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(54) **Label/leaflet assemblies**

Etikett-/Faltbroschürenaufbau

Assemblage de feuillets/étiquettes

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(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 180 365 **EP-A- 0 346 567**
WO-A-88/02308 **DE-A- 3 924 790**
GB-A- 2 213 428

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EP 0 549 293 B1

Description

This invention relates to label/leaflet assemblies and in preferred embodiments provides access to a leaflet on the label, permits the leaflet to be re-sealed on the label and provides visible indication if the leaflet has been opened.

International Patent Application No. WO 88/02308 describes a method and apparatus for making labels. In particular a label is described which has an outer, and a primary inner, label member between which lie three secondary inner label members. The primary inner label member has its lower surface coated with adhesive which may be masked by a sheet of peelable release material prior to application to a product. The outer, and primary inner, label members extend longitudinally in both directions beyond the secondary inner label members and are joined together at both longitudinal ends beyond the secondary inner label members.

British published Patent Application No. GB 2 213 428-A describes a leaflet, folded so as to conceal information printed on the leaflet, having a tear line running transversely across the folded leaflet from one lateral edge of the leaflet to another lateral edge. Located between the tear line and the transverse end edge of the leaflet closest to the tear line is a band of non-reusable adhesive, whilst on the other side of the tear line is located a band of reusable adhesive.

According to this invention there is provided a label/leaflet assembly comprising a carrier web having a release coating on its front face, a label sheet having on its rear face an adhesive by which the label sheet is attached to the front face of the carrier web, a leaflet which is secured to the front face of the label sheet and which has a front cover sheet having a main body part overlying other sheets of the leaflet and an end edge portion extending beyond said other sheets, said assembly being characterised in that one or more areas of the end edge portion of the cover sheet are adhesively secured to the label sheet and are connected to adjoining parts of the end edge portion by a tear line or lines, in that the parts of the said end edge portion other than said area or areas are releasably and re-attachably attached to the label sheet, and in that said tear line or lines extend from a transverse end edge of said end edge portion to another edge of said front cover sheet, whereby when said end edge portion is torn along the tear line or lines, said one or more areas remain adhesively secured to the label sheet and the other parts of the end edge portion remain connected to the main body part of the front cover sheet.

According to a preferred feature of the invention an adhesive is applied to the front face of the label sheet for releasably and re-attachably attaching said parts of the edge portion to the label sheet and for adhesively securing said one or more areas to the label sheet, said parts of the edge portion having thereon a coating which renders them releasably and re-attachably attached to

the label sheet by the adhesive on the front face of the label sheet.

According to another preferred feature of the invention said area or areas comprise one or both of two corner parts at opposite transverse ends of said end portion of the cover sheet. In one such construction in which the two corner parts constitute said areas, a part of the end portion between said corner portions has its end edge extending beyond said corner portions and unattached to the label sheet so as to provide a tongue or tab capable of being gripped by the fingers.

Preferably said corner part or each of the corner parts is defined by a slit extending to a lateral edge of the cover sheet from a location adjacent such edge and by a tear line as aforesaid which extends from the inner end of the slit to the end edge of the cover sheet.

The invention will now be described in more detail with reference by way of example to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a label/leaflet according to the invention, and

Figures 2 and 3 respectively show plan and elevation views of a second embodiment of the invention.

Each of the illustrated constructions comprises a carrier or support web 10 the front or upper surface of which is coated with a release material, a label sheet 11 having its rear face coated with an adhesive 11a by which the label sheet is releasably attached to the carrier web, and a leaflet 12 secured to the front face of the label sheet. The leaflet comprises a front cover sheet 13, a rear panel 14 connected to the cover sheet along a fold line 15, and one or more further panels 16 connected to the rear panel and to each other along fold lines, so that the further panels are disposed between the cover sheet and the rear panel. The rear panel is secured to the front face of the label sheet by a transverse line of adhesive 17 adjacent the fold line 15.

Referring now particularly to Figure 1, the transverse end edge portion 13a of the cover sheet 13 remote from the fold line 15 extends beyond the folded sheets of the leaflet and beyond the folded sheets has two slits 18 extending parallel to the end edge 19 of the cover sheet to the respective adjacent lateral edges of the cover sheet from locations adjacent the lateral edges. A tear line 20 extends from the inner end of each slit 18 to the end edge 19 of the cover sheet and may be constituted by a broken line of cuts or slits. The two corner areas 21 of the cover sheet defined by the slits and the tear lines are secured to the underlying label sheet 11 by patches 21a of adhesive applied to the front face of the label sheet 11. The end portion 22 between the two corner areas 21 extends a short distance beyond these areas and is detachably and re-attachably attached to the label sheet by a line of adhesive 23 spaced away from the end edge, so that the portion 22 provides a tab or tongue to be gripped by the fingers.

A series of such label/leaflet assemblies are disposed end to end on the web 10 and can be stored in the form of a reel until required for application to the products they are to identify. Application of the assemblies is conveniently carried out by automatic means in the well-known way, the web being passed round a roller of small diameter disposed at a station past which the products are fed in succession. The roller causes the label/leaflet assemblies to separate from the web and to become attached by the adhesive 11a to the products as the products pass the station.

Subsequently, in use by the purchaser, the tab is pulled upward the cover sheet tears along the lines 20 to the slits 18 to give access to the leaflet. Subsequently the tab can be releasably re-attached to the label sheet by the line of adhesive 23 so as to re-seal the leaflet. The tearing along the lines 20 however provides a visual indication that the leaflet has been opened, which is desirable where the leaflet contains an offer or other content of monetary value or where there is a risk of the leaflet being tampered with.

The corner areas 21 may be secured to the label sheet by a different adhesive from that used for the line 23, or by the same adhesive if the mating surfaces of the tab 22 are rendered impervious, as by a suitable lacquer or varnish, to penetration by the adhesive used in the corner areas.

In a modified construction the parts of the corner areas 21 adjoining the slits 18 are left free of adhesive and the panels 14 and 16 of the leaflet extend so that their edges can be engaged under these parts of the corner areas prior to re-sealing.

Figures 2 and 3 illustrate another form of construction according to the invention. In this form, the part of the label sheet underlying the end portion 13a has a transverse band of adhesive 34 and part of the portion 13a extends beyond the adhesive so as to form a tab or flap 35 which can be gripped to tear open the label/leaflet assembly. The tab 35 narrows adjacent the lower edge 36 of the leaflet and the underlying edge of the label sheet is shaped correspondingly. A broken line of slits 37 extends in a curve from the free edge of the end portion 13a across the band of adhesive to the bottom edge 36 of the portion 13a. Above this line of slits 37, the rear face of the portion 13a has a coating of a varnish or lacquer to which the adhesive 34 adheres detachably and re-sealably; but below the line, no varnish or lacquer is used and the adhesive forms a secure bond with the material of the front cover.

To gain access to the leaflet, the tab 35 is grasped and pulled outward to detach the portion 13a from the adhesive 34 where the portion is coated with varnish or lacquer, but the part of portion 13a below the slits 37 is firmly adhered to the label sheet and in consequence portion 13a becomes torn along the line of slits 37. The front cover of the leaflet can subsequently be releasably re-attached to the label sheet by the adhesive 34, but the tearing along the line 37 provides a visual indication

that the leaflet has been opened.

The tear line or lines need not be weakened in the various constructions and need not be marked on the leaflet since in some cases they may be quite short and/or such as to be torn without the application of particular force.

The constructions described and illustrated are also advantageous in that they overcome application difficulties associated with currently available resealable label/leaflets, which often spring open during application to the produce or during packing of the product, particularly under certain climatic conditions, e.g. of heat or cold. The permanently sealed part of the portion 13a and the tear line together hold the leaflet closed, but the leaflet can nevertheless be re-sealed after use.

Claims

1. A label/leaflet assembly comprising a carrier web (10) having a release coating on its front face, a label sheet (11) having on its rear face an adhesive (11a) by which the label sheet (11) is attached to the front face of the carrier web (10), a leaflet (12) which is secured to the front face of the label sheet (11) and which has a front cover sheet (13) having a main body part overlying other sheets (16) of the leaflet (12) and an end edge portion (13a) extending beyond said other sheets (16), said assembly being characterised in that one or more areas (21) of the end edge portion (13a) of the cover sheet (13) are adhesively secured to the label sheet (11) and are connected to adjoining parts (22) of the end edge portion (13a) by a tear line (37) or lines (20), in that the parts (22) of the said end edge portion (13a) other than said area or areas (21) are releasably and re-attachably attached to the label sheet (11), and in that said tear line (37) or lines (20) extend from a transverse end edge of said end edge portion (13a) to another edge of said front cover sheet (13), whereby when said end edge portion (13a) is torn along the tear line (37) or lines (20), said one or more areas (21) remain adhesively secured to the label sheet (11) and the other parts (22) of the end edge portion (13a) remain connected to the main body part of the front cover sheet (13).
2. An assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein an adhesive is applied to the front face of the label sheet (11) for releasably and re-attachably attaching said parts (22) of the end edge portion (13a) to the label sheet (11) and for adhesively securing said one or more areas (21) to the label sheet (11), said parts (22) of the end edge portion (13a) having thereon a coating which renders them releasably and re-attachably attached to the label sheet (11) by the adhesive on the front face of the label sheet (11).

3. An assembly as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said area or areas (21) comprise one or both of two corner parts (21) at opposite transverse ends of said end edge portion (13a) of the front cover sheet (13).
4. An assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the two corner parts (21) constitute said areas (21), and a part (22) of the end edge portion (13a) between said corner portions (21) has its end edge extending beyond said corner portions (21) and unattached to the label sheet (11) so as to provide a tongue or tab capable of being gripped by the fingers.
5. An assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein said corner part or each of the corner parts (21) is defined by a slit (18) extending to a lateral edge of the front cover sheet (13) from a location adjacent such edge and by a tear line (20) extending from the inner end of the slit (18) to the end edge of said end edge portion (13a).
6. An assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said end edge portion (13a) of the front cover sheet (13) is releasably and re-attachably attached along one part of its transverse length to the label sheet (11) and along a second part of its transverse length is adhesively secured to the label sheet, said second part being connected to said one part and said main body along a tear line or respective tear lines as aforesaid.
7. An assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein a transverse band of adhesive (34) is provided on the part of the label sheet (11) underlying said end edge portion (13a), said one part of the end edge portion of the front cover sheet (13) having on its surface facing the line of adhesive (34) a coating which causes said one part to be releasably and re-attachably attached to the label sheet by said band of adhesive (34), said second part of the end edge portion (13a) being permanently attached to the label sheet (11) by said line of adhesive (34).
8. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein said tear line (37) or each of said tear lines (20) is formed by a line of slits.

Patentansprüche

1. Ein Etikett-/Faltbroschürenaufbau, der ein Trägervlies (10) mit einer Trennbeschichtung auf seiner Vorderfläche, ein Etikettenblatt (11) mit einem Kleber (11a) auf seiner Rückfläche mit dem das Etikettenblatt (11) an die Vorderfläche des Trägervlieses (10) angebracht ist, eine Broschüre (12), die an die Vorderfläche des Etikettenblatts (11) befestigt ist

und die ein vorderes Deckblatt (13) aufweist, das ein Hauptkörperteil besitzt, das andere Blätter (16) der Broschüre (12) abdeckt und einen Endkanten-
 teil (13a) ausweist, der sich über besagte andere Blätter (16) hinaus erstreckt, umfaßt, wobei der be-
 sagte Aufbau dadurch gekennzeichnet ist, daß ein
 oder mehr Bereiche (21) des Endkantenteils (13a) des Deckblatts (13) klebend am Etikettenblatt (11) befestigt sind und durch eine Abreißlinie (37) oder Linien (20) mit benachbarten Teilen (22) des Endkantenteils (13a) verbunden sind, indem die Teile (22) des besagten Endkantenteils (13a) außer dem besagten Bereich oder Bereichen (21) lösbar und erneut anbringbar am Etikettenblatt (11) befestigt sind, und indem sich die besagte Abreißlinie (37) oder Linien (20) ab einer transversalen Endkante des besagten Endkantenteils (13a) zur anderen Kante des besagten Deckblatts (13) erstrecken, wodurch wenn besagtes Endkantenteil (13a) entlang der Abreißlinie (37) oder Linien (20) abgerissen wird, besagte ein oder mehr Bereiche (21) klebend am Etikettenblatt (11) befestigt bleiben und die anderen Teile (22) des Endkantenteils (13a) mit dem Hauptkörper des vorderen Deckblatts (13) verbunden bleiben.

2. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 1 beansprucht, worin ein Kleber auf die Vorderfläche des Etikettenblatts (11) aufgetragen wird, um die besagten Teile (22) des Endkantenteils (13a) lösbar und erneut anbringbar an das Etikettenblatt (11) anzubringen und um den besagten einen oder mehr Bereiche (21) klebend an das Etikettenblatt (11) zu befestigen, besagte Teile (22) des Endkantenteils (13a) darauf eine Beschichtung aufweisen, mittels der sie lösbar und erneut anbringbar durch den Kleber auf der Vorderfläche des Etikettenblatts (11) am Etikettenblatt (11) befestigt werden können.
3. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 1 oder Anspruch 2 beansprucht, worin besagter Bereich oder Bereiche (21) eins oder beide der Eckteile (21) an gegenüberliegenden transversalen Enden des besagten Endkantenteils (13a) des vorderen Deckblatts (13) umfassen.
4. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 3 beansprucht, worin die zwei Eckteile (21) besagte Bereiche (21) konstituieren, und ein Teil (22) des Endkantenteils (13a) zwischen den besagten Eckteilen (21) hat seine Endkante über die besagten Eckteile (21) hinausragen und am Etikettenblatt (11) unbefestigt, um so eine Zunge oder Lasche bereitzustellen, die mit den Fingern erfaßt werden kann.
5. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 4 beansprucht, worin besagtes Eckteil oder jedes der Eckteile (21) durch einen Schlitz (18) definiert ist, der sich zu einer la-

teralen Kante des vorderen Deckblatts (13) ab einer Stelle neben einer solchen Kante erstreckt und durch eine Abreißlinie (20), die sich ab dem inneren Ende des Schlitzes (18) zu der Endkante des besagten Endkantenteils (13a) erstreckt.

6. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 2 beansprucht, worin der Endkantenteil (13a) des vorderen Deckblatts (13) lösbar und erneut anbringbar entlang einem Teil seiner transversalen Länge an das Etikettenblatt (11) und entlang einem zweiten Teil seiner transversalen Länge klebend am Etikettenblatt befestigt ist, wobei der besagte zweite Teil mit dem besagten einen Teil und dem besagten Hauptkörper entlang einer Abreißlinie bzw. Abreißlinien wie oben genannt verbunden ist.
7. Ein Aufbau wie in Anspruch 6 beansprucht, worin ein transversaler Klebstreifen (34) an dem Teil des Etikettenblatts (11) vorgesehen ist, der unter dem besagten Endkantenteil (13a) liegt, besagter eine Teil des Endkantenteils des vorderen Deckblatts (13) auf seiner Oberfläche, die der Kleberlinie (34) gegenüberliegt, eine Beschichtung aufweist, die bewirkt, daß der besagte eine Teil lösbar und erneut anbringbar durch besagten Klebstreifen (34) am Etikettenblatt befestigt werden kann, besagter zweite Teil des Endkantenteils (13a) permanent durch die besagte Kleberlinie (34) am Etikettenblatt (11) befestigt wird.
8. Ein Aufbau wie in einem beliebigen der vorhergehenden Ansprüche beansprucht, worin besagte Abreißlinie (37) oder jede der besagten Abreißlinien (20) durch eine Linie von Schlitzten gebildet wird.

Revendications

1. Un assemblage de feuillets/étiquettes comprenant un porte-rouleau (10) comportant un revêtement de décollement sur sa face frontale, un feuille d'étiquette (11) comportant sur son verso une partie adhésive (11a) grâce à laquelle la feuille d'étiquette (11) est fixée à la face frontale du porte-rouleau (10), un feuillet (12) qui est fixé au recto de la feuille d'étiquette (11) et qui comporte une page de couverture frontale (13) composée d'une partie principale se superposant à d'autres feuilles (16) du feuillet (12) et une frange d'extrémité (13a) se prolongeant au-delà desdites autres feuilles (16), ledit assemblage étant caractérisé par le fait qu'une ou plusieurs parties (21) de la frange (13a) de la page de couverture (13) sont fixées par collage à la feuille d'étiquette (11) et sont raccordées aux parties adjacentes (22) de la frange (13a) par une ligne de déchirure (37) ou des lignes de déchirure (20), par le fait que les parties (22) de ladite frange (13a)

autres que lesdites parties (21) sont fixées à la feuille d'étiquette (11) tout en pouvant être facilement décollées et recollées, et par le fait que ladite ou lesdites lignes de déchirure (37, 20) se projettent à partir d'un bord transversal de ladite frange d'extrémité (13a) jusqu'à un autre bord de ladite page de couverture (13), en sorte que lorsque ladite frange d'extrémité (13a) est déchirée le long de la ou des lignes de déchirure (37, 20), la ou les parties de feuilles (21) demeurent collées à la feuille d'étiquette (11) et les autres parties (22) de la frange d'extrémité (13a) restent raccordées à la partie principale de la page de couverture (13).

2. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 1, dans lequel un adhésif est appliqué au recto de la feuille d'étiquette (11) afin de pouvoir coller lesdites parties (22) de la frange (13a) à la feuille d'étiquette (11), tout en permettant de décoller et de recoller ces dernières, et pour fixer par collage ladite ou lesdites parties de feuille (21) à la feuille d'étiquette (11), lesdites parties (22) de la frange de feuille (13a) comportant un revêtement qui permet de les coller, de les décoller et de les recoller à la feuille d'étiquette (11) par l'intermédiaire de l'élément adhésif situé au recto de la feuille d'étiquette (11).
3. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 1 ou à la revendication 2, dans lequel ladite ou lesdites parties de feuille (21) comprennent l'un ou les deux des deux éléments de coin (21) aux extrémités transversalement opposées de ladite frange (13a) de la page de couverture (13).
4. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 3, dans lequel le deux éléments de coin (21) constituent lesdites parties de feuille (21), et dans lequel une partie (22) de la frange (13a) située entre lesdits éléments de coin (21) est caractérisée par le fait que son extrémité se prolonge au-delà desdits éléments de coin (21) et par le fait qu'elle n'est pas collée à la feuille d'étiquette (11) afin de former une patte ou une languette que l'on peut saisir entre les doigts.
5. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 4, dans lequel ledit élément de coin ou chacun des éléments de coin (21) est caractérisé par une fente (18) se prolongeant jusqu'à un bord latéral de la page de couverture (13) à partir d'une position adjacente à ce bord et par une ligne de déchirure (20) allant de l'extrémité interne de la fente (18) jusqu'à l'extrémité de ladite frange (13a).
6. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 1, dans lequel ladite frange (13a) de la page de couverture (13) est collée, décollée ou recollée le long

d'une partie de sa longueur transversale à la feuille d'étiquette (11) et est collée à la feuille d'étiquette le long d'une deuxième partie de sa longueur transversale, ladite seconde partie étant raccordée à ladite première partie et à ladite partie principale de feuille le long d'une ligne de déchirure ou de lignes de déchirure respectives, comme décrit supra. 5

7. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à la revendication 6, dans lequel une bande adhésive transversale (34) est présente sur la partie de la feuille d'étiquette (11) reposant au-dessous de ladite frange (13a), ladite partie de la frange de la page de couverture (13) comportant sur sa surface faisant face à la bande adhésive (34) un revêtement qui permet de coller, de décoller ou de recoller ladite partie à la feuille d'étiquette par l'intermédiaire de ladite bande adhésive (34), ladite seconde partie de la frange (13a) étant collée de façon permanente à la feuille d'étiquette (11) par le biais de ladite bande adhésive. 10 15 20
8. Un assemblage ainsi revendiqué à l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel ladite ligne de déchirure (37) ou chacune desdites lignes de déchirure (20) est constituée d'une ligne de fentes. 25

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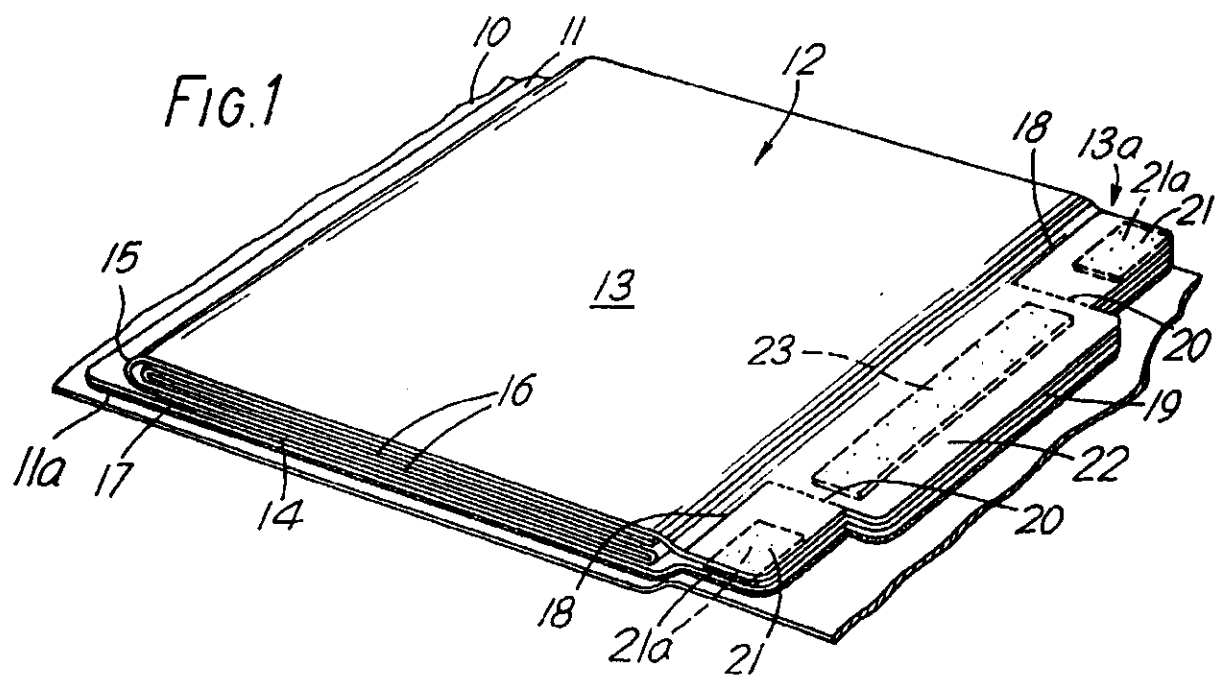


FIG.2

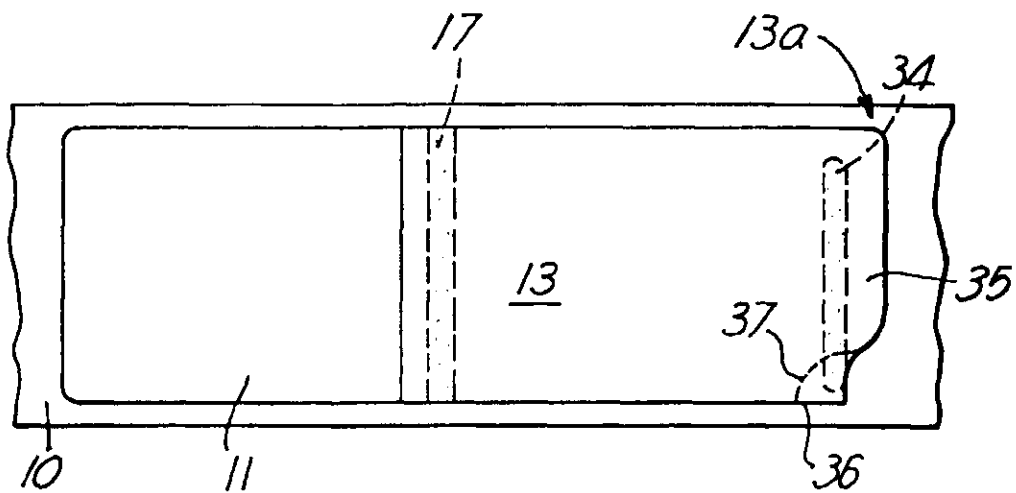
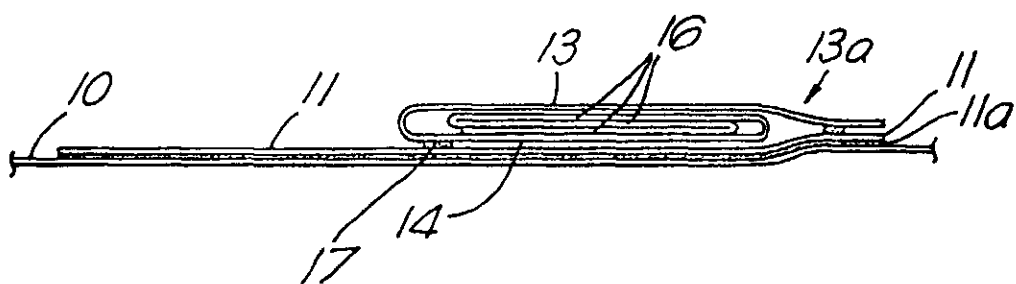


FIG.3



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