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(54) **BOX TYPE CONTAINER HOLDER FOR MEDICATION CARDS**

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B65D 41/18	(2006.01)
B65D 43/04	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

USPC **206/528**; 220/784; 220/801

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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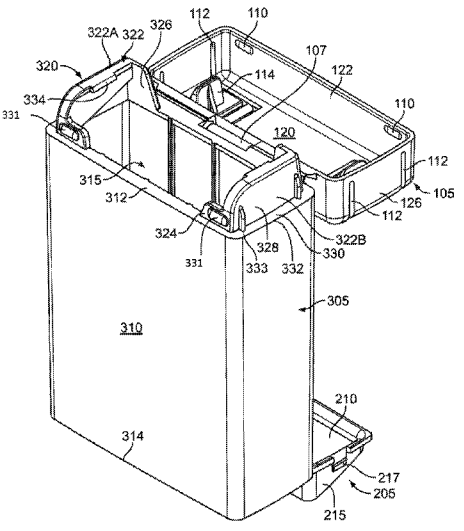
(57) **ABSTRACT**

There is shown in a pill blister pack container for holding a pill blister pack. The container having a central structure with a hollowed interior configured to hold the blister pack. A top is secured to the central structure by a hinge member and has a closure structure secured configured to maintain the top in a closed portioned. The closure structure includes corresponding first locking members formed on forward facing surfaces to cooperate in maintaining the cap in the closed position along with corresponding second locking members formed on side facing surfaces and formed on the top to further maintain the cap in the closed positioned.

9 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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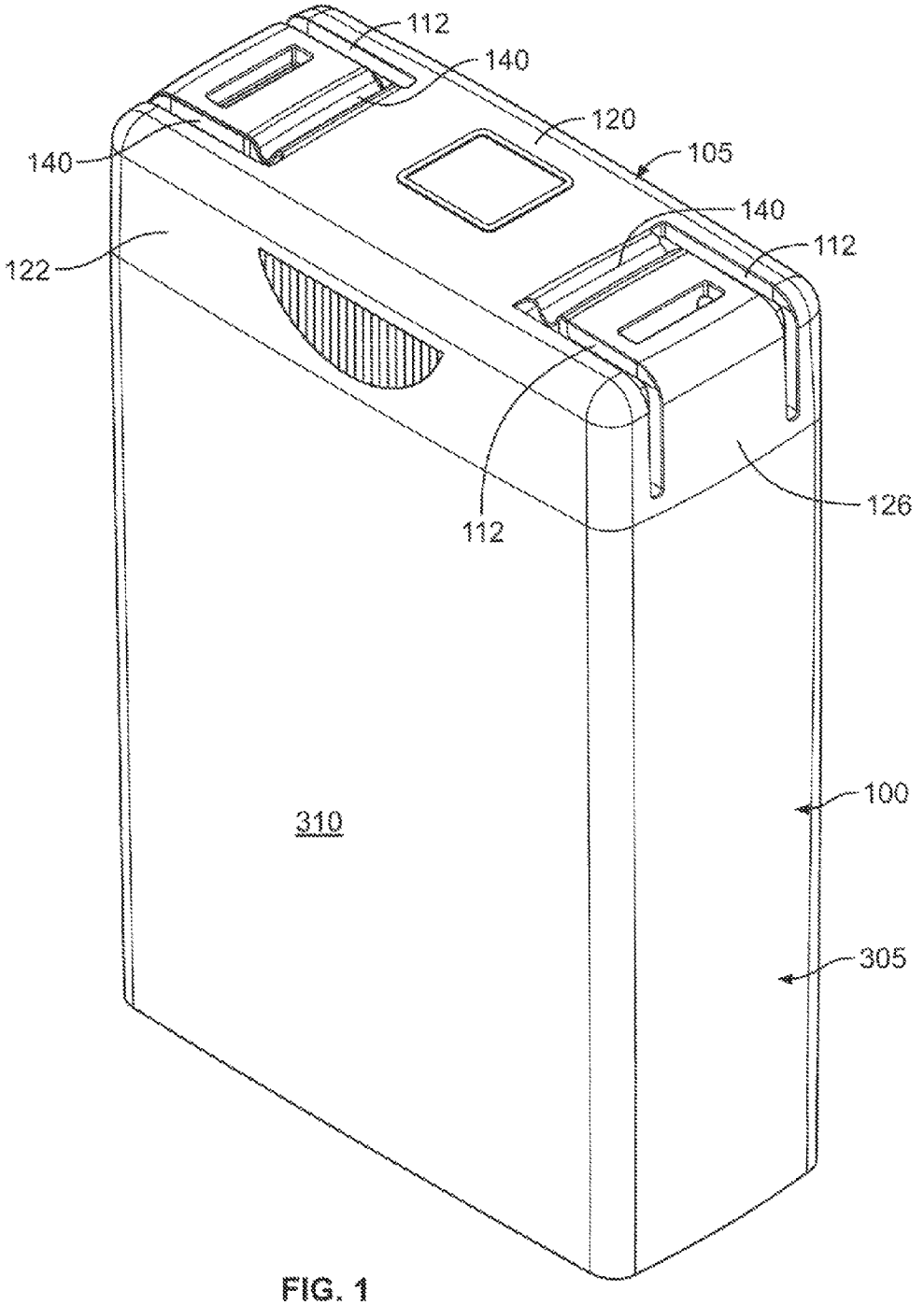
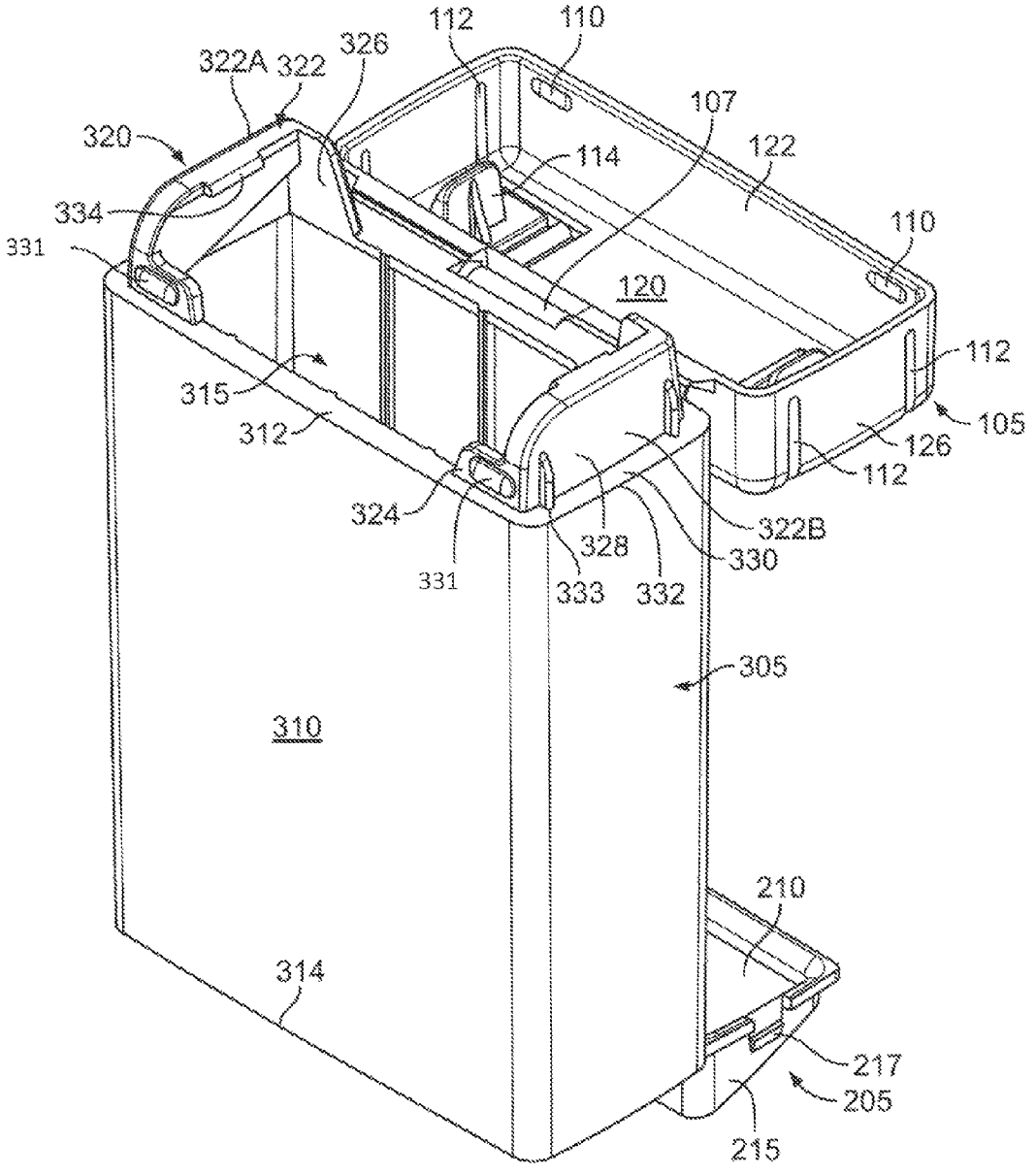


FIG. 1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110
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322A
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334
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331
120
112
315
105
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112
324
322B
328
330
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333
332
305
310
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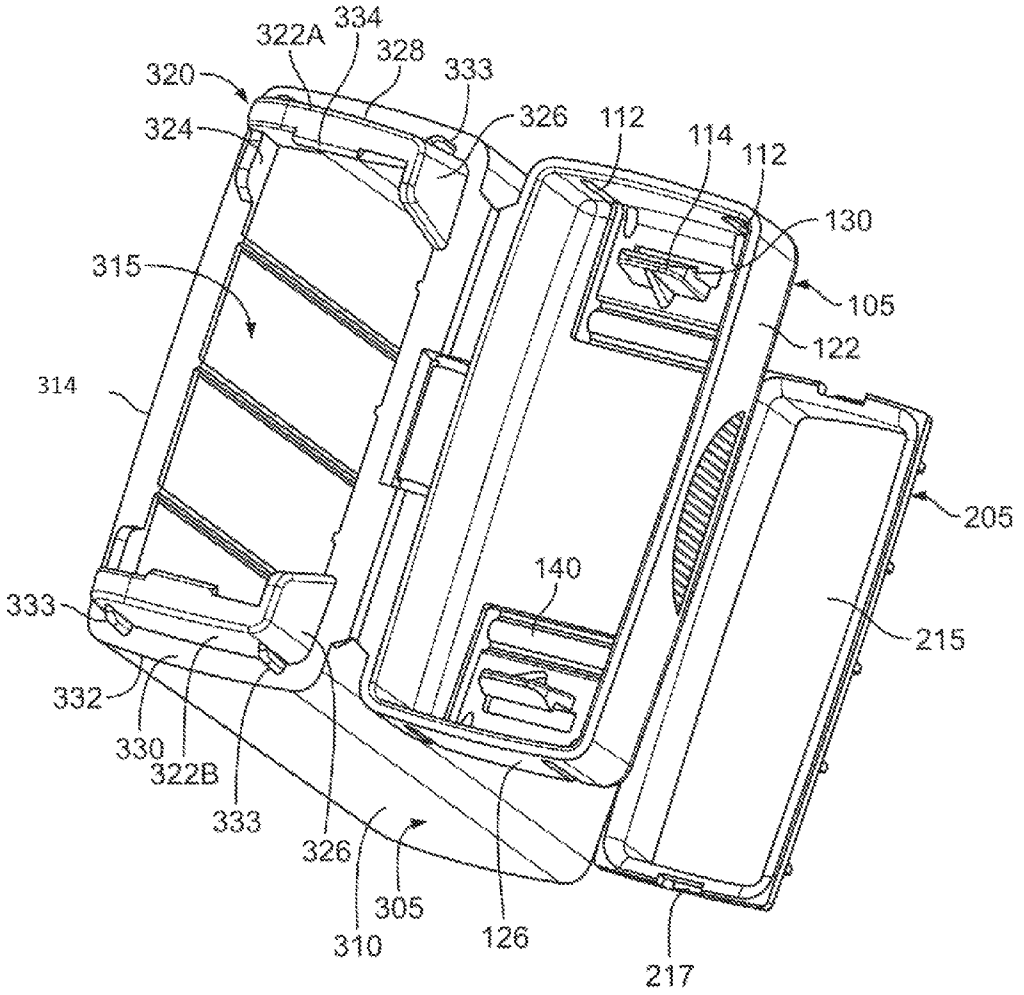
217
205
215

FIG. 2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322B
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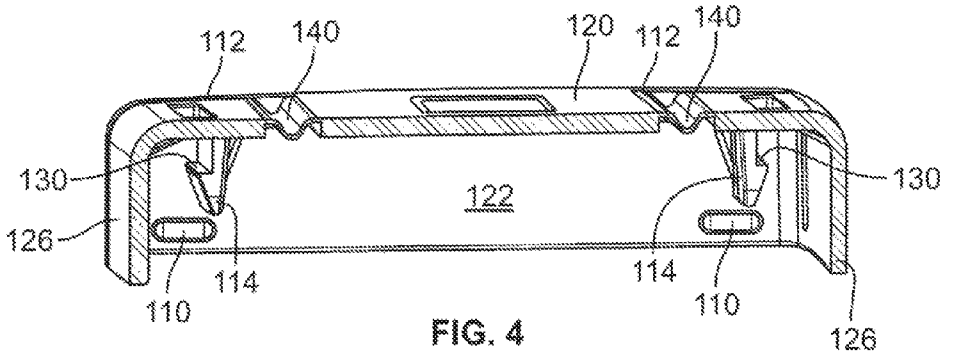
FIG. 3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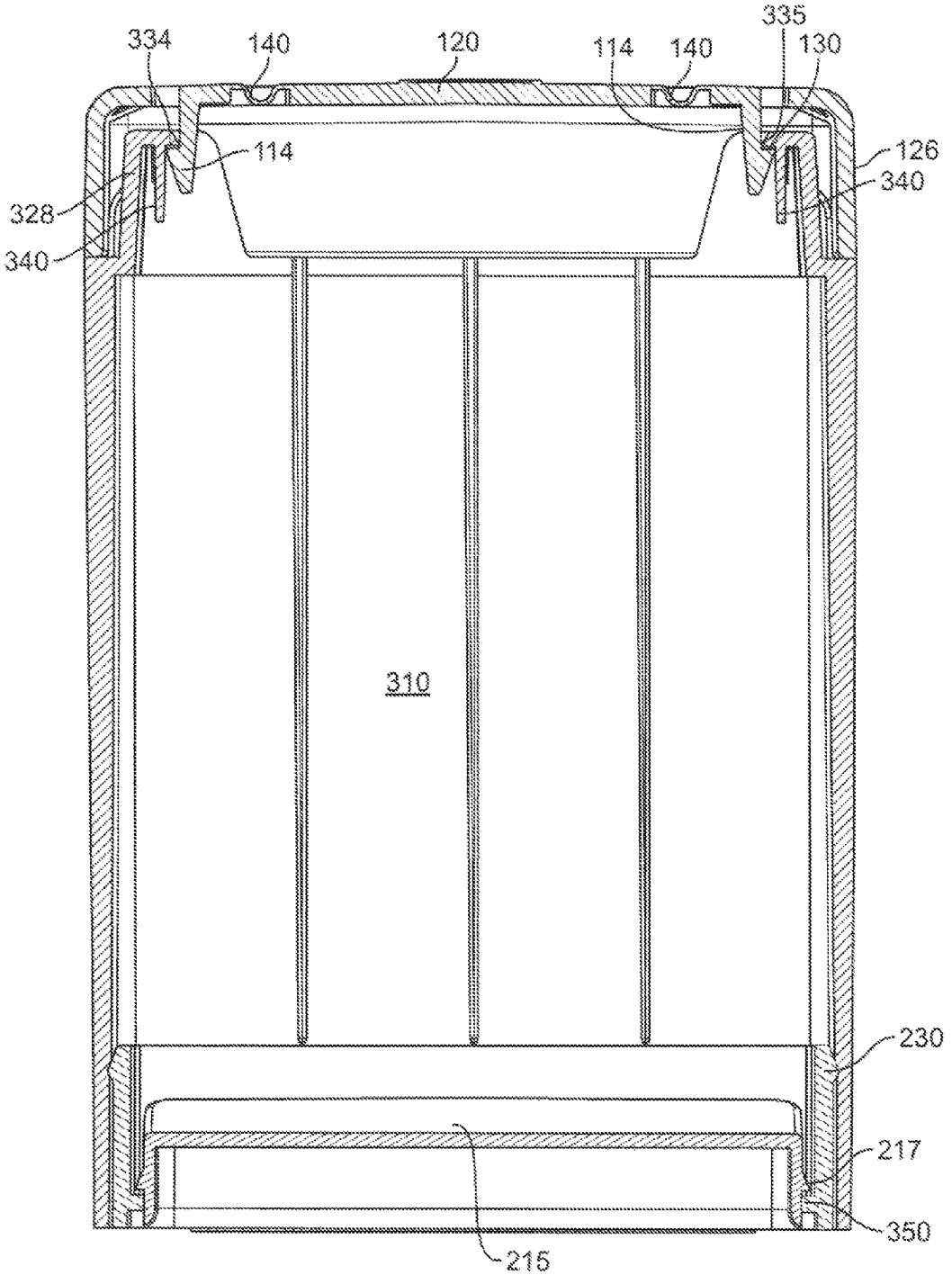
126

FIG. 4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126
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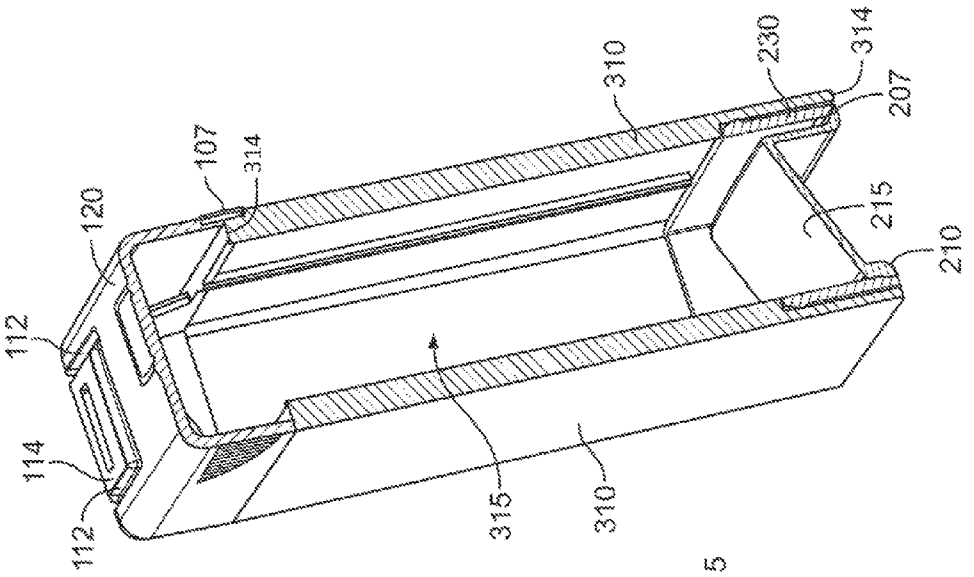
310
230
217
350
215

FIG. 5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230
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207
107
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120
215
210
112
114
112
315
310

FIG. 7

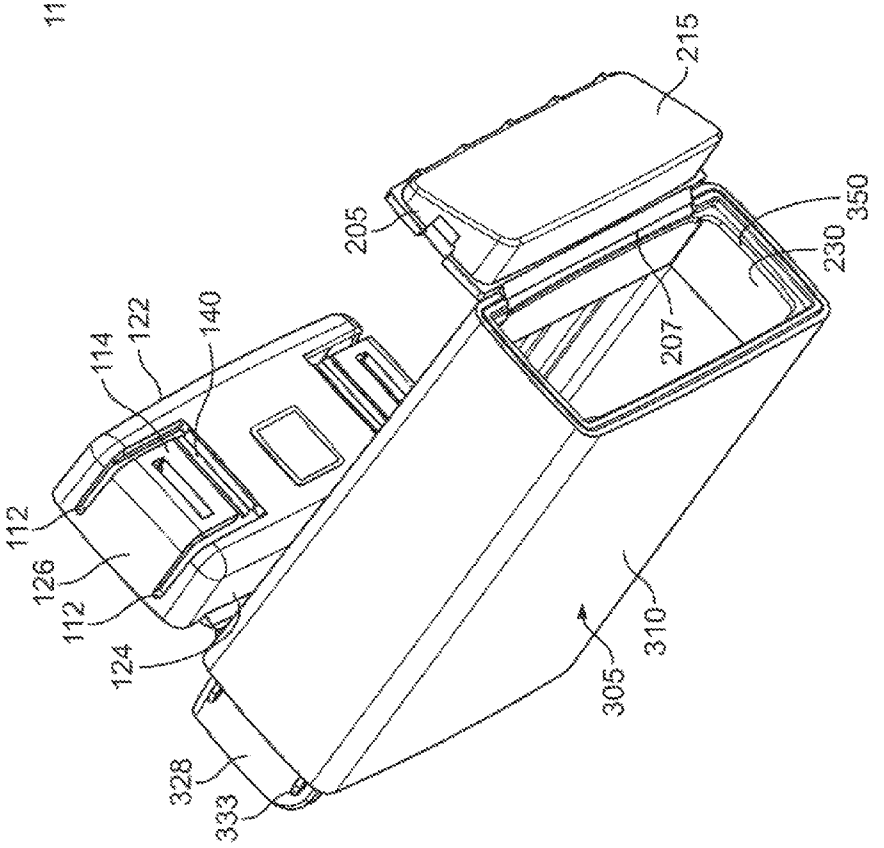
215
205
350
230
207
114
122
140
112
126
112
124
328
333
305
310

FIG. 6

BOX TYPE CONTAINER HOLDER FOR MEDICATION CARDS

CROSS REFERENCE APPLICATIONS

The present invention is a nonprovisional application of U.S. application Ser. No. 61/555,059 filed Nov. 3, 2011, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to various medicine or pill containers.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

There are various pill dispensers available in the marketplace and the need to provide improvements and different types exist as well. There is thus disclosed herein one or more embodiments directed to holding pills and/or pill blister packs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one embodiment of the present invention there is provided a pill blister pack container for holding a pill blister pack. The container includes a central structure having an upper portion and a lower portion, a continuous walled surface extending from the lower portion to the upper portion to form a hollowed interior there between. The interior being configured to hold the blister pack. The container includes both a top and a bottom. The top is secured to the upper portion of the central structure by a hinge member. A closure structure is provided to help secure the top to the upper portion of the central structure in order to maintain the top in a closed portioned. The closure structure includes a pair of skirts depending upwardly from the upper portion and being separately positioned on either side of the walled surface such that one of the pair of skirts is at a distal end with respect to the other skirt. Each skirt has a forward facing surface, a rearward facing surface and a side facing surface connecting the forward and rearward facing surfaces. The closure structure and top include corresponding first locking members formed on the forward facing surfaces and formed on the top cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed position and corresponding second locking members formed on the side facing surfaces and formed on the top further cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed positioned.

The top may also be defined with a top surface having downwardly engaging walls forming a front facing wall, a rear facing wall, and a pair of side walls. As such the first locking members may include a detent on the forward facing surfaces corresponding to a indent on the front facing wall. In addition, the second locking members may include a lateral flange inwardly extending from each of the side facing surfaces, the lateral flanges corresponding to and configured to engage locking tabs extending downwardly from the top surface, each locking tabs includes an outwardly turned lip configured to engage the inwardly extending lateral flange.

In other aspects, the cap may further include a pair of channels positioned along a portion of the top surface and extending down a portion of the side walls. The pair of channels being separately formed on either side of each locking tab, and the locking tabs being connected to the top surface between the pair of channels by a bowed thinned walled section configured to flex when an exterior force is applied inwardly on the locking tabs, such that the lip on the locking tabs disengages the inwardly extending lateral flange. In yet other aspects an intermediate flange may be provided. The intermediate flange may extend downwardly from a inwardly extending lateral flange and being positioned between a terminal free edge of the inwardly extending lateral flange and the side facing surface.

In yet other embodiments, the bottom of the container may be designed to have a plug portion configured to insert within the bottom portion of the hollowed interior of the central structure, and include a base having a ramp structure and an edge hingedly attached to an edge of the plug portion, such that the base may be inserted into the plug portion with the ramp structure being positioned in the hollowed interior of the central structure.

Numerous other advantages and features of the invention will become readily apparent from the following detailed description of the invention and the embodiments thereof, from the claims, and from the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A fuller understanding of the foregoing may be had by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a container for medication blister cards in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **2** is a perspective view of FIG. **1** illustrating an opened top and bottom;

FIG. **3** is a top perspective view of the container from FIG. **1**;

FIG. **4** is a cross section view of the top used in accordance with the container for one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **5** is a cross sectional view of the container from FIG. **1**;

FIG. **6** is a perspective view of the container from the bottom perspective; and

FIG. **7** is a side cross section view of the container from FIG. **1**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

While the invention is susceptible to embodiments in many different forms, there are shown in the drawings and will be described in detail herein the preferred embodiments of the present invention. It should be understood, however, that the present disclosure is to be considered an exemplification of the principles of the invention and is not intended to limit the spirit or scope of the invention of the embodiments illustrated.

Referring now to FIGS. **1** through **7** there is shown in a first embodiment a box type container holder **100** used to hold medication blister cards. The blister cards are well known in the industry and are not shown in the present illustrations, but a simply cards that have pills secured to the cards by blister plastic packaging that permit a user to remove a pill as needed or prescribed. The container holder **100** is designed to aid the user in holder and disbursement of the pills. The container holder **100** may be viewed as having three components that may all be integrally molded or separable and secured or attached to each other to form the holder **100**.

The three components are a top or cap **105**, a bottom **205** and a central structure **305** positioned between the cap **105** and bottom **205**. The central structure **305** has a continuous walled surface **310** extending from a lower edge **312** to an upper edge **314** created a hollowed interior **315** there between, that is configured to hold the medication cards.

Connected to the upper edge **314** of the walled surface **310** is a closure structure **320** that is configured to maintain the cap **105** in a closed position relative the upper edge **314** of the walled surface **310**. The closure structure **320** includes a pair of skirts **322** depending upwardly from the upper edge **314** and on either side of the walled surface **310** such that one of the skirts **322**A is at a distal end with respect to the other skirt **322**B. Each skirt **322** as a forward facing surface **324** and a rearward facing surface **326** that are connected to each other by a side facing surface **328**. The three surfaces are inwardly placed along the upper edge **314** such that a lip **330** is formed between the outside terminus **332** of the walled surface **310** and the three surfaces.

Each of the forward facing surfaces **324** contain a detent **331** that correspond to and are configured to engage a slot **110** on the cap **105**. When the cap **105** is closed, the detent **131** snaps into the slot **110** to help maintain the cap in a closed position. Other similar corresponding engagement structures may be used for example beads may be used that place one bead below the other bead for a frictional fit.

Each of the side facing surfaces **328** includes protruding horizontal flanges **333** that correspond to and are configured to fit within recesses or channels **112** on the cap **105**. In addition, the side facing surfaces **328** include an inwardly extending lateral flange **334** that correspond to and are configured to engage locking members **114** extending from the cap **105**. Extending downwardly between the terminal end **335** of the inwardly extending lateral flange **334** and the side facing surface **328** is an intermediate flange **340**.

The cap **105** is attached to a portion of the upper edge **314** by a hinge **107**. The hinge **107** may be a living hinge or a hinge structure, well known in the industry. The hinge **107** is configured to pivot or move the cap **105** from opened and dosed positions. The cap **105** has a top surface **120** with downwardly engaging forming a front facing wall **122**, a rear facing wall **124**, and a pair of side walls **126**. The front facing wall **122** includes the pair of slots **110** to engage the corresponding detents **330** on the forward facing surfaces **324** closure structure **320**. The rear facing wall **124** includes the edge that is hinged to the upper edge **314** of the walled surface **310**.

Depending from the top surface **120** are the locking members **114**. Each locking member **114** includes an outwardly turned lip **130** configured to engage the inwardly extending lateral flange **334**. The locking members **114** are rigidly constructed such that when the cap **105** is closed the container **100** maintains a closed configuration unless opened. The lip **130** on the locking member **114** is positioned against the inwardly extending lateral flange **334** and the intermediate downwardly extending flange **340** to aid in maintaining a closed and sealed interior environment for the medication cards.

The recesses **112** are actually a pair of channels recesses **112** positioned along a portion of the top surface **120** and down the side walls **126**. The recesses in the pair are positioned on either side of the locking members **114**. The locking members **114** are further connected to the top surface **120** by a bowed thinned walled section **140**. To open the cap **105**, the user presses inwardly along the edge of side walls **126** between the recesses **112**. The bowed thinned walled section **140** compresses to allow the locking member **114** and especially the lip **130** to shift or move out of engagement with the inwardly extending lateral flange **334**. Once out of engagement, the cap **105** can open by pulling and disengaging the detents **330** from the slots **110**.

The bottom **205** is attached to a portion of the lower edge **312** by a hinge **207**. The hinge **207** may be a living hinge or a hinge structure, well known in the industry. The bottom **205** includes a base **210** with a ramp structure **215** extending away from the base **210** and positioned to fit within the hollowed interior **315** of the central structure **305**. The ramp structure **215** may be further provided with clips **217** on one or more sides of the structure **215** configured to secure against an edge **350** inwardly extending from the hollowed interior **315**. The ramp structure **215** helps stagger the height of the medication cards when resting thereon.

In another aspect the bottom **205** may further include a plug portion **230** designed to be inserted into and secured within a bottom portion of the hollowed interior **315** of the central structure **305**. The plug portion includes the edge **350** configured to secure the clips and thus the ramp structure within the plug portion.

From the foregoing and as mentioned above, it is observed that numerous variations and modifications may be effected without departing from the spirit and scope of the novel concept of the invention. It is to be understood that no limitation with respect to the embodiments illustrated herein is intended or should be inferred. It is intended to cover, by the appended drawings provided, all such modifications within the scope of the invention.

We claim:

1. A pill blister pack container for holding a pill blister pack, the container comprising:

a central structure having an upper portion and a lower portion, a continuous walled surface extending from the lower portion to the upper portion forming a hollowed interior there between, the interior being configured to hold a blister pack;

a top secured to the upper portion of the central structure by a hinge member, the top having a top surface having walls extending downwardly to form a front facing wall, a rear facing wall, and a pair of side walls;

a bottom secured to the lower portion;

a closure structure secured to the upper portion of the central structure configured to maintain the top in a closed portioned, the closure structure includes a pair of skirts depending upwardly from the upper portion and being separately positioned on either side of the walled surface such that one of the pair of skirts is at a distal end with respect to the other skirt, and wherein each skirt has a forward facing surface, a rearward facing surface and a side facing surface connecting the forward and rearward facing surfaces,

corresponding first locking members formed on the forward facing surfaces and formed on the top cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed position; and

corresponding second locking members formed on the side facing surfaces and formed on the top further cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed positioned, and wherein the second locking members each include a lateral flange inwardly extending from each of the side facing surfaces, the lateral flanges corresponding to and configured to engage locking tabs extending downwardly from the top surface, each locking tabs includes an outwardly turned lip configured to engage the inwardly extending lateral flange, and

wherein the top further includes a pair of top recesses positioned along a portion of the top surface and extending down a portion of the side walls, the pair of recesses being separately formed on either side of each locking tab and the locking tabs being connected to the top surface between the pair of recesses by at least by a thinned walled section configured to flex when an exterior force is applied inwardly on the locking tabs, such that the lip on the locking tabs disengages the inwardly

extending lateral flange when an exterior force is applied causes the top to move from a closed position to an open position.

2. The container of claim **1**, wherein the first locking member includes a detent on the forward facing surfaces corresponding to an indent on the front facing wall.

3. The container of claim **1**, further comprising an intermediate flange extending downwardly from an inwardly extending lateral flange and being positioned between a terminal free edge of the inwardly extending lateral flange and the side facing surface.

4. The container of claim **1**, wherein the bottom includes:

a plug portion configured to insert within the bottom portion of the hollowed interior of the central structure, and

a base having a ramp structure and an edge hingedly attached to an edge of the plug portion, such that the base may be inserted into the plug portion with the ramp structure being positioned in the hollowed interior of the central structure.

5. The container of a claim **1**, wherein the forward, rearward, and side facing surfaces are positioned inwardly along the upper portion to form a lip between an outside terminus of the walled surface and the forward, rearward, and side facing surfaces.

6. A pill blister pack container for holding a pill blister pack, the container comprising:

a central structure having an upper portion and a lower portion, a continuous walled surface extending from the lower portion to the upper portion forming a hollowed interior there between, the interior being configured to hold a blister pack;

a top secured to the upper portion of the central structure by a hinge member, and wherein the top includes a top surface having downwardly engaging walls forming a front facing wall, a rear facing wall, and a pair of side walls;

a bottom secured to the lower portion, the bottom having a ramp structure configured within the hollowed interior;

a closure structure secured to the upper portion of the central structure configured to maintain the top in a closed portioned, the closure structure includes a pair of skirts depending upwardly from the upper portion and being separately positioned on either side of the walled surface such that one of the pair of skirts is at a distal end with respect to the other skirt, and wherein each skirt has a forward facing surface, a rearward facing surface and a side facing surface connecting the forward and rearward facing surfaces, and

corresponding first locking members formed on the forward facing surfaces and formed on the top cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed position; and

corresponding second locking members formed on the side facing surfaces and formed on the top further cooperating to maintain the cap in the closed positioned, wherein the second locking members includes a lateral flange inwardly extending from each of the side facing surfaces, the lateral flanges corresponding to and configured to engage locking tabs extending downwardly from the top surface, each locking tabs includes an outwardly turned lip configured to engage the inwardly extending lateral flange, and wherein the top further includes a pair of recesses positioned along a portion of the top surface and extending down a portion of the side walls and the pair of recesses being separately formed on either side of each locking tab, and the locking tabs being connected to the top surface between the pair of recesses by at least by a bowed thinned walled section configured to flex when an exterior force is applied inwardly on the locking tabs, such that the lip on the locking tabs disengages the inwardly extending lateral flange.

7. The container of claim **6**, wherein the first locking members include a detent on the forward facing surfaces corresponding to an indent on the front facing wall.

8. The container of claim **6** further comprising an intermediate flange extending downwardly from an inwardly extending lateral flange and being positioned between a terminal free edge of the inwardly extending lateral flange and the side facing surface.

9. The container of claim **6**, wherein the bottom includes:

a plug portion configured to insert within the bottom portion of the hollowed interior of

the central structure, and wherein the ramp structure is positioned on a base that is hingedly attached to an edge of the plug portion, such that the base may be inserted into the plug portion with the ramp structure being positioned in the hollowed interior of the central structure.

* * * * *