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(54) **PACKAGING**

VERPACKUNG

EMBALLAGE

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**WO-A-2005/110876 GB-A- 1 279 941
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Description

Technical Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to packaging and in particular but not exclusively to packaging for confectionery items including gum pellets.

Background to the Invention

[0002] It is known to package gum pellets in a so called blister pack. Typically a blister pack comprises a base member of plastic in which a number of pockets or cavities are formed. Individual gum pellets are placed in each pocket and a sheet of foil or other material is attached to the base to contain and preferably seal the pellets in the pockets. The consumer can remove individual pellets one at a time by pushing them out of their pockets through the foil, whilst the remaining pellets remain contained/sealed within their pockets. Whilst it is advantageous to package each gum pellet individually in its own pocket, more than one pellet can be placed in each pocket and indeed at one extreme the blister pack may comprise only a single pocket in which a multiple pellets are placed.

[0003] It is also known to package the blister pack itself to protect it from damage prior to sale. In one known arrangement, the blister pack is packaged in a sleeve member having a hollow interior into which the blister pack may be selectively inserted and removed. The sleeve member is typically formed from a blank of foldable material such as paperboard or cardboard. The blank is folded about fold lines to form a generally rectangular sleeve member having first and second main panels connected along opposing edges by side panels. The outside surface of the sleeve member may contain printed matter to identify the contents of the blister pack and provide other information for the consumer. In some cases, a viewing window or aperture is formed through the sleeve member such that one or more gum pellets in the blister pack may be viewed by a consumer prior to purchase of the gum package. In this case, the base sheet of the blister pack will usually be transparent.

[0004] US patent application No. 2006/0131205 A1 in the name of Sandberg et al. discloses packaging comprising an outer sleeve formed from a blank of foldable material and an insert, which may be a blister pack, slidably received in the sleeve. The sleeve is provided with a locking member to inhibit removal of the insert from the sleeve.

[0005] Such packaging is currently popular and achieves satisfactory results. It has been discovered, however, that the known packaging does have certain drawbacks. It has been found that it can be difficult to ensure that blister pack is held sufficiently firmly within the sleeve member to prevent it accidentally sliding out of the sleeve member whilst also enabling a consumer to selectively remove and replace the blister pack with ease.

[0006] International patent application WO 2005/110876 Alin the name of Cadbury Adams USA LLC discloses packaging for slabs of gum. The packaging comprises a housing formed from a blank of foldable material in which an array of gum slabs can be held. A flap is formed at an end of a front wall of the housing and is folded inwardly so as to press the gum slabs against a back wall of the housing to frictionally hold the slabs in the housing.

[0007] It is an objective of the present invention to provide an improved packaging which overcomes, or at least mitigates, the drawbacks of the known packaging.

Summary of the Invention

[0008] In accordance with a first aspect of the invention, there is provided packaging including a blister pack containing a plurality of items and a sleeve member formed from a blank of foldable material encircling the blister pack, characterised in that sleeve member comprises a flap folded inwardly about a fold line so as to contact the blister pack, biasing it towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, characterised in that the packaging is configured so that one or more items contained in the blister pack can be viewed through an aperture in the sleeve created by folding the flap inwardly.

[0009] In the packaging in accordance with the invention, the flap applies a pressure to the blister pack to help prevent the blister pack from unintentionally slipping out of the sleeve member. However, the packaging is arranged so that the flap does not contact the pack in a way which would limit intentional movement of the pack relative to the sleeve by a consumer and does not prevent complete removal of the pack from the sleeve if required.

[0010] The sleeve may encircle the blister pack about four sides only.

[0011] The sleeve member may have opposing first and second main panels and opposing first and second side panels and the flap may be formed, at least partly, in one of the main panels. The flap may be formed wholly within one of the main panels. The fold line may lie at a position between the ends of the main panel in which the flap is at least partly formed. The flap may be folded through more than 90 degrees from the plane of the main panel. The flap may comprise a portion of the main panel which is folded inwardly about the fold line to leave an aperture in the main panel through which one or more items in the blister pack can be viewed.

[0012] The blister pack may comprise a plurality of pockets formed in a base member, each containing an individual item. The flap may contact an upper surface of at least one of the pockets to bias the pack towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, the arrangement being such that, in use as the pack is slid relative to the sleeve, the flap rides over the upper surfaces of the pockets enabling complete removal of the pack from the sleeve. The base member may be transparent or translucent.

[0013] The items may be confectionery items such as gum pellets.

[0014] In accordance with a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a method of packaging a plurality of items, the method comprising:

packaging a plurality of items in a blister pack;

forming a sleeve member from a blank of foldable material;

creating a flap in the blank;

folding the flap about a fold line so that in the completed sleeve member it projects inwardly into the interior of the sleeve member;

inserting the blister pack into the sleeve member so that the flap contacts the blister pack biasing it towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member;

characterised in that the flap is positioned such that when the blister pack is inserted, at least one item in the blister pack can be viewed through an aperture in the sleeve member created by folding the flap inwardly.

[0015] The flap may be pre-cut in the blank and the step of folding the flap may be carried out before the blank is formed into the sleeve member.

[0016] The blank may comprise in sequence a first side panel, a first main panel, a second side panel, a second main panel and a fixation tab separated by substantially parallel fold lines, the step of forming the sleeve member comprising folding the blank about the fold lines to form a sleeve member having a hollow interior and attaching the fixation tab to an inner surface of the first side panel.

[0017] The flap may be formed, at least partly, in one of the main panels of the sleeve member. The flap may be formed wholly within one of the main panels. The fold line may lie at a position between the ends of the main panel in which the flap is at least partly formed. The step of folding the flap may comprise folding the flap through more than 90 degrees from the plane of the main panel. The flap may comprise a portion of the main panel which is folded about the fold line to leave an aperture in the main panel through which one or more items in the blister pack can be viewed.

[0018] The blister pack may comprise a base member having a plurality of pockets, each containing an individual item. The flap may be arranged to contact an upper surface of at least one of the pockets to bias the pack towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, the arrangement being such that, in use as the pack is slid relative to the sleeve, the flap rides over the upper surfaces of the pockets enabling complete removal of the pack from the sleeve. The base member may be transparent or translucent.

[0019] The items may be confectionery items such as gum pellets.

[0020] There is also disclosed a blank of foldable material for forming a sleeve member for use in the packaging in accordance with the first aspect of the invention or in the method in accordance with the second aspect of the invention, the blank having a pre-cut flap.

[0021] The blank may be formed from a foldable material such as paperboard or cardboard.

[0022] The blank may comprise in sequence a first side panel, a first main panel, a second side panel, a second main panel and a fixation tab separated by substantially parallel fold lines.

Detailed Description of the Invention

[0023] An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example only, with reference to the following drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank for a sleeve member forming part of a packaging in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of a packaging in accordance with the invention, the packaging comprising a sleeve member produced from the blank of Figure 1 into which is inserted a blister pack;

Figure 3 is A cross sectional view through the packaging of Figure 2 taken on line X-X.

[0024] Packaging 10 in accordance with the invention comprises a sleeve member 12 and a blister pack 14.

[0025] The sleeve member 12 is formed from a blank 16 of foldable material, such as paperboard or cardboard or the like. The blank comprises a first side panel 18, a first main panel 20, a second side panel 22, a second main panel 24 and a fixation tab 26. The panels 18, 20, 22, 24, and tab 26 are separated by substantially parallel fold lines 28, 30, 32, 34.

[0026] To form the blank into the sleeve member 12, the blank is folded about the fold lines 28, 30, 32, 34 and the fixation tab 26 is attached to an inner surface of the first side panel 18 using an adhesive, which may be a pressure sensitive or heat sensitive adhesive. In the completed sleeve member 12, the first and second main panels 20, 24 oppose one another and the first and second side panels 18, 22 oppose one another to form a generally rectangular tube into which the blister pack 14 may be inserted so that the sleeve member surrounds the blister pack on four sides only. In an alternative arrangement (not shown), the sleeve may enclose the blister pack on five sides.

[0027] The shape of the sleeve member 12 can be varied and need not be rectangular. It should also be noted that whilst the main panels 20, 24 will typically be longer than the side panels 18, 22 this need not be the case. For example, if the sleeve member 12 has the form of a square tube, the main panels and the side panels will be

substantially the same length.

[0028] The exterior surface of the sleeve member 12 may contain printed matter identifying the contents of the blister pack 14 together with other information for the consumer.

[0029] The blister pack 14 comprises a base member 40 having a number of pockets 42 formed therein into which individual items such as gum pellets 44 are placed. In the present embodiment, the base member has nine pockets arranged in an array but the number and positioning of the pockets can be varied as desired. The base member can be formed from any suitable material but in the present embodiment is formed from a transparent plastics material. A cover sheet 46 is fixed to the base member after the items have been inserted into their pockets to contain the items. The cover sheet can be any suitable material such as plastic, aluminium foil, multilayer complex, paper based material, bio plastic material or the like. The cover sheet 46 will usually be weaker than the base member 40 so that the items can be pushed out of their pockets through the cover sheet in a known manner. Preferably, the cover sheet 46 is affixed to the base member so as to seal the items in their pockets. This is particularly advantageous where the items are confectionery items such as gum pellets 44 as the arrangements protects the pellets 44 from the environment keeping them fresh and uncontaminated.

[0030] The packaging 10 sleeve member 12 as so far described is largely conventional. However, in accordance with the invention, the sleeve member 12 has a flap 48 which is folded inwardly into the interior of the sleeve member about a fold line 50 so as to contact the blister pack 14 and press it towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member as illustrated in Figure 3. The pressure applied by the flap 48 to the blister pack 14 is relatively light and does not hinder a consumer from sliding the blister pack 14 in and out of the sleeve member 12 or removing the pack from the sleeve completely but is sufficient to help in preventing the blister pack 14 from unintentionally slipping out of the sleeve member.

[0031] The shape and position of the flap 48 can be varied. In the present embodiment, the flap 48 is formed in one of the main panels 20 of the sleeve member which is a front panel in the completed packaging. However, the flap could be formed in any of the panels and could straddle one of the main panels and an adjacent side panel if desired. The flap 48 is preferably formed by die cutting the blank 16 as indicated at 52 to define the shape of the flap 48 whilst leaving the flap attached to the remainder of the panel 20 along one edge to form the fold line 50. In the embodiment shown, the flap 48 is cut along three sides but this might not be the case where other shapes are used. The flap 48 can then be folded about the fold line 50 through more than 90 degrees so that it projects into the interior of the completed sleeve member 12. It is expected that the flap 48 will be folded about the fold line 50 prior to the blank 16 being folded to form the sleeve member 12 but the precise sequence of events

can be varied as desired. Once the sleeve member 12 has been formed and with the flap 48 projecting into the interior, the blister pack 14 is inserted into the sleeve member 12 in the direction of arrow A on Figure 3 so that the blister pack slides under the flap 48. Prior to insertion of the blister pack 14, the distance between the free end of the flap 48 and the opposing main panel 24 is less than the thickness of the blister pack 14. Consequently, as the blister pack 14 is slid under the flap 48, the flap is deflected upwardly, as shown, about the fold line 50 such that the flap 48 applies a light pressure to the blister pack 14 clamping the pack 14 between itself and the opposing main panel 24.

[0032] The blister pack 14 is inserted in the sleeve member 12 so that the transparent base member 40 is directed towards the flap 48. The position of the flap 48 and the blister pack 14 are arranged so that at least one of the pellets in the blister pack 14 can be seen through the aperture 54 created in the main panel 20 when the flap is folded inwardly. Thus the flap 48 serves two purposes, one in helping to retain the blister pack 14 in the sleeve member 12 and the other in creating a window 52 through which a consumer can view at least one of the pellets prior to purchase.

[0033] The flap 48 is arranged to ride over the upper end surfaces 56 of the pockets 42 without contacting the sides of the pockets so that the flap does not limit movement of the pack 14 relative to the sleeve when the pack 14 is pushed in and out of the sleeve by a consumer or other user. Thus a consumer is free to move the pack in and out of the sleeve and to selectively remove and replace the blister pack with ease. In an alternative embodiment (not shown), the flap 48 is arranged to contact the cover sheet 46 on the opposite side of the pack.

[0034] The packaging 10 is particularly suitable for confectionery items such as chewing gum pellets, pastels, hard gums, mints or the like. However, packaging 10 in accordance with the invention is not limited to use in packaging confectionery items but can be used in packaging almost any items which can advantageously be presented to consumers in a blister pack and sleeve member. Furthermore, whilst it is expected that in most applications the blister pack 14 will have a number of pockets each holding a single item, more than one item can be placed in each pocket. Indeed, the blister pack 14 may comprise only a single pocket in which a plurality of items of placed.

[0035] Whereas the invention has been described in relation to what is presently considered to be the most practical and preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the disclosed arrangements but rather is intended to cover various modifications and equivalent constructions included within the scope of the invention as defined in the claims.

Claims

1. Packaging including a blister pack containing a plurality of items and a sleeve member formed from a blank of foldable material encircling the blister pack, the sleeve member comprising a flap folded inwardly about a fold line so as to contact the blister pack, biasing it towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, **characterised in that** the packaging is configured so that one or more items contained in the blister pack can be viewed through an aperture in the sleeve created by folding the flap inwardly. 5
2. Packaging as claimed in claim 1, in which the flap is configured to contact the pack in a way which does not hinder sliding movement of the pack into and out of the pack. 10
3. Packaging as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, in which the sleeve encircles the blister pack on four sides only. 15
4. Packaging as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, in which the sleeve member has opposing first and second main panels and opposing first and second side panels and the flap is formed, at least partly, in one of the main panels. 20
5. Packaging as claimed in claim 4, in which the flap is formed wholly within one of the main panels. 25
6. Packaging as claimed in claim 4 or claim 5, in which the flap is folded through more than 90 degrees from the plane of the main panel. 30
7. Packaging as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the blister pack comprises a base member having a plurality of pockets, each pocket containing an individual item, the flap contacting an upper surface of at least one of the pockets to bias the pack towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, the arrangement being such that, in use as the pack is moved relative to the sleeve, the flap rides over the upper surfaces of the pockets enabling complete removal of the pack from the sleeve. 35
8. Packaging as claimed in claim 7, in which the base member is transparent or translucent. 40
9. A method of packaging a plurality of items, the method comprising: 45
 - packaging a plurality of items in a blister pack;
 - forming a sleeve member from a blank of foldable material;
 - creating a flap in the blank;
 - folding the flap about a fold line so that in the completed sleeve member it projects inwardly

into the interior of the sleeve member;
inserting the blister pack into the sleeve member so that the flap contacts the blister pack biasing it towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member;

characterised in that the flap is positioned such that when the blister pack is inserted, at least one item in the blister pack can be viewed through an aperture in the sleeve member created by folding the flap inwardly.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the blank comprises in sequence: a first side panel, a first main panel, a second side panel, a second main panel and a fixation tab separated by substantially parallel fold lines, the step of forming the sleeve member comprising folding the blank about the fold lines to form a sleeve member having a hollow interior and attaching the fixation tab to an inner surface of the first side panel.
11. A method as claimed in claim 10, in which the flap is formed, at least partly, in one of the main panels of the sleeve member.
12. A method as claimed in claim 11, in which the flap is formed wholly within one of the main panels.
13. A method as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 12, in which the blister pack comprises a base member having a plurality of pockets, each containing an individual item, in which the flap is arranged to contact an upper surface of at least one of the pockets to bias the pack towards an opposing portion of the sleeve member, the arrangement being such that, in use as the pack is moved relative to the sleeve, the flap rides over the upper surfaces of the pockets enabling complete removal of the pack from the sleeve.
14. A method as claimed in claim 13, in which the base member is transparent or translucent.

Patentansprüche

1. Verpackung, die eine Blisterpackung umfasst, welche eine Vielzahl von Gegenständen und ein Hüllelement enthält, das aus einem Zuschnitt faltbaren Materials gebildet ist, welches die Blisterpackung umgibt, wobei das Hüllelement eine um eine Faltlinie nach innen gefaltete Lasche aufweist, um die Blisterpackung zu berühren, und diese in Richtung eines gegenüberliegenden Bereiches des Hüllelements vorzubelasten, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Verpackung so ausgebildet ist, dass ein

- oder mehrere Gegenstände, die in der Blisterpackung enthalten sind, durch eine Öffnung in der Hülle, die durch die Faltung der Lasche nach innen erzeugt wird, sichtbar sind.
2. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1, wobei die Lasche so ausgebildet ist, um die Packung auf eine Weise zu berühren, die eine gleitende Bewegung der Packung in und aus der Verpackung nicht behindert.
3. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, wobei die Hülle die Blisterpackung nur an vier Seiten umgibt.
4. Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, wobei das Hüllelement gegenüberliegende erste und zweite Hauptfelder und gegenüberliegende erste und zweite Seitenfelder hat und die Lasche zumindest teilweise in einem der Hauptfelder gebildet ist.
5. Verpackung nach Anspruch 4, wobei die Lasche ganz innerhalb eines der Hauptfelder geformt ist.
6. Verpackung nach Anspruch 4 oder 5, wobei die Lasche durch mehr als 90 Grad von der Fläche des Hauptfeldes gefaltet ist.
7. Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, in welcher die Blisterpackung eine Grundeinheit mit einer Vielzahl von Fächern aufweist, wobei jedes Fach einen einzelnen Gegenstand enthält, wobei die Lasche eine obere Fläche von mindestens einem der Fächer berührt, um die Packung in Richtung eines gegenüberliegenden Bereichs des Hüllelements vorzubelasten, wobei die Anordnung so gestaltet ist, dass, bei Gebrauch, wenn die Packung relativ zu der Hülle bewegt wird, die Lasche über die obere Fläche der Fächer fährt, wobei die vollständige Entfernung der Packung von der Hülle möglich ist.
8. Verpackung nach Anspruch 7, wobei die Grundeinheit transparent oder lichtdurchlässig ist.
9. Verfahren zum Verpacken einer Vielzahl von Gegenständen, wobei das Verfahren aufweist:
- Verpacken einer Vielzahl von Gegenständen in einer Blisterpackung;
Bilden eines Hüllelements aus einem Zuschnitt faltbaren Materials; Erzeugen einer Lasche in dem Zuschnitt;
Falten der Lasche um eine Faltlinie, sodass sie
- in dem vervollständigten Hüllelement nach innen in das Innere des Hüllelements ragt;
Einsetzen der Blisterpackung in das Hüllelement, sodass die Lasche die Blisterpackung berührt, wobei sie diese in Richtung eines gegenüberliegenden Bereichs des Hüllelements vorbelastet,
dadurch gekennzeichnet,
dass die Lasche so positioniert ist, dass wenn die Blisterpackung eingesetzt wird, mindestens ein Gegenstand in der Blisterpackung durch eine Öffnung in dem Hüllelement, die durch Falten der Lasche nach innen erzeugt wird, sichtbar ist.
10. Verfahren nach Anspruch 9, in welchem der Zuschnitt der Reihe nach aufweist:
- ein erstes Seitenfeld, ein erstes Hauptfeld, ein zweites Seitenfeld, ein zweites Hauptfeld und einen Befestigungs-Streifen, der durch im Wesentlichen parallele Faltlinien getrennt ist, wobei der Schritt zur Bildung des Hüllelements das Falten des Zuschnitts um die Faltlinien aufweist, um ein Hüllelement mit einem inneren Hohlraum zu bilden und den Befestigungs-Streifen an einer inneren Fläche des ersten Seitenfeldes anzubringen.
11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 10, wobei die Lasche zumindest teilweise in einem der Hauptfelder des Hüllelements geformt wird.
12. Verfahren nach Anspruch 11, wobei die Lasche ganz innerhalb eines der Hauptfelder geformt wird.
13. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 9 bis 12, wobei die Blisterpackung eine Grundeinheit mit einer Vielzahl von Fächern aufweist, wobei jedes einen einzelnen Gegenstand enthält, wobei die Lasche angeordnet ist um eine obere Fläche zumindest einer der Kammern zu berühren, um die Packung in Richtung eines gegenüberliegenden Bereichs des Hüllelements vorzubelasten, wobei die Anordnung so ausgestaltet ist, dass im Gebrauch, wenn die Packung relativ zu der Hülle bewegt wird, die Lasche über die oberen Flächen der Fächer fährt, wobei die vollständige Entfernung der Packung von der Hülle ermöglicht wird.
14. Verfahren nach Anspruch 13, in welchem die Grundeinheit transparent oder lichtdurchlässig ist.

Revendications

1. Conditionnement comprenant un emballage-coque contenant une pluralité d'articles et un élément formant manchon formé à partir d'une découpe de matériau pliable entourant l'emballage-coque, l'élément formant manchon comprenant un rabat plié vers l'intérieur autour d'une ligne de pliage de façon à entrer en contact avec l'emballage-coque, en le sollicitant vers une partie opposée de l'élément formant manchon, **caractérisé en ce que** l'emballage est configuré de telle sorte qu'un ou plusieurs articles contenus dans l'emballage-coque soient visibles à travers une ouverture dans le manchon créé en pliant le rabat vers l'intérieur. 5
2. Conditionnement selon la revendication 1, dans lequel le rabat est configuré pour entrer en contact avec l'emballage sans pour autant gêner un déplacement en coulissement de l'emballage vers l'intérieur et vers l'extérieur de l'emballage. 10
3. Conditionnement selon la revendication 1 ou la revendication 2, dans lequel le manchon entoure l'emballage-coque sur quatre côtés seulement. 15
4. Conditionnement selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 3, dans lequel l'élément formant manchon présente des premier et second panneaux principaux opposés et des premier et second panneaux latéraux opposés et le rabat est formé, au moins partiellement, dans l'un des panneaux principaux. 20
5. Conditionnement selon la revendication 4, dans lequel le rabat est formé en totalité à l'intérieur de l'un des panneaux principaux. 25
6. Conditionnement selon la revendication 4 ou la revendication 5, dans lequel le rabat est plié sur plus de 90 degrés à partir du plan du panneau principal. 30
7. Conditionnement selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'emballage-coque comprend un élément de base ayant une pluralité de poches, chaque poche contenant un article individuel, le rabat entrant en contact avec une surface supérieure de l'une au moins des poches de façon à solliciter l'emballage vers une partie opposée de l'élément formant manchon, l'agencement étant tel, en service lorsque l'emballage est déplacé par rapport au manchon, que le rabat monte sur les surfaces supérieures des poches en permettant un retrait complet de l'emballage du manchon. 35
8. Conditionnement selon la revendication 7, dans lequel l'élément de base est transparent ou translucide. 40
9. Procédé destiné à conditionner une pluralité d'articles, le procédé comprenant les étapes consistant à : 45
 - conditionner une pluralité d'articles dans un emballage-coque ;
 - former un élément formant manchon à partir d'une découpe de matériau pliable ;
 - créer un rabat dans la découpe ;
 - plier le rabat autour d'une ligne de pliage de telle sorte qu'il fasse saillie vers l'intérieur, dans l'élément formant manchon réalisé, jusque dans l'intérieur de l'élément formant manchon ;
 - insérer l'emballage-coque dans l'élément formant manchon de telle sorte que le rabat entre en contact avec l'emballage-coque en le sollicitant vers une partie opposée de l'élément formant manchon ;
 - caractérisé en ce que** le rabat est positionné de telle sorte que, lorsque l'emballage-coque est inséré, un article au moins dans l'emballage-coque soit visible à travers une ouverture dans l'élément formant manchon créé en pliant le rabat vers l'intérieur. 50
10. Procédé selon la revendication 9, dans lequel la découpe comprend dans l'ordre : un premier panneau latéral, un premier panneau principal, un second panneau latéral, un second panneau principal et une patte de fixation séparée par des lignes de pliage sensiblement parallèles, l'étape consistant à former l'élément formant manchon comprenant les étapes consistant à plier la découpe autour des lignes de pliage pour former un élément formant manchon ayant un intérieur creux et attacher la patte de fixation à une surface intérieure du premier panneau latéral. 55
11. Procédé selon la revendication 10, dans lequel le rabat est formé, au moins partiellement, dans l'un des panneaux principaux de l'élément formant manchon.
12. Procédé selon la revendication 11, dans lequel le rabat est formé en totalité à l'intérieur de l'un des panneaux principaux.
13. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 9 à 12, dans lequel l'emballage-coque comprend un élément de base ayant une pluralité de poches, chaque poche contenant un article individuel, dans lequel le rabat est agencé de façon à entrer en contact avec une surface supérieure de l'une au moins des poches de façon à solliciter l'emballage vers une partie opposée de l'élément formant manchon, l'agencement étant tel que, en service lorsque l'emballage est déplacé par rapport au manchon, le rabat monte sur les surfaces supérieures des poches en permet-

tant un retrait complet de l'emballage par rapport au manchon.

14. Procédé selon la revendication 13, dans lequel l'élément de base est transparent ou translucide.

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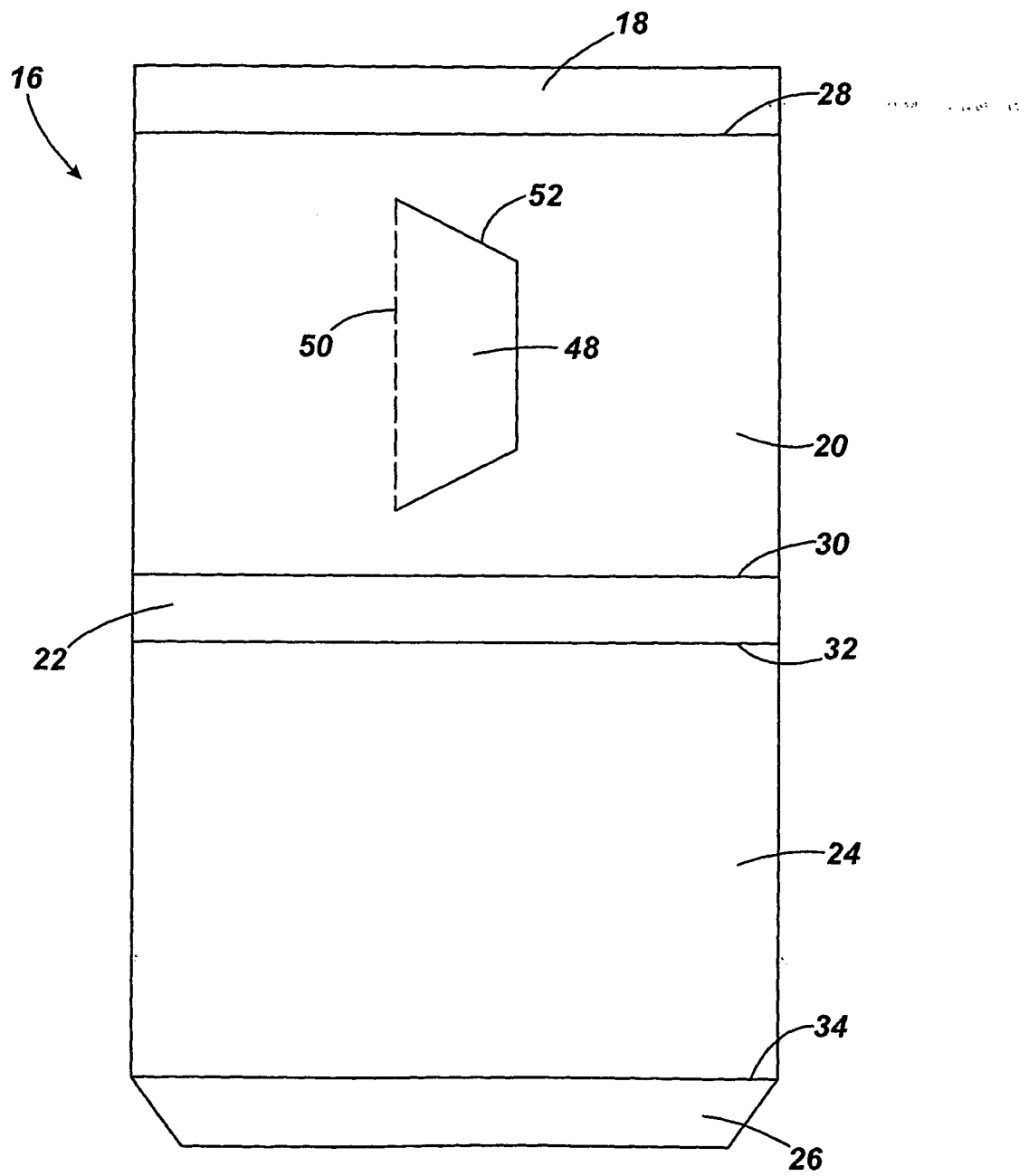


Fig. 1

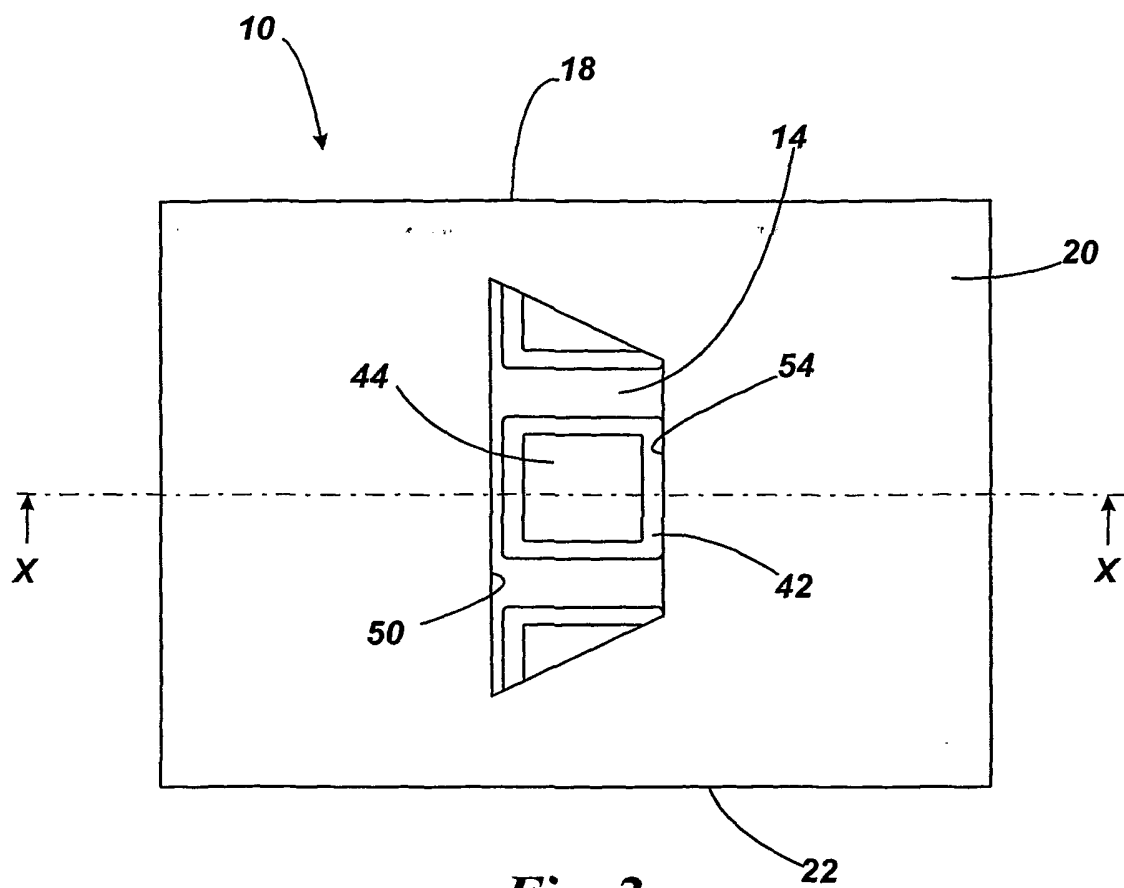


Fig. 2

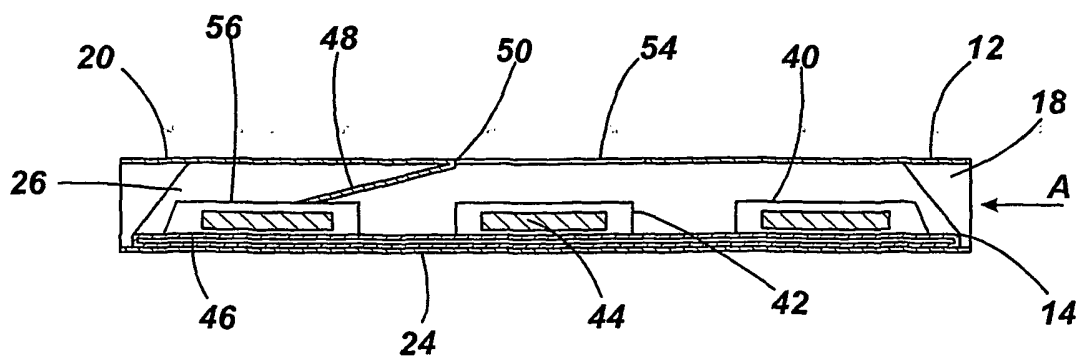


Fig. 3

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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