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(71) Demandeur/Applicant:
KELLOGG COMPANY, US

(72) Inventeurs/Inventors:
GRAVES, KYLE, US;
CLARIZIO, MARK, US...

(74) Agent: GOWLING WLG (CANADA) LLP

(54) Titre : ENSEMBLE D'EMBALLAGE, ENSEMBLE DE SERVICE ET ENSEMBLE DE STOCKAGE IMBRIQUE FORME A PARTIR D'UN SYSTEME ET SON PROCEDE D'UTILISATION

(54) Title: PACKAGING ASSEMBLY, SERVING ASSEMBLY AND NESTED STORAGE ASSEMBLY FORMED FROM A SYSTEM AND A METHOD FOR UTILIZING THE SAME

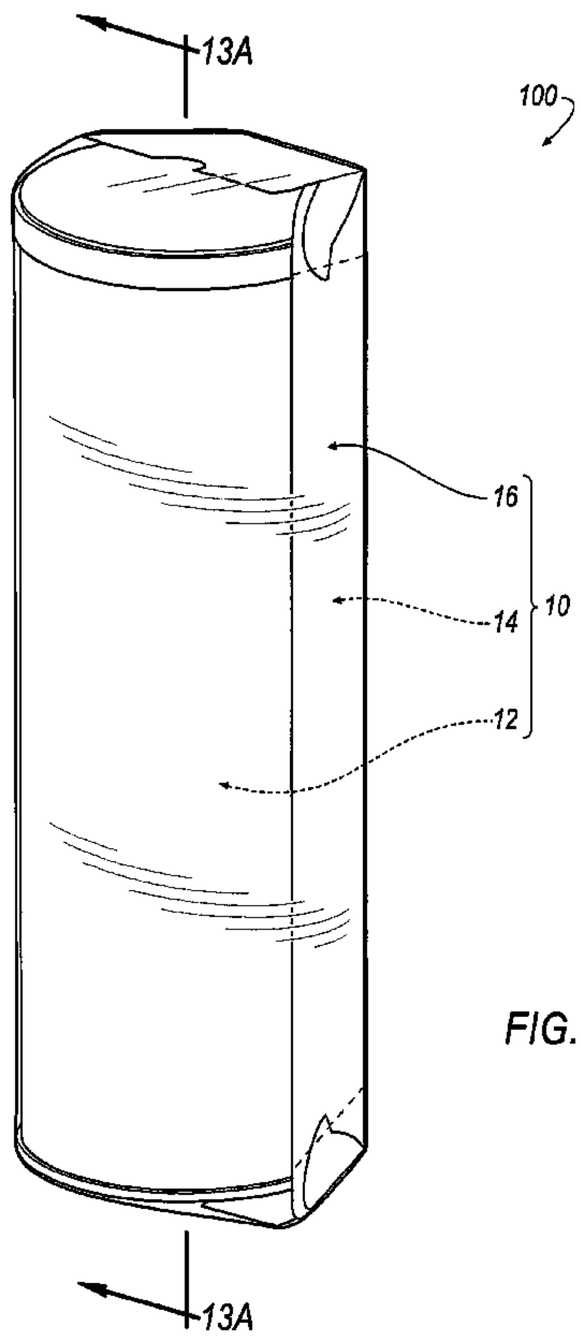

FIG. 1

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
A foodstuff packaging system (10, 10', 10") includes a plurality of foodstuffs (F), a container (12) having an interior cavity (24), and a tray (14) having a recess (34). The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10', 10") is operable between a first configuration wherein the

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(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):
container (12) is received within the recess (34) of the tray (14) and a second configuration wherein the tray (14) is disposed within the interior cavity (24) of the container (12). In the first configuration, the tray (14) has a first length defined by a first length portion (14') and a second length portion (14") joined together along a perforated tear seam (38). In the second configuration, the second length portion (14") is separated from the first length portion (14') along the tear seam (38).

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(71) Applicant: **KELLOGG COMPANY** [US/US]; One Kellogg Square, P.O. Box 3599, Battle Creek, MI 49016-3599 (US).

(72) Inventors: **GRAVES, Kyle**; 6907 Annandale Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009 (US). **CLARIZIO, Mark**; 6745 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823 (US).

(74) Agent: **DOYLE, Kathryn, D.**; Honigman Miller Schwartz And Cohn LLP, 350 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 300, Kalamazoo, MI 49007-3800 (US).

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(54) Title: PACKAGING ASSEMBLY, SERVING ASSEMBLY AND NESTED STORAGE ASSEMBLY FORMED FORM A SYSTEM AND A METHOD FOR UTILIZING THE SAME

(57) Abstract: A foodstuff packaging system (10, 10', 10") includes a plurality of foodstuffs (F), a container (12) having an interior cavity (24), and a tray (14) having a recess (34). The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10', 10") is operable between a first configuration wherein the container (12) is received within the recess (34) of the tray (14) and a second configuration wherein the tray (14) is disposed within the interior cavity (24) of the container (12). In the first configuration, the tray (14) has a first length defined by a first length portion (14') and a second length portion (14") joined together along a perforated tear seam (38). In the second configuration, the second length portion (14") is separated from the first length portion (14') along the tear seam (38).

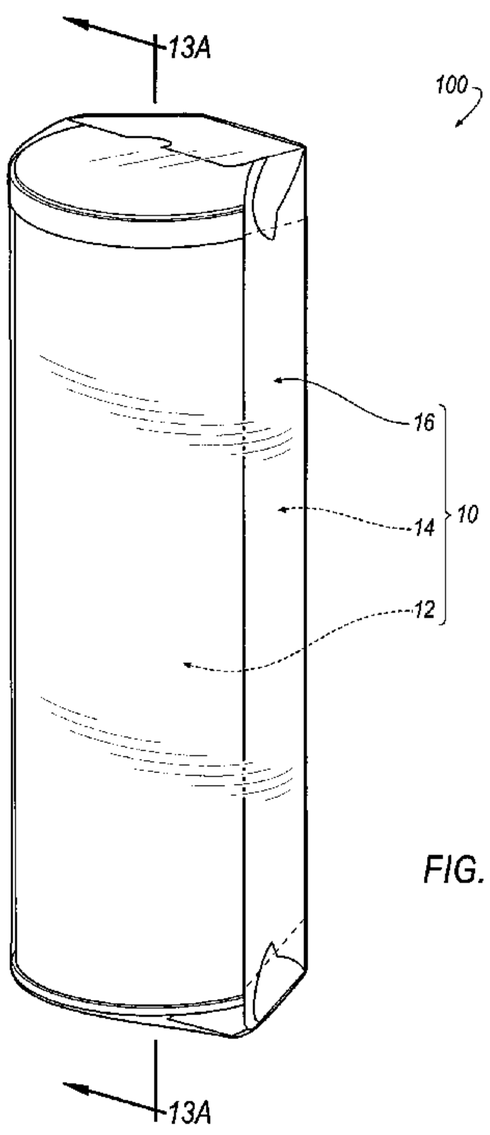

FIG. 1

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PACKAGING ASSEMBLY, SERVING ASSEMBLY AND NESTED STORAGE ASSEMBLY FORMED FROM A SYSTEM AND A METHOD FOR UTILIZING THE SAME

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application 62/447,474, filed on January 18, 2017. The disclosure of this prior application is considered part of the disclosure of this application and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] This disclosure relates to a food packaging system and a nested food storage assembly.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Food packaging and container systems are known. For example, containers and collapsible trays for storing food are known. While existing packaging and container configurations perform adequately for their intended purpose, improvements to packaging and container configurations are continuously being sought in order to advance the arts.

SUMMARY

[0004] This section provides a general summary of the disclosure, and is not a comprehensive disclosure of its full scope or all of its features.

[0005] One aspect of the present disclosure provides a foodstuff packaging system. The foodstuff packaging system may comprise a container and a tray. The container has a cylindrical outer sidewall defining a cavity having a first length. The tray includes at least one panel defining a recess. The foodstuff packaging system may be operable in a first configuration and a second configuration. In the first configuration the outer sidewall of the container is received in the recess of the tray and a second configuration wherein the tray is enclosed within the cavity of the container.

[0006] Implementations of the disclosure may include one or more of the following optional features. For example, the container may define a first length, and the tray defines a second length greater than the first length. For example, the tray

may be operable in a second length greater than the first length of the cavity and a third length less than the first length of the cavity.

[0007] In some implementations, the tray may include a tear seam formed in the at least one panel. The tear seam defines a first portion of the tray having the third length and a second portion of the tray having a fourth length. In the first configuration the first portion of the tray is joined to the second portion along the tear seam and in the second configuration the first portion of the tray is separated from the second portion along the tear seam.

[0008] In some examples of the foodstuff packaging system, the at least one panel includes a base panel and a pair of side panels extending from opposing ends of the base panel. A distance between the side panels defines a width of the tray that is less than a diameter of the cavity of the container. The base panel includes a planar outer surface and each of the side panels includes a concave inner surface defining a portion of the recess. The foodstuff packaging system of Claim 6, wherein the concave inner surface receives the cylindrical outer sidewall of the container when the food packaging system is in the first configuration.

[0009] In some examples, the at least one panel further includes a pair of end panels extending from opposing edges of the base panel and between the pair of side panels. In the first configuration both of the end panels are attached to the base panel and in the second configuration at least one of the end panels is separated from the base panel.

[0010] In some implementations, the foodstuff packaging system further includes an enclosure wrapped around the container and the tray when the foodstuff packaging system is in the first configuration.

[0011] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a foodstuff packaging system. The foodstuff packaging system may includes a plurality of foodstuffs, a container, and a tray. The container may include a cylindrical outer sidewall defining an interior cavity having a diameter extending along a first length. The tray may include a recess, the tray operable between a first configuration for receiving the cylindrical outer sidewall of the container within the recess and a second configuration for receiving the foodstuffs and being enclosed within the interior cavity of the container.

[0012] In the first configuration the tray may be defined by a first length portion and a second length portion joined to the first length portion along a tear seam. The

tear seam may include a plurality of perforations. In the second configuration the second length portion, may be separated from the first length portion along the tear seam. A second length of the first length portion may be less than the first length of the cavity.

[0013] In some implementations of the foodstuff packaging system, the tray may include a base panel, a first lateral panel extending from a first end of the base panel, a second lateral panel extending from a second end of the base panel opposing the first lateral end, a first end panel extending from a third end of the base panel between the first lateral panel and the second lateral panel, and a second end panel extending from a fourth end of the base panel between the first lateral panel and the second lateral panel. A distance from an outer surface of the first lateral panel to an outer surface of the second lateral panel may be less than the diameter of the interior cavity.

[0014] In some implementations, the lateral panel includes a first concave surface and the second lateral panel includes a second concave surface opposing the first concave surface, the first concave surface and the second concave surface configured to receive the outer sidewall of the container.

[0015] In some examples, the first end panel may be attached to each of the base panel, the first lateral panel, and the second lateral panel along a first tear seam in the first configuration, and is separated from the tray along the tear seam in the second configuration. The base panel may be substantially planar.

[0016] The details of one or more implementations of the disclosure are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other aspects, features, and advantages will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0017] The drawings described herein are for illustrative purposes only of selected configurations and not all possible implementations, and are not intended to limit the scope of the present disclosure.

[0018] FIG. 1 is a perspective view illustrating an exemplary system including a container, a tray and an enclosure.

[0019] FIG. 2A is an exploded view of a packaging assembly formed from the system of FIG. 1.

[0020] FIG. 2B is an exploded view of a serving assembly formed from the system of FIG. 1.

[0021] FIG. 2C is an exploded view of a nested storage assembly formed from the system of FIG. 1.

[0022] FIG. 3A is an exploded perspective view of the container of FIG. 1.

[0023] FIG. 3B is an assembled perspective view of the container of FIG. 3A.

[0024] FIG. 4A is a side cross-section view according to line 4A-4A of FIG. 3A.

[0025] FIG. 4B is a side cross-section view according to line 4B-4B of FIG. 3B.

[0026] FIG. 5A is a view of a cylindrical body of the container according to arrow 5A of FIG. 3A.

[0027] FIG. 5B is a view of the cylindrical body of the container according to arrow 5B of FIG. 3A.

[0028] FIG. 6A is a view of a disk-shaped, non-removable closure member of the container according to arrow 6A of FIG. 3A.

[0029] FIG. 6B is a view of the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member of the container according to arrow 6B of FIG. 3A.

[0030] FIG. 7A is a view of a disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member of the container according to arrow 7A of FIG. 3A.

[0031] FIG. 7B is a view of a disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member of the container according to arrow 7B of FIG. 3A.

[0032] FIG. 8A is a plan view of an exemplary substantially planar blank that forms the tray of FIG. 1.

[0033] FIG. 8B is a side of the substantially planar blank of FIG. 8A.

[0034] FIG. 8C is an end view of the substantially planar blank of FIG. 8A.

[0035] FIG. 9A is a plan view of an exemplary substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body formed from the substantially planar blank of FIGS. 8A-8C that forms the tray of FIG. 1.

[0036] FIG. 9B is a side of the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body of FIG. 9A.

[0037] FIG. 9C is an end view of the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body of FIG. 9A.

[0038] FIG. 10 is a perspective view of the tray of FIG. 1 formed from the exemplary substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body of FIGS. 9A-9C.

[0039] FIG. 11A is a plan view of the tray of FIG. 10.

[0040] FIG. 11B is a side of the tray of FIG. 11A.

[0041] FIG. 11C is an end view of the tray of FIG. 11A.

[0042] FIG. 12A is a side cross-section view according to line 12A-12A of FIG. 10.

[0043] FIG. 12B is an end cross-section view according to line 12B-12B of FIG. 10.

[0044] FIG. 13A is a cross-sectional view of the system according to line 13A-13A of FIG. 1 defining the packaging assembly of FIG. 2A.

[0045] FIGS. 13B is another cross-sectional view of the system according to FIG. 13A, illustrating removal of the enclosure.

[0046] FIGS. 13C-13E are cross-sectional views of the container and the tray of the system defining the serving assembly of FIG. 2B.

[0047] FIGS. 13F-13I are cross-sectional views of the container and the tray of the system defining the nested storage assembly of FIG. 2C.

[0048] FIG. 14 is a perspective view illustrating an exemplary system including a primary container, a secondary container, a primary tray, a secondary tray and an enclosure.

[0049] FIG. 15 is an exploded view of a packaging assembly formed from the system of FIG. 14.

[0050] FIG. 16 is a perspective view illustrating an exemplary system including a primary container, a secondary container, a tertiary container, a primary tray, a secondary tray, a tertiary tray and an enclosure.

[0051] FIG. 17 is an exploded view of a packaging assembly formed from the system of FIG. 16.

[0052] Like reference symbols in the various drawings indicate like elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0053] Example configurations will now be described more fully with reference to the accompanying drawings. Example configurations are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough, and will fully convey the scope of the disclosure to those of ordinary skill in the art. Specific details are set forth such as examples of specific components, devices, and methods, to provide a thorough understanding of configurations of the present disclosure. It will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that specific details need not be employed, that example configurations may

be embodied in many different forms, and that the specific details and the example configurations should not be construed to limit the scope of the disclosure.

[0054] The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular exemplary configurations only and is not intended to be limiting. As used herein, the singular articles "a," "an," and "the" may be intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. The terms "comprises," "comprising," "including," and "having," are inclusive and therefore specify the presence of features, steps, operations, elements, and/or components, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, steps, operations, elements, components, and/or groups thereof. The method steps, processes, and operations described herein are not to be construed as necessarily requiring their performance in the particular order discussed or illustrated, unless specifically identified as an order of performance. Additional or alternative steps may be employed.

[0055] When an element or layer is referred to as being "on," "engaged to," "connected to," "attached to," or "coupled to" another element or layer, it may be directly on, engaged, connected, attached, or coupled to the other element or layer, or intervening elements or layers may be present. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being "directly on," "directly engaged to," "directly connected to," "directly attached to," or "directly coupled to" another element or layer, there may be no intervening elements or layers present. Other words used to describe the relationship between elements should be interpreted in a like fashion (e.g., "between" versus "directly between," "adjacent" versus "directly adjacent," etc.). As used herein, the term "and/or" includes any and all combinations of one or more of the associated listed items.

[0056] The terms first, second, third, etc. may be used herein to describe various elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections. These elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections should not be limited by these terms. These terms may be only used to distinguish one element, component, region, layer or section from another region, layer or section. Terms such as "first," "second," and other numerical terms do not imply a sequence or order unless clearly indicated by the context. Thus, a first element, component, region, layer or section discussed below could be termed a second element, component, region, layer or section without departing from the teachings of the example configurations.

[0057] Referring to FIG. 1, a system is shown generally at 10. The system 10 may include a container 12, a tray 14 and an enclosure 16. As seen in FIGS. 1 and 2A, the container 12, the tray 14 and the enclosure 16 define a packaging assembly 100. With reference to FIG. 2B, the container 12 and the tray 14 may define a serving assembly 200. Lastly, as seen in FIG. 2C, the tray 14 is separable to define a first length portion 14′ and a second length portion 14″; the container 12 and the first length portion 14′ of the tray 14 define a nested storage assembly 300.

[0058] In some implementations, as seen in FIG. 2A, the packaging assembly 100 may be directed to a food packaging assembly whereby the container 12 is a cylindrically-shaped food container that stores foodstuff F while, as seen more clearly in FIG. 1, the tray 14 functions as a packaging portion. In this regard, the tray 14 may be referred to herein as the packaging portion 14 and/or the food tray portion 14. In such an implementation, the serving assembly 200 (of FIG. 2B) may be directed to a food serving assembly whereby the tray 14 provides a secondary function as a food tray portion. Thereafter, as seen in FIG. 2C, the second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14 is separated from the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 in order to permit the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 to be stored within the cylindrically-shaped container 12 for defining the storage assembly 300, which may be referred to as a nested foodstuff tray storage assembly. Although some implementations of the container 12 may be directed to a 'cylindrically'-shaped food container, the container 12 may be defined to include any desirable geometry and is not limited to a cylindrical shape.

[0059] In an example, as seen in FIGS. 2A-2C, the foodstuff F may be defined by a plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n. As will be described in the following disclosure, the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n may be described to include a consumed portion F_x–F_n that are consumed by a consumer C (see, e.g., FIG. 2C) in a first serving session and an unconsumed portion F_1–F_{x-1} that are not consumed by the consumer C in the first serving session. Furthermore, each foodstuff unit of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n may be similarly shaped in order to permit the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n to be arranged in a stacked configuration F_S (see, e.g., FIGS. 3A-3B) that is sized for storage within: (1) the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and/or (2) upon the food tray portion 14 (see, e.g., FIGS. 13D-13F). The similarly-shaped

foodstuff units F_1–F_n arranged in the stacked configuration F_S may be, for example, a plurality of stacked potato chips.

[0060] Referring to FIGS. 2A-2C, 3A and 5A-5B, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 is defined by a cylindrical sidewall 18. As seen in FIGS. 3A and 5A-5B, the cylindrical sidewall 18 is defined by an inner surface 18_I, an outer surface 18_O, a proximal end surface 18_P (see, e.g., FIG. 5A) and a distal end surface 18_D (see, e.g., FIG. 5B). The proximal end surface 18_P of the cylindrical sidewall 18 joins the inner surface 18_I to the outer surface 18_O. The distal end surface 18_D of the cylindrical sidewall 18 joins the inner surface 18_I to the outer surface 18_O.

[0061] Referring to FIGS. 2A-2C, 3A and 6A-6B, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 may be further defined by a disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20. As seen in FIGS. 3A and 6A-6B, the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20 is defined by an inner surface 20_I (see, e.g., FIG. 6B) an outer surface 20_O (see, e.g., FIG. 6A) and a side surface 20_S. The side surface 20_S of the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20 joins the inner surface 20_I to the outer surface 20_O.

[0062] Referring to FIGS. 2A-2C, 3A and 7A-7B, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 may be further defined by a disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member 22. As seen in FIGS. 3A and 7A-7B, the disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member 22 is defined by an inner surface 22_I (see, e.g., FIG. 7A), an outer surface 22_O (see, e.g., FIG. 7B) and a side surface 22_S. The side surface 22_S of the disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member 22 joins the inner surface 22_I to the outer surface 22_O.

[0063] Referring to FIG. 3A, the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20 may be secured near the proximal end surface 18_P of the cylindrical sidewall 18. The disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member 22 may be removably-secured near the distal end surface 18_D of the cylindrical sidewall 18. Referring to FIG. 4B, the inner surface 18_I of the cylindrical sidewall 18 cooperates with the inner surface 20_I of the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20 (and, in some examples, the inner surface 22_I of the disk-shaped, selectively-removable closure member 22 when the disk-shaped, selectively-removable closure member 22 is removably-secured to the sidewall 18) to define a foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 for removably-securing the foodstuff F within the cylindrically-shaped food container 12.

[0064] Referring to FIGS. 3B and 4B, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 may be defined by a length L_{12} extending, for example, from the outer surface 20_O of

the non-removable closure member 20 located proximate the proximal end surface 18_P of the sidewall 18 to the outer surface 22_O of the selectively-removable closure member 22 located proximate the distal end surface 18_D of the sidewall 18. Furthermore, as seen in FIGS 3B and 4B, the outer surface 18_O of the cylindrical sidewall 18 defines an outer diameter D_{18} of the sidewall 18 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12.

[0065] As seen in FIG. 4B, the inner surface 18_I of the cylindrical sidewall 18 defines a cavity diameter D_{24} of the cavity 24. Even further, as seen in FIG. 4B, the cavity 24 may be defined by a cavity length L_{24} extending from the inner surface 20_I of the non-removable closure member 20 to the inner surface 22_I of the selectively-removable closure member 22 or the distal end surface 18_D of the sidewall 18.

[0066] The components 18, 20, 22 defining the container 12 may be formed from any desirable material. In an example, the cylindrical sidewall 18 may be formed from a paperboard or cardboard material. In some implementations, the non-removable closure member 20 may be formed from a metal material. In some examples, the selectively-removable closure member 22 may be formed from a plastic material.

[0067] Referring to FIGS. 8A-8C, the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 is formed from a substantially planar blank 26. The substantially planar blank 26 may be shaped by, for example: stamping, cutting, slitting and/or perforating in order to define a substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 (see also, e.g., FIGS. 9A-9C). The substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 is folded, bent, shaped and/or glued along fold lines, pre-weakened edges, perforations and the like to form the tray 14. The substantially planar blank 26 may be formed from any desirable material such as, for example, a paperboard material, a cardboard material, a plastic material or the like.

[0068] With reference to FIG. 9A, the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 may be spatially manipulated to define a plurality of panels 30 that form the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14. In an example, the plurality of panels 30 may include a base panel 30_B, a proximal panel 30_P, a distal panel 30_D, a first lateral panel 30_{L1} and a second later panel 30_{L2}. The proximal panel 30_P extends from a proximal end 30_{BPE} of the base panel 30_B. The distal panel 30_D extends from a distal end 30_{BDE} of the base panel 30_B. The first lateral panel 30_{L1}

extends from a first lateral end 30_{BLI} of the base panel 30_B. The second lateral panel 30_{L2} extends from a second lateral end 30_{BL2} of the base panel 30_B.

[0069] The base panel 30_B defines an inner surface 30_{BI} and an outer surface 30_{BO}. The proximal panel 30_P defines an inner surface 30_{PI}, an outer surface 30_{PO} and a side surface 30_{PS}. The side surface 30_{PS} of the proximal panel 30_P joins the inner surface 30_{PI} to the outer surface 30_{PO}. As shown, the proximal panel 30_P defines a first lateral edge 30_{PLI} and an opposing second lateral edge 30_{PL2}. Each of the first lateral edge 30_{PLI} and the second lateral 30_{PL2} edge may be arcuate in in shape.

[0070] The distal panel 30_D defines an inner surface 30_{DI}, an outer surface 30_{DO} and a side surface 30_{DS}. The side surface 30_{DS} of the distal panel 30_D joins the inner surface 30_{DI} to the outer surface 30_{DO}. As shown, the distal panel 30_D defines a first lateral edge 30_{DL1} and an opposing second lateral edge 30_{DL2}. Each of the first lateral edge 30_{DL1} and the second lateral edge 30_{DL2} may be arcuate in in shape.

[0071] The first lateral panel 30_{L1} defines an inner surface 30_{L1I}, an outer surface 30_{L1O} and a side surface 30_{L1S}. The side surface 30_{L1S} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} joins the inner surface 30_{L1I} to the outer surface 30_{L1O}.

[0072] The second lateral panel 30_{L2} defines an inner surface 30_{L2I}, an outer surface 30_{L2O} and a side surface 30_{L2S}. The side surface 30_{L2S} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2} joins the inner surface 30_{L2I} to the outer surface 30_{L2O}.

[0073] In an example, as seen in FIG. 9A, the plurality of panels 30 may further include a first proximal webbing panel 30_{PW1}, a second proximal webbing panel 30_{PW2}, a first distal webbing panel 30_{DW1} and a second distal webbing panel 30_{DW2}. The first proximal webbing panel 30_{PW1} connects the first lateral edge 30_{PL1} of the proximal panel 30_P to a proximal end 30_{L1P} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1}. The second proximal webbing panel 30_{PW2} connects the second lateral edge 30_{PL2} of the proximal panel 30_P to a proximal end 30_{L2P} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2}.

[0074] The first distal webbing panel 30_{DW1} connects the first lateral edge 30_{DL1} of the distal panel 30_D to a distal end 30_{L1D} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1}. The second distal webbing panel 30_{DW2} connects the second lateral edge 30_{DL2} of the distal panel 30_D to a distal end 30_{L2D} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. Furthermore, each of the first proximal webbing panel 30_{PW1}, the second proximal webbing panel 30_{PW2}, the first distal webbing panel 30_{DW1} and the second distal webbing panel 30_{DW2} may define a fold line 32.

[0075] The proximal panel 30_P, the distal panel 30_D, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} may be spatially manipulated (e.g., folded) relative to, respectively, the proximal end 30_{BPE}, the distal end 30_{BDE}, the first lateral edge 30_{BL1} and the second lateral edge 30_{BL2} of the base panel 30_B for forming the food tray portion 14, as seen in FIG. 10. Put another way, the lateral panels 30_{L1}, 30_{L2} may be folded with respect to the base panel 30_B so that opposing ends 30_{L1P}, 30_{L2P}, 30_{L1D}, 30_{L2D} of each of the respective lateral panels 30_{L1}, 30_{L2} are joined with the arcuate lateral edges 30_{PL1}, 30_{PL2}, 30_{DL1}, 30_{DL2} of the proximal panel 30_P and the distal panel 30_D.

[0076] Furthermore, as seen in FIG. 10, as the proximal panel 30_P, the distal panel 30_D, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second later panel 30_L are spatially manipulated relative the base panel 30_B as described above, the first proximal webbing panel 30_{PW1}, the second proximal webbing panel 30_{PW2}, the first distal webbing panel 30_{DW1} and the second distal webbing panel 30_{DW2} may be collapsed along their respective fold line 32. In some examples, an adhesive may be applied to each of the first proximal webbing panel 30_{PW1}, the second proximal webbing panel 30_{PW2}, the first distal webbing panel 30_{DW1} and the second distal webbing panel 30_{DW2} in order to retain the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 that defines the food tray portion 14 in the spatially manipulated configuration as seen in FIG. 10.

[0077] Referring to FIGS. 10, 11A-11C and 12A-12C, when the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 is spatially manipulated for defining the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14, the inner surfaces 30_{BI}, 30_{PI}, 30_{DI}, 30_{L1I}, 30_{L2I} of, respectively, the base panel 30_B, the proximal panel 30_P, the distal panel 30_D, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second later panel 30_{L2} cooperate to define a foodstuff-receiving recess 34 for removably-securing the foodstuff F upon the food tray portion 14. As discussed above, the recess is formed by joining opposing ends 30_{L1P}, 30_{L2P}, 30_{L1D}, 30_{L2D} of each of the lateral panels 30_{L1}, 30_{L2} to respective ones of the arcuate lateral edges 30_{PL1}, 30_{PL2}, 30_{DL1}, 30_{DL2}. Accordingly, the lateral panels 30_{L1}, 30_{L2} are also arcuate such that the inner surfaces 30_{L1I}, 30_{L2I} are concave in shape and are configured to receive the cylindrical outer surface 18_O of the container 12.

[0078] As seen in FIGS. 10, 11A-11B and 12A, the recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 may be defined by a recess length L_{34} extending

from the inner surface 30_{PI} of the proximal panel 30_P to the inner surface 30_{DI} of the distal panel 30_P. As seen in FIGS. 10, 11A, 11C and 12B, the recess 34 of the food tray portion 14 may be further defined by a recess width W_{34} extending from the inner surface 30_{L1I} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} to the inner surface 30_{L2I} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. As seen in FIGS. 10, 11B-11C and 12B, the recess 34 of the food tray portion 14 may be further defined by a recess height H_{34} extending from the inner surface 30_{BI} of the base panel 30_B to a side end 30_{L1S}, 30_{L2S} of each of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}.

[0079] Furthermore, as seen in FIGS. 10, 11A-11B and 12A, the food tray portion 14 may be defined by a length L_{14} extending from the outer surface 30_{PO} of the proximal panel 30_P to the outer surface 30_{DO} of the distal panel 30_P. As seen in FIGS. 10, 11A, 11C and 12B, the food tray portion 14 may be further defined by a width W_{14} extending from the outer surface 30_{L1O} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} to the outer surface 30_{L2O} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. As seen in FIGS. 10, 11B-11C and 12B, the food tray portion 14 may be further defined by a height H_{14} extending from the outer surface 30_{BO} of the base panel 30_B to the side end 30_{L1S}, 30_{L2S} of each of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}.

[0080] As seen in FIG. 9A, when the substantially planar blank 26 is shaped into the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28, the substantially planar blank 26 may be perforated to define a plurality of perforations 36 extending through the thickness T_{28} (see, e.g., FIGS. 9B-9C) of the substantially planar-shaped, spatially-manipulatable body 28. The plurality of perforations 36 may define a substantially linear pattern extending across a width W_{30B} of the a base panel 30_B, a width W_{30L1} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and a width W_{30L2} of the second later panel 30_{L2}.

[0081] With reference to FIG. 11A, each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} are defined by a length L_{30}. The substantially linear pattern of the plurality of perforations 36 may be arranged at a distance D_{36} away from the proximal end 30_{BPE}, 30_{L1P} and 30_{L2P} of each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} for defining a portion L_{30P} of the length L_{30} of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. The portion L_{30P} of the length L_{30} may be approximately equal to about ninth-tenths (9/10) of the length L_{30} of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. A remainder L_{30R} of the length

L_{30} of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} extends between the distal end 30_{BDE}, 30_{L1D} and 30_{L2D} of each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} and the substantially linear pattern of the plurality of perforations 36.

[0082] When the substantially planar-shaped spatially-manipulatable body 28 is spatially manipulated for defining the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 as described above, the plurality of perforations 36 define a tear seam 38. Furthermore, the tear seam 38 demarcates the food tray portion 14 for defining the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 and the second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14. The first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 is defined by the proximal panel 30_P and the portion L_{30P} of the length L_{30} of each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. The second length portion 14″ of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 is defined by the distal panel 30_D and the remainder L_{30R} of length L_{30} of each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. As seen in FIGS. 8A, 9A, 10 and 11A, in some implementations, the food tray portion 14 may be symmetrically formed to include a second plurality of perforations 36 defining a second tear seam 38 arranged proximate the proximal panel 30_P; formation of a second plurality of perforations 36 defining a second tear seam 38 permits a user to selectively choose which end (i.e., the proximal end of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 including the proximal panel 30_P or the distal end including the distal panel 30_D of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14) of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 should be separated such that the second length portion 14″ of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14 may be at least partially defined by either of the proximal panel 30_P or the distal panel 30_D of the packaging portion 14 / the food tray portion 14.

[0083] Referring to FIGS. 1, 2A and 13A-13B, the food packaging assembly 100 is now described. The food packaging assembly 100 includes the cylindrically-shaped food container 12, the tray 14 and the enclosure 16. Although the tray 14 is also the food tray portion defined by the first length portion 14′ joined to the second length portion 14″ at the tear seam 38, when arranged relative the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 as described below in the context of the food packaging assembly 100, the tray / the food tray portion 14 is hereinafter referred to as a "packaging portion."

[0084] With reference to FIG. 13A, the food packaging assembly 100 may be prepared at a food manufacturing site; the food manufacturing site may be 'clean room' (e.g., a substantially germ-free / bacteria-free environment). In an example, the food packaging assembly 100 may be prepared at the food manufacturing site whereby the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 is filled with one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n such as, for example, a plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n that are arranged in a stacked configuration F_S (e.g., PRINGLES®). Although the food packaging assembly 100 may be prepared with one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n arranged within the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12, the food packaging assembly 100 may be assembled without disposing the one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n within the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 (i.e., the one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n is/are not a critical or essential component of the food packaging assembly 100, and, therefore, an exemplary implementation of the food packaging assembly 100 may not include the one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n). Furthermore, although the one or more units F_1–F_n is/are described as one or more 'foodstuff' units F_1–F_n, the one or more units F_1–F_n may be non-edible / non-foodstuff material.

[0085] After the one or more foodstuff units F_1–F_n are arranged within the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12, the packaging portion 14 may be connected to the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 by at least partially nesting the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 within the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14. As will be described below with respect to the food serving assembly 200, the 'container'-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 will be alternatively-referred to as a 'foodstuff'-receiving recess 34 for removably-securing the foodstuff F (that is removed from the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12) upon the food tray portion 14.

[0086] The length L_{34} of the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 extending from the inner surface 30_{PI} of the proximal panel 30_P of the packaging portion 14 to the inner surface 30_{DI} of the distal panel 30_P of the packaging portion 14 is sized to be approximately equal to but slightly greater than the length L_{12} of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 that extends between the outer surface 20_O of the non-removable closure member 20 of the cylindrically-shaped food

container 12 and the outer surface 22_O of the selectively-removable closure member 22 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12. Furthermore, the width W_{34} of the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 extending from the inner surface 30_{L1I} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} to the inner surface 30_{L2I} of the second lateral panel 30_{L2} is sized for receiving a least a portion of the outer circumference of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 defined by the outer diameter D_{18} of the sidewall 18. In some examples, the width W_{34} of the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 is sized to be less than the outer diameter D_{18} of the sidewall 18. Yet even further, the height H_{34} of the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 extending from the inner surface 30_{BI} of the base panel 30_B to a side end 30_{L1S}, 30_{L2S} of each of the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} is sized to be less than the outer diameter D_{18} of the sidewall 18. The nesting of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 within the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 results in at least one of: (1) the inner surface 30_{L1I}, 30_{L2I}, 30_{BI} of the first lateral panel 30_{L1}, the second lateral panel 30_{L2} and the base panel 30_B being disposed adjacent the outer surface 18_O of the cylindrical sidewall 18, (2) the inner surface 30_{PI} of the proximal panel 30_P being disposed adjacent the outer surface 20_O of the disk-shaped, non-removable closure member 20 and (3) the inner surface 30_{DI} of the distal panel 30_P being disposed adjacent the outer surface 22_O of the disk-shaped, selectively -removable closure member 22 such that the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 is loosely-connected to the packaging portion 14. In this regard, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 may be loosely-connected to the packaging portion 14 when the packaging portion 14 is in a lengthened state.

[0087] With continued reference to FIG. 13A, after nesting the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 within the container-receiving recess 34 of the packaging portion 14 as described above, the enclosure 16 is wrapped about and disposed adjacent all of or some portions of the outer surfaces 18_O, 20_O, 22_O, 30_{BO}, 30_{PO}, 30_{DO}, 30_{L1O}, 30_{L2O} of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 thereby forming the food packaging assembly 100. In example, the enclosure 16 may be a transparent plastic film, which may be referred to as a shrink wrap material.

[0088] As seen in FIG. 13A, once the enclosure 16 is wrapped about the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14, the enclosure 16 forms a cavity 40 that contains the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14. By wrapping the enclosure 16 about all of or some portions of

the outer surfaces 18_O, 20_O, 22_O, 30_{BO}, 30_{PO}, 30_{DO}, 30_{L1O}, 30_{L2O} of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14, the enclosure 16 secures the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 to the packaging portion 14 while also sealing the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 within the cavity 40 from surrounding atmosphere A. Once the enclosure 16 seals the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 from surrounding atmosphere A, and, upon the food packaging assembly 100 leaving the environment defined by the 'clean room', the enclosure 16 protects the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 from being contaminated by germs and/or bacteria in the surrounding atmosphere A of the non-clean-room environment.

[0089] Referring to FIG. 13B, the seal provided by the enclosure 16 may be subsequently broken by a consumer C (see, e.g., FIG. 2C) in order to permit the consumer C to expose the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 to surrounding atmosphere A and subsequently remove the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 from the cavity 40 formed by the enclosure 16. As seen in FIG. 2B, the enclosure 16 may then be discarded in a trash receptacle T.

[0090] As seen in FIG. 2B and 13C, upon removing the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 from the cavity 40, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the packaging portion 14 is said to function as the food serving assembly 200. When arranged relative the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 as described below at FIGS. 13D-13E, in the context of the food serving assembly 200, the tray / the packaging portion 14 is hereinafter referred to as a "food tray portion." As seen in FIGS. 13D-13E, the food tray portion is initially defined by the first length portion 14′ being joined to the second length portion 14″ at the tear seam 38.

[0091] As seen in FIG. 13C, after separating the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 from the food tray portion 14 such that the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 is no longer arranged in a nested orientation with respect to the food tray portion 14, the recess 34 formed by the packaging portion 14 / food tray portion 14 is no longer referred to as a 'container'-receiving recess 34 but rather a 'foodstuff'-receiving recess 34. As seen in FIGS. 13D-13E, the foodstuff-receiving recess 34 is sized for receiving the foodstuff F (that may be defined by a plurality of similarly-

shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n that are arranged in a stacked configuration F_S) that is removed from the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12.

[0092] As seen in FIG. 13E, the food tray portion 14 provides unobstructed access to the foodstuff-receiving recess 34 and any item(s) such as, for example, the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n arranged thereupon. The unobstructed access to the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n arranged upon the food tray portion 14 advantageously permits a plurality of foodstuff consumers C_1-C_n to access the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n whereas only one foodstuff consumer C_1 (see, e.g., FIG. 13C)could access an upper-most foodstuff unit F_n (see, e.g., FIG. 13C) of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n that are arranged in the stacked configuration F_S within the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12.

[0093] As seen in FIG. 13F, a portion (e.g., F_1–F_{x-1}) of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n may not be consumed during a serving session, and, in order to maintain the freshness of the remaining portion F_1–F_{x-1} of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n, a consumer C may wish to return the remaining portion F_1–F_{x-1} of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n to the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12. Furthermore, the consumer C may wish to maintain the unobstructed consumption convenience provided by the food tray portion 14 while not having to directly touch the remaining portion F_1–F_{x-1} of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n as the remaining portion F_1–F_{x-1} of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n are returned to the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24. Therefore, the consumer C may move or otherwise transform the packaging portion 14 from the lengthened state (e.g., FIGS. 1 and 10) to a shortened state (e.g., FIGS. 13F-13I). For example, as seen in FIG. 13F, to move or otherwise transform the packaging portion 14 from the lengthened state (e.g., FIGS. 1 and 10) to the shortened state (e.g., FIGS. 13F-13I), the consumer C may separate the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 from the second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14 at the tear seam 38 such that second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14 may be discarded into a trash receptacle T (see, e.g., FIG. 2C) while the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 may removably-support the remaining portion F_1–F_{x-1} of the plurality of similarly-shaped foodstuff units F_1–F_n. Upon separating the second length portion

14″ of the food tray portion 14 from the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14, the cylindrically-shaped food container 12 and the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 cooperate to form the foodstuff tray storage assembly 300. In other implementations, the consumer or other user may move or otherwise transform the packaging portion 14 from the lengthened state (e.g., FIGS. 1 and 10) to the shortened state (e.g., FIGS. 13F-13I) by folding or bending a portion of the packaging portion 14 to reduce the overall length L_{14} of the food tray portion 14.

[0094] The purpose of removing the second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14 from the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14 results in a reduction of the overall length L_{14} of the food tray portion 14. Referring to FIG. 13F, after separating the second length portion 14″ of the food tray portion 14 from the first length portion 14′ of the food tray portion 14, the food tray portion 14 may be approximately equal to the portion L_{30P} of the length L_{30} of: the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2} extending between the plurality of perforations 36 defining the tear seam 38 and the proximal end 30_{BPE}, 30_{L1P} and 30_{L2P} of each of the base panel 30_B, the first lateral panel 30_{L1} and the second lateral panel 30_{L2}. The length L_{30P} of the remainder of the food tray portion 14 defined by the first length portion 14′ is less than the length L_{24} of the cavity 24 extending from the inner surface 20_I of the non-removable closure member 20 to the inner surface 22_I of the selectively-removable closure member 22 / the distal end surface 18_D of the sidewall 18, and, with reference to FIGS. 13G-13I, the remainder of the food tray portion 14 defined by the first length portion 14′ is sized for storage within the foodstuff-receiving cavity 24 of the cylindrically-shaped food container 12.

[0095] Referring to FIG. 14, a system is shown generally at 10′. The system 10′ includes a primary container 12_1′, a secondary container 12_2′, a primary tray 14_1′, a secondary tray 14_2′, and an enclosure 16′. As seen in FIGS. 14 and 15, the primary container 12_1′, the secondary container 12_2′, the primary tray 14_1′, the secondary tray 14_2′ and the enclosure 16′ define a packaging assembly 100′. In a substantially similar manner as described above at FIGS. 1-13I, the primary container 12_1′ and the primary tray 14_1′ define a first serving assembly (not shown) of the system 10′ and the secondary container 12_2′ and the secondary tray 14_2′ define a second serving assembly (not shown) of the system 10′. Furthermore, in a substantially similar manner as described above at FIGS. 1-13I, each of the primary tray 14_1′ and the secondary tray 14_2′ are separable to define a first length portion (see, e.g., 14′ in FIG. 11A) and a

second length portion (see, e.g., 14″ in FIG. 11A); thereafter, the primary container $12_1'$ and the first length portion of the primary tray $14_1'$ define a first nested storage assembly (not shown) of the system 10′ and the secondary container $12_2'$ and the first length portion of the secondary tray $14_2'$ define a second nested storage assembly (not shown) of the system 10′.

[0096] In some implementations, as seen in FIG. 15, the packaging assembly 100′ may be directed to a food packaging assembly whereby each of the primary container $12_1'$ and the secondary container $12_2'$ are cylindrically-shaped food containers that store foodstuff F while, as seen more clearly in FIG. 14, each of the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ function as packaging portions; in such an implementation, each of the first and second serving assemblies may be directed to first and second food serving assemblies whereby each of the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ provide a secondary function as a food tray portion. Thereafter, the second length portion (see, e.g., 14″ in FIG. 11A) of each of the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ is separated from the first length portion (see, e.g., 14′ in FIG. 11A) of each of the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ in order to permit the first length portion of each of the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ to be respectively stored within the primary container $12_1'$ and the secondary container $12_2'$ for respectively defining the first storage assembly and the second storage assembly, which may be respectively referred to as a first nested foodstuff tray storage assembly and a second nested foodstuff tray storage assembly. Although some implementations of the primary container $12_1'$ and the secondary container $12_2'$ may be directed to a 'cylindrically'-shaped food container, each of the primary container $12_1'$ and the secondary container $12_2'$ may be defined to include any desirable geometry and is not limited to a cylindrical shape.

[0097] As seen in FIGS. 14-15, at least of the outer surfaces $30_{BO}'$, $30_{PO}'$, $30_{DO}'$, $30_{L1O}'$, $30_{L2O}'$ of the plurality of panels 30′ that respectively form the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ may include one or more of a logo and indicia 42′. In an example, at least one outer surface (see, e.g., the outer surface $30_{L2O}'$) of the primary tray $14_1'$ includes a first logo and/or indicia portion 42a′ and at least one outer surface (see, e.g., the outer surface $30_{L1O}'$) of the secondary tray $14_2'$ includes a second logo and/or indicia portion 42b′; as seen in FIG. 14, when the primary tray $14_1'$ and the secondary tray $14_2'$ are horizontally disposed adjacent one another (i.e., in a side-by-side relationship) for arrangement as components of the packaging assembly 100′, the

outer surface $30_{L2O}'$ of the primary tray $14_1'$ including the first logo and/or indicia portion 42a′ cooperates with outer surface $30_{L1O}'$ of the secondary tray $14_2'$ including the second logo and/or indicia portion 42b′ in order to form the logo or indicia 42′.

[0098] Referring to FIG. 16, a system is shown generally at 10″. The system 10″ includes a primary container $12_1''$, a secondary container $12_2''$, a tertiary container $12_3''$, a primary tray $14_1''$, a secondary tray $14_2''$, a tertiary tray $14_3''$ and an enclosure 16″. As seen in FIGS. 16 and 17, the primary container $12_1''$, the secondary container $12_2''$, the tertiary container $12_2''$, the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$, the tertiary container $12_3''$ and the enclosure 16″ define a packaging assembly 100″. In a substantially similar manner as described above at FIGS. 1-13I, the primary container $12_1''$ and the primary tray $14_1''$ define a first serving assembly (not shown) of the system 10″, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the secondary tray $14_2''$ define a second serving assembly (not shown) of the system 10″ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ define a third serving assembly (not shown) of the system 10″. Furthermore, in a substantially similar manner as described above at FIGS. 1-13I, each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ are separable to define a first length portion (see, e.g., 14′ in FIG. 11A) and a second length portion (see, e.g., 14″ in FIG. 11A); thereafter, the primary container $12_1''$, the first length portion of the primary tray $14_1''$ define a first nested storage assembly (not shown) of the system 10″, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the first length portion of the secondary tray $14_2''$ define a second nested storage assembly (not shown) of the system 10″ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ and the first length portion of the tertiary tray $14_3''$ define a third nested storage assembly (not shown) of the system 10″.

[0099] In some implementations, as seen in FIG. 17, the packaging assembly 100″ may be directed to a food packaging assembly whereby each of the primary container $12_1''$, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ are cylindrically-shaped food containers that store foodstuff F while, as seen more clearly in FIG. 16, each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ function as packaging portions; in such an implementation, each of the first, second and third serving assemblies may be directed to first, second and third food serving assemblies whereby each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ provide a secondary function as a food tray portion. Thereafter, the second length portion (see, e.g., 14″ in FIG. 11A) of each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ is separated from the first length portion

(see, e.g., 14′ in FIG. 11A) of each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ in order to permit the first length portion of each of the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ to be respectively stored within the primary container $12_1''$, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ for respectively defining the first storage assembly, the second storage assembly and the third storage assembly, which may be respectively referred to as a first nested foodstuff tray storage assembly, a second nested foodstuff tray storage assembly and a third nested foodstuff tray storage assembly. Although some implementations of the primary container $12_1''$, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ may be directed to a 'cylindrically'-shaped food container, each of the primary container $12_1''$, the secondary container $12_2''$ and the tertiary container $12_3''$ may be defined to include any desirable geometry and is not limited to a cylindrical shape.

[00100] As seen in FIGS. 16-17, at least of the outer surfaces $30_{BO}''$, $30_{PO}''$, $30_{DO}''$, $30_{L1O}''$, $30_{L2O}''$ of the plurality of panels 30″ that respectively form the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ may include one or more of a logo and indicia 42″. In an example, at least one outer surface (see, e.g., the outer surface $30_{L2O}''$) of the primary tray $14_1''$ includes a first logo and/or indicia portion 42a″, at least one outer surface (see, e.g., the outer surface $30_{L2O}''$) of the secondary tray $14_2''$ includes a second logo and/or indicia portion 42b″ and at least one outer surface (see, e.g., the outer surface $30_{L2O}''$) of the tertiary tray $14_3''$ includes a third logo and/or indicia portion 42c″; as seen in FIG. 16, when the primary tray $14_1''$, the secondary tray $14_2''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$ are arranged in vertically stacked orientation (such that the secondary tray $14_2''$ is arranged between the primary tray $14_1''$ and the tertiary tray $14_3''$), as components of the packaging assembly 100″, the outer surface $30_{L2O}''$ of the primary tray $14_1''$, including the first logo and/or indicia portion 42a″ cooperates with outer surface $30_{L2O}''$ of the secondary tray $14_2''$ including the second logo and/or indicia portion 42b″ and the outer surface $30_{L2O}''$ of the tertiary tray $14_3''$ including the third logo and/or indicia portion 42c″ in order to form the logo or indicia 42″.

[00101] A number of implementations have been described. Nevertheless, it will be understood that various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the disclosure. Accordingly, other implementations are within the

scope of the following claims. For example, the actions recited in the claims can be performed in a different order and still achieve desirable results.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) comprising:

a container (12) having a cylindrical outer sidewall (18) defining a cavity (24) having a first length; and

a tray (14) including at least one panel (30_B, 30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) defining a recess (34), the foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) operable in a first configuration wherein the outer sidewall (18) of the container (12) is received in the recess (34) of the tray (14) and a second configuration wherein the tray (14) is enclosed within the cavity (24) of the container (12).

2. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 1, wherein the tray (14) is operable in a second length greater than the first length of the cavity (24) and a third length less than the first length of the cavity (24).

3. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 2, wherein the tray (14) includes a tear seam (38) formed in the at least one panel (30_B, 30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) and defining a first portion (14′) of the tray (14) having the third length and a second portion (14″) of the tray (14) having a fourth length.

4. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 3, wherein in the first configuration the first portion (14′) of the tray (14) is joined to the second portion (14″) along the tear seam (38) and in the second configuration the first portion (14′) of the tray (14) is separated from the second portion (14″) along the tear seam (38).

5. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 1, wherein the at least one panel (30_B, 30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) includes a base panel (30_B) and a pair of side panels (30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) extending from opposing ends (30_{BL1}, 30_{BL2}, 30_{BDE}. 30_{BPE}) of the base panel (30_B), a distance between the side panels (30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) defining a width of the tray (14) that is less than a diameter of the cavity (24) of the container (12).

6. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 5, wherein the base panel (30_B) includes a planar outer surface (30_{L1O}, 30_{L2O}) and each of the side panels (30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) includes a concave inner surface (30_{L1I}, 30_{L2I}) defining a portion of the recess (34).

7. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 6, wherein the concave inner surface (30_{L1I}, 30_{L2I}) receives the cylindrical outer sidewall (18) of the container (12) when the food packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) is in the first configuration.

8. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 5, wherein the at least one (30_B, 30_{L1}, 30_{L2}, 30_D, 30_P) panel further includes a pair of end panels (30_D, 30_P) extending from opposing ends of the base panel (30_B) and between the pair of side panels (30_{L1}, 30_{L2}).

9. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 8, wherein in the first configuration both of the end panels (30_D, 30_P) are attached to the base panel (30_B) and in the second configuration at least one of the end panels (30_D, 30_P) is separated from the base panel (30_B).

10. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 1, further comprising an enclosure (16) wrapped around the container (12) and the tray (14) when the foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) is in the first configuration.

11. A foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) comprising:

a plurality of foodstuffs (F);

a container (12) having a cylindrical outer sidewall (18) defining an interior cavity (24) having a diameter extending along a first length; and

a tray (14) having a recess (34), the tray (14) operable between a first configuration for receiving the cylindrical outer sidewall (18) of the container (12) within the recess (34) and a second configuration for receiving the foodstuffs and being enclosed within the interior cavity (24) of the container (12).

12. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 11, wherein in the first configuration the tray (14) is defined by a first length portion (14′) and a second length portion (14″) joined to the first length portion (14′) along a tear seam (38).

13. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 12, wherein the tear seam (38) includes a plurality of perforations (36).

14. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 12, wherein in the second configuration the second length portion (14″) is separated from the first length portion (14′) along the tear seam (38).

15. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 14, wherein a second length of the first length portion (14′) is less than the first length of the cavity (24).

16. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 11, wherein the tray (14) includes a base panel (30_B), a first lateral panel (30_{L1}) extending from a first lateral end (30_{L1}) of the base panel (30_B), a second lateral panel (30_{L2}) extending from a second lateral end (30_{L2}) of the base panel (30_B) opposing the first lateral end (30_{BL1}), a first end panel (30_D) extending from a third end (30_{BPE}) of the base panel (30_B) between the first lateral panel (30_{L1}) and the second lateral panel (30_{L2}), and a second end panel (30_P) extending from a fourth end (30_{BDE}) of the base panel (30_B) between the first lateral panel (30_{L1}) and the second lateral panel (30_{L1}).

17. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 16, wherein a distance from an outer surface (30_{L1O}) of the first lateral panel (30_{L1}) to an outer surface (30_{L2O}) of the second lateral panel (30_{L2}) is less than the diameter of the interior cavity (24).

18. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 16, wherein the first lateral panel (30_{L1}) includes a first concave surface (30_{L1I}) and the second lateral panel (30_{L2}) includes a second concave surface (30_{L2I}) opposing the first concave surface (30_{L1I}), the first concave surface (30_{L1I}) and the second concave surface (30_{L2I}) configured to receive the outer sidewall (18) of the container (12).

19. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 16, wherein the first end panel (30_D) is attached to each of the base panel (30_B), the first lateral panel (30_{L1}), and the second lateral panel (30_{L2}) along a first tear seam (38) in the first configuration, and is separated from the tray (14) along the tear seam (38) in the second configuration.

20. The foodstuff packaging system (10, 10′, 10″) of Claim 16, wherein the base panel (30_B) is substantially planar.

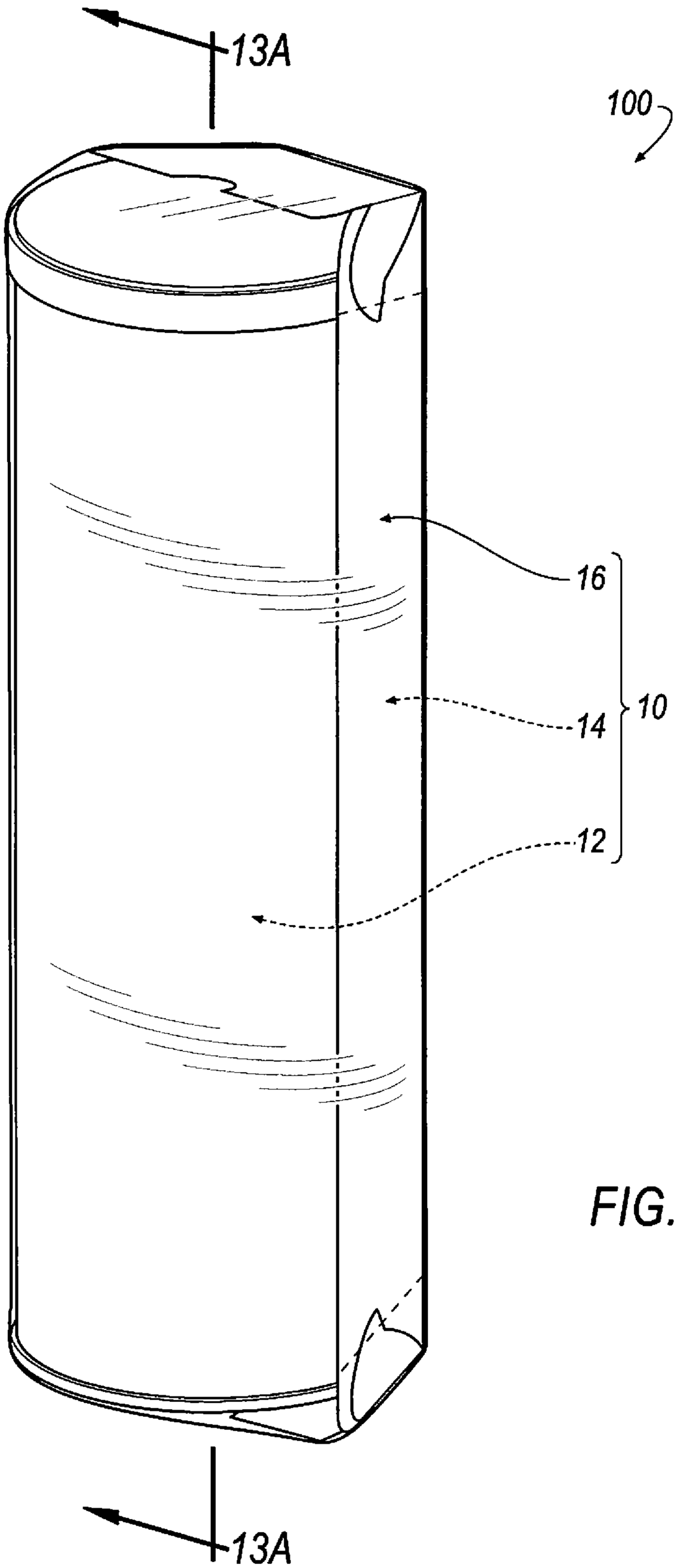


FIG. 1

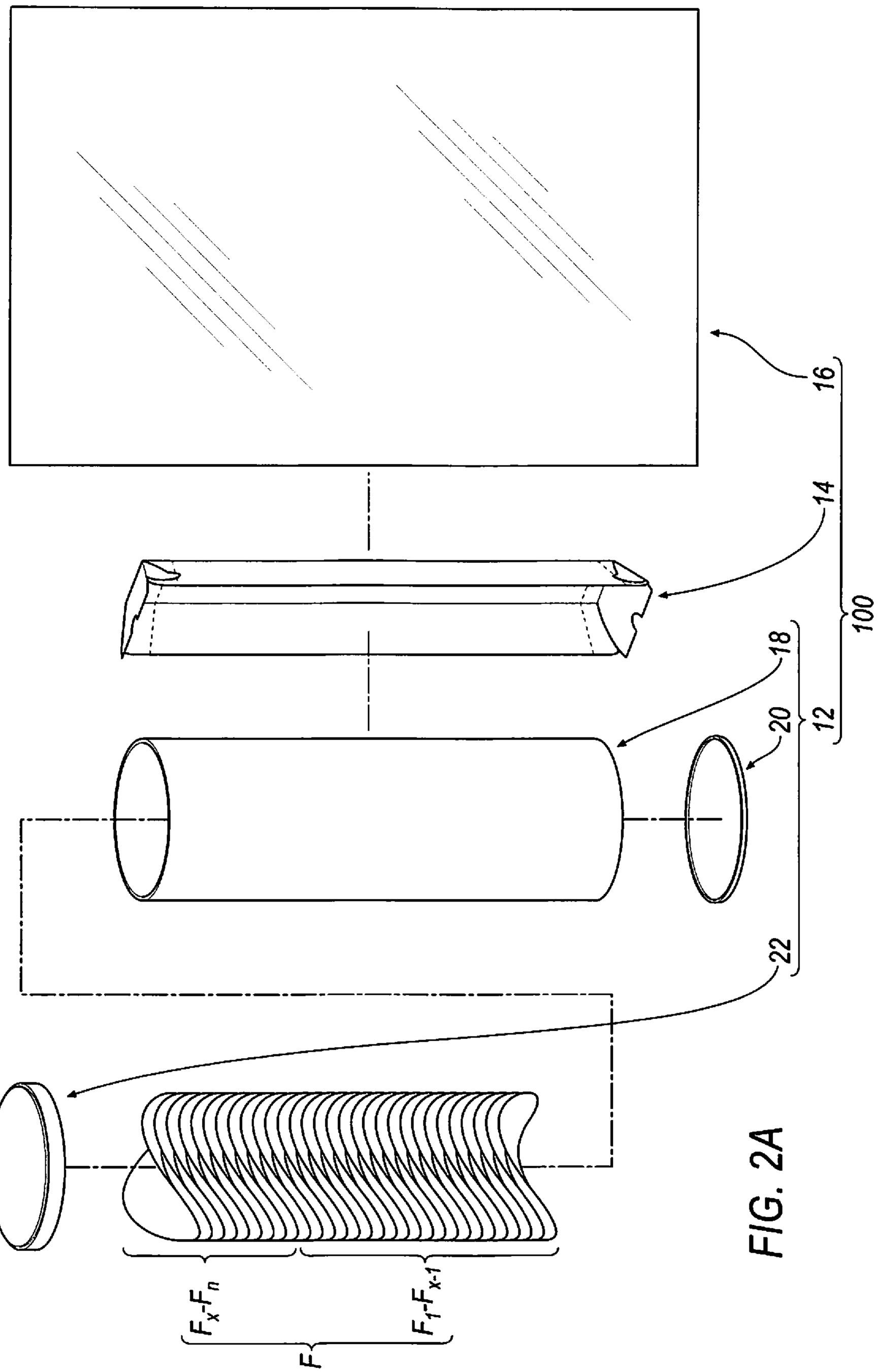


FIG. 2A

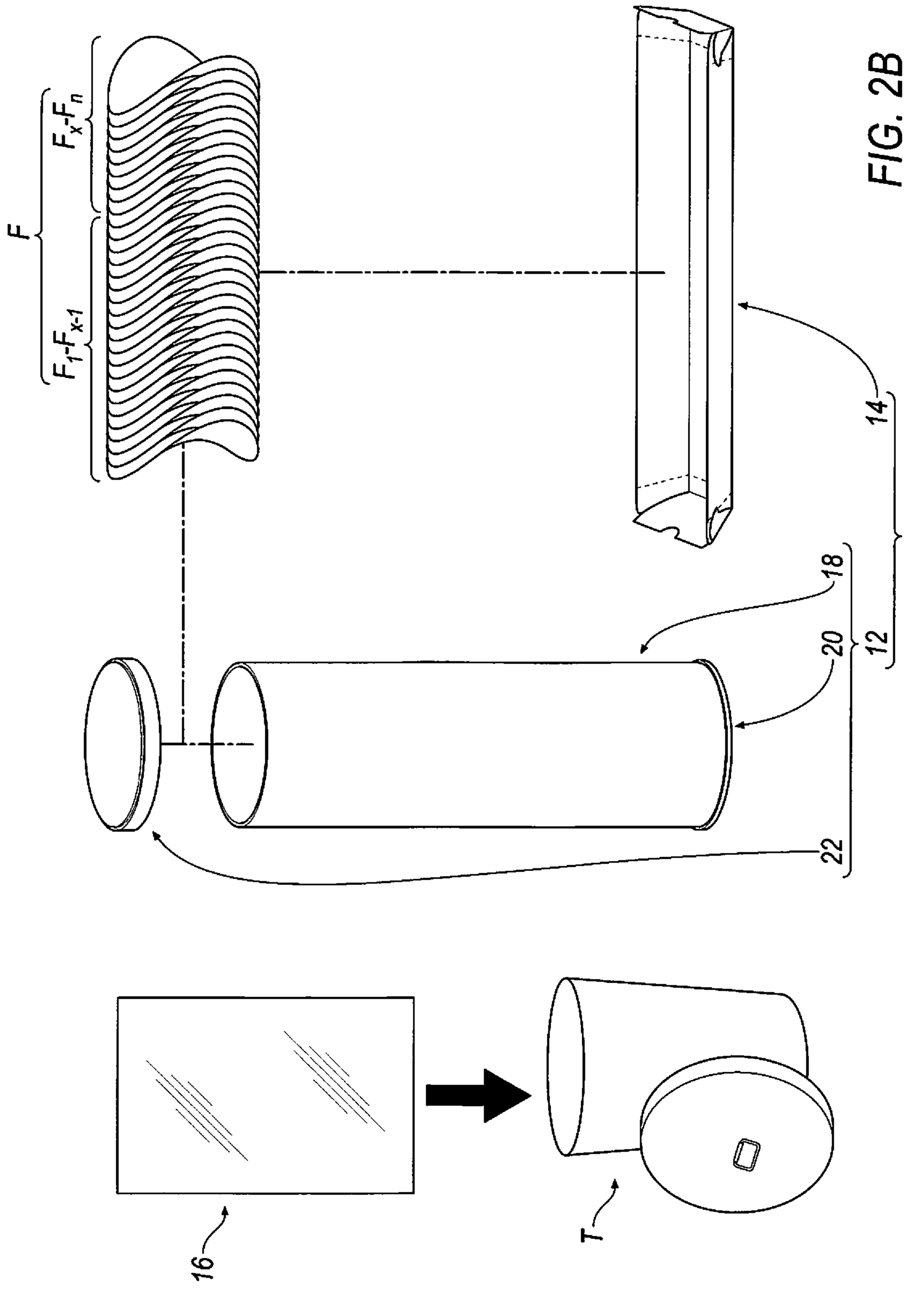
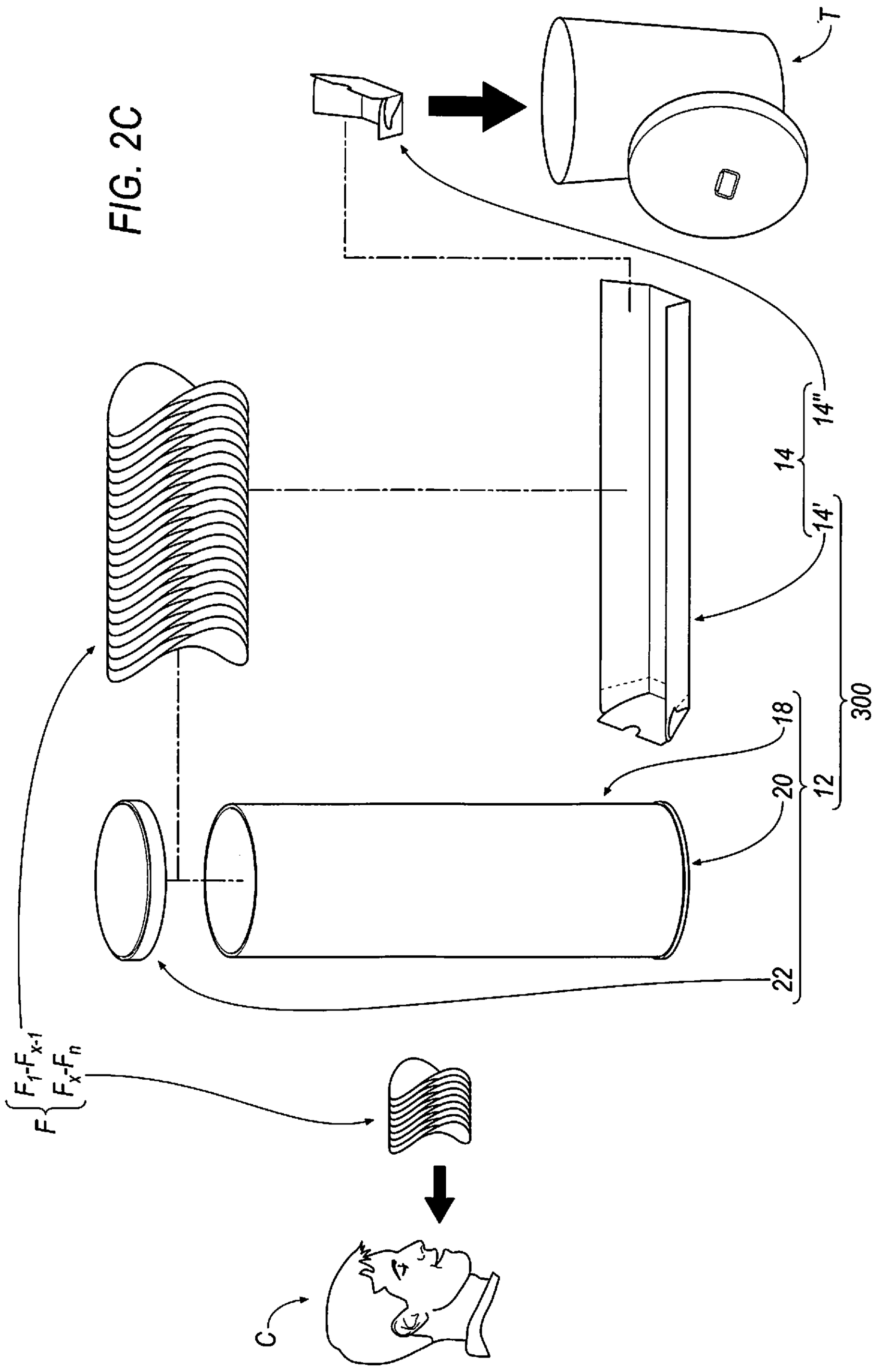


FIG. 2B

FIG. 2C


1
$F\left\{\begin{matrix}F_1\text{-}F_x\text{-}\\F_x\text{-}F_n\end{matrix}\right.$
C
12
14
14'
14"
18
20
22
300

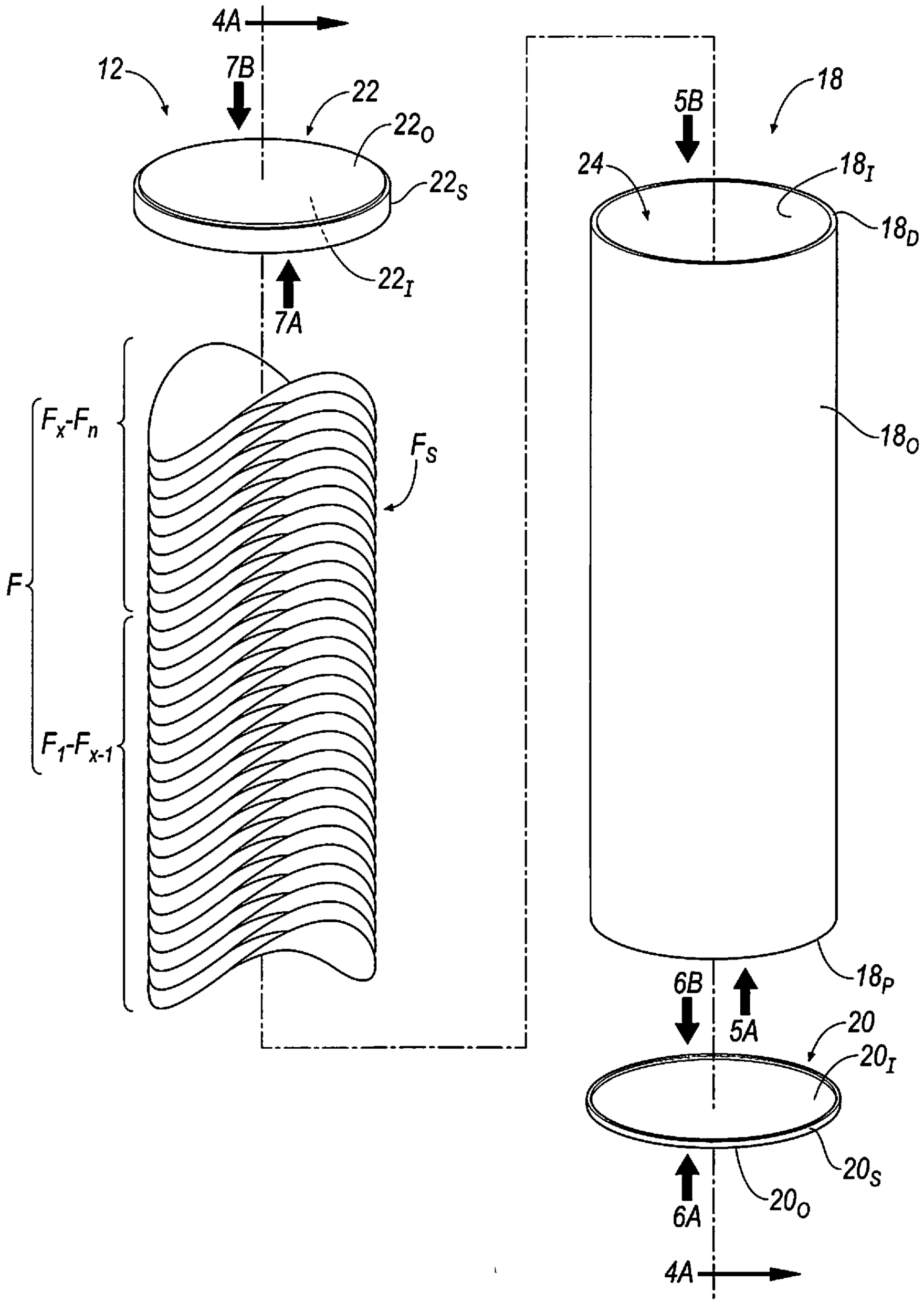

4A
12
7B
22
22_O
22_S
22_I
7A
F_x-F_n
F
F_1-F_{x-1}
F_S
18
5B
24
18_I
18_D
18_O
18_P
6B
5A
20
20_I
20_S
20_O
6A
4A

FIG. 3A

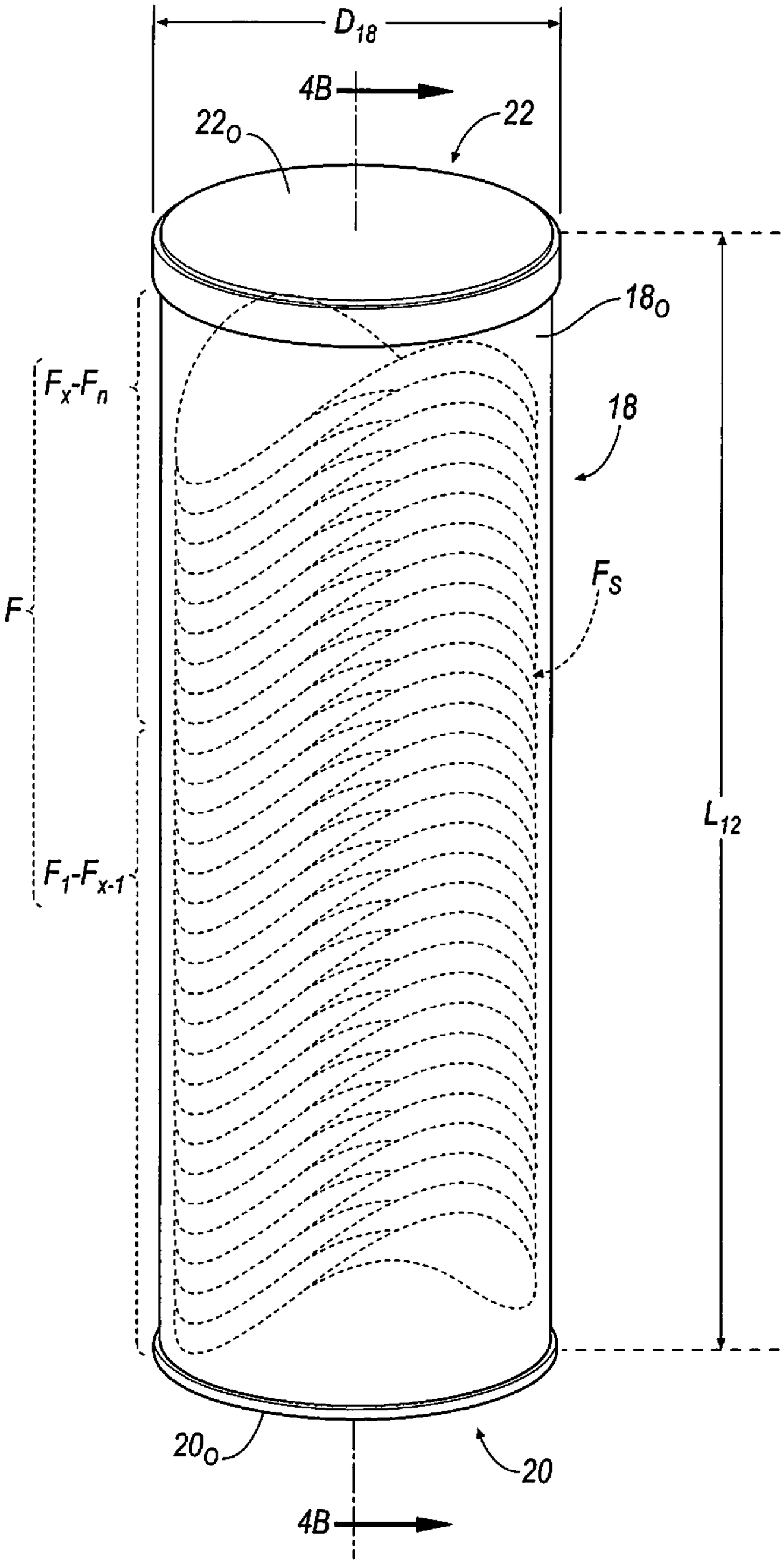


FIG. 3B

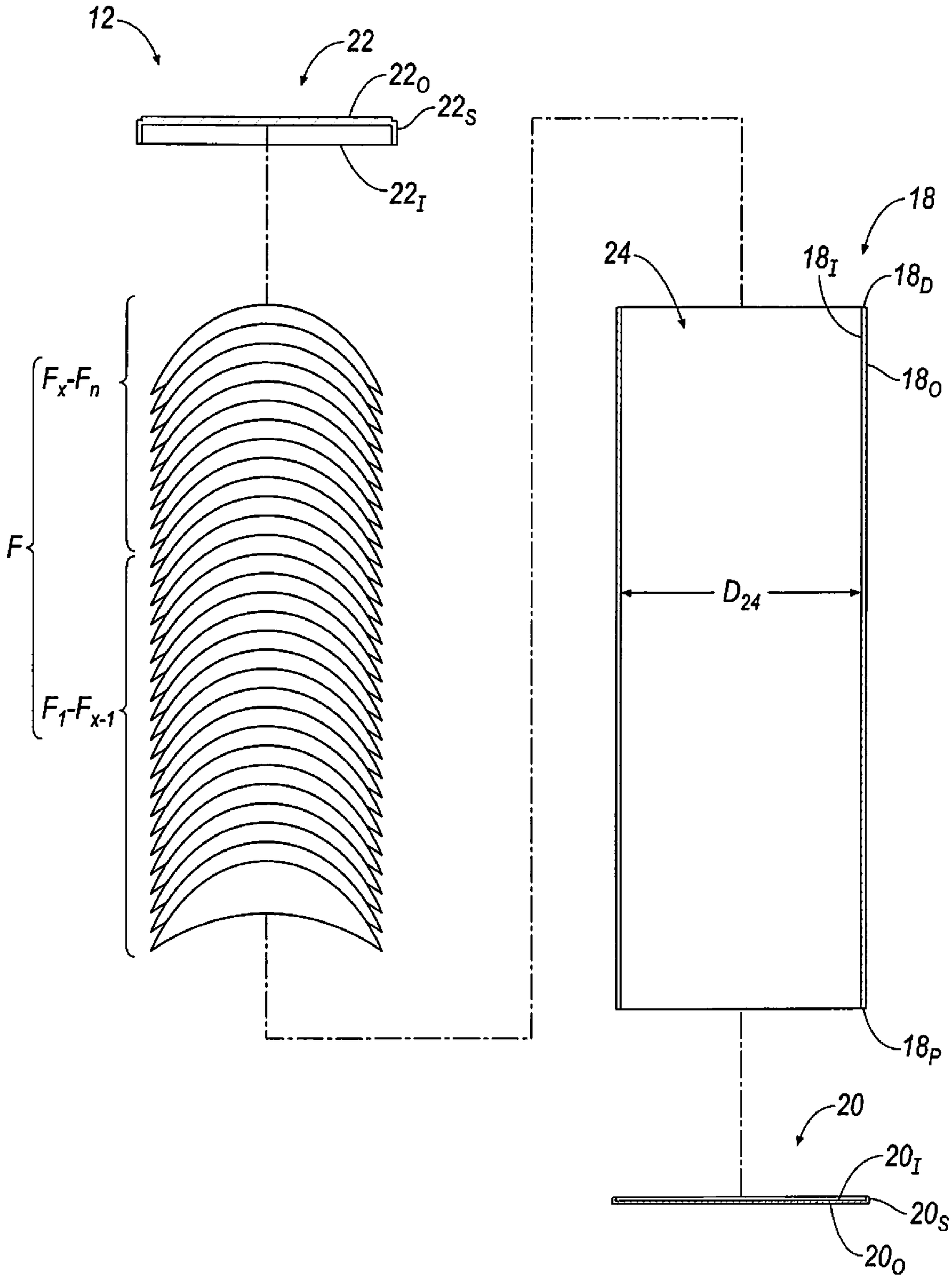

12
22
22_O
22_S
22_I
F_x-F_n
F
F_1-F_{x-1}
18
24
18_I
18_D
18_O
D_{24}
18_P
20
20_I
20_S
20_O

FIG. 4A

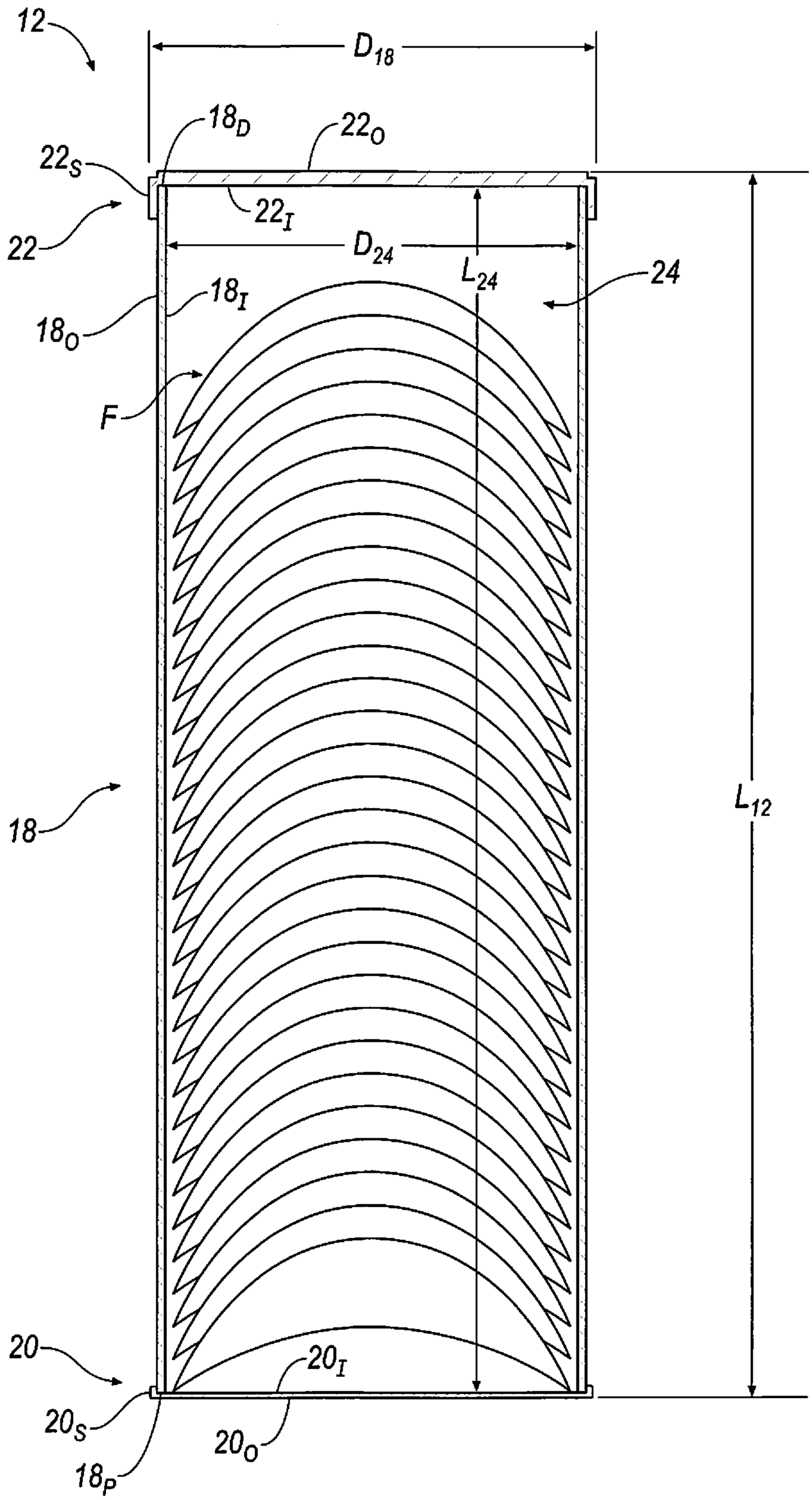

12
D_{18}
18_D
22_O
22_S
22_I
22
D_{24}
L_{24}
24
18_I
18_O
F
18
L_{12}
20
20_I
20_S
20_O
18_P

FIG. 4B

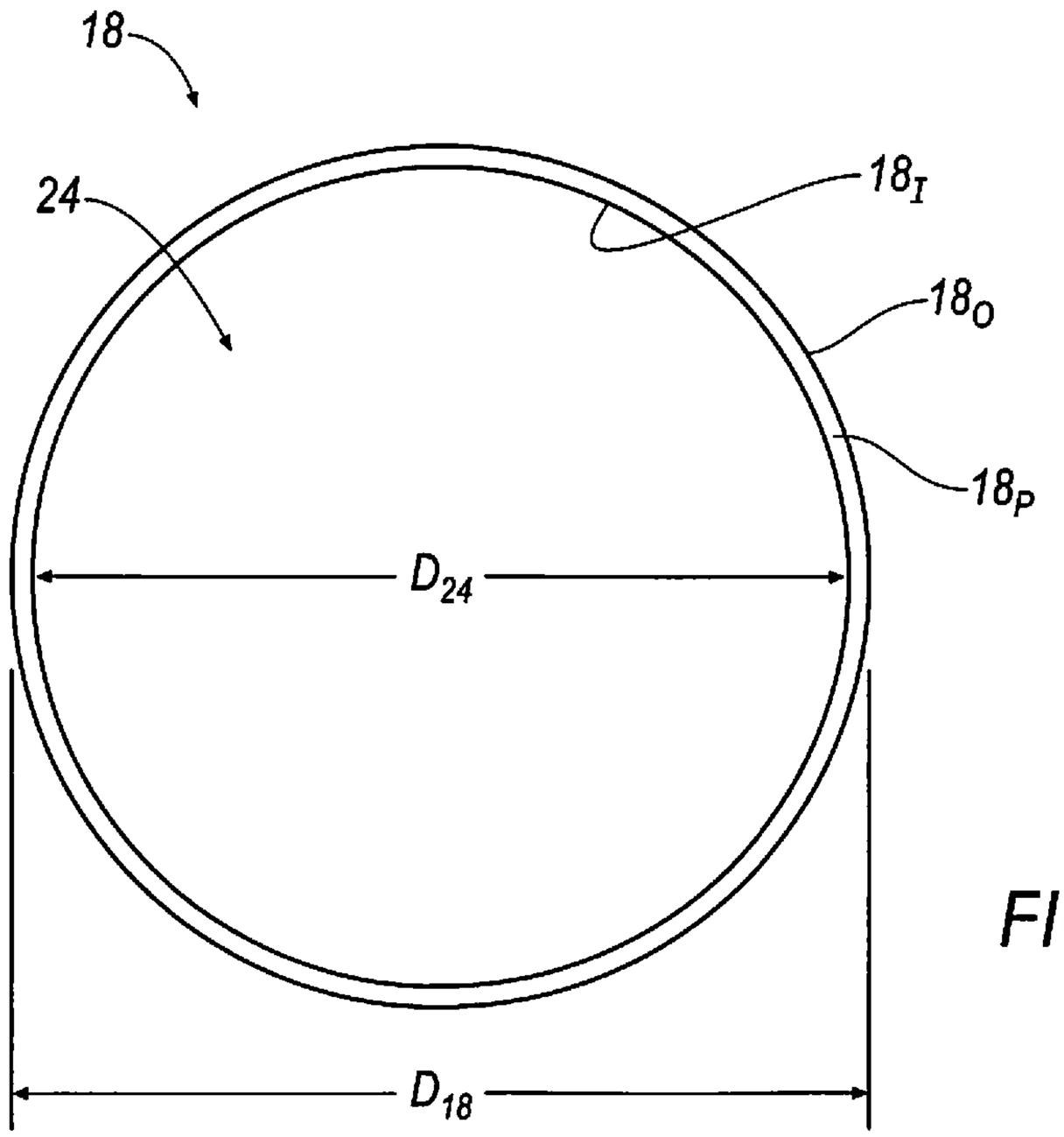


FIG. 5A

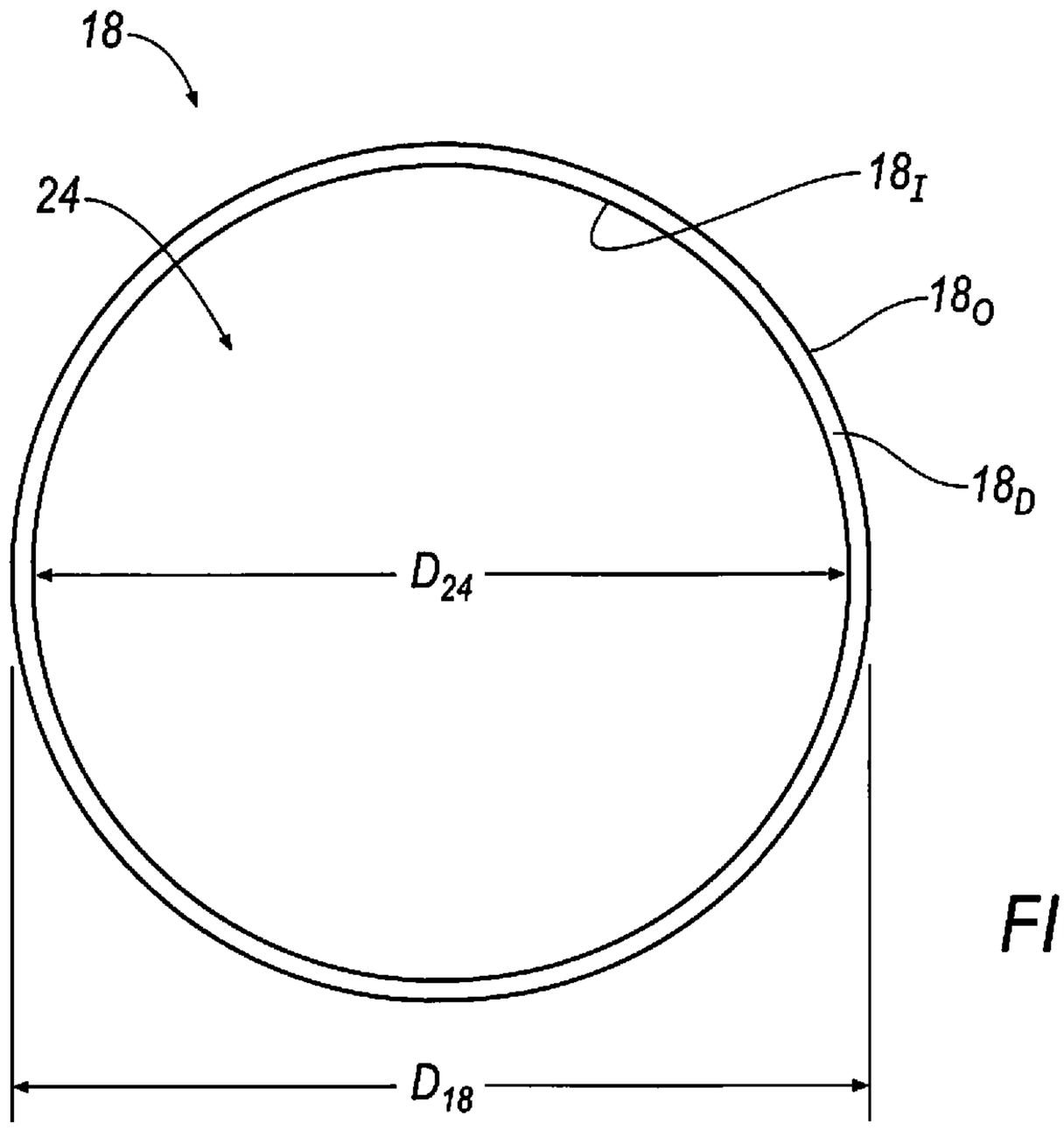


FIG. 5B

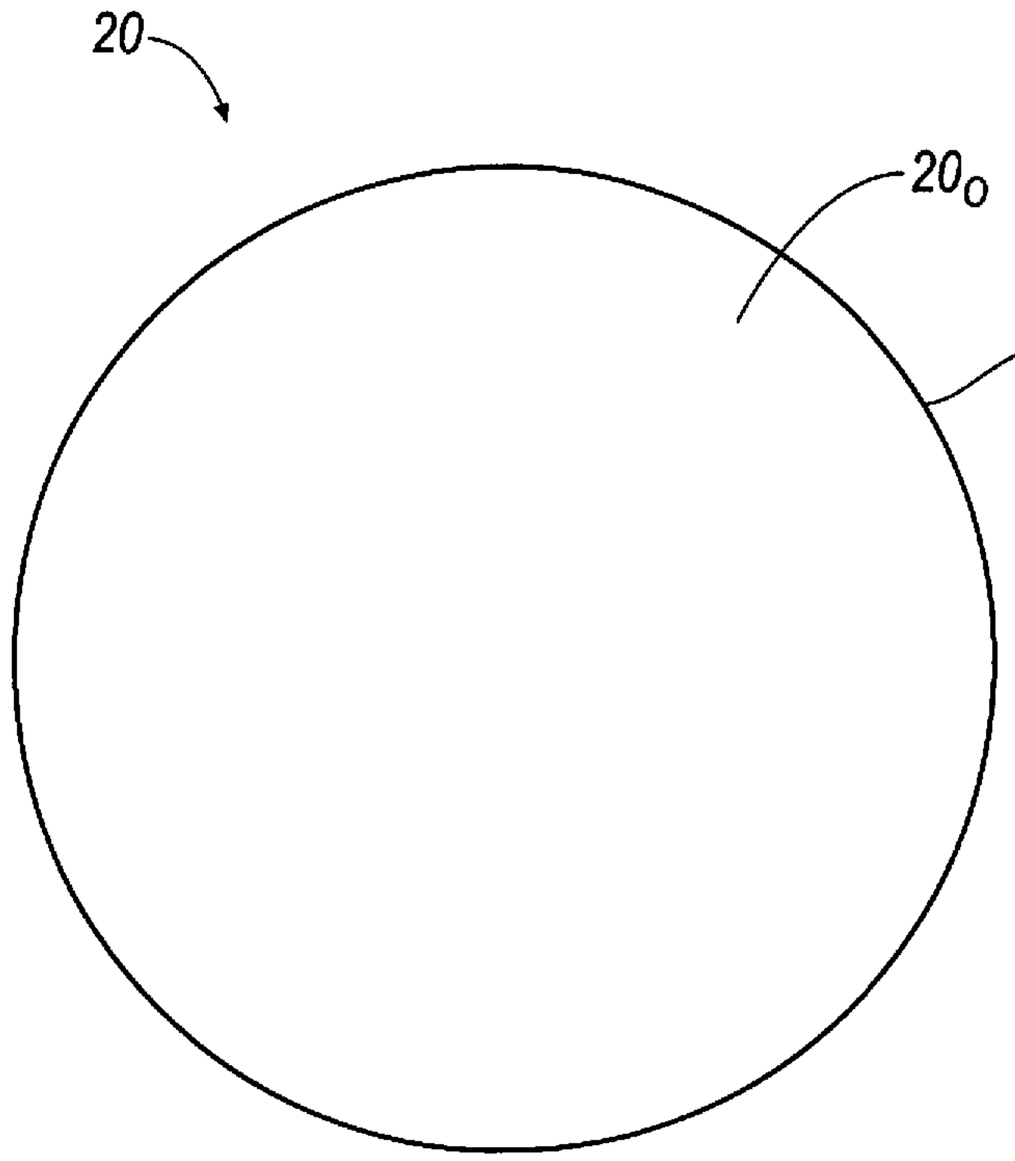


FIG. 6A

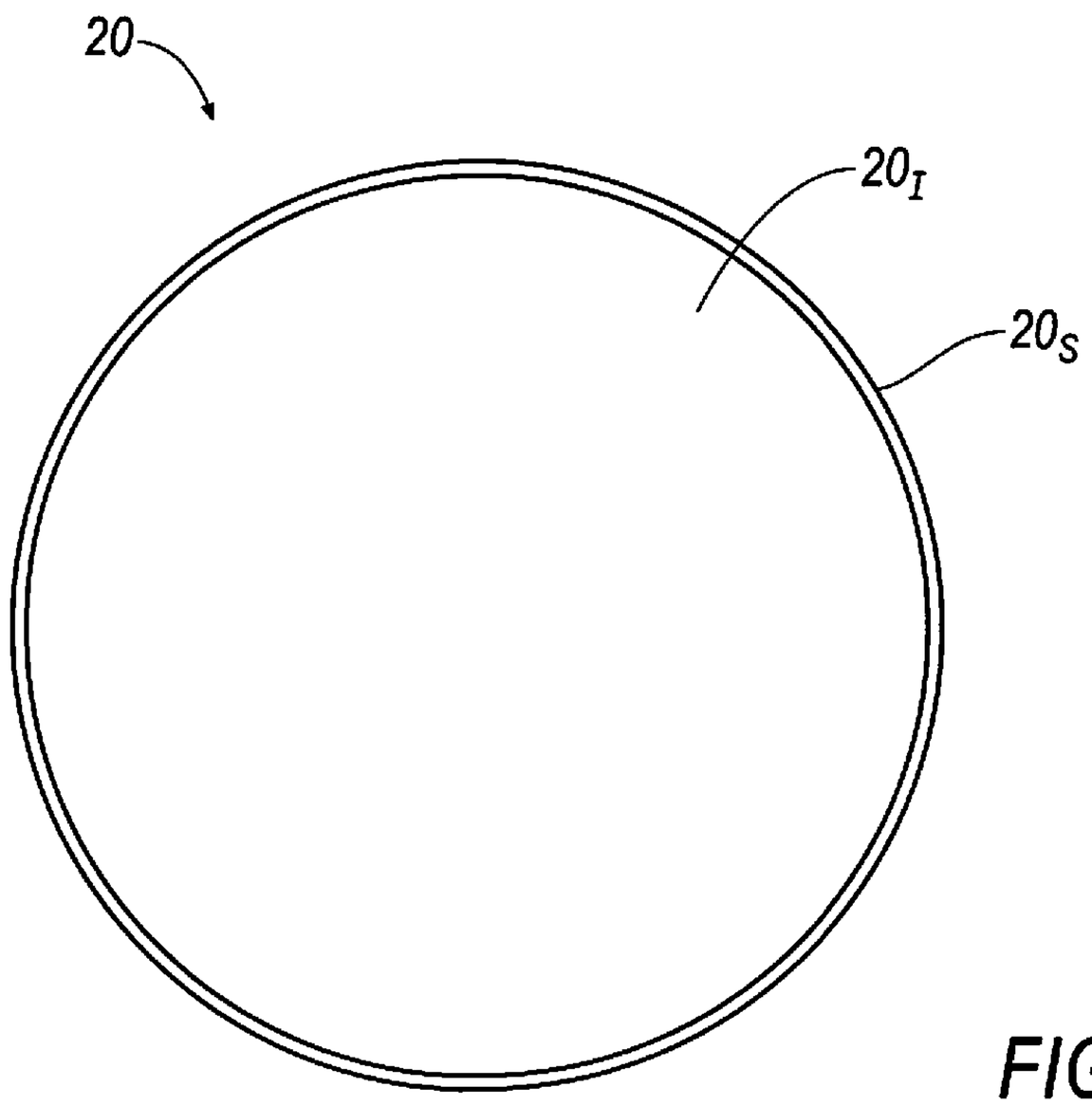


FIG. 6B

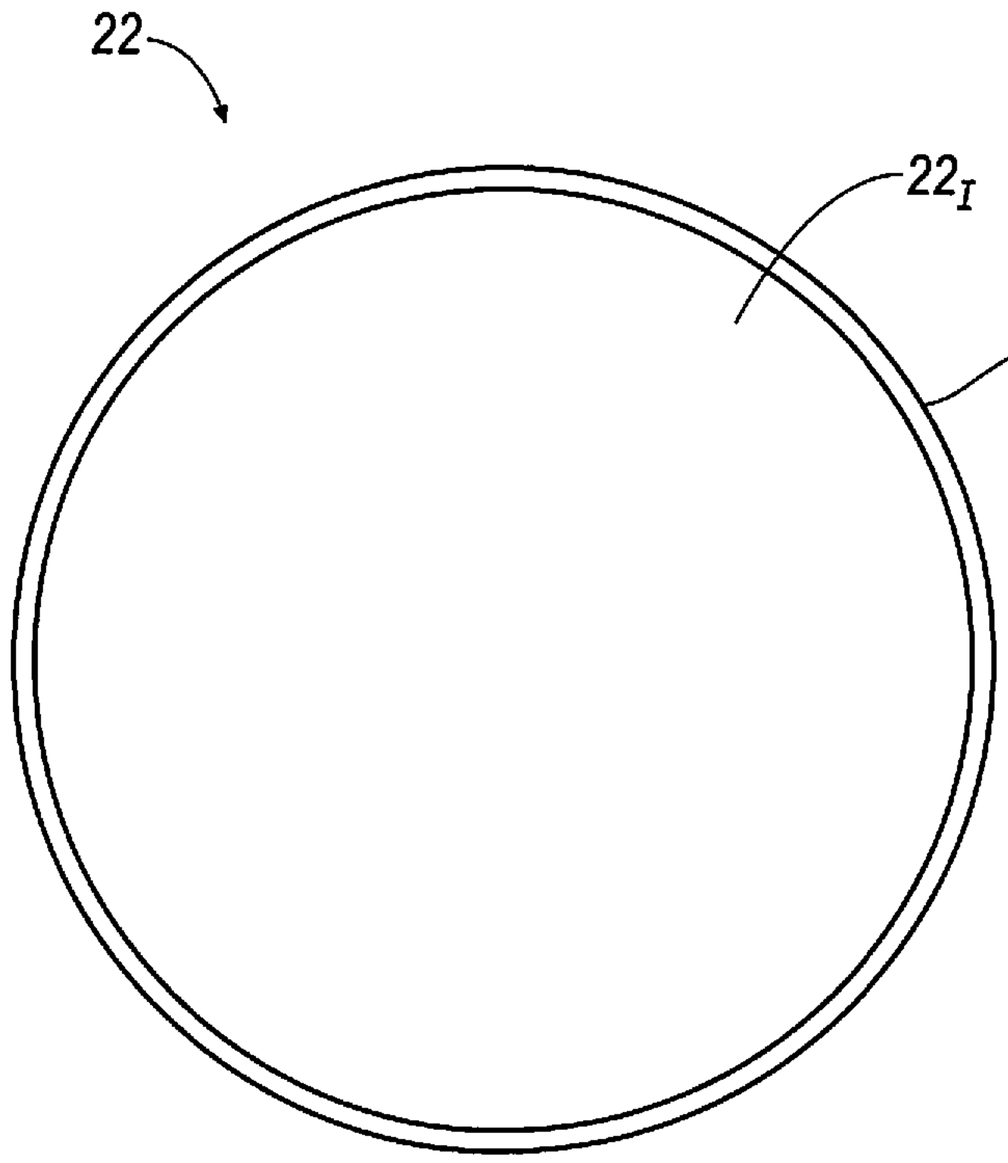


FIG. 7A

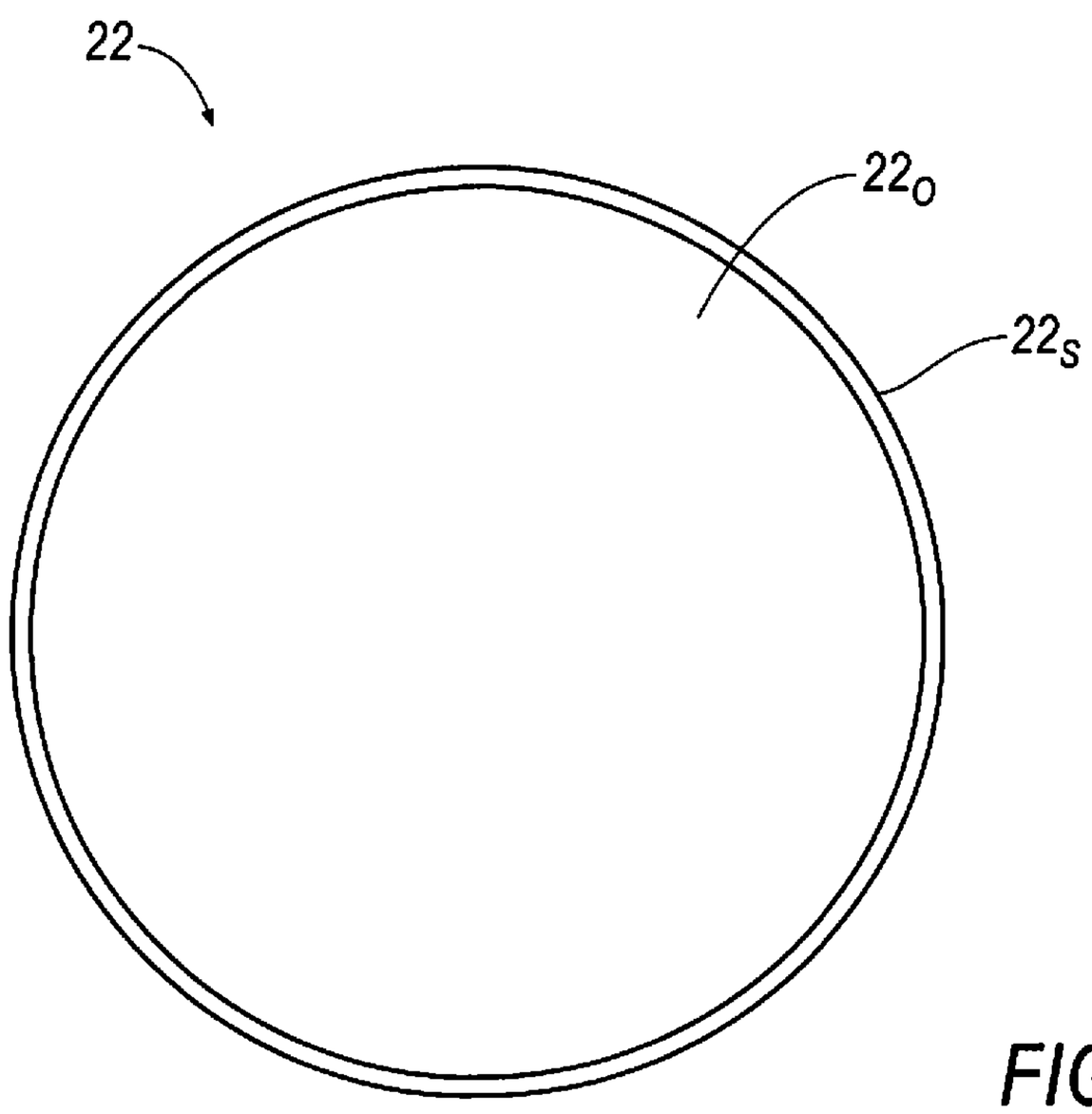


FIG. 7B

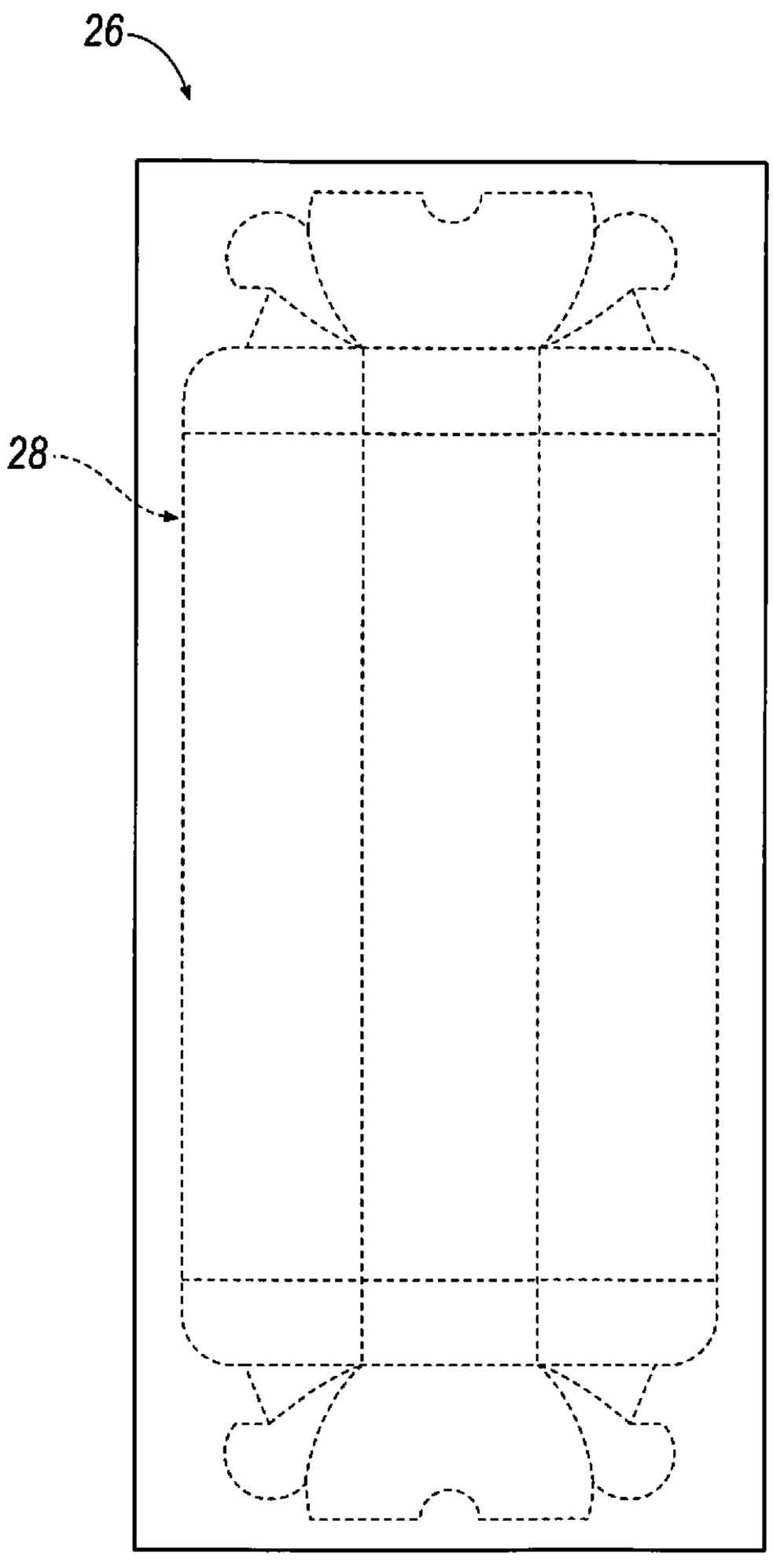


FIG. 8A

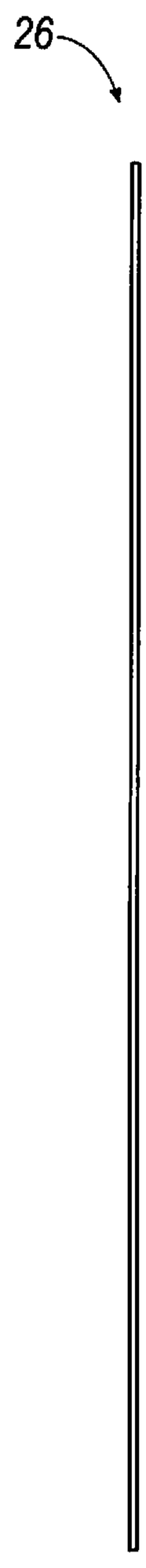


FIG. 8B

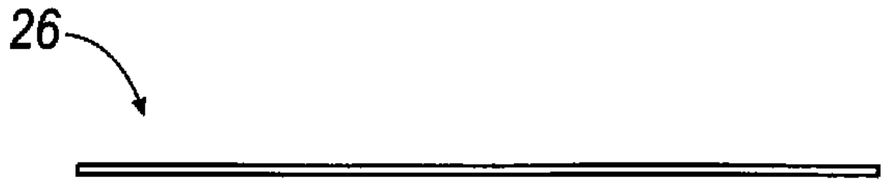


FIG. 8C

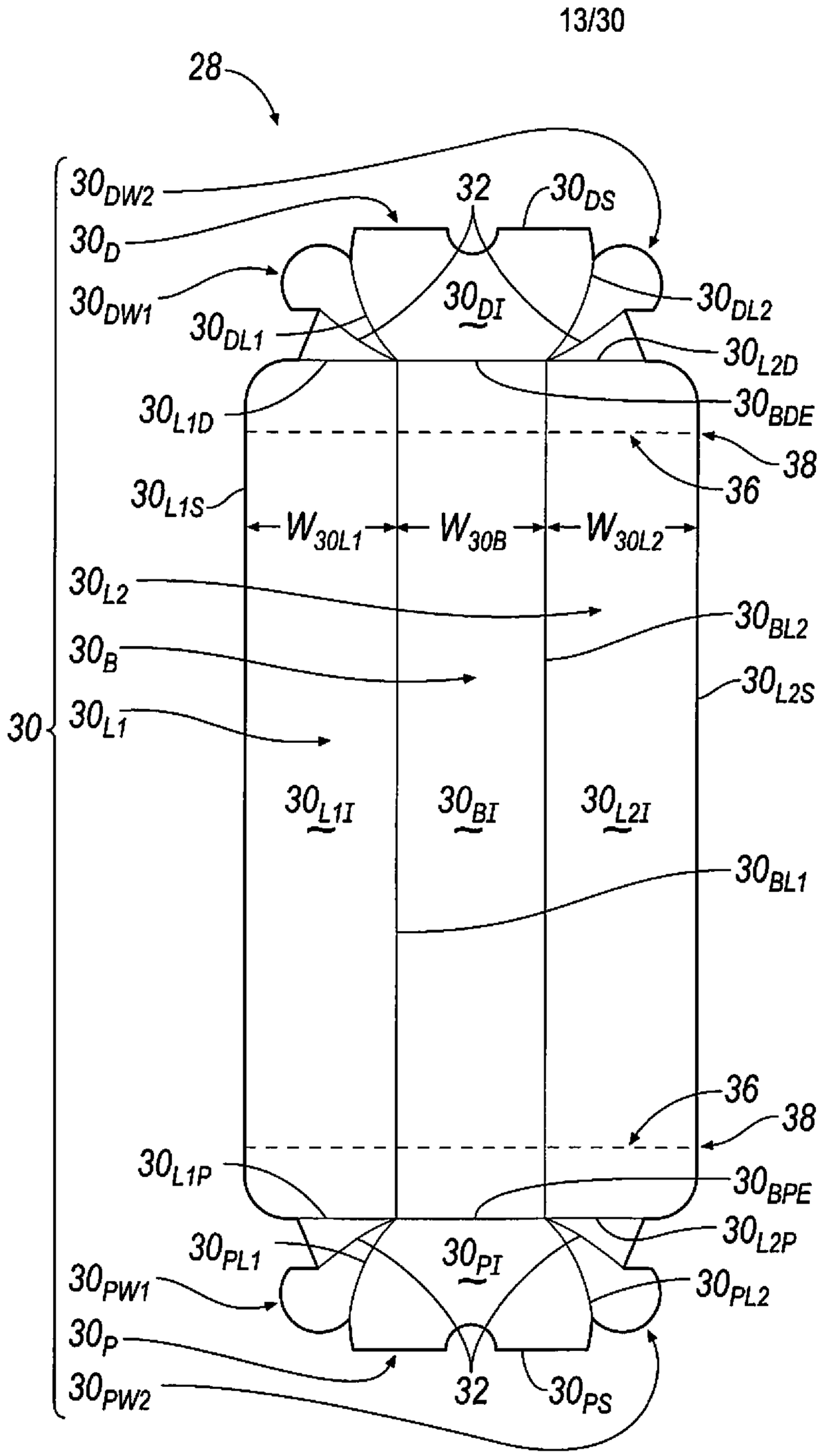


FIG. 9A

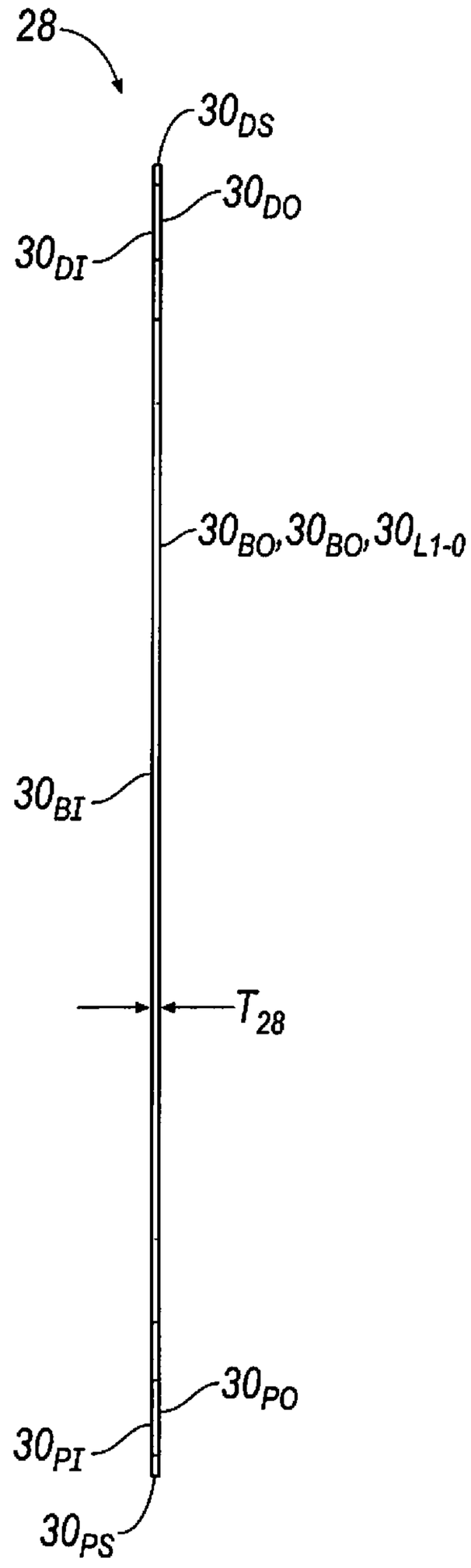


FIG. 9B

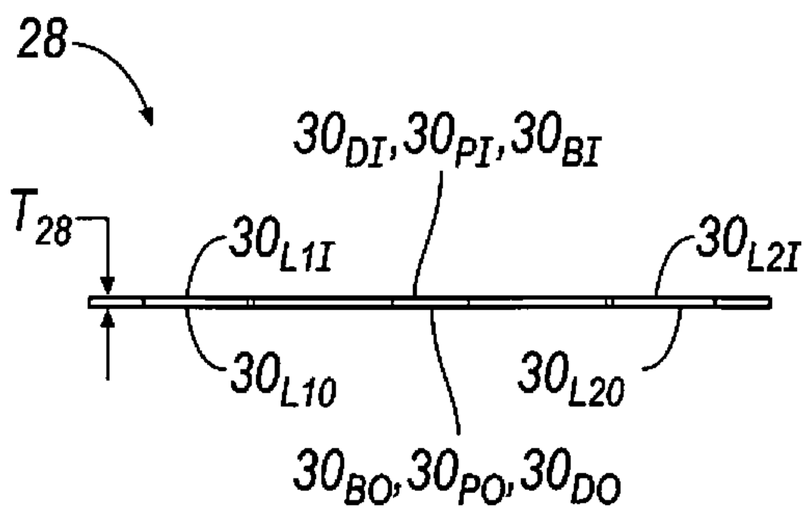


FIG. 9C

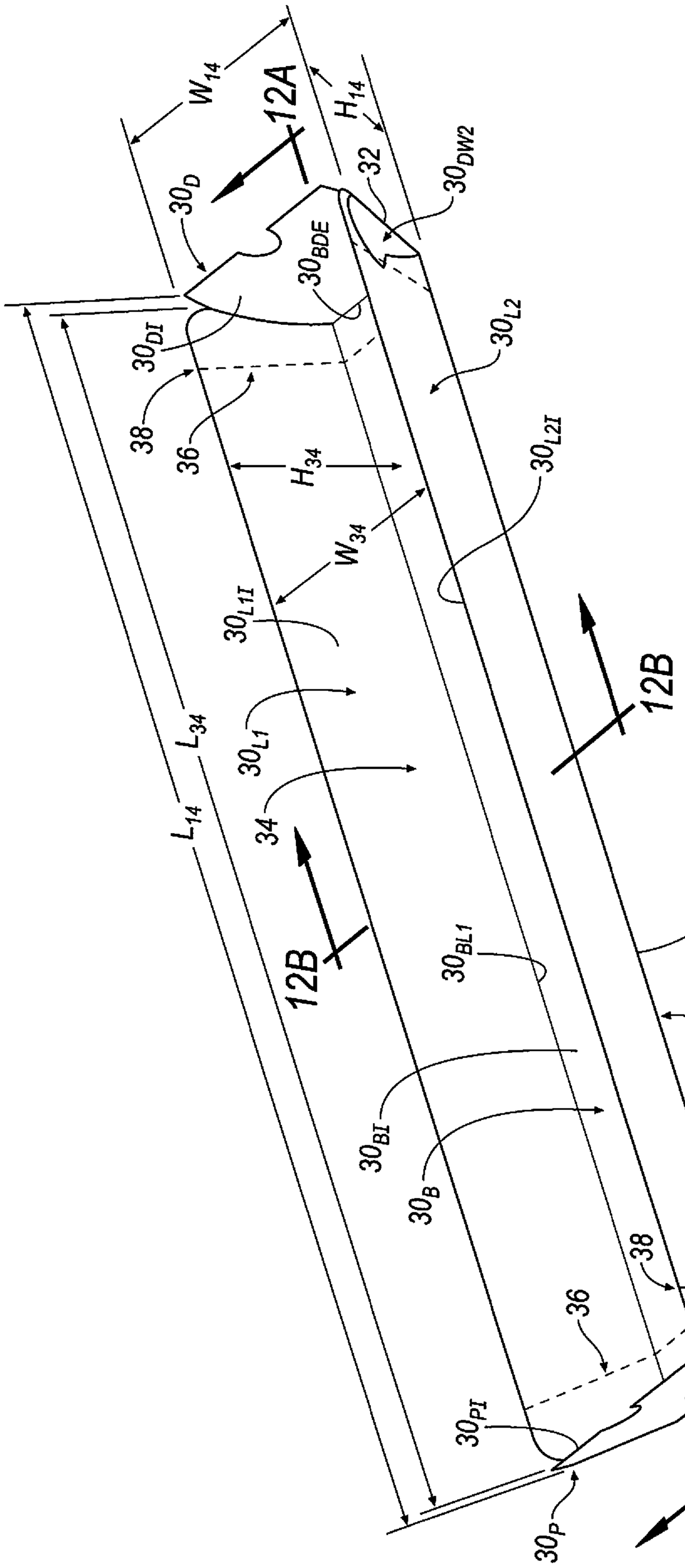

W_{14}
12A
H_{14}
30_D
32
30_{DW2}
30_{BDE}
30_{DI}
30_{L2}
38
36
H_{34}
30_{L2I}
W_{34}
30_{L1I}
L_{34}
30_{L1}
12B
L_{14}
34
12B
30_{BL1}
30_{BL2}
30_{BI}
28
30_B
30_{PW2}
38
36
30_{PI}
32
30_{BPE}
30_P
12A

FIG. 10

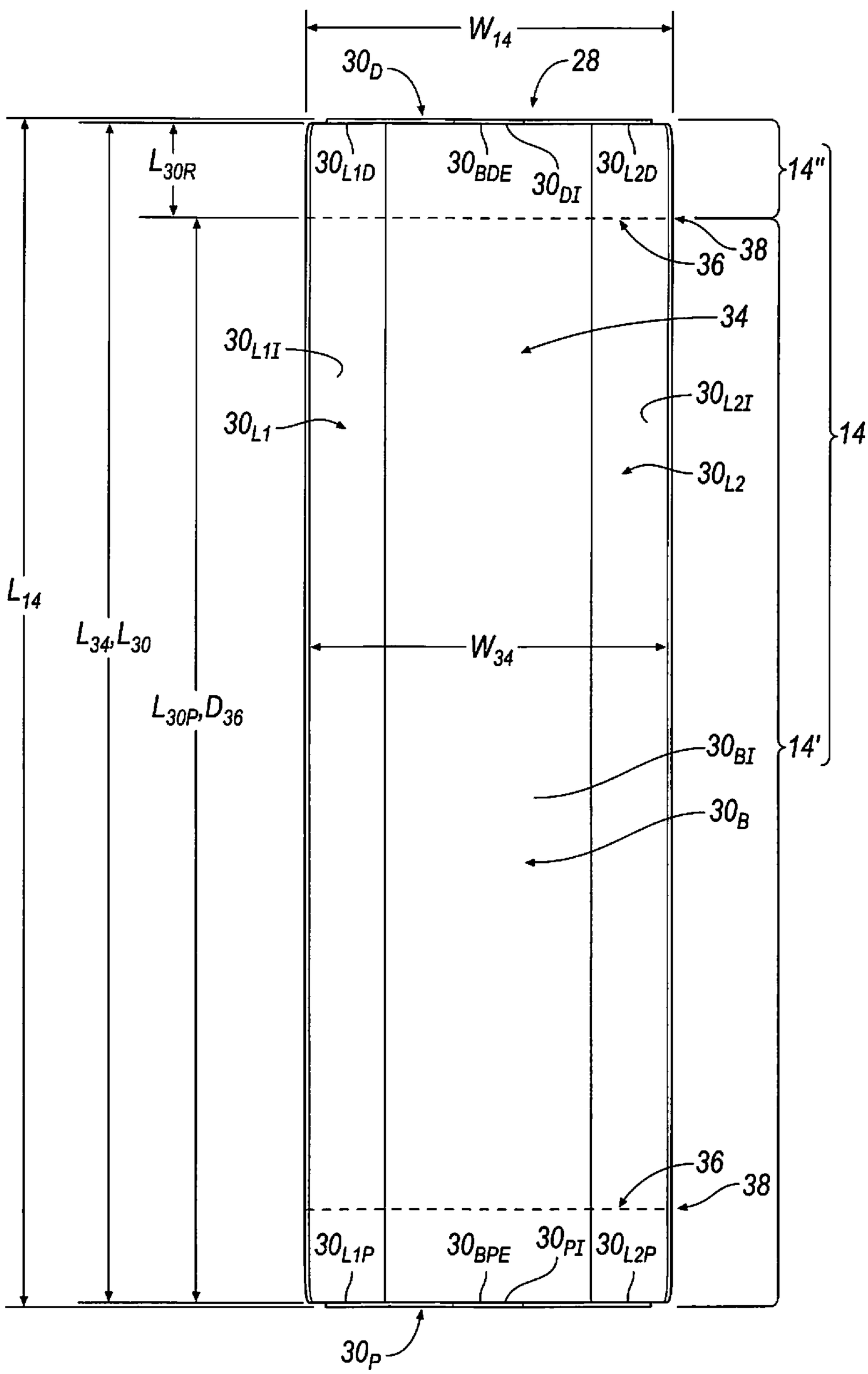

W_{14}
30_D
28
L_{30R}
30_{L1D}
30_{BDE}
30_{DI}
30_{L2D}
14"
38
36
34
30_{L1I}
30_{L2I}
30_{L1}
14
30_{L2}
L_{14}
L_{34}, L_{30}
W_{34}
L_{30P}, D_{36}
30_{BI}
14'
30_B
36
38
30_{L1P}
30_{BPE}
30_{PI}
30_{L2P}
30_P

FIG. 11A

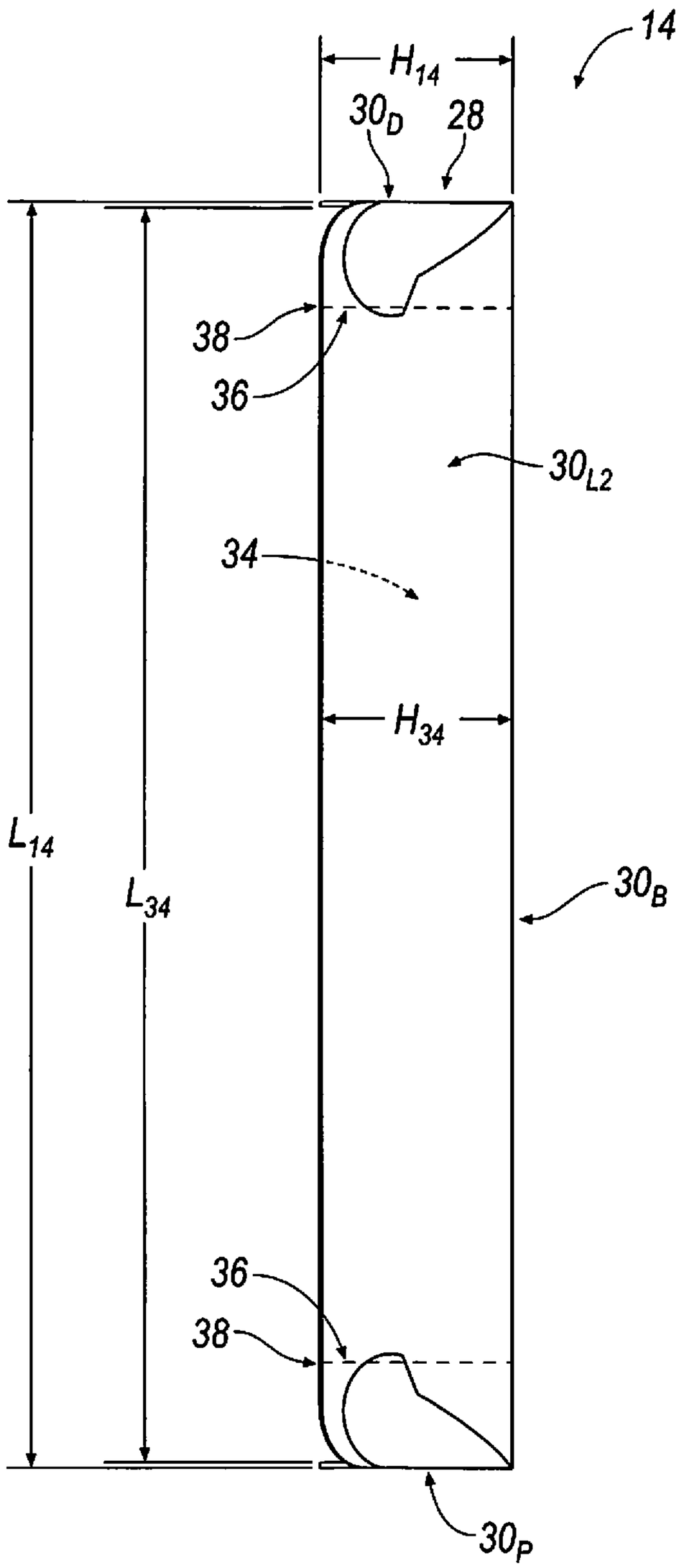


FIG. 11B

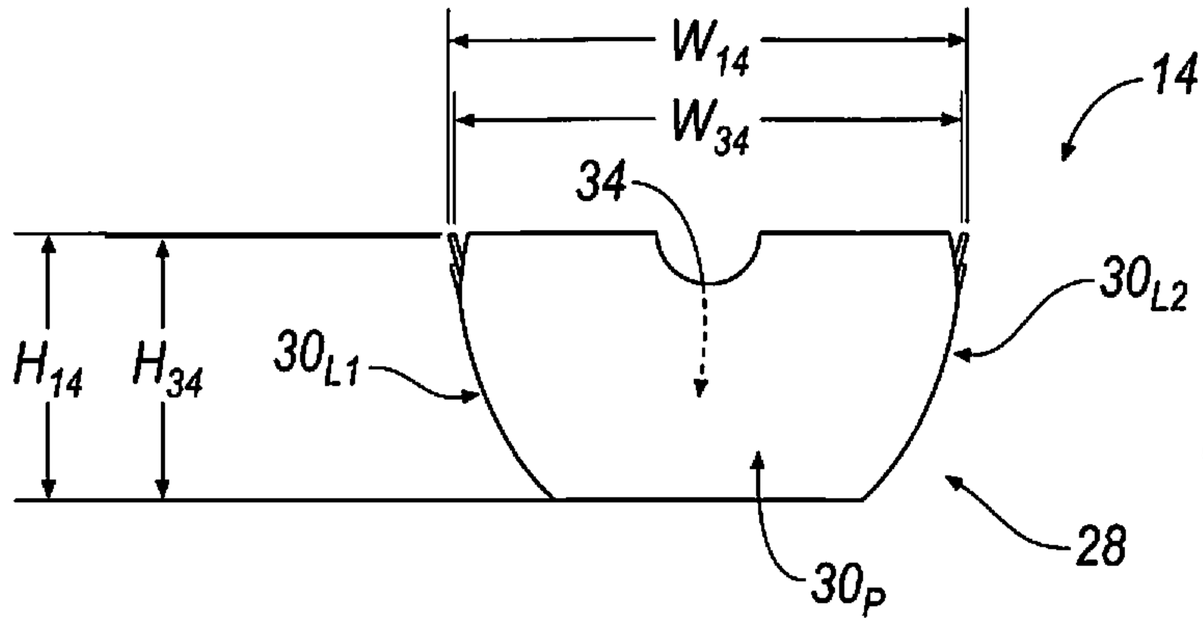


FIG. 11C

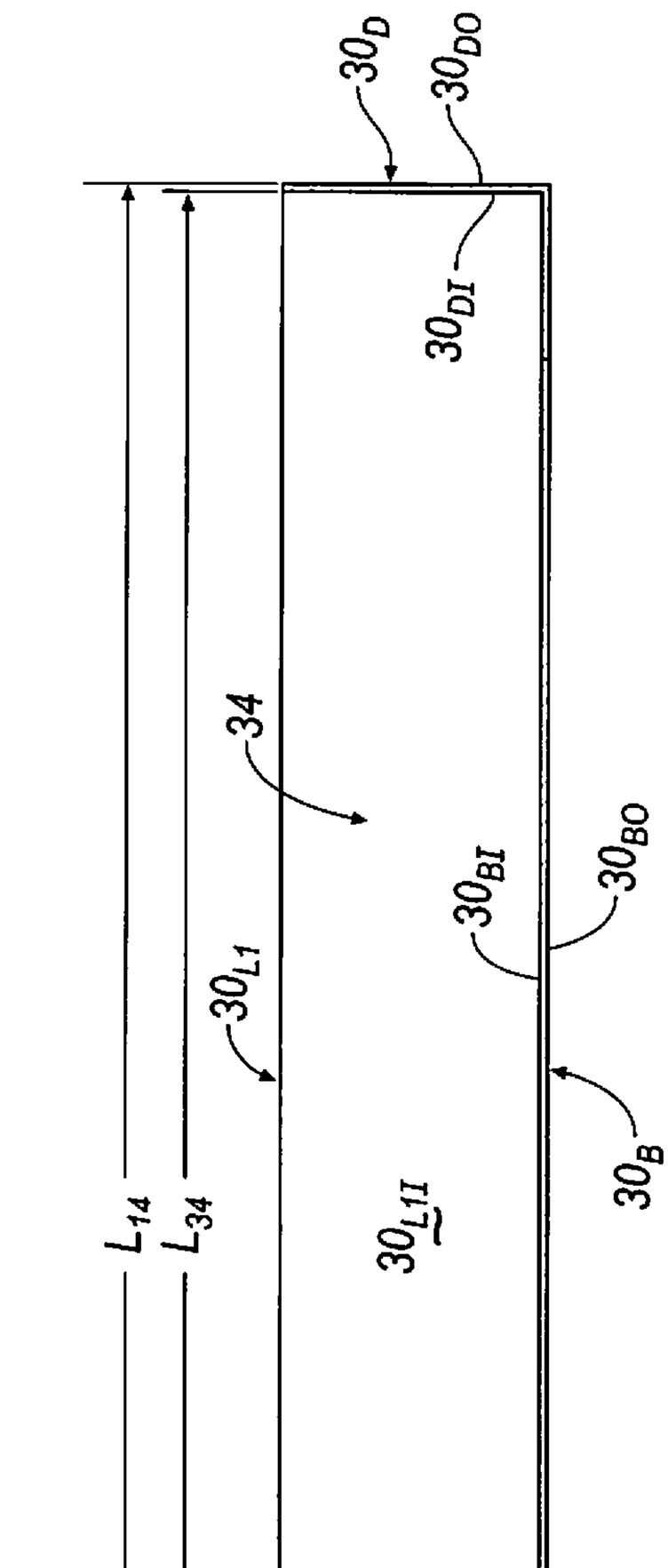


FIG. 12A

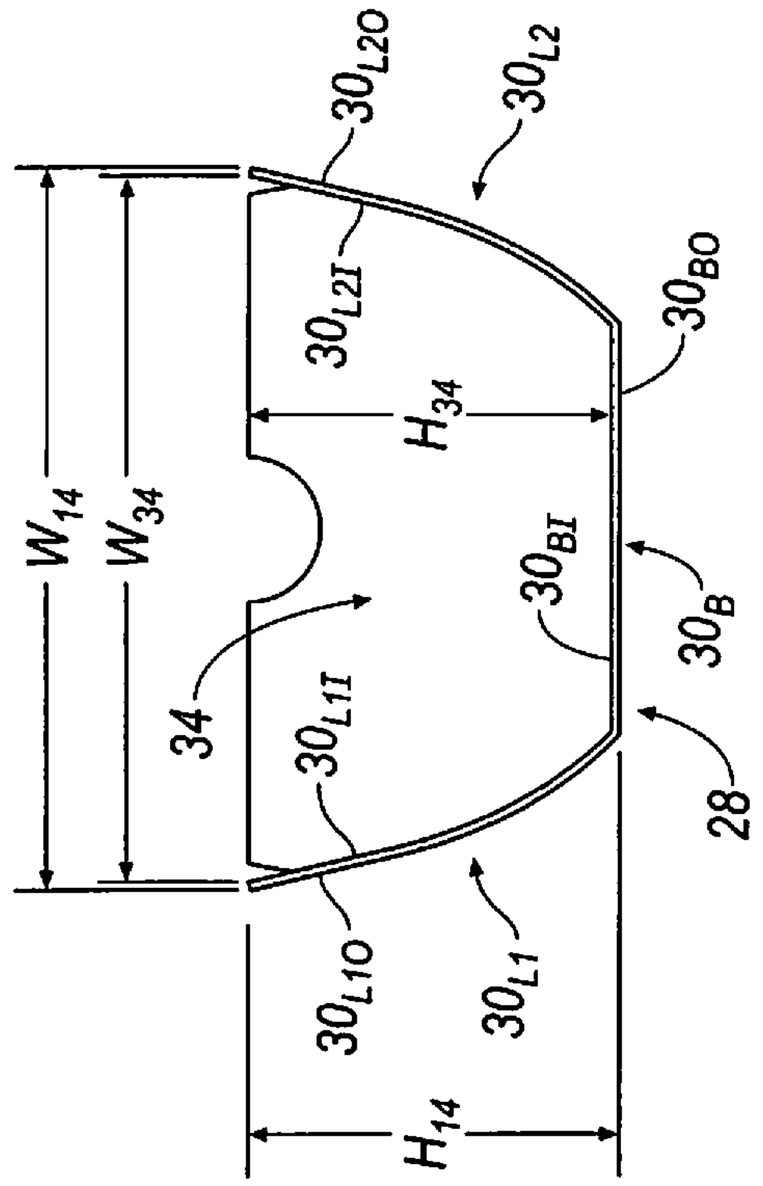


FIG. 12B

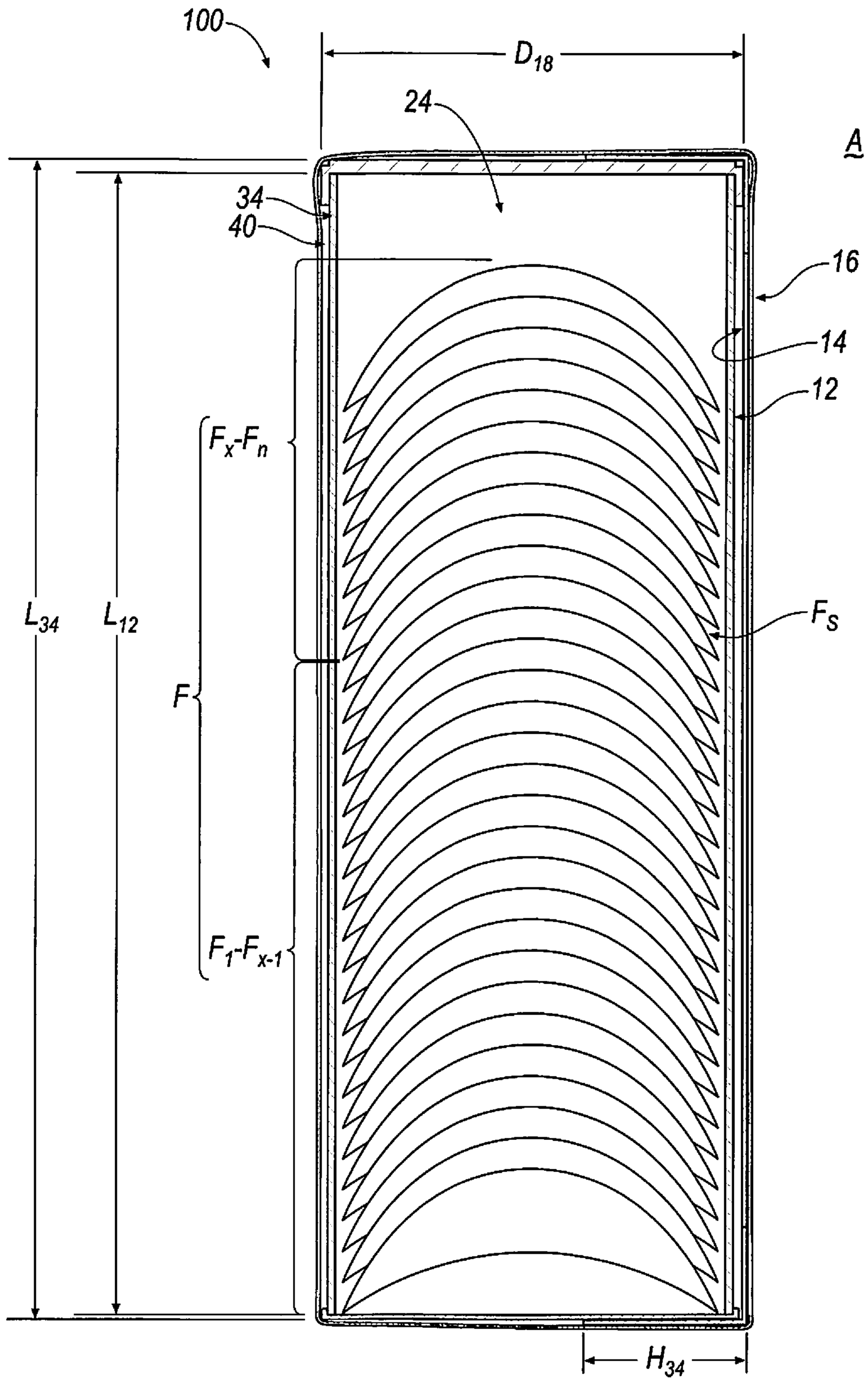


FIG. 13A

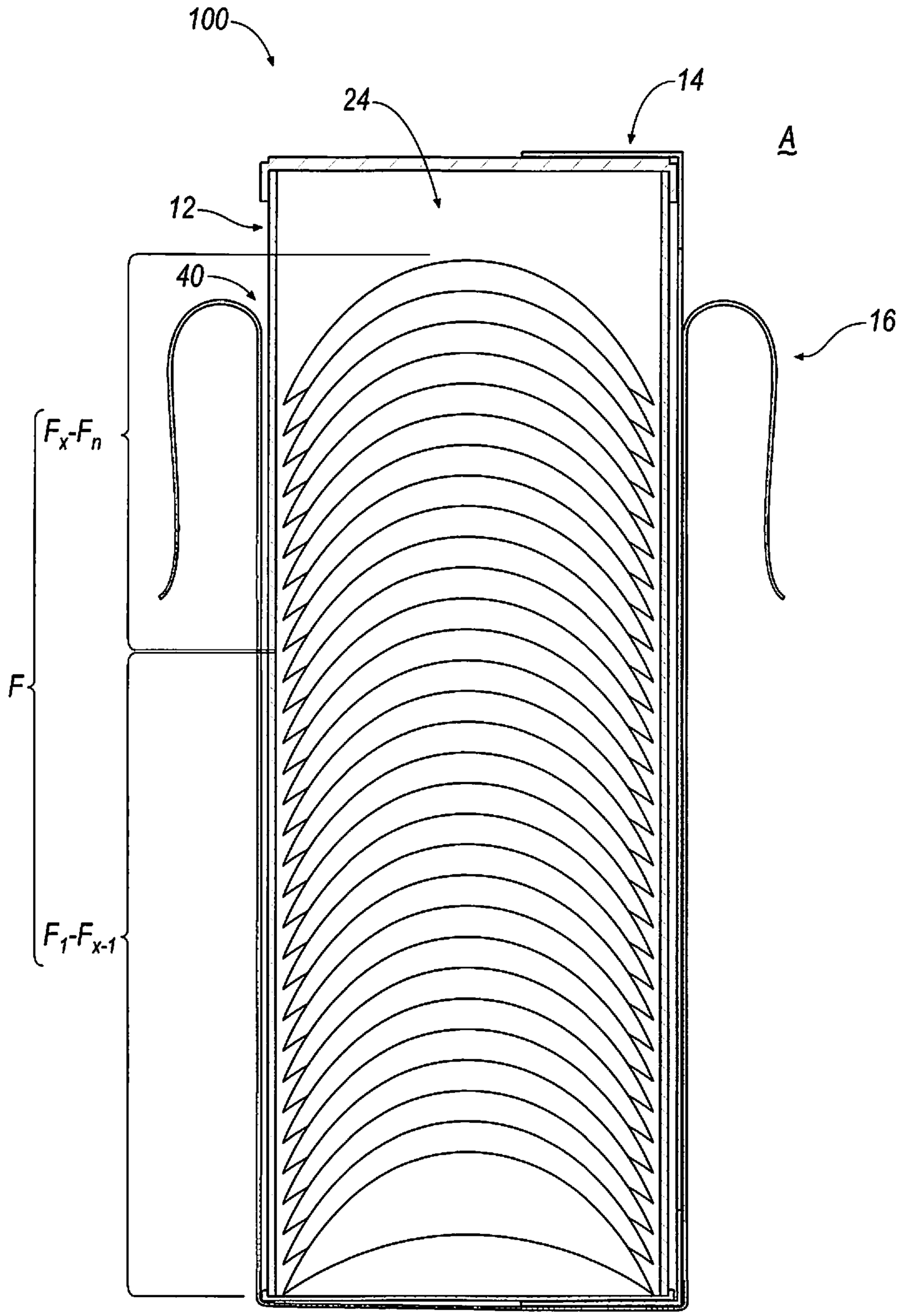


FIG. 13B

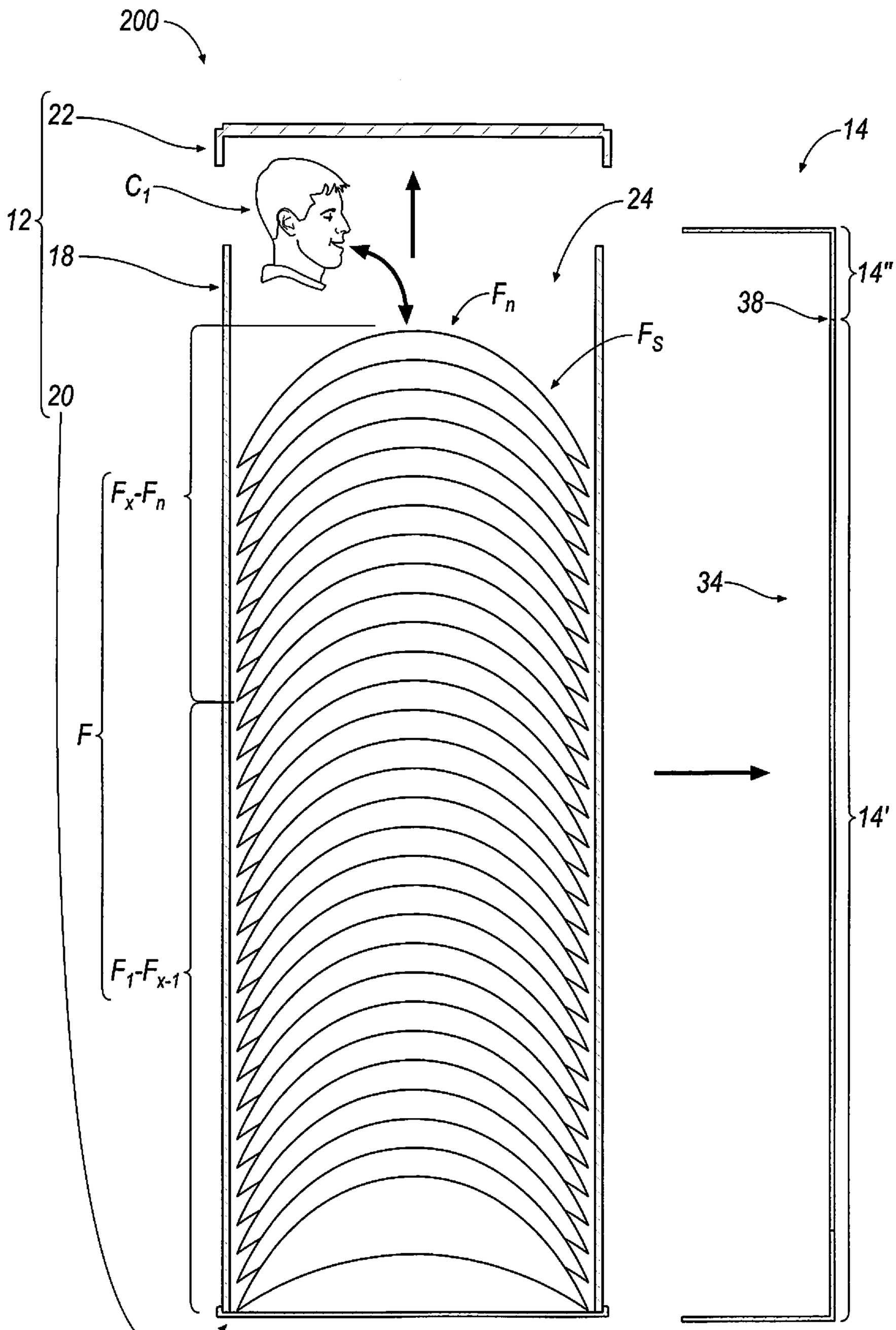


FIG. 13C

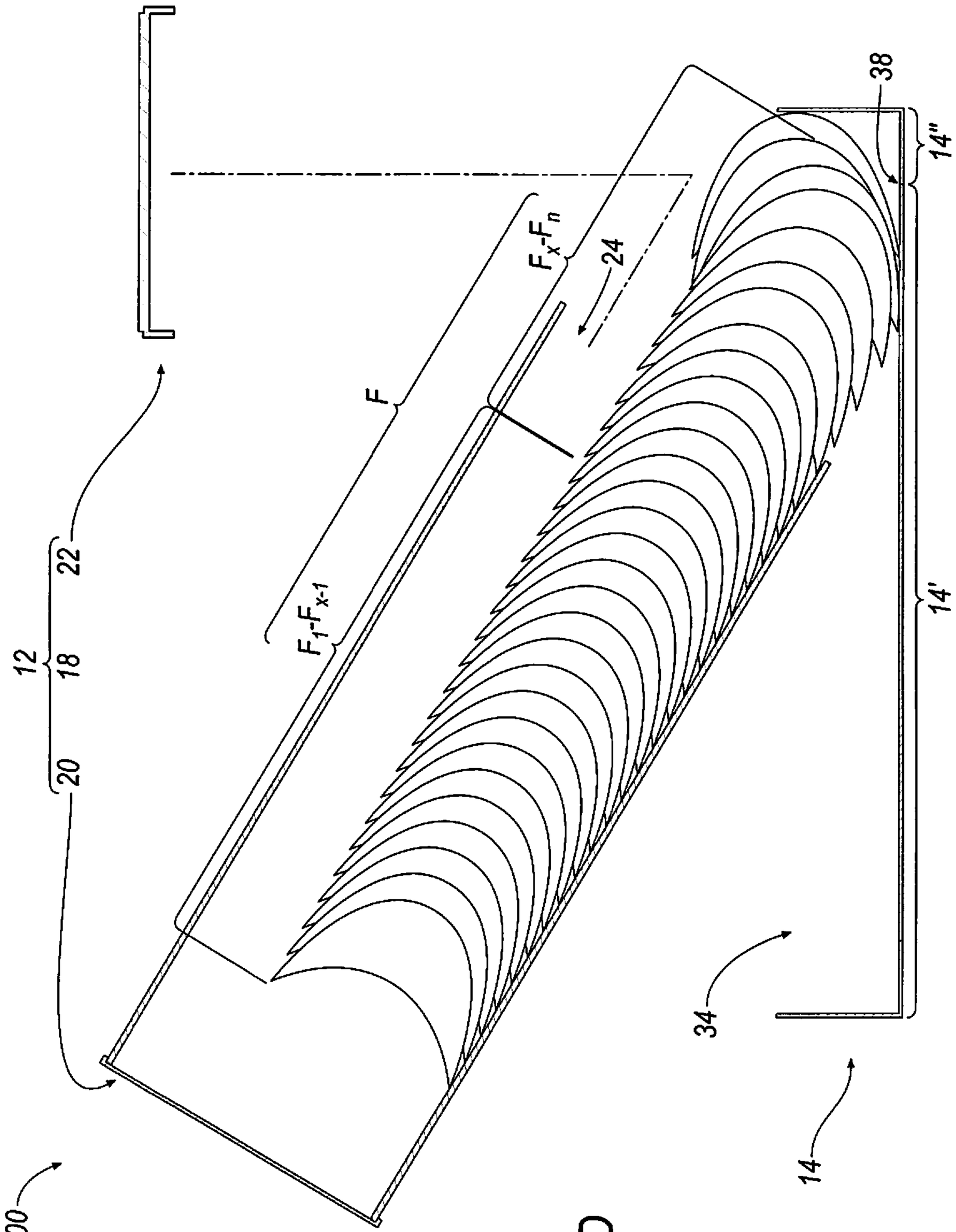


FIG. 13D

FIG. 13E

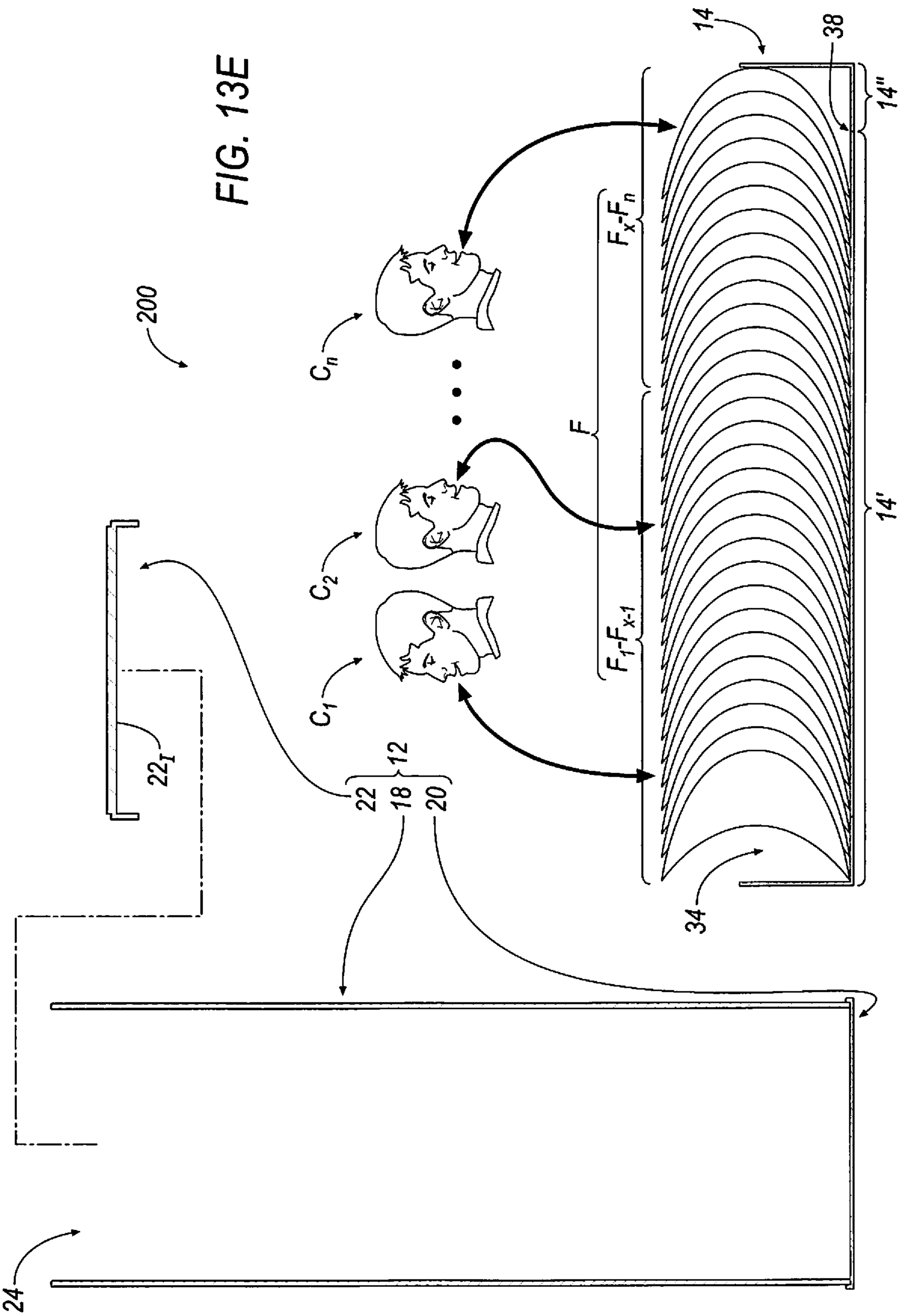
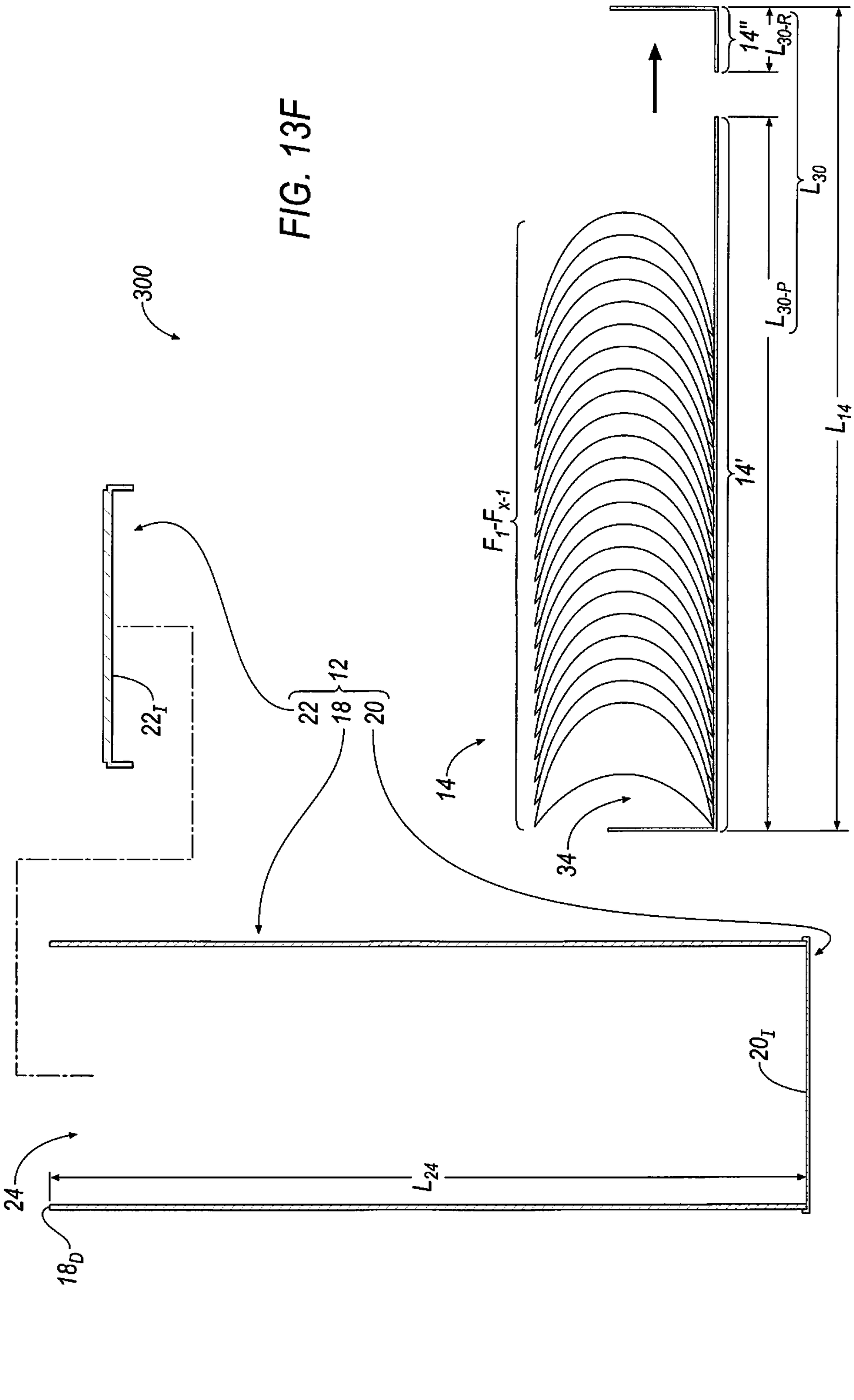


FIG. 13F


300
22
18
20
12
22_I
14
34
14"
L_{30-R}
L_{30}
L_{30-P}
L_{14}
14'
F_1-F_{x-1}
24
18_D
L_{24}
20_I

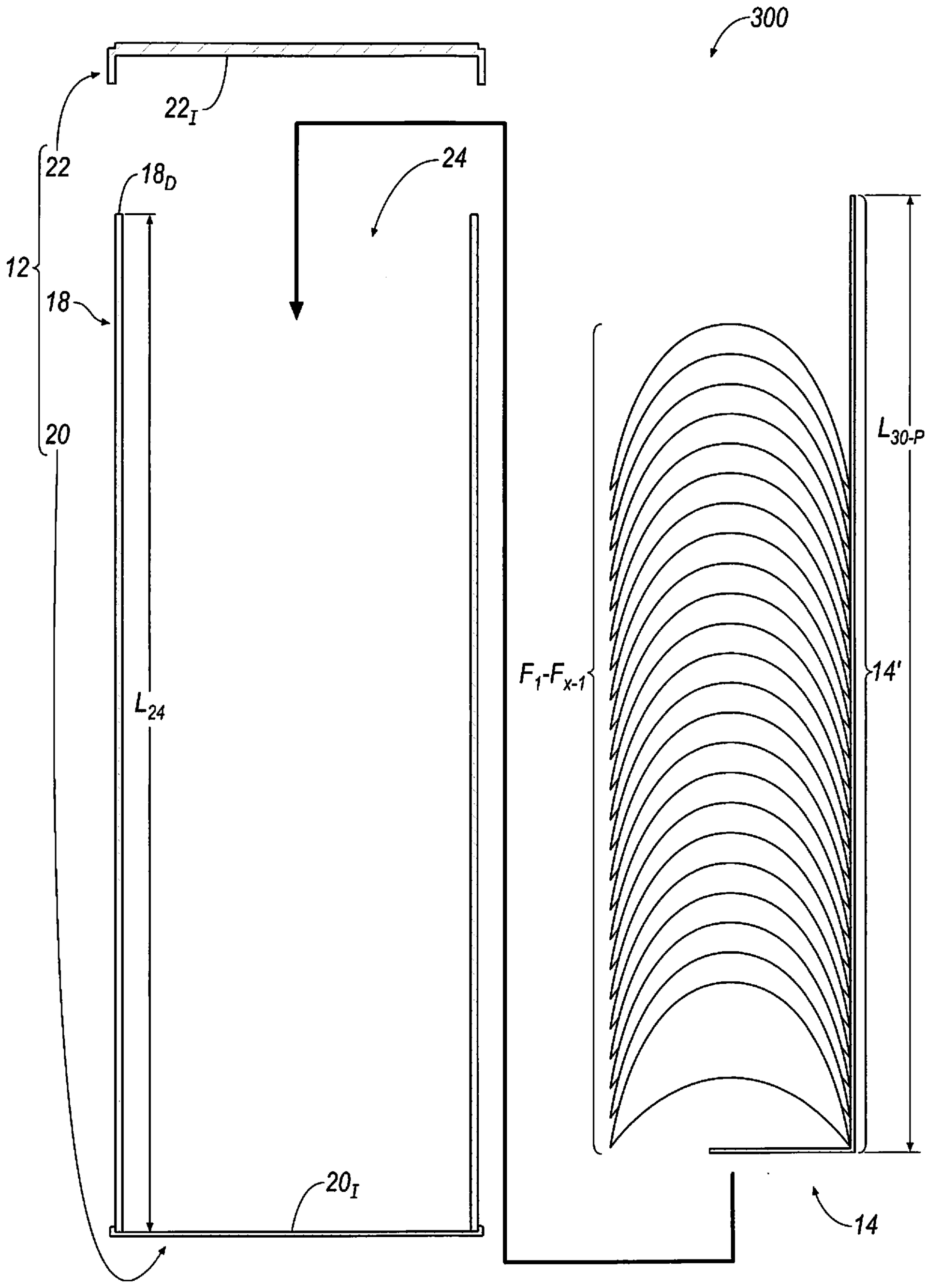


FIG. 13G

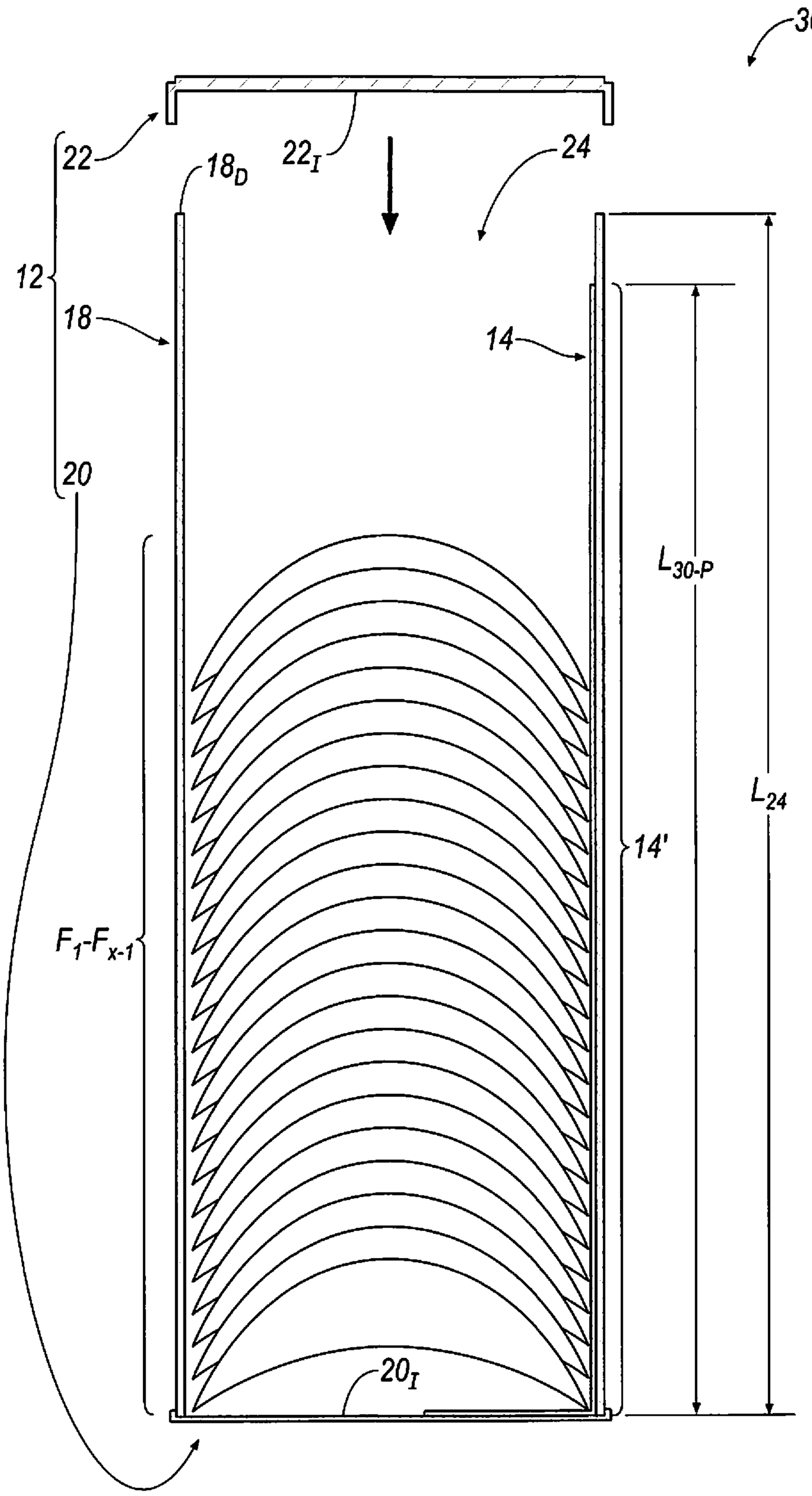


FIG. 13H

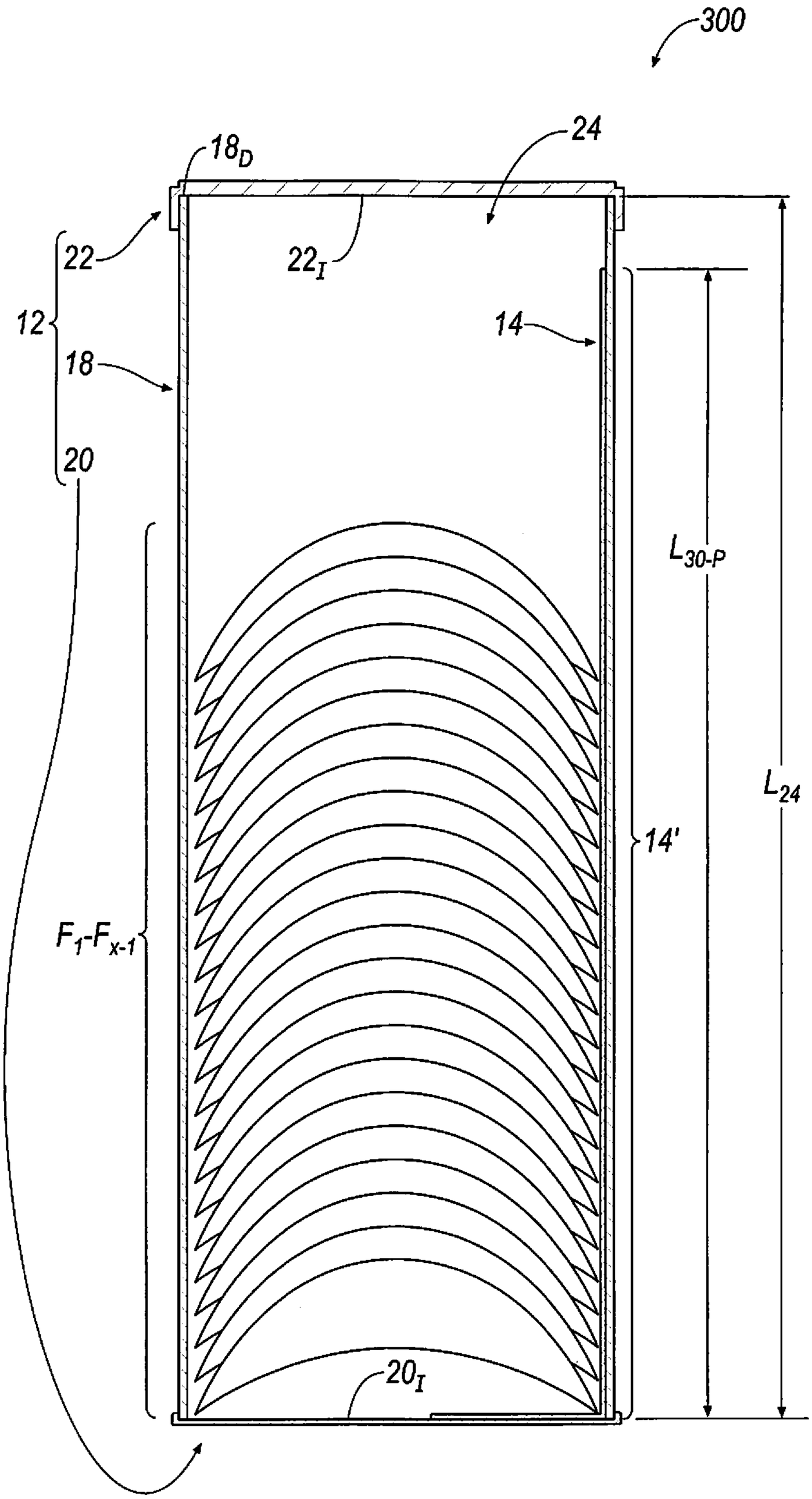


FIG. 13I

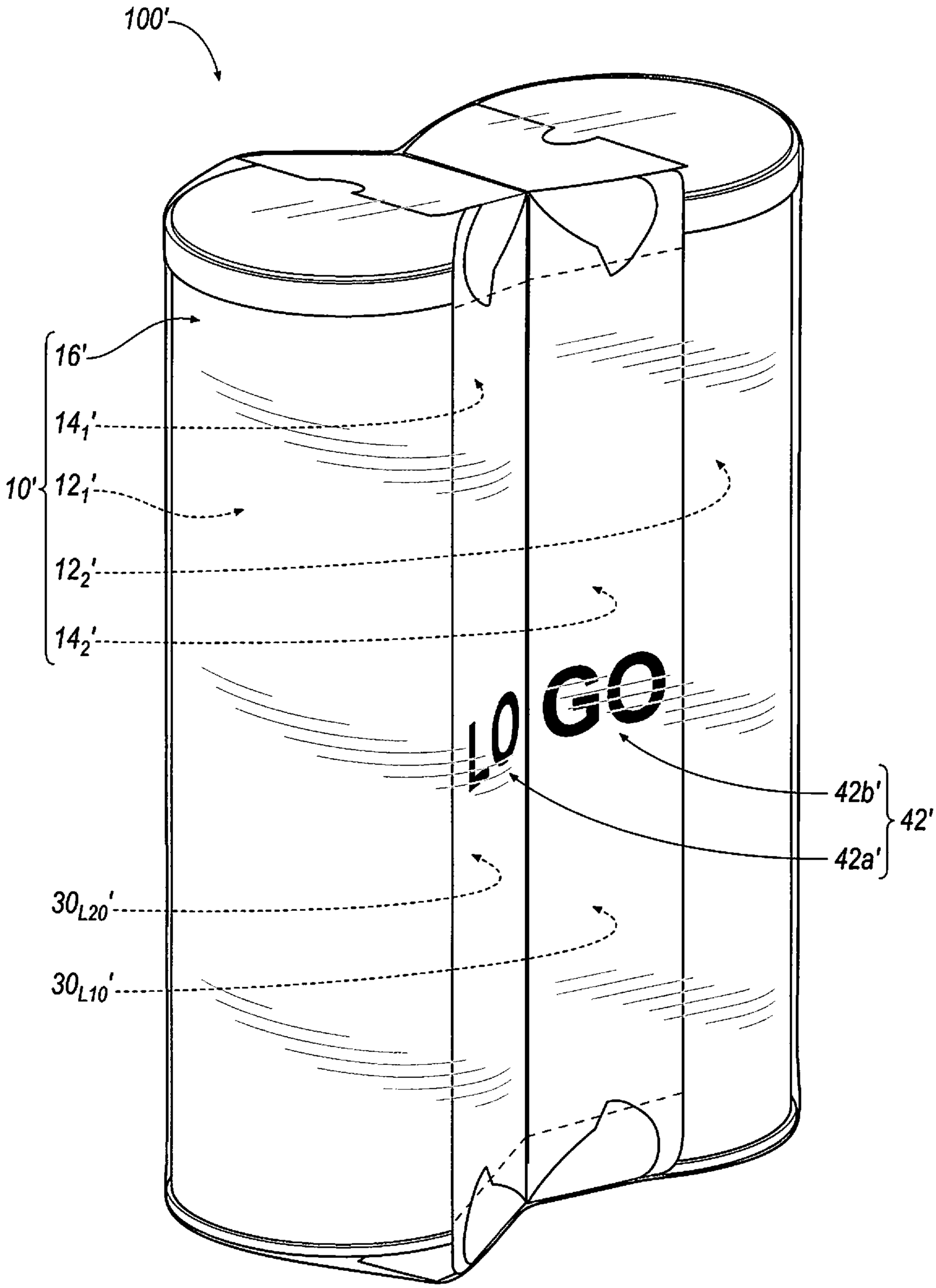


FIG. 14

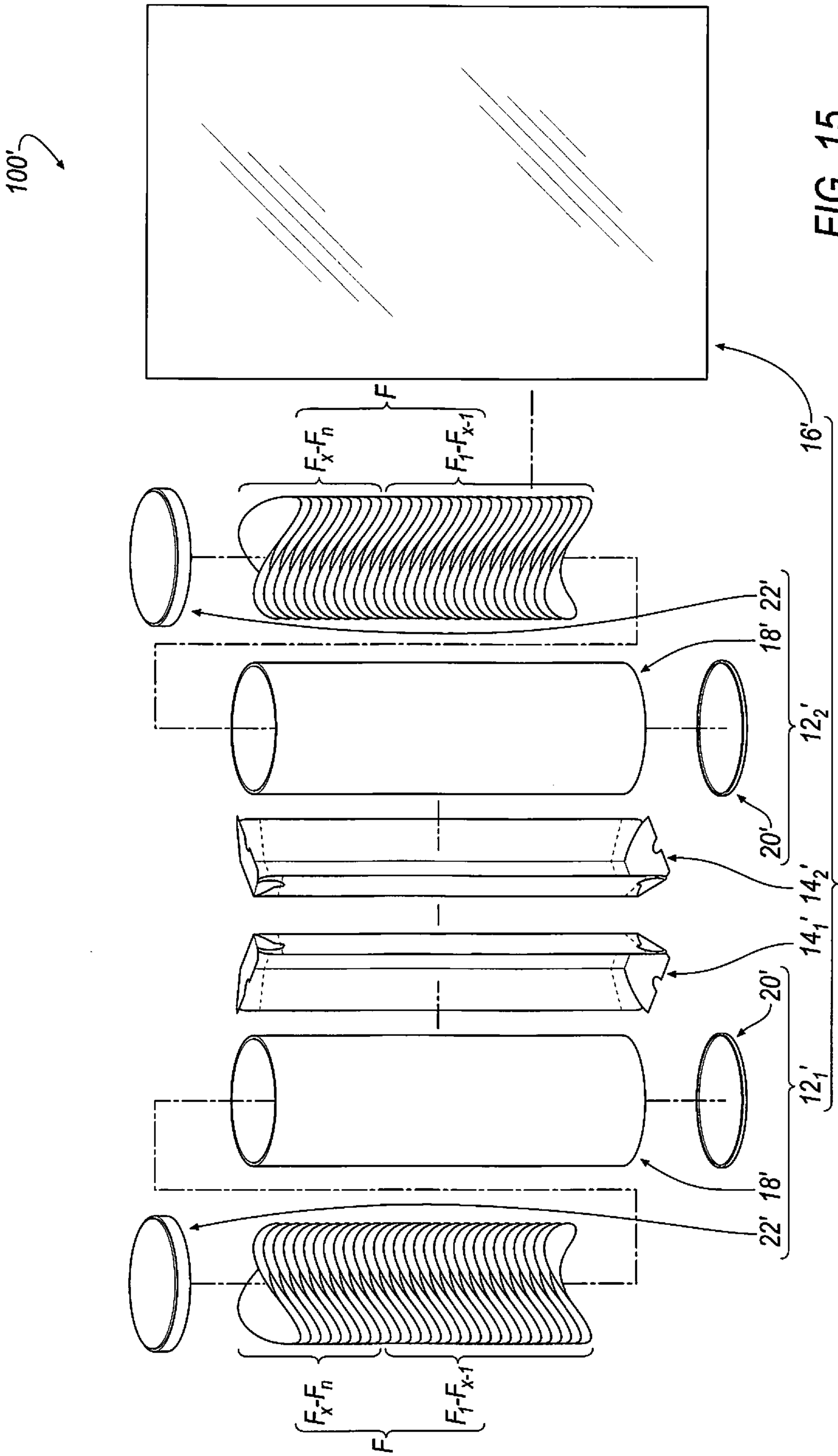

100'
16'
F
F_x-F_n
F_1-F_{x-1}
18'
22'
20'
12_2'
14_2'
100'
14_1'
20'
12_1'
22'
18'
F_x-F_n
F_1-F_{x-1}
F

FIG. 15

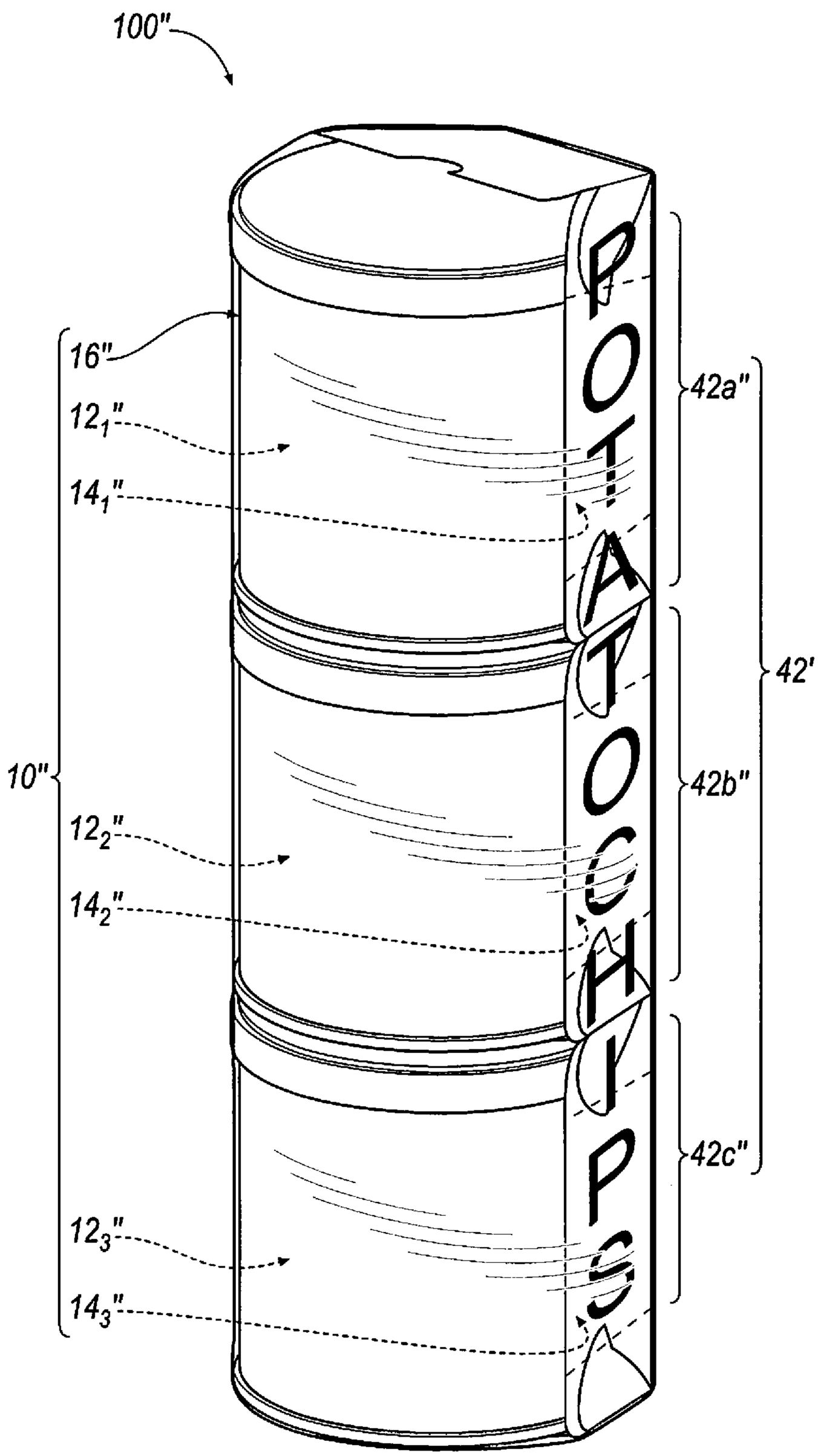


FIG. 16

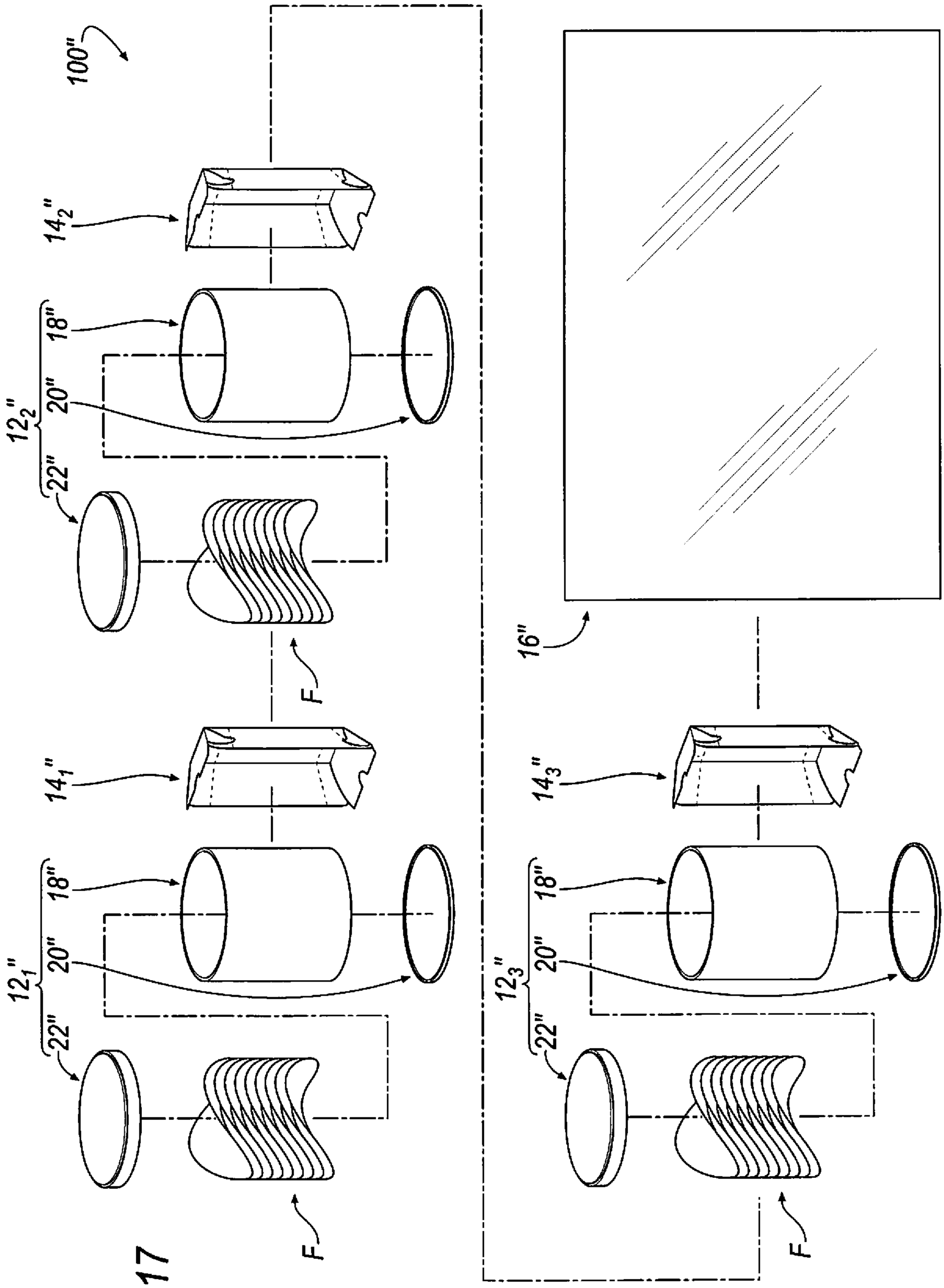


FIG. 17

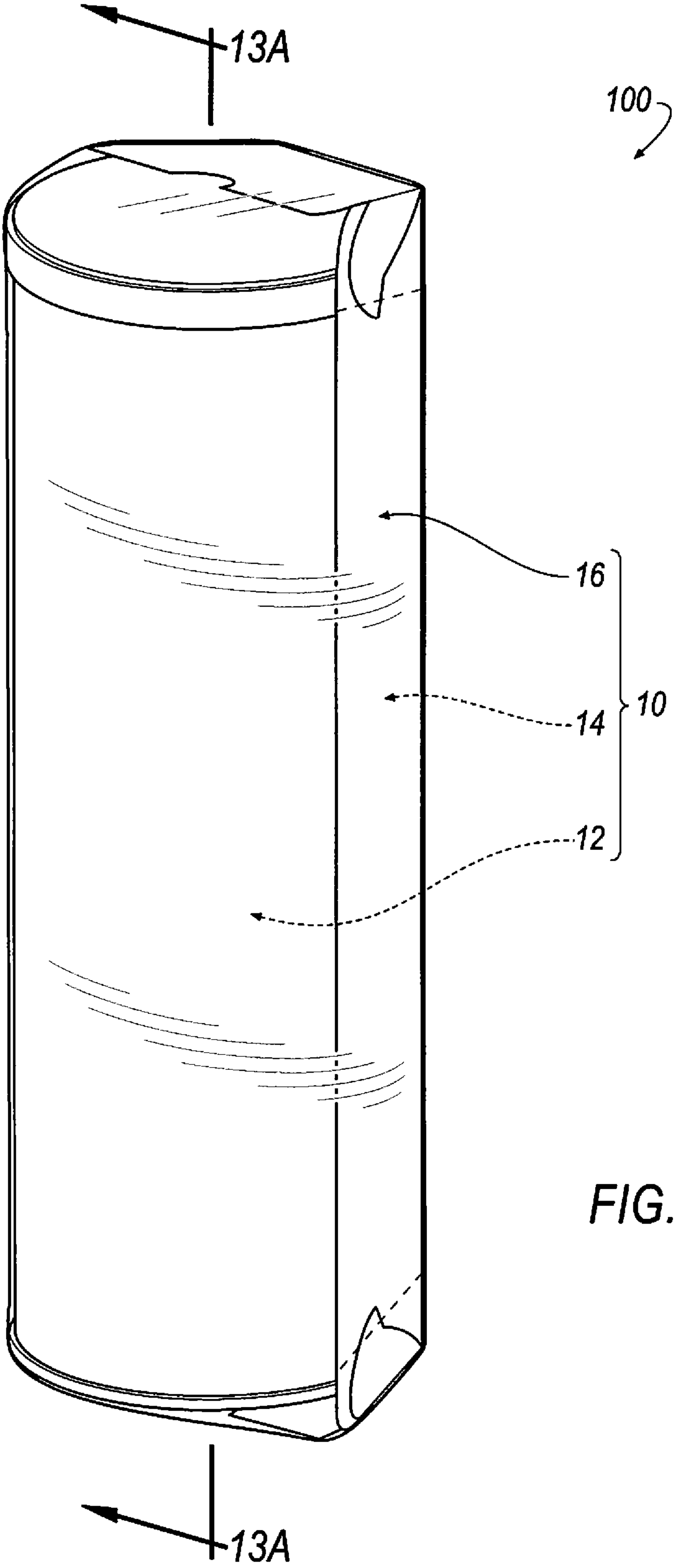


FIG. 1