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CARTON FOR FLUID CONTAINERS

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

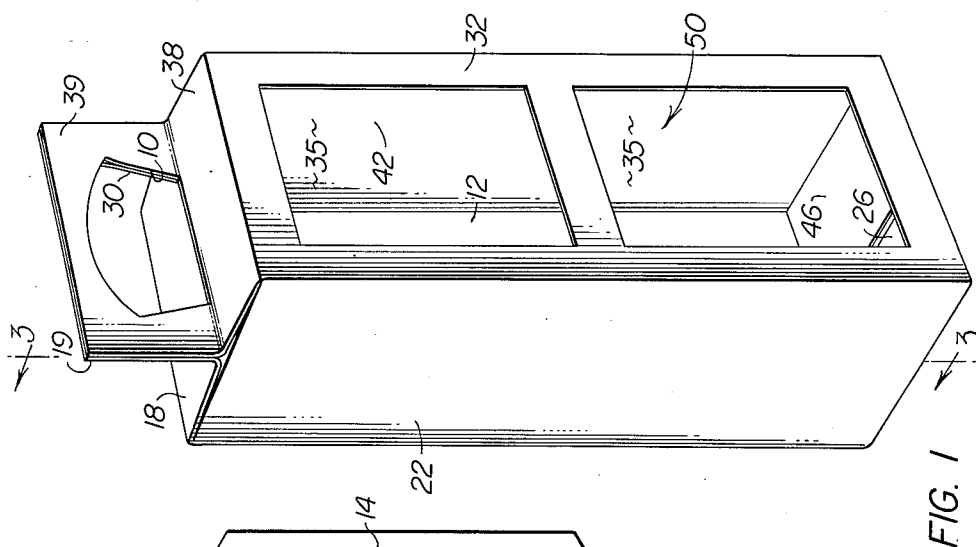
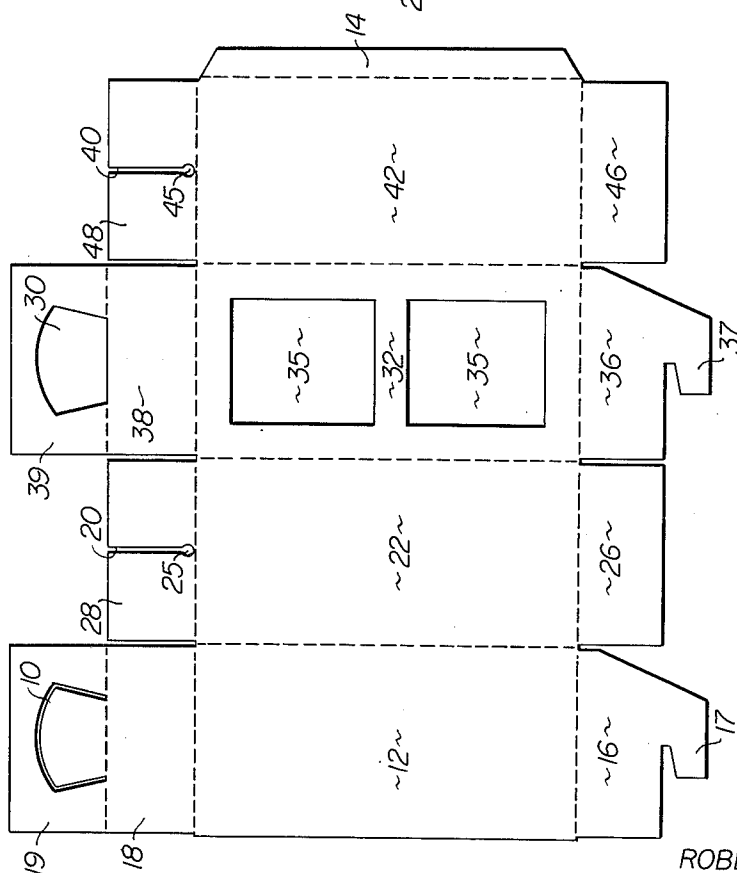


FIG. 2

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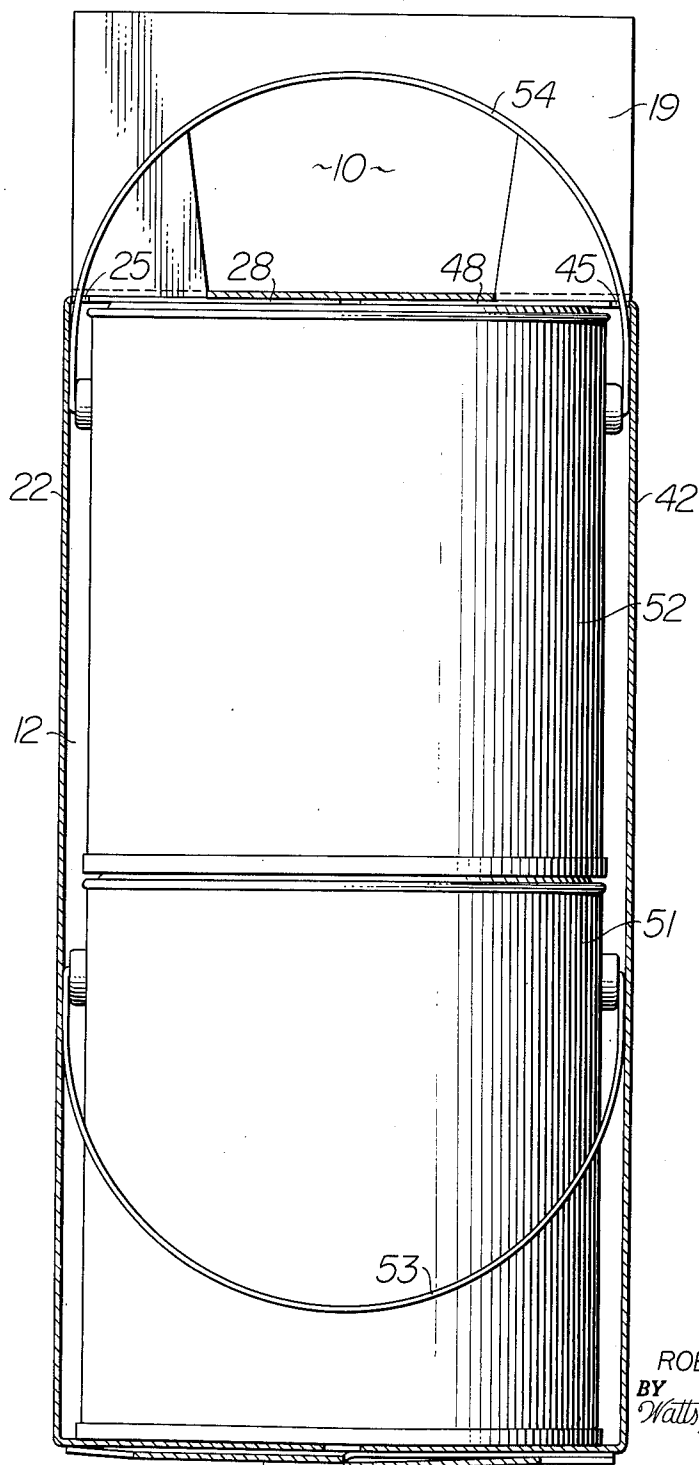


FIG. 3

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CARTON FOR FLUID CONTAINERS
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This invention pertains to cartons and more particularly to a carton which is especially suited for use with handled vessels and more especially vessels having bail type handles.

Many materials are packaged and sold in vessels which include a handle. Paint and other protective coatings are typical examples of such materials. For example, paint is commonly sold in gallon containers. These containers are usually metal vessels which have a wire carrying handle or bail. With paint, and other materials sold in similar vessels, a sale of more than one can to a single customer is quite common. The present invention has as a primary purpose the facilitating of carrying more than one can as well as the facilitating of storage and display of paint and similar products.

In its preferred form the present invention is an attractive display carton which positions a pair of bailed vessels in vertically aligned relationship. The carton retains these two vessels in this vertically aligned relationship for storage and display purposes. It also retains the vessels in this position for delivery to the customer. More important, with present day merchandising, about 60 percent of the paint industry's sales are to the so-called "do-it-yourself" market. Often the "do-it-yourselfer" carries the products he has purchased with him as he leaves the store. This invention is exceptionally well suited for use in this market since it facilitates carrying a number of vessels of paint or other material.

In the disclosed arrangement, a pair of flat top and bailed vessels are positioned one on top of the other. They are disposed within a carton which maintains them in this vertical relationship. The carton includes a top and a carton handle projecting above the top for lifting the carton. Preferably this carton handle is disposed along a plane of symmetry so that it is centered to permit lock stacking, i.e. with one carton supported equally by each of two cartons below it.

The bail of the top vessel projects through the carton top. This bail is positioned with the carton handle and preferably actually within it. With the bail and carton handle so positioned, a person picking up the carton will actually pick up the carton and the top vessel with the same lifting action. Thus, when carrying the two vessels and the carton, a person is actually directly lifting the upper of the two vessels even though it is within the carton. With this unique arrangement, the carton handle need only support the weight of the lower vessel and the carton itself. As will be apparent, the carton bottom need only be strong enough to support one of the vessels.

Accordingly, one of the principal objects of this invention is to provide a novel and improved relatively light-weight carton for positioning and carrying vessels in which a vessel is supported by the vessel's handle when the carton is picked up.

Expressed conversely, one of the principal objects of the invention is to provide a novel and improved handled vessel carton in which one vessel is not supported by the carton but rather by the vessel's handle when the carrier lifts the carton by the carton handle.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved carton made in accordance with the other objects of the invention which is also a merchandising and display package.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide

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a novel and improved carton which is especially suited for carrying a plurality of bailed vessels containing relatively heavy materials such as paint.

Another more special object of this invention is to provide a novel and improved carton made in accordance with the preceding objects which facilitates the stacking of a plurality of cartons and contained vessels for display purposes.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved carton in which at least one of the vessels contained within the carton is lifted at the same time the carton is to reduce the weight and strain imposed upon the carton when the vessels and carton are being carried.

Other objects and a fuller understanding of the invention may be had by referring to the following description and claims taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of an assembled carton;

FIGURE 2 is a plan view of a sheet cardboard or the like cut to a shape which may be folded into a finished carton; and,

FIGURE 3 is a sectional view of the assembled carton taken along the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2 with two cans positioned therein for carrying.

In FIGURE 2, a plan view of a carton blank is shown. The carton blank has a rectangular main section 11. The rectangular main section 11 is scored, as indicated by the dotted lines, to divide the main section into two large and spaced rectangular sections 12, 32 and two small and spaced rectangular sections 22, 42 of equal length. Each section is spaced from the section of equal size in order that the carton, when folded, is rectangular in cross section. The widths of the small sections 22, 42 are substantially equal to the diameter of the vessel which the carton is designed to carry. The widths of the large sections 12, 32 are of greater width to accommodate both the vessel which the carton is designed to carry and handles which project from opposite sides of the vessel.

The carton blank has a connecting lip 14 extending from one side edge of the main section 11. The lip 14 is adapted to be secured to the main section along the opposite side edge.

One of the rectangular sections, preferably one of the large sections 32, has a pair of windows 35 cut therein. These windows permit articles positioned in the carton to be viewed for identification and display.

Rectangular sections 12, 32 have interlocking bottom flaps 16, 36 extending respectively from the lower edges. The interlocking bottom flaps 16, 36 are provided with interlocking tabs 17, 37 respectively. The small rectangular sections 22, 42 have bottom flaps 26, 46 respectively extending from the lower edges. The flaps 26, 46 are each of generally rectangular shape. The large rectangular sections 12, 32 also have top handle flaps 18, 38 respectively extending from the upper edge of the large sections. The top handle flaps 18, 38 are provided handle tabs 19, 39 respectively. The handle tabs 19, 39 have handle grip cut-outs 10, 30 respectively.

The small rectangular sections 22, 42 have bail receiving top flaps 28, 48 respectively extending from the top edges of the small sections. The bail receiving top flaps 28, 48 have bail receiving slits 20, 40 respectively, which terminate at bail handle embracing apertures 25, 45 respectively. The slits 25, 45 bisect the flaps 28, 48 respectively.

The described carton blank can be folded and formed into a carrying carton for two vessels stacked one upon the other. The first step in forming the carton is to fold the blank along each of the scores identified by dotted lines. The carton is folded such that the rectangular

sections 12, 22, 32, 42 form a body having a rectangular cross section. The connecting lip 14 is secured to section 12 to retain the body in this generally rectangular shape. This rectangular shape defines a vessel receiving chamber 50. The bottom flaps 16, 26, 36, 46 are then folded together and the tabs 17, 37 are interlocked to form a bottom wall. This wall closes the chamber 50 at the bottom and forms a vessel supporting base.

Vessels 51, 52, which in the disclosed embodiment are one-gallon paint cans, are inserted in the carton body through the open top and the lower vessel 51 is allowed to come to rest on the bottom wall as a next step in assembly. Bail-type handle 53 of the lower vessel 51 is positioned against the side of the vessel. The upper vessel or can 52 rests on the top of the lower vessel 51. The upper can 52 has a bail-type handle 54 which extends above the top of the can and out of the top of the carton. The two bail receiving top flaps 23, 43 are folded in such that the handle 54 projects through the top flap bail apertures 25, 45. Finally, the top flaps 18, 38 are folded in, the handle tabs 19, 39 are folded back at 90 degrees to the top flaps 18, 38 and secured together to form a carton handle.

With this described arrangement, the bail 54 of the upper can 52 is positioned between the handle tab 19 and the handle tab 39. Thus, it can be seen that if the carton is picked up by a person placing his hand through the handle grip cut-outs 10, 30 and lifting the carton, the bottom vessel 51 will be supported by the handle tabs 19, 39, and the upper vessel 52 will be supported by its own bail 54. Thus, for a carton of any given strength, the weight which may be supported is doubled by this construction because the weight of the upper vessel is entirely supported by its own bail-type handle 54.

For product identification, usually the additional advantage of attractively decorating the carton will provide a point of purchase promotional assist for merchandising the product. Further, the customer in carrying the product from a store will carry with him an eye-catching device which may assist in promoting further sales.

Although the invention has been described in its preferred form with a certain degree of particularity, it is understood that the present disclosure of the preferred form has been made only by way of example, and that numerous changes in the details of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and the scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination, a pair of bailed vessels, a carton surrounding said vessels and maintaining them in predetermined relative positions, said carton including a base, a top, and side walls connecting the top and base,

at least one of the side walls being in substantial abutment with the sides of each of said vessels, the carton including an upstanding handle secured thereto and disposed above said top wall, said carton top including a pair of spaced bail receiving apertures, one of the vessels including a bail projecting through said apertures and into said handle for simultaneous gripping whereby to provide a device in which the handle and the one vessel bail will be gripped simultaneously such that the one vessel will be supported by its own bail and the other vessel and the carton will be supported by the handle.

2. The combination of claim 1 wherein one of the side walls includes an elongated vertical opening means through which both vessels are visible.

3. In combination a pair of bailed vessels in vertically stacked relationship, a carton surrounding said vessels and maintaining such relationship, said carton including a base, a top, and side walls connecting the top and base and substantially abutting the sides of said vessels, the carton including an upstanding handle projecting above said top wall and disposed substantially symmetrically about an imaginary vertical line extending through the center of gravity of the carton and vessels, said carton top including a pair of spaced bail receiving apertures, the bail of the uppermost vessel projecting through said apertures and into said handle for simultaneous gripping whereby to provide a device in which the handle and the uppermost vessel bail will be gripped simultaneously such that the uppermost vessel will be supported by its own bail and the other vessel and the carton will be supported by the handle.

4. In combination, a carton for carrying at least one vessel; said carton including a base wall, a top wall spaced above the base wall, a plurality of side walls connecting the base and top walls to define a vessel receiving chamber for retaining at least one vessel, a bailed vessel in the chamber, said carton also including a handle disposed along a plane of symmetry of said top wall, said handle being secured to and projecting outwardly from the top wall, the top wall including vessel bail aperture means with the bail of the vessel projecting therethrough, said means and bail being aligned with said carton handle such that the bail is adjacent the carton handle for simultaneous gripping such that the vessel will be supported by its bail and the carton by its handle.

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