

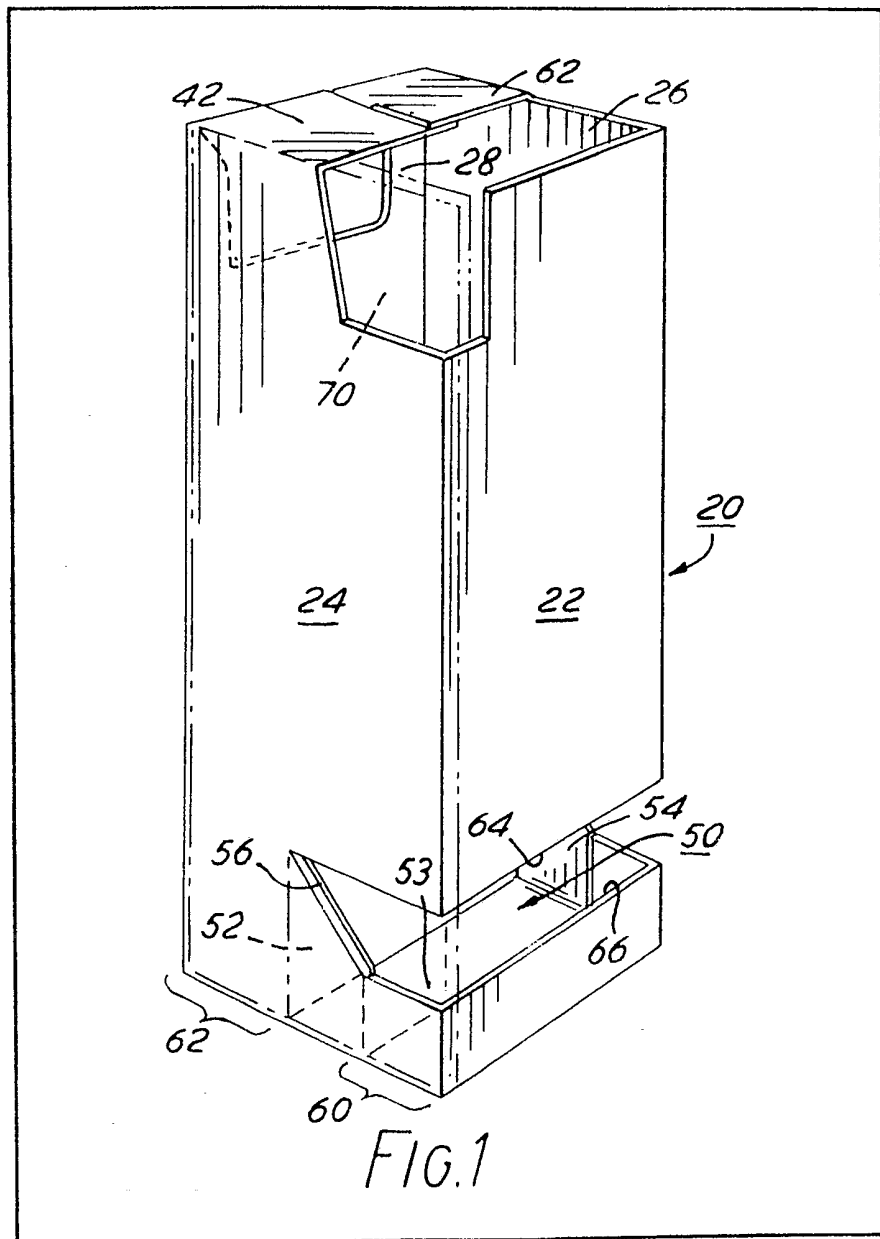
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(54) Tubular cartons

(57) A tubular carton 20, particularly a distributor pack carton, has an open end which may be at least partially closed by a bottom closure formed integrally from the carton body and comprising a strap hanger 50 having a support strap 53 which extends

across the carton between two opposed side walls 24, 26 and suspension straps 52, 54 joining the ends of the support strap 53 to the side walls 24, 26. The suspension straps 52, 54 are joined integrally to the side walls 24, 26 at score lines 56 to facilitate inward folding of the hanger 50.



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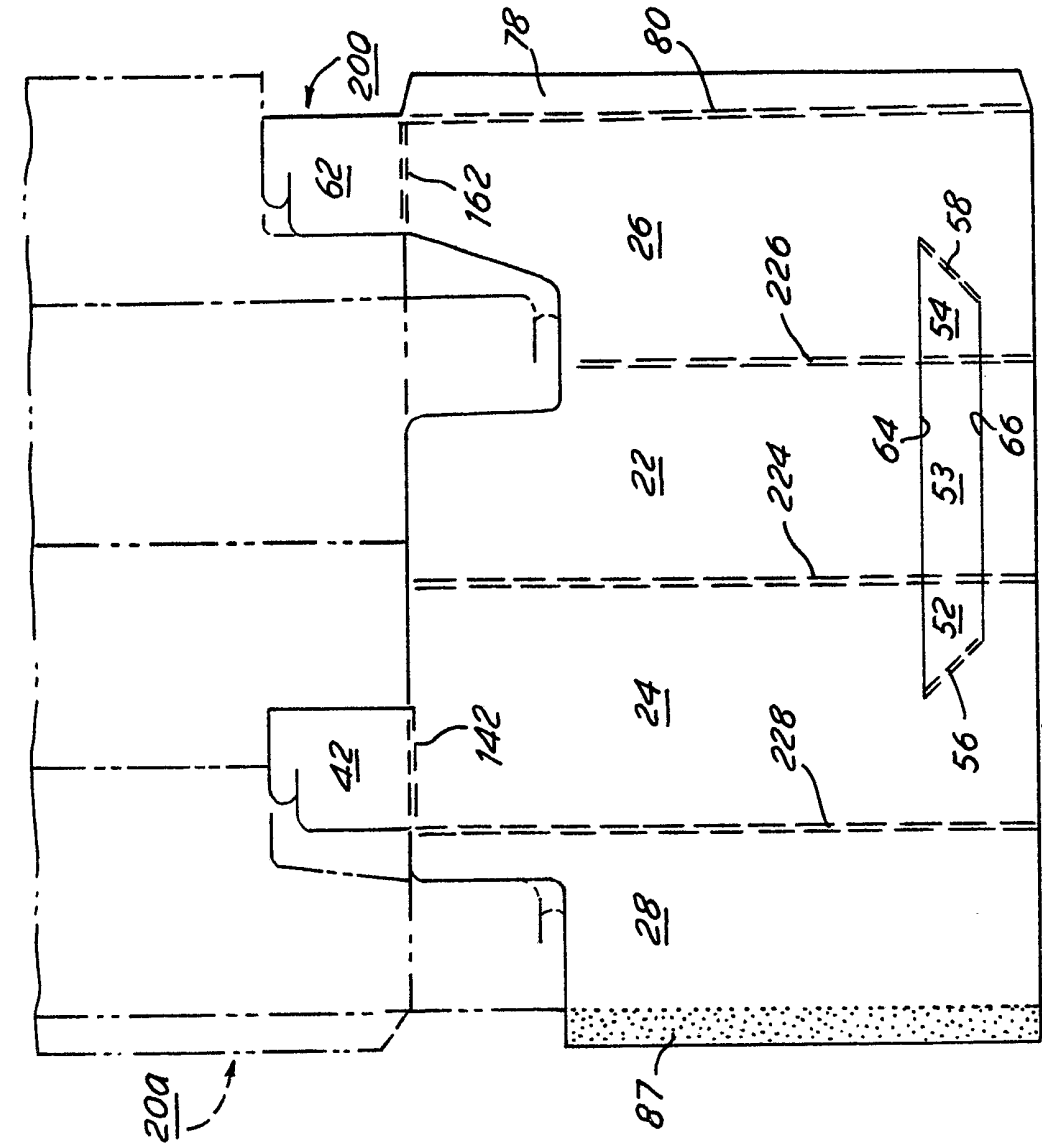


FIG. 1

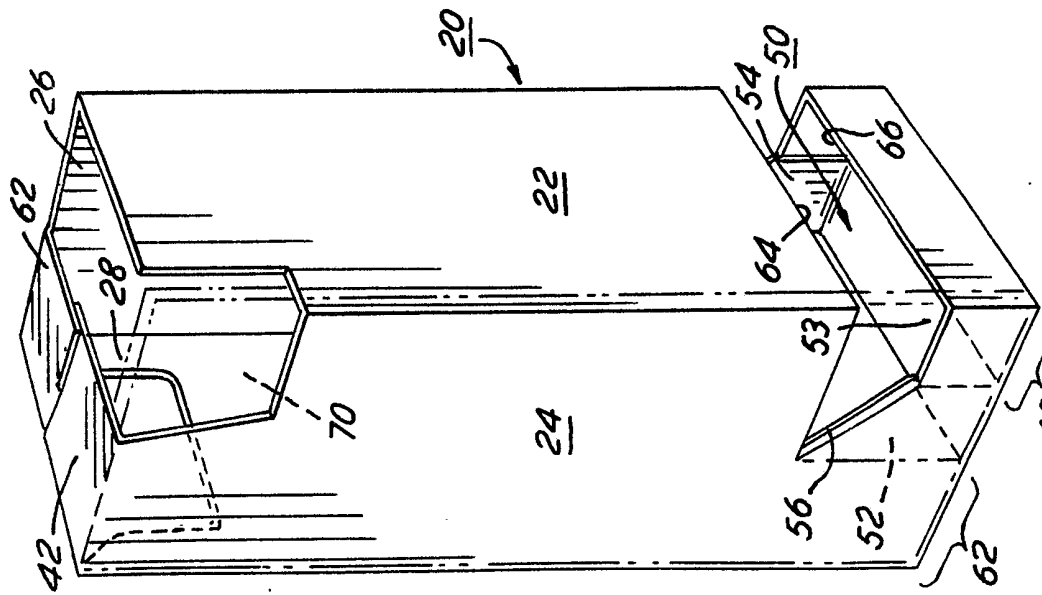


FIG. 2

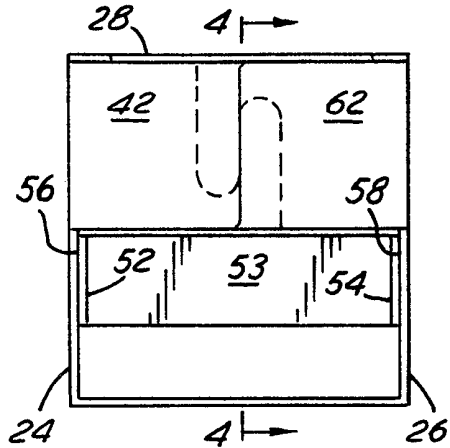


FIG. 3

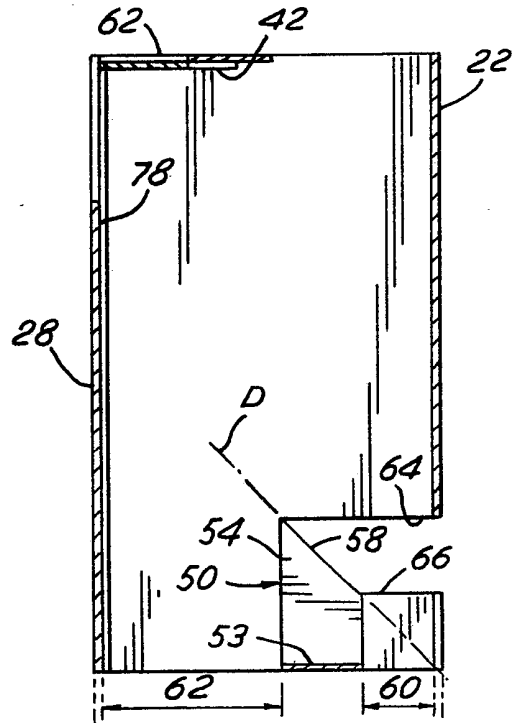


FIG. 4

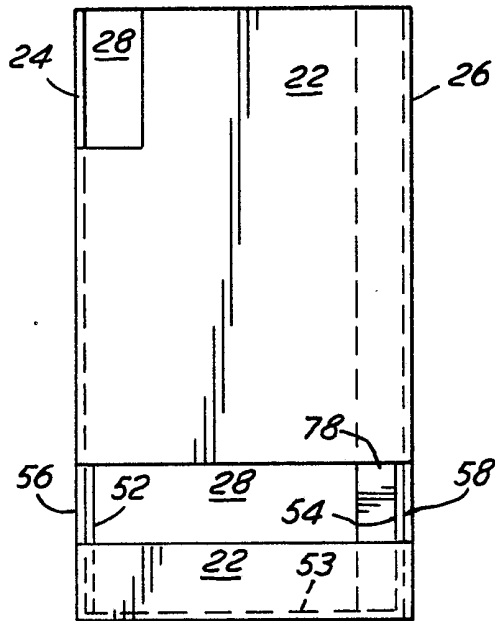


FIG. 5

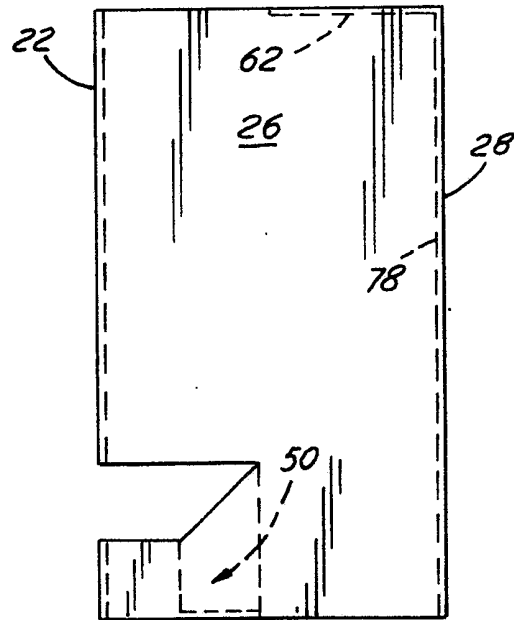


FIG. 6

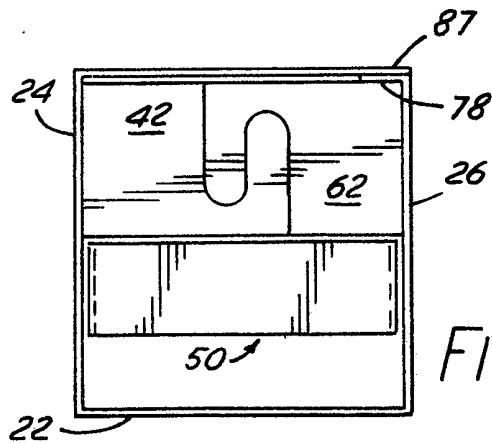


FIG. 7

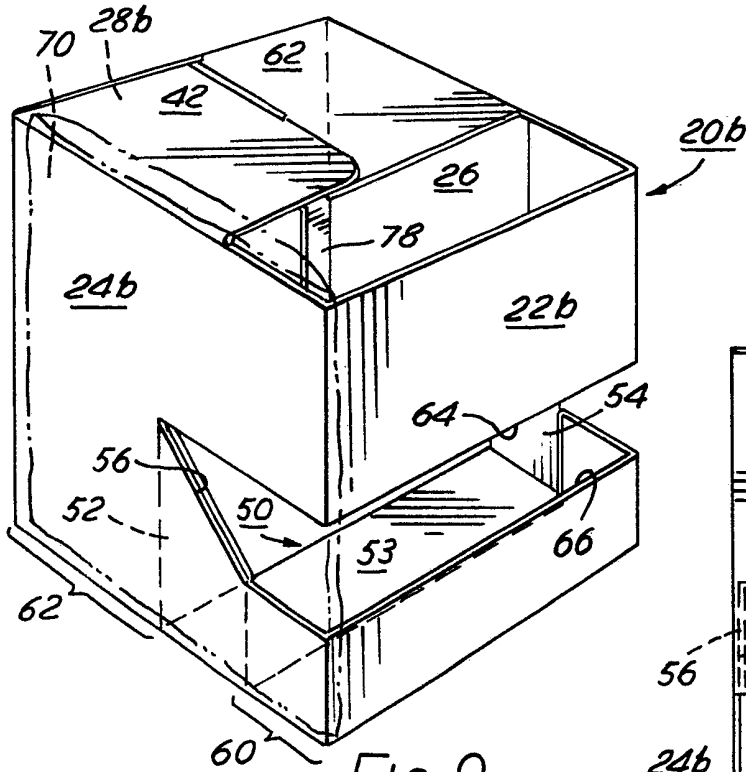


FIG. 9

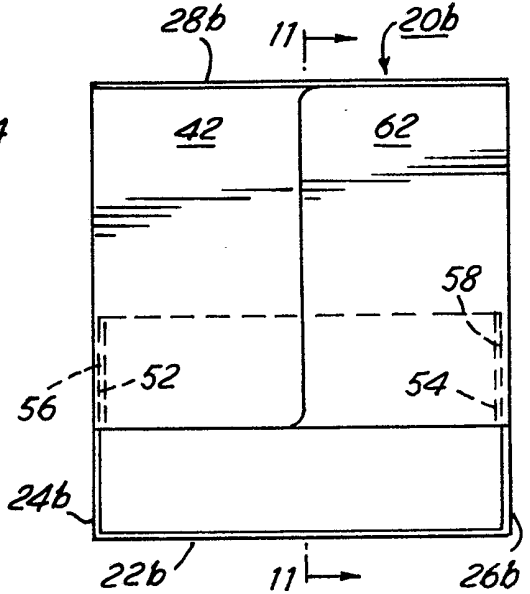


FIG. 10

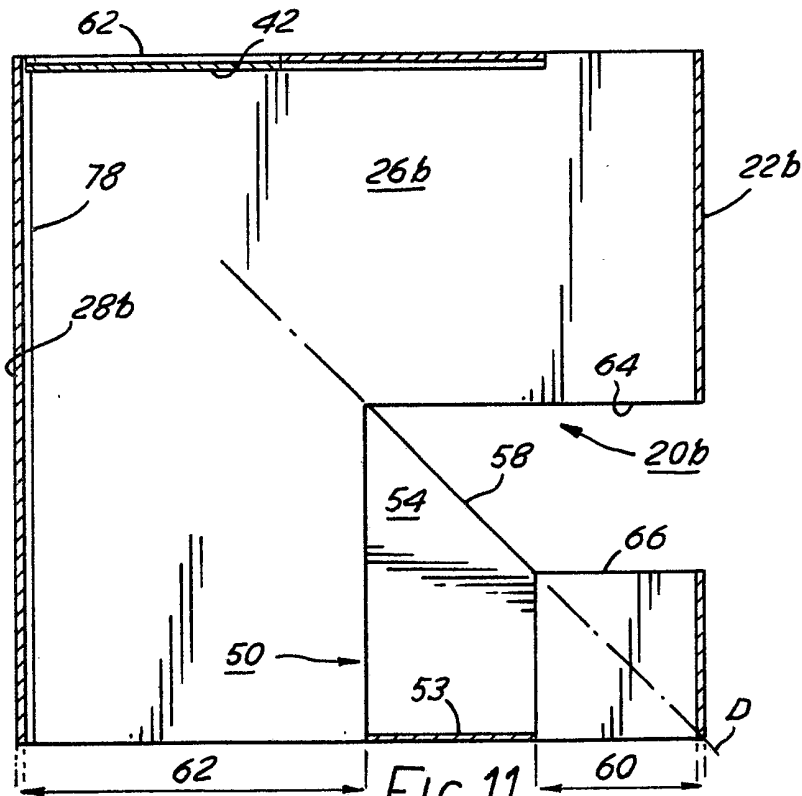


FIG. 11

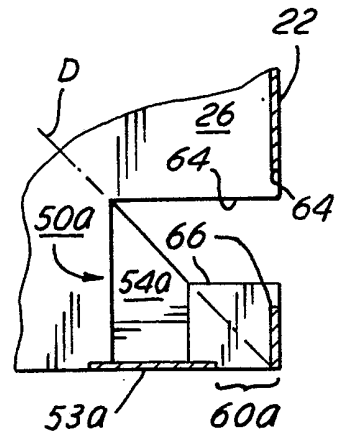


FIG. 8

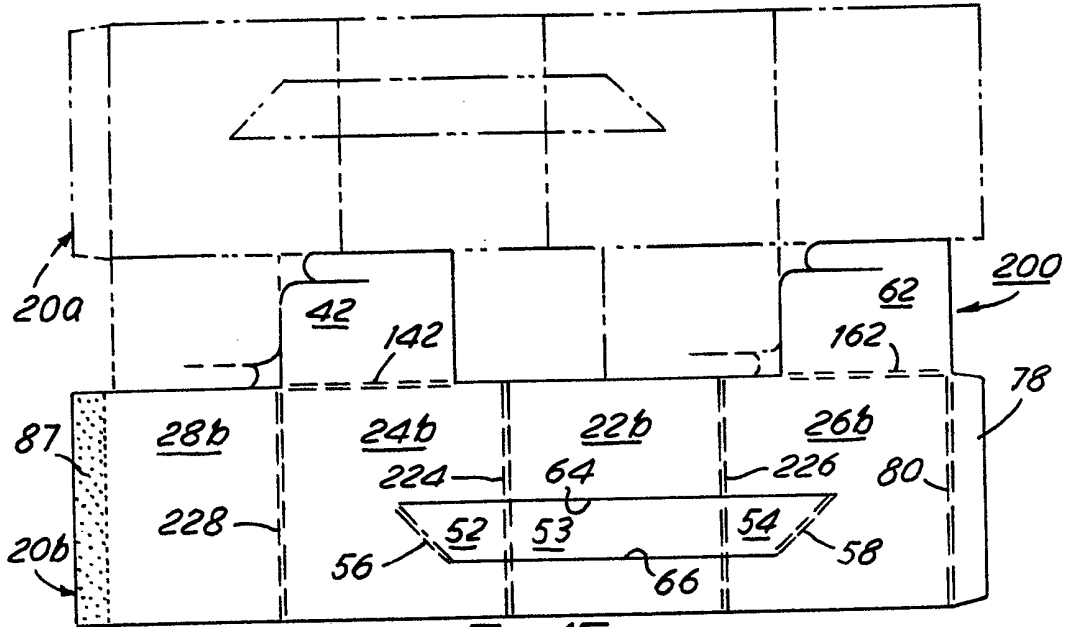


FIG. 15

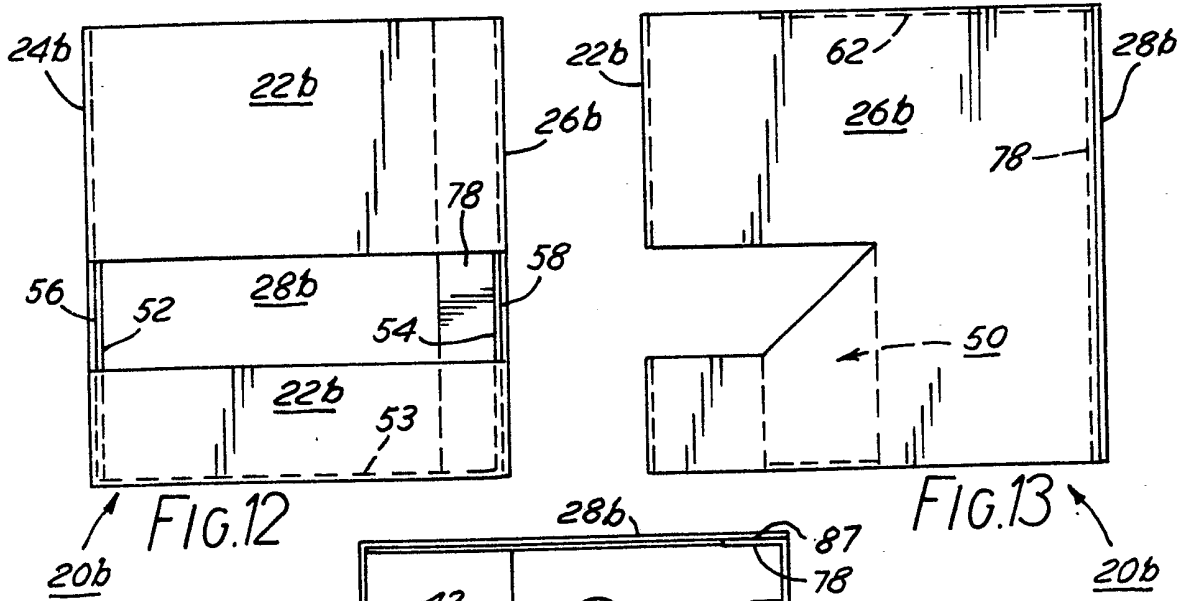


FIG. 12

FIG. 13

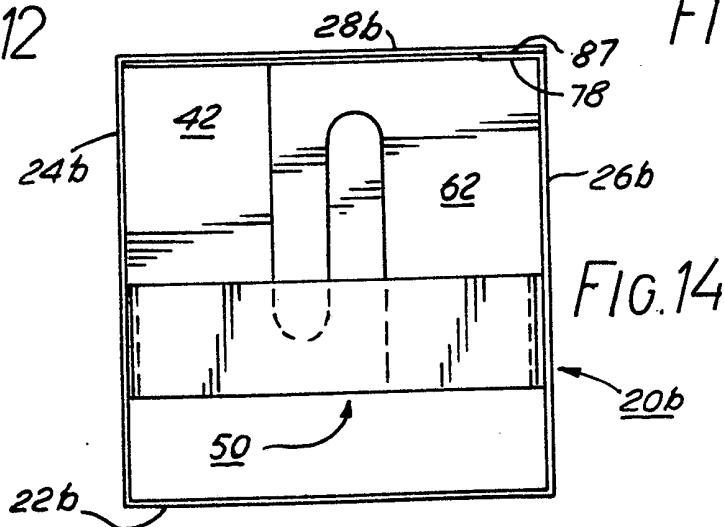


FIG. 14

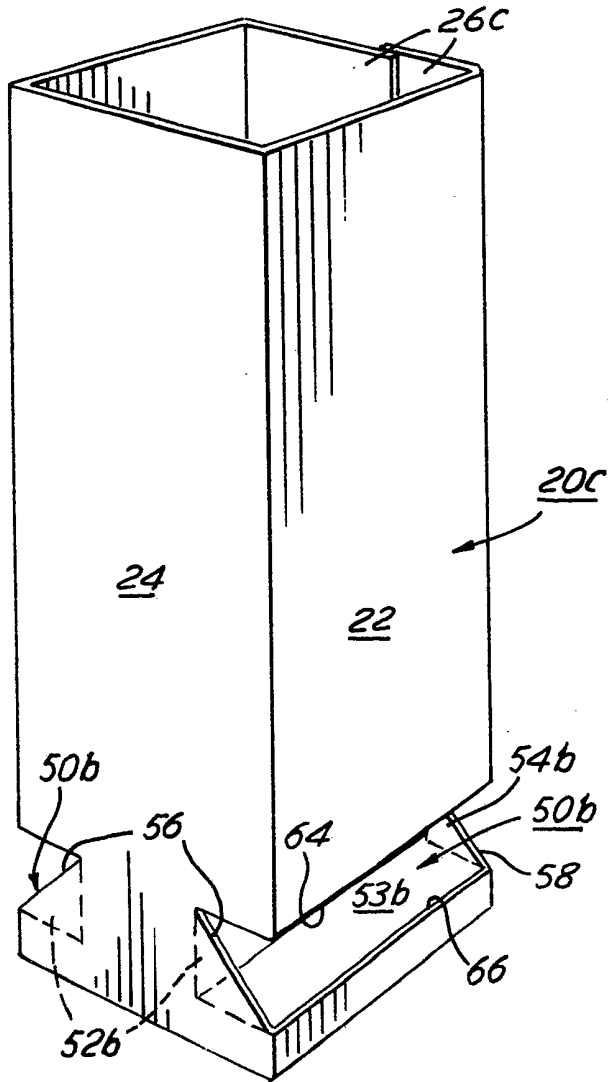


FIG. 16

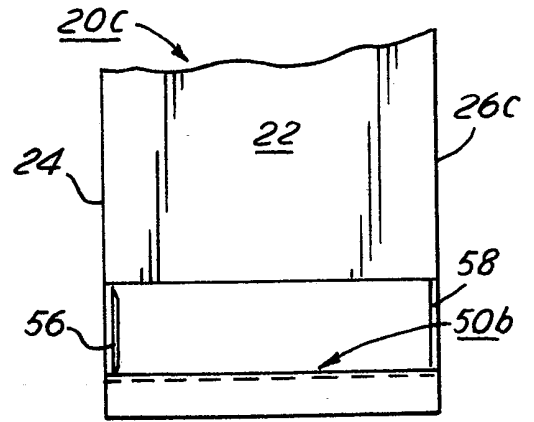


FIG. 17

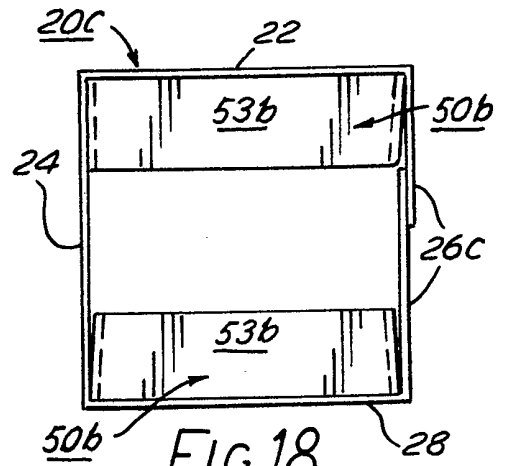


FIG. 18

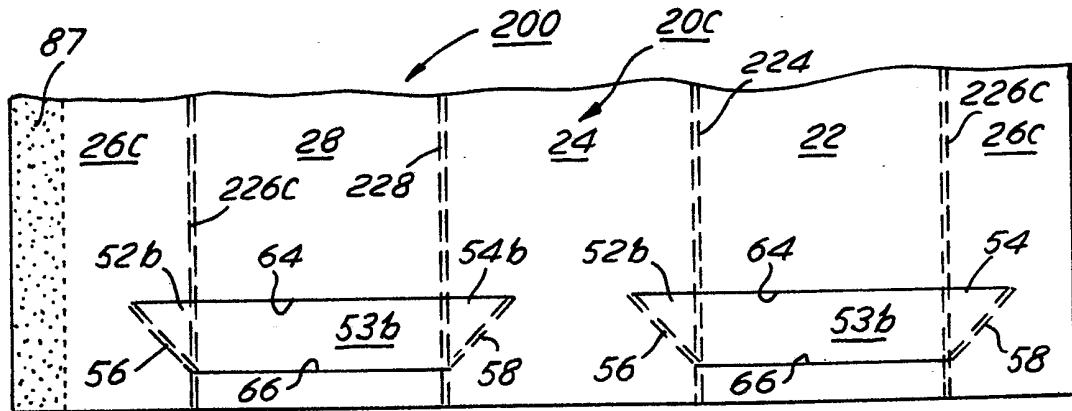


FIG. 19

## SPECIFICATION

### Cartons

This invention relates in general to cartons. In particular, (but not exclusively) the invention relates to cartons which are adapted to be used for containing and packaging smaller, individually pre-packaged items.

In the retail trade, it is quite common to merchandise articles such as pre-packaged hoisery, smoking tobacco, office supplies, dry goods, drug supplies and other sundry items in individual packages to be purchased by a retail customer. Such items are frequently purchased by a retailer from a wholesale distributor in smaller quantities than in large case lots containing a greater quantity of these items. Therefore, it has become desirable to provide an intermediate packing container or carton within such larger packing cases or shipping containers. Such intermediate packing containers or cartons are referred to in the trade as a "distributor pack" and contain a smaller quantity of the individually pre-packaged consumer or retail items.

Distributor packs used in this manner are especially useful for packing irregular shaped individual items. Such items, for example, as blister-packaged tape dispensers are difficult to package as individual items in case lot quantities due to their irregular shape. Therefore, smaller quantities of such items are frequently packaged in a container, such as a distributor pack, which is used as an intermediate packer in a larger case to facilitate orderly packing and shipping of such items in case lot quantities. Such distributor pack cartons may also be utilised to conveniently pre-package smaller quantities of individually packaged items by, for example, size or colour. In this manner less than case lot quantities of a particular size or colour of an item may be economically packaged, or a case lot quantity containing a mixed assortment of items may be packed eliminating the necessity of case-lot purchases of each size or colour.

In order to perform these functions, a distributor pack should provide an economical packaging medium for distribution of moderate quantities of individual pre-packaged items in order to minimise the additional packaging cost to the product manufacturer. In addition, such packaging should be sufficiently strong to provide adequate protection for the individual pre-packaged products contained therein, and to prevent loss or damage to the individual pre-packaged items or their package.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a carton made from paperboard or the like foldable sheet material and adapted to receive therein a plurality of individually packaged articles, said carton including, in its erected condition and in a position of normal use, four vertical walls including a front wall, a pair of opposed sidewalls, and a rear wall, said carton having a bottom closure comprising a support strap formed from a first vertical wall of the carton

and extending between opposed other said vertical walls of the carton, said support strap being positioned and supported by depending suspension straps attached thereto, each suspension strap being formed from a said other vertical wall of the said carton and being joined to the other vertical wall at its upper end along a fold line, said fold lines permitting said support strap and suspension straps to be folded out of the respective planes of said first and other vertical walls to provide support for articles within said carton and a contents-viewing opening in three sides of said carton.

With suitable arrangement the present invention may provide an economical distributor pack carton which does not require the addition of closure devices to close the bottom of the carton, or require the use of two-piece telescoping cartons as heretofore necessary. The carton has the bottom closure thereof formed integrally from the carton body and such as to protect individual packages within the carton against damage.

In each of the described embodiments the carton body is formed as an open ended tube which may be readily constructed using high speed gluing techniques since the tube is formed by single-line strip gluing along a single straight edge. In addition, the bottom closure of the open ended tube may be quickly and conveniently set up, to enable the distributor pack to be quickly filled with individual pre-packaged items at a minimum of time and expense. The open ended tube construction having the bottom closure formed integrally from the tube body eliminates the necessity of complex packaging assembled about an array of individual consumer packaged goods, or expensive and complex operations requiring on-site gluing or the like.

In one embodiment of the invention, predetermined portions of the panels from which the open end tube carton is formed are removed to display a portion of the individual pre-packaged items to be contained within the pack. The provision of such openings in the distributor pack carton permits the ready determination of such things, for example, as size, quantity, colour, price, date or "UPC" coding on the individual packages. In addition, providing these openings in the body of one carton allows two such distributor pack cartons to be nested together and formed from a single standard sheet of paperboard. Since standard sheets of paperboard or the like foldable sheet material are customarily formed in a square or rectangular configuration, individual carton blanks may be inter-nested or laid out on the standard sheet of material in complementary form to provide maximum utilisation of the material in forming the carton blank. The formation of a top closure of one of the open ended tubes from the sheet material removed to form the openings in the panels of the other complementary internested carton blank permits the greatest efficiency and utilisation of the stock from which these cartons are formed and substantially eliminates material wastage.

The invention will become more fully apparent from the following description of embodiments thereof, now to be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals indicate corresponding parts throughout. In the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a first folding carton made in accordance with the invention and showing, in phantom lines, an envelope-type package contained therein;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a blank arranged to form the carton of Fig. 1, showing the manner in which a pair of the blanks are inter-nested for economy of material, one blank being shown in solid lines and an adjacent blank being shown in phantom lines;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the carton illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the carton of Fig. 1, taken along lines 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a front view of the carton of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of the carton of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the carton of Fig. 1;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary sectional view of a modification as applied to the embodiment shown in Figs. 1—7 to modify the strap hanger employed therein;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of another folding carton made in accordance with the invention and showing, in phantom lines, an envelope-type package contained therein;

Fig. 10 is a top plan view of the carton illustrated in Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of the carton of Fig. 9, taken along lines 11—11 of Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is a front view of the carton of Fig. 9;

Fig. 13 is a side elevational view of the carton of Fig. 9;

Fig. 14 is a bottom plan view of the carton of Fig. 9;

Fig. 15 is a plan view of a blank arranged to form the carton of Fig. 9, showing an alternative manner in which a pair of the blanks are inter-nested for economy of material, one blank being shown in solid lines and an adjacent blank being shown in phantom lines;

Fig. 16 is a perspective view of another folding carton made in accordance with the invention, which utilises a pair of spaced apart strap hangers;

Fig. 17 is a partial front view of the carton illustrated in Fig. 16 to better illustrate the lower portion thereof;

Fig. 18 is a bottom plan view of the carton of Fig. 16; and

Fig. 19 is a plan view of a portion of a blank from which the carton of Fig. 16 may be formed.

While it will be understood that the invention has various embodiments, and cartons constructed in accordance therewith are capable of various uses and of being disposed in different

positions when in use, for convenience of illustration in the following description and in the claims the orientation of a carton will be described such that the carton bottom, which supports the contents within the carton, is partially closed by a strap which lies generally horizontal. The carton top is above and opposite the carton bottom, and may be partially closed by closeable flaps, with the carton sidewalls extending vertically therebetween.

Referring now to the embodiment of the invention as illustrated in Figs. 1—8, there is shown a distributor pack carton 20 comprising a four-side rectangular carton having a front wall 22, a pair of opposed side walls 24 and 26, and a rear wall 28. A pair of closure flaps 42 and 62 extend from the upper portion of the side walls 24 and 26, respectively, and may be interconnected to each other by co-operating notched-end or interlocking tab portions in a manner that is known to those skilled in the art. The bottom of the carton 20 is partially closed by means of a bottom forming strap or flex hanger 50 which provides a partial closure of the carton bottom and a support for the contents contained within the carton, such as individual packages 70 shown in phantom in Fig. 1.

The bottom of the carton 20 is partially closed by the strap hanger 50 which extends between the two sidewalls 24 and 26. The strap hanger 50 comprises a pair of suspension straps or hangers 52 and 54, and a bottom support strap 53, all of which are formed from the body of the carton 20. The suspension straps 52 and 54 are each formed from the side-walls 24 and 26, respectively, while the support strap 53 is formed from parallel, horizontally extending cuts 64 and 66 which are formed in the carton blank 20. The ends of these two cut lines 64 and 66 are joined by diagonally extending score lines 56 and 58, formed in side walls 24 and 26 respectively, to form a pair of fold lines about which the cut portion of the side walls 24 and 26 may be folded to form the straps 52 and 53. These score lines 56 and 58 extend diagonally toward the bottom corner of the carton where the front wall 22 and the adjoining side walls 24 and 26 meet.

The portion of the carton 20 which is cut from the side walls 24 and 26 and front wall 22 to form the strap hanger 50 provides a window portion through which the contents contained within the carton 20 may be seen or portions thereof displayed to indicate such things as colour, size, quantity or data coding. The hanger 50 divides the open bottom of the carton 20 into a pair of spaced open areas 60 and 62, and forms a partial closure of the open bottom from an integral portion of the carton structure. As can best be illustrated with reference to Figs. 4 and 8, the position of the bottom support strap 53 of the strap hanger in relation to the open bottom of the carton 20, and the relative positioning or sizes of the open areas 60 and 62 of the carton bottom, can be varied by the lateral spacing of the cut lines 64 and 66, and the extent to which the cut



lines extend across the side walls 24 and 26. As long as the fold lines 56 and 58 are formed along a line "D" extending diagonally from the bottom corner juncture of the sidewalls and the front wall, the bottom support strap 53 will be positioned at the carton bottom when the carton 20 is erected.

The higher the cut lines 64 and 66 are in relation to the bottom of walls 22, 24 and 26, the further the cut lines will need to extend across the side walls 24 and 26 to reach the diagonal line "D" and, therefore, the further the strap hanger 50 will be spaced from the front wall 22 and closer to the rear wall 28. Shorter transverse cuts across the side walls 24 and 26 will result in the hanger 50 being positioned closer to the front wall 22 as long as the fold lines 56 and 58 lie along line "D". As the fold lines are formed along a parallel diagonal line passing either above or below this juncture point, the bottom strap 53 will be positioned above or below the carton bottom accordingly. Thereby, the length of the cut lines 64 and 66, as well as their vertical positioning relative to the carton bottom, may accordingly be varied to suit the carton 20 for a desired purpose.

In addition, the width of the strap hanger 50 may be varied by changing the lateral spacing between the two parallel cut lines 64 and 66 which will change the width of the hangers 52 and 54, as well as the bottom support strap 53. As shown in the alternative embodiment of Fig. 8, the lateral spacing between the two parallel cuts 64 and 66 can also be different for that portion of the cuts made in the front wall 22, than that portion of the cuts made in the two side walls 24 and 26. Such variation between the lateral spacings of the cut lines 64 and 66, relative to these panels, can be utilised to form a strap hanger 50a wherein the bottom support strap 53a is of greater—but may be formed as a lesser—width than the hangers 52a and 54a to thereby vary the portion of the open bottom of the carton which would be closed by the strap hanger 50a or to increase the contact or support area of the strap. This change also permits variation of the size of the window portions formed in the front wall 22 and the size of the spaced open areas 60a and 62a.

Referring now to the top of the carton 20, the top closure flaps 42 and 62 are spaced from the front wall 22 in order to provide a top opening for viewing the contents contained within the carton. The size of the closure flaps 42 and 62 and, therefore, the opening at the top of the carton 20, may be varied depending upon the intended use of the carton, or the nature of the individual packages 70 to be contained therein. These individual packages 70, which are placed in the distributor pack or carton 20 by the manufacturer, extend across the strap hanger 50 and are supported thereby with the bottom edges of the respective individual packages 70 being protected within the confines of the carton. The windows formed in the side walls 24 and 26 and the front wall 22 by formation of the strap hanger 50, and the opening at the top of the carton 20, provide a

visual display of the individual packages 70 contained within the carton. While a pair of interlocking tabs 42 and 62 are illustrated, the top of the carton 20 could be completely open, as shown in Figs. 16 and 18, or closed by a conventional tuck top arrangement.

As best shown in Figs. 1 and 2, an upper-right corner portion of sidewall 24 and upper-left corner portion of front wall 22 are removed to display indicia such as the "UPC" coding on individual packages 70 contained within the distributor pack 20. In addition, a centre portion of the upper end of panel 28 is also removed permitting a portion of the contents within the container 20 to be exposed to show such things as quantity, size, colour, etc. of the items contained in the individual packages 70.

While the removal of these portions of sidewall 24, front wall 22, and rear wall 28 permits ready determination of the carton contents, it also provides another important advantage in the economical use of a paperboard blank 200 from which the carton 20 is formed. In the layout of the carton blank 20 on the paperboard 200, the top closure flaps 42 and 62 of one carton blank 20 are formed from those portions of the side, front and rear walls 24, 22 and 28, respectively, removed from another nested or complementary carton blank 20a. In this manner less paperboard becomes scrap and the use of paperboard blanks 200 is extremely efficient. Not only can the closure for the carton tube be formed from integral portions of the carton body, but the carton blanks themselves may be efficiently formed from a standard sheet of paperboard 200 with very little waste.

Referring to Fig. 2, there is shown a standard paperboard blank 200 having a layout scheme to illustrate how a pair of cartons 20 and 20a may be constructed therefrom. One carton 20, in an unerected form, will be referred to in detail and is shown in solid lines; its counterpart 20a is shown in phantom lines. The carton 20 includes front wall 22, the two side walls 24 and 26, and rear wall 28. Fold lines 224, 226 and 228 are formed in the blank 200 to facilitate folding the paperboard panels relative to each other to facilitate erection of the carton 20. A flap 78 is formed from the same paperboard panel as sidewall 26 by a single score fold line 80 such that the flap 78 extends outwardly therefrom to overlie a margin area 87 of the rear wall panel 28. When erecting the carton 20, the flap 78 is secured to the rear wall 28 by an adhesive or other means as is known to those skilled in the art. As previously discussed, the two cut lines 64 and 66 are joined by diagonal fold lines 56 and 58 which enable the strap hanger 50 to be formed from the carton 20 body when the carton is erected.

The top closures 42 and 62 are each formed from the same paperboard panel as sidewalls 24 and 26, respectively, by single score fold lines 142 and 162. The top closures 42 and 62 have tabs which interlock to form a partial closure of

the open end of the carton 20 when erected by folding about the fold lines 142 and 162, respectively. As previously discussed, the distance between the respective fold lines 224 and 226 and the respective forward edge of the top closure panels 42 and 62 will determine the size of the opening at the top of the carton 20.

As previously noted, a second carton blank 20a is shown in phantom lines in Figure 2. This layout provides a second carton 20a from the standard paperboard blank 200 by laying out cut and score lines similar to the carton blank of carton 20, but positioned in mirror-like image or offset form with respect to the patterns formed for the carton blank 20. Accordingly, further description of the carton blank 20a is not considered necessary, it being understood that it is a distinct advantage of the described arrangement that the two blanks 20 and 20a may be made in a generally inter-nested layout relation to provide economy in manufacturing two cartons 20 and 20a from a single standard paperboard blank 200.

Referring now to the erection of the carton 20, the marginal area 87 of the rear wall forming panel 28 may have an adhesive substance applied thereto, or the adhesive may be applied to the flap 78 which is contiguous with the sidewall 26 or both. Since the carton blanks 20 and 20a are inter-nested in the manner previously discussed, adhesive application is also simplified. High speed straight path application of adhesive on both carton blanks 20 and 20a is greatly enhanced by such a layout. After an adhesive has been so applied, the carton is folded about the score or fold lines 224, 226 and 228 such that the flap 78 overlaps the marginal area 87. At this point the carton blank has been formed into a sleeve or tube having a pair of open ends.

The closure for the bottom of the tube—which supports and retains individual packages within the carton 20—is formed from integral portions of the tube by pushing inwardly on the area defined between cut lines 64 and 66 and diagonal fold lines 56 and 58 to create the strap hanger 50. The bottom support strap 53 is folded inwardly on the fold lines 224 and 226 to form the bottom of the carton 20, and the suspension straps 52 and 54 are folded down and inwardly about the fold lines 56 and 58, respectively, to form vertical hangers to suspend the support strap 53 in a position across the carton bottom to support individual packages within the carton. After the tube has been created and the hanger 50 formed, the contents—such as the individual packages 70—may be placed into the carton 20. The top of the carton is thereafter closed by interlocking the lock tabs of top closure flaps 42 and 62 to form a partial cover. The loaded distributor cartons 20 are then suitable for use as a shipping or packing carton with the contents contained within the carton being visible through the window created during formation of the strap hanger 50 and the partially open top and back of the carton.

Referring now to the embodiment illustrated by

Figs. 9 through 15, a carton 20b is constructed in a manner similar to that described with reference to the embodiment in Figs. 1—8, but the carton walls 22b, 24b, 26b and 28b are constructed in a substantially square configuration. Carton 20b more completely encloses the individual packages contained within the container and may include a pair of large interlocking tabs 42 and 62, as shown, or the entire top may be closed as by a conventional tuck top closure. Depending upon the requirements for the use of the carton 20b, the upper end of the carton may even be completely open.

As best shown in Fig. 15, in this embodiment two carton blanks may again be formed from a standard or single paperboard blank 200. Since the walls 22b, 24b, 26b and 28b do not have portions removed, as in the previous embodiment, the closures 42 and 62 cannot be formed from the paperboard stock in the manner previously described. However, the panels forming the closures 42 and 62 of carton blank 20b are positioned on the paperboard blank 200 between the closure forming panels of a second carton blank 20a to make the most efficient use of the paperboard blank and minimize paperboard loss.

Referring now to the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 16—19, a carton 20c is formed as previously described except that two strap or flex hangers 50b of a different form are created from the carton body 20c, and one of the sidewalls 26c is formed in two portions. In this embodiment the strap hangers 50b are created on opposed sides of carton 20c adjacent, respectively, the front panel 22 and the rear panel 28, in a form somewhat modified from that previously described. Each strap hanger 50b is created with the diagonal fold lines 56 and 58 of its suspension straps 52b, 54b extending from a position directly in contact with the fold lines 224 and 226 for the front strap hanger 50b, and in contact with the fold lines 228 and 226 for the rear strap hanger 50b. In this manner the support strap 53b of each strap hanger is not suspended below its bottom cut line 66 as in the previous embodiments, but forms a support at the same elevation as the cut line 66. When a strap hanger 50b is formed in this manner, line 66 may be formed as a score or fold line, instead of being cut through the paperboard blank 200 from which the carton 20c is formed. In this embodiment, for illustrative purposes, the top of the carton 20c is completely open.

In the assembly of carton 20c the front strap hanger 50b is formed by folding the portion of the paperboard blank defined by the respective lines 64, 66, 56 and 58 inwardly. The suspension straps 52b and 54b will extend vertically downward and the bottom support strap 53b may be either hingedly supported from the front wall 22 or positioned normal thereto in contact with the front wall, depending upon line 66 being formed as a fold or cut line, respectively. The rear wall 28 and the strap hanger 50b associated therewith are constructed in the same manner so

that the carton 20c is provided with two strap hangers 50b for retaining the contents within the carton. In this manner portions of the individual packages contained within the carton 20c may be supported on both sides, which may be desirable in certain applications. Whilst middle portions of the bottom edges of individual packages contained in such cartons will be exposed in this embodiment, the bottom edges will be carried above the open carton bottom and so protected by the confines of the carton and the increased package stability afforded by the use of two strap hangers 50b.

As best shown in Fig. 19, the paperboard blank 200 of this embodiment has two score or fold lines 226 which form the sidewall 26 in two portions. One sidewall portion 26c is contiguous with each of the front and rear walls 22 and 28, respectively. In this manner, when the carton 20c is erected, the two sidewall portions 26c are folded about the two fold or score lines 226c and extend in an overlapping relation so that the adhesive-coated marginal area 87 on one portion will be secured to the other portion. The complete sidewall 26 so formed when the carton tube is erected will thereby have the joint between, and remote from, its side edges.

#### Claims

1. A carton made from paperboard or the like foldable sheet material and adapted to receive therein a plurality of individually packaged articles, said carton including, in its erected condition and in a position of normal use, four vertical walls including a front wall, a pair of opposed sidewalls, and a rear wall, said carton having a bottom closure comprising a support strap formed from a first vertical wall of the carton and extending between opposed other said vertical walls of the carton, said support strap being positioned and supported by depending suspension straps attached thereto, each suspension strap being formed from a said other vertical wall of said carton and being joined to the other vertical wall at its upper end along a fold line, said fold lines permitting said support strap and suspension straps to be folded out of the respective planes of said first and other vertical walls to provide support for articles within said carton and a contents-viewing opening in three sides of said carton.
2. A carton according to Claim 1, wherein one of the said vertical walls includes a wall-forming panel having a securing tab panel attached thereto, said tab panel being secured to and overlying a portion of an adjacent vertical wall.
3. A carton according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said support strap is formed from the front wall of said carton and said suspension straps are formed from said sidewalls.
4. A carton according to Claim 3, wherein said fold lines extend diagonally across said sidewalls.
5. A carton according to any preceding claim, wherein said support strap lies in the same plane as the lower edges of said vertical wall.
6. A carton according to any claim of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said support strap lies above the plane of the carton bottom and parallel thereto.
7. A carton according to any preceding claim, further including cover means for forming a top closure for said carton.
8. A carton according to Claim 7, wherein said cover means includes two cover-forming flaps associated with said sidewalls of a reduced width in relation to the width of said sidewalls, and having one pair of flap edges thereof which lie parallel to and closely adjacent one of said front and rear walls and another pair of flap edges lying parallel to but spaced from the other of said front and rear walls to provide an opening for viewing the contents of said carton.
9. A carton according to any preceding claim, having two of said support straps and associated suspension straps, said carton thereby having contents-viewing openings in opposed said first vertical walls thereof, which said support straps lying in a common plane.
10. A carton according to any preceding claim, wherein the or each said support strap is of a width greater than the width of said suspension straps joined thereto.
11. A carton according to any preceding claim, wherein an upper portion of one of said vertical walls is removed to provide an opening for viewing a portion of the contents contained within the carton.
12. A carton according to any preceding claim, wherein said closure strap in the erected condition of the carton is spaced from the bottom of said first wall by a horizontal distance equal to the vertical distance between the bottom of said first wall and the said portion thereof.
13. A carton according to any claim of claims 1 to 11, wherein said closure strap in the erected condition of the carton is spaced horizontally from said first wall and vertically above the bottom of the same.
14. A carton according to any claim of Claims 1 to 10, wherein in the erected condition of the carton the closure strap is located at the horizontal level of the lower edge of the contents-viewing opening.
15. A carton according to Claim 14, wherein the closure strap is hingedly connected to the said first wall along the lower edge of the contents-viewing opening.
16. A blank of paperboard or like foldable sheet material for a carton, said blank comprising, in combination, four adjacent wall-forming panels each joined to an adjacent panel by a fold line, and a securing flap connected to one of said panels by a fold line, said securing flap positioned along one end of said carton blank, and a bottom closure strap forming portion formed by parallel cutlines extending across the width of one wall-forming panel and into each adjacent wall-forming panel, said cut lines being of unequal length and joined at their adjacent ends by associated fold lines, whereby, in the erected condition of said blank, a support strap and a pair

of suspension straps for said support strap are formed from the portion of the blank defined by said cut lines and associated fold lines.

17. A blank according to Claim 16, which has a pair of top forming closure flaps each joined to a wall-forming panel, said pair of wall-forming panels to which said top-forming closure flaps are joined being separated from each other by another wall-forming panel, said top forming closure flaps being attached to their associated wall-forming panels along fold lines and having mutually co-operating means for engagement to form a locking end closure.

18. A blank according to Claim 17, wherein at least one of said four wall-forming panels has a portion contiguous with the margin removed to facilitate inter-nesting of carton blanks.

19. A blank according to Claim 18, wherein said pair of top forming closure flaps are formed from at least a portion of said wall-forming panels removed from a separate inter-nested carton blank.

20. A blank according to Claim 19, wherein said pair of top forming closure flaps extend the entire depth of the removed portion of the separate inter-nested carton blank.

21. A sheet of paperboard or like foldable sheet material having arranged thereon at least one pair of carton blanks, said blanks being identical and each comprising, in combination, one front, one rear, and two side wall-forming panels, means for fastening two adjacent wall-forming panels to each other in the erected condition of said carton, said wall-forming panels being respectively attached to one another along fold lines extending

transversely of said blank, a pair of spaced apart, parallel cut lines lying parallel to a longitudinal edge of said blank and extending from one side wall-forming panel, through the front wall-forming panel, and into the other adjacent side wall-forming panel, said cut lines being of unequal length and being joined to each other at their adjacent ends by a pair of diagonally extending fold lines, said blank also having a pair of edge portions respectively defining cut-outs in at least portions of two of said side wall forming panels for defining, in the erected condition of the blank, a pair of side wall openings extending downwardly from the upper edges of said carton, said blank also including a pair of closure-forming flaps joined to a pair of wall-forming panels which are spaced apart from each other by an intermediate wall panel, said flaps including locking means thereon and being attached to their associated wall portions by fold lines, said blanks being arranged on said sheet in said pairs such that the closure-forming flaps of one blank extend into the opening-defining portions of the adjacent blank in nested relation, and so that the edges of said respective blanks which will form the top edges of said cartons in the erected condition lie along a common cut line defining at least a portion of the longitudinal edge of each of said blanks.

22. A carton, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Figs. 1 to 9, Figs. 10 to 15, or Fig. 16 to 19 of the accompanying drawings.

23. The blank for a carton as claimed in any claim of claims 1 to 15, and 22.