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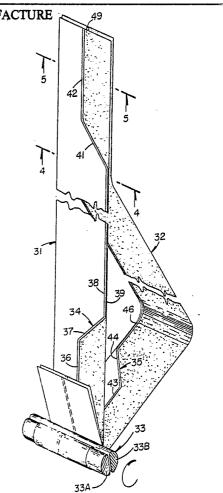
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(54) Title: METALLIZED FILM CAPACITOR AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

#### (57) Abstract

In wound metallized capacitors because of wide metallized margins and misregistration during winding wide metallized foils are necessary. The disclosed device reduces the use of wider foils by using a particular metallizing pattern and thus reduces the size of the capacitor for a given capacitive rating. A rolled metallized film capacitor is manufactured completely metallizing one surface of each of a pair of dielectric films (31, 32) and advancing the film while laser scribing patterns demetallized lines (34, 35) on the respective films which are wound together to provide a pair of capacitor plates of finite areas. The laser scribing (111, 112; 128, 129) is controlled so that when the films (31, 32) are wound together, the lines on the respective films are in overlaying relationship on the core and peripheral windings, and are diverted to opposed marginal edge portions on the respective films on the intervening windings.



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### METALLIZED FILM CAPACITOR AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

## Technical Field of the Invention

This invention relates to laser scribed

5 rolled or wound metallized film capacitors and methods of manufacture thereof, and more particularly to a capacitor constructed of a pair of convoluted metallized films each having a scribe line which at the core and peripheral convolutions are in overlaying relation and are diverged

10 to run longitudinally along opposed margins of the remainder of the respective convolutions to provide a pair of finite capacitor plate areas.

# Background of the Invention

Currently rolled metallized film

- 15 capacitors are usually manufactured by vacuum metallizing one surface of a dielectric film through a mask to provide non-metallized stripes. The metallized film is slit along the non-metallized stripes to provide pairs of film strips having non-metallized, longitudinally 20 extending, opposed margins. A pair of film strips with opposed non-metallized margins are wound in an offset or misregistered relation on an arbor so that the metallized edges of the film strips extend beyond the non-metallized edges. The winding of the film strips is such that the 25 metallized surface of each convolution of one film strip bears against the non-metallized surfaces of the other film strip. Solder is sprayed onto opposed ends to provide porous solder terminations for the subsequent attachment of electrical terminals. Prior to the 30 attachment of the terminals, wax is vacuum impregnated preclude oxidation of the metal on the film strips.
- into the wound convolutions to provide a moisture seal to preclude oxidation of the metal on the film strips. The wax may also fill the core hole left by the arbor which is withdrawn following the winding operation. Near the 35 completion of the winding operation a strip of non-coated dielectric material is inserted and wound between the peripheral windings of the metallized film strips so as

to prevent short circuiting of the metallized film strips



when the outer convolutions including the strip of non-coated dielectric material are heat sealed to prevent unraveling of the rolled film strips.

During the winding operation the film 5 strips are offset from each other to increase the metallized surface areas at the opposed margins which are available to receive the solder terminations. Further, the amount of offset must be sufficient to compensate for variations in the lines of demarcation between the 10 metallized plate areas and the non-metallized margin areas. Inasmuch as the lines of demarcation are set by vapor depositing metal through a mask, there are considerable variations in the linearity of the demarcation lines. As a result, compensating offsets for 15 the variations in the lines of demarcation must be made and there will be concomitant decrease in the available overlapped metallized areas which determine the capacitance value of the capacitor. The net result of compensating offset is to require the use of wider film 20 strips and thus produce a capacitor of relatively larger physical size.

In the manufacture and design of circuits and circuit boards for use in the telephone and electrical industries there is a continuing need for capacitors 25 having precise capacitance values, small size, stable frequency response characteristics, long life, and good stability under varying temperature and humidity of operating conditions. In general, rolled metallized film capacitors are capable of meeting these needs, 30 however, as circuit design progresses, increased use is being made of integrated circuitry and other semiconductor technology which in turn contemplates the mounting of vast numbers of circuit components on small substrates or printed circuit boards. As this miniaturi-35 zation progresses there is a continuing requirement to provide compatible, smaller and smaller rejiable passive components such as capacitors. One type of capacitor that has been widely used is the small ceramic capacitor.



However, ceramic capacitors have a number of inherent deterrents such as temperature sensitivity, inability to self heal, capacitance derogation over a period of time and the characteristic of shorting upon breakdown.

- 5 Rolled metallized film capacitors do not possess these objectionable deterrents. However, use of rolled film capacitors has been heretofore limited because of their relatively large size, which obviously presents problems in packaging and assembly into miniature circuits.
- 10 Considering now the prior art, there is disclosed in U. S. Patent 3,939,440, a method of forming a wound resistor-capacitor network wherein a pair of metallized films having non-coated margin areas are simultaneously wound while laser beams scribe lines in the opposed
- 15 metallized margin areas to define conductive resistor paths on the surfaces of the wound films. In this patent, the non-coated margin is set by depositing metal through a mask, and thus the film must be offset by an amount needed to compensate for linear variations along the
- 20 demarcation line between the metal coated and non-coated areas. In U. S. Patent 3,597,579, there is described a method of laser trimming capacitors to value by laser vaporizing sections of capacitor plates or by laser scribing lines on a metallized surface of a capacitor plate
- 25 to isolate discrete metallized sections from the main metallized plate areas and hence reduce the effective capacitor plate areas.

Another patent showing the use of a laser in the manufacture of rolled film capacitors is  ${\tt U.\ S.}$ 

- 30 Patent 3,786,224, which utilizes laser beams to remove opposed metallized margins of completely metallized film by directing a laser beam substantially parallel to the metallized surface. In this patent, the rolled film capacitor blank is simultaneously rotated and moved
- 35 transversely of its axis while the laser beam is vaporizing metal along one margin of one film. This procedure is again practiced to remove the metal along the opposed margin of the other rolled metallized film.



U. S. Patents 2,683,792 and 2,718,180, show electrode discharge means for forming a plurality of finite capacitor plate areas on a metallized film as the film is being advanced to a winding device.

# 5 Summary of the Invention

In accordance with the present invention a capacitor and method of manufacture are contemplated wherein a pair of films, each having one surface completely metallized, are simultaneously wound into a 10 roll as laser beams or other types of beam or discharge energy sources are directed normally to the pair of metallized surfaces. The laser beams scribe lines on the respective films which are in common overlaying position during the winding of the core and peripheral convolutions and which appear along opposed margins of the respective films during the winding of the major portion of the convolutions.

More particularly, as the films are wound, the scribed lines are diverged to run from the overlaying 20 relationship to a spaced apart relationship in the opposed margins of the respective films, and then the scribed lines are converged into overlaying relationship during the winding of the last convolutions. The capacitance value of the capacitor is set predominantly 25 by the size of the overlying metallized areas established by the scribed lines in the opposed margins of the respective films and the scribed lines on the respective films running from the margin lines to the overlaying lines.

After the metallized films have been scribed and wound, the outer convolutions of metallized film are heat sealed to prevent unraveling during the subsequent manufacturing steps. Next, solderable metal is sprayed onto the opposed ends of each roll to form porous solder blocks whereafter wax is vacuum impregnated into the opposite ends of the capacitor rolls and finally electrical leads or terminals are secured to the solder blocks. When electrical potential is



applied across these terminals, the capacitor will assume a charge as determined by the size of the overlaying metallized areas set by the scribed lines along the margins and the scribed lines converging into the 5 overlaying lines. It should be noted that the scribed lines on the core and the peripheral windings divide the metallized areas on the respective films into overlaying metallized areas which are ineffective in adding any significant amount of capacitance. Each of 10 these pairs of overlaying pairs of metallized areas have applied thereto potentials of the same polarity and thus are neutral in setting the capacitance value of the capacitor. If the core or peripheral winding metallized areas are shortened while the capaci-15 tor is removed from the winding arbor or during the heat sealing operation, the main capacitor plate areas are unaffected.

## Brief Description of the Drawing

Other features and advantages of the present invention will be apparent upon consideration of the following detailed specification and the drawing, wherein:

FIG. 1 is an isometric view of a pair of metallized films having unmetallized margins which
25 may be wound on a mandrel to provide a rolled metallized film capacitor of conventional construction;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along line 2-2 of FIG. 1 illustrating the polarity of charges accumulated on the metallized film 30 when the films have been wound and terminated to form a capacitor;

FIG. 3 is an isometric view of a pair of metallized film strips which have been scribed along the metallized surfaces in accordance with the principles of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along lines 4-4 of FIG. 3 illustrating the polarity of the charges accumulated on main portions of the metallized



film strip when said film strips have been wound and terminated to form a capacitor of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along line 5-5 of FIG. 3 showing the polarity of charges 5 existing on the core and peripheral windings of the metallized film strips when wound and terminated in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a plan view of the two film strips and the lines scribed thereon which are rolled 10 together to form a capacitor blank;

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of a completed, rolled film capacitor that has been terminated with suitable leads;

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of rolled film
15 capacitor that is flattened and terminated with machine insertable leads;

FIG. 9 is another plan view of the scribed metallized film strips which are partially cut away to illustrate the charges on the metallized surfaces of 20 the capacitor;

FIG. 10 is a plan view of modified scribed metallized film strips, partially cut away, illustrating the charges thereon when the lines are scribed in a different pattern on the peripheral and core windings;

25 FIG. 11 is a plan view of further modified scribed metallized film strips showing the polarity of the charges on the metallized films when only one metallized film strip is scribed with overlying and margin lines and the other film strip is provided with 30 an unmetallized margin;

FIG. 12 is a schematic view of a laser scribing and winding system that may be utilized to practice the method of the invention to produce capacitors in accordance with the invention;

FIG. 13 is a plan view of laser scribing facilities that are used in the system shown in FIG. 12 to scribe overlaying and margin lines on the metallized film strips;



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FIG. 14 is a plan view of one completely metallized film surface that is laser scribed by the system shown in FIGS. 12 and 13 to produce a pair of scribed film strips, and

FIG. 15 is a plan view of one completely metallized film surface that is laser scribed by the system shown in FIGS. 12 and 13 to form a pair of scribed film strips which are wound with the pair of film strips shown in FIG. 14 to produce, in accordance with the present invention, a capacitor blank of the type illustrated in FIG. 9.

## Detailed Description

In order to better appreciate the significance of applicants' invention and differences thereof over a typical prior art construction of a rolled metallized film capacitor and the method of manufacture thereof, attention is directed first to FIG. 1 for a consideration of one type of rolled metallized film capacitor and the methods presently being employed to manufacture such a capacitor.

A pair of plastic film strips 10 and 11 each metallized on one surface are wound on a split mandrel 12 having half sections 12A and 12B. The metallized film strip 10 has a metallized surface 13 with an un-25 metallized longitudinally extending margin 14, while the metallized film strip ll has s metallized surface 16 with an unmetallized longitudinally extending opposed margin 17. In forming the metallized surfaces, metal, such as zinc or aluminum, is vapor deposited 30 or is otherwise coated through a mask onto an advancing thin plastic film constructed of a dielectric material, such as a polycarbonate or a polyester of the type sold under the trademark "Mylar". Inasmuch as the metal vapor is deposited or coated through a mask, the lines 35 of demarcation 18 and 19 between the metallized and unmetallized sections of the film strips are erratic or fuzzy. More particularly, during the masking operation, metal can work its way under the mask and be deposited



in the margin area.

desired capacitance.

The masked metallized film is wound on a take—
up arbor core, and then transported to a slitting device
where the film is run through the slitter to sever the
5 film along the centers of the metallized and the unmetallized stripes and rewound on another arbor. Next,
the rewound film strips are delivered to a winding
facility for winding into capacitor blanks. During
these various winding and rewinding operations, a
10 certain amount of misregistration or lateral overhang
of convolutions is introduced.

The winding of a capacitor blank or roll is accomplished by captivating leading sections 21 and 22 of the pair of film strips between the mandrel halves 15 12A and 12B, and then rotating the mandrel 12 to wind the leading sections in with the forward sections of the main portions of the film strips. The guiding and positioning of the film strips on the mandrel is such that the strips are wound with an offset or misregis—20 tration of one strip with respect to the other so that the completely metallized edges extend beyond the unmetallized edges of the adjacent wound convolutions.

In order to insure that the desired misregistration is attained, a considerable amount of

25 added misregistration must be introduced in forming
the unmetallized edge stripes in order to compensate
for the fuzzy lines of demarcation and the misregistration introduced by the prior winding and rewinding
operations during metallizing and slitting of the films.

30 As a result of this compensation, the metallized strips
must be made wider or longer in order to secure the
necessary overlap of metallized areas to provide the

During the winding of a pair of films, the

35 metallized surface of each film abuts the unmetallized
surface of the adjacent film strip as the strips are
wound together. Near the end of the winding operation,
an unmetallized dielectric plastic film strip 23 is



inserted between the film strips 10 and 11 and wound therewith to provide several wrappings about the wound metallized film strips. The wound capacitor blank is subjected to an application of peripheral heat to 5 bond and seal the outer wrappings and, thus, preclude unraveling when the mandrel halves are sequentially withdrawn and the capacitor blank is processed in further manufacturing operations.

A wound capacitor blank 24 is sprayed through 10 a mask at each end with a solderable metal to form porous solder blocks 25 and 26 (see FIG. 7) where—after the capacitor blank is placed in a vacuum chamber and impregnated with wax which deposits in the hole vacated by the withdrawn mandrel and permeates in 15 between the convolutions of film. The deposited wax acts to prevent oxidation of the metal on the film, and also plugs up the vacated mandrel hole. Next, the capacitor blank is terminated by securing wire—like terminals 27 and 28 to the solder blocks 25 and 26.

In an alternative practice, the capacitor blank is flattened prior to the termination steps. In this instance, the terminations may be in the form of radially extending leads, such as depicted in FIG. 8.

Considering now the charging of a capacitor

25 when connected in a charging circuit, reference is made
to FIG. 2 which is a cross section of adjacent convoluted film strips which have been wound together.
The application of a negative potential to the left
edge of the film strip 10 impresses a negative charge

30 on the metallized surface 13, while the application of
a positive potential to the right-hand edge of the
strip 11 causes the metallized surface 16 to assume a
positive charge. From an examination of FIG. 2, it
will be noted that the offset relation of the wound

35 film strips provides longitudinal margins of metal
which are exposed in the gaps or interstices formed
between adjacent convolutions of a strip and the off-

set interposed convolution of the other strip.



metallized margins exposed within the interstices provide, along with the exposed ends of the metallized areas, sites for the bonding of the solder blocks to the metallized surfaces of the respective film strips. The unmetallized margin areas 14 and 17, which are set back from the ends of the capacitor blanks by the offset winding, insures that the metallized surface of one film strip is not short circuited to the metallized surface on the other strip when a charging source is connected to the wire terminations.

In order to insure that there are sufficient unmetallized margin areas, the margin areas are initially made wide enough to compensate for any fuzzy demarcation lines 18 and 19 between the metallized

15 and unmetallized surfaces of the film strips, and for the misregistration due to prior winding and rewinding operations. As a result of the use of relatively wide unmetallized margins and a significant amount of misregistration in the winding, there is a

20 concomitant decrease in the areas of overlaying metallized surfaces available to act as capacitor plates. In order to provide a capacitor with a desired capacitance, it is necessary to provide relatively wide or long film strips to compensate for the required amount

25 of misregistration of the wound film strips.

Turning now to a consideration of one embodiment of the present invention and referring to FIG. 3, there is shown a pair of metallized dielectric film strips or sheets 31 and 32 that are wound on a split 30 mandrel 33 having half-round sections 33A and 33B to form a capacitor blank. The strips may be composed of dielectric plastic material characterized by an ability to transmit a laser beam. The rolled capacitor blank is further fabricated in accordance with the previously 35 discussed manufacturing steps to produce either a cylindrical capacitor as shown in FIG. 7 or a flat capacitor as shown in FIG. 8.

In preparing the metallized film strips 31



and 32, dielectric film strips are passed through a vacuum metallizer or other metal coating device to form film strips having one surface completely metallized. Among the metals suitable for metallizing 5 the films are zinc or aluminum. A single, wide film may have one of its surfaces completely metallized and then slit a number of times to form film strips 31 and 32 of a desired width. During the capacitor blank fabrication, these strips 31 and 32 are processed 10 to form thin demetallized or non-conductive lines 34 and 35, which are utilized to define capacitor plate areas on the metallized surfaces.

More particularly, considering strip 31 and referring to FIGS. 3 and 6, a demetallized line or 15 linear area 34 is formed to run for a section 36 along the approximate centerline of the strip. This line then is diverged along a line 37 to a point at or near the marginal edge of the strip. From this point, a demetallized line 38 is formed to run along the margin 20 or marginal edge. A margin of metal 39 (see FIGS. 4 and 6) may be formed to extend along the edge of the film strip. Demetallized line section 38 is extended to run into another diverging or reconverging line section 41 which runs to the approximate midsection 25 of the film strip to connect with a line section 42 running along the approximate midsection. The midline section 42 is preferably longitudinally aligned with the midline section 36.

The strip 32 (see FIGS. 3 and 6) is fabri30 cated in a similar manner to form a demetallized line
or linear area 35 having a demetallized line section
43 running along the approximate midsection of the
film strip. The position of line sections 36 and 43
are selected so that when the film strips are wound
35 on the mandrel 33, the lines 36 and 43 will be in a
registered, overlaying relation. In the fabrication
of the demetallized line 35, this line is diverted
along line section 44 to the vicinity of the marginal



edge of the film strip. It will be noted, however, that the diversion of line section 44 is in a direction opposed to the direction of the diverted line section 37 on film strip 31. The demetallized line 34 is extended along the margin or edge of the film strip to form margin line section 46, and a margin of metal 47 may be formed to extend along the edge of the film strip.

During the winding of the metallized films 31 10 and 32 on the mandrel 33 to form a capacitor blank, the bulk of windings have laterally spaced, demetallized lines running along opposed marginal edges. The demetallized line 35 is further diverted along reconverging line section 48 to a point at the approximate 15 midsection of the film strip. Again, the line 34 is fabricated to extend along the approximate midsection of the film strip to form a line section 49. positioning of line 49 is such that when the film strips 31 and 32 are wound together, the line sections 20 42 and 49 will be in overlaying relation. The line sections 42 and 49 need not be longitudinally aligned with the line sections 36 and 43, but it is important that the overlaying line sections 42 and 49 and line sections 36 and 43 be radially aligned or registered 25 when the films are rolled into a capacitor blank.

formed by moving the metallized films relative to a pulsed laser beam which is diverted to form or scribe the discussed line configurations, and which is pulsed at a rate sufficient to produce a succession of overlaying demetallized spots that appear as continuous, finite demetallized lines on the metallized film strips. The film strip material is selected on basis of dielectric properties and the ability to transmit or not absorb a significant portion of an impinged laser beam. Further, by emperical observations, the laser beams may be controlled and focused to foster removal of the metallized surface without damage to the under-



lying dielectric film. It is contemplated that other metal removing or scribing techniques may be used, such as machining the lines or vaporizing the lines by subjecting the moving metallized films to an output of an 5 electron or arc discharge device.

The scribed centerline sections of the respective strips are made long enough to provide a number of core and peripheral wraps with the lines 36 and 43 in overlying relation, and with the lines 42 lo and 49 in overlying relation when a pair of scribed film strips are wound on the split arbor 33 to form a capacitor blank. The capacitor blank is further processed by again solder spraying the ends and wax impregnating the convolutions. As previously destingless to the prior art technique, the capacitor blank may be provided with axially extending leads 27 and 28 as shown in FIG. 7 or the blank may be flattened and provided with radially extending leads 51 and 52, such as illustrated in FIG. 8.

- In the construction shown in FIG. 8, the leads 51 and 52 are provided with offset shoulders 53 and 54 which may be engaged by blades of a machine inserter to insert the terminals into holes formed in a printed circuit board or substrate.
- An understanding of the electrical charge distribution that occurs when a capacitor composed of rolled film strips 31 and 32 scribed in accordance with the present invention, is connected in a charging circuit may be had by reference to FIGS. 4, 5 and 9.
- 30 First, attention is directed to FIG. 5 and the right-hand portion of FIG. 9 depicted in zone C. FIG. 5 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along line 5-5 of FIG. 3 showing the film strips of a pair of outer convolutions in which the scribed lines 42 and
- 35 49 are in overlaying relationship. This figure also illustrates that the film strips are wound with a slight amount of misregistration to provide an exposure of metallized margin areas to facilitate the bonding



of the solder blocks. When the capacitor is connected in a charging circuit, the right-hand edges of the metallized surfaces are subjected to the same potential, for example, a positive potential, while the left-hand 5 metallized edges are subjected to negative potentials.

More specifically, the demetallized scribed line 42 divides the metallized surface of film strip 31 into two metallized sections 61 and 62, while the demetallized scribed line 49 divides the metallized 10 surface of film strip 32 into sections 63 and 64. When the capacitor is connected into a charging circuit, a positive potential is impressed on overlaying sections 62 and 64 so that there is, in essence, no potential difference and, hence, there will be no 15 significant charging of these sections to provide a capacitance effect. However, due to diagonal cross coupling of metallized areas 61 and 64 and areas 62 and 63, there is introduced an infinitesimal amount of capacitance which does not normally affect the 20 rated capacitance value of the capacitor. In a like manner, the application of a negative potential to metallized overlaying sections 61 and 63 results in the application of the same potential to both sections and, thus, there is no significant charging of these 25 sections to provide a capacitance effect.

With respect to the core windings of film strips, the metallized surfaces are again divided by overlaying scribed lines 36 and 43 (see FIGS. 3 and 6) to provide overlaying metallized sections that do 30 not have different potentials applied thereto and, thus, these core windings will not be charged to exhibit a capacitance effect.

Inasmuch as the outer windings of the capacitor are subjected to equal potentials, these outer windings
35 may be heat sealed by fusing the metallized convolutions without any danger of short circuiting the main capacitor plate areas. When a capacitor blank is wound on the mandrel 33 and the mandrel halves 33A and 33B



are sequentially withdrawn to discharge the wound capacitor, there is a possibility that the sharp edges of the mandrel halves will cut into and short circuit the inner wrapped convolutions of metallized film.

5 Inasmuch as these core convolutions are subjected to equal potential and are isolated from the main capacitor plates, the possibility of short circuiting the capacitor by mandrel withdrawal is eliminated.

Turning now to FIGS. 4 and zone A of FIG. 9, 10 consideration will be given to the charging of the main capacitor plate areas defined by the scribed lines. As shown in FIG. 4, the scribed line 38 runs along the right-hand margin of the metallized film strip 31 to divide the metallized surface into a large plate area 15 designated 66 and the narrow marginal metallized area 39. When the scribed line 38 runs along the edge, there will be no metallized margin area 39. The metallized surface of the film strip 32 is divided by the scribed line 46 to provide a metallized plate area 68 and a 20 very narrow metallized margin area 47. Again, the scribed line 46 may run along the edge so that the margin area 47 is either interrupted or eliminated. The elimination of the margin areas 39 and 47 does not affect the charging of the main plate areas 66 25 and 68 of the capacitor because the opposed edges of respective film strips are demetallized.

The application of a positive potential to the right-hand edge portion plate area 68 and the application of negative potential to the left-hand 30 edge portion plate area 66 results in an accumulation of positive and negative charges on these metallized areas to provide a capacitance effect. The application of positive potential to metallized margin area 39 is ineffective to alter the capacitance because the under-35 lying and overlying metallized convolutions 68 are also subjected to a positive potential so that metallized margin area 39 does not assume a charge. In a like manner, the application of negative potential to



the metallized margin area 47 is ineffective to alter the charge placed on the capacitor because the overlying and underlying metallized convolutions are also subjected to a negative potential and there is no 5 charging of the metallized margin 47.

In the areas where the scribed lines 34 and 35 are diverted, such as along lines 41 and 48, illuse trated in FIG. 9 and designated zone B, the triangulare shaped areas which are contiguous with plate areas 66 and 68 are oppositely charged to exhibit a capacitance effect. The right triangular overlaying areas defined by lines 41 and 48 that are continguous with areas 61 and 63 and areas 62 and 64 are subjected to like potentials and are, in effect, equal in potential so 15 as not to exhibit any significant capacitance effect.

Briefly summarizing, it will be noted from an inspection of FIGS. 4 and 5 that the film strips 31 and 32 are wound with a small mount of offset or mis\* registration to provide left\*hand and right\*hand ex\* 20 posed metallized surfaces for attachment of the solder blocks 25 and 26. The amount of offset is minimized because no allowance has to be made for any fuzziness in the finite laser scribed lines 38 and 46 nor for prior winding and rewinding of the metallized film 25 supply rolls. It should be appreciated that both the core and peripheral windings are divided by the over# laying scribed lines running along the approximate midsections of the respective strips into areas that are subject to equal electrical potentials and, hence, 30 do not accumulate charges. The main capacitor plate areas on the intervening windings are defined by the diverging scribed lines 37 and 44, the margin scribed lines 38 and 46 and the converging scribed lines 41 and 48. The metallized surfaces in overlaying relation 35 between these lines establishes the capacitance for the capacitor. It is these overlaying surfaces that are oppositely charged, when the capacitor is connected in a charging circuit.



With the practice of the method of the present invention, families of capacitors can be made with the same geometric size and shape but with different capacitance values. This can be readily accomplished 5 by varying the position of the laser scribed margin lines, that is, by spacing the margin lines on the respective film strips closer together to reduce the areas of overlapping metallized surfaces that are subjected to different potentials. This can also be 10 accomplished by moving the diverted lines 37 and 44 toward or away from lines 41 and 48 to increase or decrease the length of the capacitance forming areas on the respective strips. The capacitance can also be changed by increasing or decreasing the gauge of the 15 dielectric material.

Attention is directed to FIG. 10 where a modified technique is utilized to scribe demetallized lines on a pair of films 71 and 72, each of which has, initially, one side completely metallized. In 20 this instance, the metallized film 72 is scribed along one margin or edge with a continuous demetallized line 73. The other film strip 71 is scribed to provide a demetallized line that overlays the continuous margin line 73 on the core and peripheral windings of the 25 capacitor blanks. The demetallized line on the metallized surface of strip 71 is diverted to run along the opposed margin to effectuate the formation of the capacitor plate areas on the inverting bulk of the capacitor blank windings.

More specifically, in FIG. 10, zone A represents a developed or unrolled showing of the main capacitor windings. In this construction, the principal capacitor plate windings have the continuous demetallized line 73 formed along the upper margin of the film 72, while a scribed margin line 74 runs along the lower margin of the metallized film strip 71. In zone B, the demetallized line is diverted and denoted by the reference numeral 76. This diverted line 76 runs from the termination of



margin line 74 to a position overlying the margin line 73, whereafter in zone C a demetallized line section 77 is scribed to overlay the continuous demetallized line 73. Zone C represents the peripheral windings of a 5 capacitor blank, and it should be understood that the overlying demetallized line sections, similar to line 77 and 73, also exist on the core windings of the capacitor blank.

With this modified construction, the appli-10 cation of positive potential to one end of a terminated rolled capacitor and a negative potential to the other end, results in the application of equal potentials to the overlaying metallized convolutions forming the core and peripheral windings. The applied charging poten-15 tial results in the impressions of charges of opposed polarity to the main capacitor windings illustrated by zone A. Again, in zone B, the diverted demetallized line 76 results in dividing the overlaying film strips into pairs of overlaying right triangular sections, one 20 pair of which depicted by the reference numeral 78 will have charges of opposite polarity impressed thereon. The other pair of triangular overlying areas identified by reference numeral 79 are subject to the application of potentials of the same polarity and, hence, will not 25 assume a charged condition.

In FIG. 10, the margin line 74 is shown as being diverted along line section 76, and it was stated that there was a similar diversion at the end of the core windings where a demetallized line overlying continuous line 73 is diverted to run into margin line 74. It should also be understood that the line 73 may be positioned in underlying relationship with the line 74, and then diverted to the opposed margin at the end of the core winding. In other words, it is only necessary that the margin lines are in overlying relation on the core and peripheral windings to attain the noncharge condition of the peripheral and core windings and the isolation of these windings from the main body



of capacitor windings which have demetallized lines running along respective opposed margins or edges.

A still further construction is depicted in FIG. 11 where one of a pair of metallized film strips 5 81 is provided with a metal-free margin 82 during the initial fabrication of the metallized strip. example, the demetallized area may be formed by selectively vapor depositing the metal through a margin-forming mask. In this construction another 10 completely metallized film strip 83 is formed with a laser scribed, demetallized margin line 84 in zone A, a diverted demetallized line section 86 in zone B, and an overlying scribed demetallized line 87 in zone C which represents the peripheral windings 15 of a capacitor blank. The margin line 87 overlies the unmetallized margin area 82 and, thus, the application of charging potential to the peripheral windings is ineffective to impress opposed charges to the overlying metallized peripheral windings. The transition windings 20 between the core and the main capacitor plate windings is provided with a diverted line similar to diverted line 86 which runs from a position overlying the metalfree margin 82 to the scribed demetallized line 84. Again, the overlying metallized surfaces of the core 25 windings have impressed thereon potentials of like polarity and, hence, will not assume a charged condition. Charges of opposite polarity are applied to the metallized areas of the adjacent, intervening windings, between the core and peripheral windings, so that the 30 bulk of the windings of the capacitor will be charged and, hence, function as capacitor plates.

In order to illustrate the practice of the method of the present invention to produce a capacitor blank in accordance therewith, there is shown in FIGS.

35 12 and 13 a machine for laser scribing and winding two pair of scribed metallized film strips to simultaneously make two capacitor blanks.

In use of this machine, a supply roll 101 of



dielectric plastic film, e.g., Mylar polyester, is placed on a rotatable arbor 102. The film is completely metallized on one surface thereof. Film 101 is withdrawn from the roll and passes a film tension sensing 5 device 103 for controlling a band brake 104 to regulate the payoff of film from the roll. Next the film is advanced to tangentially engage and ride on the peripheral surface of a highly polished stainless steel drum 106 which is driven by a friction surfaced 10 roller 107 which is rotated by a motor 108 (see FIG. 13). The film is held against the drum by a springbiased pinch roller 109 so that the film is advanced by rotation of the drum. As the film strip passes over the drum, a pair of pulsed laser beams 111 and 112 15 are impinged on the metallized surface to laser scribe a pair of spaced demetallized lines, each of which may be in a pattern in conformance with the embodiment of the invention described with respect to FIGS. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9, or in accordance with the embodiments shown 20 in the other figures.

As illustrated in FIG. 13, a single
Nd:YAG (Yttrium Aluminum Garnett doped with Neodymium)
laser beam generator 113 produces a pulsed laser beam
114 which is split by a half mirror 116 into laser beams
25 117 and 118. Laser beam 117 is reflected by a mirror
119 onto another half mirror 120 where the beam is split
into reflected beam 111 and a transmitted beam which is
reflected off of a mirror 121 as beam 112 which are
directed through focusing lenses 125 and 126 onto the
30 advancing metallized surface of the film 101. The laser
beams are focused to impinge on the metallized surface
to evaporate lines of surface metal without damage to
the underlying plastic film strip.

There are many parameters that may be con35 trolled to insure that the laser beam does not damage
the underlying plastic dielectric strip. Among the
controls that may be effected are the pulse rate, the
size of impinging laser beam, the focus of the lenses



to impart varying degrees of de-focusing, the wave length of the beam and the energy level imparted to laser's Krypton lamps. It should be noted that the splitting of the beam results in a reduction of the 5 energy level of the originating beam by at least a factor of four at impingement sites on the metallized film.

It has been found that satisfactory results can be attained in demetallizing a Zn or Al metallized 10 Mylar polyester film with a laser beam operating in a TEM<sub>OO</sub> Mode at a pulse rate of 3000 Hz with a 150 nanoseconds pulse width so that the beam is on for .045% of the time. The metallized film was advanced at a rate of five inches per second.

In a similar manner, the beam 118 is further split by a half mirror 127 into a beam 128 and a reflected beam 129 which are focused by lenses 131 and 132 onto the metallized surface of a second metallized film 133 which is being advanced over a second highly 20 polished rotating drum 134. The pairs of mirrors for directing the beams 111 and 112 and the beams 128 and 129 are mounted on a pair of reciprocal slides 136 and 137 respectively driven by reversing motors 138 and 139 that are program controlled by a controller 141. The 25 controller 141 may be any of a number of commercially available programmed controllers.

The impingement of the laser beams on the metallized surfaces, demetallizes or scribes lines in accordance with the pattern shown in FIGS. 14 and 15 30 which are identical to the pattern shown in FIGS. 3, 6 and 9. The lased film is now slit by a series of three echeloned knives 142, 143 and 144 to form four film strips 146, 147, 148 and 149 with the demetallized line patterns on the film strips 147 and 148. The film strips 146 and 149 are not laser scribed and are considered scrap. With the arrangement of the laser scribing and severing facilities in close proximity to each other, film strips 147 and 148 are formed with



the lased patterns precisely positioned on the strips. Any effect of weaving of the film passing over the drum 106 is dissipated by the manufacture of the strips 146-149 on the surface of the drum.

- The film strips are advanced past a separation roller 151 (FIG. 12) where the scrap strips 146 and 149 are guided by a subsequent roller 152 to a vacuum tube-like takeup 153. The scribed strips 147 and 148 are now advanced into a tension sensing and accumulator 10 device generally designated by the box 154. The film strips 147 and 148 emanating from the device 154 pass over a slotted lateral positioning shoe 156 to a split
- mandrel 157 similar to mandrel 33 shown in FIG. 3. To mandrel 157 and supporting and actuating structure 15 forms part of a modified commercial winding facility

such as manufactured by E. W. Barton Company, San Fernando, California.

A roll of metallized film 133 is rotatably mounted on an arbor 161. The film 133 is withdrawn 20 and passes over a tension sensing roller 162 which controls an arbor braking band 163. This film tangentially engages the second highly polished stainless steel drum 134 whereafter the laser beams 128 and 129 laser scribe demetallized lines in a pattern such as 25 shown in FIG. 15. Again, a series of three echeloned knives 166, 167 and 168 slit the film to form film strips 171, 172, 173 and 174. In this instance, the strips 171 and 174 are scrap strips, and the strips 172 and 173 are formed with the precisely positioned 30 laser scribed demetallized patterns.

A spring-biased pinch roller 176 holds the strips against the periphery of the drum 134. The drum 134 is driven by a friction surface roller 177 which is rotated by belting 178 which, in turn, is 35 driven by the motor 108. The drive roller 177 is mounted on an eccentric 179 so that the axis of the roller 177 can be moved toward and away from the axis of rotation of the drum 134. By varying this distance,



the relative speeds of the films emanating from the drums 106 and 134 may be varied; that is, the film strips 171 to 174 can be fed at a slower rate.

The film strips leaving the drum 134 passes
5 over a separation roller 181 whereafter the scrap
strips 171 and 174 are directed into the vacuum tubelike takeup 153. The laser scribed strips 172 and 173
pass into the tension sensing and accumulator device
154 and from there exit onto a slotted lateral posi10 tioning shoe 182. From shoe 182 the film strips 172
and 173 pass to the winding mandrel 157 where these
strips are simultaneously wound with the strips 147
and 148 to form a pair of capacitor blanks.

Inasmuch as the film strips 172 and 173 are
15 being wound within the convolutions of the film strips
147 and 148, the diameters of the successively wound
convolutions of film strips 172 and 173 are smaller
than the overlying convolutions of film strips 147
and 148. By adjusting the eccentrically mounted drive
20 roller 177 to feed the film strips 172 and 173 at a
slower rate to compensate for the differences in
diameters of the overlaying convolutions of wound
strip, all of the strips are wound by the mandrel 157
with uniform tension.

It will be appreciated that the drums 106 and 134 positively force feed the film strips toward the winding mandrel 157 so that the winding mandrel can wind the strips with a minimum amount of pulling tension being imparted to the strips. With this 30 construction, very thin strips of material can be wound. Mandrel 157 is driven by a motor provided with the commercially purchased unit, and is mounted in a turret 186 which also provides a mounting for a second split mandrel 187 which is driven simultaneously with 35 the mandrel 157.

The lengths of lased film strips fed to and wound on the mandrel 157 is monitored by means of a multi-slotted disc 188, see FIG. 13, and a photo-



detector 189 which provides a signal to the controller 141 when sufficient lengths of strip material are fed to the winding mandrel 157 to form a pair of capacitor blanks with the afore-discussed lased patterns. 5 the controller 141 is apprised that a pair of capacitor blanks are wound on the mandrel 157, control signals are generated to effectuate a rotation of the turret 186 to orbit the mandrel 157 from a winding position 191 to a discharge position 192. The trailing extre-10 mities of the wound strips are moved over a slotted post 193 while mandrel 157 is orbiting into the discharge position 191. The rotation of the turret simultaneously orbits the split mandrel 187 from the discharge position 192 to the winding position. At 15 the time of the start of the turret movement, one of the halves of mandrel 187 is withdrawn into the turret while the other half is moved to engage the film with the diametric surface of the extended mandrel half aligned with the film strips. At the winding position, 20 the other half of the mandrel 187 is pushed forward to captivate the film strips between the mandrel halves. Upon completion of the orbiting of the turret, the controller initiates operation of an air cylinder 196 to thrust a serrated knife 197 through the strips 25 spanning the slotted post 193. At this time signals are also generated by the controller to operate air cylinders 198 and 199 to sequentially move two sets of holding wires 200 and two heating devices 201 into engagement with the pair of wound capacitor blanks on 30 the mandrel 157. Subsequent slow rotation of the mandrel 157 wraps up the trailing extremities of the film strips which bear the overlying lased lines. heater 201 is rendered effective to bond the outer convolutions of the film strips to prevent unraveling 35 when the mandrel is subsequently withdrawn to discharge the pair of wound capacitor blanks down a discharge chute 202. While the mandrel 157 is slowly rotating in the discharge position, the mandrel 187 now in the



winding position 191 is also rotating to commence the winding of a subsequent pair of capacitor blanks.

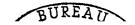
In summary, the machine shown in FIGS. 12 and 13 is effective to wind a pair of films 147 and 148

5 with a pair of films 173 and 174 to produce a pair of capacitor blanks each having core windings with over-laying scribed lines, capacitor plate windings with laser scribed lines running along opposed margins and peripheral windings with laser scribed lines again

- 10 running in overlaying relationship. When such a capacitor is terminated and connected into a charging circuit, the core and peripheral windings will not be charged, while the metallized surfaces of the intervening plate windings are charged. The positioning shoes
- 15 156 and 182 are located so as to guide the film strips 147 and 148 with respect to the film strips 172 and 173 to provide a slight degree of edge misregistration as the film strips are simultaneously wound on either of the mandrels 157 or 187. This winding is such that
- 20 the completely metallized margins of the respective pairs of strips overlie the laser scribed margins of the other strips so as to provide interstices between every other convolution on each end of each capacitor blank to permit the entry of subsequently applied
- 25 solder spray which forms a good bond with the exposed metallized margins to form the solder blocks, such as blocks 25 and 26 shown in FIG. 7, for attachment of the wire-like leads 27 and 28 or other terminations.

With the described method, complete families 30 of capacitors can be produced with different capacitance values, but with the same geometric sizes. This can be accomplished by changing the strokes imparted to reciprocate the slides 136 and 137 so that the margin scribed lines formed on strips 147 and 148 and 35 on strips 172 and 173 are brought closer together to

35 on strips 172 and 173 are brought closer together to reduce the overlaying areas of the film strips that are oppositely charged. Further, the capacitance values can also be changed by moving the diverted



scribed lines closer together along the lengths of the strips, so that the lengths of the charged overlaying metallized surfaces are reduced. In either case, the resultant capacitor blanks will be the same size to 5 permit subsequent packaging in containers or boxes of the same size.



27.

### Claims

1. A rolled film capacitor blank, which comprises:

a pair of convoluted films, each having a 5 metal coated surface engaging a non-metal coated surface of the other film;

each of the films has non-coated linear areas running along the length of the respective metallized surfaces, characterized in that

- the non-coated areas are in overlaying positions (42, 49) on the core and peripheral convolutions and extend along opposed margins (38, 46) for the remainder of the convolutions.
- 2. A rolled film capacitor blank in accordance 15 with claim 1, characterized in that the non-coated linear area comprises:

an unmetallized, non-conductive line (38, 46) which is running longitudinally along one margin of the coated surface (66, 68) of each film (31, 32), the non-20 conductive line is formed in the opposed margins of the respective films; and

at least one of the non-conductive lines extends into overlaying relationship (42, 49) with the other non-conductive line on both the core and 25 peripheral convolutions of the films.

- 3. A capacitor blank in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that the unmetallized lines at the core and peripheral convolutions are diverted in opposed directions to run into unmetallized lines being 30 laterally spaced from each other along the intervening convolutions.
- 4. A capacitor blank, in accordance with claims 2 and 3, characterized in that the non-conductive line of the first film is running from one end of the 35 film along the approximate midsection, diverging toward one margin, running along the margin, diverging toward the approximate midsection, and then along the approximate midsection to the other end of the film;



and the non-conductive line of the second film is running from one end of the second film along the approximate midsection, diverging toward a margin which is opposite to the margin along which the first line 5 runs, diverging toward the approximate midsection, and then along the approximate midsection to the other end of the second film.

- 5. A capacitor blank, in accordance with any of the foregoing claims 1-4, characterized in that the 10 convolutions of the films are offset from one another to expose coated margins in the interstices formed between adjacent convolutions of the same film.
- 6. A method of fabricating a capacitor blank structure in accordance with claim 1, characterized by simultaneously winding two film strips, each with a metal coated surface, on a common mandrel with the metal coated surface of each strip engaging the non-coated surface of the other strip; and
- forming a pair of metal-free continuous

  20 linear areas to individually extend along the metal coated surface with the linear areas extending in over-laying relationship on the inner and outer convolutions of wound film strip, and extending to and along opposed marginal edges of the respective film strips on the 25 intervening convolutions.
  - 7. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes: scribing the metallized surface to remove lines of metal to form the linear areas.
- 8. A method in accordance with claim 7, characterized in that the forming step includes: scribing the lines to run along the approximate midsections of the inner and outer convolutions.
- 9. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes:

  masking one of the strips along a marginal edge; depositing metal on the remainder of the one



strip with a metal coating having linear areas free of metal running along one marginal edge; and

scribing the other metal coated film to remove the metal along a line that overlays the metal
5 free marginal edges on the inner and outer convolutions, and runs to and along the other marginal edges on the intervening convolutions.

10. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes:

impinging a pair of laser beams on the metal coated surfaces to scribe the metal-free linear areas on the respective metal coated surfaces of the film strips.



# AMENDED CLAIMS

(received by the International Bureau on 9 June 1980 (09.06.80)

A rolled film capacitor blank, which comprises:

a pair of convoluted films, each having a metal coated surface engaging a non-metal coated surface of the other film;

each of said films having a non-coated continuous linear area formed in and running along the length of each of the respective metallized surfaces CHARACTERIZED IN THAT the continuous non-coated areas on each of the respective films are in overlaying positions (42,49) on the core and peripheral convolutions and the continuous non-coated areas on each of the respective films extend to and run along opposed margins (38,46) of the respective films for the remainder of the convolutions.

A rolled film capacitor blank in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the non-coated linear area comprises:

an unmetallized, non-conductive line (38, 46) which is running longitudinally along one margin of the coated surface (66, 68) of each film (31, 32), the nonconductive line is formed in the opposed margins of the respective films; and

at least one of the non-conductive lines extends into overlaying relationship (42, 49) with the other non-conductive line on both the core and peripheral convolutions of the films.

- A capacitor blank in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that the unmetallized lines at the core and peripheral convolutions are diverted in opposed directions to run into unmetallized lines being laterally spaced from each other along the intervening convolutions.
- 4. A capacitor blank, in accordance with claims 2 and 3, characterized in that the non-conductive line of the first film is running from one end of the film along the approximate midsection, diverging toward one margin, running along the margin, diverging toward the approximate midsection, and then along the approximate midsection to the other end of the film;

and the non-conductive line of the second film is running from one end of the second film along the approximate midsection, diverging toward a margin which is opposite to the margin along which the first line 5 runs, diverging toward the approximate midsection, and then along the approximate midsection to the other end of the second film.

- 5. A capacitor blank, in accordance with any of the foregoing claims 1-4, characterized in that the 10 convolutions of the films are offset from one another to expose coated margins in the interstices formed between adjacent convolutions of the same film.
- structure in accordance with claim 1, characterized by

  simultaneously winding two film strips,
  each with a metal coated surface, on a common mandrel
  with the metal coated surface of each strip engaging the
  non-coated surface of the other strip; and

6. A method of fabricating a capacitor blank

forming a pair of metal-free continuous

20 linear areas to individually extend along the metal
coated surface with the linear areas extending in overlaying relationship on the inner and outer convolutions
of wound film strip, and extending to and along opposed
marginal edges of the respective film strips on the

25 intervening convolutions.

- 7. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes: scribing the metallized surface to remove lines of metal to form the linear areas.
- 30 8. A method in accordance with claim 7, characterized in that the forming step includes: scribing the lines to run along the approximate midsections of the inner and outer convolutions.
- 9. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes:

  masking one of the strips along a marginal edge; depositing metal on the remainder of the one



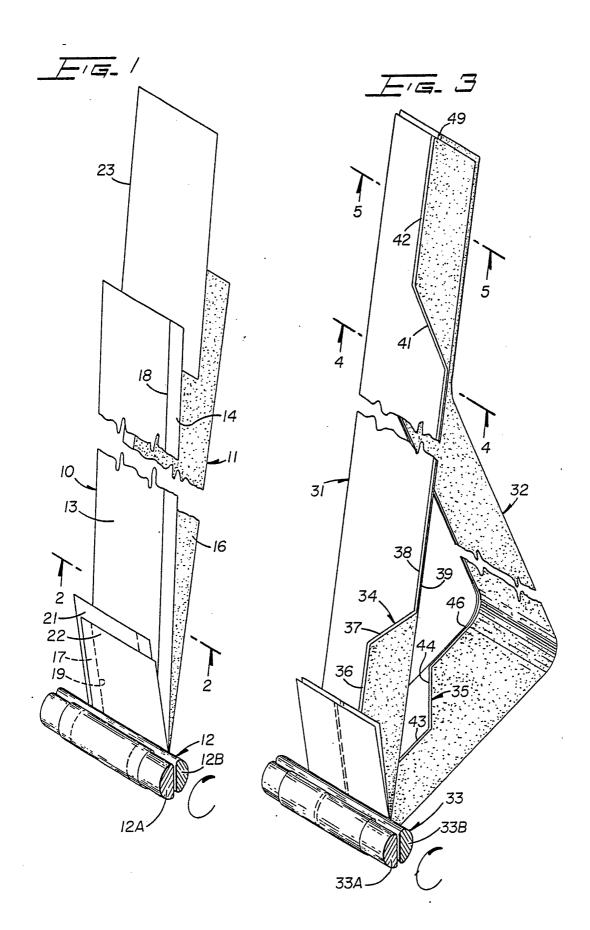
strip with a metal coating having linear areas free of metal running along one marginal edge; and

scribing the other metal coated film to remove the metal along a line that overlays the metal5 free marginal edges on the inner and outer convolutions, and runs to and along the other marginal edges on the intervening convolutions.

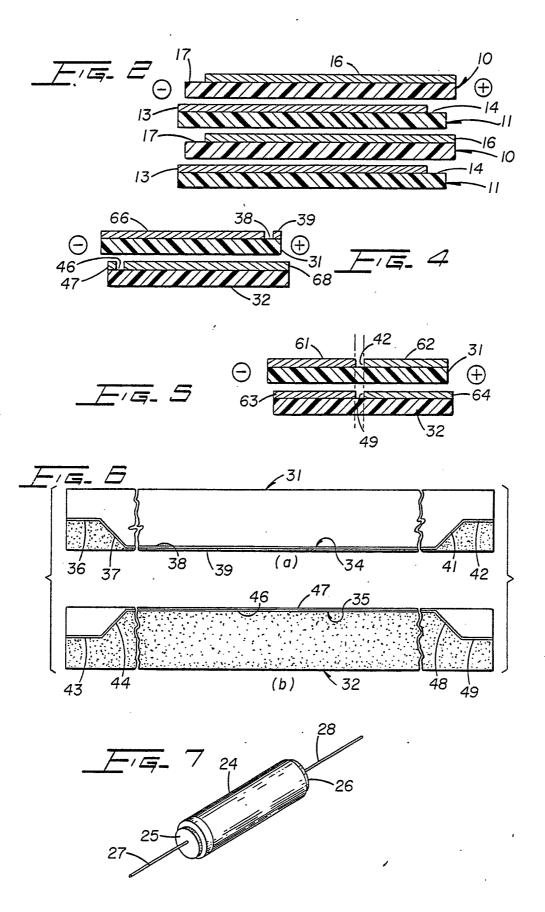
10. A method in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that the forming step includes:

impinging a pair of laser beams on the metal coated surfaces to scribe the metal-free linear areas on the respective metal coated surfaces of the film strips.

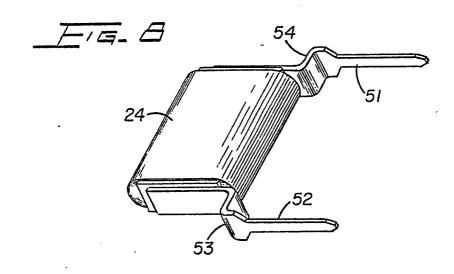


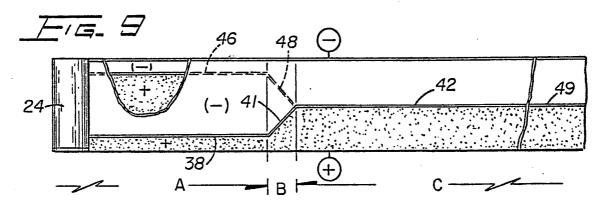


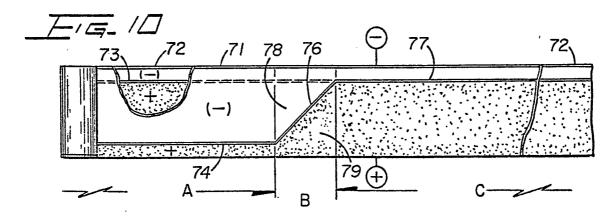


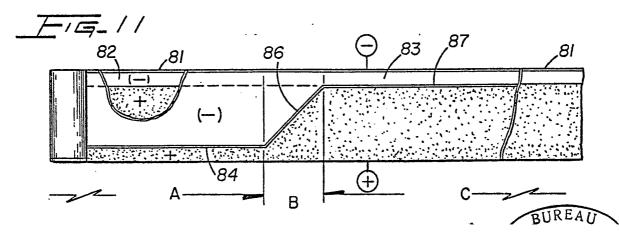




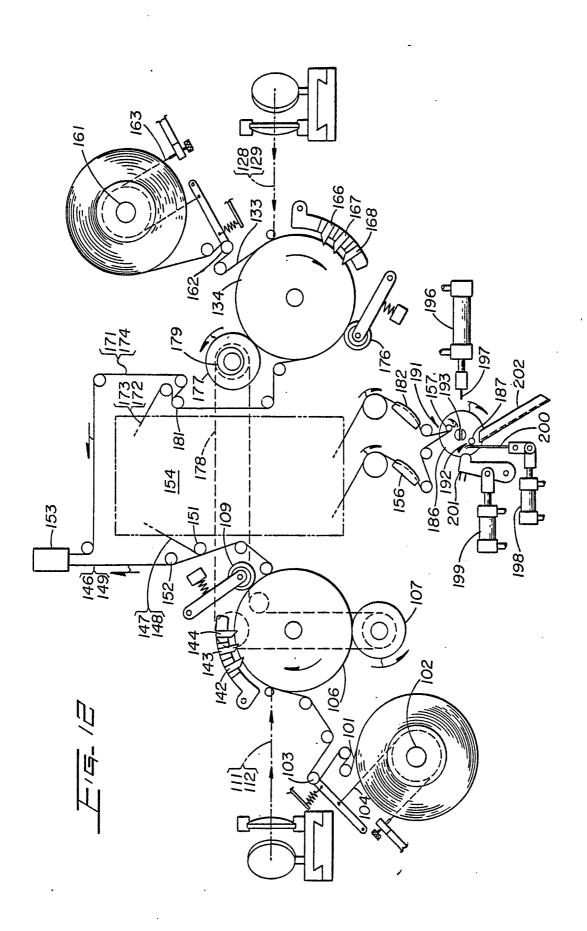




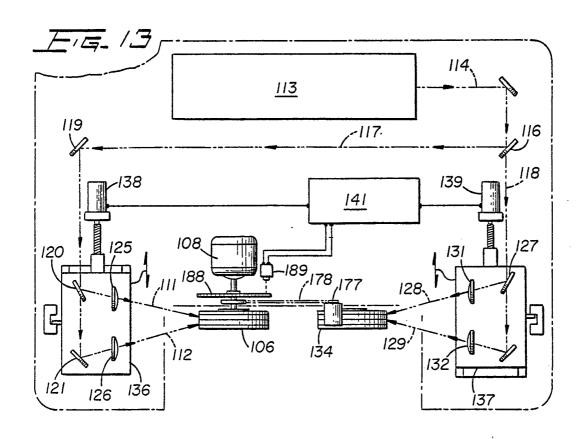


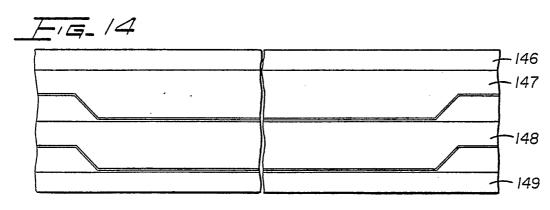


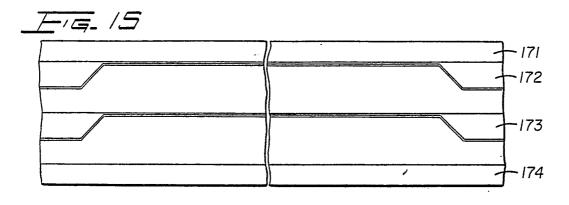
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT Wo 80 014 33 International Application No PCT/US79/01076

I. CLASS	SIFICATIO	N OF SUBJECT MATTER	(if several classif	ication symbols apply, indicate all) *					
According	to Internati	onal Patent Classification (IPC	C) or to both Nati	onal Classification and IPC					
In	Int. Cl. H01G 1/015; 4/00; 4/32								
US. Cl. 361/304; 29-25.42									
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