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(71) Demandeur/Applicant:
MILES, ALFRED DEAN, US
(72) Inventeur/Inventor:
MILES, ALFRED DEAN, US
(74) Agent: OYEN WIGGS GREEN & MUTALA LLP

(54) Titre : COUVERCLE POUR BOUTEILLE DE RESERVOIR DE REFROIDISSEUR D'EAU
(54) Title: A COVER FOR A WATER COOLER RESERVOIR BOTTLE

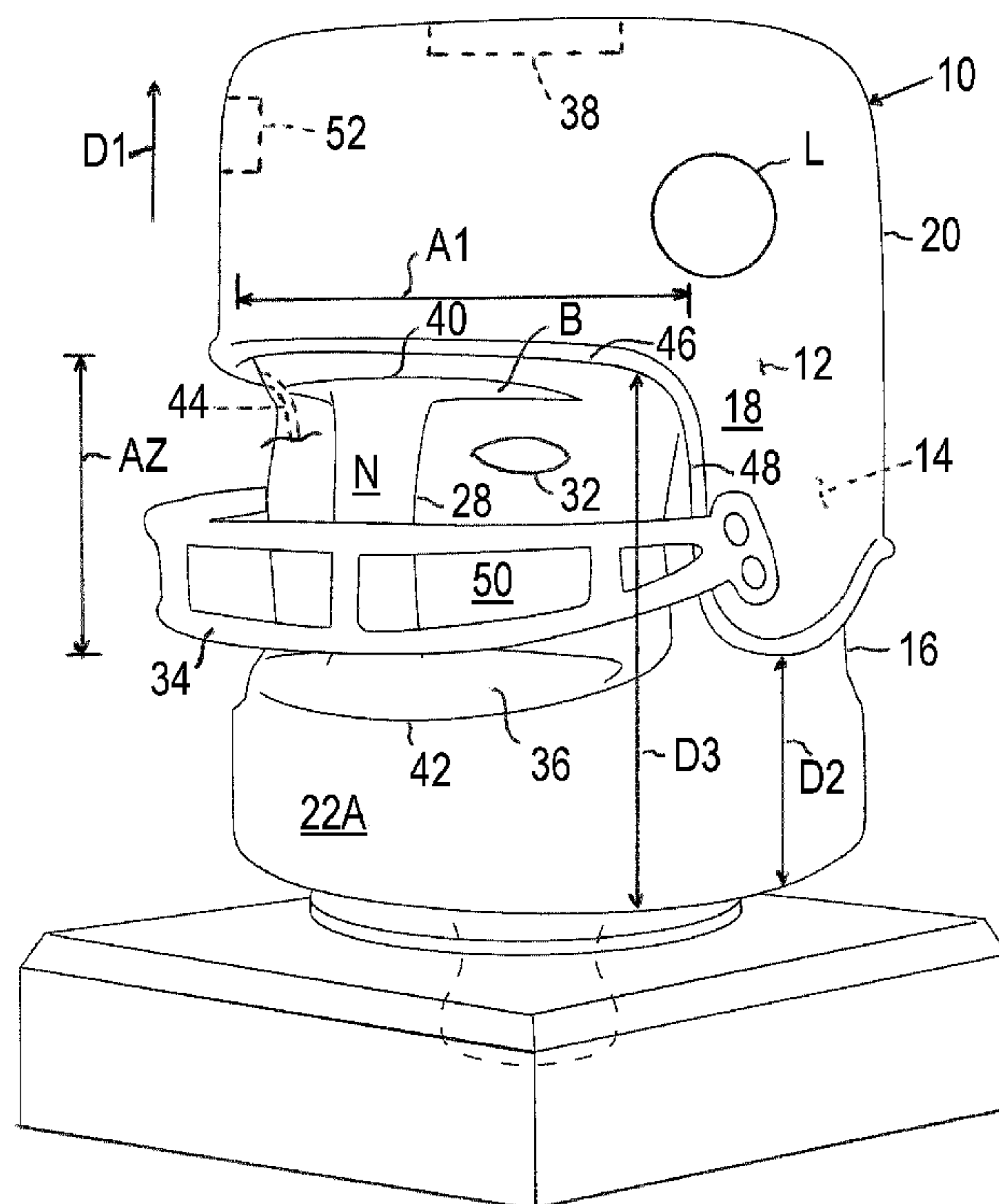


FIG. 2

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

An aesthetically pleasing decorative cover for a water cooler or water cooler reservoir bottle helps to transform the bottle from a bottle into a likeness of a person, animal, or object without completely covering the water cooler or water cooler reservoir bottle.



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(72) Inventor; and

(71) Applicant : **MILES, Alfred, Dean** [US/US]; 1307 Oak Lane, New Cumberland, PA 17070 (US).

(74) Agent: **SHIDELER, Blynn, L.**; BLK Law Group, 3500 Brooktree Road, Suite 200, Wexford, PA 15090 (US).

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(54) Title: A COVER FOR A WATER COOLER RESERVOIR BOTTLE

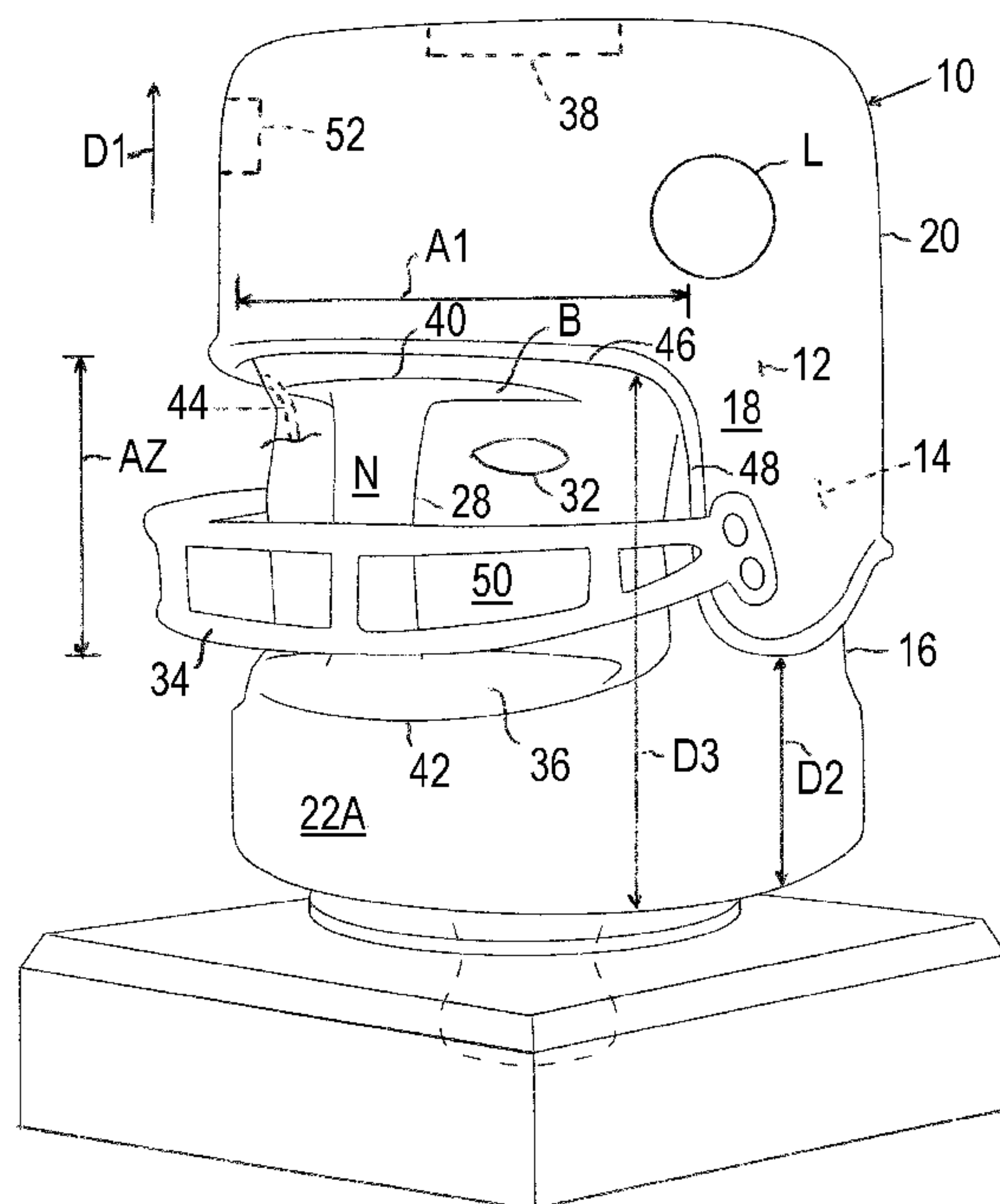


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: An aesthetically pleasing decorative cover for a water cooler or water cooler reservoir bottle helps to transform the bottle from a bottle into a likeness of a person, animal, or object without completely covering the water cooler or water cooler reservoir bottle.

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A COVER FOR A WATER COOLER RESERVOIR BOTTLE

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates generally to covers for solid articles, such as covers for water coolers, water bottles, and water cooler reservoir bottles.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] US Design Patent No. 539,588; United States Design Patent No. 438,425; United States Design Patent No. 479,426; and United States Patent No. 5,454,492 are all hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The present invention may include a cover, sleeve, or jacket that receives an article. The cover may include a body with an interior body surface sized and shaped to receive an object, such as an exterior body surface of a five gallon water cooler reservoir bottle. An exterior surface of the body may define the shape of an object, a partial head having ears, a top of a head, and sides of the head, head gear, or a head cover. One example is a body in the form of an American football helmet. A pair of eyes, a faceguard, a nose, and a mouth, alone or in any combination, may be integrally formed with the body or be each separately distinct from the body. In other body configurations, as listed below, other accessories (mask, scarf, garment, tie, bandana, facial features, etc.) in addition to the facial/head features listed above can be integrally formed with a body or provided as distinct and separate articles.

[0004] The present invention may further include a water cooler reservoir bottle decoration kit. The kit may include a body having an interior body surface sized and shaped to be immediately adjacent to an exterior body surface of a water cooler reservoir bottle, such as a three, four, five, or six gallon capacity water cooler reservoir

bottle. An exterior body surface of the body may define the shape of a sports helmet. The kit may include a pair of eyes, a nose, a mouth, and a faceguard, alone or in any combination, that are not integrally formed with the body. The kit may further include, alone or in any combination, a vibration sensor, a sound generator, and lights.

[0005] Another embodiment of the present invention may include a combined water cooler reservoir bottle and removable head gear or partial head. The water cooler reservoir bottle may include a cylindrical body, two opposed ends, an opening defined in one of the two opposed ends, and a handle that extends in a direction perpendicular to the two opposed ends and parallel to the opening. The removable head gear or partial head may include a body that receives a water cooler reservoir bottle. The body does not fully obscure the handle so that the handle and an area of the exterior body surface of the water cooler reservoir bottle immediately surrounding the handle is visible when the body is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle. The body may define a body opening. The body opening may expose facial features defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle. The body opening may be sized and shaped so that eyes and a nose carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle can be seen when the body is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0006] Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a water cooler and a water cooler reservoir bottle.

[0007] Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a water cooler, water cooler reservoir bottle, and a cover according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

[0008] Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a water cooler, water cooler reservoir bottle, and a cover according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

[0009] Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a water cooler, water cooler reservoir bottle, and a cover according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION EMBODIMENTS

[0010] United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 61/609481, filed March 12, 2012 entitled “Human Headgear for Solid Articles” is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0011] The present invention is used to visually transform an object that does not have a human, animal, or specific article appearance into a new object that does have a human-like, animal-like, or specific article appearance. For example, a water cooler reservoir bottle may be transformed into the shape of a head or some other object. The invention is not limited to water coolers or water cooler reservoir bottles.

[0012] A water cooler reservoir bottle 16 is shown in Fig. 1. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16 may include a cylindrical body 22, an exterior body surface 22A, two opposed ends 24, 24A, an opening 26 defined in one of the two opposed ends 24, 24A, and handle 28 that extends in a direction perpendicular to the two opposed ends 24, 24A and parallel to the opening 26. A first ridge 40 and a second ridge 42 may also be defined by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16. A separate water cooler 30 is also shown. The removable water cooler reservoir bottle 16 is shown inverted in the water cooler 30.

[0013] The water cooler reservoir bottle 16, standing alone, does not immediately convey a human, animal, or non-water bottle form. However, one discovery is that features defined by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 itself can be highlighted by a cover or body to give the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 a new and unrelated visual appearance.

[0014] One example is a sleeve, jacket, or cover 10 shown in Fig. 2. The cover 10 may include a body 12 sized and shaped such that an interior body surface 14 of the body 12 partially covers, partially receives, or is adapted to partially fit over an exterior body

surface 22A of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16. For example, distances D2 and D3 are not covered by the body 12. An exterior body surface 18 of the body 12 may define the shape of a human head cover 20 or head gear such as a hat or wig, a partial animal head, a partial human head, or an object. The body 12 may further define a body opening 50 that is sized and shaped so that the body 12 does not visually obscure portions of the exterior body surface 22A such when the body 12 is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 such that facial features defined by or carried on a water cooler reservoir bottle 16 can be seen by an observer.

[0015] The facial features can be abstract facial features defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle 16 itself separate and discrete objects that may be added to the exterior body surface 22A of a water cooler reservoir bottle 16. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16, the body opening 50, and the body 12 generally combine to define an abstract likeness of a human face, a human head, an object, an animal face, or an animal head.

[0016] The body 12 in Fig. 2 defines an American-style football helmet. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16 defines the handle 28. The handle 28 extends in a direction perpendicular to the two opposed ends 24, 24A of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16. In combination with the body 12, the handle 28 forms an abstract likeness of a human nose N. Body opening 50 helps to frame and highlight facial features from the exterior body surface 22A and also permits the handle 28 to remain functional when the body 12 is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16. When the body 12 is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16, the handle 28 is not fully obstructed from view by the body 12 and the handle 28 is least partially visible. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16 may also include a first ridge 40. By itself, first ridge 40 is non-descript. However, when a body 12 is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 in a proper way, the first ridge 40 forms an abstract likeness of a human brow B or forehead. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16 may further include a second ridge 42 that forms an abstract likeness of a human mouth 36. Again, the body 12 gives these features visual context and helps to transform bumps, ridges, and lines defined by the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 into an aesthetically pleasing visual depiction of a person or thing.

[0017] The interior body surface 14 of the body 12 may further define a cavity sized and shaped to receive the largest diameter portion of a water cooler reservoir bottle 16. An exterior surface 18 of the body 12 defines the shape of a portion of a human head, an animal head, an object or thing, or a human head cover 20. The body 12 defines an American football helmet. Other examples include, but are not limited to, sports headgear, American football helmet (Fig. 1) without a faceguard, rugby helmet or headgear, equestrian polo helmet or headgear, hockey helmet or headgear, hair or wig, baseball helmet, hockey helmet, wrestling helmet, golf headgear, NASCAR/Formula One helmet, motorcycle helmet, rugby helmet, skateboard helmet, snowboard helmet, military helmet or headgear, fireman helmet or headgear (Fig. 4), police helmet or headgear, cab driver headgear, bus driver headgear, postal headgear, fisherman headgear, sombreros, cowboy hats and headgear, coonskin caps, safari headgear, beach headgear, visors, construction hats and headgear, chef hats and headgear, a tooth or other visual representation of a profession or occupation, sports equipment, a partial animal head (ears and rear/sides of head), crowns, Uncle Sam hat, Santa Clause hat and beard (Fig. 3), holiday heads (cat, witch, St. Patrick, cupid, etc.) or headgear, business headgear, marching band hats and headgear, birthday party hats and headgear, bridal veil, groom headgear, knight headgear, or any other type of head or head cover.

[0018] With continued reference to Fig. 2; when the body 12 receives a water cooler reservoir bottle 16, a body opening 50 with an area generally defined by dimensions A_1 times A_2 . A_1 and A_2 are lengths of the first and second edges 44, 46 or the second and third edges 46, 48 of the body 12. The body opening 50 partially physically frames and visually transforms bumps and curves on the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 into abstract facial features such as a brow, nose, and mouth B, N, 36. The interior body surface of the body 12 has an overall body area that is numerically smaller than a cylindrical body surface area of the water cooler reservoir bottle. Stated another way, the body 12 does not completely cover the exterior body surface of the water cooler reservoir bottle. The exterior body surface 22A may be generally defined by the portion

of the cylindrical body 22 that extends above an uppermost surface of the water cooler 30 when the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 is mounted to the water cooler 30. The exterior body surface 24A may or may not include a flat top adjacent to opposed end 24 of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16.

[0019] With continuing reference to Fig. 2, body 12 may include a faceguard 34 and a location L for a logo. The location L of the logo or logos may be on any exterior surface 18 of the body 12. Eyes 32 (one shown for clarity), faceguard 34, and mouth 36 may be integral with the body 12, or may be pieces of a kit that are not integrally formed with the body 12. If a water cooler reservoir bottle 16 with a handle 28 is used, the handle 28 can attach to the faceguard 34 to form a vertical portion of the faceguard 34. In this case, an optional nose (not shown; Fig. 4) or a photograph of a person's eyes and nose may be positioned on the cylindrical body 22, directly behind the handle 28. Alternatively, the faceguard 34 can pass under the handle 28 and the handle 28 can define an abstract human nose N. The body 12 may further include a vibration sensor 38 that detects air bubbles rising in the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 in a direction D away from the opening 26. The vibration sensor 38 can be electrically connected to power source, a sound generator, or one or more lights 52. The sound generator and lights may also be connected to a respective power source. When activated, the vibration/motion sensor 38 will trigger a sound, a visual light, or both. The sound can be a voice, a song, etc. Lights can be selected to illuminate liquid in the water cooler reservoir bottle 16 and can be of any visual wavelength or wavelengths.

[0020] Fig. 3 shows an example body 12A that defines a Santa hat 54 and beard 56. The body 12A is carried by a water cooler reservoir bottle 16. Beard edge 58 and hat edge 60 partially define body opening 50A. As with Fig. 2, the body opening 50A exposes and helps to define abstract facial features, such as a nose N, brow B, mouth 36, eyes 32, or an eye patch (not shown).

[0021] Fig. 4 shows an example body 12B that defines a fireperson's helmet 62. The body 12B is carried by a water cooler reservoir bottle 16A. In this embodiment, a body

opening 50B remains unobstructed from view so that distinct and discrete facial features such as discrete eyes 32 and a nose N1 can be added to the exterior body surface 22A of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16A. The body opening 50B provides a clean palette that decorative objects, such as facial objects, can be added to. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16A shown in Fig. 4 does not have a handle 28. However, there are other features of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16A that are given visually aesthetic context by the body 12B. For example, second edge 42A and bottom 66 of the water cooler reservoir bottle 16A can be used to define a mouth 36A.

[0022] The body 12, 12A, 12B may be made from any type of plastic, resin, or Mylar material. The body 12, 12A, 12B may be rigid, collapsible, foldable, or inflatable by compressible or non-compressible fluid, depending on the material selected. The body 12, 12A, 12B may be formed partially or in its entirety by injection molding, as a flat sheet that can be wrapped around the water cooler reservoir bottle 16, 16A, or as a flat bag with at least one open side that slides over the water cooler reservoir bottle 16, 16A. The body 12, 12A, 12B may also include a phosphorescent material that illuminates in dark areas. The body 12, 12A, 12B may be made from a cloth material that can carry removable patches or logos L, such as by hook and latch attachment. This arrangement allows for a single body, such as body 12, to be decorated several different ways. For example, facial features of Employees-of-the-Month can be added and removed from a single body 12. The water cooler reservoir bottle 16 may be made from a clear plastic material and may be a three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, or ten gallon capacity replaceable water cooler reservoir bottle 16.

[0023] The present invention also includes a method. The method includes a step of selling or offering for sale a body that defines an interior cavity sized and shaped to fit over a water cooler reservoir bottle, wherein the body defines portions of a head or headgear and the body does defines a body opening that exposes a facial area on an exterior body surface of a receptacle or reservoir. The method may further include the step of advertising to the public that the body can be used to decorate the water cooler reservoir bottle 16. Another step includes advertising to the public that the body can be

used with facial feature integrally formed with the body, separate and distinct from the body, or abstractly formed by a water cooler reservoir bottle to create a visual likeness of a person, animal, or object on a water cooler reservoir bottle.

[0024] It should be understood that the foregoing illustrative embodiments have been provided merely for the purpose of explanation and are in no way to be construed as limiting of the invention. Any combination of any elements or embodiments described herein is contemplated.

I claim:

1. A cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle comprising:
a body that defines an interior body surface, wherein the interior body surface of the body defines a cavity sized and shaped to receive a water cooler reservoir bottle and the body does not completely cover the external body surface of the water cooler reservoir bottle.
2. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body further comprises a body opening and the body opening exposes facial features defined on a water cooler reservoir bottle.
3. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 2, wherein the facial features are abstract facial features defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle itself.
4. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 2, wherein the facial features are added to an exterior body surface of a water cooler reservoir bottle.
5. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein a handle defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle is functional when the body is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle.
6. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in any of the preceding claims further comprising a motion sensor carried by the body and electrically connected to a power source.

7. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in any of the preceding claims further comprising lights carried by the body and electrically connected to a power source.
8. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claims 2, 3, and 4 further comprising a water cooler reservoir bottle, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle, the body opening, and the body combine to define an abstract likeness of a human face and head.
9. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 8, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle further comprises a handle that extends in a direction perpendicular to two opposed ends of the water cooler reservoir bottle and the handle forms an abstract likeness of a human nose.
10. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claims 8 or 9, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle further comprises a first ridge and the first ridge forms an abstract likeness of a human brow or forehead.
11. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claims 8, 9, or 10, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle further comprises a second ridge that forms an abstract likeness of a human mouth.
12. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body further comprises a body opening and the body opening exposes facial features defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle.
13. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claims 2 and 12, wherein the body opening is sized and shaped so that eyes and a nose can be seen when the body is carried by the water cooler reservoir bottle.

14. The cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle is a five gallon capacity water cooler reservoir bottle.

15. A cover for a water cooler reservoir bottle comprising:
a body that defines an interior body surface, wherein the interior body surface of the body defines a cavity sized and shaped to receive an exterior body surface of a water cooler reservoir bottle, the body further comprising a body opening that is sized and shaped to expose facial features defined on a water cooler reservoir bottle.

16. A water cooler reservoir bottle and cover comprising:

A water cooler reservoir bottle;

a body that defines an interior body surface, wherein the interior body surface of the body defines a cavity sized and shaped to receive a water cooler reservoir bottle and the body does not completely cover the external body surface of the water cooler reservoir bottle.

17. The water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 16 wherein the body further comprises a body opening and the body opening exposes facial features defined on a water cooler reservoir bottle.

18. The water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 17, wherein the facial features are abstract facial features defined by a water cooler reservoir bottle itself.

19. The water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 17, wherein the facial features are added to an exterior body surface of a water cooler reservoir bottle.

20. The water cooler reservoir bottle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the water cooler reservoir bottle is a five gallon capacity water cooler reservoir bottle.

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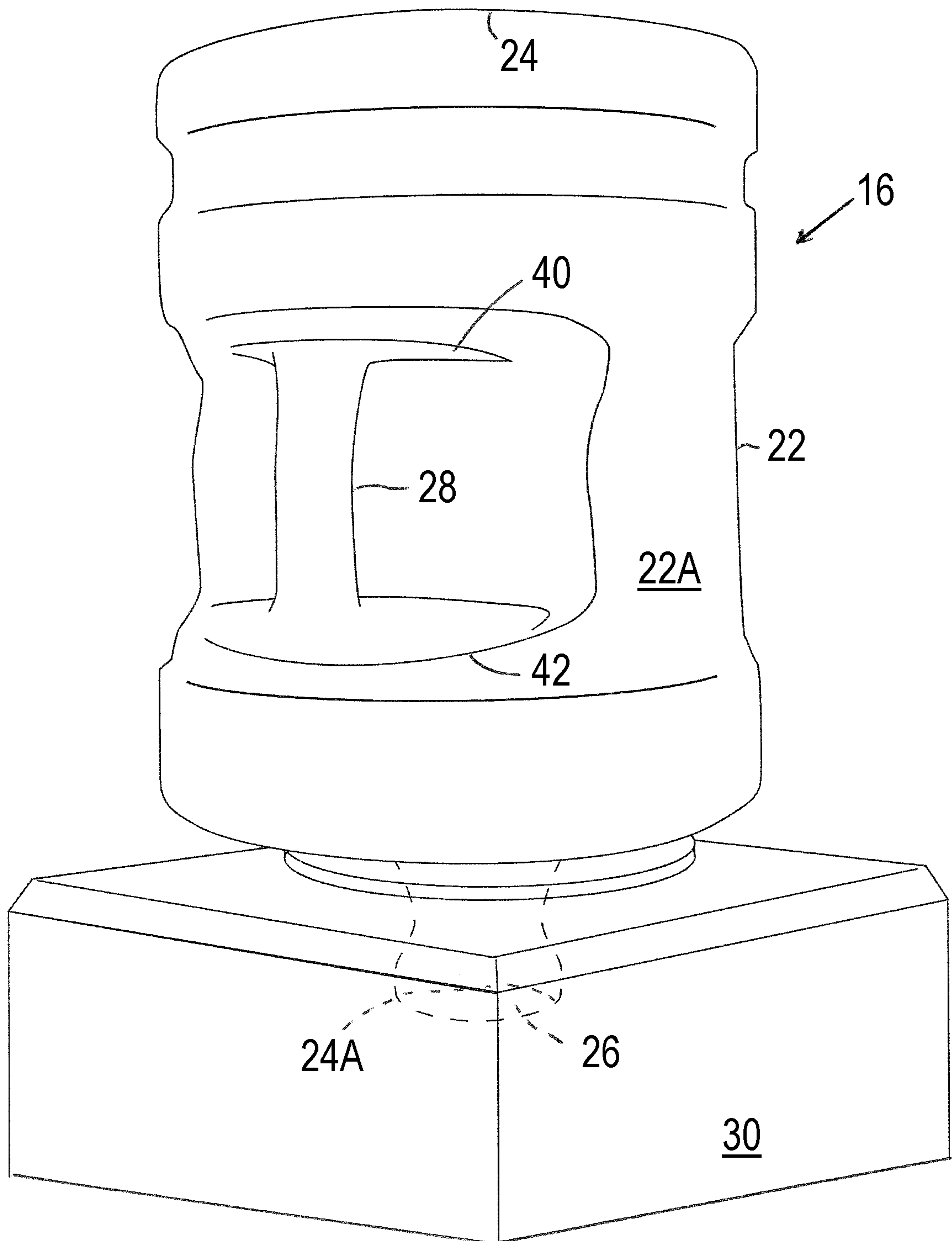


FIG. 1

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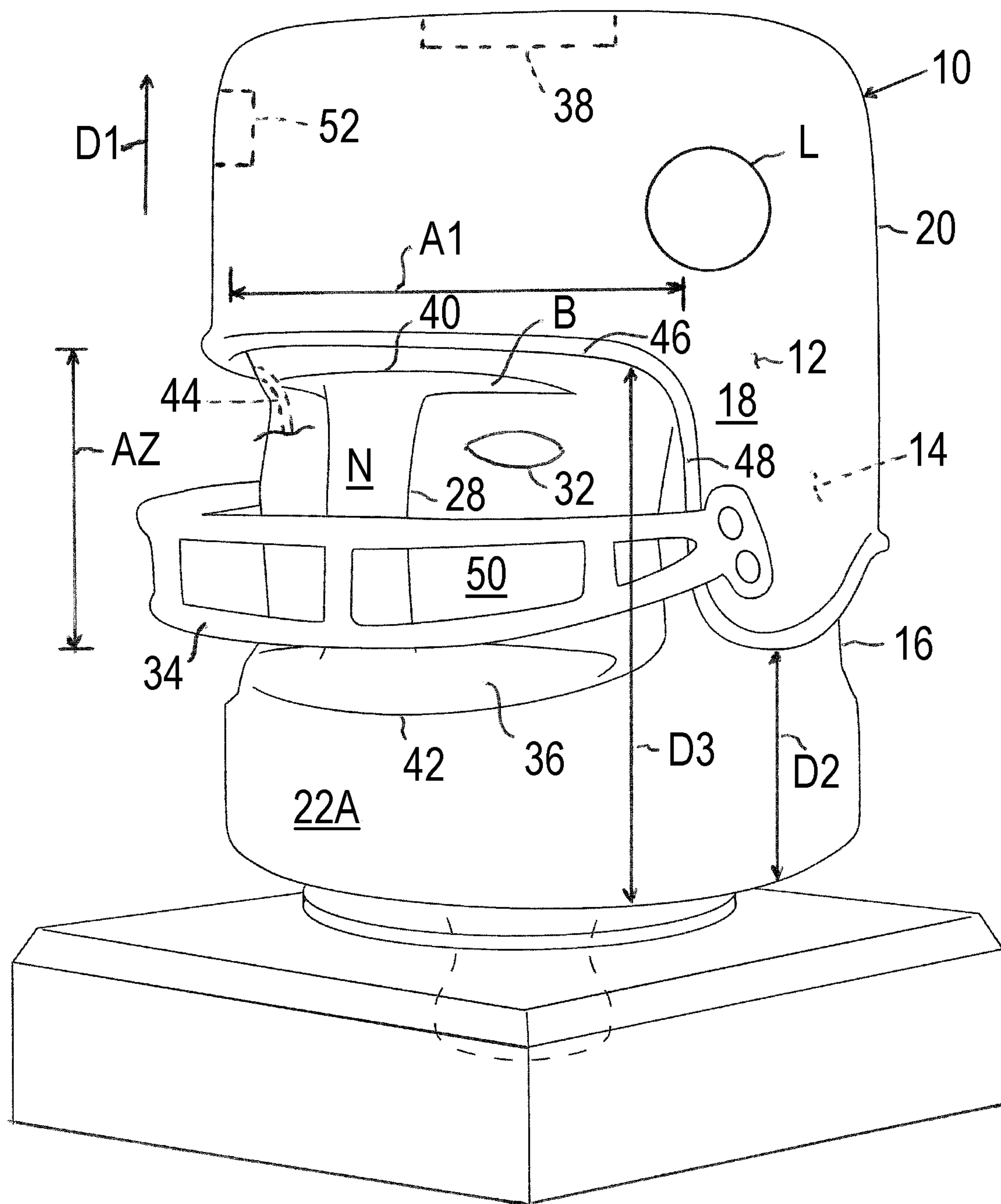


FIG. 2

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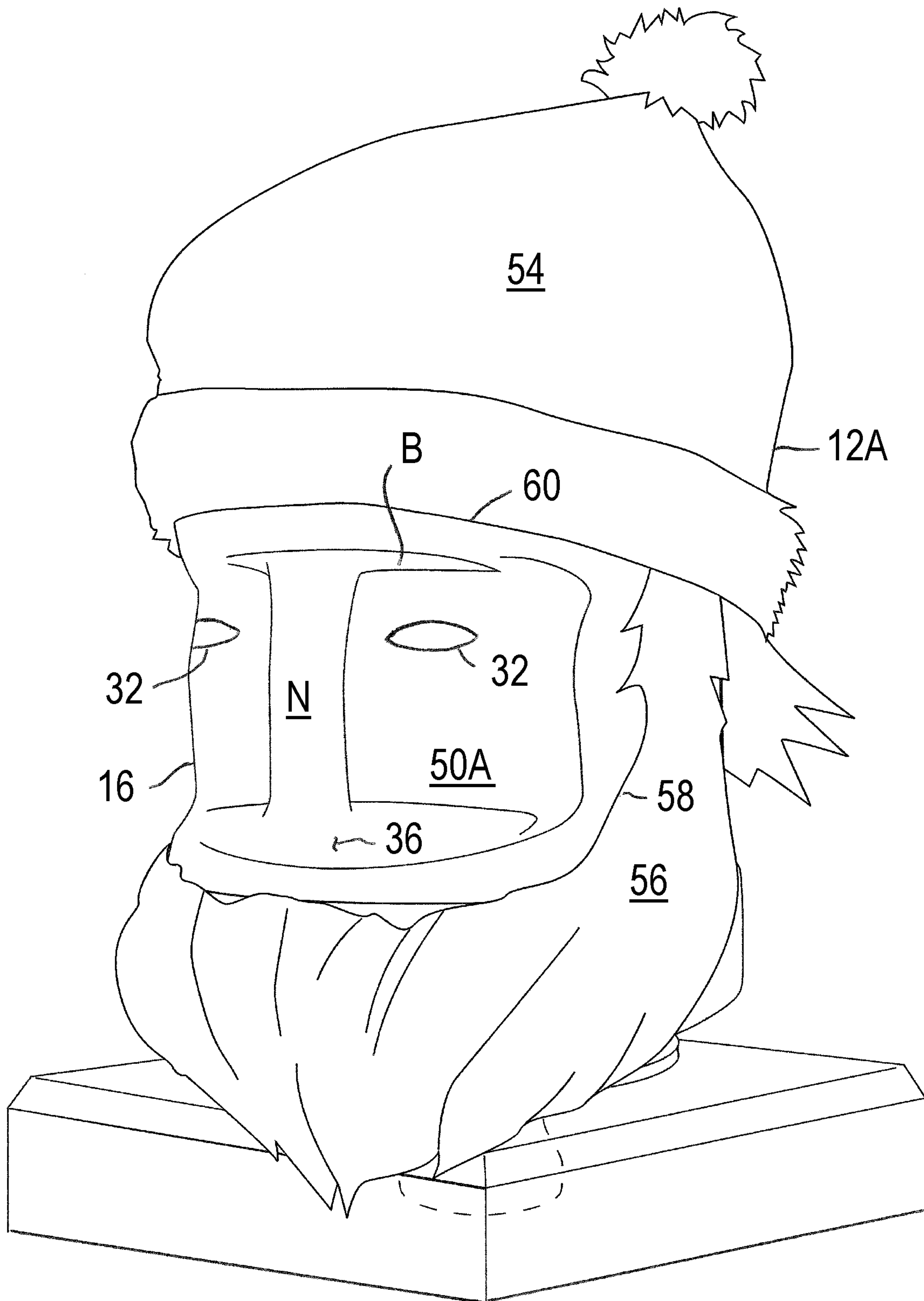


FIG. 3

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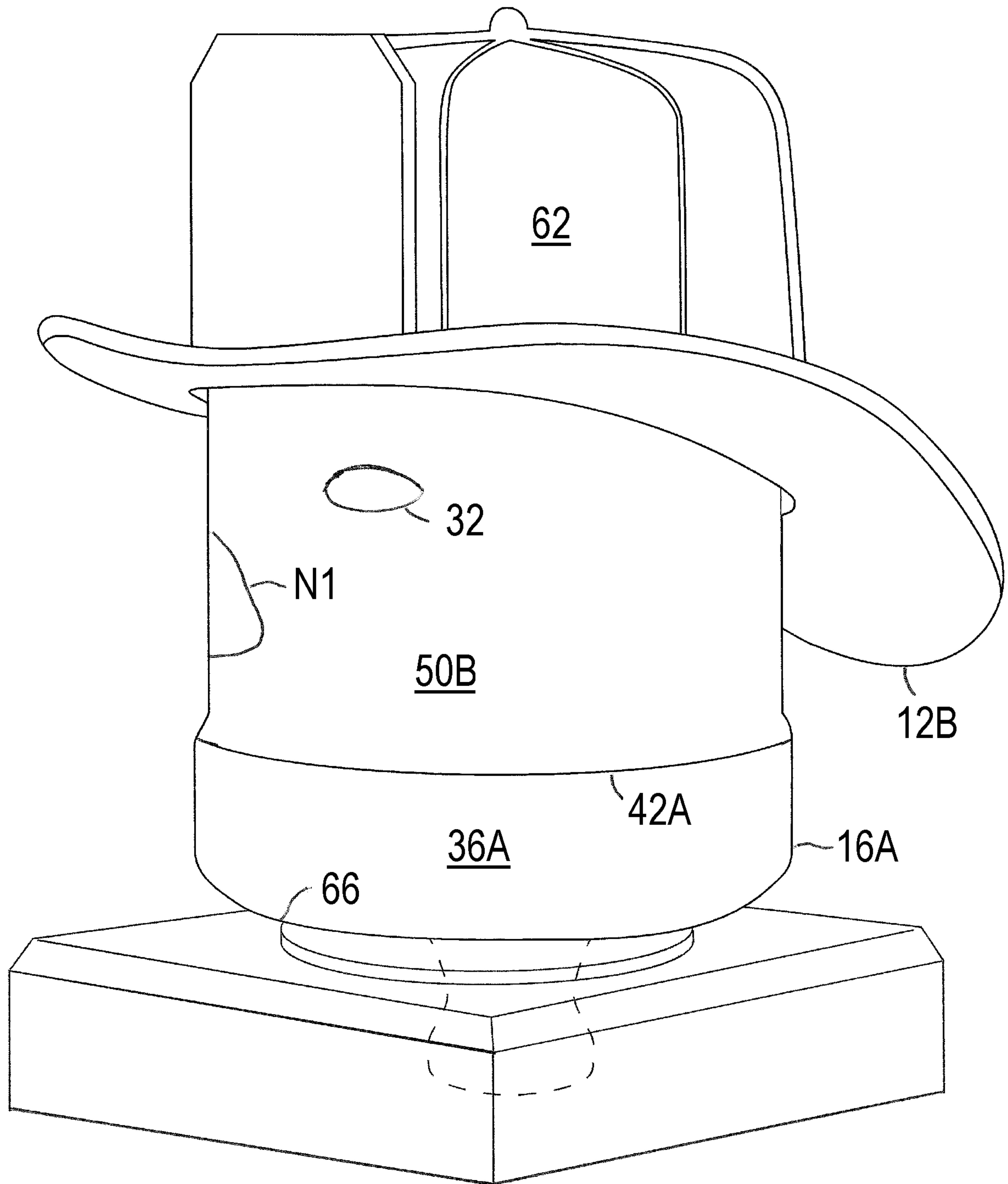


FIG. 4

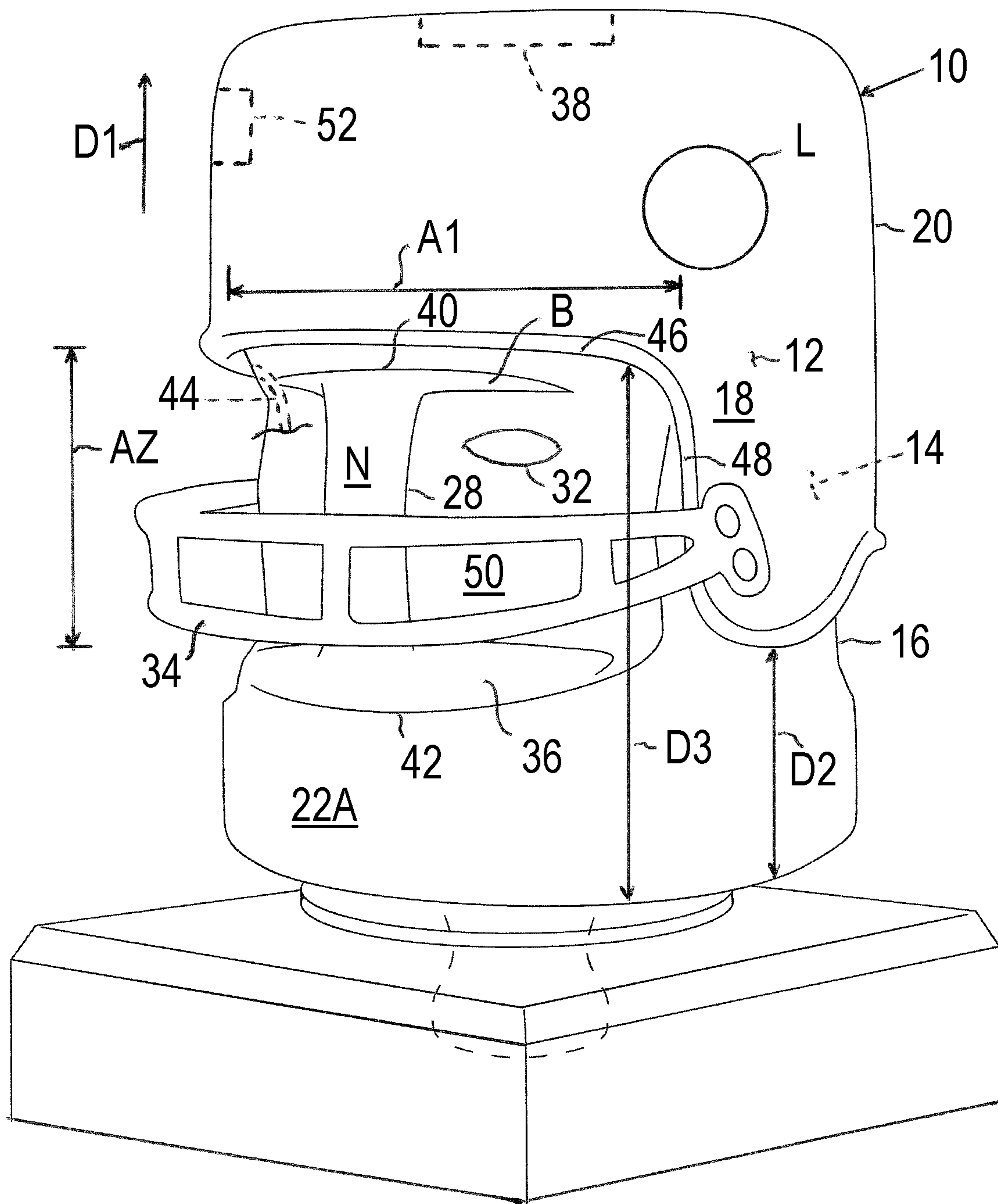


FIG. 2