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(54) **IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO PACKAGING**

VERBESSERUNGEN VON VERPACKUNGEN ODER DIESE BETREFFEND

AMELIORATIONS APPORTEES A UN CONDITIONNEMENT ET ASSOCIEES A UN CONDITIONNEMENT

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(73) Proprietor: **Reckitt Benckiser N.V.**
2132 WT Hoofddorp (NL)

(72) Inventors:
• **AYATS ARDITE, Francesc,**
Reckitt Benckiser Espana SL
08400 Granollers
E-Barcelona (ES)

• **DRINKA, Peter,**
Reckitt Benckiser Prod. GmbH
368526 Ladenburg (DE)
• **RUDZINSKI, Pawel,**
Reckitt Benckiser Inc
Montvale, NJ 07645 (US)

(74) Representative: **Bowers, Craig Malcolm**
Reckitt Benckiser
Corporate Services Limited
Legal Department - Patents Group
Dansom Lane
Hull
HU8 7DS (GB)

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Description

[0001] The invention relates to packaging for moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients according to the preamble of claim 1; in particular consumer products, such as water softeners or detergent compositions.

[0002] Commonly, moisture-sensitive materials, such as detergent material, enzymes, bleach systems or water-softening actives are found in consumer products e.g. powder, granules, tablets or other compositions that may be contained in sachets (which sachets are either soluble or not), are packaged in containers made of cardboard material with a lining of water-impermeable sheet material to protect the contents from absorption of water from the atmosphere. However, the user has to make sure that the packaging is closed again after usage. If not, the moisture-sensitive material can chemically degrade potentially affecting the activity of ingredients or suffer a negative impact on its physical properties (i.e. resistance, solubility, appearance etc). Additionally, there may be a substantial loss of volatile material such as perfume from the material, when the container is not tightly closed.

[0003] Although this negative impact of moisture ingress is undesirable in general, it is particularly problematic in the case of products not individually wrapped in a moisture isolating film or even worse in the case of products packaged in permeable packaging such as water-soluble monodose sachets, for instance in PVOH sachets, or non-woven water insoluble sachets. Such water-soluble sachets can get sticky when absorbing water from the atmosphere, and can therefore adhere to each other. When trying to separate such adhered sachets, the water-soluble film material can be destroyed. Moreover, undesirable loss of water from the contents of some products may be another problem if they are not contained in a watertight packaging, such as liquid containing consumer products with permeable membranes, e.g. air-fresheners. Many such products are stored in cardboard boxes alone or with inner water impermeable sheets, but have little or no means for closing the box once the box is opened. Typically, if present, the box closure will be in the form of two flaps that can inter-engage, i.e. like a cereal box.

[0004] CH-A-688087 describes a packaging comprising a base panel, from which front and side panels extend and a lid carried at the top of the rear panel, wherein the front panel is provided at its edge with a flap, arranged to engage with a lip of the upper lid when in a closed position.

[0005] An aim of the present invention is therefore to provide packaging which may encourage the consumer to close the packaging and which may provide some moisture barrier properties. A further aim is to provide packaging which may facilitate access to the contents of the packaging, even if the contents are closely stacked within the packaging.

[0006] According to a first aspect the present invention

there is provided packaging for moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients, the packaging comprising an inner water-impermeable means for enclosing said material and an outer container comprising a base panel from which a front panel and rear and side panels extend upwardly and a lid carried at the top of the rear panel, wherein the front panel is provided at its upper edge with one of a flexible flap or a lip and the front of the lid is provided with the other of an upstanding flexible flap or a lip and wherein said flap is arranged to engage with said lip to hold the lid in a closed position, wherein the outer container is arranged such that the front panel can be squeezed towards the rear panel to cause its upper edge to move toward the rear panel such that the flap and lip can be brought out of engagement with one another to cause the lid to open, or allow the lid to be opened, wherein the front panel bulges forwardly, wherein the front panel bulges forwardly, wherein the front panel in its closed position, in which it is held by the lid, is close to the rear panel than it is in the open position, in which the lid is displaced.

[0007] The base panel may be generally rectangular. Alternatively, the outer container may comprise more than two side panels.

[0008] Suitably, the side panels have expandable portions allowing the front panel to be moved from a closed position, in which it is held by the lid, to an open position, when the lid is opened, in which open position it is further from the rear panel than the closed position.

[0009] Suitably, the inner water-impermeable means comprises a sheet for enclosing the moisture-sensitive material.

[0010] Suitably, the inner water-impermeable means comprises a water impermeable pack which may be formed from a sheet.

[0011] Suitably, the water-impermeable pack comprises a removable bag.

[0012] Suitably, the packaging comprises a packaging for moisture-sensitive material and comprises inner water-impermeable means for enclosing the moisture-sensitive material.

[0013] The side panels may have expandable portions to allow the front panel to be moved.

[0014] Suitably, the interengaging arrangement of flap and lip provides a "snap" closure which may be felt and/or heard by the consumer when the lid is fully closed. This suitably provides an agreeable feeling for the consumer that serves to positively reinforce the need to close the lid. Also the mechanism suitably serves to positively retain the lid in place thereby preventing accidental opening and providing an impediment to moisture ingress. The use of flexible side panels may allow the front of the box to be pulled forward thereby increasing the interior space of the box. This may provide improved access to the contents of the box in general, and may be particularly useful if the contents of the packaging are closely stacked.

[0015] The expandable portions of the side panels may take the form of separate panels of flexible material. How-

ever, preferably, they are provided by folded portions which are arranged to unfold to a degree as the front panel is pulled forward.

[0016] Suitably an outer container having two sides is arranged such that the side panels can be squeezed towards each other to cause its upper edge to move toward the rear panel such that the flap and lip can be brought out of engagement with one another to allow the lid to open or be opened.

[0017] Suitably, the outer container may comprise curved side and/or front and/or rear and/or base panels. In particular, this feature may be present if the container does not have expanding sides.

[0018] Suitably, one or more of the front, rear, side or base panels are provided with one or more curved edges. In such an embodiment it is preferred that edges separating the front panel from two side panels are curved. Preferably the other edges are straight.

[0019] Suitably, the outer container comprises a front panel which curves such that a portion of the front panel lies further from the rear panel than does the edge of the front panel which adjoins the base panel.

[0020] Preferably, the side panels may have a bevelled portion, adjacent the edges of the front panel, caused by distortion of the material of the container.

[0021] Suitably the front panel may be caused to bulge outwardly, at a mid portion thereof.

[0022] Suitably, the front panel has a width in a side to side direction of the container which decreases from the base towards a mid portion of the front panel and which increases again towards an upper edge of the front panel opposed to the base. The front panel may thus have an "hour-glass" shape. The side panels may thus be caused to curve, for example be bevelled, at their join with the front panel.

[0023] Suitably, the front panel adjoins each side panel at a fold line created in a sheet material from which the outer container is formed. In the embodiment just described the fold lines adjoining the front panel and the side panels are curved; by means of the curved fold lines the front panel may bulge and the region of each side panel adjacent to the fold line may be bevelled.

[0024] Suitably, the outer container comprises a card material. Preferably it is a solid board box.

[0025] Preferably the outer container is designed such that when the flap and lip disengage, the lid rises automatically i.e. without any need itself to be grasped.

[0026] The provision of curved side and/or front and/or rear panels and/or edges may allow for the inner water impermeable means to be readily received within the outer container. For example, the inner water-impermeable means may comprise a sealed packet housing water-sensitive material and optionally a protective gas. The shape and design of the outer container may allow a greater degree of deformation of a corresponding container having a rectilinear form and this may make it easier to insert the packet into the container. The non-rectilinear form may also reduce the likelihood of air becoming

trapped between the packet and base of the container and hindering the packets insertion into the container.

[0027] The lid suitably has a downwardly depending rim or skirt bearing the lip or flap.

5 **[0028]** Preferably, the lid has a downwardly depending rim or skirt in which the lip is formed. The lip may be formed by any suitable means, such as an additional component fixed to the lid, or a raised portion pressed into the lid. However more preferably, the lip is formed by one or more flaps which are extensions of one or more portions forming the rim of the lid which are folded into a position in which they form the lip.

10 **[0029]** Preferably, the flap has a curved configuration, arranged so that, upon opening of the lid, the curved flap is pulled by the lip into a more planar configuration before further movement of the lid causes its disengagement from the lip. This may provide a force against opening of the lid which initially increases on first movement of the lip and is then quickly released. In the closed position, the flap is suitably flattened by the lid against the front panel and normally curved nature of the flap causes it to exert a retaining force on the lid, which may thereby ensure that it maintains its engagement with the lip.

15 **[0030]** Suitably, the packaging houses moisture-sensitive material.

20 **[0031]** Suitably, the moisture sensitive material comprises a plurality of discreet items. The moisture sensitive material may comprise a moisture sensitive composition provided in sachets for example.

30 **[0032]** Suitably, the moisture sensitive material contains water softening ingredients.

35 **[0033]** The inner water-impermeable means suitably comprises a sealed packet. In use, the packet may be breached and an item removed therefrom. The packet may subsequently have an opening through which water and in particular atmospheric moisture can permeate. The construction of the outer container may though minimise the amount of atmospheric moisture which can travel to this opening. This may be because the construction may increase the likelihood of a consumer closing the lid and may provide an improved closure. Items remaining within the packet may thus be better protected from atmospheric moisture than would otherwise be the case.

45 **[0034]** The front panel may bulge forwardly at least when the outer container contains said materials.

[0035] Preferably the lid is a flip-top lid, and most preferably (but not essentially, in this embodiment) a lid arranged to engage the front panel as described and defined above.

50 **[0036]** In other respects the preferred features of the packaging are as described above.

[0037] According to a second aspect of the invention there is provided a packaged product comprising packaging according to the first aspect and moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients housed therein.

55 **[0038]** According to a third aspect of the present in-

vention there is provided a method of protecting moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients, in particular consumer products, comprising storing the moisture sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients in packaging according to any earlier aspect.

[0039] Preferably, the method comprises protecting moisture-sensitive material. The method may for example comprise protecting material comprising water softening ingredients.

[0040] The above method may additionally utilise packaging wherein the side panels have expandable portions allowing the front panel to be moved from a closed position in which it is held by the lid to an open position when the lid is opened which is further from the rear panel than the closed position.

[0041] Examples of packaging in accordance with the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a first example;

Fig. 2A is a perspective view of a second example with the lid closed;

Fig. 2B is a perspective view of the second example from the opposite side with the lid open;

Fig. 2C is a plan view of the blank on which the box of the second example is formed;

Fig. 3A is a perspective view of a third example with the lid open;

Fig. 3B is a perspective view of the third example with the lid closed;

Fig. 3C is a front view of the third example; and

Fig. 3D is a side view of the third example.

[0042] The packaging of the present invention comprises an outer box 1 as shown in Fig. 1. This contains an inner water impermeable packaging (not shown) which will either contain all of the contents of the box, or will contain individual products within the box. Alternatively, the contents of the box may be divided between a number of inner packaging members. For example, in the case of sachets containing water-softening products for use in a washing machine, the sachets may be packaged in two water impermeable packs so that half of the contents of the packaging remain within a sealed water impermeable pack, while the contents of the other pack are used.

[0043] The box 1 comprises a base panel 2 not visible in Fig. 1 as the box is standing on the base panel. A front panel 3, rear panel 4 and two side panels 5 extend upwardly from the base panel 2 and are joined to one another as shown to form the body of the box. A lid 6 depends from the top of the rear panel 4, the connection being a hinge formed by a fold line between the lid 6 and the rear panel 4. The lid has a downwardly depending rim or skirt comprising a front rim panel 7 and two side rim panels 8. The side rim panels 8 are provided with rim flaps 9 which are folded under the front rim panel 7 and

secured as shown so that their top edges form a lip 10 (in the manner also shown in Figs 2B and 3A).

[0044] Each of the side panels 5 is provided with a concertina portion 11 formed by three fold lines 12 extending up the side panel. This allows the front panel 3 to be pulled forwardly from its closed position.

[0045] A flexible flap 13 curves upwardly and outwardly from the top of the front panel 3.

[0046] In order to close the box, the front panel 3 is pushed toward the rear panel 4 compressing the concertina portions. The lid is then closed. Alternatively the lid may be closed and thus may draw the front panel 3 back towards the rear panel 4. In either case, as closure takes place the front rim panel 7 pushes a flexible flap 13 towards the front panel 3 until the free edge 14 of the flexible flap 13 passes the lip 10 when the resilience of the flexible flap provides a snap fit with the lip 10. This provides a biasing force to hold the lid 6 closed.

[0047] When the lid is lifted to open the container, the flexible flap 13 is initially pulled up with the lid 6 as the free edge 14 of the flexible flap 13 is still engaged with the lip 10. This initial movement deforms the flexible flap 13 from its curved configuration to a more planar configuration until the free edge 14 moves out of engagement with the lip 10, whereupon the lid is free to open further. The front panel 3 will then either move forward of its own accord or can be pulled forward in order to facilitate access to the contents of the box.

[0048] Figs. 2A-2C disclose a second example of the present invention. In most respects, this is the same as the first example, although the concertina portions 11 in the side panels 5 have been replaced by fold lines 20 which allow the side panels to bulge outwardly when the container is open. Not only does this provide better access to the contents of the box as the front panel is pulled forward, but also provides an increase in the width of the box thereby further facilitating access. As shown in Fig 2A, the side panels 5 can be moved inwardly to allow the lid 6 to close. Also as shown in Fig 2A the front panel 3 bulges outward, being slightly convex as viewed.

[0049] Fig. 2C shows a blank from which the box is formed. It will be appreciated that the example of Fig. 1 is formed from a similar blank with modifications for the concertina portions 11. The assembly of the box from the blank will be readily apparent from Fig. 2C as the box is simply folded up in a normal manner and flaps 21 are bonded to the various panels to form the finished box.

[0050] Of note in Fig 2C are the rim flaps 9 extending from the side rim panels 8. These are folded into position as shown in Fig. 2B to form the lip 10. As an alternative to or in addition to these side rim panels 9, the front rim panel 7 could be provided with a lip panel extending from its free edge (i.e. above the panel 7 as shown in Fig. 2C) which is then folded back onto the front lid panel 7 to form the lip 10.

[0051] Figs 3A-3D disclose a third example of the present invention. In most respects, this is the same as the second example, but the side panels do not share

the same expanding feature. Instead, the outer box 1 comprises curved fold lines separating the front panel 3 and side panels 5.

[0052] Each junction between the front panel 3 and a side panel 5 is in fact constituted by a curved fold line 30 and a curved pseudo-fold line 32. Line 32 is not formed by folding but by distortion arising from the design of the container. Each pair of curved fold line 30 and curved pseudo-fold line 33 comes together at their bottom (coincident with the base panel) and top (somewhat short of the top of the front panel and side panel, that region being constituted by a straight fold line 34 between the panels) to define a lenticular-shaped bevel 36, which is a surface oblique to the adjacent front and side panels.

[0053] The fold lines 30 forming the edges of the front panel 3 converge from its base towards its mid portion and diverge again towards the upper edge of the panel giving the front panel 3 an "hour glass" shape as best illustrated by Figure 3C. The fold lines 32 forming the edges of the side panels 5 adjacent the front panel also curve inwardly in the mid portion of said side panels. The bevel between the fold lines 30 and 32 is oblique to the front panel 3 and the respective side panel 5. These features result in the front panel 3 bulging away from the rear panel 4 at a mid portion of the panel as best illustrated by figure 3D.

[0054] The outer box 1 contains an inner water-impermeable means (not shown) which comprises two water tight packets. These packets house water sensitive material. The curved form of the outer box 1 may provide for a degree of deformation for both the outer box 1 and the packets (not shown) such that the packets may be easily located in the box 1.

[0055] In use, depression of the bulge in the front panel 3 with the lid closed may cause the flap 13 to move relative to rim flaps 9, which provide a lip 10, such that the flap 13 and lip 10 disengage allowing the lid 6 to be conveniently moved to an open position.

Claims

1. Packaging for moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients, the packaging comprising an outer container comprising a base panel(2) from which a front panel(3) and rear(4) and side panels(5) extend upwardly and a lid(6) hingedly carried at the top of the rear panel, wherein the front panel is provided at its upper edge with one of a flexible flap(13) or a lip and the front of the lid is provided with the other of an upstanding flexible flap (10) or a lip and wherein said flap is arranged to engage with said lip to hold the lid in a closed position, wherein the outer container is arranged such that the front panel can be squeezed towards the rear panel to cause its upper edge to move toward the rear panel such that the flap and lip can be brought out of engagement with one another to cause the lid

to open, or allow the lid to be opened, **characterised in that** the packaging comprises an inner water-impermeable means for enclosing said material, and **in that** the front panel bulges forwardly, wherein the front panel in its closed position, in which it is held by the lid, is closer to the rear panel than it is in the open position, in which the lid is displaced.

2. Packaging according to claim 1, and which is expandable on insertion of said materials.
3. Packaging according to claim 2, wherein the front panel is displaceable on insertion of ingredients, to bulge, or bulge more, forwardly.
4. Packaging according to any preceding claim, wherein the front panel has inwardly curved edges, between the base panel and its upper edge.
5. Packaging according to claim 4, wherein the side panel is bevelled adjacent to the inwardly curved edges of front panel.
6. Packaging according to any preceding claim, wherein the front panel is provided at its upper edge with the flap and the lid is provided with the lip.
7. Packaging according to claim 6, wherein the lid has a downwardly depending rim or skirt (7,8) in which the lip is formed.
8. Packaging according to claim 7, wherein the lip is formed by one or more flaps (9) which are extensions of one or more portions forming the rim of the lid which are folded into a position in which they form the lip.
9. Packaging according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the flap has a curved configuration, arranged so that, upon opening of the lid, the curved flap is pulled by the lip into a more planar configuration before further movement of the lid causes its disengagement from the lip.
10. Packaging according to any preceding claim, wherein the outer container is arranged such that the side panels can be squeezed towards each other such that the flap and lip can be brought out of engagement with one another to cause the lid to open, or allow the lid to be opened.
11. Packaging according to claim 4 wherein the front panel bulges forwardly at least when the outer container contains said materials.
12. A packaged product comprising packaging according to any preceding claim, and moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients

housed therein.

13. Use of packaging according to any of claims 1 to 12 for packaging moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients.
14. Use of packaging according to any of claims 1 to 12 for packaging sachets containing water softening ingredients.
15. A method of protecting moisture-sensitive material or material containing volatile ingredients, comprising storing the moisture-sensitive material or material comprising volatile ingredients in packaging according to any of claims 1 to 12.

Patentansprüche

1. Verpackung für feuchtigkeitsempfindliches Material oder Material, das flüchtige Inhaltsstoffe enthält, wobei die Verpackung einen äußeren Behälter umfasst, der eine Bodenwand (2), von welcher sich eine Vorderwand (3) sowie Rück- (4) und Seitenwände (5) nach oben erstrecken, und einen Deckel (6) umfasst, der am oberen Ende der Rückwand gelenkig getragen wird, wobei die Vorderwand an ihrer Oberkante mit einer von einer flexiblen Klappe (13) oder einer Lippe versehen ist, und die Vorderseite des Deckels mit der anderen von einer aufrechten flexiblen Klappe (10) oder einer Lippe versehen ist, und wobei die Klappe so ausgelegt ist, dass sie in die Lippe eingreift, um den Deckel in einer geschlossenen Position zu halten, wobei der äußere Behälter so ausgelegt ist, dass die Vorderwand zur Rückwand gedrückt werden kann, um zu bewirken, dass sich ihre Oberkante derart zur Rückwand bewegt, dass die Klappe und die Lippe aus dem gegenseitigen Eingriff gebracht werden können, um zu bewirken, dass sich der Deckel öffnet, oder zu ermöglichen, dass der Deckel geöffnet wird, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Verpackung ein inneres wasserundurchlässiges Mittel zum Einschließen des Materials umfasst, und **dadurch**, dass sich die Vorderwand nach vorne wölbt, wobei die Vorderwand in ihrer geschlossenen Position, in welcher sie durch den Deckel gehalten wird, näher zur Rückwand ist, als sie in der offenen Position ist, in welcher der Deckel entfernt ist.
2. Verpackung nach Anspruch 1 und welche bei Einführung der Materialien dehnbar ist.
3. Verpackung nach Anspruch 2, wobei die Vorderwand bei Einführung von Inhaltsstoffen so versetzbar ist, dass sie sich nach vorne wölbt oder mehr wölbt.
4. Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Vorderwand nach innen gekrümmte Kanten zwischen der Bodenwand und ihrer Oberkante aufweist.
5. Verpackung nach Anspruch 4, wobei die Seitenwand benachbart zu den nach innen gekrümmten Kanten der Vorderwand abgeschrägt ist.
6. Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Vorderwand an ihrer Oberkante mit der Klappe versehen ist und der Deckel mit der Lippe versehen ist.
7. Verpackung nach Anspruch nach Anspruch 6, wobei der Deckel einen nach unten hängenden Rand oder eine nach unten hängende Einfassung (7, 8) aufweist, in der die Lippe ausgebildet ist.
8. Verpackung nach Anspruch 7, wobei die Lippe durch eine oder mehrere Klappen (9) ausgebildet ist, welche Erweiterungen eines oder mehrerer Abschnitte sind, die den Rand des Deckels bilden und die in eine Position gefaltet werden, in welcher sie die Lippe bilden.
9. Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Klappe eine gekrümmte Form aufweist und so ausgelegt ist, dass die gekrümmte Klappe beim Öffnen des Deckels durch die Lippe in eine flachere Form gezogen wird, bevor eine weitere Bewegung des Deckels ihre Trennung von der Lippe bewirkt.
10. Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei der äußere Behälter so ausgelegt ist, dass die Seitenwände derart zueinander gedrückt werden können, dass die Klappe und die Lippe aus dem gegenseitigen Eingriff gebracht werden können, um zu bewirken, dass sich der Deckel öffnet, oder zu ermöglichen, dass der Deckel geöffnet wird.
11. Verpackung nach Anspruch 4, wobei sich die Vorderwand wenigstens nach vorne wölbt, wenn der äußere Behälter die Materialien enthält.
12. Verpacktes Produkt, umfassend eine Verpackung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche und feuchtigkeitsempfindliches Material oder Material, das flüchtige Inhaltsstoffe darin untergebracht enthält.
13. Verwendung einer Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 12 zum Verpacken von feuchtigkeitsempfindlichem Material oder Material, das flüchtige Inhaltsstoffe enthält.

14. Verwendung einer Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 12 zum Verpacken von Säckchen, die wasserenthärtende Inhaltsstoffe enthalten.
15. Verfahren zum Schützen von feuchtigkeitsempfindlichem Material oder Material, das flüchtige Inhaltsstoffe enthält, umfassend ein Aufbewahren des feuchtigkeitsempfindlichen Materials oder des flüchtige Inhaltsstoffe umfassenden Materials in einer Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 12.

Revendications

1. Emballage pour matériau sensible à l'humidité ou matériau contenant des ingrédients volatils, l'emballage comprenant un récipient externe comprenant un panneau de base (2) à partir duquel un panneau avant (3) et des panneaux arrière (4) et latéraux (5) s'étendent vers le haut et un couvercle (6) supporté de manière articulée au niveau de la partie supérieure du panneau arrière, dans lequel le panneau avant est muni au niveau de son bord supérieur avec un parmi un rabat flexible (13) ou une lèvre et l'avant du couvercle est muni avec l'autre parmi un rabat flexible (10) vertical ou une lèvre et dans lequel ledit rabat est agencé pour se mettre en prise avec ladite lèvre afin de maintenir le couvercle dans une position fermée, dans lequel le récipient externe est agencé de sorte que le panneau avant peut être comprimé vers le panneau arrière afin d'amener son bord supérieur à se déplacer vers le panneau arrière de sorte que le rabat et la lèvre peuvent être amenés hors de mise en prise l'un par rapport à l'autre afin de provoquer l'ouverture du couvercle ou permettre l'ouverture du couvercle, **caractérisé en ce que** l'emballage comprend des moyens internes imperméables à l'eau pour enfermer ledit matériau, et **en ce que** le panneau avant fait saillie vers l'avant, dans lequel le panneau avant dans sa position fermée, dans laquelle il est maintenu par le couvercle, est plus près du panneau arrière qu'il ne l'est dans la position ouverte, dans laquelle le couvercle est déplacé.
2. Emballage selon la revendication 1, et qui est expansible suite à l'insertion desdits matériaux.
3. Emballage selon la revendication 2, dans lequel le panneau avant est déplaçable suite à l'insertion des ingrédients, pour faire saillie ou faire davantage saillie vers l'avant.
4. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le panneau avant a des bords incurvés vers l'intérieur, entre le panneau de base et son bord supérieur.
5. Emballage selon la revendication 4, dans lequel le panneau latéral est biseauté de manière adjacente aux bords incurvés vers l'intérieur du panneau avant.
6. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le panneau avant est prévu, au niveau de son bord supérieur, avec le rabat et le couvercle est prévu avec la lèvre.
7. Emballage selon la revendication 6, dans lequel le couvercle a une collerette ou jupe (7, 8) dépendante vers le bas, dans lequel la lèvre est formée.
8. Emballage selon la revendication 7, dans lequel la lèvre est formée par un ou plusieurs rabats (9) qui sont des extensions d'une ou de plusieurs parties formant la collerette du couvercle qui sont pliées dans une position dans laquelle elles forment la lèvre.
9. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le rabat a une configuration incurvée, agencé de sorte que, suite à l'ouverture du couvercle, le rabat incurvé est tiré par la lèvre dans une configuration plus plane avant qu'un mouvement supplémentaire du couvercle ne provoque son dégagement de la lèvre.
10. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le récipient externe est agencé de sorte que les panneaux latéraux peuvent être comprimés les uns vers les autres de sorte que le rabat et la lèvre peuvent être amenés hors de mise en prise l'un par rapport à l'autre pour provoquer l'ouverture du couvercle ou permettre d'ouvrir le couvercle.
11. Emballage selon la revendication 4, dans lequel le panneau avant fait saillie vers l'avant au moins lorsque le récipient externe contient lesdits matériaux.
12. Produit emballé comprenant l'emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, et le matériau sensible à l'humidité ou le matériau contenant des ingrédients volatils logés à l'intérieur de ce dernier.
13. Utilisation d'emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 12 pour emballer un matériau sensible à l'humidité ou un matériau contenant des ingrédients volatils.
14. Utilisation d'emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 12 pour emballer des sachets contenant des ingrédients d'adoucissement d'eau.
15. Procédé pour protéger un matériau sensible à l'humidité ou un matériau contenant des ingrédients vo-

latils, comprenant l'étape consistant à stocker le matériau sensible à l'humidité ou le matériau comprenant des ingrédients volatils dans l'emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 12.

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Fig.1.

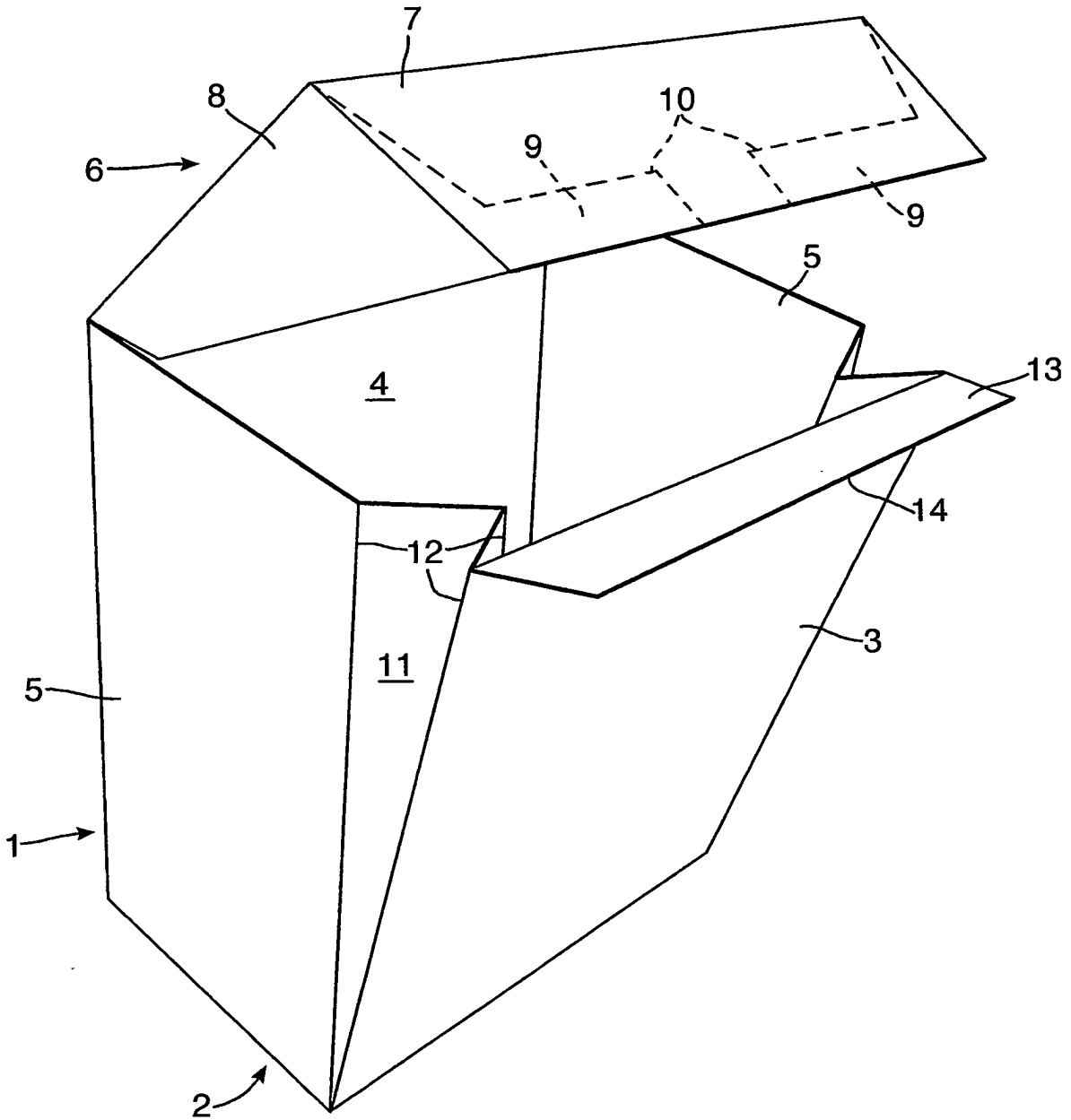


Fig.2A.

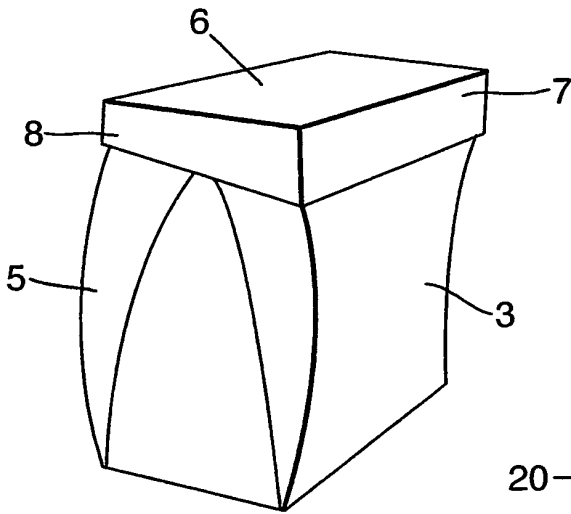


Fig.2B.

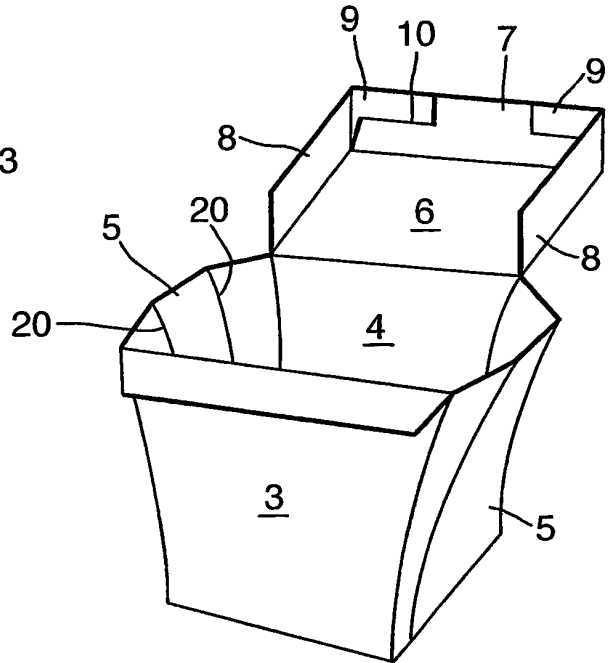


Fig.2C.

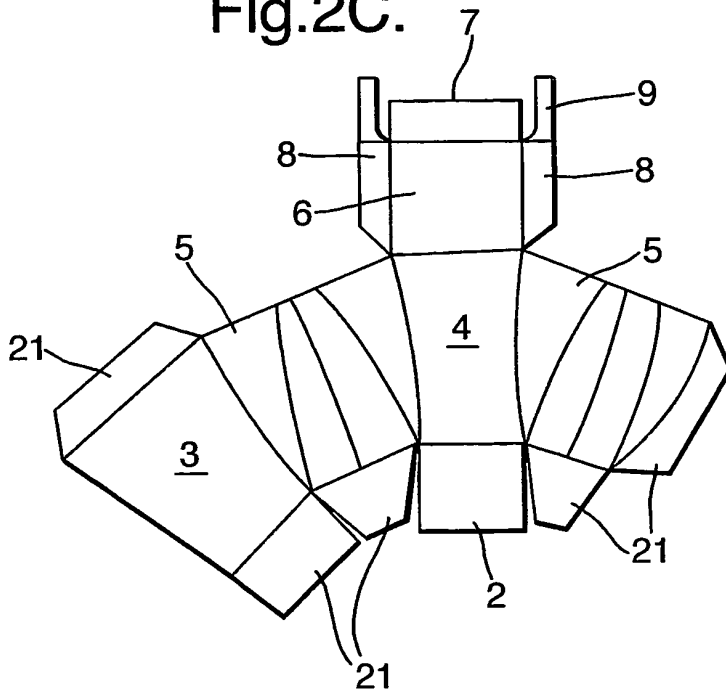


Fig.3A.

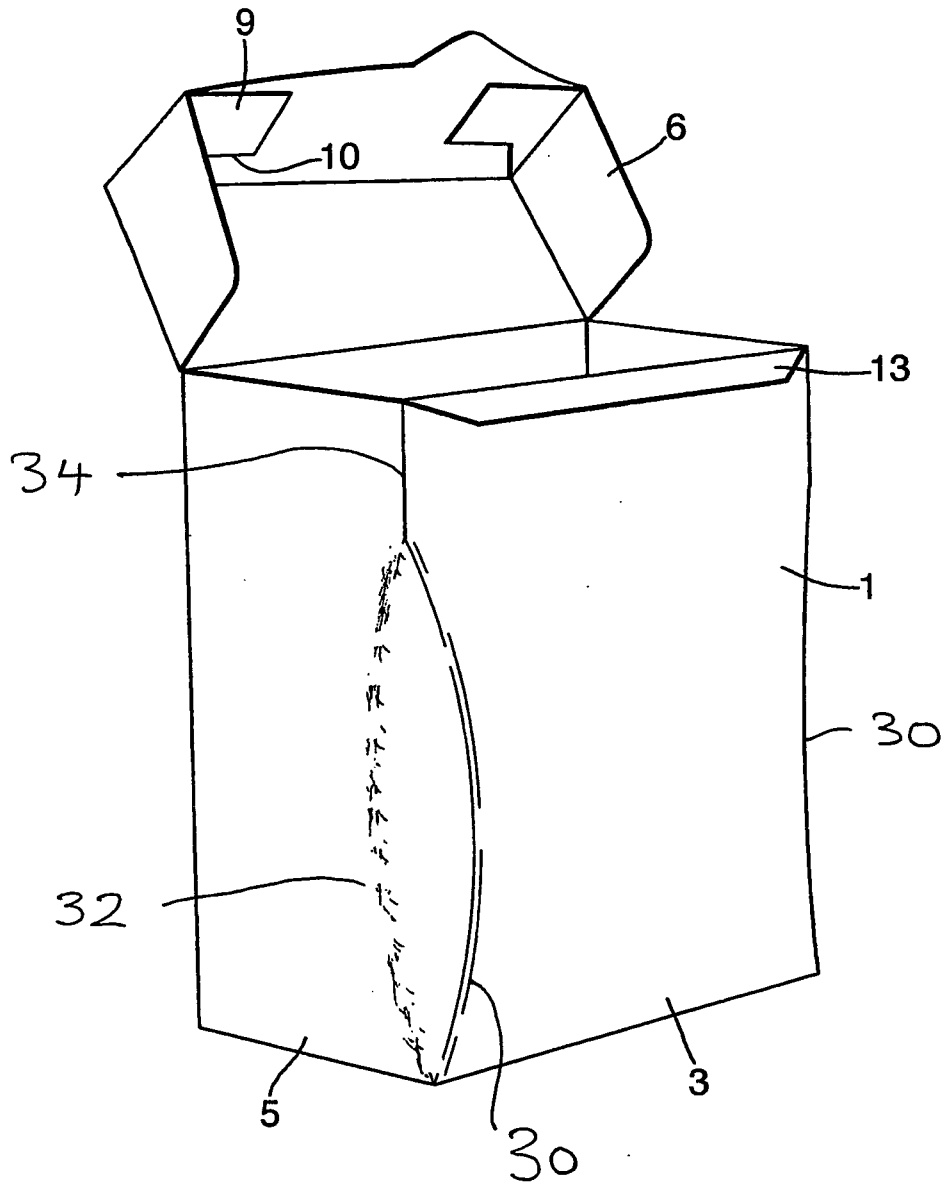


Fig.3B.

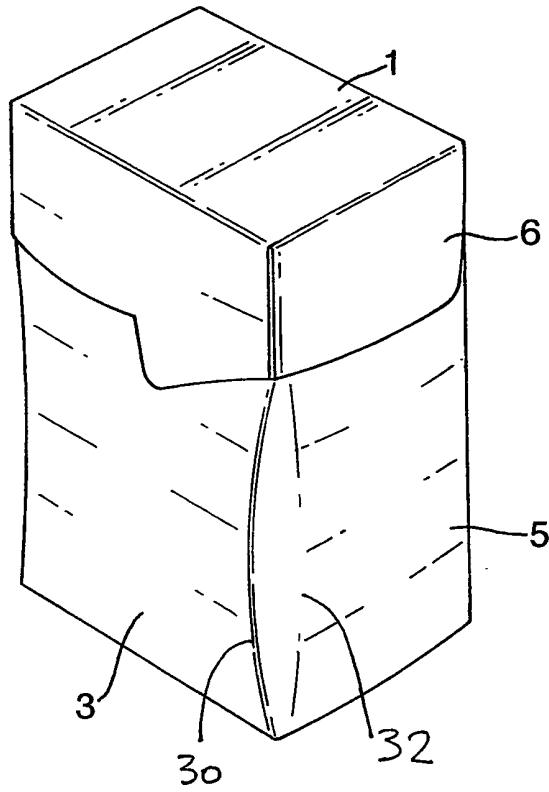


Fig.3C.

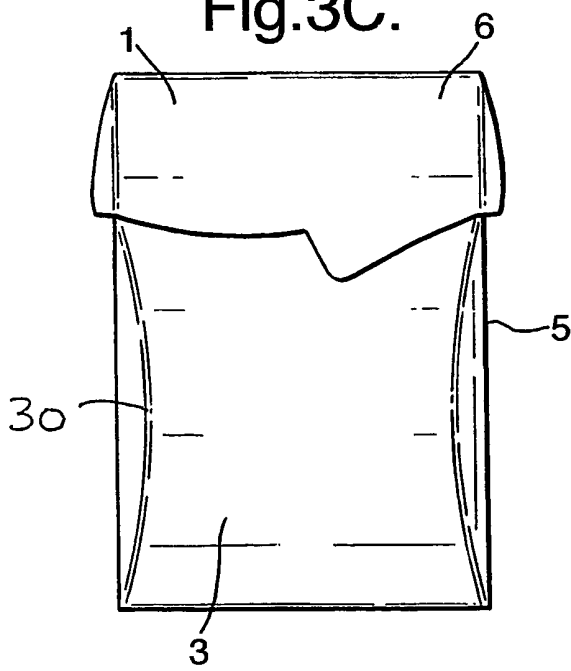
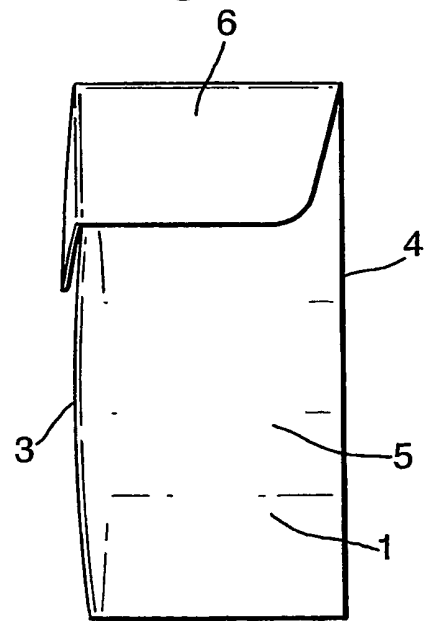


Fig.3D.



REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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Patent documents cited in the description

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