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(54) **Base for containers, in particular for cosmetics products, with an incorporated fixed insert for interchangeable cups**

Boden für Behälter, insbesondere von kosmetischen Produkten, mit einem eingearbeiteten festen Einsatz für austauschbare Näpfchen

Fond pour boîtiers, en particulier pour boîtiers de produits cosmétiques, avec insert incorpore fixe pour godets interchangeables

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EP 0 634 117 B1

Description

[0001] This invention relates to a base for containers intended to contain particularly but not exclusively cosmetics products, with an incorporated fixed insert for retaining one or more interchangeable cups in a freely removable manner.

[0002] Said interchangeable cups - generally known as pans in this sector - contain cosmetics products such as eye shadow, blusher, lip gloss, rouge powder, face powder, etc.

[0003] Said containers could however also be used for containing products of different type, such as parapharmaceuticals or others.

[0004] As is well known to the expert to the art the construction of containers in general and/or of cases for containing cosmetics products such as the aforesaid requires the solution of various technical problems.

[0005] One of these is the possibility of reutilizing the container once its contained product has been used up, by merely replacing the empty pans, which are available commercially in the form of specific refills for that container.

[0006] In this respect, to assure the consumer that the product contained in the refill is original, it is desirable for the pans and the insert incorporated into the container base to comprise precise corresponding locators so that components of different origin cannot be fitted in.

[0007] EP-A-0519482 and GB-A-571044 as well relate to a base for containers according to the preamble of claim 1.

[0008] Another technical problem relates to the facility for replacing the pans contained in the container with other pans containing a different cosmetics product or with a different number of modular pans, with ease and without soiling the fingers.

[0009] It is also desirable to provide a container with an interior in which the assembled pans form a pattern of pleasing appearance and which can be varied.

[0010] The general object of the present invention is to solve the aforesaid problems in a simple, economical and functional manner.

[0011] Said object is achieved by a container base having the characteristics defined in the claim 1 and appended claims.

[0012] The structural and functional characteristics of the invention and its advantages compared with the known art will be more apparent from the following description, given with reference to the accompanying drawings which show one embodiment of a container base for interchangeable pans formed in accordance with the innovative principles of the invention. In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the container base according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a section on the plane II-II of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a section on the plane III-III of Figure 1;

and

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail of the section of Figure 3.

[0013] With reference to the drawings, the container base of the invention is indicated overall by 10 and in the illustrated example is of rectangular shape with two rows of opposing interspaced pans 11 also of rectangular shape.

[0014] Both the container base 10 and the pans 11 could have a shape other than rectangular, this being shown by way of non-limiting example only.

[0015] The container base 10 is structurally formed from an outer casing 12 into which there is fixed an insert 13 formed in one piece, and arranged to receive the interchangeable pans 11.

[0016] Said insert 13 comprises at least one seat 14 for the pans 11.

[0017] In the illustrated example two seats 14 are provided (Figures 3 and 4), separated by a central trough 21 for containing small brushes and other accessories.

[0018] As can be clearly seen from the drawings, each seat 14 is defined by a base wall 15, two opposing side walls 16 and two opposing shoulders 17, 18 which extend between said walls 16 and along their entire length comprise respective undercuts 19, 20.

[0019] The shoulders 17 are rigid and extend directly from the base wall 15 to define said trough 21, whereas the shoulders 18 are elastically yieldable and extend between the side walls 16, interspaced by the base wall 15.

[0020] Externally along the edge of their base the pans 11 comprise two opposing teeth 22, 23 which can engage in either one of the undercuts 17, 18 (according to the position in which the cup 11 is applied).

[0021] With said teeth 22, 23 there cooperate opposing edges 24, 25 arranged to rest (either one, depending on the position in which the pan 11 is applied) on the top of the shoulder 18.

[0022] Locators (for example protuberances and recesses) 26 and 27 are provided respectively on the inner face of the base wall 15 of the insert 13 and in the outer face of the base of the pans 11, to ensure that only original components can be fitted in.

[0023] From the foregoing it is apparent that the pans 11 can be easily snap-fitted into the seats 14 because of the flexibility of the shoulder 18, which facilitates natural engagement between the teeth 22, 23 and the undercuts 19, 20 when the edge 24 or 25 is rested on the top of the shoulder 18.

[0024] The pans 11 can be easily disengaged from the seats 14 for replacement, by exerting on that edge 24 (25) lying above the shoulder 17 a force by means of a finger in the direction of the arrow F, such as to flex the shoulder 18 and hence disengage the tooth 22 from the undercut 19 by rotating the pan 11 about 28 into the position shown by dashed lines in Figure 4. The pan 11

can hence be extracted from the insert 13. It should be noted that the empty space 30 left between the shoulder 17 and the edge 24 enables a finger to exert the grip on the edge 24 for correctly effecting the aforescribed extraction of the pan 11 from the insert 13.

[0025] The object stated in the introduction to the description is hence attained.

[0026] The shapes of the container base 10 and the relative insert 13 can be different from those shown by way of non-limiting example in the drawings, and the shape and number of pans 11 can also be different.

[0027] A single pan 11 could also be provided occupying the entire useful space delimited by the insert 13.

[0028] The scope of protection of the invention is hence defined by the accompanying claims.

Claims

1. A base for containers intended to contain particularly but not exclusively cosmetics products, of the type comprising an outer casing (12) in which there is fixed an insert (13) for receiving interchangeable cups or pans (11), within said insert (13) there is provided at least one seat (14) for at least one cup (11), said seat (14) consisting of a base wall (15), two opposing side walls (16) and two opposing shoulders (17, 18) which extend between said walls (16) and along their entire length comprise undercuts (19, 20) in which there snap-engage teeth (22, 23) provided at the base of said cup (11), said shoulder (17) being rigid, whereas said shoulder (18) is elastically yieldable, characterised in that said insert (13) is provided with at least two seats (14) separated by a central trough (21), each of said two seats (14) receiving interchangeable pans (11) and said central opposing shoulders (17) defining said central trough (21).
2. A container base as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that with said teeth (22, 23) there cooperate respective edges (24, 25) intended to rest one or the other on the top of the shoulder (18).
3. A container base as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that between the shoulder (17) and the edge (24) a free space (30) is left for gripping the edge (24).
4. A container base as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that between said wall (15) and said pan (11) respective complementary locators (26, 27) are provided which fit together on inserting the pan (11) into the insert (13).

Patentansprüche

1. Boden für Behälter, welche insbesondere, jedoch nicht ausschließlich, zum Beinhaltenden kosmetischer

Produkte vorgesehen sind, von der Art, umfassend ein Außengehäuse (12), in dem ein Einsatz (13) zur Aufnahme von austauschbaren Napfen oder pfannenartigen Vertiefungen (11) befestigt ist, wobei in dem Einsatz (13) mindestens ein Sitz (14) für mindestens einen Napf (11) vorgesehen ist, wobei der Sitz (14) aus einer Bodenwand (15), zwei einander gegenüberliegenden Seitenwänden (16) und zwei einander gegenüberliegenden Schultern (17, 18) besteht, wobei sich die Schultern zwischen den Wänden (16) erstrecken und entlang ihrer gesamten Länge Unterschneidungen (19, 20) umfassen, in die am Boden des Napfes (11) vorgesehene Zähne (22, 23) einrasten, wobei die Schulter (17) fest ist, während die Schulter (18) elastisch nachgiebig ist,

dadurch gekennzeichnet,

dass der Einsatz (13) mit mindestens zwei durch eine zentrale Mulde (21) voneinander getrennten Sitzen (14) versehen ist, wobei jeder der beiden Sitze (14) austauschbare pfannenartige Vertiefungen (11) aufnimmt und die einander gegenüberliegenden zentralen Schultern (17) die zentrale Mulde (21) definieren.

2. Behälterboden nach Anspruch 1,

dadurch gekennzeichnet,

dass mit den Zähnen (22, 23) entsprechende Kanten (24, 25) zusammenwirken, von denen die eine oder die andere zum Aufliegen auf der Oberseite der Schulter (18) vorgesehen ist.

3. Behälterboden nach Anspruch 2,

dadurch gekennzeichnet,

dass zwischen der Schulter (17) und der Kante (24) ein Freiraum (30) zum Greifen der Kanten (24) übrig gelassen ist.

4. Behälterboden nach Anspruch 1,

dadurch gekennzeichnet,

dass zwischen der Wand (15) und der pfannenartigen Vertiefung (11) entsprechende komplementäre Schnellverbindungen (26, 27) vorgesehen sind, die beim Einsetzen der pfannenartigen Vertiefung (11) in den Einsatz (13) ineinander passen.

Revendications

1. Fond pour récipients destinés à contenir, en particulier mais non exclusivement, des produits cosmétiques, du type comprenant un boîtier extérieur (12) dans lequel est fixé un insert (13) servant à recevoir des coupelles ou godets (11) interchangeables, au moins un siège (14) étant prévu, à l'intérieur de cet insert (13), pour au moins une coupelle (11), le siège (14) étant constitué d'une paroi formant fond (15), de deux parois latérales opposées (16) et de deux épaulements opposés (17, 18) qui s'étendent

entre les parois (16) et comprennent, sur toute leur longueur, des gorges (19, 20) dans lesquelles s'enclenchent des dents (22, 23) prévues à la base de la coupelle (11), l'épaulement (17) étant rigide, tandis que l'épaulement (18) est élastiquement déformable, caractérisé en ce que l'insert (13) est pourvu d'au moins deux sièges (14) séparés par une partie centrale creuse (21), chacun des deux sièges (14) recevant des godets (11) interchangeables et les épaulements opposés centraux (17) définissant la partie centrale creuse (21).

2. Fond pour récipients selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que les dents (22, 23) coopèrent avec des bords respectifs (24, 25) destinés à reposer, l'un ou l'autre, au sommet de l'épaulement (18).
3. Fond pour récipients selon la revendication 2, caractérisé en ce qu'un espace libre (30) est laissé, entre l'épaulement (17) et le bord (24), pour saisir le bord (24).
4. Fond pour récipients selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que sont prévus, entre la paroi (15) et le godet (11), des positionneurs complémentaires (26, 27) respectifs, qui s'assemblent lorsque le godet (11) est inséré dans l'insert (13).

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Fig. 1

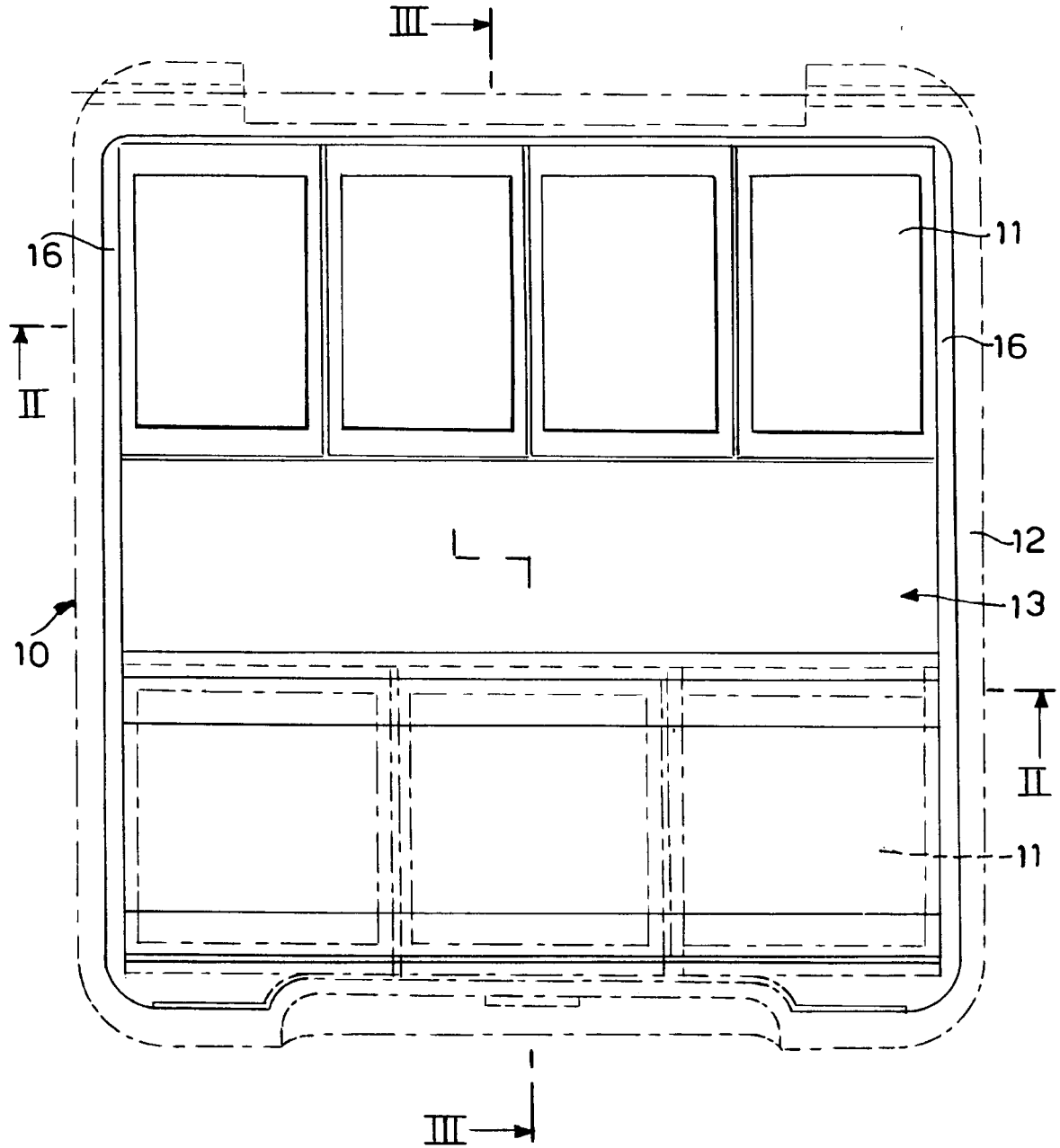


Fig.2

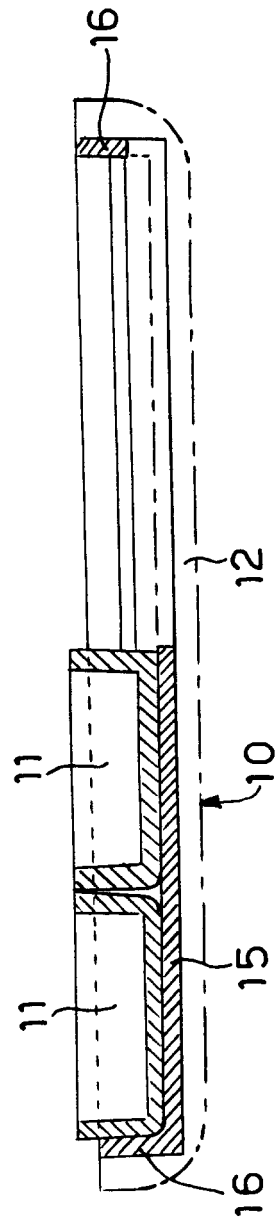


Fig.3

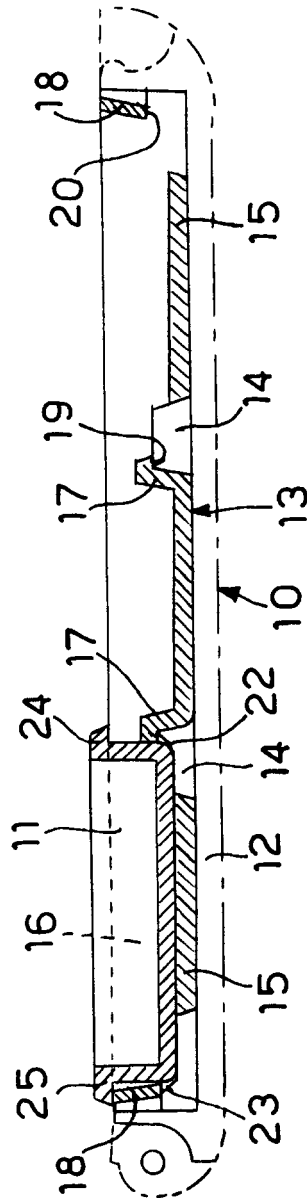


Fig.4

