United States Patent [19]

Collura et al.

[11] **3,887,067**

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[54] **PACKAGE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **206/45.14;** 206/45.21; 206/45.26; 206/277; 206/491; 229/16 D

[51] **Int. Cl.** **B65d 5/50**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 206/45.21, 45.25, 45.26, 206/277, 327, 418, 491, 44, 45.13, 45.14, 206/476, 437, 485, 45.19; 248/152; 229/16 D

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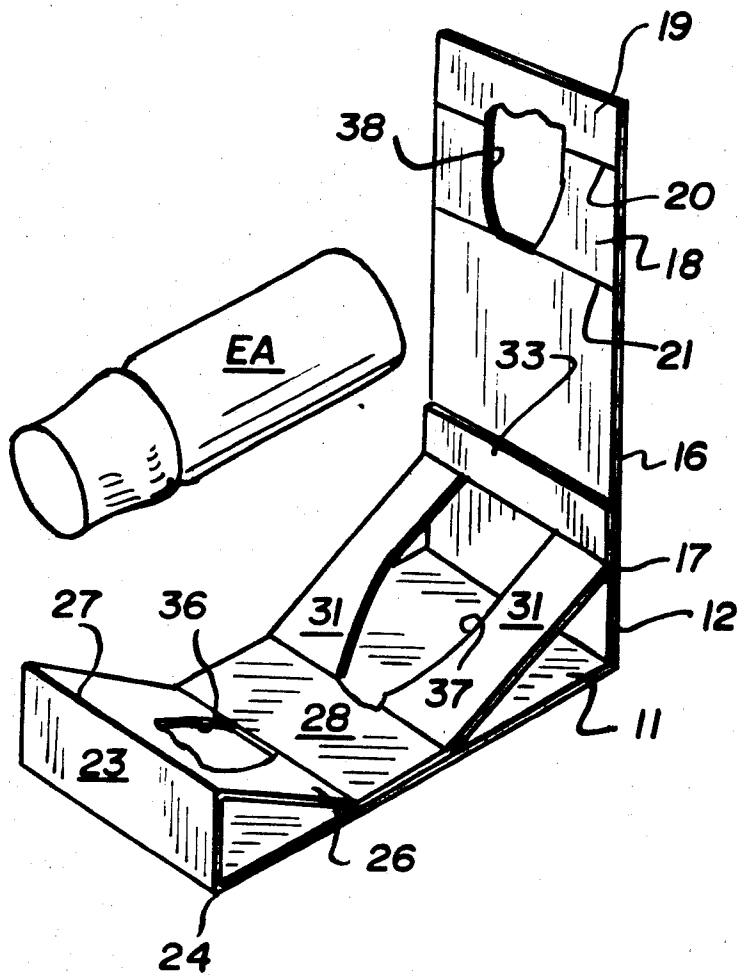
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

This is a package for displaying a generally elongated article of merchandise and formed from a cut and scored blank of paperboard or the like comprising backing end and closing panels including a plurality of foldably connected article cradling panels foldably connected to one end of the backing panel. Certain of the article cradling panels are folded to define a first cradling structure disposed at one end of the backing panel and the other of the article cradling panels are folded to provide a second cradling structure disposed at the other end of the backing panel, the closing panel being folded to position over the first and second cradling structures being secured to the first cradling structure.

1 Claim, 3 Drawing Figures



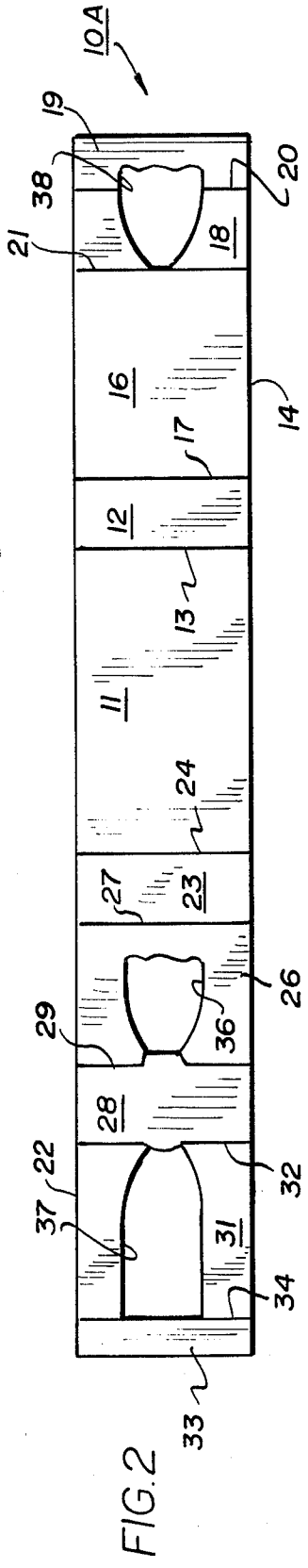


FIG. 2

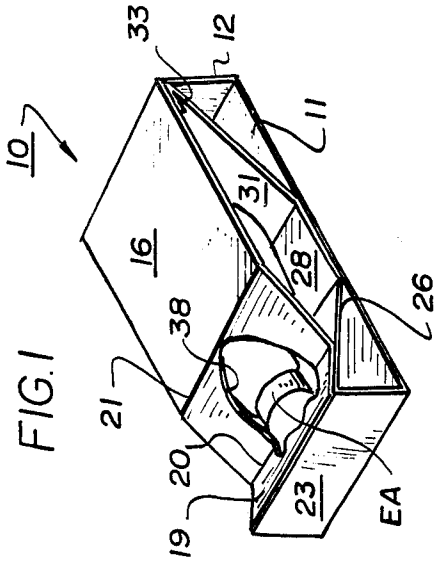


FIG. 1

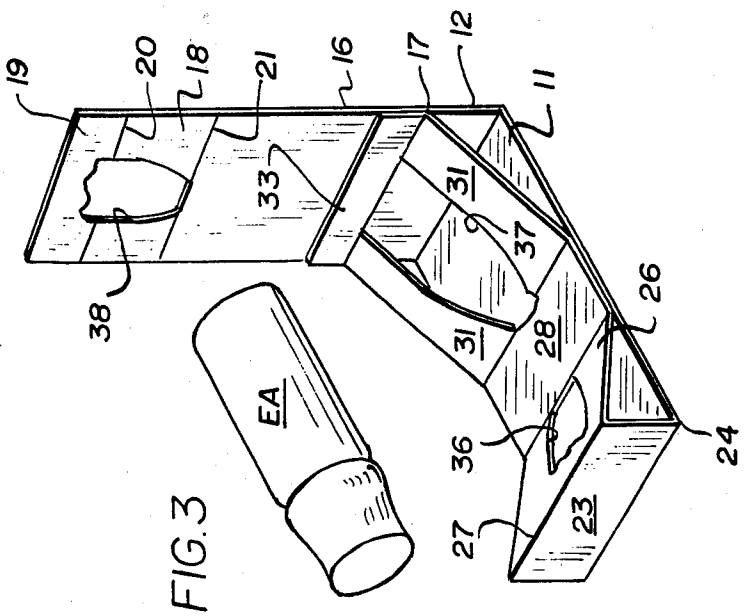


FIG. 3

PACKAGE

THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is an isometric view showing a package constructed according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of a cut and scored blank for forming the structure seen in FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is a perspective view showing a step of loading an article of merchandise into the package structure prior to the final assembly thereof.

The improved package structure according to the present invention is referred to generally by the reference numeral **10** and is formed from a cut and scored blank **10A** seen in FIG. **2.** Blank **10A** includes a backing panel **11** and an end panel **12** foldably connected to one end thereof along a fold line **13,** and a closing panel referred to generally by the reference numeral **14** and comprising a closing panel element **16** foldably connected to the end panel **12** along a fold line **17,** and closing flaps **18** and **19,** closing flap **18** being foldably connected to the closing panel element **16** along a fold line **21,** closing flap elements **18** and **19** being foldably connected to each other along a fold line **20.**

A plurality of foldably connected article cradling panels are denoted generally by the reference numeral **22** and include a first cradling panel element **23** foldably connected to an opposite end of the backing panel **11** along a fold line **24.** A second cradling panel element **26** is foldably connected along a fold line **27** to the first cradling panel element **26.** An attaching panel element **28** is foldably connected along a fold line **29** to the second cradling panel element **26** and is arranged to be glued or otherwise secured to the backing panel **11** as seen in FIGS. **1** and **3.**

A second cradling structure is formed by third article cradling panel element **31** foldably connected to the panel element **28** along a fold line **32** and a securing flap **33** is foldably connected to the second cradling panel **31** along a fold line **34.**

The cradling elements described are disposed as seen in FIGS. **1** and **3,** and securing flap **33** is glued or otherwise secured to closing panel element **16** as seen in FIG. **3.** The two article cradling structures are adapted to support an elongated article EA seen in FIG. **3,** and

panel element **26** is provided with an aperture **36** for the reception of one end of the article EA, article cradling panel **31** being likewise provided with an aperture **37** to receive the other end of the article EA.

When the article EA is located as described on the cradling structures, the closing panel **14** comprised of the elements **16, 18** and **19** is folded to a closing position as seen in FIG. **1.** Closing flaps **18** and **19** have an aperture **38** therein through which one end of the article EA may be viewed as seen in FIG. **1.** Closing flap **19** is glued to the panel element **26** forming the first cradling structure previously described.

We claim:

1. An open ended package for displaying and retaining a generally elongated article of merchandise, said package being formed from a cut and scored blank of paperboard or the like, comprising:

a. interconnected closing, end, backing, and cradling panels and a pair of closing flaps having article exposing apertures;

b. said article cradling panels including:

i. first, second and third panel elements wherein said second and third elements have article receiving apertures;

ii. an attaching panel element;

c. a securing flap foldably joined to said third panel element;

d. said attaching panel element being secured to the top side of said backing panel, said securing flap being attached to the underside of said closing panel, and one of said closing flaps being secured to the top side of said second cradling panel element;

e. said first cradling panel element being positioned in substantially vertical position between said backing panel and said second cradling panel element with said second cradling panel element being inclined downwardly toward said attaching panel;

f. said third cradling panel element being inclined from said attaching panel upwardly toward said closing panel and being foldably joined to said securing flap which is attached to the underside of said closing panel.

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