United States Patent [19]

Anderson

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[54] **UNIVERSAL INSTALLATION BOX FOR USE IN DRYER VENT SYSTEMS AND IN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAIN SYSTEMS**

[75] Inventor: **Kenneth J. Anderson,** Hebron, Ky.

[73] Assignee: **Carrcraft Manufacturing Company,** Cincinnati, Ohio

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **137/360**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **F16l 5/02**

[58] **Field of Search** 220/3.2–3.9, 220/24.2, 24.3; 285/3, 4, 340; 137/360; 138/89, 92

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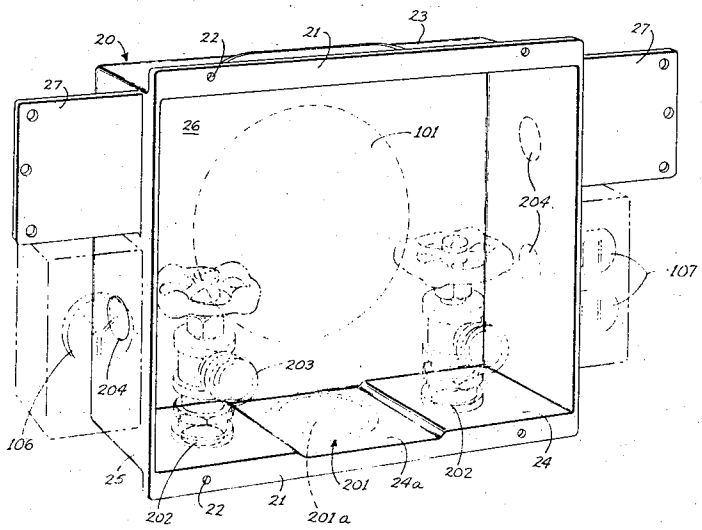
Primary Examiner—Henry T. Klinksiek

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Melville, Strasser, Foster & Hoffman

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A universal installation box and dryer vent system, including also a water supply-drain system, wherein the box is molded with a plurality of knock-outs to accommodate the various fixtures and plumbing needed for the respective systems. The dryer vent system includes an outer tube extending from the rear wall of the installation box and around which the masonry materials are constructed, thus creating an opening for the primary vent which is also connected to the box, the primary vent being installed in the opening created by the outer tube. In the dryer vent system a secondary lint screen may be provided for the front cover plate and serves to trap lint before it can reach the primary vent housing and butterfly valve normally provided therewith. The box, when used in the water supply-drain system, is provided with a knock-out to receive a test seal washer which may be left intact to prevent sewer gas or other odors from escaping until the appliance is put in use and the drain hose connected to the box. Ample knock-outs let the water lines be brought in from any direction best suited to the job. In either system the universal box mounts flush to the various wall finishes. Electric outlets may be provided with the dryer box and separate covers are provided depending on whether the box is used in the dryer system or the water supply-drain system.

10 Claims, 12 Drawing Figures



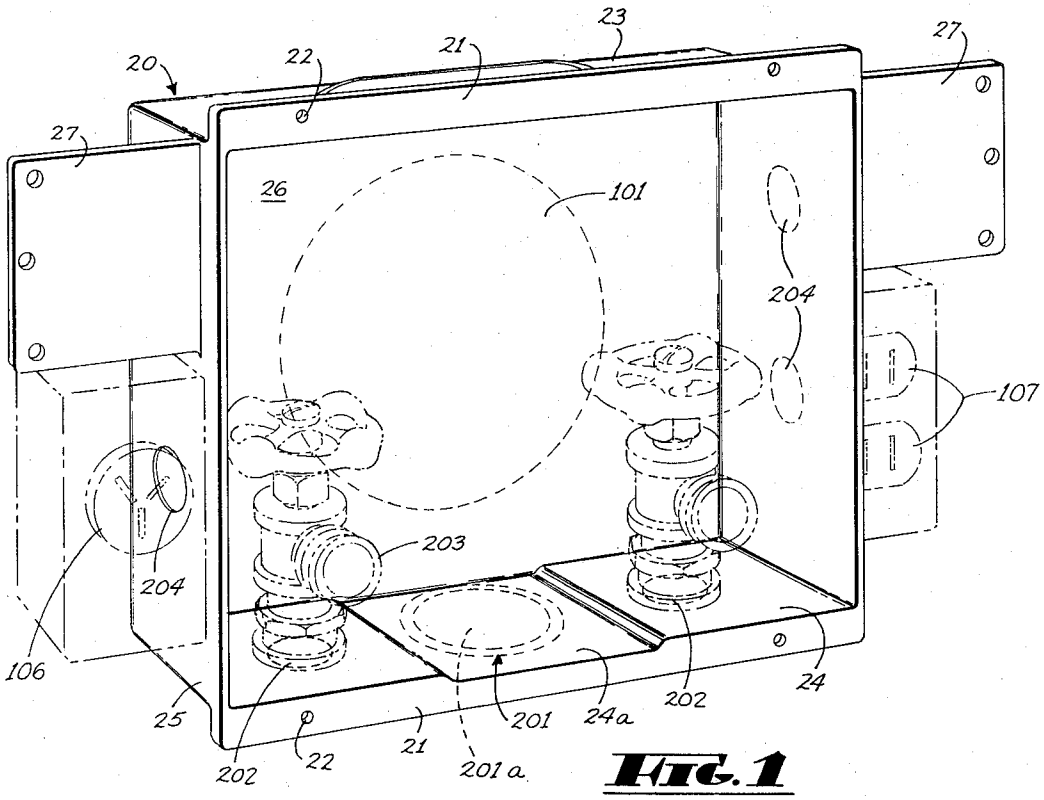


FIG. 1

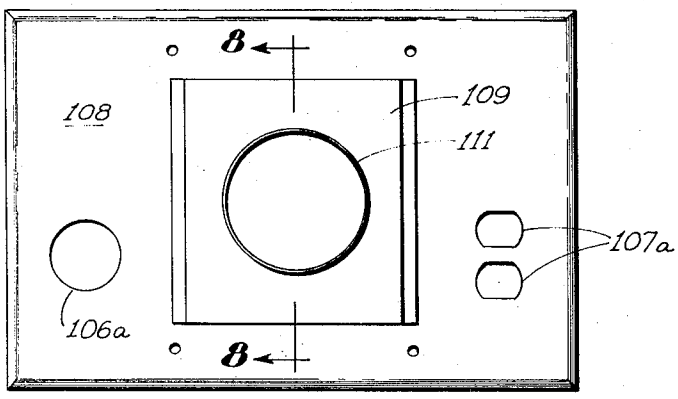


FIG. 2

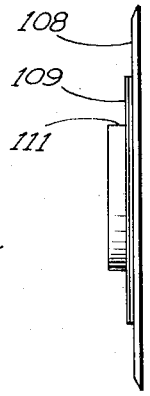


FIG. 3

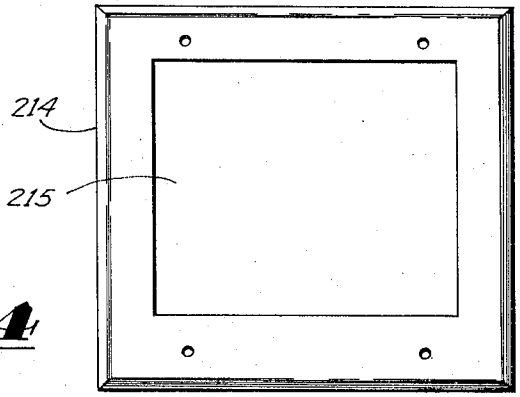


FIG. 4

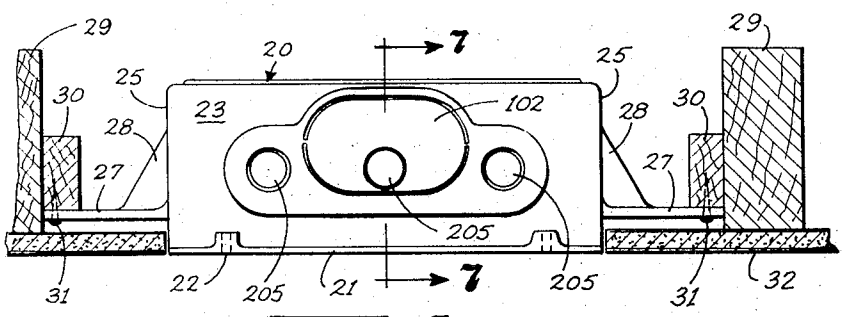


FIG. 5

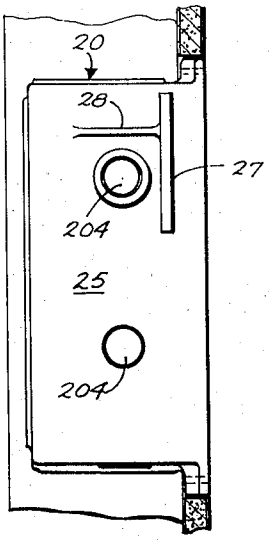


FIG. 6

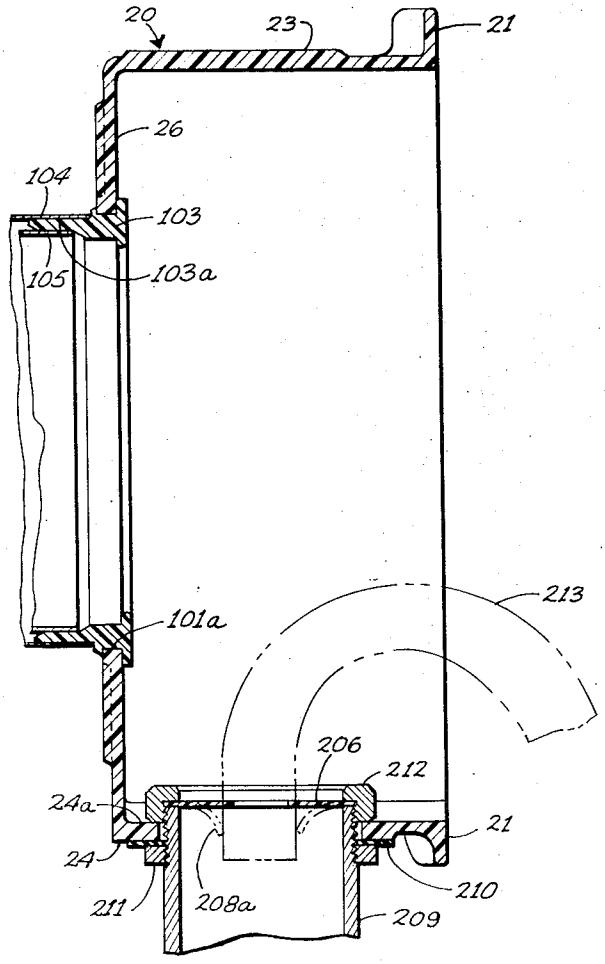


FIG. 7

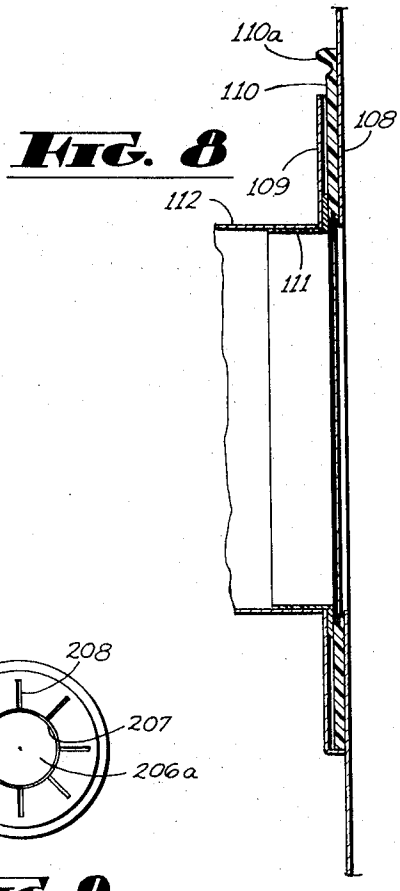


FIG. 8

FIG. 9

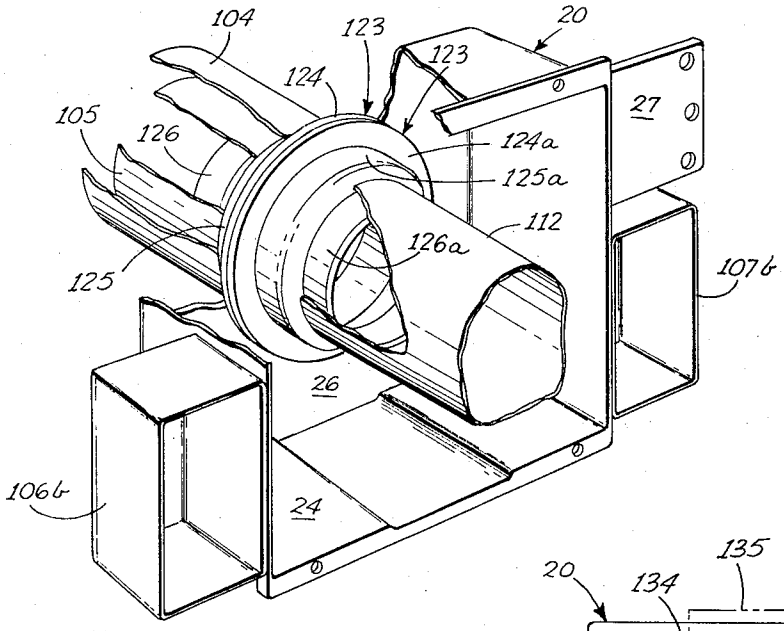


FIG. 10

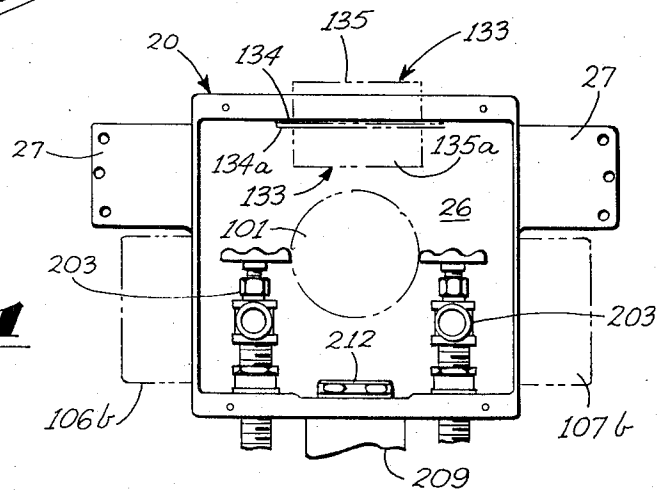


FIG. 11

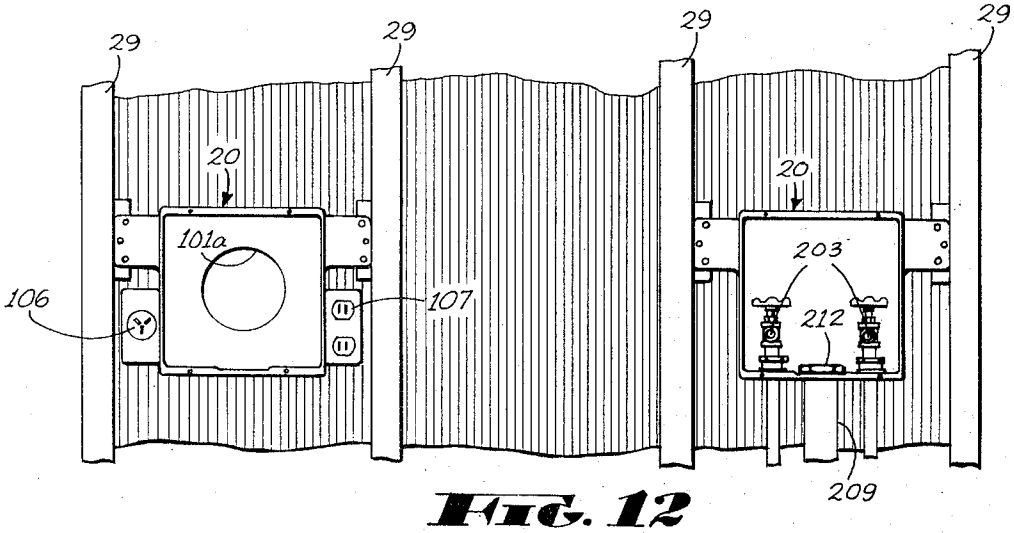


FIG. 12

UNIVERSAL INSTALLATION BOX FOR USE IN DRYER VENT SYSTEMS AND IN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAIN SYSTEMS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention has particular application to homes and other dwellings and it allows architects, builders and contractors greater leeway in designing more attractive utility and recreation room combinations. Dryers may be positioned for best use of floor space in the kitchen or recreation room arrangements. The universal box, dryer vent system and water supply-drain system may be used in homes, apartments, townhouses, and commercial establishments.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Although a search of the prior patent art has not been conducted, it is known that patents do exist in this area as represented by Dick et al. U.S. Pat. No. 2,952,271, Dick et al. U.S. Pat. No. 191,737 and Williams U.S. Pat. No. 3,096,782. Applicant has for a number of years manufactured and sold a similar box for use in water supplydrain systems, a box, however, which was not designed for use in dryer vent systems and a box which lacked some of the features now developed and incorporated in the box and systems of the instant invention. Applicant is not aware of any prior art which utilizes a universal box including the various knock-outs arranged as described, the test seal washer, the secondary tube and primary vent, and the supplemental lint screen. Prior art devices such as shown in Dick et al. U.S. Pat. No. 2,952,271 locate the electrical outlets in juxtaposition to the water supply, as distinguished from applicant's arrangement wherein the electric is preferably separated from the water supply and usually included only with the unit when incorporated in the dryer vent system. It is known that assemblies like that shown in Dick et al U.S. Pat. No. 2,952,271 have been manufactured and sold for a number of years.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention includes a universal box which is provided with a number of knock-outs to enable it to accommodate itself for use either in a dryer vent system or a water supply-drain system. This box, when employed in the dryer vent system of this invention, is provided with a pair of large knock-outs, back and top, by which the vent exhaust may take place through either an outside or inside wall, or an interior wall. In such a dryer vent system the electric outlets, such as a pair of **120** volt outlets and a 240 volt outlet, may be secured to the sides of the box and a cover plate fastened thereto to accommodate the vent connection and the electric outlets. This plate may incorporate a secondary lint screen and cleanable lint trap to prevent lint build-up from interfering with the working of the outside vent housing and butterfly valve ordinarily provided therefor.

When the box is incorporated in a water supply-drain system, the electric outlets are usually omitted and a plain cover is provided having a large central, rectangular opening providing easy access to the water faucets and drain. The knock-outs are so located that the water faucets may be positioned at the bottom, sides or at the top of the units. A further knock-out is provided for the test seal washer which is a part of the invention.

In all uses of the box it is arranged to be placed between new size wall studs and may be readily adjusted for panel, drywall or plaster construction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of the basic universal box with the electrical outlets and water connections shown in phantom, noting that both electric and water will not ordinarily be incorporated simultaneously in the same box.

FIG. **2** is a front view of the cover utilized for the box when it is incorporated in the dryer vent system which will also include the electric outlets.

FIG. **3** is a side view of the cover of FIG. **2.**

FIG. **4** is a front view of the cover utilized for the box when it is incorporated in the water supply-drain system, which system does not ordinarily incorporate the elctric with this box.

FIG. **5** is a top view of the receptacle positioned between wall studs.

FIG. **6** is a side view of the receptacle positioned in a wall.

FIG. **7** is an enlarged cross section taken on the line **7—7** of FIG. **5** and showing also the vent inserts and drain inserts, it being noted that both would ordinarily not be employed simultaneously in the same box.

FIG. **8** is an enlarged cross section taken on the line **8—8** of FIG. **2** showing the secondary lint screen and cleanable lint trap in position.

FIG. **9** is a top view of the new test seal washer employed in the drain of the box when used in the water supplydrain drain system.

FIG. **10** is a perspective view of a modified box and associated parts designed primarily for use in a dryer vent system.

FIG. **11** is a front elevation of the universal box or this invention when employed simultaneously in a dryer vent system and in a water supply-drain system.

And FIG. **12** is a front elevation showing the use of two of the universal boxes of this invention as arranged in the preferred manner for providing a dryer vent system and a separate water supply-drain system.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

As noted in the description of the drawings, the box, in some instances, has been illustrated in connection with certain elements from both the dryer vent system and the water supply-drain system; this has been done for purposes of illustration only and it will be understood that a particular box, designed for a particular system, will not ordinarily include the elements from the other system.

For the sake of clarity, therefore, the invention will first be described in connection with the dryer vent system, and then in connection with the water supply-drain system, common reference numerals being applied to those elements of the box which remain the same regardless of in which system the box is employed.

The basic box is perhaps best seen in FIGS. **1, 5** and **6** and is indicated at **20** therein. The box **20** includes a pair of spaced horizontal flanges **21** to which an appropriate cover may be secured as indicated at **22.** The box **20** includes top and bottom walls **23** and **24** and side walls **25,** and a rear wall **26,** the front being generally

open. Bracket flanges **27** extend from the side walls **25** to which they are fastened by gussets **28.**

Preferably the basic universal box is made of an injection-molded, high tensile strength, non-metallic material. The attached stud brackets **27** are designed for use with new size studs and may be adjusted for panel, drywall or plaster construction. In placing the box between wall studs **29,** strips **30,** for example, of 1 inch stock or ¾ inch plywood, (2½ × 4 inches), 40¾ inches above finished floor level, are fastened to the inside of the studs **29** between which the box **20** is to be placed. These strips or blocks **30** are placed back from the face of the studs **29** to accommodate the finished wall to be employed. Suitable fasteners **31** engage the anchor brackets **27** to the blocks **30** and it will be observed that such blocks are so located that the finished wall **32** is flush with the front flanges **21** of the box.

Those parts and fixtures identified by two digit reference numerals are common to the box and related means regardless of whether it is employed in the dryer vent system or in the water supply-drain system. Those parts and fixtures identified by reference numerals of the **100** series identify structures ordinarily limited to the dryer vent system while the **200** reference numeral series identify matter usually peculiar to the water supply-drain system; **100** series items and **200** series items will not normally be included with any single box **20.** An exception is shown in FIG. **11** and will be discussed later.

As shown in FIGS. **1** and **5** the box **20** is provided with a pair of large knock-outs **101** and **102,** the former being located in the back wall **26** of the box **20** and the latter being located in the top wall **23** of the box **20.** The back knock-out **101** is provided for vent exhaust through either an outside or inside wall while the top knock-out **102** is available for interior wall venting.

With the box **20** located between the wall studs **29** in the manner shown in FIG. **5,** and assuming vent exhaust through the building wall to the outside, the knock-out **101** is removed and, as shown in FIG. **7,** a secondary-primary vent tube retainer ring **103** is placed within the opening **101***a* created when the knock-out **101** was removed. The secondary tube **104** is then placed around the outside of the flange **103***a* of the retainer ring **103** as indicated. This secondary tube **104** will be of sufficient length to extend clear through the outside wall so that brickwork and masonry may be roughed in around it. This creates an opening through which the primary vent tube extends, this primary tube **105** engaging the inner side of the retainer flange **103***a*. The primary vent tube **105** is normally installed after the masonry work has been completed, at which time one will cut off the excess secondary tube on the outside wall and insert the primary vent tube **105** into the inside of the retainer ring flange **103***a*.

By this arrangement a prefabricated dryer vent is provided which will insure quality appearance for all homes. As noted, masonry and/or finished wall materials are constructed around the secondary tube **104,** thus creating an opening for the primary vent tube **105.** This saves hours of labor and the danger of possibly knocking a hole in a finished wall and striking pipes, electric wires, duct work and the like. When the construction of the walls is completed, the primary vent tube **105** is cut to desired length and installed in the opening created by the secondary tube **104,** the excess of this secondary tube **104** being cut off so as to provide a smooth, finished, attractive surface exterior. A modification of this arrangement is shown in FIG. **10** and will be discussed later.

In the dryer vent system it will usually be desirable to provide the box **20** with a 240 volt outlet **106** and a pair of **120** volt outlets **107,** see FIG. **1.** These are the outlets commonly employed for electric dryers. For gas dryers it may be that only the two 120 volt outlets will be required. The cover **108** for the dryer vent system box **20** is shown in FIG. **2** and is provided with suitable openings **106***a* and **107***a* to expose the respective electrical outlets. This cover will be secured to the flanges **21.** In the case of a gas dryer wherein the 240 volt outlet may be omitted, the opening **106***a* may be used for the gas line.

Also associated wiht the cover **108** is the secondary lint screen and cleanable lint trap earlier mentioned. This is best seen in FIGS. **2** and **8** wherein a plate **109** is secured to the cover **108** so as to provide a pocket to receive a screen **110** therebetween; the plate **109** has a rim **11** extending therefrom and about which the exhaust conduit **112** from the dryer is engaged. This secondary lint screen **110** considerably cuts down the amount of lint that would otherwise enter the box **20** and exit through the primary vent tube **105.** It is slidable in the members **108** and **109** and may be removed for cleaning; the knob **110**a aids this.

The vent tube **105** will normally be supplied with a butterfly valve at the exterior of the building. It has been found, however, that in practice this valve (not shown) becomes jammed in its open position by the accumulation of lint whereby rodents and insects are provided an entry to the building. By eliminating the lint from the tube **105** by use of the screen **110,** which screen may easily be removed and cleaned after each use of the dryer, proper action of the butterfly valve is insured. A modification of this arrangement, however, is shown in FIG. **10** and will be described later.

Application of the basic, universal box **20** to the water supply-drain system will now be described. The bottom **24** of the box **20** may be provided with a slight depressed portion **24***a*. Located centrally of this area is a pair of concentric knock-outs generally indicated at **201**; these knock-outs, for example, may be such as to provide either a 2 inch diameter opening or one of 1½ inches. In FIG. **1** both knock-outs **201** have been removed to thus create the opening **201***a*. This opening **201***a*, of course, is to accommodate the drain pipe and related means which will be described shortly. (It will be understood that the knock-outs remain in place when the box **20** is used in the dryer vent system.)

The bottom **24** is also provided with knock-outs generally indicated at **202** to accommodate the water valve means generally indicated at **203.** Additional pairs of knock-outs **204** are provided in each of the side walls **25** and three similar knock-outs **205** are provided in the top wall **23,** see FIG. **5.** It will be observed, therefore, that great versatility is inherent in the box **20** as so arranged in that the water valve means **203** may be located in the bottom **24,** or in the sides **25,** or in the top **23,** or in selected combinations thereof, depending on which of the knock-outs **202, 204** and **205** are utilized.

The nine knock-outs **202, 204** and **205** provided in the bottom, sides and top of the box **20,** make possible any desired supply valve location. As indicated, the knock-outs **201** will accommodate 1½ inch or 2 inch

drain pipe. As before, the box **20** may be located flush with the wall **32** simply by properly locating the members **30** on the wall studs **29.** The knock-out holes for the valve locations provide a choice of access for hot and cold water lines in a variety of combinations. This makes the unit easy to adapt to any on-the-job plumbing problem.

It will be apparent, therefore, that, by way of example, the box **20** may be used to accommodate a dishwasher station and it can also have a muti-purpose use. It can share the same drain with an automatic clothes washer, an arrangement achieved by putting three valves in the box. The electric outlets **106** and **107** are usually not provided on the box **20** when it is used in the water supply-drain system. By locating two of these boxes side by side, however, one arranged for the dryer vent system and one arranged for the water supply-drain system, a safe and dry electrical outlet for both a dishwasher and a clothes washer is readily obtained. This arrangement removes the electrical outlets from the proximity of the water valves to prevent short cicuit fire hazards which may arise from wet conditions. Such preferred arrangement is illustrated in FIG. **11,** a pair of studs **29** separating the two boxes **20.**

An important facet of this invention is the test seal washer which is placed in the opening **201**a when the selected knock-out **201** is removed. This arrangement is perhaps best seen in FIGS. **7** and **9.** The test seal washer is indicated at **206** in FIG. **9.** This washer is illustrated as a solid blank of plastic or like material provided with an annular groove **207** having radial grooves **208** extending therefrom. These grooves are cut (or stamped or embossed) approximately two-thirds the way through the blank **206.** The plumber will apply the test washer as he installs the box **20** in the water supply-drain system. The drain pipe **209** will extend through the opening **201**a into the interior of the box **20.** A gasket **210** is provided adjacent the bottom side of the bottom **24** and a nut **211** aids in holding the arrangement in place. The test seal washer **206** is placed on top of the drain pipe **209** and held in place by the retainer nut **212.**

Prior to the housewife, or someone in her behalf, hooks up the automatic clothes washer hose, for example, the blank **206** is kept completely intact. In this manner it acts as a barrier against sewer and other gases. It provides the plumber a test seal. Thus, smoke or gas may be put in at the sewer in order for the plumber to determine if the system from house to sewer is tight. The member **206** remains intact until the housewife decides to put in a washer and, during any period of nonuse, the seal member **206** prevents sewer gas from coming into the house.

When it is decided to connect up the automatic washer hose generally indicated at **213,** the center portion **206**a of the member **206** is removed and the radial grooves **208** are cut all the way through; all of this may be accomplish very simply with any relatively sharp instrument. The drain hose **213** is pushed through the center opening created by removal of the seal portion **206***a* and the sections **208***a* formed by the completed cuts **208** will act as grippers to hold the drain hose in place as illustrated in dotted lines in FIG. **7.** These grippers **208***a* prevent the washer drain hose from being accidentally dislodged. As indicated, the test seal washer **206,** which may be press fitted within the retainer nut or terminal nut cap **212,** remains intact until the hose **213** is put in place.

A cover **214** having a large central opening **215** may be provided for the box **20** when used in the water supply-drain system. This serves to finish off the universal box **20** while at the same time permitting easy access to the interior thereof and the plumbing located therein.

In considering the universal box **20** and its application either to the dryer vent system or to the water supply-drain system, it should be kept in mind that the box, when used in the dryer vent system, is represented by the combination of elements assigned two digit reference numerals and those of the **100** series; when used in the water supply-drain system, the box is represented by the combination of elements assigned two digit reference numerals and those of the **200** series. The structures and arrangements represented by the **100** series and **200** series reference numerals are normally not simultaneously utilized with the same box **20.**

Thus, for example, when the box **20** is incorporated in a dryer vent system, all of the knock-outs **201, 202, 204** and **205** remain in place while a selected one of the knock-outs **101** and **102** is removed. Similarly, by way of further example, when the box **20** is used in a water supply-drain system, selected ones of the knock-outs **201, 202, 204** and **205** are utilized for the drain and the water valves while both of the knock-outs **101** and **102** remain in place. Also, when the box **20** is employed in a water supply-drain system, the electric outlets **106** and **107** are usually not attached to the box as they would be when the box is adapted for use in the dryer vent system. The cover **108,** therefore, is designed especially for the box when used in the dryer vent system incorporating the electric outlets **106** and **107** while the cover **214** is especially provided for the box **20** when used in the water supply-drain system.

The preferred arrangement just described is illustrated in FIG. **12** wherein two universal boxes **20,** one set up for the dryer vent system and the other set up for the water supply-drain system, are utilized. This provides optimum safety. Use of two boxes requires very little over what may be saved by combining the dryer vent and water supply-drain systems illustrated In FIG. **11,** namely, one box and one cover, the remaining hardware and fixtures being required anyway.

FIGS. **10** and **11** illustrate other modifications. As shown in FIG. **10,** for example, the member **103** of FIG. **7** has been replaced by an adapter **123.** This adapter **123** (two are shown in FIG. **10,** back to back, a feature which will be amplified shortly) has a flange **124,** a first cylindrical extension **125,** and a second, smaller cylindrical extension **126.** The secondary (temporary) tube **104** will engage over the extension **125** and the primary tube **105** will engage over the extension **126,** thus achieving a result equivalent to that described in connection with FIG. **7** at **103***a* and **104–105.** That side of the flange **124** from which the extension **125** extends is shown in FIG. **10** as abutting the interior face of the rear wall **26** of the box **20,** the extension **125** being press fitted within the rear opening **101***a* or the flange **124** being glued to the wall **26,** or both; the exact manner of holding the member **123** in place is not critical. The box-like containers for housing the electrical components **106** and **107** are illustrated at **106***b* and **107***b* respectively.

FIG. **10** illustrates yet another modification of the invention. In this modification the cover **108** and secondary lint screen **110** have been omitted. In this arrangement the exhaust conduit **112** from the dryer is introduced directly towards the rear wall **26** through the now open front of the box **20.** Such conduit is suitably connected in line with the primary tube **105.** A novel way of doing this is to fix a second adapter **123** to that first mentioned and then engage the conduit **112** over one or the other of the similar extensions **125***a* or **126***a*, preferably **126***a* so that the relative sizes of the tube **105** and conduit **112** are comparable. The flanges **124** and **124***a* may be glued to one another or suitably joined in some other manner. An appropriate cover (not shown) may be provided for the box **20** of this arrangement, if desired, with an opening through which the conduit **112** may pass. Although the lint screen **110** of FIG. **8** may sometimes be desirable, it is a possible source of trouble if not cleaned regularly in that it may thereby lead to overheating of the dryer motor; also, many of the modern dryers do an adequate job of lint removal to the extent that a screen **110** is not always necessary.

In FIG. **11** a single box **20** has been shown as arranged to simultaneously serve both the dryer vent and water supply-drain systems, an arrangement which is made possible by this invention, although not always desirable. The knockout **101** in the rear wall **26** may be utilized in the manner described in connection with FIG. **10** (or even that of FIGS. **7** and **8**) or, as is the case with the box **20** of FIG. **5,** the knockout **102** in the top **123** may be utilized. In this latter event an arrangement similar to that illustrated at **123** in FIG. **10** may be employed. Thus a pair of members **133,** each comprising a flange **134** having an extension **135** extending therefrom, may be employed. Because of space limitations the cross section of the extension **135** may be other than circular but such as to accommodate the dryer exhausts brought thereto by the conduit **112.** As shown, that face of the flange **134** from which the extension **135** extends, through the opening created by removing the knockout **102,** is suitably engaged to the interior face of the top wall **23.** The flange **134***a* of the other member **133** may be suitably fastened to the first flange **134.** It will be apparent, therefore, that a suitably shaped conduit **112** may engage the extension **135***a* and a suitable exhaust conduit (specifically not shown but comparable to those shown at **105** in FIGS. **7** and **10**) may engage the extension **135** and be directed through the building interior to a suitable outlet.

It is believed that the foregoing constitutes a full and complete description of all facets of this invention. Although the invention has been described with reference to particular structures and arrangements, it is to be understood that this has been for purposes of illustration only and that the invention is not to be limited to these particular structures and arrangements except insofar as they are specifically set forth insubjoined claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and what is desired to be protected by letters patent is:

1. A universal box for use selectively with dry-vent and water supply-drain systems; said box having top and bottom walls joined by a pair of side walls and a rear wall, and a substantially open front; said box including a plurality of knock-outs located in the side, bottom, top and rear walls; a certain, at least, of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of a vent means; and others of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of water supply valve means and drain means; whereby when said box is selected for use in a dryer-vent system only said certain knock-out is removed and whereby when said box is selected for use in a water supply-drain system only said others of said knock-outs are removed; and drain means located in the said bottom wall when the said knock-out for said bottom wall is removed; and including supply valve means located in at least a selected wall when the said knock-out for the said selected wall is removed; said drain means being adapted to receive a hose discharging waste and including a test seal washer, said washer having a top surface and a bottom surface and comprising a blank of relatively stiff material to cover the discharge end of said hose, said blank having a groove in the said top surface and initially extending only part way therethrough and configured to the outer periphery of the discharge end and slightly smaller than said outer periphery, and a plurality of other grooves in the said top surface and extending radially from said first mentioned groove towards but short of the outer periphery of said blank and initially extending only part way through said blank; whereby when all of said grooves are extended clear through said blank, said blank is provided with a central circular opening surrounded by a plurality of gripping segments and said hose may extend through said blank and be gripped by said gripping segments.

2. A universal box for use selectively with dryer-vent and water supply-drain systems; said box having top and bottom walls joined by a pair of side walls and a rear wall, and a substantially open front; said box including a plurality of knock-outs located in the side, bottom, top and rear walls; a certain, at least, of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of a vent means; and others of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of water supply valve means and drain means; whereby when said box is selected for use in a dryer-vent system only said certain knock-out is removed and whereby when said box is selected for use in a water supply-drain system only said others of said knock-outs are removed; and a cover for the said substantially open front, said cover having means to receive the exhaust of a dryer and the like; and debris catching means in said cover means; whereby debris in said exhaust is removed therefrom as said exhaust enters said box and before it exits from said box through said vent means.

3. The box of claim **2** including at least one electric outlet located on at least one of said walls when said box is selected for use in a dryer-vent system.

4. The box of claim **2** which said vent means is located in said rear wall when the said knock-out for said rear wall is removed, said vent means having a flange extending through said rear wall and adapted to receive a secondary conduit on the outside therof and a primary conduit on the inside therof, said primary conduit to extend through said secondary conduit.

5. The box of **2** in which said exhaust vent means includes an extension to which a conduit may be connected for leaving exhaust from said box.

6. The box of claim **5** in which said exhaust vent means includes a second extension greater in cross section than said first mentioned extention to which a

spacer may be connected and through which said conduit may pass.

7. The box of claim **2** including at least one electric outlet located on at least one of said walls when said box is selected for use in a dry-vent system; and wherein said cover is provided with receptacle means to align with and extend over said electric outlet whereby to prevent access to said outlet through said cover.

8. The box of claim **7** including a pair of said electric outlets, one mounted on each of said side walls, and said cover extending over both outlets and having a said receptacle means for each.

9. A universal box for use selectively with dry-vent and water supply-drain systems; said box having top and bottom walls joined by a pair of side walls and a rear wall, and a substantially open front; said box including a plurality of knock-outs located in the side, bottom, top and rear walls; a certain, at least, of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of a vent means; and others of said knock-outs being removable for the reception in said box of water supply valve means and drain means; whereby when said box is selected for use in a dryer-vent system only said certain knock-out is removed and whereby when said box is selected for use in a water supply-drain system only said others of said knock-outs are removed; and including at least one electric outlet located on at least one of said walls when said box is selected for use in a dryer-vent system; said vent means being located in said rear wall, and said vent means having a flange extending through said rear wall and adapted to receive a secondary conduit on the outside thereof and a primary conduit on the inside thereof, said secondary conduit to estend through said primary conduit; a cover for the said substantially open front, said cover having receptacle means to align with and extend over said electric outlet whereby to permit access to said outlet through said cover; connector means on said cover means to receive the exhaust from a dryer and the link; and debris catching means in said cover means to receive the exhaust passing through said connector means; whereby debris in said exhaust is removed therefrom as said exhaust enters said box and before it exits from said box through said vent means.

10. The box of claim **9** including a pair of said electric outlets, one mounted on each of said side walls, and said cover extending over both outlets and having a said receptacle means for each.

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