Office de la Propriété Intellectuelle du Canada
Un organisme d'Industrie Canada

Canadian Intellectual Property Office
An agency of Industry Canada

CA 2577076 A1 2008/08/02

(21) 2 577 076

(12) DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN
CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION

(13) A1

(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 2007/02/02

(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 2008/08/02

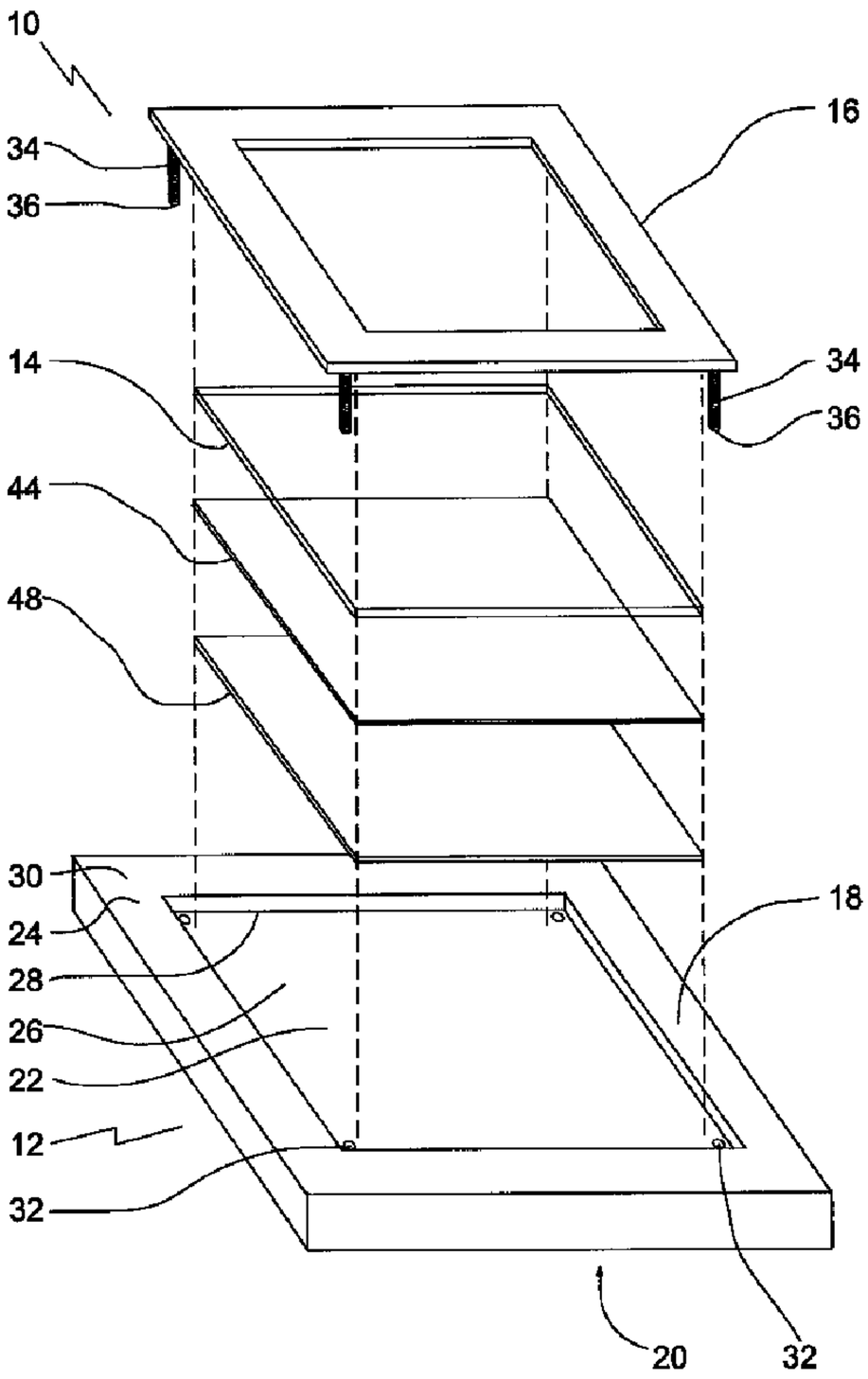
(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *A47B 13/12* (2006.01),
G09F 19/00 (2006.01)

(71) Demandeur/Applicant:
COLE, CLINT, CA

(72) Inventeur/Inventor:
COLE, CLINT, CA

(74) Agent: THOMPSON, DOUGLAS B.

(54) Titre : PLATEAU DE TABLE MUNI D'UN PANNEAU D'AFFICHAGE TRANSPARENT
(54) Title: TABLE TOP WITH TRANSPARENT DISPLAY PANEL



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
A table top with transparent display panel, includes a recessed planar display surface positioned on a top face on a first plane and a planar border surrounding the display surface on a second plane. A frame is provided having several integrally attached depending

CA 2577076 A1 2008/08/02

(21) 2 577 076

(13) A1

(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):
threaded pins. The frame is sized to rest upon the planar border on the top face of the body and overlap the display surface. Nuts engage the threaded pins to secure the frame to the body. This prevents removal of a transparent display panel and any tampering with a display substrate positioned on the display surface under the transparent display panel.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A table top with transparent display panel, includes a recessed planar display surface positioned on a top face on a first plane and a planar border surrounding the display surface on a second plane. A frame is provided having several integrally attached depending threaded pins. The frame is sized to rest upon the planar border on the top face of the body and overlap the display surface. Nuts engage the threaded pins to secure the frame to the body. This prevents removal of a transparent display panel and any tampering with a display substrate positioned on the display surface under the transparent display panel.

TITLE

Table Top With Transparent Display Panel

FIELD

The present application relates to a table top which has a transparent display panel through which advertising or information features are visible.

BACKGROUND

United States Patent 6,123,031 (Hayman-Chaffey) discloses a patent entitled "Advertising Table With Replaceable Insert Feature".

SUMMARY

There is provided a table top with a transparent display panel, including a body with a recessed planar display surface, a top face and a bottom face. The recessed planar display surface is positioned on the top face on a first plane and has a planar border surrounding a periphery of the display surface on a second plane above the display surface. The body has several pin receiving apertures that extend through the body between the top face and the bottom face. The transparent display panel fits overtop of the display surface and within the periphery of the display surface. A frame is provided having several integrally attached depending pins. Each pin has a remote end and is positioned to align with the pin receiving apertures on the body. The frame is sized to rest upon the planar border on the top face of the body and overlap the periphery of the display surface. Means are provided for engaging the remote end of each of the pins to secure the frame to the body. This prevents removal of the transparent display panel and any tampering with a display substrate positioned on the display surface under the transparent display panel.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features will become more apparent from the following description in which reference is made to the appended drawings, the drawings are for the purpose of illustration only and are not intended to be in any way limiting, wherein:

FIG. 1 is an exploded perspective view of a table top with transparent display panel.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the table top with transparent display panel illustrated

in **FIG. 1.**

FIG. 3 is a detailed side elevation view, in section, of the table top with transparent display panel illustrated in **FIG. 1.**

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A table top with transparent display generally identified by reference numeral 10, will now be described with reference to **FIG. 1** through **3**.

Structure and Relationship of Parts:

Referring to **FIG. 1**, table top with transparent display panel 10 consists of a body 12, a transparent display panel 14, and a frame 16. Body 12 has a top face 18, a bottom face 20, a recessed planar display surface 22, and a planar border 24. Body 12 may be made of any suitable material including, but not limited to, wood, metal or plastic. Body 12 may be covered with a laminate coating, in order to protect it from regular wear and tear. Recessed planar display surface 22 is positioned on top face 18 on a first plane 26, recessed planar display surface 22 having a periphery 28. Planar border 24 is positioned on top face 18, planar border 24 surrounding periphery 28 of recessed planar display surface 22 on a second plane 30 above recessed planar display surface 22. Recessed planar display surface 22 has several pin receiving apertures 32 that extend through body 12 between top face 18 and bottom face 20. Transparent display panel 14 fits overtop of recessed planar display surface 22, and within periphery 28 of recessed planar display surface 22. Transparent display panel 14 may be made of glass, Plexiglas, plastic, or any other transparent material. Referring to **FIG. 3**, frame 16 has several integrally attached depending pins, illustrated as bolts 34. Alternatively, other types of pins may be used instead of bolts 34. Bolts 34 may be integrally attached to frame by welding. Bolts 34 are positioned to align with pin receiving apertures 32 on body 12. Pin receiving apertures 32 have been illustrated as being positioned in recessed planar display surface 22, but could also be positioned along planar border 24. Frame 16 may be secured to transparent display panel 14 by water proof adhesive, such as silicone (not shown), so that they become one unit for the purpose of installation and removal. Referring to **FIG. 2**, frame 16 is sized to rest upon planar border 24 on top face 18 of body 12. Referring to **FIG. 1**, frame 16 overlaps periphery 28 of planar recessed display surface 22. Frame 16 may be made out of any suitable type of material, including, but not limited to, metal, plastic or wood. In the

embodiments shown in **FIGS. 1-3**, frame 16 is made out of metal. Referring to **FIG. 3**, frame 16 may have a thickness on the order of one eighth of an inch, although other thicknesses are possible.

Referring to **FIG. 3**, the means for securing bolts 34 include washers 38, lock washers 40 and nuts 42. Alternatively, other means for securing bolts 34 may be used, including, but not limited to, hitches, cam locks, pins and safety pins, and butterfly nuts. Washer 38, lock washer 40 and nut 42 engage remote end 36 of each of bolts 34 to secure frame 16 to the body, thereby preventing access to transparent display panel 14 and any tampering with a display substrate 44 positioned on recessed planar display surface 22 under transparent display panel 14. Each of pin receiving apertures 32 has an enlarged portion 46 adjacent to bottom face 20 of body 12, enlarged portion 46 is adapted to receive washers 38, lock washers 40, and nuts 42.

Referring to **FIGS. 1** and **3**, a cushioning substrate 48 is positioned on recessed planar display surface 22 underlying transparent display panel 14. Cushioning substrate 48 may be any suitable material, including, but not limited to, cardboard or foam. Display substrate 44 is positioned above cushioning substrate 48 where it is visible through transparent display panel 14. Display substrate 44 is a form of visual communication such as a poster or a visual advertisement. Cushioning substrate 48 positions substrate 44 flush up against transparent display panel 14, keeping substrate 44 dry in case of leaks, and providing shock absorption for transparent display panel 14.

Operation:

Referring to **FIG. 1**, cushioning substrate 48 is placed on recessed planar display surface 22. Overtop of cushioning substrate 48 is placed display substrate 44. Frame 16 and transparent display panel 14 are secured together in advance by a water repellent adhesive, such as silicone. They are positioned over display substrate 44 as a unit. Transparent display panel 14 protects substrate 44 from being damaged, as well as providing a transparent surface with which to view substrate 44 through while sitting at table top 10. Referring to **FIG. 3**, frame 16 is secured to body 12 by inserting bolts 34 through pin receiving apertures 32, and securing remote end 36 of bolts 34 to bottom face 20 of body 12. Washers 38, lock washers

40 and nuts 42 are used to secure bolts 34 to bottom face 20 of body 12. Nuts 42 serve to clamp frame 16 down onto body 12. Lock washers 40 serve to prevent nuts 42 from being accidentally loosened. Water proof adhesive (silicone) that secures transparent display panel 14 to frame 16, helps prevent spilled liquid from penetrating between transparent display panel 14 and frame 16 and damaging substrate 44.

Variations:

In restaurants that serve liquor, patrons have the option of eating their meal while seated at the bar. In this context, the use of the term "table top" is intended to be broad enough to include top of the bar. The table illustrated is shown as being rectangular. Alternatively, other table shapes may be used as table top 10, including circular, oval, and rounded edge square tables, to name a few examples. The type of pin chosen for illustration is a bolt. It will be apparent that other pin configurations could be used. A nut has been illustrated as the means for securing the pin against removal. It will be apparent that other pin engaging fasteners could have been used with or without washers.

Advantages:

Table top with transparent display panel 10 has numerous advantages. Table top 10 is designed such that it will be water resistant. Water resistance is important due to the nature of providing a table for use with the consumption of liquids and foods. Spills can easily occur, and it is important to prevent spilled fluids from damaging or affecting the quality of any of the components of table top 10, most notably display substrate 44. In addition, table top 10 is made tamper resistant. By securing bolts 34 on bottom face 20, it is difficult to access the only means for separating the components of table top 10. It is also difficult to remove the means for securing bolts 34 without the proper tools. Furthermore, table top 10 is very versatile, and can be added to any base with ease. Finally, table top 10 is provided as an aesthetically pleasing form of advertisement. While an individual sits or eats at table top 10, they are free to view display surface 44. Display surface 44 is neatly tucked under transparent display panel 14, giving it a pleasing, clean appearance.

In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but items not specifically mentioned are not

excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be one and only one of the elements.

It will be apparent to one skilled in the art that modifications may be made to the illustrated embodiment without departing from the spirit and scope defined in the Claims.

What is Claimed is:

1. A table top with transparent display panel, comprising:

a body having a top face, a bottom face, a recessed planar display surface positioned on the top face on a first plane and having a periphery and a planar border positioned on the top face surrounding the periphery of the display surface on a second plane above the display surface, the body having several pin receiving apertures that extend through the body between the top face and the bottom face;

a transparent display panel fitting overtop of the display surface and within the periphery of the display surface;

a frame having several integrally attached depending pins, each pin having a remote end, the pins being positioned to align with the pin receiving apertures in the body, the frame being sized to rest upon the planar border on the top face of the body and overlap the periphery of the display surface;

means being provided for engaging the remote end of each of the pins to secure the frame to the body, thereby preventing removal of the transparent display panel and any tampering with a substrate positioned on display surface under the transparent display panel.

2. The table top of Claim 1, wherein the pins are bolts.

3. The table top of Claim 2, wherein the means for engaging the remote end of each of the bolts to secure the frame to the body are nuts.

4. The table top of Claim 3, wherein each of the pin receiving apertures have enlarged portions adjacent to the bottom face of the body, the enlarged portions being adapted to receive the nuts.

5. The table top of Claim 4, wherein washers are positioned in each of the enlarged portions.

6. The table top of Claim 4, wherein lock washers are positioned on each of the bolts.

7. The table top of Claim 1, wherein a cushioning substrate is positioned on the display surface underlying the transparent display panel.

8. The table top of Claim 1, the frame being secured to the transparent display panel by water proof adhesive.

9. A table top with transparent display panel, comprising:

a body having a top face, a bottom face, a recessed planar display surface positioned on the top face on a first plane and having a periphery and a planar border positioned on the top face surrounding the periphery of the display surface on a second plane above the display surface, the body having several pin receiving apertures that extend through the body between the top face and the bottom face;

a transparent display panel fitting overtop of the display surface and within the periphery of the display surface;

a frame, secured to the transparent display panel by water proof adhesive, having several integrally attached depending pins in the form of bolts, each pin having a remote end, the pins being positioned to align with the pin receiving apertures in the body, the frame being sized to rest upon the planar border on the top face of the body and overlap the periphery of the display surface;

washers, lock washers, and nuts being provided for engaging the remote end of each of the pins to secure the frame to the body, thereby preventing removal of the transparent display panel and any tampering with a substrate positioned on display surface under the transparent display panel;

each of the pin receiving apertures having enlarged portions adjacent to the bottom face of the body, the enlarged portions being adapted to receive the washers, lock washers and nuts.

10. The table top of Claim 9, wherein a cushioning substrate is positioned on the display surface underlying the transparent display panel.

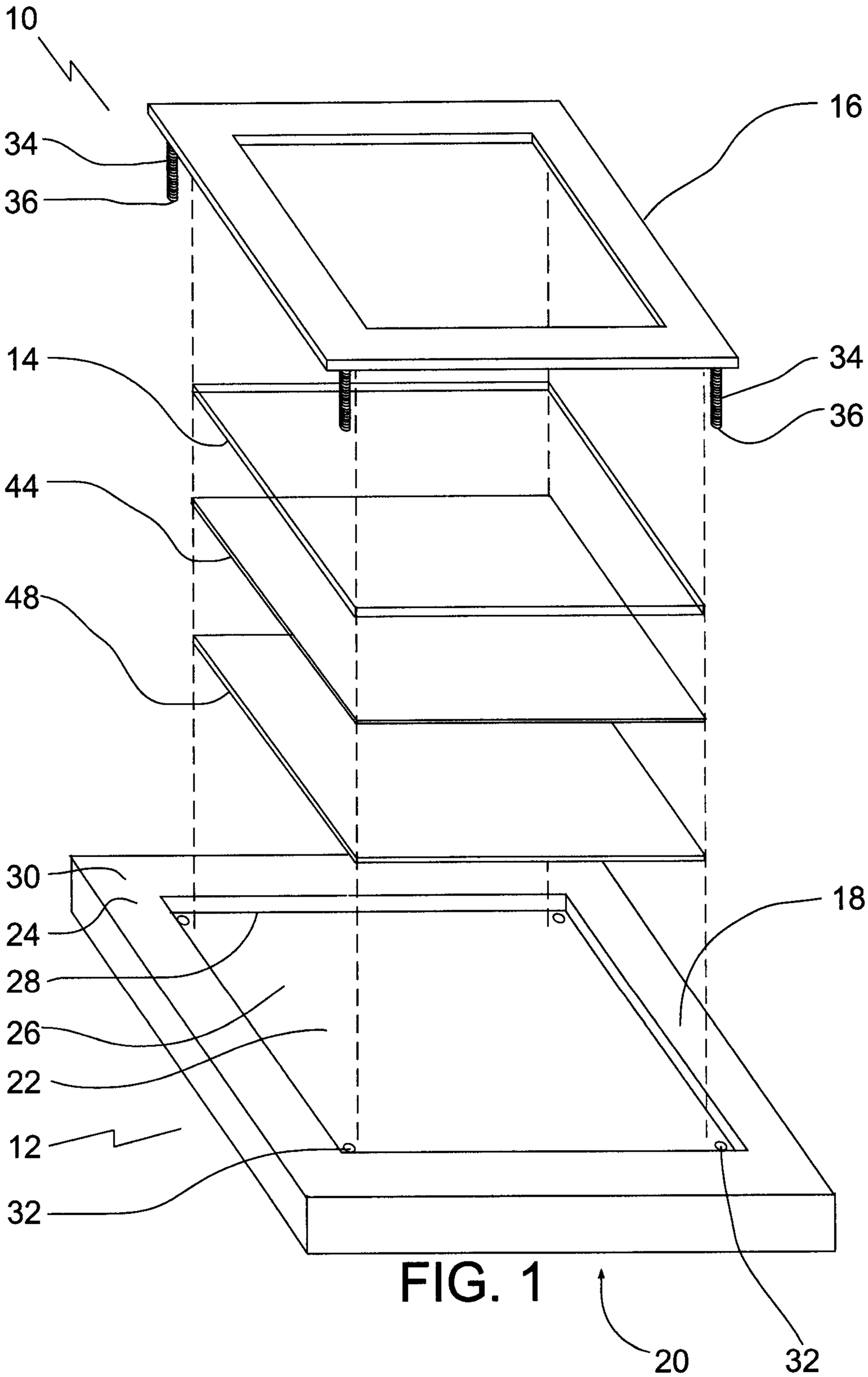


FIG. 1

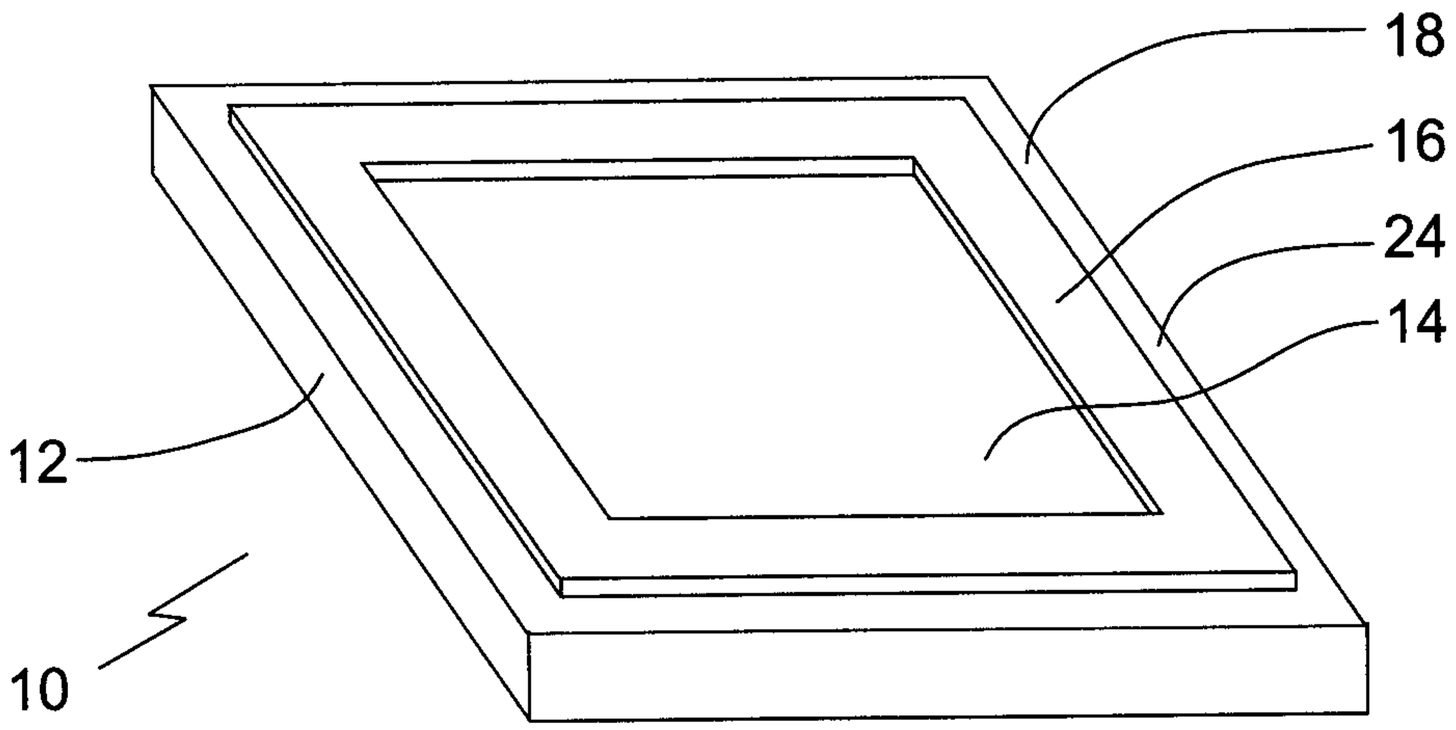

18
16
24
14
12
10

FIG. 2

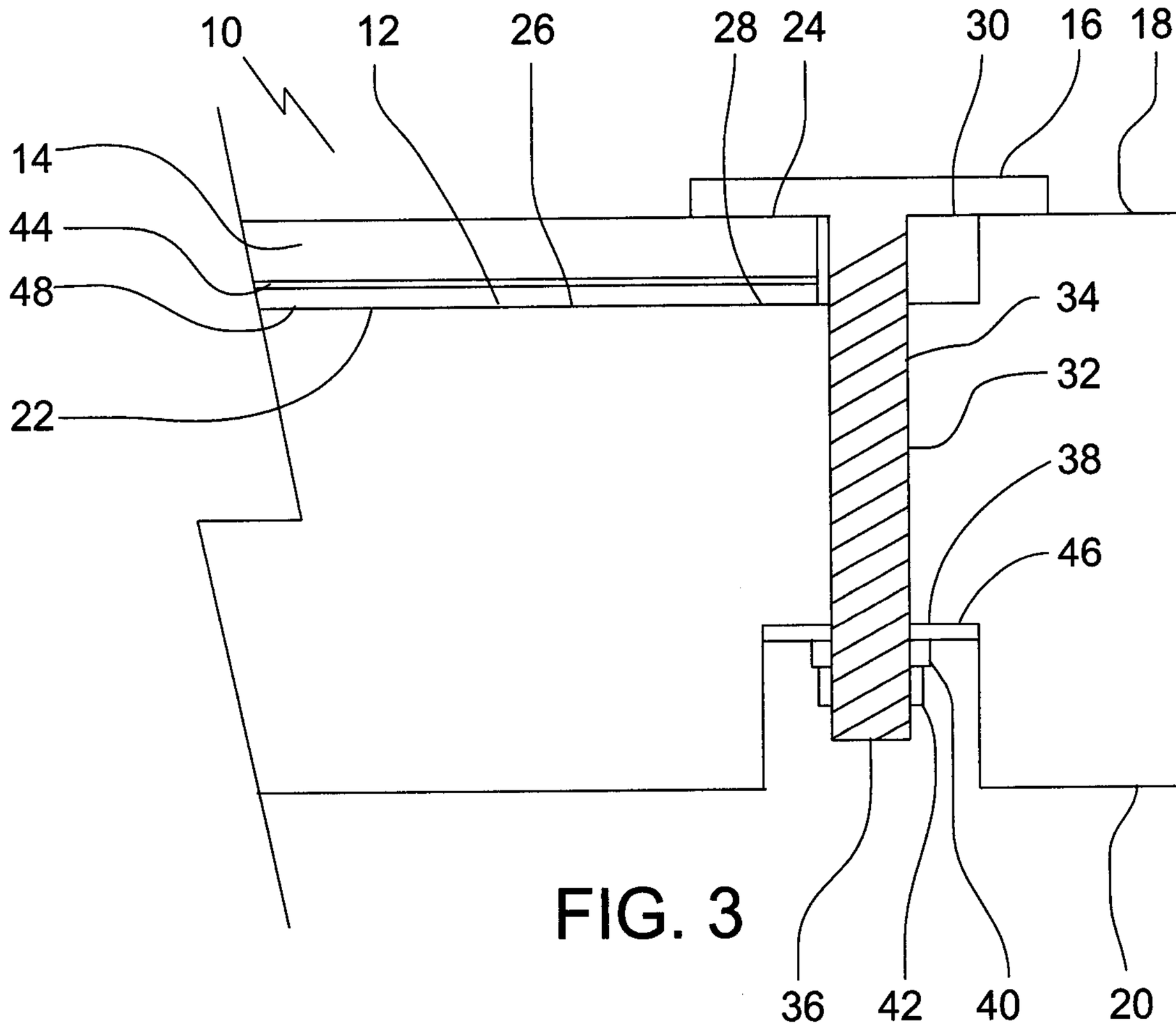
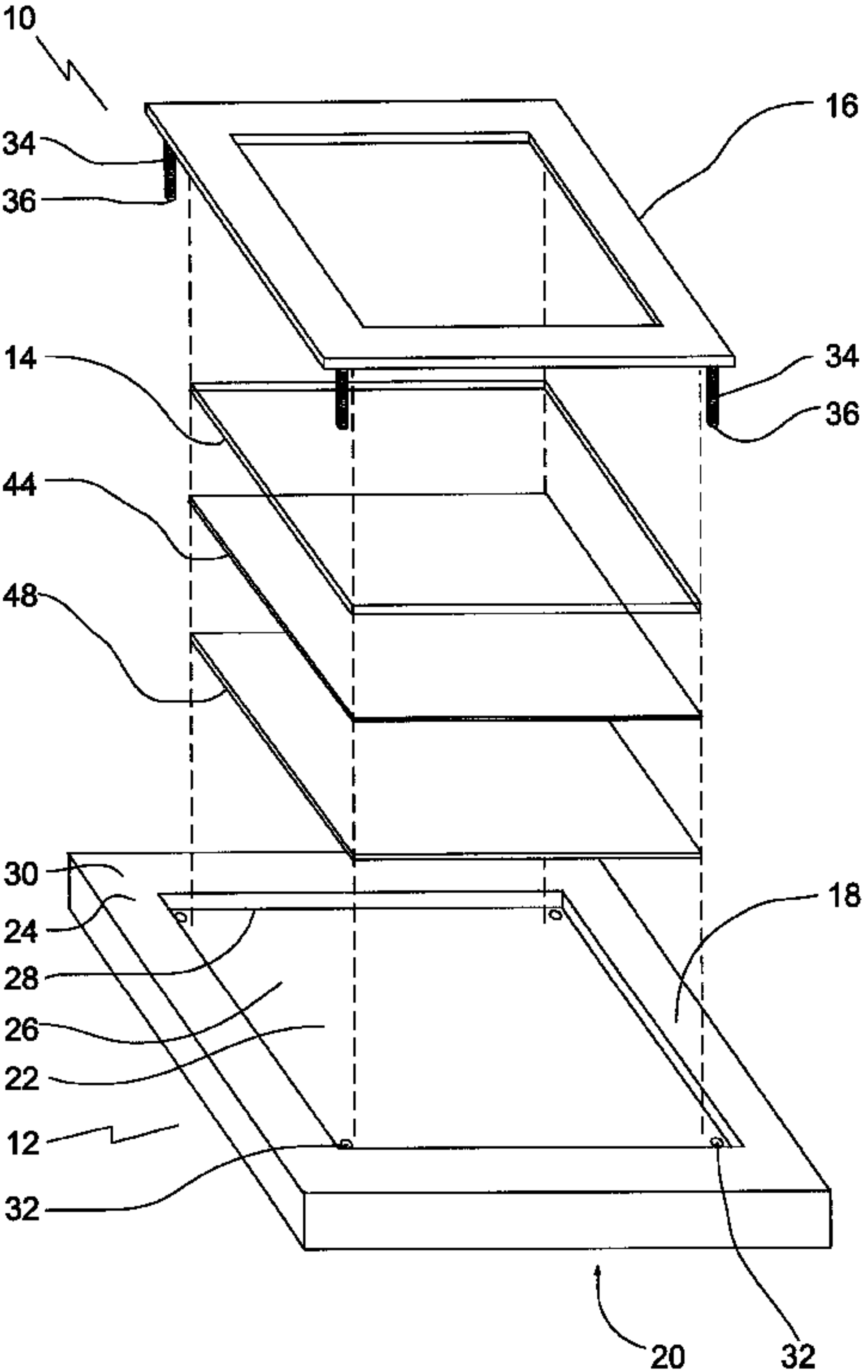

10
12
26
28
24
30
16
18
14
44
48
22
34
32
38
46
36
42
40
20

FIG. 3


10
16
34
36
14
34
36
44
48
30
24
28
26
22
12
32
18
20
32