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(54) **DUAL ZIP AND HIP ZIP**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Disclosed herein is a packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents. The system according to the invention comprises of a packing member configured with a plurality of compartments to receive contents for storing therein; at least a first and a second compartment having a desired minimal descript aesthetic configuration and making the subsequent packaging system readily accessible to store and retrieve contents, a sealing device attached to or inherently part of said first and said second compartments utilized to seal contents within said compartments.

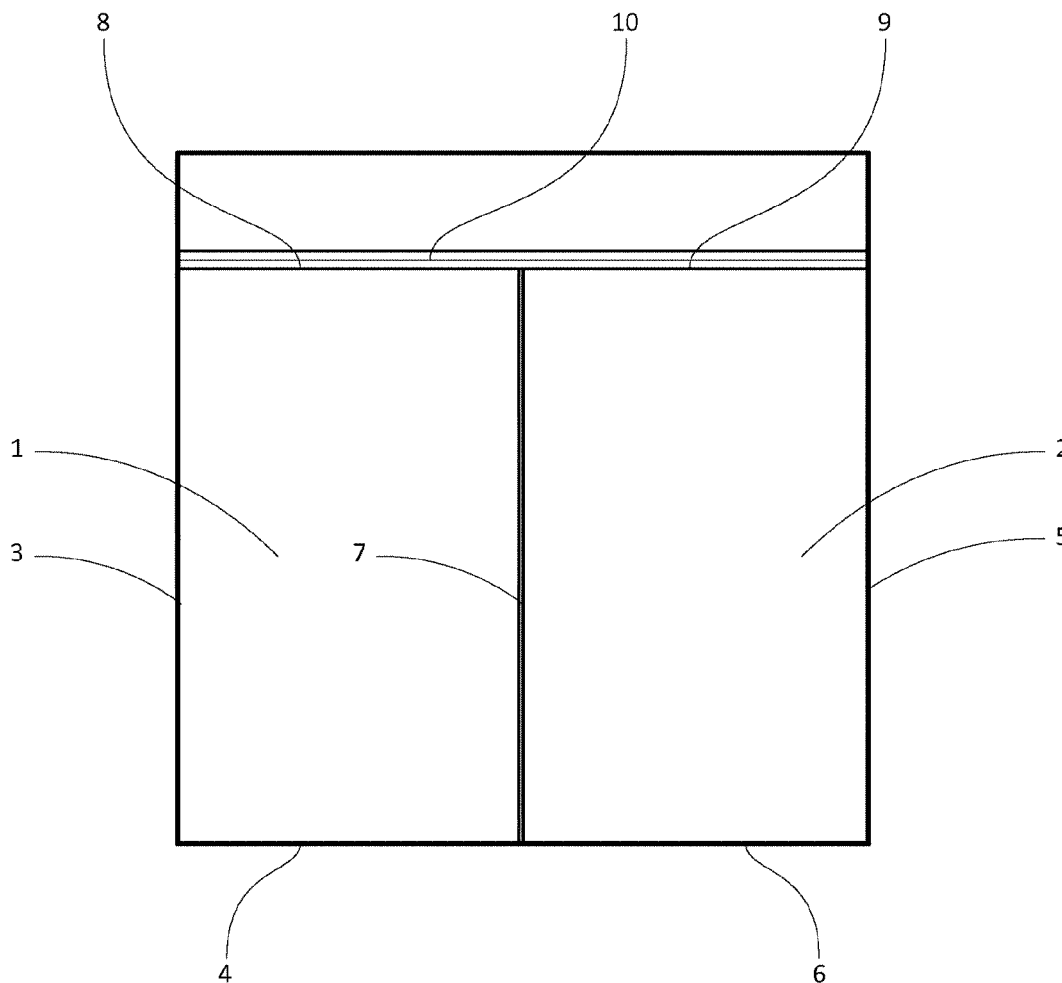
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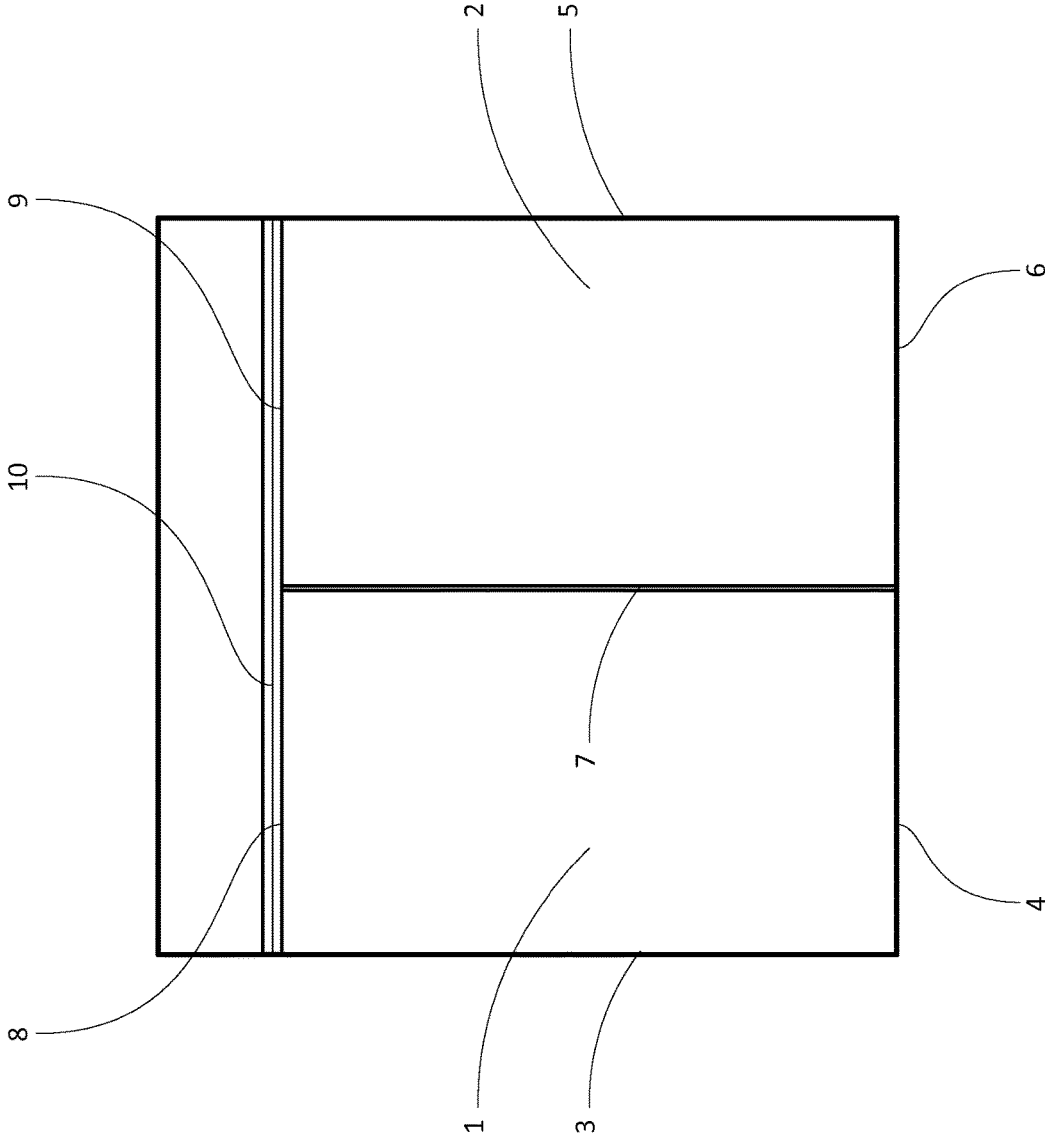


FIG. 1

DUAL ZIP AND HIP ZIP

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] Not applicable

FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

[0002] Not applicable.

MICROFICHE

[0003] Not applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0004] (1) Field of the Invention

[0005] This invention relates to the field of plastic bags and, in particular, a multi-compartment plastic package for holding two or more materials. It provides a system by which such bags can be compartmentalized into separate pockets, permitting a single bag to carry different items, but to keep them separate.

[0006] (2) Background of the Invention

[0007] Re-closed thermoplastic bags are commonly used in food packaging. The bags are generally made out of a plastic film and have two side walls that are folded at the bottom and sealed at the sides. The bags typically have a re-closed fastener at the top of the bag, such as, for example, an adhesive, a wire tie, or a plastic zipper such as that described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,140,727, issued to Dais et al.

[0008] The consumers that use these bags often need more than one bag at any given time. Therefore, bags having more than one compartment have been developed. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 4,993,844 discloses a compartmented pouch. However, the closures in the pouch of the '844 patent are displaced relative to one another, making it difficult for a consumer to close one compartment without squashing the contents of another compartment. Furthermore, the '844 patent describes a shared wall for the compartments, which restricts the available volume inside the compartment. Another example is U.S. Pat. No. 5,024,536, which describes a re-sealed compartmented bag. However, the '536 patent describes the compartments of the bag as being sealed together along the bottom edges of the compartments, thereby restricting the available volume inside the compartments.

[0009] Various attempts have been made to solve the above-mentioned problems such as those found in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,407,278 to Fres Co. System USA, Inc.; U.S. Pat. No. 6,155,714 to Rhone Poulenc; U.S. Pat. No. 7,748,904 to Illinois Tool Works Inc.; U.S. Pat. No. 5,024,536 to Hill Diane E; U.S. Pat. No. 6,579,008 to S.C. Johnson Home Storage, Inc.; U.S. Pat. No. 6,234,675 to S. C. Johnson Home Storage, Inc.; U.S. Pat. No. 5,407,278 to Fres Co. System USA, Inc. and U.S. Pub. Nos. 20100027919 to Jerome Faytre; 20020067865 to Stutzman Todd L.; 20100142862 to Bassam Abed Sam; 20130283736 to Kraft Foods Group Brands LLC; 20120006702 to Mark Steele.

[0010] It would be an advance in the art of compartmented bags to provide a multi-compartment bag in which all of the compartments can be closed simultaneously, but opened independently of one another, and in which the available volume inside the compartments is maximized. Moreover,

improving the ease with which the individual compartments can be grasped and manipulated would be advantageous.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] The present invention is a plastic bag having multiple compartments in which different foods may be stored. The bag is partitioned into separate chambers so that several food items can be stored in the same bag with each food item having its own compartment. The number of chambers varies depending upon the specific storage requirements of the user. For example, the multiple storage chamber bags may have two, three, or four separate storage chambers.

[0012] Each storage chamber has its own zipper locking mechanism to close the compartment and keep the contents of the chamber fresh. The inventive multiple compartment bags may be washed and reused.

[0013] In a preferred embodiment the invention is a packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents. The system according to the invention comprises of a packing member configured with a plurality of compartments to receive contents for storing therein; at least a first and a second compartment having a desired minimal descript aesthetic configuration and making the subsequent packaging system readily accessible to store and retrieve contents, a sealing device attached to or inherently part of said first and said second compartments utilized to seal contents within said compartments.

[0014] Accordingly, it is a principal object of the invention to provide a plastic bag having multiple reusable compartments with square mouths for accommodating different foods. The plastic bag will have multiple compartments in which each two adjacent compartments share a common edge. The bag zipper pressure seals used for closure of each of the compartment mouths.

[0015] Furthermore the invention is a plastic bag having multiple reusable compartments to prevent mixing of contents when stored together in a storage device, the bag is soft-side bag-like structure and sized a sandwich or a quart or a gallon. The plastic is both degradable and biodegradable and is comprised of double layered opaque material.

[0016] These together with other objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the disclosure. For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be had to the accompanying drawings and descriptive matter in which there are illustrated preferred embodiments of the invention.

[0017] The summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts in a simplified form that are further described below in the detailed description. This summary is not intended to identify key features or essential features of the claimed subject matter, nor is it intended to be used as an aid in determining the scope of the claimed subject matter.

[0018] In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting.

[0019] These together with other objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the disclosure. For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be had to the accompanying drawings and descriptive matter in which there are illustrated preferred embodiments of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020] The invention will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

[0021] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a plastic bag having multiple compartments according to a first preferred embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0022] In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof, and in which is shown by way of illustration specific embodiments in which the invention may be practiced. These embodiments are described in sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention, and it is to be understood that the embodiments may be combined, or that other embodiments may be utilized and that structural and logical changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense, and the scope of the present invention is defined by the appended claims and their equivalents.

[0023] The present invention is a plastic bag having multiple compartments in which different foods may be stored. The bag is partitioned into separate chambers so that several food items can be stored in the same bag with each food item having its own compartment. The number of chambers varies depending upon the specific storage requirements of the user.

[0024] For example, the multiple storage chamber bags may have two, three, or four separate storage chambers. Each storage chamber has its own pressure zipper locking mechanism such as a ZIPLOC® mechanism to close the compartment and keep the contents of the chamber fresh.

[0025] Referring to the drawings particularly to FIG. 1, there is shown a perspective and a plan view of one embodiment of the present invention. Multiple compartment plastic bag system features two-container, having first compartment 1 and second compartment 2. First compartment has side edge 3 and lower edge 4, and second compartment has side edge 5 and lower edge 6. First compartment and second compartment are separated along shared edge 7, pre-sealed by heat or other convenient means. First compartment has mouth 8, and second compartment has a mouth 9 for inserting and removing food, each respective mouth being located opposite shared edge. Mouth of First compartment and second compartment is sealed by the pressure zipper seal 10 or other appropriate re-sealed means. Mouth is sealed by pressure zipper seal or other appropriate re-sealed means.

[0026] The inventive bags of the present invention are conveniently made from sheets of flexible plastic sheet or film such as polyethylene, but may be constructed from other appropriate materials. The bags are available in sandwich, quart and gallon sizes. The multiple compartments present the user the option to prepare an entire meal and store individual menu items in the individual compartments.

[0027] The plastic bag has multiple reusable compartments with square mouths for accommodating different foods. The plastic bag will have multiple compartments in which each two adjacent compartments share a common edge. The bag zipper pressure seals used for closure of each of the compartment mouths. Also the bag has multiple reusable compartments to prevent mixing of contents when stored together in a storage device, the bag is soft-side bag-like structure and sized a sandwich or a quart or a gallon. The plastic is both degradable and biodegradable and is comprised of double layered opaque material.

[0028] It is to be understood that the above description is intended to be illustrative, and not restrictive. For example, the above-discussed embodiments may be used in combination with each other. Many other embodiments will be apparent to those of skill in the art upon reviewing the above description.

[0029] The benefits and advantages which may be provided by the present invention have been described above with regard to specific embodiments. These benefits and advantages, and any elements or limitations that may cause them to occur or to become more pronounced are not to be construed as critical, required, or essential features of any or all of the embodiments.

[0030] While the present invention has been described with reference to particular embodiments, it should be understood that the embodiments are illustrative and that the scope of the invention is not limited to these embodiments. Many variations, modifications, additions and improvements to the embodiments described above are possible. It is contemplated that these variations, modifications, additions and improvements fall within the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents, system comprising:

- a packing member configured with a plurality of compartments to receive contents for storing therein;
- a first compartment having a desired minimal descriptive aesthetic configuration and making said subsequent packaging system readily accessible to store and retrieve contents;
- a second compartment having a desired minimal descriptive aesthetic configuration and making said subsequent packaging system readily accessible to store and retrieve contents,
- a sealing device attached to or inherently part of said first and said second compartments utilized to seal contents within said compartments.

2. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said packing member further comprises of a common edge to connect said first and said second compartment.

3. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents is a plastic storage bag.

4. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is generally a soft-side bag-like structure.

5. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is generally sized as a sandwich.

6. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is generally as a quart.

7. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is generally as a gallon.

8. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is comprised of biodegradable plastic material.

9. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is comprised of degradable plastic material.

10. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said package member is comprised of double layered opaque plastic material.

11. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said sealing devise is a zipper pressure seal.

12. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said contents are edibles.

13. The packaging system to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents as set forth in claims 1, wherein said compartments of said system are reusable.

14. The packaging system as set forth in claims 1 to facilitate compartmentalized storing of contents is a means to prevent mixing of contents when stored together in a storage device.

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