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(54) **POUCH WITH COVER FLAP AND ADHERED EXTENSION FLAP**

BEUTEL MIT ABDECKKLAPPE UND ANGEHÄNGTER VERLÄNGERUNGSKLAPPE

SACHET AVEC RABAT DE RECOUVREMENT ET VOLET D'EXTENSION ADHÉRÉ

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a pouch, in particular a pouch for tobacco, with a cover flap and an extension flap. The inner surface of the extension flap adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap.

[0002] It is known to market consumer goods and in particular tobacco in pouches wherein the pouches contain a pouch front wall and a pouch rear wall which are connected to each other at the bottom and their sides but which are open at the upper edges of the pouch to form an opening to allow the consumer an access to the interior of the pouch and its contents. These known pouches further comprise a relatively long flap. This relatively long flap serves the consumer as a support and, if the consumer goods are tobacco, also as an aid to roll its own cigarettes. This relatively long flap is folded in the known products forward towards the front side of the pouch and then wrapped around the bottom of the pouch and is eventually connected to the pouch rear wall. Such a pouch has the advantage of providing a long flap to the consumer but has the disadvantage that two separate steps are needed to open the flap, namely a first step to open the closing mechanism on the pouch rear wall and then folding the flap around the pouch bottom in order to open the pouch and give the consumer access to the tobacco or other consumer articles.

[0003] EP 0 452 167 A1 and NL 2 006 781 both disclose a tobacco pouch formed by two pockets. These documents do not disclose an extension flap and a cover flap which have a width which corresponds essentially to the width of the pouch rear wall.

[0004] WO 2015/082386 A1 discloses a pouch comprising a reseal label. This document does not disclose an extension flap and a cover flap which have a width which corresponds essentially to the width of the pouch rear wall.

[0005] EP 3 138 785 A1 relates to a method of manufacturing a tobacco pouch. EP 3 138 785 A1 is prior art under Article 54(3) EPC.

[0006] EP 3 162 730 A1 relates to a device and method for manufacturing film bags for tobacco. EP 3 162 730 A1 is prior art under Article 54(3) EPC.

[0007] It would be desirable to have a pouch which can be easily opened with one single action. Moreover, it would be desirable to have a back panel that is non-split. A non-split back panel or rear wall offers more space for both branding and information purposes. That means that the extension flap is not wrapped around the back panel as shown in Figure 1, hereinafter referred to as wrapped-around solution. Furthermore, it would be desirable to provide a pouch, in particular a non-wrapped-around solution that provides storage room for wrapper paper or other small articles. Furthermore, it would be desirable to provide a pouch, in particular a non-wrapped-around solution, that is easy to manufacture at high speeds.

[0008] According to the invention a pouch in its closed

position as worded in claim 1 is provided. The pouch comprises a pouch front wall and a pouch rear wall. An access opening is provided between the upper edges of the pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall. The pouch further comprises a cover flap. The cover flap depends from the pouch rear wall. The pouch further comprises an extension flap. The extension flap depends from the cover flap. In the closed position of the pouch, the cover flap is folded over the front wall in order to overlie the access opening. In the closed position of the pouch, the extension flap is folded between the pouch front wall and the cover flap. In the closed position of the pouch, the inner surface of the extension flap adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap. This adherence is peelable. Preferably, this adherence extends along adherence zones along the side edges of the inner surfaces of the cover flap and the extension flap.

[0009] There may be exclusively peelable adhesion between the inner surfaces of the cover flap and the extension flap. Accordingly, in such embodiment there is no permanent adhesion between each the inner surface of the cover flap and the inner surface of the extension flap. This means that the cover flap and the extension flap may be unfolded by a user in order to provide a long flap. Such a pouch has the advantage of providing a long flap to the user. Such pouch further has the advantage that it can be easily opened with one single action.

[0010] Preferably, each folding line which depends from the cover flap defines either a separation line between the cover flap and the pouch rear wall or defines a separation line between the cover flap and the first of the one or more extension flaps. In such embodiment, each folding line which is present along the area of the cover flap defines an end side of the cover flap.

[0011] The cover flap may depend from the pouch rear wall at a first folding line, the first extension flap may depend from the cover flap at a second folding line, and, optionally, each further extension flap may depend from the foregoing extension flap at a further folding line.

[0012] Thus the cover flap and the extension flap are non-wrapped solutions. That means that they are not folded around the bottom of the pouch as in the prior art. Instead the cover flap and the extension flaps both being folded against each other and both lying on the pouch front wall adhering to one another along the adherence zones. This has the advantage to allow the consumer an easy opening of the flap and the pouch and an easy access to the pouch content such as loose tobacco. At the same time the long combined cover and extension flap and their advantages are maintained. Furthermore, due to the non-split back panel or rear wall of the pouch of the present invention, more space is available for both branding and information purposes.

[0013] Furthermore, in another embodiment, in its closed position, the adhered extension and cover flaps provide an additional pocket. This pocket can store consumer articles, in particular accessories such as cigarette paper or other wrappers.

[0014] Moreover, the pouch of the invention is easy to manufacture as the inner surface of the extension flap adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap forming adherence zones. The adherence zones are preferably located along the side edges of the inner surface of the cover flap and the inner surface of the extension flap.

[0015] The pouch can be made of flexible plastic sheets, laminate sheets, for example laminates made from layers of paper, metal, plastics and combinations thereof.

[0016] The pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall are connected to each other at the bottom and at their side edges. This can either be achieved by a direct connection or via additional intermediate walls. For example, pouch side walls can be present extending between the side edges of pouch front wall and pouch rear wall. Alternatively or in addition, a pouch bottom wall can be present extending between the lower edges of pouch front wall and pouch rear wall. The upper ends of pouch front wall and pouch rear wall are not connected to each other with the consequence that an access opening results which allows the consumer to access the contents of the pouch.

[0017] The inner surface of the extension flap adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap. The adhering surfaces are hereinafter referred to as adherence zones. The adherence zones can be defined, that means local in the form of spots or thin or broader lines for example along the side edges of the extension flap. Various portions of the inner surface of the extension flap may form adherence zones, for example 25 percent, preferably 50 percent, more preferably 75 percent of the inner surface of the extension flap or more adhere to the inner surface of the cover flap.

[0018] Preferably, the adherence zones are lines along the side edges of the cover flap and the extension flap. The length of the adherence zones may vary, for example, the adherence zone may extend 25 percent, preferably 50 percent more preferably 75 percent and most preferably along entire length of the side edge of the extension flap. That means, in the case of an extension of an extension flap whose side edge is 43 millimetres, the adherence zone may be from about 10 millimetres to up to 43 millimetres.

[0019] These lines may vary in their broadness, for example from about 1 millimetres to about 10 millimetres, preferably from about 2 to about 5 millimetres.

[0020] The inner surface of the extension flap can also adhere substantially throughout the inner surface of the extension flap. That means that about the entire inner surface of the extension flap adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap, for example more than 90 percent, preferably more than 95 percent and even more preferably more than 99 percent of the inner surface of the extension flap adhere to the inner surface of the cover flap.

[0021] The adherence may be permanent. Permanent adherence as used herein requires an opening force of from about 15 Newton to about 40 Newton, preferably

from about 20 Newton to about 30 Newton.

[0022] Preferably the adherence is peelable. Peelable adherence as used herein requires an opening force from about 0.5 to about 15 Newton, preferably from about 1 to about 10 Newton, more preferable from about 2 to 6 Newton. There may be exclusively peelable adherence between the inner surface of the extension flap and the inner surface of the cover flap. There may be peelable adherence and permanent adherence at different areas between the inner surface of the extension flap and the inner surface of the cover flap.

[0023] The opening force is determined using the peel force test for pouches.

[0024] The peel force test for pouches measures the force needed to separate adhered surfaces, for example to separate sealed surfaces.

[0025] Two clamps are placed on a pouch of the invention as shown in Figure 4 to pull the adhered zones. A load cell measures the force to pull apart the peelably adhered zones for 35 mm distance. 10 samples are measured during 30 minutes testing time and the average opening force is calculated. The testing is performed on a Tensile testing machine, for example commercially available under the tradename Instron 5566. Samples are conditioned for at least 24 hours at 22 ± 2 °C and 60 ± 5 % relative humidity before testing. The Tensile testing machine is set at 10 Newton in respect of the load cell, the speed is set at 150 millimetres per minute, the testing distance is set at 35 millimetres. The evaluation can be made using acquisition software, for example commercially available under the tradename Bluewhill.

[0026] The peelable adhesion of the inner surface of the extension flap and the inner surface of the cover flap can be reclosable. This means that after the peeling of the extension flap from the cover flap, the extension flap does re-adhere to the cover flap when folded back.

[0027] Preferably, the peelable adhesion of the inner surface of the extension flap and the inner surface of the cover flap are not reclosable. This means that after the peeling of the extension flap from the cover flap, the extension flap does not re-adhere to the cover flap when folded back.

[0028] Permanent adhesion can be obtained using for example thermo sealing, cold sealing, ultrasound sealing or an adhesive.

[0029] Peelable adhesion is at least one of a chemical connection such an adhesive, thermos sealing, cold sealing, ultrasound sealing, a mechanical connection such as a hook and loop fastener, Velcro or a micro-suction surface, or an electrostatic connection.

[0030] Preferably, in the closed position of the pouch, the cover flap substantially covers the pocket panel. Substantial coverage means a coverage of more than half of the surface of the pocket panel, preferably more than 75 percent, more preferably more than 90 percent and even more preferably more than 95 percent of the surface of the pocket panel. The pocket panel is the consumer good containing part of the front panel in its fully filled state.

[0031] The consumer goods are preferably tobacco, more preferably loose fine cut tobacco for roll-your-own cigarettes or make-your-own cigarettes.

[0032] Terms such as "front", "rear", "top", "bottom", "side", "upper", "lower", "height", "width", "depth" and other terms used to describe relative positions of the components of the pouch according to the invention refer to the pouch in an upright position with the consumer goods housed in the pouch and with the opening of the pouch at the top and the consumer goods accessible from the top.

[0033] Preferably the pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall are both rectangular. Further preferably, pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall do have the same height. It is more preferred that pouch rear wall and pouch front wall are both rectangular and of same size and are directly connected to each other at their side edges and their lower edges.

[0034] The extension flap and the cover flap have a width which corresponds essentially to the width of the pouch rear wall. This has the advantage that, when the cover flap and the extension flap are folded, the pouch is substantially completely closed, reducing the likelihood of consumer goods falling out of open gaps at the top of the pouch.

[0035] The pouch front wall starts at its bottom and ends at its upper edge. The pouch rear wall starts at its bottom and ends where the cover flap starts. There is not necessarily a folding line or hinge line between pouch rear wall and cover flap but more preferred the cover flap is just a continuation of the pouch rear wall. The cover flap in turn ends where the extension flap starts. The extension flap ends either at its upper edge or where an optional further, second extension flap starts. The further, second extension flap ends either at its upper edge or where an optional third extension flap starts. The third extension flap ends at its upper edge.

[0036] In the upper third of the pouch rear wall, with the exception of at the end of the pouch rear wall and the beginning of the cover flap, there is provided a first folding line. At the end of the cover flap and the beginning of the extension flap there is provided a second folding line. Optionally, at the end of the extension flap and the beginning of the further, second extension flap there is provided a third folding line. Further optionally, at the end of the second extension flap and the beginning of the third extension flap there is provided a fourth folding line.

[0037] In case of cover flap and only one extension flap the distance between first and second folding lines preferably is about 3 to about 8 centimeters, more preferably about 4 to about 7 centimeters, and even more preferably about 5 to about 6 centimeters. In case of cover flap and two or three extension flaps the distance between second and third folding lines is about 3 to about 7 centimeters, preferably about 4 to about 7 centimeters, and more preferably about 5 to about 6 centimeters and the distance between third and fourth folding lines is about 3 to about 6 centimeters, preferably about 4 to

about 6 centimeters, and more preferably about 4 to about 5 centimeters.

[0038] Preferably, only the cover flap and the extension flap are present. In that case the cover flap and the extension flap are bent forward around the first folding line and towards the pouch front wall. The extension flap is then bent inwardly by about 180° around the second folding line such that it is lying on the pouch front wall and essentially parallel to the pouch front wall and the cover flap. The inner surface of the extension flap is adhered to the inner surface of the cover flap along adherence zones preferably along the side edges of the extension and cover flaps.

[0039] In the event that two extension flaps are present, the cover flap and the first extension flaps are bent the same way as described above in the preceding paragraph and the second extension flap is then bent by about 180° such that it is lying between and parallel to cover flap and first extension flap. In the event that three extension flaps are present they and the cover flap are bent in a similar way as described above with the result that all extension flaps and the cover flap are arranged in the closed position of the pouch in a more or less parallel arrangement. Preferably, the one extension flap depends from the cover panel. If not specified otherwise, the description refers to one extension flap.

[0040] The bent and folded cover and extension flaps lying on the pouch front wall are then connected to the pouch in a reclosable manner. The reclosable connection can be obtained by at least one of a chemical connection such as an adhesive, a mechanical connection such as a hook and loop fastener, a sticker or a micro-suction surface, or an electrostatic connection. The reclosable connection is either between the cover flap and the pouch, more preferably the pouch front wall, or between the extension flap and the pouch, more preferably the pouch front wall, or between both the cover flap and the extension flap and the pouch, more preferably the pouch front wall. For example, it is preferred that an adhesive is applied to the cover flap such that it comes into contact with the pouch, more preferably the pouch front wall, and closes the pouch. The adhesive is of such a nature that it allows a repeated opening and closing of the pouch.

[0041] Preferably, the pouch is provided with a sticker which allows repeated opening and closing of the pouch. Part of such a sticker is in a fixed connection to the cover flap such that it is permanently connected to the cover flap and cannot be removed during normal operation conditions of the pouch. A further part of the sticker which is not connected to the cover flap is provided with an adhesive which gets in contact with the pouch, more preferably the pouch front wall, and allows a repeated opening and closing of the pouch. It is more preferred that the adhesive on the sticker is not applied to the whole part of the sticker which is not fixed to the cover flap and in particular not to the free end of this part. This allows the consumer an easy grip of the sticker for opening and closing and reopening the pouch.

[0042] In the closed position of the pouch, the inner surface of the extension flap will preferably cover from 15 to 95 percent, preferably from about 25 to about 75 percent and more preferably about 30 to about 60 percent of the inner surface of the cover flap.

[0043] In a preferred embodiment, if the cover flap is about from about 70 to about 80 millimetres long, the length of the extension flap will be from about 40 to about 50 millimetres.

[0044] Preferably the cover flap is rectangular, the extension flap is rectangular and the heights and the widths of the extension flap and of the cover flap are essentially the same.

[0045] A pouch according to the invention can be prepared from a rectangular sheet, wherein the lower edge of the rectangular sheet is folded once by about 180 degrees or twice by about 180 degrees, which means by about 90 degrees in each of the two folding steps such that a pouch bottom wall results, the facing side edges of the folded lower part of the rectangular sheet are connected to each other, optionally after adding pouch side walls, to form a pouch with a pouch front wall, a pouch rear wall, a cover flap, an extension flap, optionally a pouch bottom wall and optionally pouch side walls, wherein before or after folding the lower edge of the rectangular sheet consumer goods are applied to the rectangular sheet or into the pouch such that these consumer goods are within the pouch after the folding step, the cover flap is folded towards the pouch front wall and the extension flap is folded inwardly such that it is arranged between pouch front wall and cover flap. The inner surface of the extension flap is adhered, preferably peelably sealed to the inner surface of the cover flap. A means for the reclosable connection of cover flap or extension flap to the pouch or of cover flap and extension flap to the pouch is applied to the cover flap or to the extension flap or to the cover flap and the extension flap such that it allows closing and opening of the pouch in a reversible manner. The means for the reclosable connection is connected to the pouch yielding the pouch in a closed condition. The method optionally further comprises applying two complementary closure strips onto the rectangular sheet such that after folding of the rectangular sheet to the pouch these complementary closure strips are located on opposite sides of the access opening of the pouch. In the case of heat sealing, the step order of the manufacturing process may be as follows. The adhesive is applied either online during the manufacturing of the pouch or preapplied to the sheet by the sheet supplier. Then the sheet is folded to form the pouch as described above. Finally, the adhesive is heat activated to provide for the permanent and peelable seal.

[0046] Where connecting of different walls or parts of the pouch is necessary, for example of the edges of the pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall, this can be done by heat-sealing, ultrasonic welding, adhesive, cold sealing or other suitable connecting techniques that preferably create a substantially gas or moisture tight connec-

tion between the walls. Either before that connecting step or thereafter consumer goods, such as loose or cut tobacco, can be introduced into the pouch formed by the pouch front wall and the pouch rear wall. Thereafter the cover flap and the extension flap is folded at least twice and each time by about 180 degrees around first and second folding lines as described above. Thereinafter the inner surface of the extension flap is adhered, preferably peelably sealed to the inner surface of the cover flap. An adhesive or a sticker is applied to the pouch and the pouch of the invention is closed, yielding the pouch of the invention in closed position.

[0047] Optionally, the rectangular sheet wherefrom the pouch is made includes a second and further optionally a third extension flap. In that case the second extension flap depends from the first extension flap and a third folding line is provided between first and second extension flaps and the third extension flap depends from the second extension flap and a fourth folding line is provided between second and third extension flaps. If present, the second extension flap is folded by about 180 degrees around the third folding line and the third extension flap is folded by about 180 degrees around the fourth folding line.

The present invention further comprises a method of preparing a pouch of the invention comprising the steps of

providing a rectangular sheet,

folding the rectangular sheet once by about 180 degrees or twice by about 180 degrees such that a pouch bottom wall results, the facing side edges of the folded lower part of the rectangular sheet being connected to each other, optionally after adding pouch side walls, to form a pouch with a pouch front wall, a pouch rear wall, a cover flap, an extension flap, optionally a pouch bottom wall and optionally pouch side walls,

before or after folding the lower edge of the rectangular sheet, applying consumer goods to the rectangular sheet or into the pouch such that these consumer goods are within the pouch after the folding step,

folding the cover flap towards the pouch front wall, folding the extension flap inwardly such that it is arranged between pouch front wall and cover flap, adhering the inner surface of the extension flap to the inner surface of the cover flap, and reclosably connecting the cover flap to the pouch by way of a connecting means.

[0048] The present invention further comprises a method of preparing a pouch comprising the steps of

providing a rectangular sheet,

folding the rectangular sheet once by about 180 degrees, or folding the rectangular sheet twice by about 90 degrees each such that a pouch bottom wall results,

connecting the facing side edges of the folded lower part of the rectangular sheet to each other, optionally after adding pouch side walls, to form a pouch with a pouch front wall, a pouch rear wall, optionally a pouch bottom wall and optionally pouch side walls, and depending from the pouch rear wall a cover flap and one or more extension flaps, preferably one extension flap,
 applying consumer goods to the rectangular sheet before folding the lower edge of the rectangular sheet such that these consumer goods are within the pouch after the folding step or applying consumer goods into the pouch after folding the lower edge of the rectangular sheet,
 folding the cover flap towards the pouch front wall, folding the extension flap inwardly such that it is arranged between pouch front wall and cover flap, peelably adhering the inner surface of the extension flap to the inner surface of the cover flap, and reclosably connecting the cover flap to the pouch by way of a connecting means.

[0049] The invention will be further described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a front view of a pouch 10 of the state of the art in closed position;
 Figure 2 shows a front view of the pouch 10 of the invention open position;
 Figure 3 shows a front view of the pouch 10 of the invention in closed position and
 Figure 4 shows the setting of the peel force test for pouches.

[0050] The reference numerals in Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4 have following meaning:

10	Pouch
12	Cover flap
14	Extension flap
16	Pouch opening
22	Front wall or panel of the pouch
24	Rear wall or panel of the pouch
26	First folding line
28	Second folding line
32	Sticker
34	Adherence zone

36 Side edge

38 Clamp

5 40 Roll

42 Tensile measurement equipment

44 Wire

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[0051] Figure 1 is a front view of a wrapped-around pouch 10 of the state of the art. The cover flap 12 can be seen just as part of the pouch front wall 22 and a sticker 32 for closing the pouch 10. The extension panel 14 is wrapped around the pouch formed of the front wall 22 and back wall 24.

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[0052] In Figure 2 the non-wrapped-around pouch 10 of the invention is seen in a side view and in open position with pouch front wall 22 and pouch rear wall 24. The side edges 36 of the pouch front wall and the pouch back wall are permanently sealed. The pouch opening 16 is given at the top of the open pouch 10, and it can be seen that the consumer goods, for example loose tobacco inside the pouch, can easily be accessed by the consumer.

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Pouch front wall 22 and pouch rear wall 24 do have the same height. In the upper third of pouch rear wall 24 a first folding line 26 is given. A cover flap 12 extends between the upper end of the pouch rear wall 24 and second folding line 28, whereas the extension flap 14 depends from flap 12. The extension flap 14 is folded inwardly around second folding line 28 and is eventually arranged essentially parallel to pouch front wall 22 and cover flap 12. The inner surface of the extension flap 14 adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap 12. The adhesion may be peelable. The adhesion may be exclusively peelable. The sticker 32 is connects the cover flap 14 to the pouch.

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[0053] In Figure 3 the non-wrapped-around pouch 10 of Figure 2 is seen in a side view and in closed position. In Figure 3 the cover flap 12 and the extension flap 14 are folded downwards around second first folding line 26. The extension flap 14 is folded inwardly around second folding line 28 and is eventually arranged essentially parallel to pouch front wall 22 and cover flap 12. The inner surface of the extension flap 14 adheres to the inner surface of the cover flap 12 along the adherence zones 34. The adherence zones cover the side edges of the inner surfaces of the cover flap 12 and the extension flap 14.

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[0054] The pouch 10 in Figure 3 is closed by sticker 32. Part but not all of sticker 32 is fixed to part of the cover flap 12 in a permanent and under normal handling conditions of the pouch 10 non-removable way. The remaining part of sticker 32 is partially applied with an adhesive which allows a repeated opening and closing of the pouch. However, only part of the sticker 32 is applied with such an adhesive meaning that a free end 34 of sticker 32 results. This free end 34 can be used by the

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consumer as a grip to open and close the pouch 10.

[0055] Figure 4 shows the peel force test for pouches. A pouch sample 10 is laid down horizontally and two clamps 38 are set at the free edge of the extension flap 14 in equal distance from the middle of the free, that means non-adhered, edge of the extension flap 14. Wires 44 lead the opening force from the clamps 38 to the Tensile testing equipment 42 over the direction roller 40. The force necessary to pull the extension flap and cover flap apart is measured.

Claims

1. A pouch (10) comprising in its closed position a pouch front wall (22) and a pouch rear wall (24),

wherein an access opening (16) is provided between the upper edges of the pouch front wall (22) and the pouch rear wall (24),

the pouch (10) further comprising a cover flap (12), wherein the cover flap (12) depends from the pouch rear wall (24), and an extension flap (14), wherein the extension flap (14) depends from the cover flap (12),

wherein, in the closed position of the pouch (10), the cover flap (12) is folded over the front wall (22) in order to overlie the access opening (16), wherein, in the closed position of the pouch (10), the inner surface of the extension flap (14) is peelably adhered to the inner surface of the cover flap (12), and

wherein the extension flap (14) and the cover flap (12) have a width which corresponds essentially to the width of the pouch rear wall (24),

characterized in that in the upper third of the pouch rear wall (24), with the exception of at the end of the pouch rear wall (24) and the beginning of the cover flap (12), there is provided a first folding line (26), and

at the end of the cover flap (12) and the beginning of the extension flap (14) there is provided a second folding line (28).
2. The pouch (10) according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein the adhesion of the inner surface of the extension flap (14) and the inner surface of the cover flap (12) is local or substantially throughout the inner surface of the extension flap (14).
3. The pouch (10) according to anyone of claims 1 or 2 wherein each folding line which is present along the area of the cover flap (12) defines an end side of the cover flap (12).
4. The pouch (10) according to claim 1 wherein the force for opening the peelably adhered extension flap (14) is from 1 to 10 Newton as measured by the peel force test for pouches.
5. The pouch (10) according to claim 1 wherein the peelable adhesion of the extension flap (14) is not reclosable.
6. The pouch (10) according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein the peelable adhesion of the extension flap (14) is at least one of a chemical connection such as an adhesive, thermo sealing, cold sealing, ultrasound sealing, a mechanical connection such as a hook and loop fastener, velcro or a micro-suction surface, or an electrostatic connection.
7. The pouch (10) according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein, in the closed position of the pouch (10), the cover flap (12) substantially covers the pocket panel.
8. A pouch (10) according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein, in the closed position of the pouch (10) the cover flap (12) covers about 95 percent to about 100 percent of the surface area of the pouch front side.
9. A pouch (10) according to anyone of the previous claims wherein the pouch front wall (22) and the pouch rear wall (24) are rectangular and do have the same height.
10. A pouch (10) according to anyone of the previous claims wherein pouch front wall (22) and pouch rear wall (24) are both rectangular and of same size, and wherein the cover flap (12) is reclosably connected to the pouch (10) by way of a sticker (32).
11. A pouch (10) according to anyone of the previous claims which contains tobacco.
12. A pouch (10) according to anyone of the previous claims, wherein the pouch front wall (22) and the pouch rear wall (24) are permanently sealed to each other via the sides of the pouch front wall (22) and the pouch rear wall (24) by thermo sealing, cold sealing, ultrasound sealing or an adhesive.
13. A method of preparing a pouch (10) according to any of the preceding claims comprising the steps of

providing a rectangular sheet,

folding the rectangular sheet once by about 180 degrees or twice by about 180 degrees such that a pouch bottom wall results, the facing side edges (36) of the folded lower part of the rectangular sheet being connected to each other, optionally after adding pouch side walls, to form a pouch (10) with a pouch front wall (22), a pouch rear wall (24), a cover flap (12), an extension flap

(14), optionally a pouch bottom wall and optionally pouch side walls,
 before or after folding the lower edge of the rectangular sheet, applying consumer goods to the rectangular sheet or into the pouch (10) such that these consumer goods are within the pouch (10) after the folding step,
 folding the cover flap (12) towards the pouch front wall (22),
 folding the extension flap (14) inwardly such that it is arranged between pouch front wall (22) and cover flap (12),
 and
 reclosably connecting the cover flap (12) to the pouch (10) by way of a connecting means, **characterized by** peelably adhering the inner surface of the extension flap (14) to the inner surface of the cover flap (12).

Patentansprüche

1. Beutel (10), der in seiner geschlossenen Stellung eine Beutelvorderwand (22) und eine Beutelnrückwand (24) aufweist,

wobei eine Zugangsöffnung (16) zwischen den oberen Kanten der Beutelvorderwand (22) und der Beutelnrückwand (24) vorgesehen ist, der Beutel (10) weiter eine Abdeckklappe (12) aufweist, wobei die Abdeckklappe (12) von der Beutelnrückwand (24) abhängig ist, und eine Erweiterungsklappe (14), wobei die Erweiterungsklappe (14) von der Abdeckklappe (12) abhängig ist, wobei in der geschlossenen Stellung des Beutels (10) die Abdeckklappe (12) über die Vorderwand (22) gefaltet ist, sodass sie über der Zugangsöffnung (16) liegt, wobei in der geschlossenen Stellung des Beutels (10) die Innenfläche der Erweiterungsklappe (14) an der Innenfläche der Abdeckklappe (12) ablösbar angehaftet ist, und wobei die Erweiterungsklappe (14) und die Abdeckklappe (12) eine Breite aufweisen, die im Wesentlichen der Breite der Beutelnrückwand (24) entspricht, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem oberen Drittel der Beutelnrückwand (24), mit Ausnahme des Endes der Beutelnrückwand (24) und des Anfangs der Abdeckklappe (12), eine erste Faltlinie (26) vorgesehen ist, und wobei an dem Ende der Abdeckklappe (12) und an dem Anfang der Erweiterungsklappe (14) eine zweite Faltlinie (28) vorgesehen ist.

2. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Haftung der Innenfläche der Erwei-

terungsklappe (14) und der Innenfläche der Abdeckklappe (12) lokal ist oder im Wesentlichen über die gesamte Innenfläche der Erweiterungsklappe (14) erfolgt.

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 3. Beutel (10) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 oder 2, wobei jede Faltlinie, die entlang des Bereichs der Abdeckklappe (12) vorhanden ist, eine Endseite der Abdeckklappe (12) definiert.
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 4. Beutel (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei die Kraft zum Öffnen der ablösbar angehafteten Erweiterungsklappe (14) wie gemessen durch den Ablösekräfttest für Beutel 1 bis 10 Newton beträgt.
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 5. Beutel (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei die ablösbare Haftung der Erweiterungsklappe (14) nicht wieder-verschließbar ist.
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 6. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei die ablösbare Haftung der Erweiterungsklappe (14) mindestens eines ist von einer chemischen Verbindung, wie beispielsweise ein Klebstoff, eine Thermosiegelung, eine Kaltsiegelung, eine Ultraschallsiegelung, einer mechanischen Verbindung, wie beispielsweise ein Klettverschluss, ein Klettband oder eine Mikroaugfläche, oder einer elektrostatischen Verbindung.
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 7. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei in der geschlossenen Stellung des Beutels (10) die Abdeckklappe (12) im Wesentlichen das Taschenelement abdeckt.
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 8. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei in der geschlossenen Stellung des Beutels (10) die Abdeckklappe (12) ungefähr 95 Prozent bis ungefähr 100 Prozent der Fläche der Beutelvorderseite abdeckt.
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 9. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Beutelvorderwand (22) und die Beutelnrückwand (24) rechteckig sind und die gleiche Höhe aufweisen.
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 10. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei sowohl die Vorderwand (22) als auch die Rückwand (24) des Beutels rechteckig ist und die gleiche Größe aufweist, und wobei die Abdeckklappe (12) mit dem Beutel (10) mittels eines Aufklebers (32) wiederverschließbar verbunden ist.
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 11. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, der Tabak enthält.
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 12. Beutel (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Beutelvorderwand (22) und die Beutelnrückwand (24) über die Seiten der Beutelvorder-
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wand (22) und der Beutelnrückwand (24) durch Thermoschweißen, Kaltschweißen, Ultraschallschweißen oder einen Klebstoff dauerhaft miteinander versiegelt sind.

13. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines Beutels (10) nach einem beliebigen der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, aufweisend die Schritte

Bereitstellen eines rechteckigen Flächengebildes,

Falten des rechteckigen Flächengebildes einmal um ungefähr 180 Grad oder zweimal um ungefähr 180 Grad, sodass eine Beutelbodenwand daraus resultiert, wobei die einander zugewandten Seitenkanten (36) des gefalteten unteren Teils des rechteckigen Flächengebildes, optional nach Hinzufügen von Beutelseitenwänden, miteinander verbunden werden, um einen Beutel (10) mit einer Beutelvorderwand (22), einer Beutelnrückwand (24), einer Abdeckklappe (12), einer Erweiterungsklappe (14), optional einer Beutelbodenwand und optional Beutelseitenwänden zu bilden,

vor oder nach dem Falten der Unterkante des rechteckigen Flächengebildes, Legen von Verbrauchsgütern auf das rechteckige Flächengebilde oder in den Beutel (10), sodass sich diese Verbrauchsgüter nach dem Faltschritt innerhalb des Beutels (10) befinden,

Falten der Abdeckklappe (12) in Richtung der Beutelvorderwand (22),

Falten der Erweiterungsklappe (14) nach innen, sodass sie zwischen der Beutelvorderwand (22) und der Abdeckklappe (12) angeordnet ist, und

wiederverschließbares Verbinden der Abdeckklappe (12) mit dem Beutel (10) mittels eines Verbindungsmittels, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Innenfläche der Erweiterungsklappe (14) an der Innenfläche der Abdeckklappe (12) ablösbar angehaftet wird.

Revendications

1. Sachet (10) comprenant dans sa position fermée une paroi avant de sachet (22) et une paroi arrière de sachet (24),

dans lequel une ouverture d'accès (16) est prévue entre les bords supérieurs de la paroi avant de sachet (22) et la paroi arrière de sachet (24), le sachet (10) comprenant en outre un rabat de recouvrement (12), dans lequel le rabat de recouvrement (12) dépend de la paroi arrière de sachet (24), et un rabat d'extension (14), dans lequel le rabat d'extension (14) dépend du rabat

de recouvrement (12),

dans lequel, dans la position fermée du sachet (10), le rabat de recouvrement (12) est plié sur la paroi avant (22) afin de recouvrir l'ouverture d'accès (16),

dans lequel, dans la position fermée du sachet (10), la surface intérieure du rabat d'extension (14) adhère de manière pelable à la surface intérieure du rabat de recouvrement (12), et dans lequel le rabat d'extension (14) et le rabat de recouvrement (12) ont une largeur qui correspond essentiellement à la largeur de la paroi arrière de sachet (24),

caractérisé en ce que dans le tiers supérieur de la paroi arrière de sachet (24), à l'exception de l'extrémité de la paroi arrière de sachet (24) et du début du rabat de recouvrement (12), il est prévu une première ligne de pliage (26), et à l'extrémité du rabat de recouvrement (12) et au début du rabat d'extension (14) il est prévu une deuxième ligne de pliage (28) .

2. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'adhérence de la surface intérieure du rabat d'extension (14) et de la surface intérieure du rabat de recouvrement (12) est locale ou sensiblement sur toute la surface intérieure du rabat d'extension (14).

3. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 ou 2, dans lequel chaque ligne de pliage qui est présente le long de la zone du rabat de recouvrement (12) définit un côté d'extrémité du rabat de recouvrement (12).

4. Sachet (10) selon la revendication 1, dans lequel la force pour ouvrir le rabat d'extension (14) qui adhère de manière pelable est de 1 à 10 Newton, telle que mesurée par l'essai de force de pelage pour les sachets.

5. Sachet (10) selon la revendication 1, dans lequel l'adhérence pelable du rabat d'extension (14) n'est pas refermable.

6. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'adhérence pelable du rabat d'extension (14) est au moins l'un d'un raccordement chimique tel qu'un adhésif, thermoscellage, scellage à froid, scellage par ultrasons, un raccordement mécanique tel qu'une fermeture auto-agrippante, un velcro ou une surface de micro-aspiration, ou un raccordement électrostatique.

7. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel, dans la position fermée du sachet (10), le rabat de recouvrement (12) recouvre substantiellement le panneau de poche.

8. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel, dans la position fermée du sachet (10), le rabat de recouvrement (12) recouvre environ 95 pour cent à environ 100 pour cent de la surface du côté avant de sachet. 5
9. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel la paroi avant de sachet (22) et la paroi arrière de sachet (24) sont rectangulaires et ont la même hauteur. 10
10. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel la paroi avant de sachet (22) et la paroi arrière de sachet (24) sont à la fois rectangulaires et de même taille, et dans lequel le rabat de recouvrement (12) est raccordé de manière refermable au sachet (10) au moyen d'un autocollant (32). 15
11. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, qui contient du tabac. 20
12. Sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel la paroi avant de sachet (22) et la paroi arrière de sachet (24) sont scellées de manière permanente l'une à l'autre via les côtés de la paroi avant de sachet (22) et la paroi arrière de sachet (24) par thermoscellage, scellage à froid, scellage par ultrasons ou un adhésif. 25
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13. Procédé de préparation d'un sachet (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes comprenant les étapes
- de fourniture d'une feuille rectangulaire, 35
- de pliage de la feuille rectangulaire une fois d'environ 180 degrés ou deux fois d'environ 180 degrés de sorte qu'il en résulte une paroi inférieure de sachet, les bords latéraux opposés (36) de la partie inférieure pliée de la feuille rectangulaire étant raccordés les uns aux autres, éventuellement après l'ajout des parois de côté de sachet, pour former un sachet (10) avec une paroi avant de sachet (22), une paroi arrière de sachet (24), un rabat de recouvrement (12), un rabat d'extension (14), éventuellement une paroi inférieure de sachet et éventuellement des parois latérales de sachet, 40
- avant ou après le pliage du bord inférieur de la feuille rectangulaire, d'application de biens de consommation sur la feuille rectangulaire ou dans le sachet (10) de telle sorte que ces biens de consommation se trouvent dans le sachet (10) après l'étape de pliage, 45
- de pliage du rabat de recouvrement (12) vers la paroi avant de sachet (22), 50
- de pliage du rabat d'extension (14) vers l'intérieur de telle sorte qu'il soit disposé entre la paroi 55
- avant de sachet (22) et le rabat de recouvrement (12),
et
de raccordement refermable du rabat de recouvrement (12) au sachet (10) à l'aide d'un moyen de raccordement, **caractérisé par** l'adhérence pelable de la surface intérieure du rabat d'extension (14) à la surface intérieure du rabat de recouvrement (12).

Figure 1

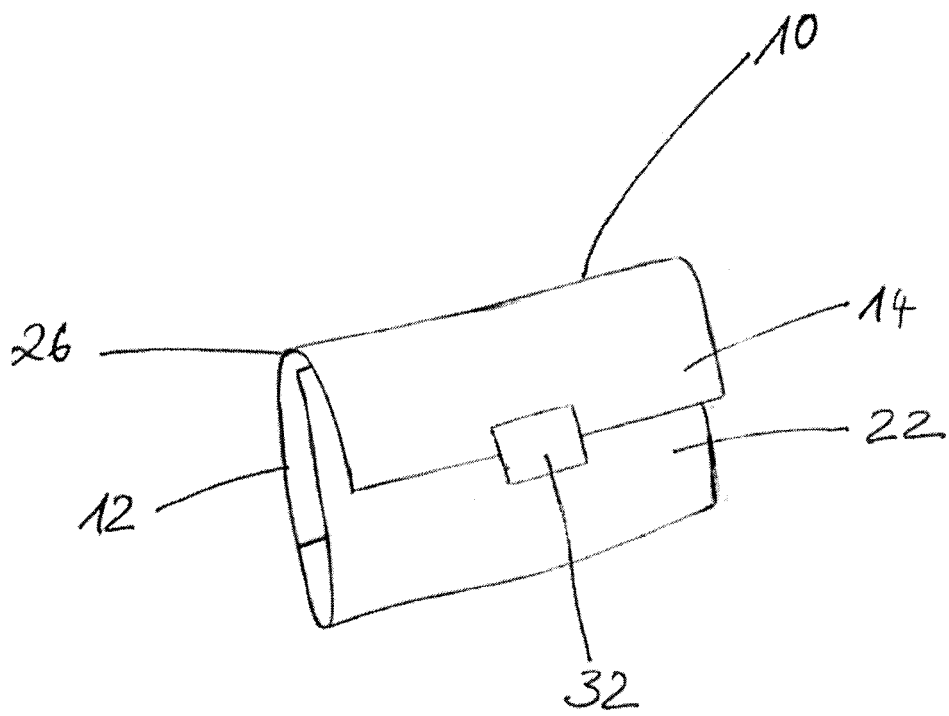


Figure 2

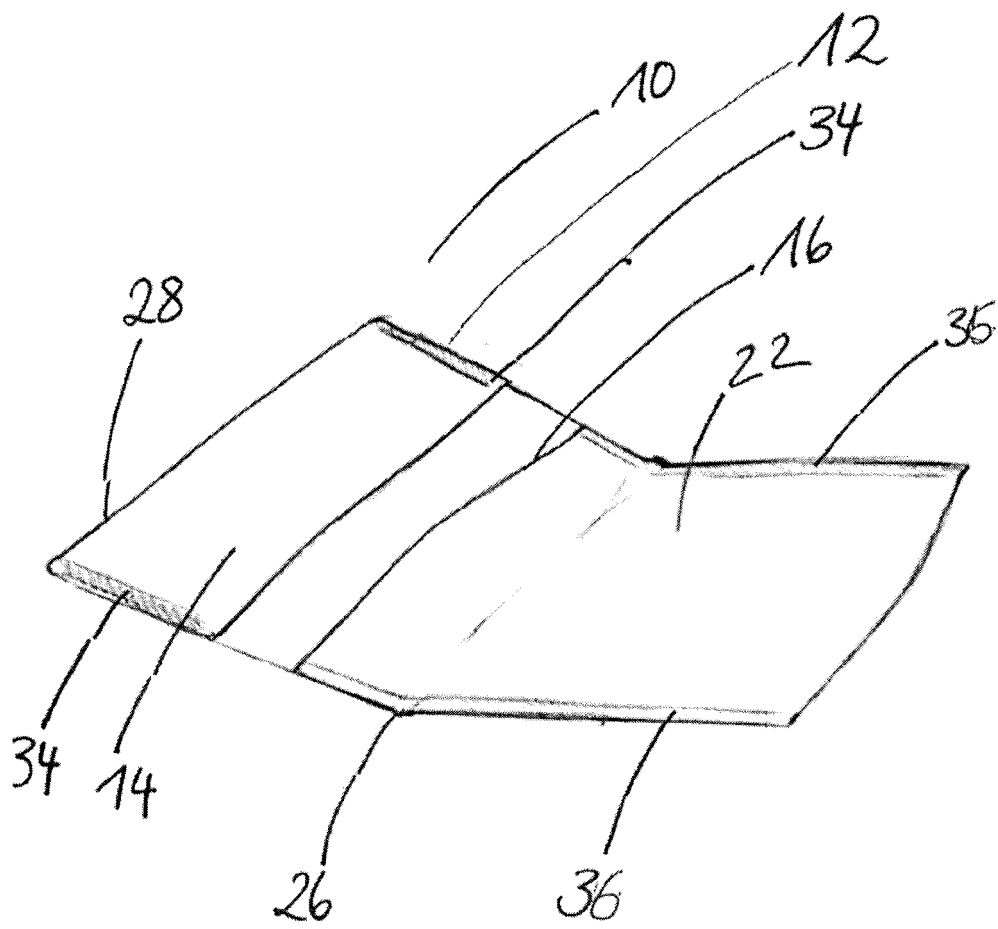


Figure 3

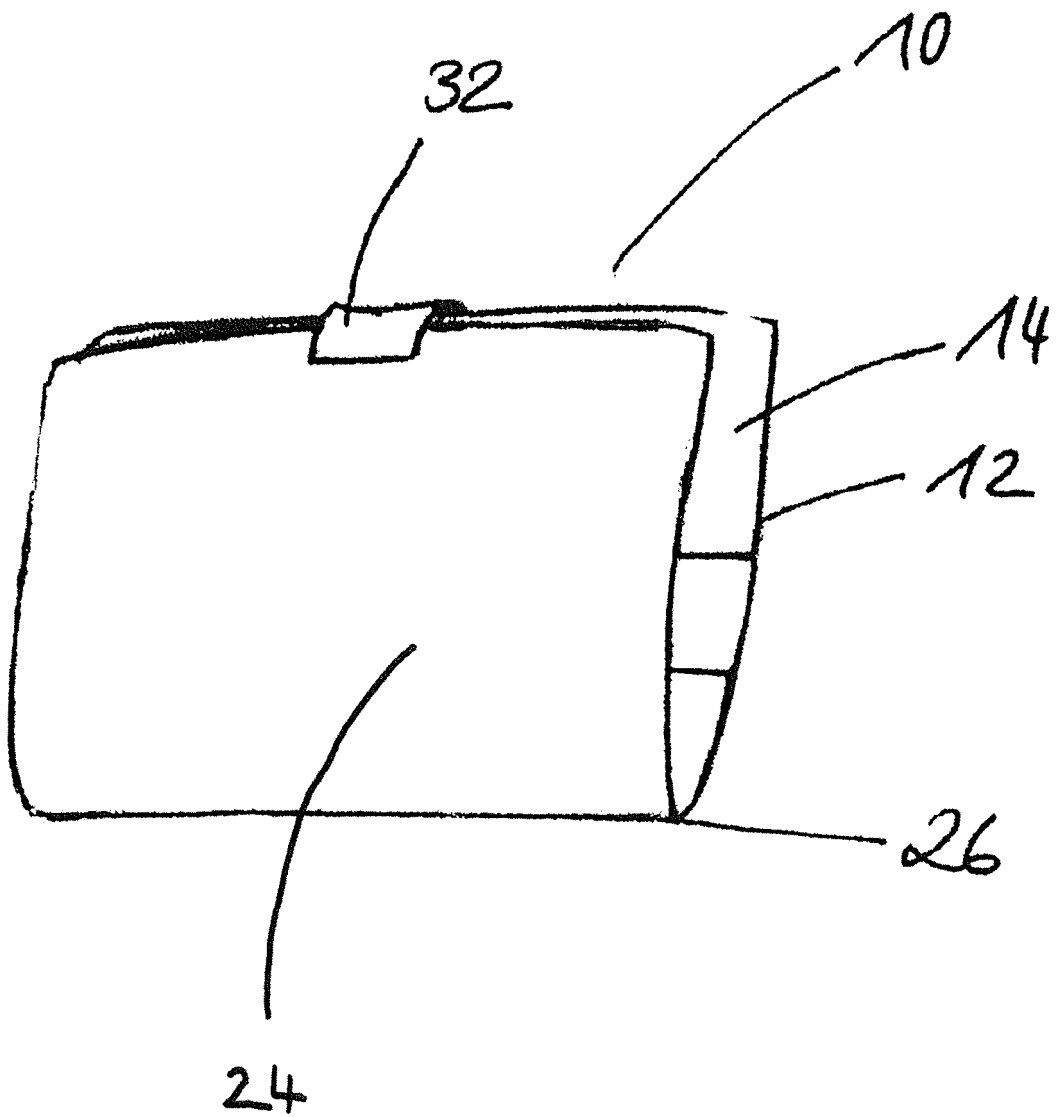
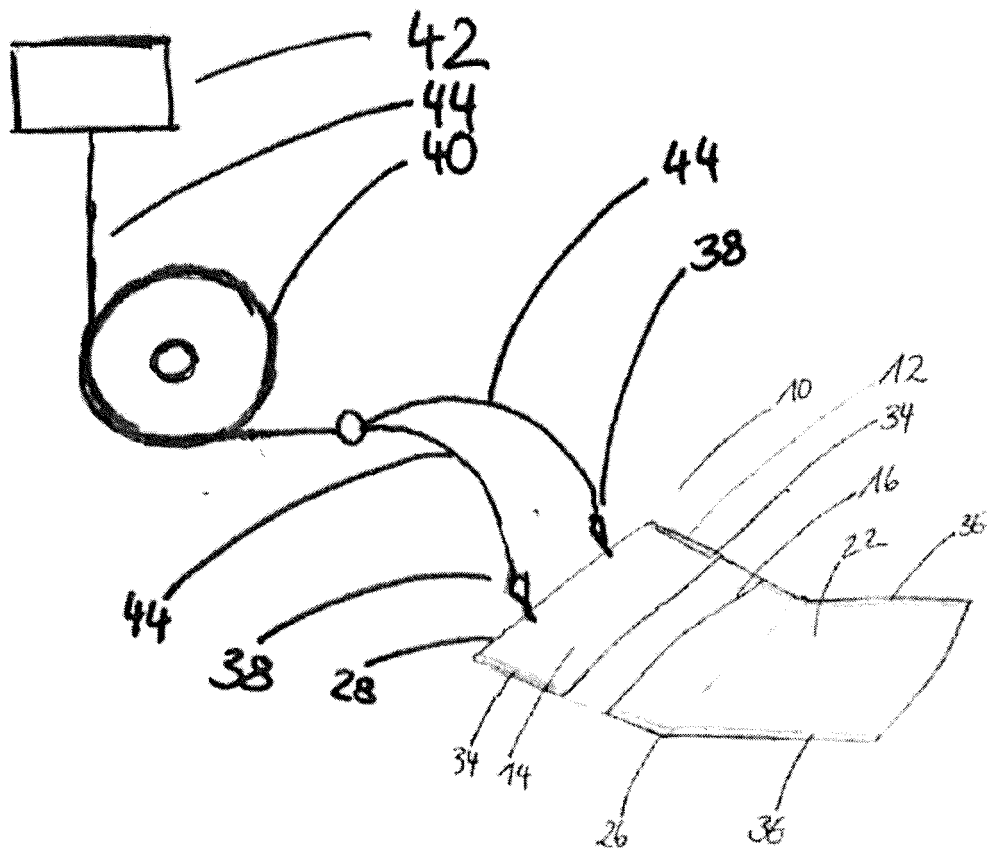


Figure 4



REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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