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(71) Applicant: ESSITY HYGIENE AND HEALTH AKTIEBOLAG [SE/SE]; 405 03 GÖTEBORG (SE).

(72) Inventor: HÄNDEL, Linda; c/o Essity Hygiene and Health AB, 405 03 GÖTEBORG (SE).

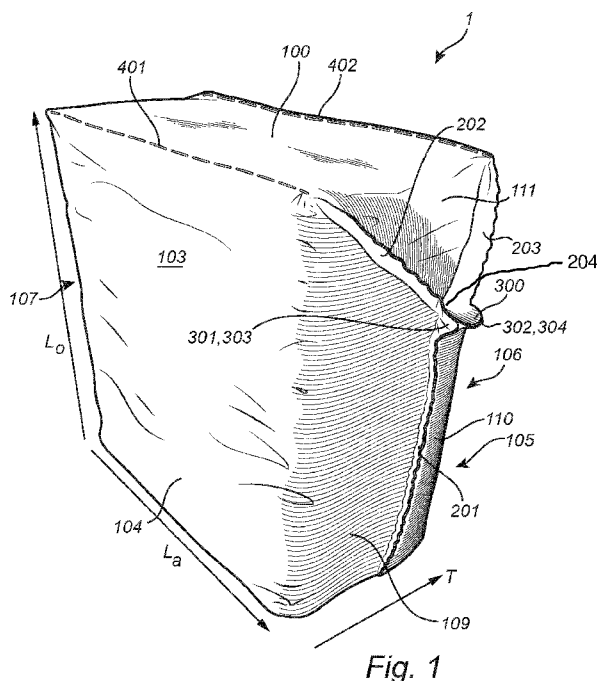
(74) Agent: ESSITY HYGIENE AND HEALTH AB; Essity IP Department, 405 03 GÖTEBORG (SE).

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(54) Title: A PACKAGE FOR ABSORBENT ARTICLES



(57) Abstract: A package (1) comprising a bag (100) and at least two absorbent articles (400) arranged in the bag (100), the bag (100) being made of a first paper material. The bag (100) has a peripheral wall (103) comprising a front wall (104), an opposite rear wall (105), first and second side (106, 107) walls, a top wall (108), and a sealed bottom wall (101), wherein the front wall (104), the rear wall (105) and the top wall (108) are formed from a folded continuous material web of the first paper material. Each first and second side wall (106, 107) comprises a first side portion (109) integral with the front wall (104), a second side portion (110) integral with the rear wall (105) and wherein the first side portion (109) is connected to the second side portion (109) at a longitudinal side seal (201). At least one side wall (106, 107) comprises a gusset portion (111) integral with the top wall (108), the gusset portion (111) being connected to the first side portion (109) at a first gusset seal (202) and to the second side portion (110) at a second gusset seal (203). The first and second gusset side seal (202, 203) extending from the edge between the top wall (108) and the at least one side wall (106, 107) to the longitudinal side seal (201). The longitudinal side seal (201) and the gusset side seals (202, 203) coincide at an intersection point (204) on the at least one side wall (106, 107) comprising a gusset portion (111). An opening tab (300) is arranged at the intersection point (204) on at least one side wall (106, 107) comprising a gusset portion (111), the opening tab (300) facilitating a tear along the gusset side seals (202, 203) when being grasped and pulled.

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A PACKAGE FOR ABSORBENT ARTICLES

TECHNICAL FIELD

The disclosure relates to a package comprising a bag and at least two absorbent
5 articles arranged in the bag, such as disposable personal hygiene absorbent articles
in the form of incontinent shields, sanitary napkins, panty liners, diapers, or the like.

BACKGROUND

Disposable personal hygiene absorbent articles, for example diapers or absorbent
10 pads such as incontinent shields or sanitary napkins, are typically provided in
multipacks comprising one or more stacks of products arranged in a plastic bag.
Although plastic materials are versatile and offer a range of advantages such as low
weight, high flexibility and easy sealing, plastic packaging materials may also be
associated with disadvantages such as low degradability and recyclability, production
15 of toxic gases during combustion, littering, etc. Consequently, there is currently a
strive to replace plastic packaging by more sustainable and/or renewable
alternatives, such as paper materials.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 An object of the disclosure is to provide an, in at least some aspect, improved package
comprising a non-plastic bag and at least two absorbent articles which is easy to open.
The object is achieved by a package according to claim 1.

Further advantages are achieved by implementing one or several of the features
25 described herein.

Disclosed herein is a package comprising a bag and at least two absorbent articles
arranged in the bag. The bag is made of a first paper material. The bag has a
peripheral wall comprising a front wall, an opposite rear wall, first and second side
30 walls, a top wall, and a sealed bottom wall. The front wall, the rear wall and the top
wall are formed from a folded continuous material web of the first paper material,

wherein each first and second side wall comprises a first side portion integral with the front wall, a second side portion integral with the rear wall and wherein the first side portion is connected to the second side portion at a longitudinal side seal. The at least one side wall comprises a gusset portion integral with the top wall. The gusset portion is connected to the first side portion at a first gusset seal and to the second side portion at a second gusset seal. The first and second gusset side seal is extending from the edge between the top wall and the at least one side wall to the longitudinal side seal. The longitudinal side seal and the gusset side seals coincide at an intersection point on the at least one side wall comprising a gusset portion. An opening tab is arranged at the intersection point on at least one side wall comprising a gusset portion the opening tab facilitating a tear along the gusset side seals and along the top wall when being grasped and pulled towards the top wall.

The term “a tear” is herein defined as breaking apart the gusset seals or tearing the paper material of the gusset portion adjacent the gusset seals in a direction along the gusset seal if perforations are present there.

This bag configuration is often referred to as a “top fold” bag, wicket bag or gusset bag. These bags are commonly formed by folding the top wall along a line in lateral direction, tucking it in towards the bottom edge of the bag, and sealing the longitudinal sides. The bag may be filled by inserting articles such as a stack of absorbent articles through the open end at the bottom of the bag before it is sealed at the bottom. By filling such a bag, corners of excess material are formed in the edge regions of the top wall which cannot be filled with hygiene articles due to their shape and position and likewise project from the bag.

To avoid excess material in the bag as described herein the gusset material formed in the edge regions of the top wall has been cut prior to folding and sealing the bag. Hence, the bag is sealed along a longitudinal seal and two gusset side seals on each respective first and second side of the bag. The longitudinal seal and two gusset side seals coincide at an intersection. Once the bag is filled with absorbent products the first and second side thus respectively comprises side edges of the side regions of the front wall and side regions rear wall as well as a triangle shaped piece of material

integral with the top wall. The side edges of the side regions of the front wall and side regions rear wall and the side edges of the triangle shaped piece of material integral with the top wall are sealed to form the longitudinal side seal and the gusset side seals.

5

The bag may be provided with wicket holes adjacent the surface bottom portions of the rear or front wall. Wicket holes facilitate filling of the bag during production and may be removed before or after the bottom seal has been formed.

10 The package is intended to be placed with the sealed bottom facing the countertop when in use. The bottom seal may comprise wings which are sealed to one another or not. The bottom seal may also be sealed or taped down to lay flat against the bottom of the package.

15 The package may also be placed with the top wall facing the countertop when in use should the user chose to do so.

The longitudinal and gusset side seals may be achieved by an adhesive provided at the side region edges or a seal coating covering part of or the entire inside of the bag
20 surface. The seals are possible to break by pulling apart the sealed materials, and thereby opening the bag and providing access to the interior of the bag. By providing a tab at the intersection of the gusset seals and the longitudinal seal the tear of the gusset seals can be facilitated and promoted. The tab provides the user with something to grasp to initiate the tearing. The tab is intended to be pulled in a
25 direction towards the top wall of the bag such as to pull apart the gusset seals or break the paper material adjacent the gusset seals if perforations are present. Tearing could also be continued in a direction across the top wall such that part of or the whole top wall is detached from the bag by breaking the paper material.

30 The package may comprise one opening tab arranged at either of the first and second side wall, or two opening tabs arranged on the first and second side wall.

The opening tab may be an integral part of the gusset portion, i.e. part of the peripheral wall. The opening tab may be formed from the first paper material. The

shape of the opening tab may hence be set when cutting the first paper material into a peripheral wall intended to be folded into the bag.

5 The gusset portion may comprise at least a first tab portion extending from the first gusset seal at the intersection point, the first tab portion forming a first grab portion of the opening tab.

10 The gusset portion may further comprise a second tab portion extending from the second gusset seal at the intersection point, the second tab portion forming a second grab portion of the opening tab. The opening tab having a first tab portion and a second tab portion is thus a dual opening tab. This type of opening tab suits both right-handed and left-handed users, and it can also be grasped with a dual finger grip if needed.

15 The first side portion of the side wall may comprise a third tab portion corresponding to the first tab portion, the third tab portion extending from the longitudinal seal at the intersection point, and wherein the third tab portion is sealed to the first tab portion. The opening tab is thereby an extension of the gusset seal in direction of the first side portion. The third tab portion may be equal in shape and form as the first tab portion. The third tab portion may be smaller than the first tab portion

20

The second side portion of the side wall may comprise a fourth tab portion corresponding to the second tab portion, the fourth tab portion extending from the longitudinal seal at the intersection point, and wherein the fourth tab portion is sealed to the second tab portion. The opening tab is thereby an extension of the gusset seal also in direction of the second side portion. The fourth tab portion may be equal in shape and form as the second tab portion. The fourth tab portion may be smaller than the second tab portion.

25

30 The first tab portion and second tab portion may be of equal or different size, and of equal or different shape.

The first tab portion and second tab portion may be arranged at a distance from each other in transverse direction. The distance may be 0-20 mm. The distance will provide more material for a user to grasp and pull.

- 5 The first tab portion has an area of at least 0,5 cm². The second tab portion has an area of at least 0,5 cm². They may also be at least 1 cm², at least 2 cm², or at least 4 cm². The size of the tab should allow the intended consumer to be able to grip the tab.
- 10 The intersection point may be centrally aligned in transverse direction (T) of the first and second side wall respectively. In other words, the gusset seals are equally long.

The gusset portion may be triangular shaped. The triangle may be equilateral.

- 15 Each gusset side seal may extend between the intersection point and a respective distal point, the distal point being arranged outwardly in transverse direction from the intersection point. The distal point may be arranged at a corner of the top wall. "At a corner" is in this context considered at least adjacent the corner such as no more than 2 cm from the corner.

20

If the tab is being pulled to tear apart the gusset side edges the bag will open along its full transversal width and thereby expose the absorbent articles fully. By providing the distal point at the respective corner of the top wall, the top wall may be torn further along the intersection of the top wall and the front wall and rear wall respectively.

25

The sealed bottom wall may comprise a bottom seal formed by adhering bottom portions of front wall, rear wall and first and second side wall of the peripheral wall to one another.

30

The front wall, the rear wall and the top wall may be sealed to one another at the longitudinal side seals and at the gusset side seals with a sealable coating or an adhesive. At least one longitudinal seal may be formed by adhering an inner surface of the first side portion to an inner surface of the second side portion.

The package may be fully coated or partly coated on the inside. The coating may be heat sealable. The coating may have a predetermined width at the longitudinal side seals and at the gusset side seals, and at the intended bottom seal area.

5

An inner surface of the first side portion may be sealed to an inner surface of the gusset portion to form the first gusset seal and an inner surface of the second side portion may be sealed to an inner surface of the gusset portion to form the second gusset seal respectively.

10

The sealing strength at the gusset side seals may be on par with the sealing strength at the longitudinal side seals.

In another aspect, the sealing strength at the gusset side seals may be lower than the sealing strength at the longitudinal side seals, i.e. to facilitate the opening of the package along the gusset seals when pulling the opening tab.

As an example, the gsm amount of adhesive at the gusset side seals may be less than the gsm amount of adhesive than at the longitudinal side seals. A lower amount of adhesive at the gusset side seals facilitates opening the bag along the gusset side seals when pulling the opening tab, whereas a higher amount of adhesive at the longitudinal seal ensures that the first and second side of the bag stays sealed during opening and after the bag is opened.

In another aspect, the sealing strength at the gusset side seals may be higher than the sealing strength at the longitudinal side seals

In another example, the adhesive or sealable coating used at the gusset side seals and the longitudinal side seals may be different.

30

The longitudinal seals and the gusset seals may comprise about 2 to 10 GSM.

The first paper material of the bag may have a basis weight between 40 and 120 g/m² as measured according to the ISO 536 standard, preferably 50-90 g/m² as measured according to the ISO 536 standard.

- 5 A paper material having a basis weight within the given range is sufficiently thick and strong to provide accurate protection for the absorbent articles within the bag against environmental pollution and can also withstand stresses arising during shaping of the bag and loading of absorbent articles into the bag. The paper material may be a single layer (one ply) or several layers.

10

By a paper material, i.e. when referring to the first paper material, is herein to be understood a material produced by pressing together moist fibres, dewatering and drying the fibres into preferably flexible sheets (reels). The paper material may be an unbleached paper material or a bleached material. The fibres may be pulp fibres from chemical pulp, e.g. kraft, sulphate or sulphite, mechanical pulp, thermo-mechanical pulp, chemo-mechanical pulp and/or chemo-thermo-mechanical pulp, abbreviated as CTMP. Pulp derived from both deciduous (hardwood) and coniferous (softwood) may be used. The fibres may hence be natural fibres from wood, for example, cellulose-based fibres, bamboo based fibres, and the like. Natural fibres can also be fibres which are not wood, such as cotton, abaca, kenaf, sabai grass, flax, esparto grass, straw, jute hemp, bagasse, milkweed floss fibres, and pineapple leaf fibres. The paper material can be made of one kind of fibres or a mix of different fibres. Natural fibers may be mixed with semi-synthetic fiber such as viscose or Lyocell.

15

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The paper material may also be treated in a way to stand moisture better, for example with a moisture barrier coating or lacquer on the inside or the outside. The paper may be a smooth paper which has been calendared. The paper may be a paper with low porosity. The paper material may include recycled or virgin fibres or a combination thereof.

30

The bag may be fully or partially coated with a lining. The lining could for example provide liquid impermeability to the bag, i.e. such that the bag is fully or partially impermeable.

The at least two absorbent articles may be arranged as at least one stack of absorbent articles. The at least one stack of absorbent articles may comprise at least two stacks of absorbent articles or may be a single stack of absorbent articles. The at least one stack may be compressed in the bag.

5

The stacks may be arranged on top of each other or next to each other depending on the size of the bag and/or the desired pack layout.

The absorbent article may be a disposable absorbent article such as a diaper, or an absorbent pad such as an incontinent shield or a sanitary napkin, or a washable and reusable absorbent article or an absorbent insert for a washable outer cover.

Absorbent articles as described herein are typically intended to absorb body liquids, such as urine and blood.

15

Disposable diapers can be pants diapers, open diapers, also called all-in-one diapers or belted absorbent products, which allows a wearer or caregiver to apply the diaper in a standing position. The diapers can be diapers for babies, young children or adults.

20

The term "disposable" is used to describe absorbent products which generally are not intended to be laundered or otherwise restored, or reused as an absorbent product, e.g., they are intended to be discarded after a single use and may also be configured to be recycled, composted or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally compatible manner.

25

The absorbent article may alternatively be a reusable and washable absorbent article such as a washable and reusable sanitary article, such as a sanitary napkin, panty liner or the like, or a washable and reusable absorbent undergarment for urine, vaginal fluids and/or menstrual fluids, or a diaper for urine and feces. The washable and reusable diaper may be fully washable or be a diaper having a washable outer shell adapted for receiving an absorbent insert, either a reusable absorbent insert or a disposable absorbent insert.

30

Each of the at least two absorbent articles may be arranged in a folded configuration in the bag. The absorbent articles may be folded along their width and arranged in the bag with the fold towards the top wall of the bag.

5

During filling of the bag, stacks of absorbent articles of the described folded configuration is provided to this type of bag, a top folded bag, with their fold towards the top wall. The absorbent article may be entered into the bag at high speed. The bag may be provided with wicket holes during filling of the bag, the wicket
10 holes being removed before sealing the bag at the bottom side.

The preferred way to remove the absorbent articles of said configuration from the bag is by grasping them at the fold in order to avoid the absorbent articles unfolding during removal. Opening the bag at the top wall, to expose the fold of the absorbent
15 article, is therefore preferred. The tab described in this disclosure promotes opening the bag at the upper part of the first side and/or upper part of the second side and towards or along at least part of the top wall.

In another aspect, the absorbent articles may be arranged in the bag with the fold
20 towards the bottom wall of the bag.

The absorbent articles arranged in the bag may lack individual wrapping. An absorbent article without individual wrapping may for example be a diaper or an absorbent insert for a reusable shell.

25

The bag may be provided with perforations extending at least partly along the intersection between the top wall and the front wall and/or at least partly along the intersection between the top wall and the rear wall respectively. Such perforations further facilitate a potential tear at the top wall; providing an opening with a width that
30 corresponds to the transversal width of the bag.

The bag may be provided with perforations extending at least partly along the gusset side edges adjacent the gusset seals.

The bag may be provided with print on the front wall, the back wall, side walls, top wall and/or bottom wall.

5 The bag may be provided with opening indications, such as print, for example on the opening tab or on the gusset portion. The print may enhance the visibility of the opening tab, indicate where to grasp the opening tab or which way to pull the tab to open the bag.

10 The orientation of the package may be such that the sealed bottom wall is facing downwards when the package is arranged on a shelf. Alternatively, the orientation of the bag may be such that the package is placed on the shelf with the top wall facing downwards. Printing on the outer surface of the bag may indicate the intended direction of the bag. Preferably the package is arranged with the top wall upwards, thereby providing easy access into the bag once the bag is opened using the
15 opening tab.

The bag may be provided with a handle. The handle may be integrated or externally attached to the bag. It may be arranged at the top wall, front wall, rear wall, either side wall or bottom wall.

20

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention is illustrated by way of examples and not limited to the accompanying drawings, in which like references indicate similar elements:

- 25 FIG. 1 shows a package as described herein;
FIG. 2 shows the package in Fig.1 in an opened state, following a user pulling the opening tab;
FIG. 3 shows the package of FIG 1 as seen from the first side;
FIG. 4 shows the package of FIG 1 as seen from the rear side;
30 FIG. 5 shows a peripheral wall of the bag described herein after the bag has been sealed/formed and opened flat again; and
FIG. 6 shows a detail of the peripheral wall of the bag, i.e. a first tab portion and a second tab portion of an opening tab.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Various aspects of the disclosure will hereinafter be described in conjunction with the appended drawings to illustrate and not to limit the disclosure, wherein like designations denote like elements, and variations of the described aspects are not
5 restricted to the specifically shown embodiments but are applicable on other variations of the disclosure.

With reference to Fig. 1, a package 1 comprising a bag 100 filled with absorbent articles 400 is shown. The bag 100 is formed from a folded continuous material web
10 of the first paper material i.e. a peripheral wall 103 comprising a front wall 104, an opposite rear wall 105, first and second side 106, 107 walls, a top wall 108, and a sealed bottom 101 wall.

The opening tab 300 shown in Fig 1 comprises a first grab portion formed by a first
15 tab portion 301 of the gusset portion 111 extending from the first gusset seal 202 at the intersection point 204, and a third tab portion 303 of the first side portion 109 corresponding to the first tab portion 301, the third tab portion 303 extending from the longitudinal seal 201 at the intersection point 204. The first tab portion 301 and the third tab portion 303 are sealed to each other such as to form the first grab portion of
20 the opening tab 300.

The opening tab 300 of Fig. 1 further comprises a second grab portion formed by a second tab portion 302 of the gusset portion 111 extending from the first gusset seal 202 at the intersection point 204, and a fourth tab portion 304 of the second side
25 portion 110 corresponding to the second tab portion 302, the fourth tab portion 304 extending from the longitudinal seal 201 at the intersection point 204. The second tab portion 302 and the fourth tab portion 304 are sealed to each other such as to form the first grab portion of the opening tab 300.

30 Fig 2. illustrates a user opening the bag 100 by grasping and pulling the opening tab 300 upwards towards the top wall 108 and subsequently across the top wall 108. The first gusset side seals 202 are teared such that the gusset portion 111 is parted from the first side portion 109, and the second gusset side seals 203 is teared such that the gusset portion 111 is parted from the second side portion 110. A stack of folded diapers

400 are arranged in the bag 100. Each diaper is folded once, and all diapers are arranged in the stack to have their fold is facing the top wall 108. The bag 100 is illustrated with perforations 301, 302 along the transition edge between the front wall 104 and top wall 108 as well as along the transition edge between the rear wall 105 and top wall 108. The transition edge is located at the intersection between the top wall 108 and the front wall 104 and rear wall 105 respectively.

Fig. 3 shows the first side wall 106 of a bag 100. The first side wall 106 comprises a first side portion 109 integral with the front wall 104 and a second side portion 110 integral with the rear wall 105. The first side portion 109 is connected to the second side portion 109 at a longitudinal side seal 201 arranged centrally in transverse direction of the first side wall 106.

The first side wall 106 further comprises a triangular shaped gusset portion 111 integral with the top wall 108. The gusset portion 111 is connected to the first side portion 109 at a first gusset seal 202 extending between the intersection point 204 and a respective distal point 206, the distal point 206 being arranged outwardly in transverse direction from the intersection point 204, at the intersection between the front wall 104 and the top wall 108. The gusset portion 111 is also connected to the second side portion 110 at a second gusset seal 203 extending between the intersection point 204 and a respective distal point 206, the distal point 206 being arranged outwardly in transverse direction from the intersection point 204, at the intersection between the rear wall 105 and the top wall 108.

The opening tab of Fig. 3 comprises a first grab portion extending from the first gusset seal 202 and a second grab portion extending from the second gusset seal 203.

Fig. 4 shows a bag with its sealed bottom wall 101 facing up. The bottom wall is sealed via a bottom seal 170 formed by adhering bottom portions of front wall 104, rear wall 105 and first and second side wall 106, 107 of the peripheral wall 103 to one another. During production of the package, before the bottom seal 170 is sealed, the absorbent articles 400 are entered into the bag 100 through the unsealed bottom wall 101.

Fig. 5 shows a peripheral wall 103 of the bag 100 after it has been folded into a bag 100 and opened flat again. The peripheral wall 103 continuous material web comprises a front wall 104, an opposite rear wall 105 and a top wall 108. The folded
5 peripheral wall 103 also comprises bottom wall 101, a first side wall 106 and a second side wall 107. Each of the side walls 106, 107 are formed from a first side portion 109 integral with the front wall 104 and a second side portion 110 integral with the rear wall 105 when the peripheral wall is folded and the longitudinal side seals 201 are sealed.

10 The edge of the peripheral wall 103 corresponding to the top wall 108 is provided with a gusset portion 111 on each respective side. The peripheral wall comprises a first and second inclined edge forming a triangular shaped gusset 111. The first and second inclined edge extend from the transition edge area between the top wall 108
15 and the front wall 104 and top wall 108 and rear wall 105 respectively inwards towards each other to coincide at an intersection point 204. A first tab portion 301 and a second tab portion 302 extend from the intersection point at the first and second inclined edge respectively. The first tab portion 301 and a second tab portion 302 are rounded.

20 The peripheral wall 103 also comprises third and fourth inclined edges extending from the transition area between the top wall 108 and the front wall 104 and the top wall 108 and the rear wall 105 respectively, towards the outer edge of the front wall 104 and rear wall 105 respectively. A corresponding third tab portion 303 and fourth
25 tab portion 304 extend from the inclined edge where the inclined edge meet the front wall 104 and rear wall 105 respectively. The third tab portion 303 and a fourth tab portion 304 are rounded and corresponds in size and shape to the first tab portion 301 and second tab portion 302.

30 Fig. 6A-B shows the intersection point 204 and the first tab portion 301 and second tab portion 302 of the opening tab 300. In Fig 6A there is no distance between the first tab portion and second tab portion, i.e. the distance dx is 0mm. In Fig. 6B the first tab portion 301 and the second tab portion 302 are spaced apart, the distance dx is for example 10mm.

In a bag 100 formed from the peripheral wall 103 described herein the inner surfaces of the edge areas are adhered to form the longitudinal side seals 201, the gusset seals 202, 203 and the bottom seal 170.

5

In a bag 100 formed from the peripheral wall 103 described herein the transverse distance between the first and second grab portion, formed by adhering the first tab portion 301 to the third tab portion 303 and by adhering the second tab portion 302 to the fourth tab portion 304, may be 0-20mm.

10

CLAIMS

1. A package (1) comprising a bag (100) and at least two absorbent articles (400) arranged in the bag (100), the bag (100) being made of a first paper material, wherein the bag (100) has a peripheral wall (103) comprising a front wall (104), an
5 opposite rear wall (105), first and second side (106, 107) walls, a top wall (108), and a sealed bottom wall (101), wherein the front wall (104), the rear wall (105) and the top wall (108) are formed from a folded continuous material web of the first paper material, wherein each first and second side wall (106, 107) comprises a first side portion
10 (109) integral with the front wall (104), a second side portion (110) integral with the rear wall (105) and wherein the first side portion (109) is connected to the second side portion (109) at a longitudinal side seal (201), and wherein at least one side wall (106, 107) comprises a gusset portion (111) integral with the top wall (108), the gusset portion (111) being connected to the first side portion (109)
15 at a first gusset seal (202) and to the second side portion (110) at a second gusset seal (203), the first and second gusset side seal (202, 203) extending from the edge between the top wall (108) and the at least one side wall (106, 107) to the longitudinal side seal (201), and wherein the longitudinal side seal (201) and the gusset side seals (202, 203)
20 coincide at an intersection point (204) on the at least one side wall (106, 107) comprising a gusset portion (111),
characterized in that
an opening tab (300) is arranged at the intersection point (204) on at least one side wall (106, 107) comprising a gusset portion (111), the opening tab (300) facilitating a
25 tear along the gusset side seals (202, 203) when being grasped and pulled towards the top wall (108).
2. A package (1) according to claim 1, wherein the opening tab (300) is an integral part of the gusset portion (111).
- 30
3. A package (1) according to claim 2, wherein the gusset portion (111) comprises at least a first tab portion (301) extending from the first gusset seal (202) at the

intersection point (204), the first tab portion (301) forming a first grab portion of the opening tab (300).

4. A package (1) according to claim 3, wherein the gusset portion (111) comprises a second tab portion (302) extending from the second gusset seal (203) at the intersection point (204), the second tab portion (302) forming a second grab portion of the opening tab (300).

5. A package (1) according to any one of claims 3 - 4, wherein the first side portion (109) comprises a third tab portion (303) corresponding to the first tab portion (301), the third tab portion (303) extending from the longitudinal seal (201) at the intersection point (204), and wherein the third tab portion (303) is sealed to the first tab portion (301).

6. A package (1) according to any one of claims 4 - 5, wherein the second side portion (110) comprises a fourth tab portion (304) corresponding to the second tab portion (302), the fourth tab portion (304) extending from the longitudinal seal (201) at the intersection point (204), and wherein the fourth tab portion (304) is sealed to the second tab portion (302).

7. A package (1) according to claims 4 - 6, wherein the first tab portion and second tab portion are arranged at a distance (dx) from each other in transverse direction (T), wherein the distance (dx) is 0-20 mm.

8. A package (1) according to any one of claims 3-7, wherein the first tab portion has an area of at least 0,5 cm².

9. A package (1) according to any one of claims 4-7, wherein the second tab portion has an area of at least 0,5 cm².

10. A package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the intersection point (204) is centrally aligned in transverse direction (T) of the first and second side wall (106, 107) respectively.

11. A package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the gusset portion (111) is triangular shaped.

5 12. A package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein each gusset side seal (202, 203) extends between the intersection point (204) and a respective distal point (206), the distal point (206) being arranged outwardly in transverse direction from the intersection point (204).

10 13. A package (1) according to claim 12, wherein the distal point (206) is arranged at a corner of the top wall (108).

14. A package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the sealed bottom (101) wall comprises a bottom seal (170) formed by adhering bottom
15 portions of front wall (104), rear wall (105) and first and second side wall (106, 107) of the peripheral wall (103) to one another.

15. A package (1) according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the front wall (104), the rear wall (105) and the top wall (108) are sealed to one another at the
20 longitudinal side seals (201) and at the gusset side seals (202, 203) with a sealable coating or an adhesive.

16. A package (1) according to any of the preceding claims, wherein an inner surface of the first side portion (109) is sealed to an inner surface of the gusset
25 portion (111) to form the first gusset seal (202) and an inner surface of the second side portion (110) is sealed to an inner surface of the gusset portion (111) to form the second gusset seal (203) respectively.

17. A package (1) according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the sealing
30 strength at the gusset side seals (202, 203) is lower than the sealing strength at the longitudinal side seals (201).

18. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first paper material of the bag (100) has a basis weight between 40 and 120 g/m², preferably 50-90 g/m² as measured according to the ISO 536 standard.
- 5 19. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least two absorbent articles (400) are arranged as at least one stack of absorbent articles (400).
- 10 20. The package (1) according to any one of claim 11, wherein the at least one stack is compressed in the bag (100).
- 15 21. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the absorbent article (400) is a disposable absorbent article such as a diaper, or an absorbent pad such as an incontinent shield or a sanitary napkin, or a washable and reusable absorbent article or an absorbent insert for a washable outer cover.
- 20 22. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein each of the at least two absorbent articles (400) are arranged in a folded configuration in the bag (100), the absorbent articles being folded along their width (W) and arranged in the bag (100) with the fold towards the top wall (108) of the bag (100).
- 25 23. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the bag (100) is provided with perforations (401, 402) extending at least partly along the intersection between the top wall (108) and the front wall (104) and/or at least partly along the intersection between the top wall (108) and the rear wall (105) respectively.
- 30 24. The package (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the bag (100) is provided with perforations (403, 404) extending at least partly along the gusset side edges adjacent the gusset seals (202, 203).

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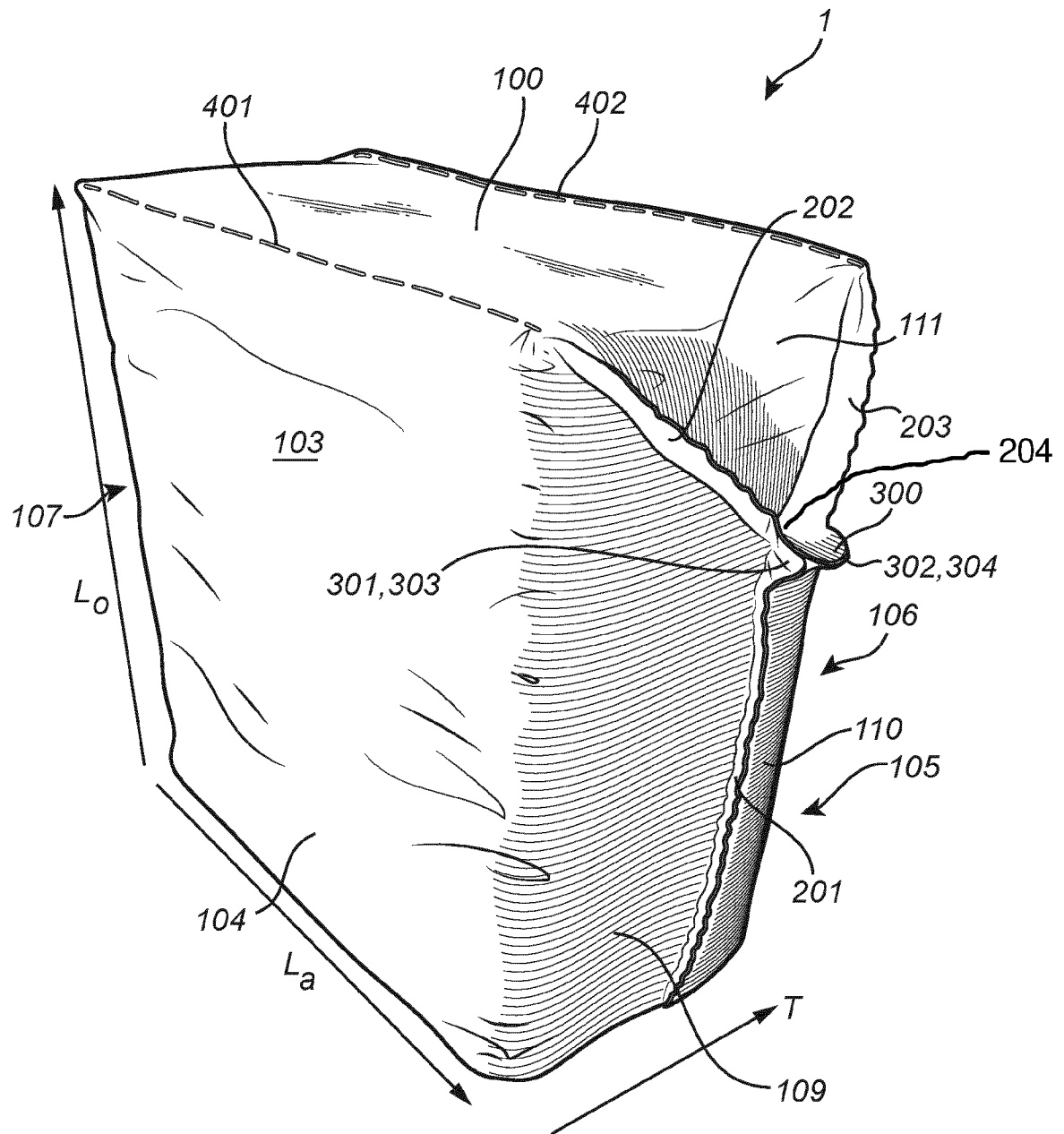


Fig. 1

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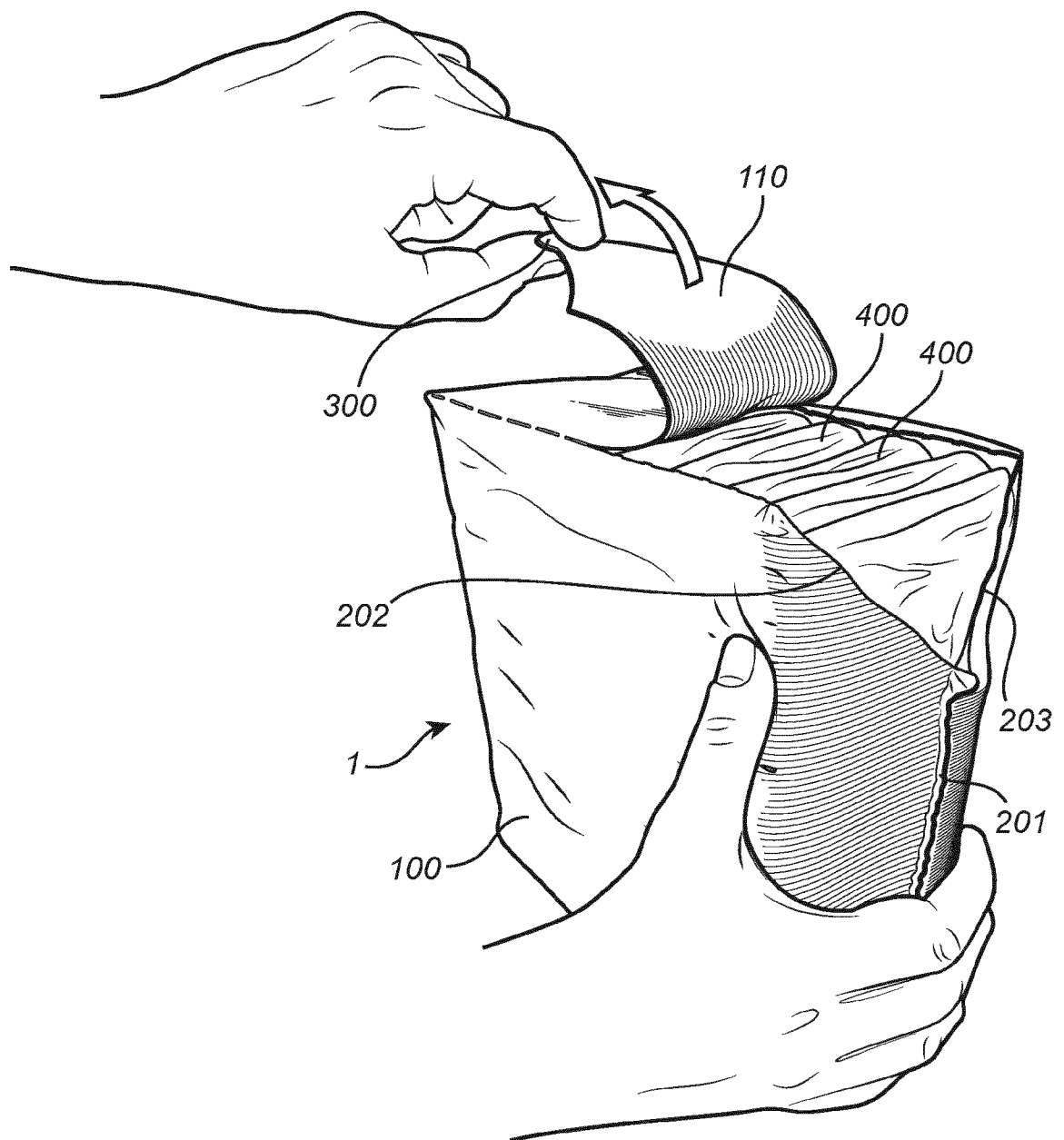


Fig. 2

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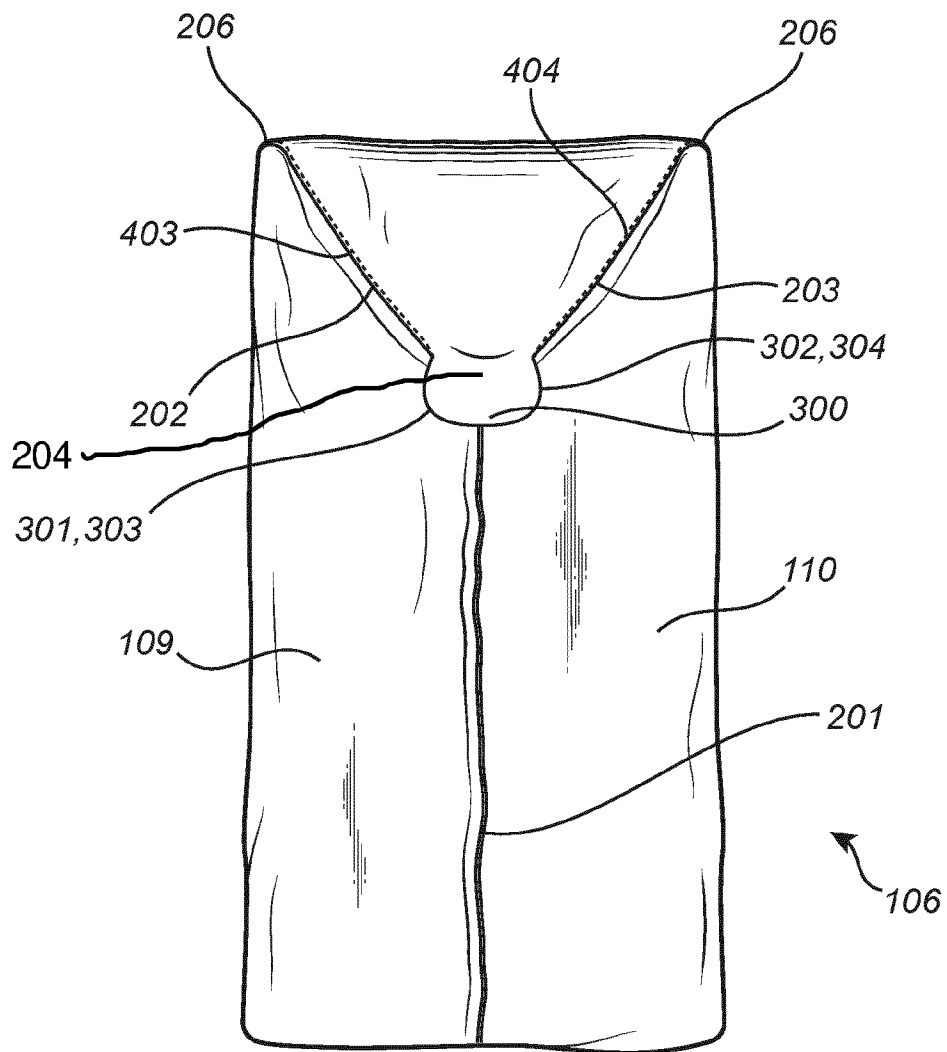


Fig. 3

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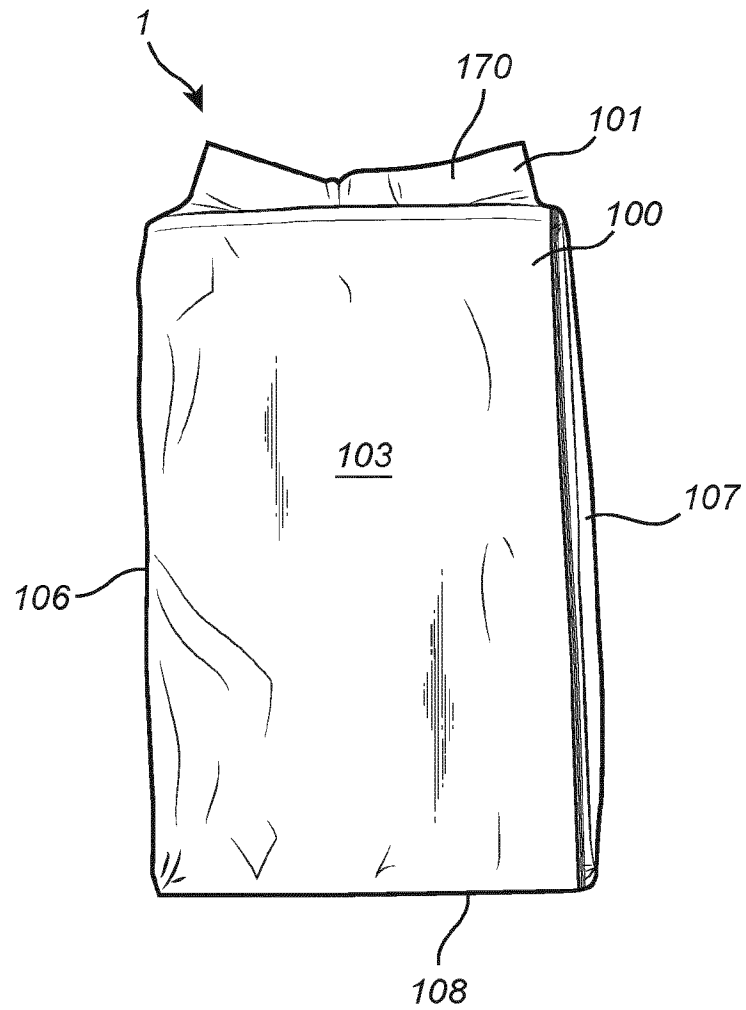


Fig. 4

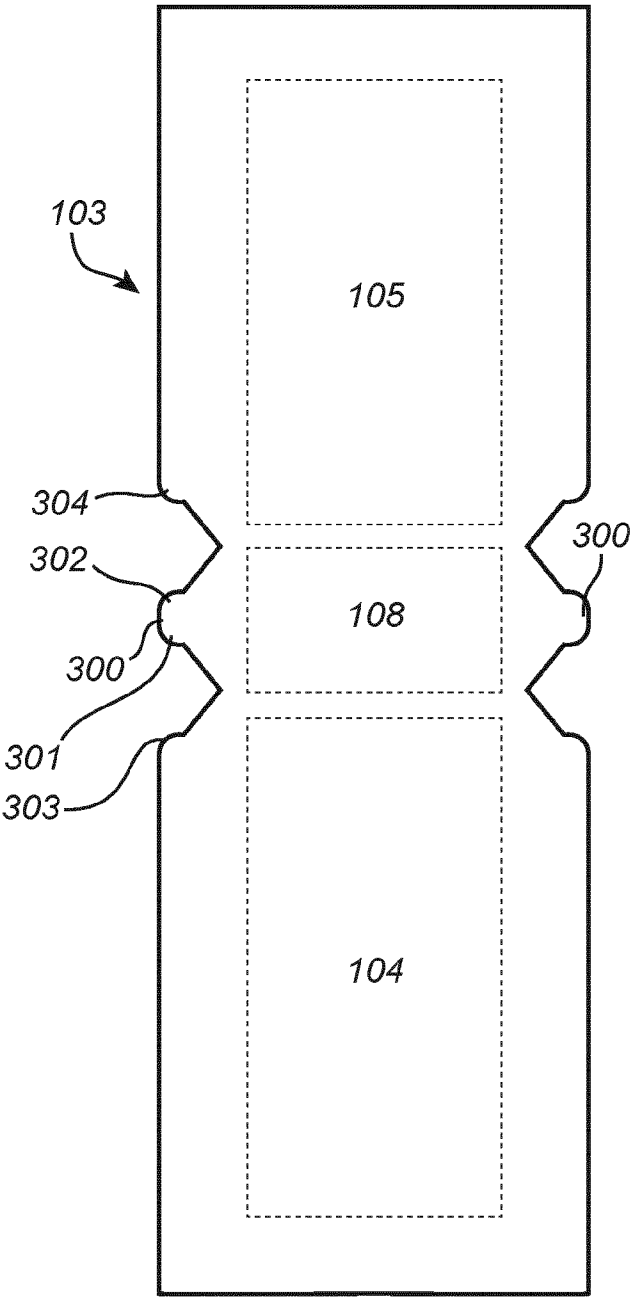


Fig. 5

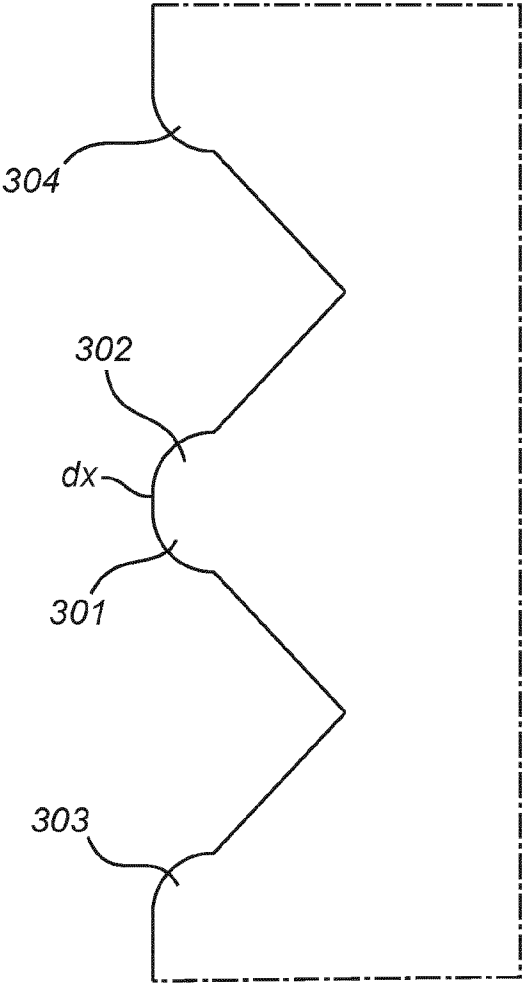


Fig. 6A

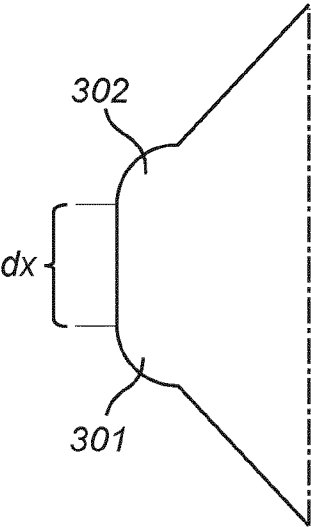


Fig. 6B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/EP2023/065559

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B65D75/58 B65D85/07

ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 8 157 095 B2 (MOTSCH ANDREAS PETER [DE]; PROCTER & GAMBLE [US]) 17 April 2012 (2012-04-17) column 3, line 10 - column 10, line 35 column 12, line 53 - column 15, line 27 column 15, line 56 - column 16, line 24 figures 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 -----	1-24
A	WO 2021/165317 A1 (DRYLOCK TECH NV [BE]) 26 August 2021 (2021-08-26) page 1, lines 28-34 -----	1, 15, 18
A	US 5 150 561 A (MUCKENFUHS DELMAR R [US]) 29 September 1992 (1992-09-29) column 5, line 52 - column 6, line 25 figures 1-4 ----- -/-	1, 22



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 January 2024

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/01/2024

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2

NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk

Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,

Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Piolat, Olivier

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/EP2023/065559

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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A	JP 4 014475 B2 (SUPERBAG CO; KAO CORP) 28 November 2007 (2007-11-28) page 2, paragraph 7 - page 7, paragraph 57 figures 1-10 -----	1

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Information on patent family members

International application No

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