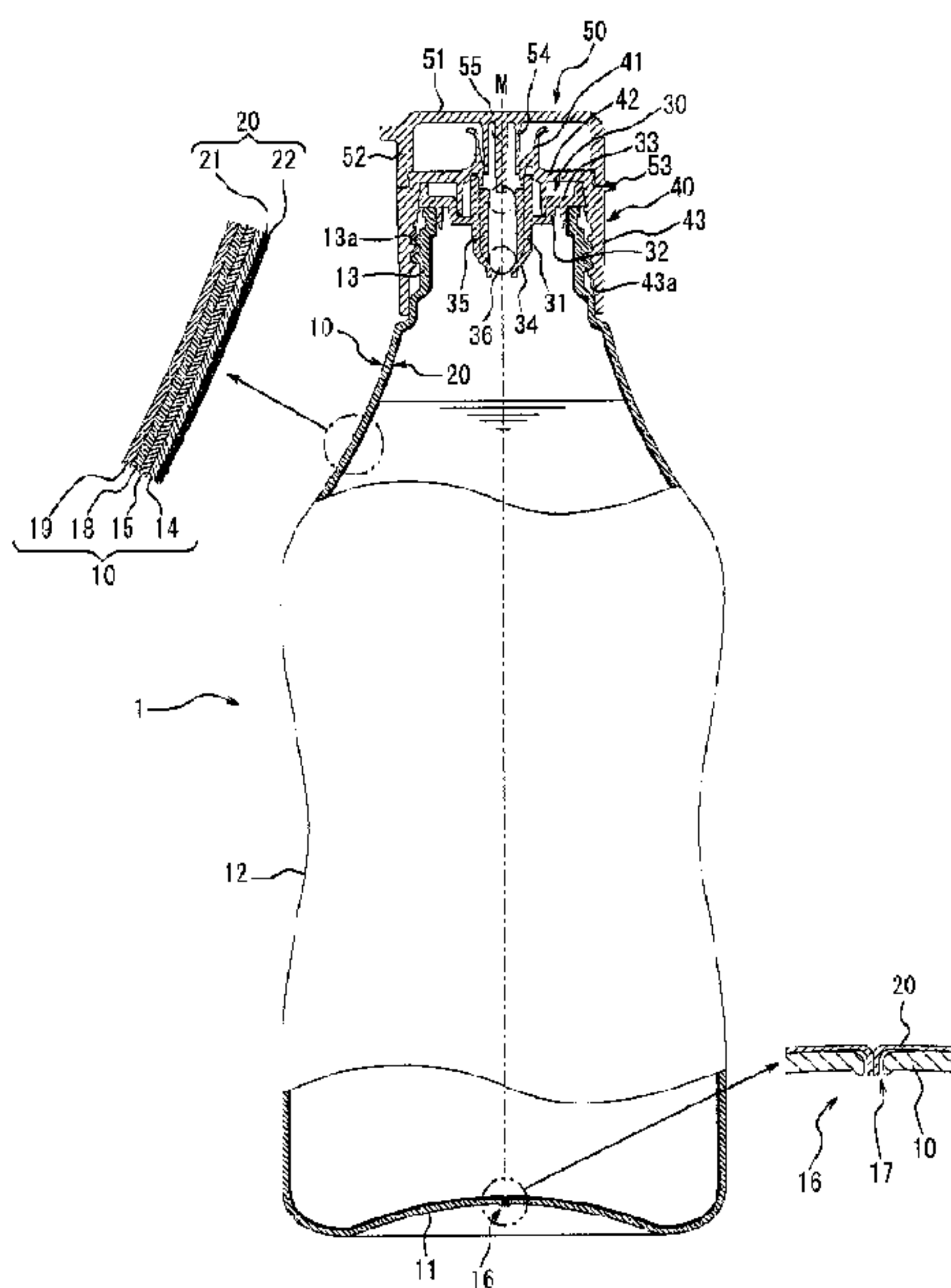




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(54) Titre : CONTENANT PELLICULABLE
 (54) Title: DELAMINATION CONTAINER



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

Provided is a delamination container (1) including: an outer layer body (10) constituting an outer shell of the container; and an inner layer body (20) that is laminated on an inner side of the outer layer body (10) in a manner such that the inner layer body (20) is peelable from the outer layer body (10), that contains an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, and that is deformable to undergo volume reduction. The outer layer body (10) includes an outer layer body's inside sub-layer (14) that is located adjacent to the inner layer body (20) and that is made of a polypropylene resin and an outer layer body's outside sub-layer (15) that is located on an outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer (14) and that is made of a polyethylene resin.

ABSTRACT

Provided is a delamination container (1) including: an outer layer body (10) constituting an outer shell of the container; and an inner layer body (20) that is laminated on an inner side of the outer layer body (10) in a manner such that the inner layer body (20) is peelable from the outer layer body (10), that contains an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, and that is deformable to undergo volume reduction. The outer layer body (10) includes an outer layer body's inside sub-layer (14) that is located adjacent to the inner layer body (20) and that is made of a polypropylene resin and an outer layer body's outside sub-layer (15) that is located on an outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer (14) and that is made of a polyethylene resin.

Delamination Container

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present disclosure relates to a delamination container including an outer layer body constituting an outer shell of the container and an inner layer body laminated on the inner side of the outer layer body in a manner such that the inner layer body is peelable from the outer layer body.

BACKGROUND

[0002] As a container for containing cosmetics such as face lotion, shampoo, rinse, liquid soap, food seasonings, or the like, a peelable laminated container (i.e., a delamination container) including an outer layer body that constitutes an outer shell of the container and an inner layer body that is laminated on the inner side of the outer layer body in a peelable manner and that is deformable to undergo volume reduction has been known. In such a delamination container, in response to dispensing of the content contained in the inner layer body, ambient air is introduced between the outer layer body and the inner layer body, and only the inner layer body undergoes volume reduction.

[0003] Known examples of the delamination container include a blow molded container including the outer layer body made of a polypropylene resin (PP) and the inner layer body made of a nylon resin (PA) as described in Patent Literature 1. Such a blow molded container may be obtained by preparing a cylindrical laminated parison by co-extruding the resins in a molten state through a die and by blow molding the prepared laminated parison.

CITATION LIST

Patent Literatures

[0004]

PTL 1: JP 2008207860A

PTL 2: JP 2008110791A

SUMMARY

(Technical Problem)

[0005] Meanwhile, when the outer layer body is still made of a polypropylene resin and the inner layer body is made of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin (EVOH) to achieve even higher gas barrier properties in such a container, variation in dimension of the container obtained by blow molding tends to increase. As a result, a gap is formed between a mouth of a container and a dispensing plug mounted to the mouth,

sometimes leading to leakage of air present between the outer layer body and the inner layer body through the gap. The variation in dimension is evident especially when a means for cutting and removing an unwanted flash above the mouth by pushing in the plug from above the laminated parison secured by mold segments during blow molding is used, along with a polypropylene resin with a high melt flow rate used in the outer layer body (for example, refer to Patent Literature 2).

[0006] As a way to address the above, an attempt has been made to improve stability in dimension by making the outer layer body with a polyethylene resin (PE). However, in this case, the peelability of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin as the inner layer body, with respect to a polyethylene resin, is deteriorated, and volume reduction of the inner layer body is hindered, and as a result, the content might not be dispensed smoothly.

[0007] The present disclosure is to solve the above problem, and the present disclosure is to provide a novel delamination container having high gas barrier properties and dimension stability.

(Solution to Problem)

[0008] One of aspects of the present disclosure resides in a delamination container, including: an outer layer body constituting an outer shell of the container; and an inner layer body that is laminated on an inner side of the outer layer body in a manner such that the inner layer body is peelable from the outer layer body, that contains an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, and that is deformable to undergo volume reduction. The outer layer body includes an outer layer body's inside sub-layer that is located adjacent to the inner layer body and that is made of a polypropylene resin and an outer layer body's outside sub-layer that is located on an outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer and that is made of a polyethylene resin.

[0009] The polyethylene resin may include a high-density polyethylene resin.

[0010] An innermost layer that is located on the inner side of the container relative to the inner layer body may be provided, and the innermost layer may be made of a modified polyolefin resin.

[0011] An outer shell sub-layer that is made of a resin different from the outer layer body's outside sub-layer and that is located on the outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's outside sub-layer may be provided.

[0012] A strip-shaped adhesive layer extending between the outer layer body and the inner layer body along a center axis of the container may be provided.

[0013] The outer layer body may be provided in a bottom portion thereof with an ambient air introduction hole in the form of a bottom crack through which ambient air is introduced between the outer layer body and the inner layer body.

(Advantageous Effect)

[0014] Since, in the present disclosure, the inner layer body contains an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, high barrier properties are achieved. Furthermore, since the outer layer body's inside sub-layer is made of a polypropylene resin and the outer layer body's outside sub-layer is made of a polyethylene resin, the inner layer body may be peeled from the outer layer body smoothly, and variation in dimension of the outer layer body is reduced.

[0015] When a high-density polyethylene resin is used as a polyethylene resin, the outer layer body is imparted with moderate rigidity. In this case, by bringing the container into a tilted position, the content is dispensed mainly by its own weight. Furthermore, by imparting rigidity to the outer layer body, the outer layer body is prevented from being pressed unintentionally, and an intended amount of the content may be dispensed.

[0016] When the innermost layer located on the inner side of the container relative to the inner layer body is provided and when the innermost layer is made of a modified polyolefin resin, an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, through which more oxygen permeates as humidity increases, is covered with a modified polyolefin resin, through which moisture is less likely to permeate. Accordingly, high gas barrier properties are maintained.

[0017] Depending on the shape of the container, the outer layer body sometimes fails to have sufficient rigidity. In this case, the outer layer body may further include the outer shell sub-layer that is made of a resin different from the outer layer body's outside sub-layer and that is located on the outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's outside sub-layer. With this structure, desired rigidity is maintained.

[0018] When the strip-shaped adhesive layer extending between the outer layer body and the inner layer body along the center axis of the container is provided, a part of the inner layer body is adhered and held to the outer layer body by the adhesive layer. This prevents the defects arising from middle portions of the inner layer body contacting with each other and a part of the content remaining near the bottom of the container when the inner layer body is deformed to undergo volume reduction.

[0019] When the outer layer body is provided in the bottom portion thereof with the ambient air introduction hole in the form of a bottom crack through which ambient air is introduced between the outer layer body and the inner layer body, since the ambient air introduction hole may be formed by blow molding, the additional step of providing the ambient air introduction hole is not necessary, and a production process of the container is simplified.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020] In the accompanying drawings:

FIG. 1 is a partial sectional side view of a delamination container, and an inside plug, a dispensing plug, and a cap body according to one of embodiments of the present disclosure; and

FIG. 2 is a partial sectional side view of a delamination container, and an inside plug, a dispensing plug, and a cap body according to another embodiment of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0021] The present disclosure will be described in more detail below with reference to the drawings.

In FIG. 1, reference numeral 1 denotes a delamination container according to one of embodiments of the present disclosure. The delamination container 1 includes an outer layer body 10 constituting an outer shell of the container, and an inner layer body 20 that is laminated on the inner side of the outer layer body 10 in a manner such that the inner layer body 20 is peelable from the outer layer body 10 and that may contain the content. The outer layer body 10 has a mouth to which an inside plug 30 and a dispensing plug 40 are mounted, and a cap body 50 is detachably mounted on the dispensing plug 40.

[0022] The outer layer body 10 includes a disc-shaped bottom 11 whose middle portion is curved toward the inner side, a trunk 12 connecting to an edge portion of the bottom 11 and having a middle portion in the axial direction that is narrowed toward the inner side in the radial direction, and a mouth 13 connecting to an upper portion of the trunk 12 and having a cylindrical shape. The mouth 13 has an outer circumferential surface provided with a screw portion 13a.

[0023] The outer layer body 10 includes an outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 located adjacent to the inner layer body 20 and an outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 located on the outer side relative to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14. Herein, the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 is made of a polypropylene resin (PP), and the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 is made of a polyethylene resin (PE). Examples of the polyethylene resin (PE) include a low-density polyethylene (LDPE) and a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) resin.

[0024] As illustrated in FIG. 1, the outer layer body 10 of the present embodiment includes an outer shell sub-layer 18 located on the outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15. Various resins different from that of the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 may be adopted in the outer shell sub-layer 18. For example, a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) resin, a resin (PCTA) prepared by substituting isophthalic acid for a part of polycyclohexanedimethylene terephthalate, an

ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer resin (such as HI-Milan[®] manufactured by Du Pont-Mitsui Polychemicals Co., Ltd.; HI-Milan is a registered trademark in Japan, other countries, or both) may be used. Additionally, when PET, PCTA, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer resin, or the like as described above is used, a modified polyolefin resin (such as Admer[®] manufactured by Mitsui Chemical Co., Ltd.; Admer is a registered trademark in Japan, other countries, or both) is preferably disposed between the resin and the outer layer body 10 to ensure bonding therebetween. Disposing the outer shell sub-layer 18 further hardens the outer layer body 10 and moreover, improves glossiness and contributes to superior exterior design quality.

[0025] The outer layer body 10 may further include a coating sub-layer 19 located on the outer side of the container relative to the outer shell sub-layer 18. As the coating sub-layer 19, an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin (EVOH) is preferably used. The reason is that damage to the container is effectively prevented and that glossiness is improved. Thus, exterior design quality is further improved. Additionally, depending on compatibility between the outer shell sub-layer 18 and the coating sub-layer 19, a modified polyolefin resin may be disposed between the outer shell sub-layer 18 and the coating sub-layer 19 to further ensure bonding therebetween.

[0026] The outer layer body 10 may also adopt a layer structure as illustrated in FIG. 2. The outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 illustrated in FIG. 2 has a laminated structure of an outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a located on the inner side and an outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b located on the outer side, and the outer layer body 10 is formed by a total of three layers (the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14, the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a, and the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b). Herein, the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 is made of a polypropylene resin (PP), and the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 is made of a high-density polyethylene resin (HDPE), and in detail, the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a is made of a recycled material of a high-density polyethylene resin, and the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b is made of a virgin material of a high-density polyethylene resin. By using a virgin material in the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b, high appearance quality is achieved even though a recycled material is used in the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a. The structure of the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a and the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b is not limited to the above example. When, for example, appearance quality does not need to be very high or may be compensated by using an exterior film or the like, to cover the outer layer body 10, is used, a recycled material may be used in both the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a and the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b. Furthermore, when, for example, there

is not a great difference in superiority in cost, a virgin material may be used in both the outer layer body's first outside sub-layer 15a and the outer layer body's second outside sub-layer 15b. Additionally, one or more other layers may be laminated between the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 and the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15.

[0027] As illustrated in FIGs. 1 and 2, the inner layer body 20 includes an inner layer body's outside sub-layer 21, which is located adjacent to the outer layer body 10 and made of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin (EVOH). Since more oxygen permeates an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin as humidity increases, in the present embodiment, the innermost layer 22 is provided to coat the inner layer body's outside sub-layer 21 from the inner side to prevent direct contact between the content and the inner layer body's outside sub-layer 21. Any resin, through which moisture is less likely to permeate and which has high compatibility with an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, is preferably used in the innermost layer 22. Since it is preferable to use, in the innermost layer 22, the same resin as that in another member to reduce the number of types of resin, a modified polyolefin resin adopted in an adhesive layer described below is used in the present embodiment.

[0028] Between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20, although not illustrated, the strip-shaped adhesive layer extending longitudinally along a center axis M of the delamination container 1 is provided to adhere the outer layer body 10 to the inner layer body 20 partially. The adhesive layer is preferably highly compatible with both the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20, and a modified polyolefin resin is used in the present embodiment. In the present embodiment, the single strip-shaped adhesive layer is provided from the bottom 11 toward the mouth 13. Two or more strip-shaped adhesive layers may also be provided.

[0029] The blow molded container 1 with the above structure may be obtained by preparing a cylindrical laminated parison by co-extruding the aforementioned resins in a molten state through a die and by blow molding the prepared laminated parison. At this time, a pinch-off portion 16 is formed when the laminated parison is pinched off at the time of closing mold segments in blow molding. Since the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 of the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body's outside sub-layer 21 of the inner layer body 20, which are located adjacent to each other, are respectively made of a polypropylene resin and an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, which are less compatible with each other, the inner layer body 20 may be easily peeled from the outer layer body 10. As a result, in the pinch-off portion 16, there is formed an ambient air introduction hole 17 in the form of a bottom crack through which space between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20 communicates with the outside. Furthermore, since the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15 is made of a polyethylene resin, variation in dimension of the outer layer body 10 obtained by blow molding is

reduced.

[0030] The inside plug 30 in the present embodiment includes a cylindrical wall 31 extending upright in a middle portion of the inside plug 30, and an annular wall 32 connected to the cylindrical wall 31 via a flange. Furthermore, the inside plug 30 includes a flange portion 33 located in an upper end edge portion of the annular wall 32 and extending radially outward to abut against an upper end of the mouth 13. Moreover, the cylindrical wall 31 includes, in a lower end portion thereof, an inclined wall 34 having a diameter decreasing in the downward direction. Moreover, the cylindrical wall 31 includes, on an inner circumferential surface thereof, a plurality of longitudinal ribs 35 located at an interval in the circumferential direction.

[0031] Moreover, a spherical body 36 is disposed on the inner side of each longitudinal rib 35 in the radial direction. The spherical body 36 herein is displaced by its own weight along the longitudinal rib 35, and as illustrated in FIG. 1, when the delamination container 1 is in an upright position, the spherical body 36 abuts against the inclined wall 34 over the entire circumference to seal the inside of the inner layer body 20. Additionally, an upper end of the longitudinal rib 35 slightly bulges toward the inner side in the radial direction to prevent the spherical body 36 from slipping out.

[0032] The dispensing plug 40 includes a dispensing tube 41 leading to the cylindrical wall 31, and the dispensing tube 41 extends toward the outer side in the radial direction to be connected to a ceiling wall 42 located above the flange portion 33. The dispensing plug 40 also includes an outer circumferential wall 43 connected with an edge portion of the ceiling wall 42 and surrounding the mouth 13. The outer circumferential wall 43 has an inner circumferential surface provided with a screw portion 43a configured in correspondence with the screw portion 13a provided in the mouth 13. With the above structure, the dispensing plug 40 is screw fastened to the mouth 13, with the inside plug 30 being sandwiched therebetween. A lower portion of the outer circumferential wall 43 is in air tight abutment with the outer circumferential surface of the mouth 13, thereby effectively preventing leakage of air introduced between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20.

[0033] The cap body 50 includes a top wall 51 that covers an upper side of the dispensing plug 40, a circumferential wall 52 that is connected to an edge portion of the top wall 51, and a hinge 53 at which the cap body 50 is integrally connected to the dispensing plug 40. The hinge 53 may also be omitted, and the dispensing plug 40 and the cap body 50 may be provided as separate bodies that are held by, for example, screw fastening. The top wall 51 is provided, in a lower surface thereof, with a sealing tube 54 configured to abut against the dispensing tube 41 in a liquid tight manner. The top wall 51 is also provided, in a portion thereof located radially inward from the sealing tube 54, with a pin 55 extending downward. The pin 55 is designed to abut against the

spherical body 36 before the spherical body 36, when being displaced upward, reaches the upper limit. This prevents the spherical body 36 from being displaced over the slip-off preventing portion provided in each longitudinal rib 35 and disengaged, even when the spherical body 36 is displaced upward forcibly due to transportation or the like.

[0034] To dispense the content from the delamination container 1 with the above structure, the cap body 50 is opened, and the delamination container 1 is brought into a tilted position. By doing so, the spherical body 36 is displaced toward the dispensing tube 41, and the content contained in the inner layer body 20 passes through an opening of the inclined wall 34 and between adjacent longitudinal ribs 38 by its own weight, and is dispensed from the dispensing tube 41. At this time, ambient air may be introduced between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20 through the ambient air introduction hole 17, and moreover, the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 of the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body's outside sub-layer 21 of the inner layer body 20, which are located adjacent to each other, are respectively made of a polypropylene resin and an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, which are less compatible with each other. Accordingly, the inner layer body 20 may be easily peeled from the outer layer body 10, and only the inner layer body 20 may be deformed to undergo volume reduction. When a high-density polyethylene resin is used as the outer layer body's outside sub-layer, the outer layer body 10 may be imparted with moderate rigidity, and accordingly, the outer layer body 10 is prevented from being pressed unintentionally, and an intended amount of the content may be dispensed. Additionally, depending on the shape of the container, the outer layer body 10 sometimes fails to have sufficient rigidity. In this case, the outer shell sub-layer 18 and the coating sub-layer 19 as illustrated in FIG. 1 may also be provided.

[0035] As dispensing of the content progresses and the remaining amount of the content starts to decrease, due to the decreasing weight of the content as a whole, it might become difficult to dispense the content simply by tilting the delamination container 1. In this case, by pressing the trunk 12 of the outer layer body 10 with a more or less strong force, the inner layer body 20 is pressed by way of air present between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20. Thus, the content may be dispensed to the last. Although some of the air present between the outer layer body 10 and the inner layer body 20 might be leaked out from the ambient air introduction hole 17 when the outer layer body 10 is pressed, leakage of the air may be reduced to minimum by adjusting the extended length and thickness of the ambient air introduction hole 17 suitably.

[0036] The content may be dispensed from the delamination container 1, not by the own weight of the content but by pressure applied mainly to the outer layer body 10.

[0037] The rigidity of the outer layer body 10 may also be adjusted arbitrarily by

selectively providing the outer shell sub-layer 18 and the coating sub-layer 19, in addition to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer 14 and the outer layer body's outside sub-layer 15.

[0038] Components used for dispensing the content are not limited to the inside plug 30, the dispensing plug 40, and the cap body 50 described above, and various other components that allow the content to be dispensed may be adopted.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0039] According to the present disclosure, a novel delamination container having high gas barrier properties and dimension stability is provided.

REFERENCE SIGNS LIST

[0040]	1	Delamination container
	10	Outer layer body
	11	Bottom
	12	Trunk
	13	Mouth
	13a	Screw portion
	14	Outer layer body's inside sub-layer
	15	Outer layer body's outside sub-layer
	15a	Outer layer body's first outside sub-layer
	15b	Outer layer body's second outside sub-layer
	16	Pinch-off portion
	17	Ambient air introduction hole
	18	Outer shell sub-layer
	19	Coating sub-layer
	20	Inner layer body
	21	Inner layer body's outside sub-layer
	22	Innermost layer
	30	Inside plug
	31	Cylindrical wall
	32	Annular wall
	33	Flange portion
	34	Inclined wall
	35	Longitudinal rib
	36	Spherical body
	40	Dispensing plug
	41	Dispensing tube
	42	Ceiling wall

- 43 Outer circumferential wall
- 43a Screw portion
- 50 Cap body
- 51 Top wall
- 52 Circumferential wall
- 53 Hinge
- 54 Sealing tube
- 55 Pin
- M Center axis of delamination container

CLAIMS

1. A delamination container, comprising:
an outer layer body constituting an outer shell of the container; and
an inner layer body that is laminated on an inner side of the outer layer body in a manner such that the inner layer body is peelable from the outer layer body, the inner layer body containing an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, and the inner layer body being deformable to undergo volume reduction, wherein
the outer layer body includes an outer layer body's inside sub-layer that is located adjacent to the inner layer body and that is made of a polypropylene resin and an outer layer body's outside sub-layer that is located on an outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's inside sub-layer and that is made of a polyethylene resin.
2. The delamination container of claim 1, wherein the polyethylene resin comprises a high-density polyethylene resin.
3. The delamination container of claim 1 or 2, further comprising:
an innermost layer that is located on the inner side of the container relative to the inner layer body, the innermost layer being made of a modified polyolefin resin.
4. The delamination container of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the outer layer body further includes an outer shell sub-layer that is made of a resin different from the outer layer body's outside sub-layer and that is located on the outer side of the container relative to the outer layer body's outside sub-layer.
5. The delamination container of any one of claims 1 to 4, further comprising:
a strip-shaped adhesive layer extending between the outer layer body and the inner layer body along a center axis of the container.
6. The delamination container of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the outer layer body is provided in a bottom portion thereof with an ambient air introduction hole in the form of a bottom crack through which ambient air is introduced between the outer layer body and the inner layer body.

