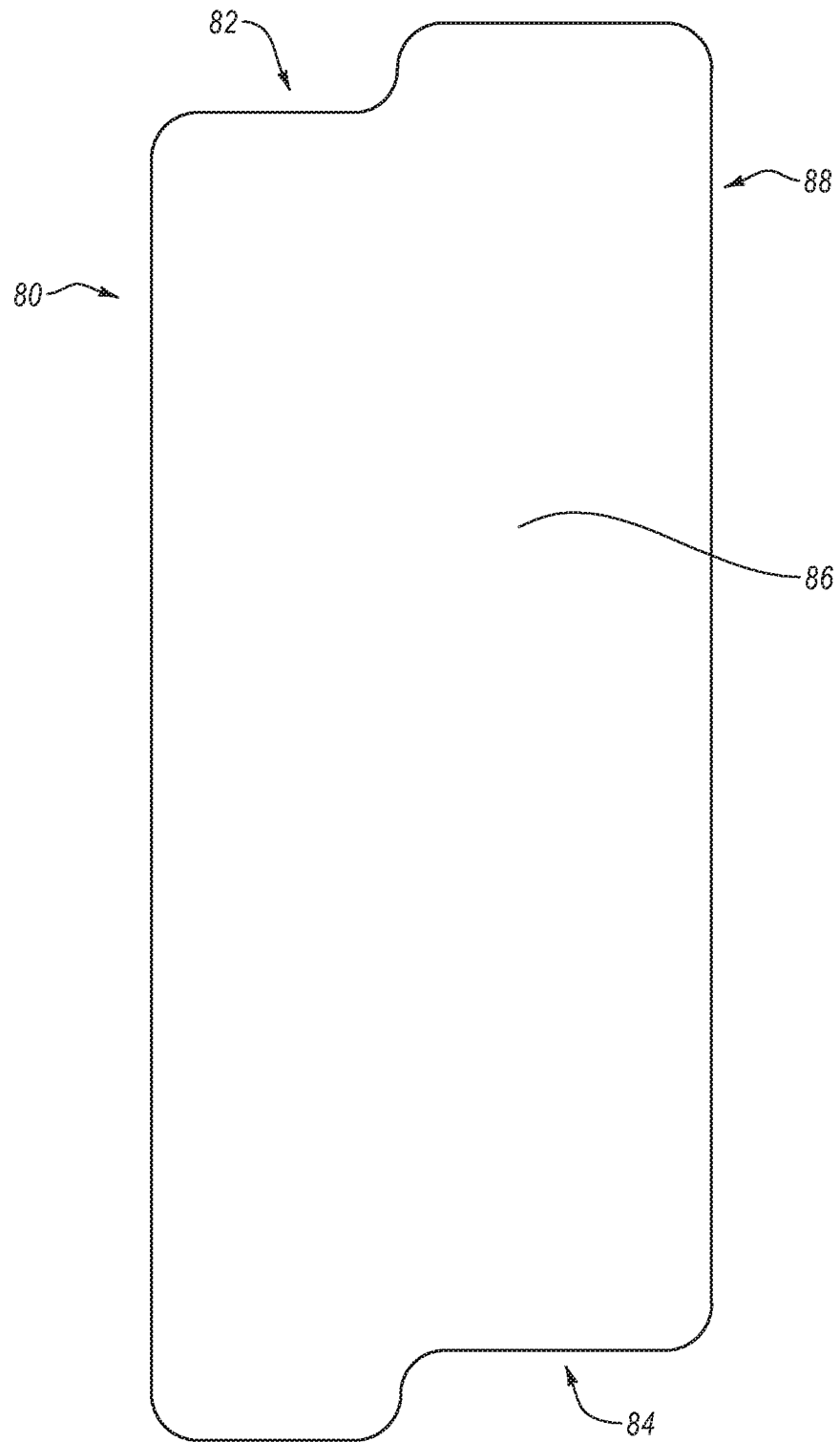


FIG. 20

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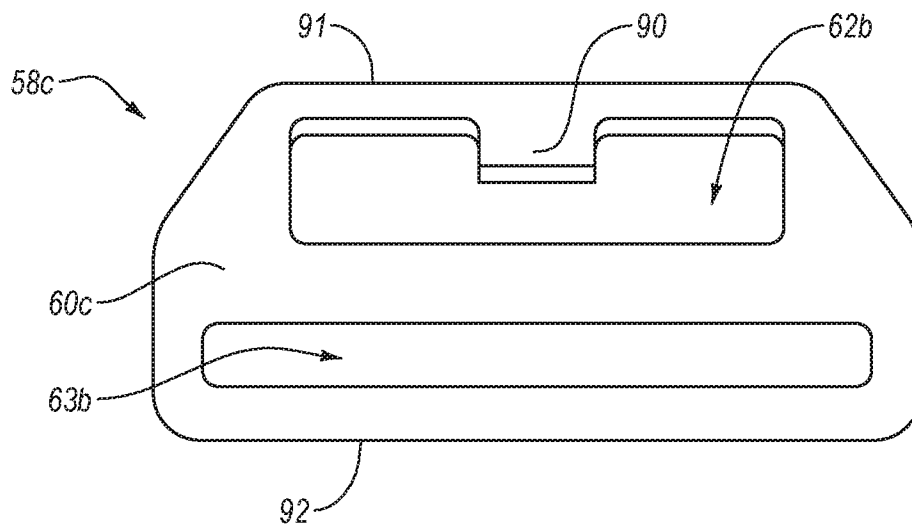


FIG. 21

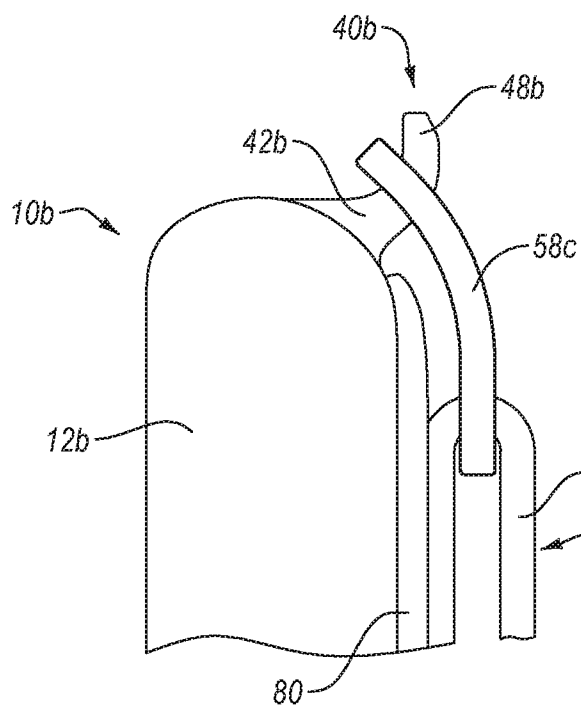


FIG. 22

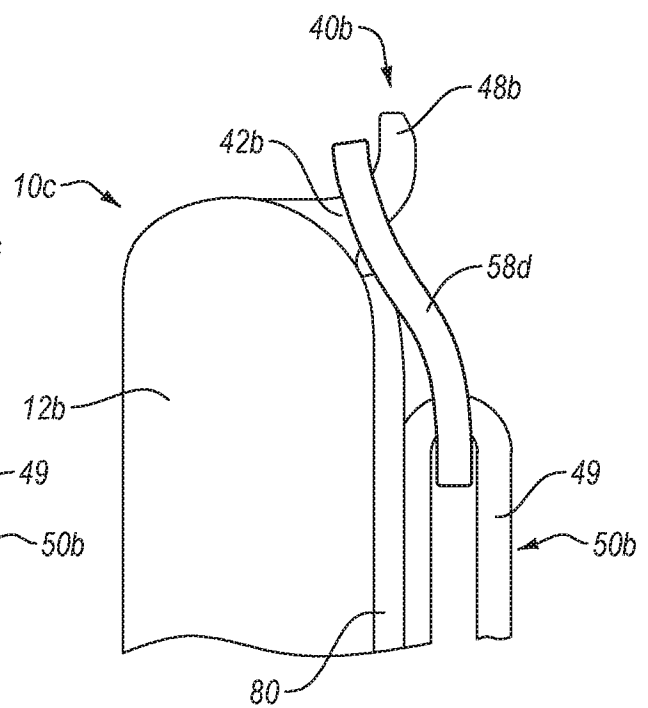


FIG. 23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2016/024320

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A45F 5/10; A45C 11/00; A45C 13/30; B65G 7/12; H05K 5/02; H05K 5/03 (2016.01)

CPC - A45F 2005/1013; A45C 2011/003; A45F 2005/008; H04B 2001/3855; H04M 1/0279 (2016.05)

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)

IPC(8) - A45C 11/00; A45C 13/30; A45F 5/10; B65G 7/12; H05K 5/02; H05K 5/03 (2016.01)

CPC - A45C 2011/003; A45F 2005/008; A45F 2005/1013; H04B 2001/3855; H04M 1/0279 (2016.05)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC - 224/218; 224/219; 224/267; 224/578; 224/930; 294/25; 294/137; 294/142; 361/679.01 (keyword delimited)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Orbit, Google Patents, Google Scholar, Google

Search terms used: hand-held, electronic, device, smartphone, cover, casing, attachment, receiving, securing, retaining, opening, capping, hooking, stem, detachable, removable, releasably, wall, backing, direction, surface, aligned, aperture, swivel, rotate

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---	US 8,428,664 B1 (WYERS) 23 April 2013 (23.04.2013) entire document	1, 2, 7-10, 12, 15, 17-22
Y		3, 4, 6, 11, 13, 14, 16, 23
Y	US 2014/0049060 A1 (TREEFROG DEVELOPMENTS, INC.) 20 February 2014 (20.02.2014) entire document	3, 4, 6, 23
Y	US 2012/0063066 A1 (FLOIT) 15 March 2012 (15.03.2012) entire document	11, 16
Y	US 2014/0152034 A1 (TUSSY) 05 June 2014 (05.06.2014) entire document	13, 14
A	US 2014/0084035 A1 (GEORGES) 27 March 2014 (27.03.2014) entire document	1-23
A	US 2012/0261930 A1 (BETHEA) 18 October 2012 (18.10.2012) entire document	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

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"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

22 May 2016

Date of mailing of the international search report

05 JUL 2016

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