Patentability Search Report

To
James S
XXXX@XXXXX.com

From
inventRight – Patent Searching
XXXX@inventright.com

07/06/2020

WIP Project ID: 00000
Docket ID:
Project Name: XXX

Dear James,

Below is the search report conducted for the state of the art of "XXXX."

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at XXXXXXX.

Regards,

XXXXXXX

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About This Patent Search

If you are viewing this search report in PDF, it is bookmarked for quicker navigation. In addition, all of the references listed in the tables are hyperlinked to complete copies of the documents. To download a reference, click on a link.

Walsh IP uses a number of resources to navigate the issued patents and published applications. These include uspto.gov, EAST, EPO, Google Patents and PSV – a patent pending software resource developed in-house. PSV enables us to view and analyze large quantities of patents and published applications in an expeditious manner.

This report lists both the patents and published patent applications that appear relevant. The searcher used a combination of keyword and full subclass-based searching to locate these references. The searcher has categorized them into a first and a second list. This report also lists the US, IPC and CPC patent subclasses and key words used in the search.

A patent search is not an absolute measure of patentability, validity, clearance or freedom to operate and there can never be a guarantee that such a search is complete. This is because the US and international patent systems include more than one hundred million issued patents and published applications, and is classified in over 140,000 class/subclass schemes. The search is additionally limited by the human error factor, the possibility of missing patent references. Accordingly, while an extensive effort has been made to assure the integrity of the present search, no such search can be totally conclusive.

Search Strategy

Below is the search strategy developed by the searcher after reviewing the disclosure. The three sections below are the Elements, the Keywords, and the Subclasses.

Elements

Before beginning a Patentability search, we develop a list of key elements that describe the art field. Below are the elements developed for your search.

Number	Feature
1	Receptacle Carrier
2	Paperboard
3	Extended Top
4	Optional Sides
5	Finger Holes
6	Neck Projections
7	Abn
8	Active

Keywords

Once elements are listed, we develop a list of key words. The words are grouped together such that each group is conceptually related to an element in the same way. Below are the word groups:

Number	Key Word Group
1	beverage,receptacle,bottle,jar,container,"can ",cans,neck
2	paper,pulp,fiber,fibre
3	logo,graphic,picture,photo,image,indicia,print
4	market,advertis*
5	finger,thumb
6	protrusion,protuberance,point,projection,knob,horn,flap,tab,tongue,stud,boss,node,"peg ",post,extension
7	neck
8	engag*,trap,hold,catch,held,captur*,retain,reten*,grasp*

Subclasses

Finally, we use a combination of keyword searching and in some cases full subclass searching. This table shows the US, IPC and CPC subclasses that were the focus of the search. The first column shows the schedule number. The second column is the schedule name.

Code	Schedule
cpc: B65D71/42	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed by folding a blank / formed by folding a single blank into a single layer element
cpc: B65D71/50	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed otherwise than by folding a blank
cpc: B65D71/504	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed otherwise than by folding a blank / the element being formed from a flexible sheet provided with slits or apertures intended to be stretched over the articles and adapt to the shape of the article
cpc: B65D71/44	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed by folding a blank / formed by folding a single blank into a single layer element / characterised by the handle
cpc: B65D71/48	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed by folding a blank / formed by folding a single blank into a tubular element / characterised by the handle
cpc: B65D71/40	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer

	cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed by folding a blank
cpc: B65D71/46	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / comprising a plurality of articles held together only partially by packaging elements formed by folding a blank / formed by folding a single blank into a tubular element
cpc: B65D2571/ 0066	containers for storage or transport of articles or materials, e.g. bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cartons, crates, drums, jars, tanks, hoppers, forwarding containers / bundles of articles held together by packaging elements for convenience of storage or transport, e.g. portable segregating carrier for plural receptacles such as beer cans, pop bottles / bundling wrappers or trays / elements used to form the wrapper / blanks / formed from one single sheet

Citations Discovered in the Search

A-List

The A-List contains references with the greatest number of features that appear relevant to the art field. Each A-list reference occupies one page in the report and contains the following information:

- The top line shows the reference number as a clickable link. For US references, the link downloads a PDF file. Non-US references are linked to the appropriate page at the European Patent Office.

- In the next few lines, we show basic fields, including Title, Inventor and Publication Date.

- Next are 1-2 images we've selected from the reference. The images chosen by the researcher are based upon relevance to the art field being sought.

- Finally, in the right column, we show relevant text that is copied from the reference. The text is selected based upon one or more features found in the disclosure.

US2020/0189818

Title: Carrier For Containers
Inventor: Mccree
Publication Date: 2020-06-18

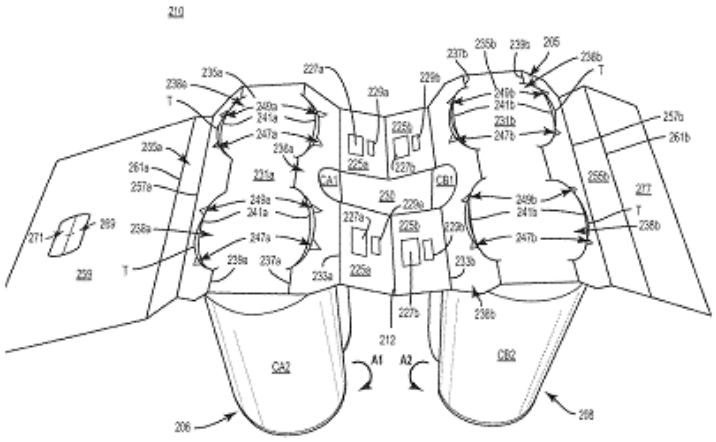

FIG. 2

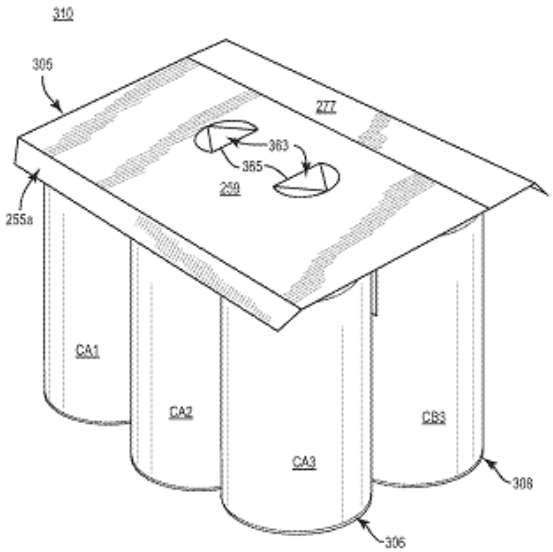

FIG. 10

Relevant Text: "A front container retention panel or front attachment panel 231a is foldably connected to the front central panel 225a at a lateral fold line 233a that is interrupted by an end portion of the handle opening 230. The front attachment panel 231a includes a container retention portion 235a that is at least partially defined between a pair of longitudinally-spaced lateral fold lines 237a,239a that are each interrupted by a respective pair of longitudinally-spaced cuts 241a that can each include one or more curved and/or angled portions. As shown, the longitudinally-spaced cuts 241a define container retention tabs 248a that extend outwardly from the container retention portion 235a. As also shown, respective oblique cuts 243a, 245a extend outwardly from each respective cut 241a to define a respective pair of container retention flaps 247a, 249a that are foldably connected to the front attachment panel 231a at respective oblique fold lines 251a, 253a." (Para. 0040). "In general, the blank may be constructed from paperboard having a caliper so that it is heavier and more rigid than ordinary paper. The blank can also be constructed of other materials, such as cardboard, or any other material having properties suitable for enabling the carrier to function at least generally as described above. The blank can be coated with, for example, a clay coating. The clay coating may then be printed over with product, advertising, and other information or images. The blanks may then be coated with a varnish to protect information printed on the blanks. The blanks may also be coated with, for example, a moisture barrier layer, on either or both sides of the blanks. The blanks can also be laminated to or coated with one or more sheet-like materials at selected panels or panel sections." (Para. 0104).

US2020/0010255

Title: Carton And Blank Therefor
Inventor: Zacherle
Publication Date: 2020-01-09

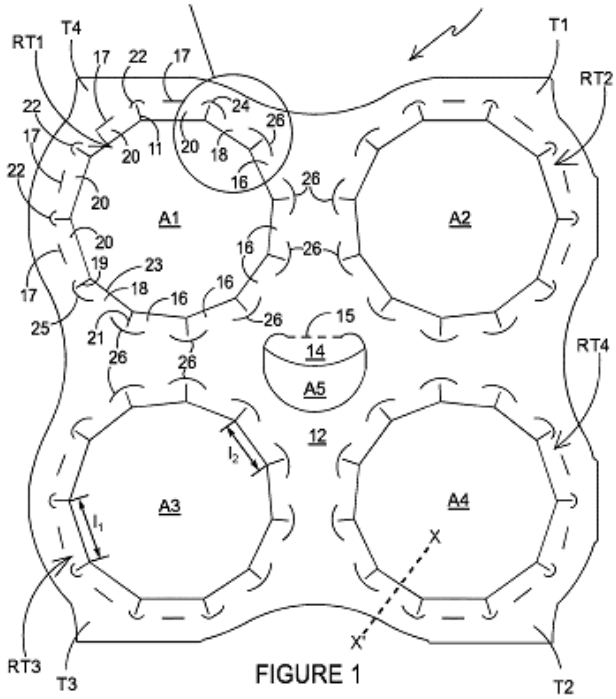

FIGURE 1

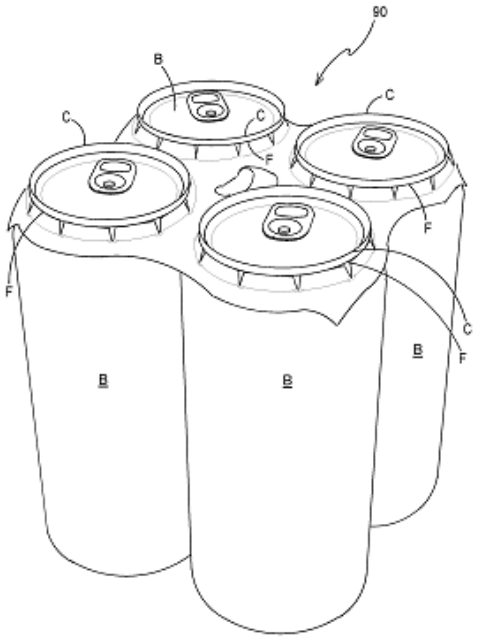

FIGURE 2

Relevant Text: "A ninth aspect of the invention provides top engaging carrier as described in the first aspect, formed from a paperboard substrate having a thickness between 20 to 35 mils, the paperboard substrate having a first surface and an opposing second surface, with a polymer film laminated onto the first surface, the polymer film having a thickness between 1 to 3 mils." (Para. 0025). "A plurality of article engaging tabs 16, 18, 20 are arranged about the periphery of the aperture A1. Each tab 16, 18, 20 is hinged to the main panel 12." (Para. 0074). "The packaging structure or carrier described herein may be formed from a sheet material such as paperboard, which may be made of or coated with materials to increase its strength. An example of such a sheet material is tear-resistant NATRALOCK paperboard made by WestRock Company. It should be noted that the tear resistant materials may be provided by more than one layer, to help improve the tear-resistance of the package. Typically, one surface of the sheet material may have different characteristics to the other surface. For example, the surface of the sheet material that faces outwardly from a finished package may be particularly smooth and may have a coating such as a clay coating or other surface treatment to provide good printability. The surface of the sheet material that faces inwardly may, on the other hand, be provided with a coating, a layer, a treatment or be otherwise prepared to provide properties such as one or more of tear-resistance, good glue-ability, heat sealability, or other desired functional properties." (Para. 0151).

US2019/0135512

Title: Blank For Forming An Article Carrier
Inventor: Kooc
Publication Date: 2019-05-09

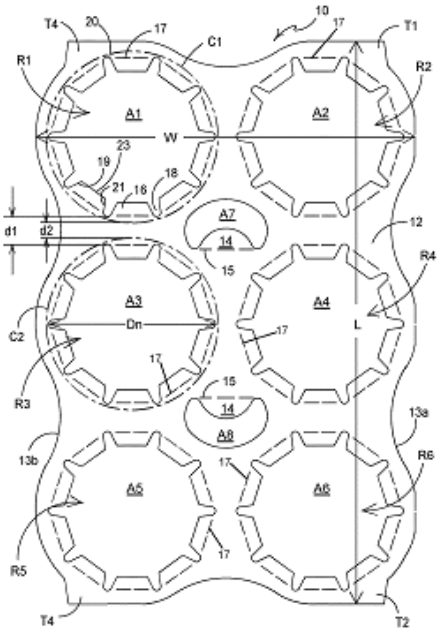

FIGURE 1

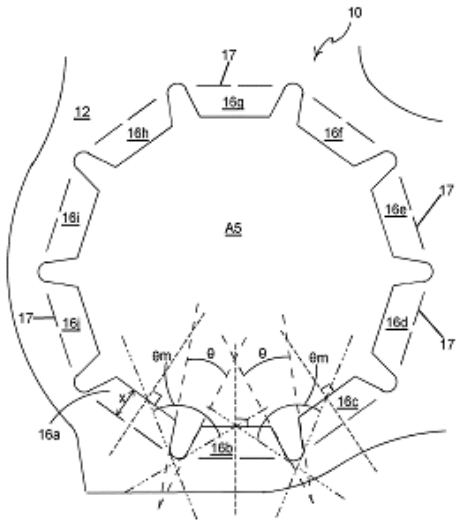

FIGURE 2

Relevant Text: "The blanks 10,110 are formed from a sheet of suitable substrate. It is to be understood that, as used herein, the term â€œsuitable substrateâ€ includes all manner of foldable sheet material such as paperboard, corrugated board, cardboard, plastic, combinations thereof, and the like. It should be recognized that one or other numbers of blanks may be employed, where suitable, for example, to provide the carrier structure described in more detail below." (Para. 0074). "The first article retention structure R1 comprises an aperture A1. A plurality of article engaging tabs 16 are arranged about the periphery of the aperture A1. Each tab 16 is hinged to the main panel 12 by a hinged connection such as a fold line 17. Each tab 16 is spaced apart from its adjacent neighbours by a cutaway or recess 18. In this way each tab 16 comprises a first side edge 19 and a second side edge 21. Each tab 16 comprises a free end edge 23 opposing the hinged end edge 17. The free end edges 23 form engaging edges for retaining an article B, or at least a portion thereof, within the aperture A1. Each of the free end edges 23 may be straight as illustrated FIGS. 1, 2, 4 and 7. However, each end edge 23 may optionally be curved either convexly or concavely as viewed from the center of the respective aperture A1, A2, A3, A4, A5 or A6." (Para. 0080).

US9,359,093

Title: Package For Containers
Inventor: Depaula
Publication Date: 2016-06-07

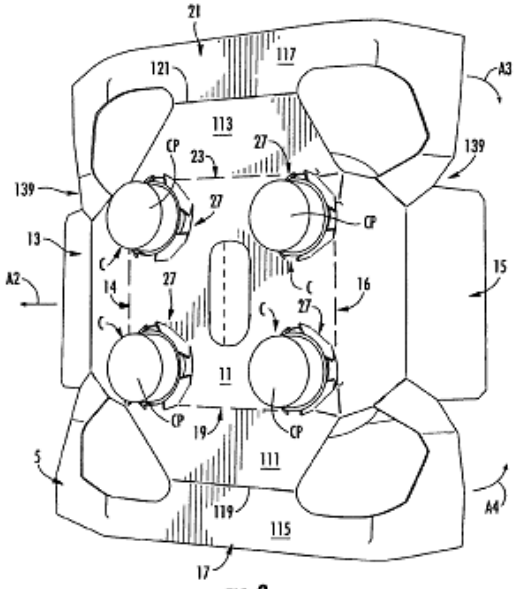

FIG. 3

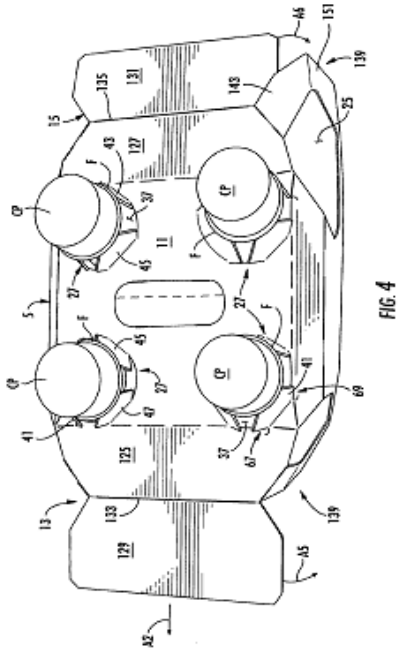

FIG. 4

Relevant Text: "A method of forming a package, the method comprising: obtaining a blank comprising panels that comprise a top panel, at least one side panel foldably connected to the top panel, and at least one end panel foldably connected to the top panel, at least one retention flap foldably connected to the top panel and at least partially defined by at least one J-shaped cut, wherein the at least one side panel is foldably connected to the at least one end panel by a gusset, the gusset comprising a first gusset panel foldably connected to the at least one end panel and a second gusset panel foldably connected to the first gusset panel and the at least one side panel, the second gusset panel being at least partially defined by a cut line, the cut line at least partially defines an adhesive portion of the at least one side panel that is adjacent the second gusset panel; positioning a plurality of articles relative to the blank; positioning the blank relative to the articles so that the plurality of articles are at least partially received in a respective receptacle having an opening that is adjacent the at least one retention flap; and further positioning the blank relative to the articles so that a respective free edge of the at least one retention flap engages a respective article to hold the articles in engagement with the package, wherein the further positioning the blank comprises downwardly folding the at least one side panel relative to the top panel, downwardly folding the at least one end panel relative to the top panel so that the first gusset panel is at least partially in face-to-face contact with the second gusset panel, and adhesively securing the at least one end panel and the adhesive portion of the at least one side panel, the adhesively securing comprising applying glue to the adhesive portion of the at least one side panel by pressing the adhesive portion against at least one of the articles so that the adhesive portion at least partially conforms to the shape of the article during the applying glue, the adhesive portion of the at least one side panel and the second gusset panel partially separating from one another along the cut line as the adhesive portion of the at least one side panel at least partially conforms to the shape of the article." (Claim 1)

US8,353,398

Title: Package For Beverage-type Containers
Inventor: Depaula
Publication Date: 2013-01-15

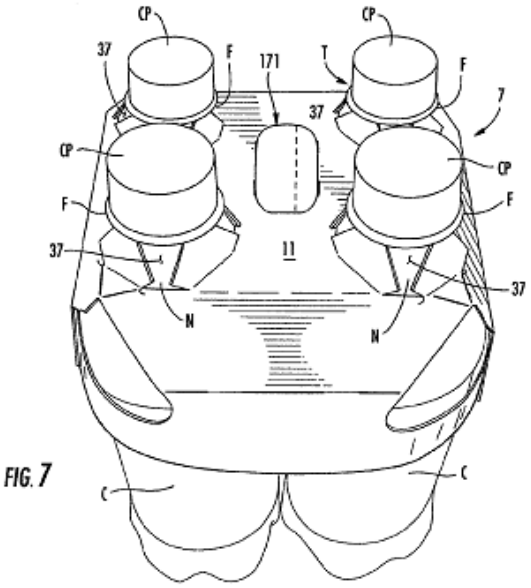

FIG. 7

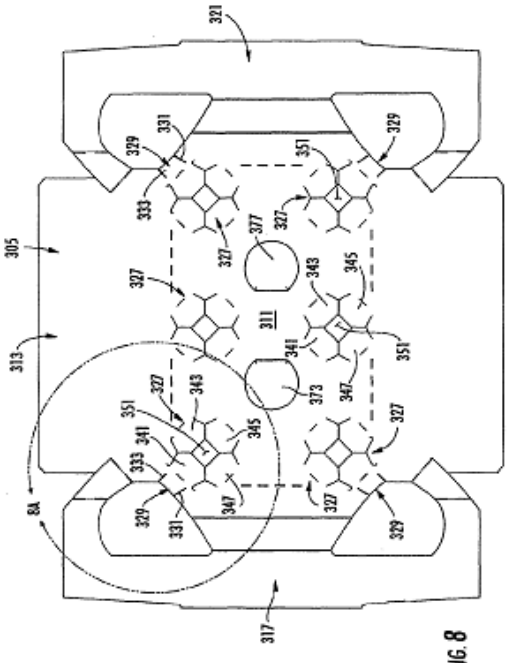

FIG. 8

Relevant Text: "In one embodiment, the receptacles 27 each comprises features for forming an opening 37 (FIG. 7) in the top panel 11 that receives the neck portion N of a respective container C when the blank 5 is formed into the package 7. The features of each receptacle 27 comprise four retention flaps 41, 43, 45, 47 that frame a respective opening 51 in the top panel 11 of the blank 5. One receptacle 27 is shown in detail in FIG. 1A, with the other three receptacles each being similarly shaped, arranged, and configured. Each receptacle is at least partially defined by four generally T-shaped cuts 55, 57, 59, 61" (Col. 3, Lines 37-46). "The blanks according to the present disclosure can be, for example, formed from coated paperboard and similar materials. For example, the interior and/or exterior sides of the blanks can be coated with a clay coating. The clay coating may then be printed over with product, advertising, price coding, and other information or images. The blanks may then be coated with a varnish to protect any information printed on the blank. The blanks may also be coated with, for example, a moisture barrier layer, on either or both sides of the blank. In accordance with the above-described embodiments, the blanks may be constructed of paperboard of a caliper such that it is heavier and more rigid than ordinary paper. The blanks can also be constructed of other materials, such as cardboard, hard paper, or any other material having properties suitable for enabling the carton to function at least generally as described herein. The blanks can also be laminated or coated with one or more sheet-like materials at selected panels or panel sections." (Col. 8, Lines 4-21).

US8,297,438

Title: Multipack Carrier For Packaging Containers
Inventor: Crossman
Publication Date: 2012-10-30

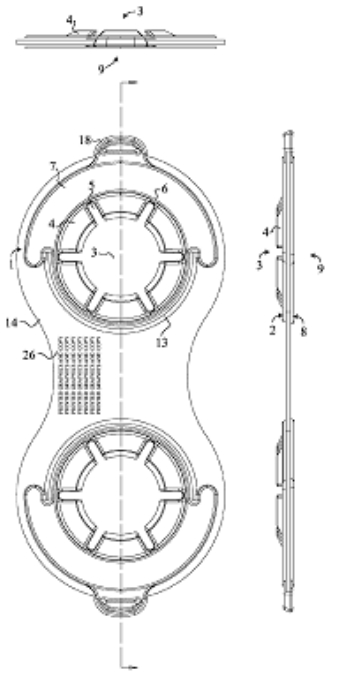

FIG. 1

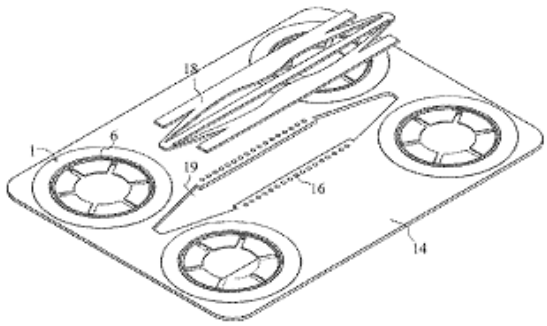

FIG. 12

Relevant Text: "A multipack carrier for packaging containers comprises, a plurality of plastic braces; a paper board carrier; a grasping mechanism; a printed graphic; each of said plurality of plastic braces comprises a top portion, a bottom portion, an adhesive, and a flex slit; said paper board carrier comprises a plurality of brace holes and a plurality of adhesion holes; said top portion comprises a neck hole, a plurality of contact extensions, a plurality of separation slits, a raised rib, and a top adhesion arc; said bottom portion comprises a nesting hole, a recessed rib, and a bottom adhesion arc; each of said plurality of plastic braces being concentrically positioned along said plurality of brace holes; said paper board carrier being positioned in between said top portion and said bottom portion for each of said plurality of plastic braces; and said adhesive traversing through said plurality of adhesion holes in order to connect said top portion and said bottom portion to said paper board carrier." (Claim 1)

US2020/0189821

Title: Carrier For Containers
Inventor: Smalley
Publication Date: 2020-06-18

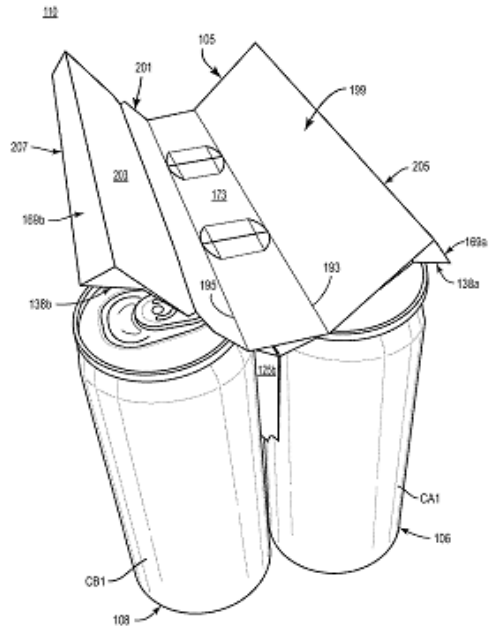

FIG. 8

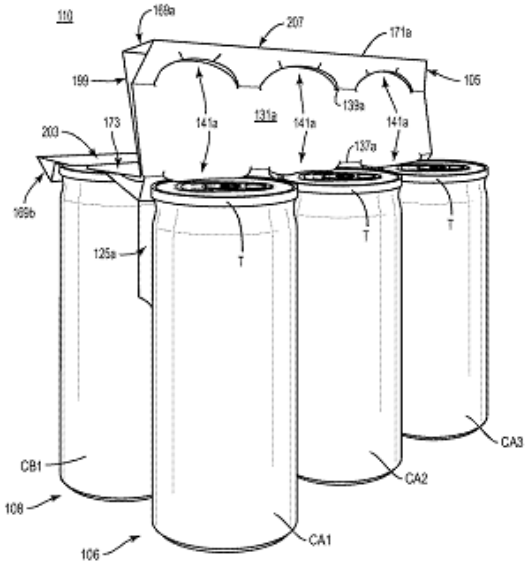

FIG. 9

Relevant Text: "A front container retention panel or front attachment panel 131a is foldably connected to the front central panel 125a at a lateral fold line 133a, and includes a container retention portion 135a that is at least partially defined between a pair of longitudinally-spaced lateral fold lines 137a, 139a (broadly, respective â€œsecond fold lineâ€□) that are each interrupted by respective pairs of longitudinally-spaced cuts 141a that can each include one or more curved and/or angled portions. As shown, the longitudinally-spaced cuts 141a define container retention tabs 148a that extend outwardly from the container retention portion 135a. As also shown, respective oblique cuts 143a, 145a extend outwardly from each respective cut 141a to define a plurality of reconfigurable edges of the front attachment panel 131a that face the respective container retention tabs 148a." (Para. 0028). "It will be understood that the blanks and carriers described herein can be provided in different configurations without departing from the disclosure. In general, the blank may be constructed from paperboard having a caliper so that it is heavier and more rigid than ordinary paper. The blank can also be constructed of other materials, such as cardboard, or any other material having properties suitable for enabling the carrier to function at least generally as described above. The blank can be coated with, for example, a clay coating. The clay coating may then be printed over with product, advertising, and other information or images. The blanks may then be coated with a varnish to protect information printed on the blanks. The blanks may also be coated with, for example, a moisture barrier layer, on either or both sides of the blanks. The blanks can also be laminated to or coated with one or more sheet-like materials at selected panels or panel sections." (Para. 0065-0066).

A-List Feature Tagged Table

The next table is a repeat of the previous A-List table, except that this table shows the A-List charted against the search features. All references contain links to PDF files which contain the full document. These may be accessed by clicking the link.

Patent or Pub. No.	Receptacle Carrier	Paperboard	Extended Top	Optional Sides	Finger Holes	Neck Projections
20200189818	X	X	X	X	X	
20200010255	X	X	X		X	X
20190135512	X	X			X	X
9359093	X		X	X	X	X
8353398	X	X	X	X	X	X
8297438	X	X			X	X
20200189821	X	X	X		X	

B-List

This list contains references that provide additional characterization to the art field.

Number	Inventor	Pub. or Issue Date	Title
20140300026	Taccolini	2014-10-09	Biodegradable Beverage Carrier
20140027318	Sutherland	2014-01-30	Package For Containers
8443968	De Paula	2013-05-21	Package For Containers
8387784	Gonzalez	2013-03-05	Package For Containers
7163103	Bakx	2007-01-16	Carton For Packaging Flanged Articles
8701878	Spivey, Sr.	2014-04-22	Package For Beverage Containers
8631932	Holley, Jr.	2014-01-21	Chime-engaging Package For Containers
20040206639	Karlsson	2004-10-21	Carrier For Cans And A Carboard Blank For A Carrier For Cans
9511916	Holley, Jr.	2016-12-06	Package For Containers
9169050	Spivey, Sr.	2015-10-27	Package For Containers
9079699	Holley, Jr.	2015-07-14	Package For Holding Containers
6059099	Galbierz; Michael A.	2000-05-09	Multi-pack Carrier
5573111	Gordon; Robert L.	1996-11-12	Paperboard Bottle Carrier
5282348	Dampier; Clayton	1994-02-01	Clip-type Article Carrier And Method Of Manufacture
5186321	Fadus; Richard F.	1993-02-16	Biodegradable Multi-container Carrier
4190149	Oliff; James R.	1980-02-26	Article Carrier And Blank Therefor
20200079564	Ford	2020-03-12	Package For Containers
20200056335	Chung	2020-02-20	Methods And Apparatus For Manufacturing Fiber-based Beverage Holders
7823943	Borg	2010-11-02	Multiple Container Carrier
7377382	Borg	2008-05-27	Multiple Container Carrier
7108128	Borg	2006-09-19	Balanced Multiple Container Carrier
5706936	Bernstein; Linda A.		Paperboard Bottle Carrier
4453630	Helms; Charles R.	1984-06-12	Reinforced Multi-article Carrier
20190119019	Patton	2019-04-25	Plastic Bottle Retaining Apparatus And Advertising Platform
5425446	Weaver; William N.	1995-06-20	Container Package With Composite Carrier
2936070	Jules Poupitch Ougljesa	1960-05-10	Can Carrier
20200189820	Smalley	2020-06-18	Carrier For Containers
20200189819	Mccree	2020-06-18	Carrier For Containers
6874620	Mattson	2005-04-05	Container Carrier

8464866	Sutherland	2013-06-18	Package For Container
8936149	Smalley	2015-01-20	Carrier For Bottles
5526925	Bernstein; Linda A.	1996-06-18	Paperboard Bottle Carrier With Foldable Handle
5490593	Gordon; Robert L.	1996-02-13	Glass Bottle Carrier With Divider
5474172	Zavatone; James F.	1995-12-12	Paperboard Bottle Carrier With Handle
20200189822	Smalley	2020-06-18	Carrier For Containers
20200189817	Smalley	2020-06-18	Carrier For Containers
8256617	Gomes	2012-09-04	Carrier For Containers
6293392	Galbierz; Michael A.	2001-09-25	Beverage Container Carrier
5711419	Beales; Jonathan T.		Paperboard Bottle Carrier
5445262	Sutherland; Robert L.	1995-08-29	Bottle Carrier
CN101861276B	Sutherland Robert L	2012-04-25	Package For Containers, Blank Of The Container, And Method For Forming The Container
JP5474099B2		2014-04-16	
EP1384679B1	Bellante Paolo	2005-09-14	Article Carrier, Blank Therefor And Method Of Producing A Pack Obtained With Said Blank
CN100408442C	Kenneth Karlsson	2008-08-06	A Carrier For Cans, A Cardboard Blank For A Carrier For Cans, And A Method For Assembling Cardboard Blank
JP2012532808A	Ã‚´ãƒ³ã‚¶ãƒ¬ãƒ¼ã‚¹ãƒ¼ã‚¢ãƒš,	2012-12-20	
EP889836B1			
WO2015105901A1	L Heureux Kevin Alan	2015-07-16	A Container Carrying Device
WO9600687A1	Bernstein Linda A	1996-01-11	Paperboard Bottle Carrier
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