ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A plastic bag having mounted in its upper opening a cardboard folding member which primarily serves as a bag closure when folded into an operative closed position relative to said upper opening and, in an operative open position relative to said upper opening, also doubles as a convenient carrying handle for the bag.

The present invention relates to plastic bags and more particularly to improvements for this type packaging which command appreciation by reference to the following descriptive disclosure.

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other flap 12; More particularly, each flap 12 is foldable from its open position in which it lies in the plane of each of the closure walls 12b, 12c, as illustrated in FIGS. 1–3, into its closed position extending substantially perpendicular to such plane, as illustrated in FIGS. 4, 5. Thus, the flaps 12 are each foldable along a fold line created by the score lines 12a into an overlapping condition, as illustrated in FIG. 5, wherein each upper convexly shaped edge 12e is moved into a position adjacent the concavely shaped score line 12h and the closure 12 is consequently projected into a three-dimensional shape in which the overlapping flaps 12 serve as a closure for the bag.

As may perhaps best be understood from the consideration of FIG. 5, the previously noted hand grip openings 12a are advantageously located off center and towards the upper portion of each flap 12 so that while these openings align in the open position of the flaps, as clearly illustrated in FIGS. 1–3, they do not align in the overlapping closed position, as illustrated in FIGS. 4, 5. This, of course, preserves the functioning of the closure 12 as a means for selectively closing the bag during reuse thereof.

A latitude of modification, change and substitution is intended in the foregoing disclosure and in some instances some features of the invention will be employed without a corresponding use of other features.

What is claimed is:

1. A flexible bag formed of a thin, flexible, thermoplastic web material comprising:
   front and rear bag walls joined together at their side edges and along their upper edges to define a product-containing bag enclosure, said front and rear walls having unattached bottom edges defining a bottom product loading opening;
   an upper gusset walls attached to their upper edges to the upper edges of said front and rear bag walls, respectively, and attached to each other at a lower gusset fold line;
   the improvement comprising a flexible, reusable closure formed of stiff board material secured to said web material at said upper gusset including:
   front and rear closure members secured to the inner faces of said front and rear gusset walls, respectively, and extending upwardly beyond said upper edges of said front and rear bag walls;
   said front and rear closure members having lower edges above the level of said lower gusset fold line;
   each of said front and rear closure members having similar curved fold lines formed therein with the lowermost point of said fold lines located above the upper edges of said gusset and bag walls;
   the upper edges of each of said closure members being convex and coextensive;
   the portion of said closure members between said curved fold lines and said convex upper edges defining closure end faces which coextensively overlie each other when said closure members are folded at said curved fold lines;
   each of said end faces having formed their finger openings at a location above the centers of said end faces; said finger openings being in alignment when said closure members are not folded and being out of alignment when said closure members are folded; said closure members closing said product-containing bag enclosure with access through said finger openings being blocked when said end closure members are folded along said curved fold lines.

2. A flexible bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein said curved fold lines are concave with their ends intersecting the ends of the upper convex edges of said closure members.

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