US 20030183238A1

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2003/0183238 A1

Zimmermon, III (43) Pub. Date: Oct. 2, 2003

(54) VERTICAL CIGARETTE AIR HOLE PUNCHER

(76) Inventor: Clarence Leon Zimmermon III, Tomball, TX (US)

Correspondence Address:
Clarence Leon Zimmenmon III
P.O. BOX 428
Tomball, TX 77377 (US)

(21) Appl. No.: 10/107,620

(22) Filed: Mar. 27, 2002

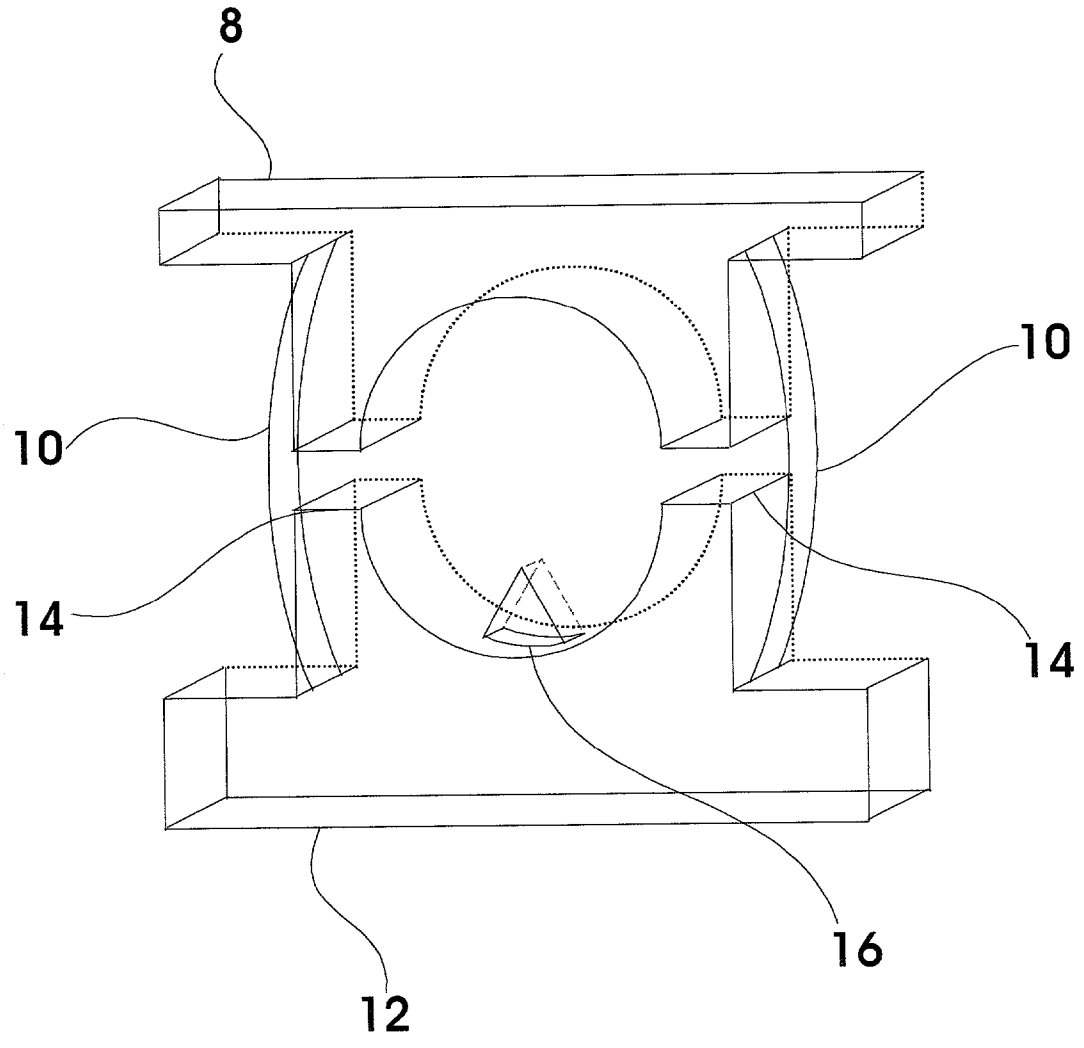
Publication Classification

(51) Int. Cl.[7] A24F 13/24

(52) U.S. Cl. 131/253; 131/281

(57) ABSTRACT

A vertical cigarette air hole puncher composed of a cage (2) and cutting tooth bracket (8). The cage (2) contains a through hole (6) and push button cutout (4). The cutting tooth bracket (8) containing springs (10), cutting tooth (16), bump stops (14), and push button (12)



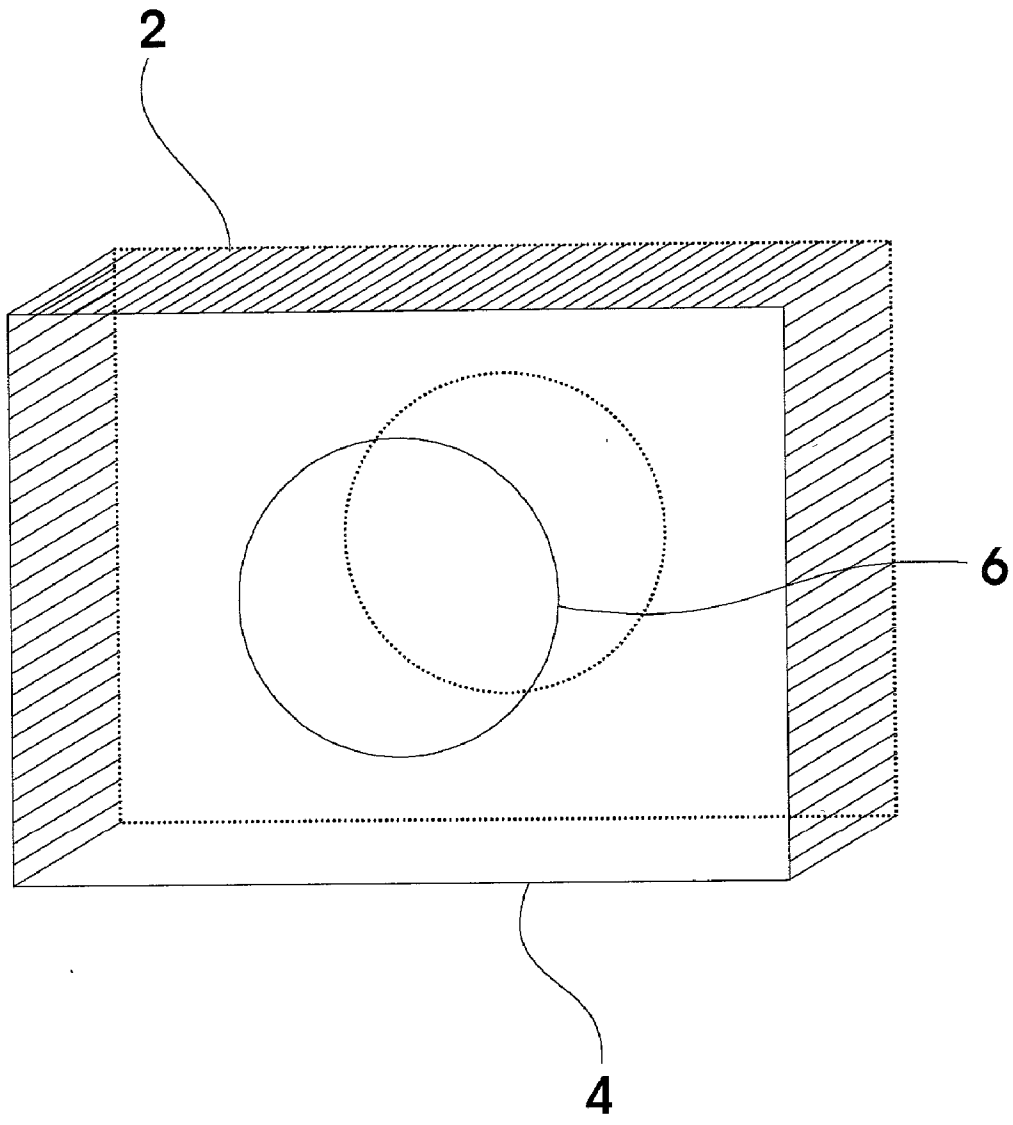


FIG.1

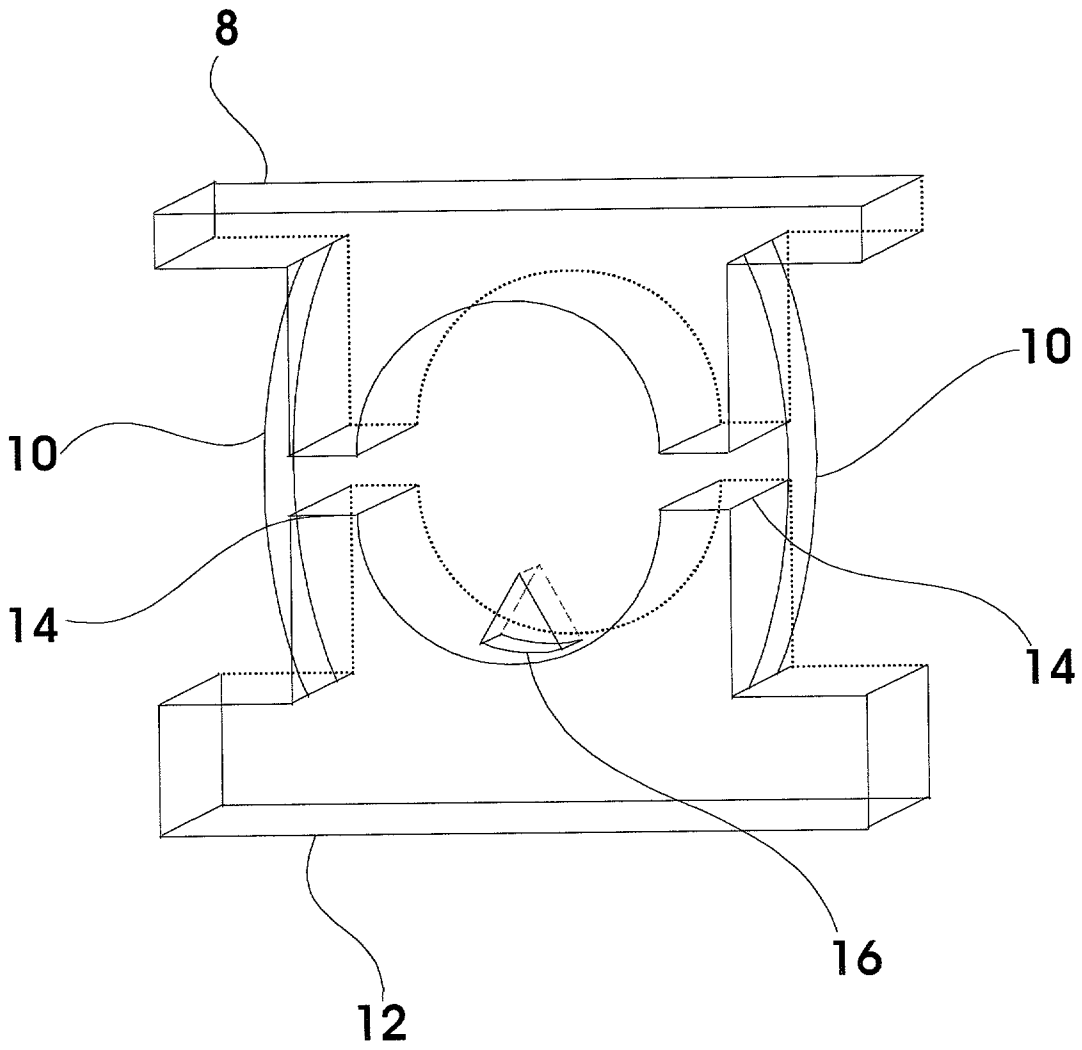


FIG.2

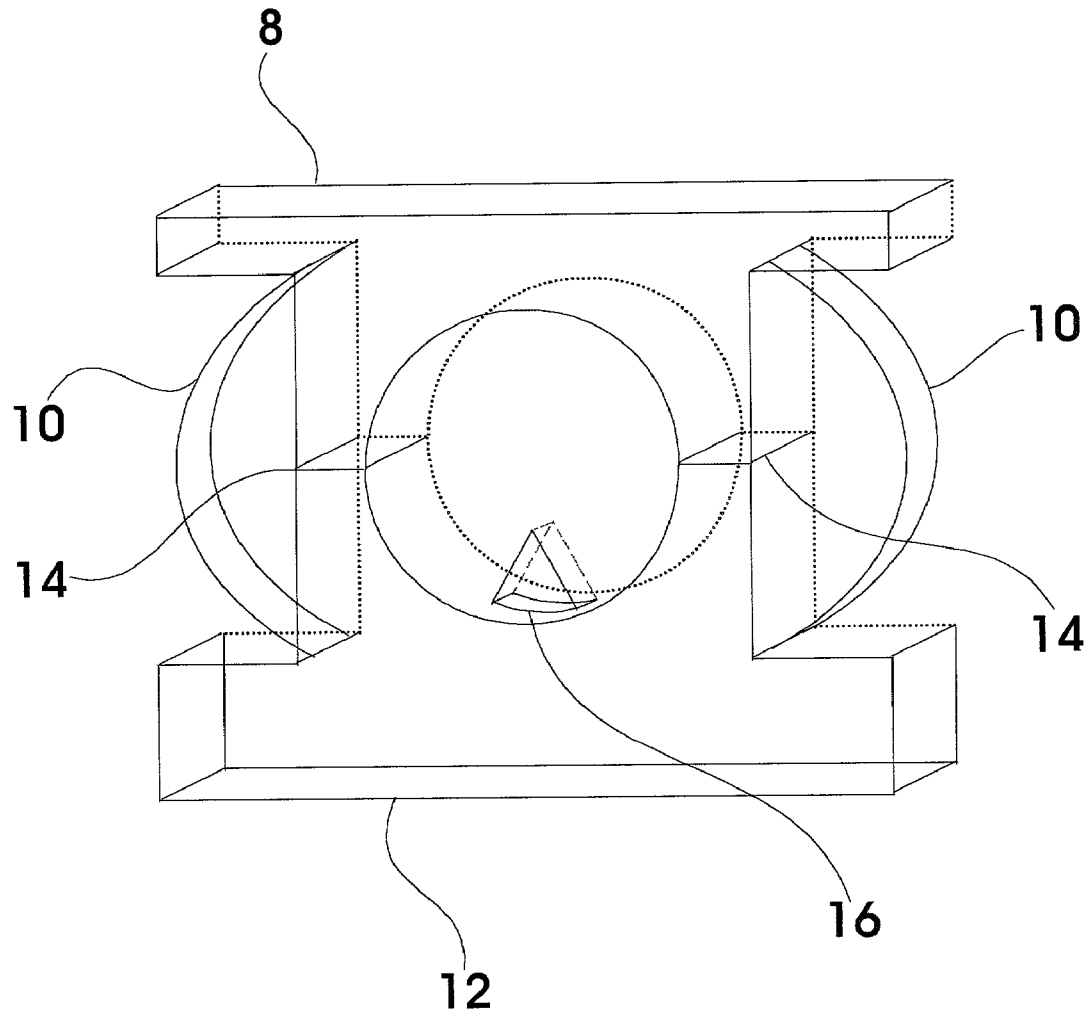


FIG.3

VERTICAL CIGARETTE AIR HOLE PUNCHER

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This invention relates to my co-pending application, application Ser. No. 10/025,416, Filed Dec. 17, 2001. However, this application should not be held as restricting in any means to the above previous filed application.

BACKGROUND

[0002] 1. Field of Invention

[0003] This invention relates to items that help people quit smoking, specifically to those operated by human influence.

[0004] 2. Description of Prior Art

[0005] Although items that help people quit smoking have been around since the beginning of cigarettes that does not necessarily mean that they are adequate in helping people quit smoking.

[0006] a) One example of a product that helps people quit smoking is nicotine gum. The gum provides the user with a dose of nicotine, somewhat similar to that of a cigarette. This in turn lessens the users craving for nicotine therefore reducing the likelihood that they would smoke. However, this is great in that it supplies the user with their needed nicotine however it does not provide them with the sensation of smoking.

[0007] b) Another example of a product that lessens a smokers craving but doesn't fulfill all of their needs is the nicotine patch. The patch as with the gum is designed to supply the user with a small amount of nicotine, similar somewhat to the amount that would be found in a cigarette. This as seen before with the nicotine gum is a great idea but it doesn't fulfill the smokers every wants. It leaves the smoker wishing that they still had a cigarette because they miss the action or task of actually smoking the cigarette.

SUMMARY

[0008] My vertical cigarette air hole puncher is a device composed of a cutting tooth bracket and a cage. It is also a stop smoking aid that's effectiveness is totally user determined.

OBJECTS AND ADVANTAGES

[0009] Several advantages of my vertical cigarette air hole puncher are:

[0010] a) The vertical cigarette air hole puncher that I have created helps a person quit smoking by allowing them to manually govern the ratio of air to smoke that they are inhaling. The user has the ability to customize their cigarette to their liking and to their smoking habits.

[0011] b) Since this vertical cigarette air hole puncher is totally user controlled it gives the user all the control. It allows the user to control the air to smoke ratio inhaled with each cigarette inhalation. This produces a smoke that is more enjoyable because it gives the user the option. It allows the user to customize the cigarette to their own liking or their own smoking habits.

[0012] c) Another benefit of this vertical cigarette air hole puncher is that it lessens the amount of cigarette chemicals and additives inhaled with each breath. Therefore creating a cigarette that is safer for the user, and provides them with a smoother smoke.

[0013] d) This vertical cigarette air hole puncher is also very versatile in that it allows a smoker to smoke, but at the same time cut back on the amount of tar and smoke that are actually inhaled. This is great in that it allows the smoker to experience the best of both worlds, the ability to smoke, but at the same time know that they are actually cutting back, its all controlled by the user.

DRAWING FIGURES

[0014] In the drawings:

[0015] **FIG. 1** shows an example of the vertical cigarette air hole puncher cage.

[0016] **FIG. 2** shows an example of the vertical cigarette air hole puncher cutting tooth bracket.

[0017] **FIG. 3** shows an example of the vertical cigarette air hole puncher cutting tooth bracket closed.

REFERENCE NUMERALS IN DRAWINGS

[0018] **2** Cage

[0019] **4** Cutout

[0020] **6** Through Hole

[0021] **8** Cutting Tooth Bracket

[0022] **10** Spring

[0023] **12** Pushbutton

[0024] **14** Bump Stops

[0025] **16** Cutting Tooth

DESCRIPTION—FIGS. 1, 2, 3

[0026] **FIG. 1** shows an overall view of the cage of the vertical cigarette air hole puncher. In **FIG. 1 a** cage **2** represents the shell or cage for the vertical cigarette air hole puncher. We refer to **2** as a cage because it contains or holds the other component needed for the vertical cigarette air hole puncher. As can be seen from **FIG. 1** push button cutout **4** is a cut out in the cage **2**. This push button cutout **4** allows the user to access the push button **12**. A through hole **6** can be seen in the center of the cage **2**. This allows access for the cigarette filter.

[0027] **FIG. 2** shows an example view of the cutting tooth bracket in an open state. In **FIG. 2 a** cutting tooth bracket **8** (cutting tooth bracket would be produced as a single piece, all features are part of the said cutting tooth bracket) represents the entire cutting tooth bracket **8** unit. The cutting tooth bracket **8** uses springs **10** to produce a resistant force against push button **12**. Bump stops **14** are used to stop the cutting tooth bracket **8** from moving upward when closed. Cutting tooth **16** (cutting tooth is shown in the shape of tooth

for visual ease, it could actually be a spike or something similar.) is used to puncture the cigarette filter.

[0028] **FIG. 3** shows an example view of the cutting tooth bracket in a closed state. In **FIG. 3 a** cutting tooth bracket **8** represents the entire cutting tooth bracket **8** unit. The cutting tooth bracket **8** uses springs **10** to produce a resistant force against push button **12**. Bump stops **14** are used to stop the cutting tooth bracket **8** from moving inward when closed. Cutting tooth **16** is used to puncture the cigarette filter.

[0029] In order to produce a fully working vertical cigarette air hole puncher the cutting tooth bracket **8** would be inserted inside the cage **2**.

[0030] Advantages

[0031] From the description above, a number of advantages of my vertical cigarette air hole puncher become evident:

[0032] (a) This vertical cigarette air hole puncher does not use added chemicals, unlike gum or patches, this is safer for the body. This gives my vertical cigarette air hole puncher an advantage over the prior art because it allows the user to manage the effectiveness of the product. All the user has to do is place more air holes into a cigarette filter to produce a less harmful cigarette.

[0033] (b) It is apparent that by using my vertical cigarette air hole puncher it will increase the amount of air to smoke ratio, resulting in a cigarette that produces less smoke. This in turn produces a cigarette that is less harmful for the user.

[0034] (c) By allowing the user the option to decide how effective the vertical cigarette air hole puncher is it allows them to govern their own progression while trying to quit smoking.

[0035] (d) This vertical cigarette air hole puncher is also very versatile in that it allows a smoker to smoke, but at the same time cut back on the amount of tar and smoke that are actually inhaled. This is great in that it allows the smoker to experience the best of both worlds, the ability to smoke, but at the same time know that they are actually cutting back, its all controlled by the user.

[0036] (e) The vertical cigarette air hole puncher is easy to use and operate, considering that it consists of only two parts. These parts being a cage and a cutting tooth bracket. This overall producing a product that is easy to use and operate, while at the same time dependable.

[0037] This overall producing a vertical cigarette air hole puncher that is very affective, easy to use, and dependable.

[0038] Operation—**FIGS. 1, 2, 3**

[0039] The entire vertical cigarette air hole puncher consists of two main parts a cage **2FIG. 1** and a cutting tooth bracket **8FIG. 2**. The cage **2** contains a through hole **6** and a push button cutout **4**. When the cutting tooth bracket **8** is inserted into the cage **2** it produces a complete vertical cigarette air hole puncher. Once inserted the pushbutton **12** is accessible through the push button cutout **4**. This allows the user to operate the vertical cigarette air hole puncher by compressing the push button **12** upward. When the push button **12** is compressed upward it bends the springs **10** allowing the lower half of the cutting tooth bracket **8** to move upward until stopped by the bump stops **14**. Once the cutting tooth bracket **8** is compressed upward the cutting tooth **16** is accessible through the cage **2** through hole **6**.

[0040] So when a user uses the vertical cigarette air hole puncher they insert a cigarette filter into the cage **2** through hole **6**. The user would then compress the push button **12** upward through the push button cutout **4** until bump stops **14** stop the upward movement. By doing this it would cause the springs **10** to compress, allowing the cutting tooth **16** to move upward puncturing the cigarette filter. Once the push button **12** is released the springs **10** return to their natural open state as seen in **FIG. 2**. By releasing the push button **12** it would also retract the cutting tooth **16** from the cage **2** through hole **6**, and would return the push button **12** to its original operating position outside the cage **2**.

CONCLUSION, RAMIFICATIONS, AND SCOPE

[0041] Accordingly, the reader will see that my vertical cigarette air hole puncher has many advantages over the prior art. The most important of the advantages being that it allows the user to personally manage the amount of smoke and chemicals inhaled during smoking. Another great advantage of the vertical cigarette air hole puncher is that it allows the smoker to continue to smoke while at the same time cutting back on smoke inhalation and tar. My vertical cigarette air hole puncher is also very easy to operate and maintain, as easy as flip-click-smoke. This in overall is a vertical cigarette air hole puncher that is very versatile, easy to use, dependable, and user friendly.

[0042] Furthermore, my vertical cigarette air hole puncher has the additional advantages in that:

[0043] It permits the user to manage the amount of air holes that are needed for an enjoyable smoke;

[0044] It has the ability to be molded into existing lighters, or can be used as a stand alone unit;

[0045] It has the ability to be produced out of either plastic or metal;

[0046] It has the ability to be formed differently in order to improve ergonomic form;

[0047] It has the ability to be produced in a variety of colors, color not affecting operation;

[0048] It has the ability to be changed in form to perform the same task, inserting holes into a cigarette filter;

[0049] It also has the ability to use a cover so as to protect children from accidents.

[0050] Although the above description contains many advantages, these should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention. Thus the scope of the invention should be determined by the appended claims and their legal equivalents, rather than by the examples given.

I claim:

1. A said vertical cigarette air hole puncher composed of said cage, and tooth bracket effectiveness being user determined.

* * * * *