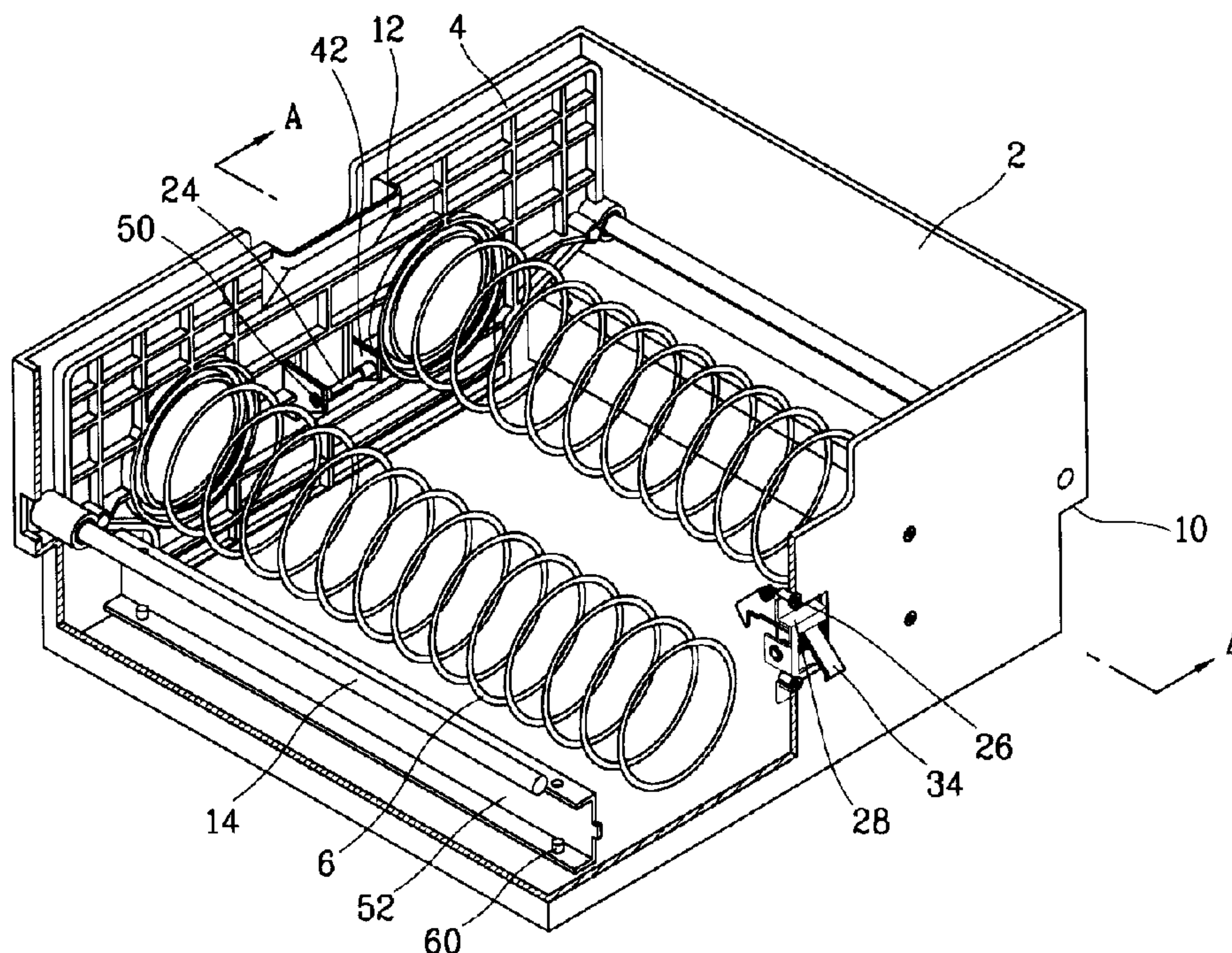




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(54) Titre : CASSETTE DE SUPPORT POUR DISTRIBUTEUR AUTOMATIQUE
 (54) Title: MEDIA CASSETTE FOR AUTOMATIC DISPENSER



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A media cassette for an automatic dispenser which can be used easily and solve problems of incorrect operations when a push plate is locked since if the automatic dispenser receives the cassette having a locked push plate, locking is automatically released. The media cassette for an automatic dispenser includes a cassette body having a certain interior space in which media is received, a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media, an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate, guide members installed between the both sides surfaces of the push plate and the inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement and a locking mechanism installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate and releasing the locking of the push plate in case the media cassette is received in the automatic dispenser.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5

A media cassette for an automatic dispenser which can be used easily and solve problems of incorrect operations when a push plate is locked since if the automatic dispenser receives the cassette having a locked push plate, locking is automatically released. The media cassette for an automatic dispenser includes a cassette body
10 having a certain interior space in which media is received, a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media, an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate, guide members installed between the both sides surfaces of the push plate and the inner sides of the cassette
15 body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement and a locking mechanism installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate and releasing the locking of the push plate in case the media cassette is received in the automatic dispenser.

MEDIA CASSETTE FOR AUTOMATIC DISPENSER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a media cassette for an automatic dispenser such as a paper currency dispenser and particularly, to a media cassette for an automatic dispenser in which a push plate locking latch in the
10 media cassette is automatically unlatched when the media cassette is received in the automatic dispenser.

2. Description of the Background Art

15 Generally, an automatic dispenser is applied to automatic teller machines (ATMs). An ATM generally is provided with a space for receiving a media cassette to store cash (paper currency) which is a medium and with a door for locking the media cassette after receiving the media cassette therein.

20 Figure 1 is a top plan view showing a conventional media cassette for an automatic dispenser and Figure 2 is a front view showing the conventional media cassette for an automatic dispenser.

25 The conventional media cassette for the automatic dispenser includes a cassette body 102 having an interior space in which media may be stored, a push plate 104 installed slidably in the cassette body 102 for supporting media received in the cassette body 102, a spring 106 positioned between the push plate 104 and

an inside wall of the cassette body 102 for urging the push plate 104, and a guide installed between the push plate 104 and the cassette body 102 for slidably supporting the push plate 104.

The cassette body has a rectangular shape with the one side opened and a guide line 108 which is slid at the upper side when the media cassette is installed in the automatic dispenser.

The push plate 104 is positioned movably in the cassette body 102 standing upright and at the one upper end of the cassette body, a handle 110 is formed which a user can hold and pull out. As mentioned between the rear surface of the push plate 104 and the inner rear wall surface of the cassette body 102, a spring 106 is installed to provide an elastic force to the push plate 104.

The guide includes a guide rails 112 which are installed on the both inner side walls of the cassette body 102 in the longitudinal direction thereof and guide rollers 114 which are installed at the both sides of the push plate 104 rotatably and abutted to the respective guide rails 112.

The guide rollers 114 are supported on rotation shafts 116 which are installed at both sides of the push plate 104 in the upright direction.

The operation of the conventional media cassette for an automatic dispenser will be described as follows.

If the handle 110 formed in the push plate 104 is pulled to the rear, the push plate 104 moves rearwardly overcoming the elastic force of the spring 106. After moving the push plate 104, media are received to the inside of the cassette body 102 sequentially with the push plate 104 being held back manually to prevent the push plate 104 from moving forwardly.

In case the handle 110 of the push plate 104 is released after completing

loading of the media, the push plate 104 moves forwardly by the elastic force of the spring 106 and the media between the cassette body 102 and the push plate 104 is pressed by a certain elastic force. Once the loading is completed, the media cassette is ready to be installed and used for the automatic dispenser.

5 However, the conventional media cassette for the automatic dispenser has problems that the operation is difficult, the operation time is long and inferior results are produced in case of installing it in the automatic dispenser due to the irregular reception of the media after the operation since a user must move the support plate rearwardly and hold it so that it with one hand cannot move forwardly
10 while holding the media into the cassette body with the other hand.

To solve the above problem, a locking tool is installed between the support plate and the cassette body, the push plate is pulled backed and locked, media is loaded, and when a locking release button is pushed, locking of the push plate is released thus to support the media.

15 However, in the above conventional media cassette, locking of the push plate must be released before loading the media cassette into the automatic dispenser. In case the user loads the media cassette into the automatic dispenser without pushing the locking release button by mistake, there occurs a problem that the media are not supplied to the dispenser because the push plate is held in the
20 locked state.

Also, since the conventional media cassette can store only one kind of media, media of different sizes can not be stored thus to limit the usage of the cassette.

25 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, certain specific embodiments of the present invention provide a media cassette for an automatic dispenser which can be used easily and which solves the problems of incorrect operation in case of loading a cassette with a locked push plate since locking of the push plate is automatically released if the automatic dispenser receives the cassette with a locked push plate.

Another advantage flowing from certain embodiments is the provision of a media cassette for an automatic dispenser which can store many kinds of media having different sizes since the width of the cassette body can be changed according to the size of the stored media thus to broaden the usefulness.

To achieve these and other advantages, in accordance with one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a media cassette for an automatic dispenser, comprising a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received, a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein, an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate, guide means installed between side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement, and locking means installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate to the cassette body and for automatically releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser.

The guide means comprises a guide rod installed at each side of the cassette body and extending in a longitudinal direction thereof and a guide hole formed at each side of the push plate and respectively fixed slidably to the

corresponding guide rod.

A bushing is fixed inside each guide hole to facilitate sliding of the push plate.

The locking means comprises a hook part coupled to a rear wall of the cassette body and protruded to the inner side of the cassette body for performing locking operation of the push plate, a hook assembly having a locking release button part protruded to the outside of the cassette body for being operated when the cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser, to release the locking and a latching pin provided on the push plate and engageable by the hook assembly.

The hook assembly comprises a bracket which is fixed on the installing hole formed in the cassette body, a hinge shaft fixed to the bracket, a hook member having a side protruded to the inner side of the cassette body forming a hook part which is protruded outwardly from the cassette body and engageable with the latching pin and another side having a locking release button part for releasing latching operation and being rotatable on the hinge shaft and a return spring for urging the hook member to its original position on the hinge shaft.

The locking release button part of the hook member is formed protruded outwardly of the cassette body at a certain angle so that the button can be pushed and operate when a door of the automatic dispenser is closed.

The latching pin is fixed to two mounting parts which are protruded at a certain interval from the rear surface of the cassette body.

A retaining ring is fixed at each end of the latching pin.

The media cassette for an automatic dispenser comprises a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received, a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein,

an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate, a guide means installed between each side of the push plate and each side of the cassette body to guide the push plate to perform linear movement and a width varying means installed on a bottom surface of each sides
5 of the cassette body for varying the width of the interior space in the cassette body according to the size of media to be received therein.

The width varying means comprises a support panel installed at each side of the cassette body extending in a longitudinal direction for supporting both side edge of the media, position determining holes formed in a bottom surfaces at both
10 sides at the cassette body at intervals so that the position of the support panels in a transverse direction of the cassette body can be changed according to the size of the media to be received in the cassette body and position fixing bolts for fixing the support panels in the position determining holes.

The media cassette for an automatic dispenser comprises a cassette body
15 having an interior space in which media to be dispensed can be received, a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein, an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate, a guide means installed between each side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to
20 perform linear movement, a locking means installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate and releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into the automatic dispenser and a width varying means installed on a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body for varying the width of the cassette body according to the media to be received
25 therein.

-7-

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, there is provided a media cassette for an automatic dispenser. The media cassette includes a cassette body, a push plate, an elastic member, guide means, and locking means. The cassette body has an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received. The push plate is installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein. The elastic member is positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate. The guide means is installed between side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement. The locking means is installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate to the cassette body and for automatically releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser. The guide means includes a guide rod installed at each side of the cassette body and extending in a longitudinal direction thereof, and a guide hole formed at each side of the push plate and respectively fixed slidably to the guide rod.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, there is provided a media cassette for an automatic dispenser. The media cassette includes a cassette body, a push plate, an elastic member, a guide means, and a width varying means. The cassette body has an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received. The push plate is installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein. The elastic member is positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate. The guide means is installed between each side of the push plate and each side of the cassette body to guide the push plate to perform linear movement. The width varying means is installed on a bottom surface of each sides of the cassette body for varying the width of the interior space in the cassette body according to the size of media to be received therein. The width varying means includes a support panel installed at each side of the cassette body extending in a longitudinal direction for supporting both side edges of the media, and further includes position determining holes formed in a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body at intervals so that the position of the support panels in a transverse direction of the cassette body can be changed according to the size of the media to be received in the cassette body. The width varying means also includes position fixing bolts for fixing the support panels in the position determining holes.

-7A-

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, there is provided a media cassette for an automatic dispenser, including a cassette body, a push plate, an elastic member, a guide means, a locking means, and a width varying means. The cassette body has an interior space in which media to be dispensed can be received. The push plate is installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein. The elastic member is positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate. The guide means is installed between each side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement. The locking means is installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate and releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into the automatic dispenser. The width varying means is installed on a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body for varying the width of the cassette body according to the media to be received therein. The width varying means includes a support panel installed at each side of the cassette body extending in a longitudinal direction for supporting both side edges of the media, and further includes position determining holes formed in a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body at intervals so that the position of the support panels in a transverse direction of the cassette body can be changed according to the size of the media to be received in the cassette body. The width varying means further includes position fixing bolts for fixing the support panels in the position determining holes.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, there is provided a media cassette for an automatic dispenser, including a cassette body, a push plate, an elastic member, guide means and locking means. The cassette body has an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received. The push plate is installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein. The elastic member is positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate. The guide means is installed between side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement. The locking means is installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate to the cassette body and for automatically releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser. The locking means includes a hook part, a hook assembly and a latching pin. The hook part is

-7B-

when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser. The locking means includes a hook part, a hook assembly and a latching pin. The hook part is coupled to a rear wall of the cassette body and protrudes from the inner side of the cassette body for performing locking operation of the push plate. The hook assembly has a locking release button part protruding from the outside of the cassette body for being operated when the cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser, to release the locking. The latching pin is provided on the push plate and is engageable by the hook assembly.

The foregoing and other features, aspects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the present invention when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of the invention, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view showing a conventional media cassette for an automatic dispenser;

Figure 2 is a front view showing the conventional media cassette for an automatic dispenser;

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing a media cassette for an automatic dispenser in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken along section line A-A in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a sectional view showing a width varying means of the media cassette in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention; and

Figure 6 is a block diagram showing the media cassette in accordance with the present invention.

Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing a media cassette for an automatic dispenser in accordance with the present invention, Figure 4 is a sectional view
5 taken along section line A-A in Figure 3 and Figure 5 is a sectional view showing a width varying means of the media cassette in accordance with the present invention.

The media cassette for an automatic dispenser includes a cassette body 2
10 having a certain interior space in which media to be dispensed is received, a push plate 4 installed slidably in the cassette body 2 for supporting media received therein, an elastic member 6 positioned between the push plate 4 and the cassette body 2 for urging the push plate towards a dispensing position of the media, guide members installed between the both side surfaces of the push plate 4 and the
15 inner sides of the cassette body 2 for guiding the push plate 4 to perform linear movement, and a locking mechanism installed between the push plate 4 and the cassette body 2 for locking the push plate 4.

In the cassette body 2, a width varying device which can vary the width of the interior space in the cassette body 2 according to the size of the media is
20 installed.

The cassette body 2 has a rectangular shape. At a front lower side of the cassette body, an outlet port 8 for discharging stored media is formed and a guide line 10 which guides the media in case of receiving the media into the automatic dispenser is formed at both side surfaces.

25 The push plate 4 is installed in the cassette body 2 standing upright and

having a shape of a flat plate and has a handle 12 with which a user can hold and pull at the center of the upper side of the push plate.

The elastic member 6 has an end fixed on the rear surface of the push plate 4 and another end having a coil spring fixed on the inner wall surface of the cassette body 2 for pushing the push plate 4.

As shown in Figure 5, the guide members include a guide rods 14 which are installed at the both sides of the cassette body extending in the longitudinal direction and guide holes 16 formed at the both sides of the push plate 4 and respectively fixed slidably on the guide rods 14.

Here, in each of the guide holes 16, a bushing 18 is inserted thus to help the guide holes slide on the guide rods 14.

The locking mechanism includes a hook assembly 22 mounted through an installing hole 20 which is formed in the center of the rear side wall of the cassette body 2 for locking the push plate 4 and a latching pin 24 provided at the center of the rear side of the push plate 4 and engageable by the hook assembly 22.

The hook assembly 22 includes a bracket 28 which is mounted in the installing hole 20 as formed in the cassette body 2 with bolts 26, a hinge shaft 30 transversely fixed to the bracket 28, a hook member 36 having an end protruded to the inner side of the cassette body 2 forming a hook part 32 which is protruded outwardly from the cassette body 2 and engageable with the latching pin 24 and another end having a locking release button part 34 for releasing locking operation under the condition of being rotated on the hinge shaft 30 and a return spring 38 for urging the hook member 36 to its original position on the hinge shaft 30.

Here, the locking release button part 34 of the hook member is formed to be protruded outwardly of the cassette body 2 at a certain angle so that the button

can be pushed and operated when a door of the automatic dispenser is closed.

The latching pin 24 is fixed to two mounting parts which are protruded at a certain interval from the rear surface of the cassette body 2, and retaining ring 50 for preventing separation of the latching pin 24 are installed at both ends of the
5 latching pin 24.

The locking mechanism overcomes the elastic force of the elastic member 6 and the push plate 4 moves inwardly in the cassette body 2 in case of holding and pulling the handle 12 of the push plate. At this time, the latching pin 24 is latched by the hook part 32 of the hook member and the push plate 4 is locked. In
10 this condition, if the door (not shown) of the automatic dispenser is closed after the media are stored in the cassette body 2, the rear surface of the door pushes the locking release button part 34, whereby the hook member rotates out of latching engagement with the latching pin and thereby locking of the push plate 4 is released and the push plate 4 supports the media with certain elastic force.

As shown in Figure 5, the width varying device includes a support panel 52 installed at each side of the cassette body 2 extending in the longitudinal direction for respectively supporting both side surfaces of the media, first, second and third position determining holes 54, 56 and 58 which are formed in the bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body 2 at certain intervals so that the position
20 of the support panels 52 in the transverse direction in the cassette body 2 can be changed according to the size of the media stored and position fixing bolts 60 for fixing the support panels 52 to the position determining holes 54, 56 and 58.

The number of the position determining holes 54, 56 and 58 can be increased accordingly as the size of the media varies.

25 Each supporting panel 52 has a bolt hole 62 where a position fixing bolt 60

is installed on the surface abutted on the bottom surface of the cassette body 2.

The width varying device fixes the supporting panels 52 by selecting one of the first, second and third position determining holes 54, 56 and 58 according to the size of the stored media.

5 Operation of the media cassette for the automatic dispenser in accordance with the present invention with the above composition will be described.

Figure 6 is a block diagram showing the media cassette in accordance with the present invention.

10 Firstly, in case of holding and pulling back the handle 12 of the push plate to secure a space for storing the media, the push plate 4 overcomes the elastic force of the elastic member 6 and moves inwardly in the cassette body 2. At this time, the push plate 4 performs linear movement along through the guide rods 14 since the guide holes 16 of the push plate 4 move along the guide rods 14 of the
15 cassette body 2.

If the push plate 4 moves to near the rear portion of the cassette body 2, the latching pin 24 which is installed on the push plate 4 is latched on the hook assembly 22 installed at the rear of the cassette body 2 and the push plate 4 is locked.

20 In this condition, after storing the media in the cassette body 2, the media cassette is ready to be received into the automatic dispenser. Here, if the door of the automatic dispenser is closed after receiving the media cassette into the automatic dispenser, the rear surface of the door pushes the locking release button part 34 of the hook assembly and accordingly, the locking of the push plate
25 is related and the media is supported elastically toward the dispensing end due to

releasing of the locking of the push plate 4.

Namely, if the rear surface of the door pushes the locking release button part 34, the hook member 36 rotates around the hinge shaft 30, whereby the hook part 32 is separated from the latching pin 24 and locking is released.

5 In case of storing a media having a bigger size than that of the currently stored media, the position fixing bolts 60 are tightened after moving the supporting panels 52 to the direction of the inside of the cassette body and aligning the bolt holes 62 with the third position determining hole 58. On the contrary, in case of storing a media having a smaller size than that of the currently stored media, the
10 position fixing bolt 60 is tightened after moving the supporting panel 52 to the direction of the inside of the cassette body and aligning the bolt holes 62 with the first position determining hole 54.

The media cassette in accordance with the present invention with the above composition and operation can prevent a incorrect operation generated in
15 case of receiving the cassette with a push plate of which locking is not released by releasing locking of the push plate by having the door push the locking release button if the media cassette is received and the door is closed after storing the media by locking the push plate with the locking mechanism and the present invention has an advantage that its use is convenient since locking of the push
20 plate does not need to be released by hand.

Also, the media cassette in accordance with the present invention has another advantage that its usefulness can be widened since media of many difference side edges can be received by having the supporting panels for supporting the both sizes of the media movable at the both sides of the cassette
25 body in the transverse direction.

As the present invention may be embodied in several forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof, it should also be understood that the above-described embodiments are not limited by any of the details of the foregoing description, unless otherwise specified, but rather should
5 be construed broadly within its spirit and scope as defined in the appended claims, and therefore all changes and modifications that fall within the meets and bounds of the claims, or equivalence of such meets and bounds are therefore intended to be embraced by the appended claims.

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A media cassette for an automatic dispenser, comprising:
 - 5 a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received;
 - a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein;
 - an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body
 - 10 for urging the push plate;
 - guide means installed between side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement; and
 - locking means installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate to the cassette body and for automatically releasing the locking
 - 15 of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser;
 - wherein the guide means comprises:
 - a guide rod installed at each side of the cassette body and extending in a longitudinal direction thereof; and
 - a guide hole formed at each side of the push plate and respectively
 - 20 fixed slidably to the guide rod.
2. The cassette of claim 1, wherein a bushing is fixed inside each guide hole to facilitate sliding of the push plate.
- 25 3. The cassette of claim 1, wherein the locking means comprises:
 - a hook part coupled to a rear wall of the cassette body and protruding from the inner side of the cassette body for performing locking operation of the push plate;
 - a hook assembly having a locking release button part protruding from the outside of the cassette body for being operated when the cassette is inserted into an
 - 30 automatic dispenser, to release the locking; and
 - a latching pin provided on the push plate and engageable by the hook assembly.

4. The cassette of claim 3, wherein the hook assembly comprises:
a bracket which is fixed on an installing hole formed in the cassette body;
5 a hinge shaft fixed to the bracket;

a hook member having a side protruded to the inner side of the cassette body forming a hook part which is protruded outwardly from the cassette body and engageable with the latching pin and another side having a locking release button part for releasing latching operation and being rotatable on the hinge shaft; and

10 a return spring for urging the hook member to its original position on the hinge shaft.

5. The cassette of claim 4, wherein the locking release button part of the hook member is formed protruding outwardly from the cassette body at a certain
15 angle so that the button can be pushed and operate when a door of the automatic dispenser is closed.

6. The cassette of claim 3, wherein the latching pin is fixed to two mounting parts which are protruded at a certain interval from the rear surface of the
20 cassette body.

7. The cassette of claim 3 or 6, wherein a retaining ring is fixed at each end of the latching pin.

25 8. A media cassette for an automatic dispenser, comprising:
a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received;

a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media
30 received therein;

an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body
for

urging the push plate;

5 a guide means installed between each side of the push plate and each side of
the cassette body to guide the push plate to perform linear movement; and

a width varying means installed on a bottom surface of each sides of the
cassette body for varying the width of the interior space in the cassette body
according to the size of media to be received therein, wherein the width varying
means comprises:

10 a support panel installed at each side of the cassette body extending in
a longitudinal direction for supporting both side edges of the media;

position determining holes formed in a bottom surface at both sides of
the cassette body at intervals so that the position of the support panels in a
transverse direction of the cassette body can be changed according to the size
15 of the media to be received in the cassette body; and

position fixing bolts for fixing the support panels in the position
determining holes.

9. A media cassette for an automatic dispenser, comprising:

20 a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed can
be received;

a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media
received therein;

25 an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body
for urging the push plate;

a guide means installed between each side surfaces of the push plate and
inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear
movement;

30 a locking means installed between the push plate and the cassette body for
locking the push plate and releasing the locking of the push plate when the media
cassette is inserted into the automatic dispenser; and

a width varying means installed on a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body for varying the width of the cassette body according to the media to be received therein, wherein the width varying means comprises:

5 a support panel installed at each side of the cassette body extending in a longitudinal direction for supporting both side edges of the media;

position determining holes formed in a bottom surface at both sides of the cassette body at intervals so that the position of the support panels in a transverse direction of the cassette body can be changed according to the size of the media to be received in the cassette body; and

10 position fixing bolts for fixing the support panels in the position determining holes.

10. A media cassette for an automatic dispenser, comprising:

15 a cassette body having an interior space in which media to be dispensed may be received;

a push plate installed slidably in the cassette body for supporting media received therein;

an elastic member positioned between the push plate and the cassette body for urging the push plate;

20 guide means installed between side surfaces of the push plate and inner sides of the cassette body for guiding the push plate to perform linear movement; and

locking means installed between the push plate and the cassette body for locking the push plate to the cassette body and for automatically releasing the locking of the push plate when the media cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser,

25 wherein the locking means comprises:

a hook part coupled to a rear wall of the cassette body and protruding from the inner side of the cassette body for performing locking operation of the push plate;

30 a hook assembly having a locking release button part protruding from the outside of the cassette body for being operated when the cassette is inserted into an automatic dispenser, to release the locking; and

a latching pin provided on the push plate and engageable by the hook assembly.

11. The cassette of claim 10, wherein the hook assembly comprises:

5 a bracket which is fixed on an installing hole formed in the cassette body;

a hinge shaft fixed to the bracket;

a hook member having a side protruded to the inner side of the cassette body forming a hook part which is protruded outwardly from the cassette body and

engageable with the latching pin and another side having a locking release button

10 part for releasing latching operation and being rotatable on the hinge shaft; and

a return spring for urging the hook member to its original position on the hinge shaft.

12. The cassette of claim 11, wherein the locking release button part of the

15 hook member is formed protruding outwardly of the cassette body at a certain angle

so that the button can be pushed and operate when a door of the automatic dispenser is closed.

13. The cassette of claim 10, wherein the latching pin is fixed to two

20 mounting parts which are protruded at a certain interval from the rear surface of the cassette body.

14. The cassette of claim 10 or claim 13, wherein a retaining ring is fixed at each end of the latching pin.

25

FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

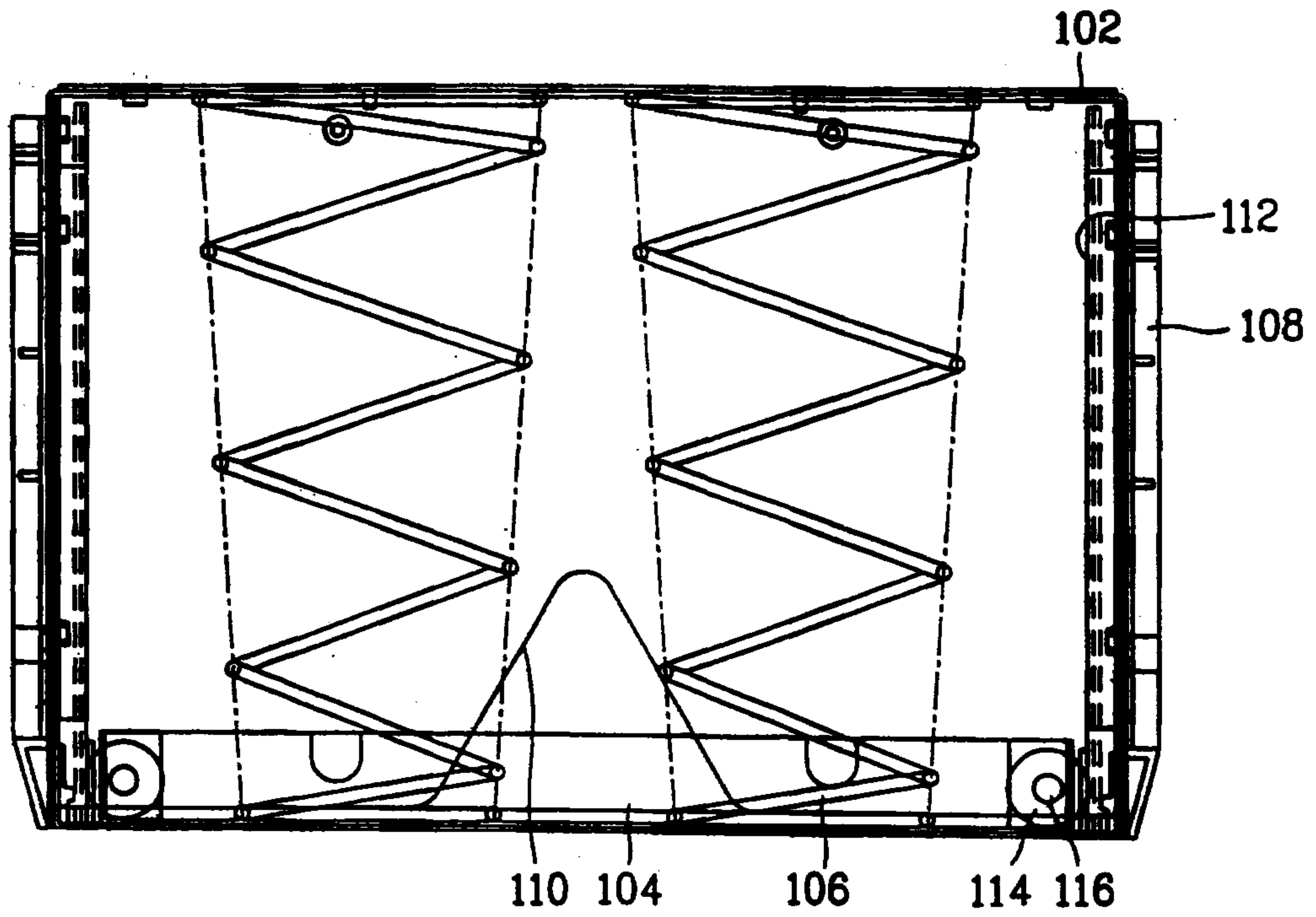


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

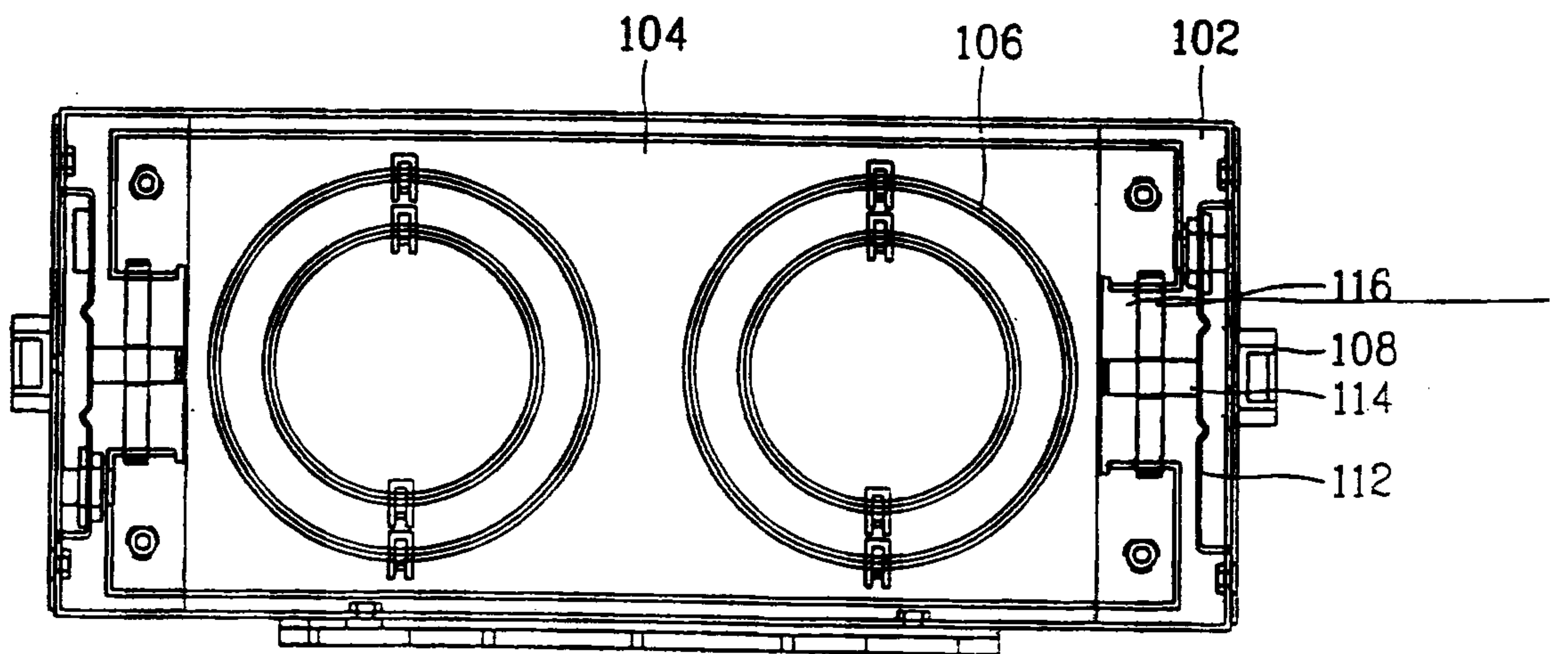


FIG. 3

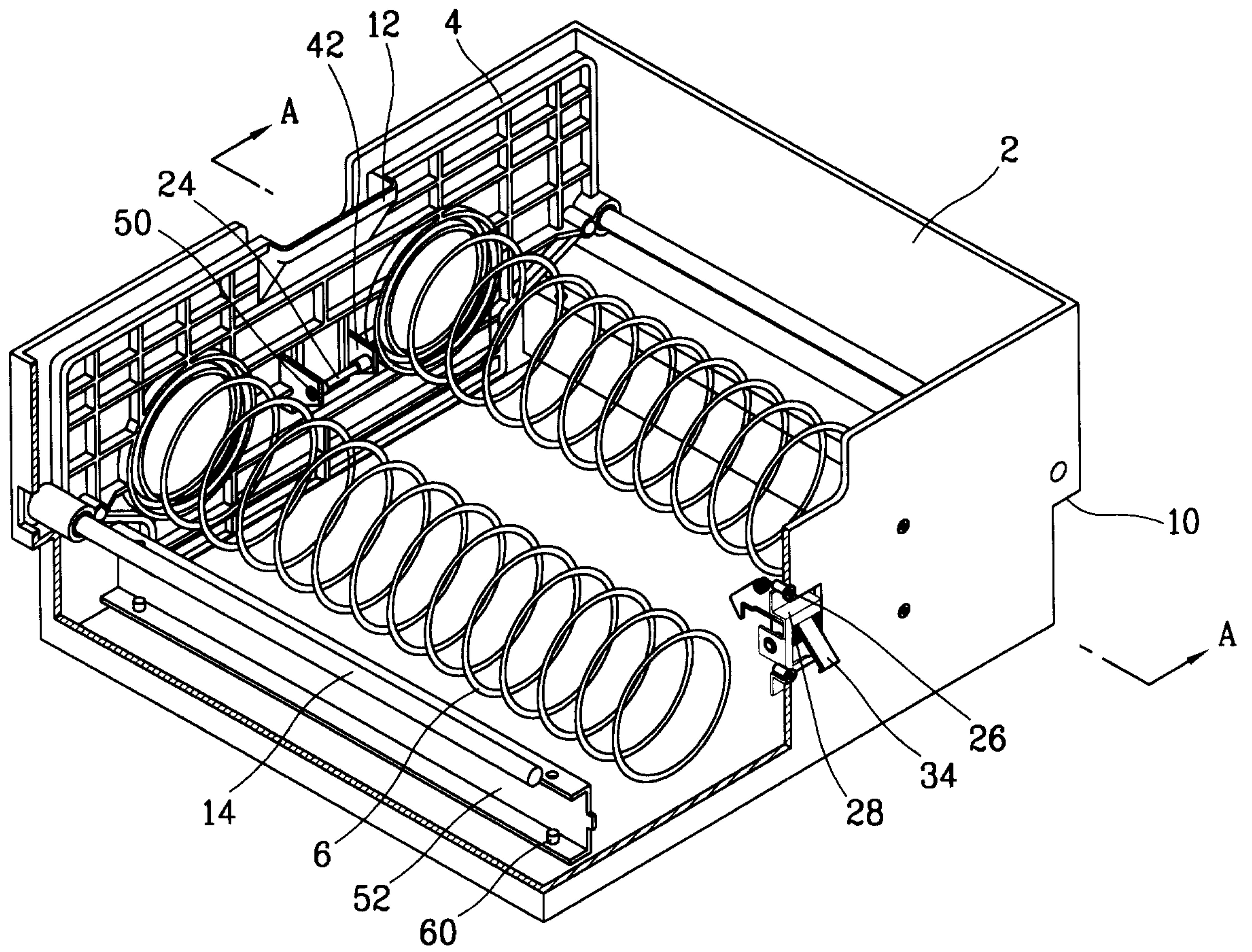


FIG. 4

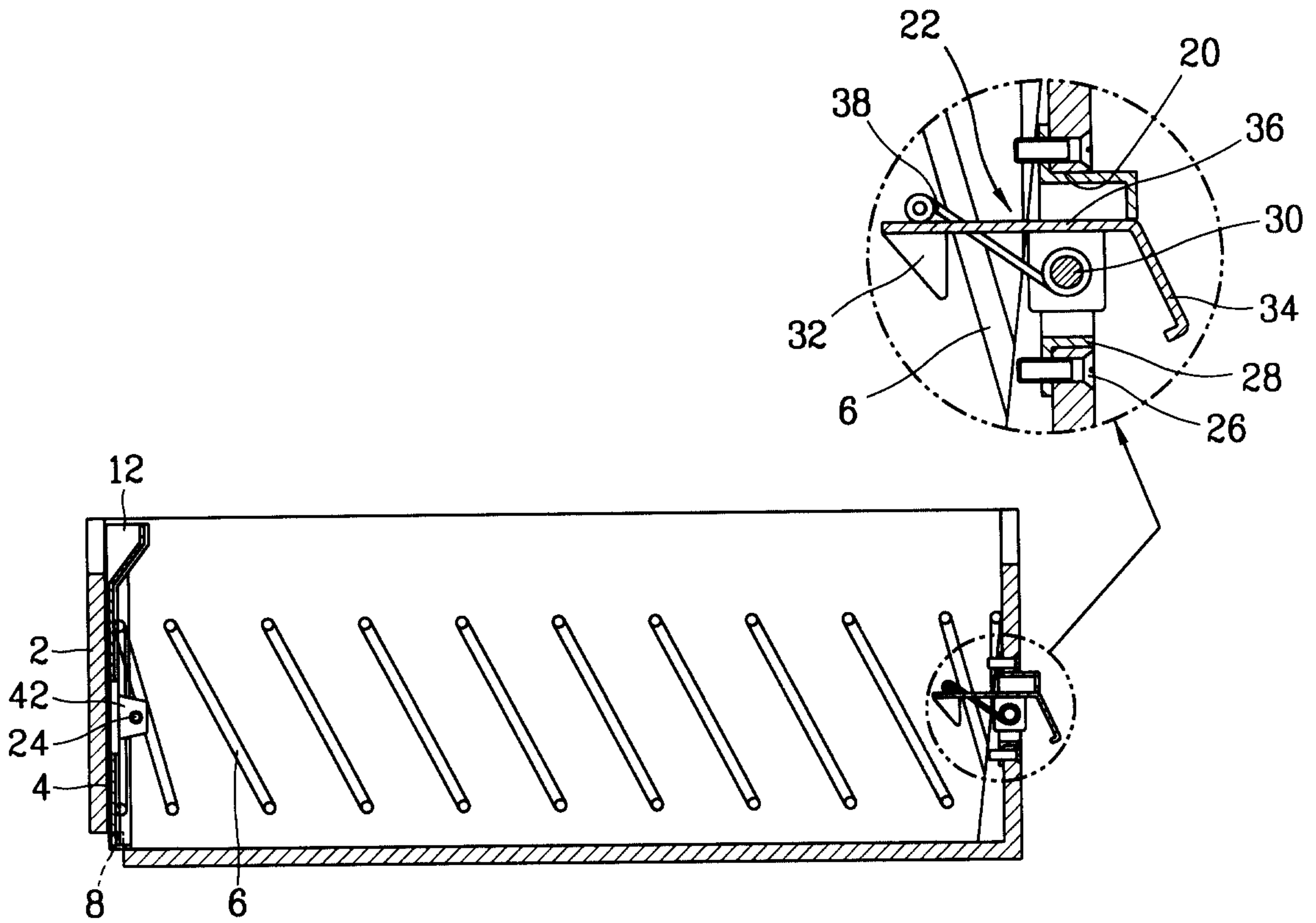


FIG. 5

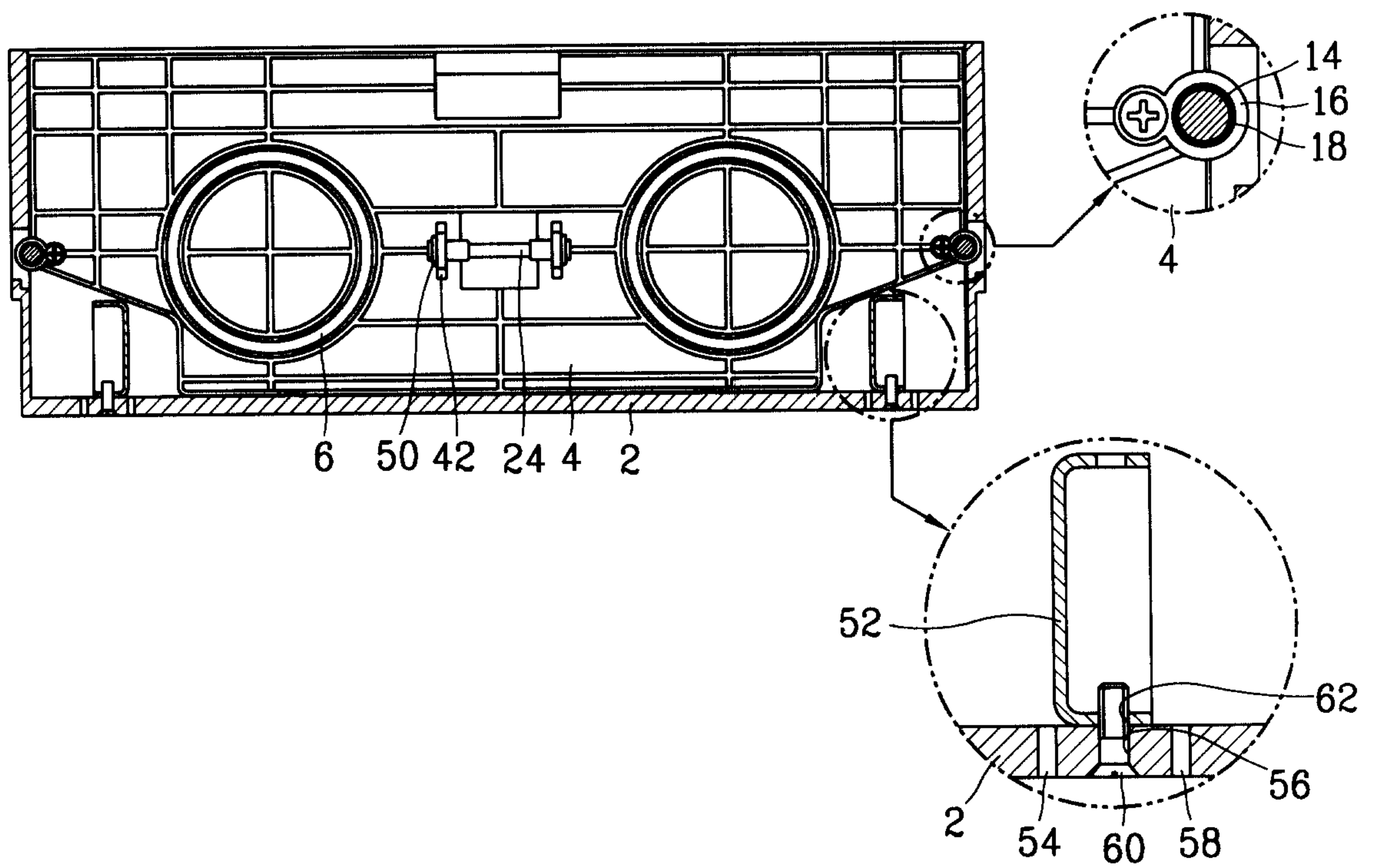


FIG. 6

