

Sept. 19, 1961

I. H. FOWLE ET AL
PAPER BOARD FOLDING BOX

3,000,547

Filed Aug. 27, 1959

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

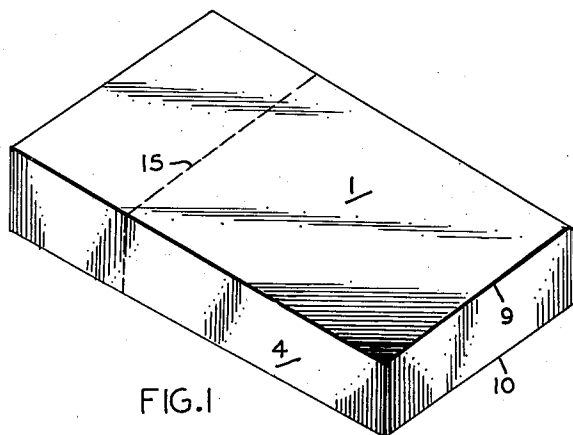


FIG. 1

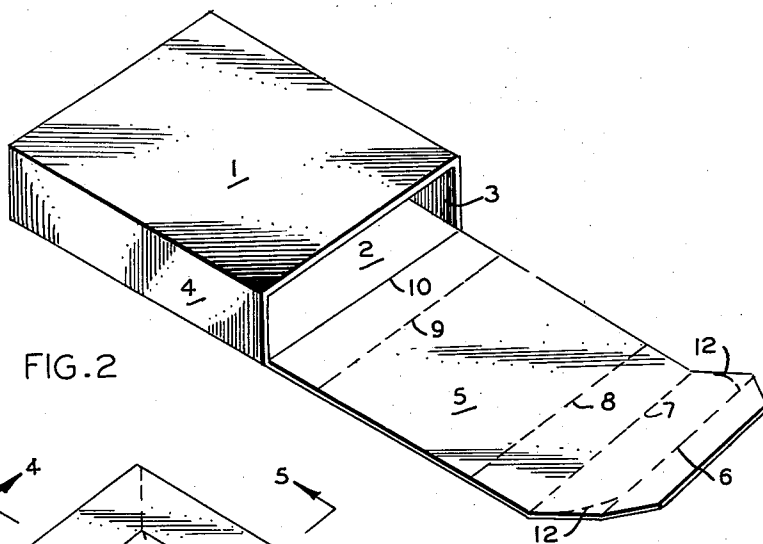


FIG. 2

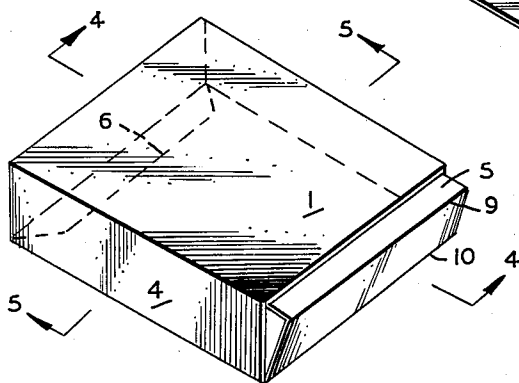


FIG. 3

INVENTORS

IRVING H. FOWLE
FRANCIS J. EMMINGER

BY

Her W. Engle
Frederick B. Hartley

ATTORNEYS

Sept. 19, 1961

I. H. FOWLE ET AL
PAPER BOARD FOLDING BOX

3,000,547

Filed Aug. 27, 1959

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

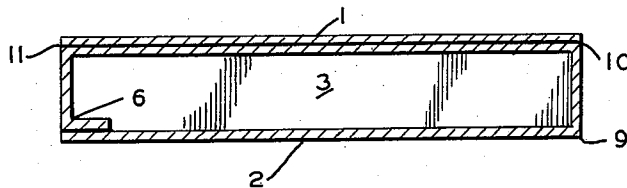


FIG.4

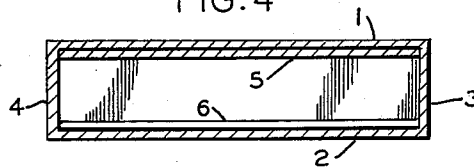


FIG.5

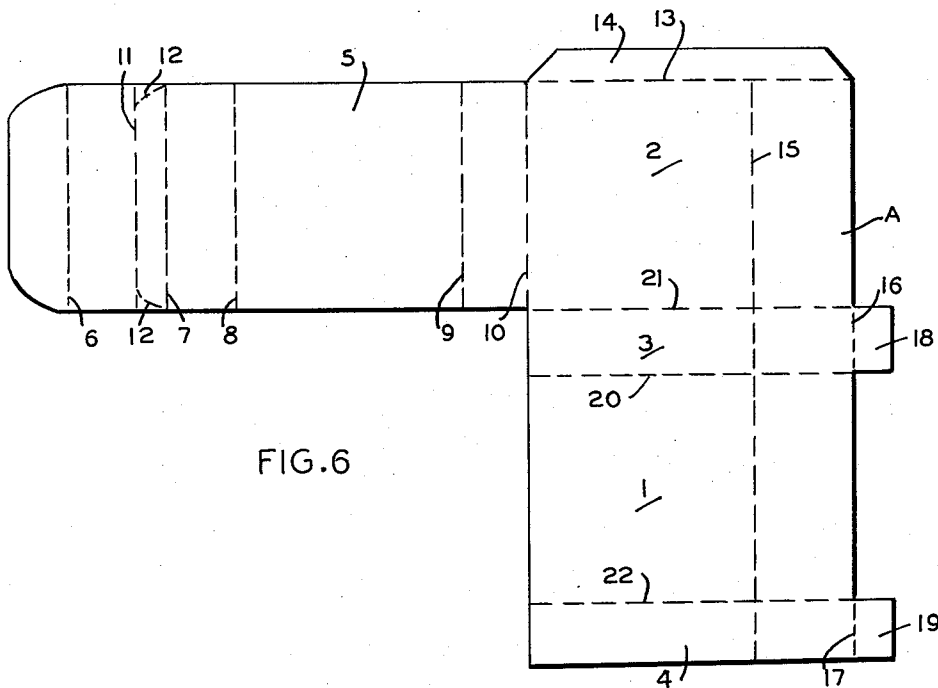


FIG.6

INVENTORS

IRVING H. FOWLE
FRANCIS J. EMMINGER

BY

ATTORNEYS

1

3,000,547

PAPER BOARD FOLDING BOX

Irving H. Fowle and Francis J. Emminger, Binghamton, N.Y., assignors to General Aniline & Film Corporation, New York, N.Y., a corporation of Delaware
Filed Aug. 27, 1959, Ser. No. 836,413
1 Claim. (Cl. 229—38)

This invention relates to a collapsible container or box and more particularly to a container or box which is adaptable to the shipment or mailing of articles or goods which differ in size.

In certain commercial applications, it is necessary to ship or mail articles or goods for processing and after processing, the articles or goods are returned to the original sender. When processing is completed, the articles or goods to be returned may be smaller in size and it becomes convenient to use the same box or container in which it was originally received for returning to the sender. For example, motion picture film is generally sold encased in a metal box or magazine and the purchaser after exposing the film must send the magazine to a processing laboratory. After the film is developed it is returned to the original sender and the magazine is retained for reloading by the manufacturer. The box in which the developed film is to be returned can, of course, be much smaller than the box which was sent to the laboratory and which contained the loaded magazine. It would be of great advantage and convenience, representing also a saving in cost, if the processed film could be returned in the same container in which it was sent to the laboratory.

It is accordingly an object of this invention to provide a collapsible container and a blank from which it can be made, which container can be made to accommodate articles of different sizes.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a collapsible container of paper board or the like which is sufficiently large to accommodate an article of large size and then may be diminished in size to accommodate a smaller article.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a collapsible container for housing a film magazine for the sale of the film to a purchaser, which container may also be used to ship or mail the magazine to a laboratory for developing and may thereafter be diminished in size and used to return the developed film to the original sender without the magazine.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will appear to those skilled in the art from the description thereof given below when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the container as originally produced.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the container as originally produced showing one end open and the flap used for closing the ends of the container.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the container after its size has been diminished.

FIG. 4 is a cross-section of the container on line 4—4 FIG. 3.

FIG. 5 is a cross-section of the container on line 5—5 FIG. 3; and

FIG. 6 is a lay-out of a blank which may be used in forming the novel collapsible box or container of this invention.

Referring first to FIG. 6 which illustrates the blank used in forming the box of this invention, the blank A may be cut from any desired sheet material such as cardboard or the like and provided with score or crease

2

lines to facilitate bending, so as to form flat panels 1 and 2 either of which may be the top or bottom wall of the container. Similarly the upstanding side wall panels 3 and 4 and a flap 5 are integral with wall 2 and of sufficient length to extend the full length of the container and close both ends thereof. The flap 5 is scored along lines 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, the latter score lines being at the juncture of the flap 5 and the wall 2. The flap 5 is also perforated along lines 11—12 so that the portion of the flap from lines 11—12 to the free end thereof may be easily detached when it is desired to shorten the container.

The blank A is also provided with a score or crease line 13 to form a glue flap 14. The panels 1, 2, 3 and 4 which form the top, bottom and side walls of the container are also perforated along lines 15 so that the portion of these panels between the line 15 and the end thereof away from the flap may be detached in order to shorten the container. Side walls 3 and 4 may be provided with projections and additionally scored at 16 and 17 to form end flaps 18 and 19.

In forming the container, the flap 5 is folded over wall 2 on score line 9, the flap 14 is folded over flap 5 at score lines 13, panels 1 and 4 are folded over flap 5 at score line 20 and wall 4 is glued to flap 14. This forms the container or box in flat collapsed condition for shipment and storage. In order to set up the box all that is necessary is to pinch the side panels 3 and 4 and pull on the free end of the flap which brings the panels 3 and 4 and the portion of the flap between score lines 9 and 10 into upright position. After the article is placed in the container, the end of the flap is bent along perforated line 11 and score line 6 and the end of the flap is tucked in to close the container.

When it is desired to diminish the size of the container, all that is necessary is to tear the container along perforated line 15 and tear off the flap along perforated lines 11—12. The flap 5 is then folded along score lines 7 and 8 to form a tuck-in flap and closure for the end of the shortened container. It is to be noted that the distance between score line 9 and perforated line 11 approximates the original length of panels 1 and 2 and the distance between score lines 8 and 9 approximates the length of panels 1 and 2 after they are shortened by tearing at line 15, thereby providing a box which has a neat appearance both in its original size and after it is shortened.

In use, a magazine loaded with photographic film such as motion picture film is placed in the novel carton for general sale and distribution. The purchaser of the film, after having exposed it, mails the same carton containing the magazine and film to the laboratory for development. The developed film is then returned to the purchaser without the magazine, using the same carton by simply tearing it along the perforated lines 11, 12 and 15, thereby changing it to a size which accommodates the film roll. Thus, the same carton may be used for the sale of the film in a magazine, shipment of the film and magazine to the laboratory and return of the film to the sender without the magazine.

Obviously the invention is not limited to the exact form illustrated or described. For example, the panels and the flap may be perforated along two or more spaced lines so as to provide three or more different sizes of cartons. Other modifications may also be restored to. Accordingly, our invention is not limited to the exact construction illustrated and described but covers all modifications that fall within the scope of the appended claim.

We claim:

A box-like container comprising top and bottom panels, side walls, and a flap integral with one of said panels and extending from one end thereof, said flap being of

sufficient length to extend through the container and form a closure for both ends thereof, said panels and walls being provided with perforations along straight lines and adjacent the end of the container opposite the end from which said flap extends, whereby the size of said container may be diminished by removing a portion of said panels and walls, said flap also being provided with perforations along a line adjacent the free end thereof, whereby the flap may be shortened by removal of a portion thereof to provide a neat closure for both ends of the container after it is diminished in size.

5

10

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,123,057	Yardusky -----	Dec. 29, 1914
1,621,451	Beach -----	Mar. 15, 1927
2,497,455	Johnson -----	Feb. 14, 1950

FOREIGN PATENTS

1,183,269	France -----	Jan. 26, 1959
-----------	--------------	---------------