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(54) **PORTABLE DRY RECREATIONAL SLIDE**

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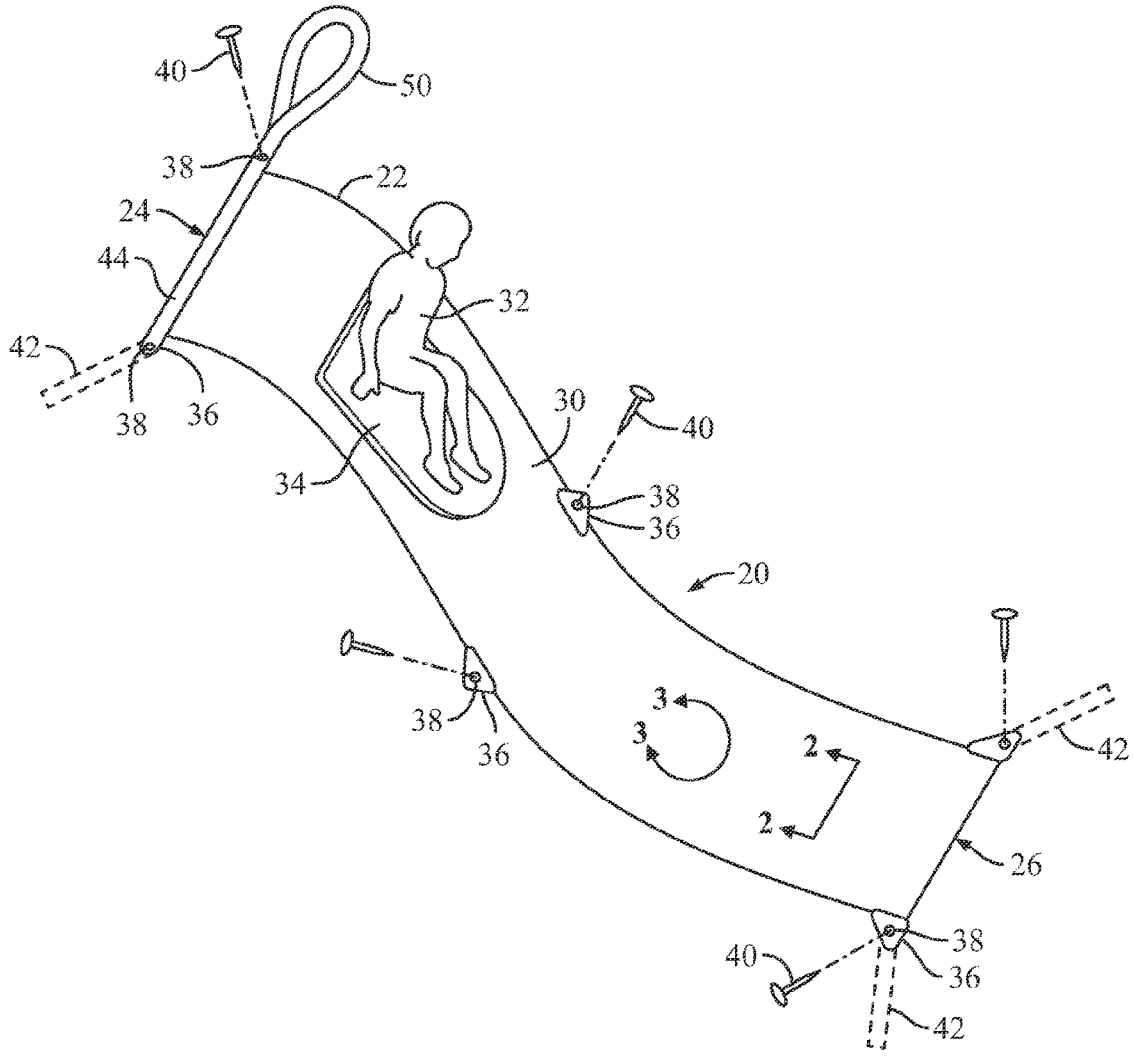
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A portable dry recreational slide is configured to be easily carried by a single person when in a compacted state and expanded into a deployed state in a remote location as desired. The dry recreational slide, when deployed, is elongated and includes a low-friction sliding surface upon which a rider may slide without application of water, oil, soap or any other temporary lubricant. The dry slide comprises a slide body having a lightweight, flexible substrate coated with a low-friction material.



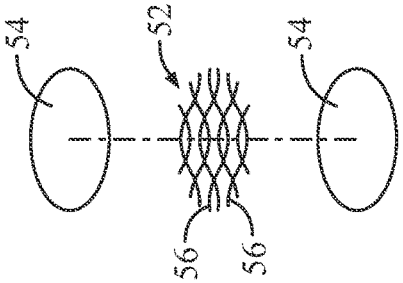



FIG. 3




FIG. 2

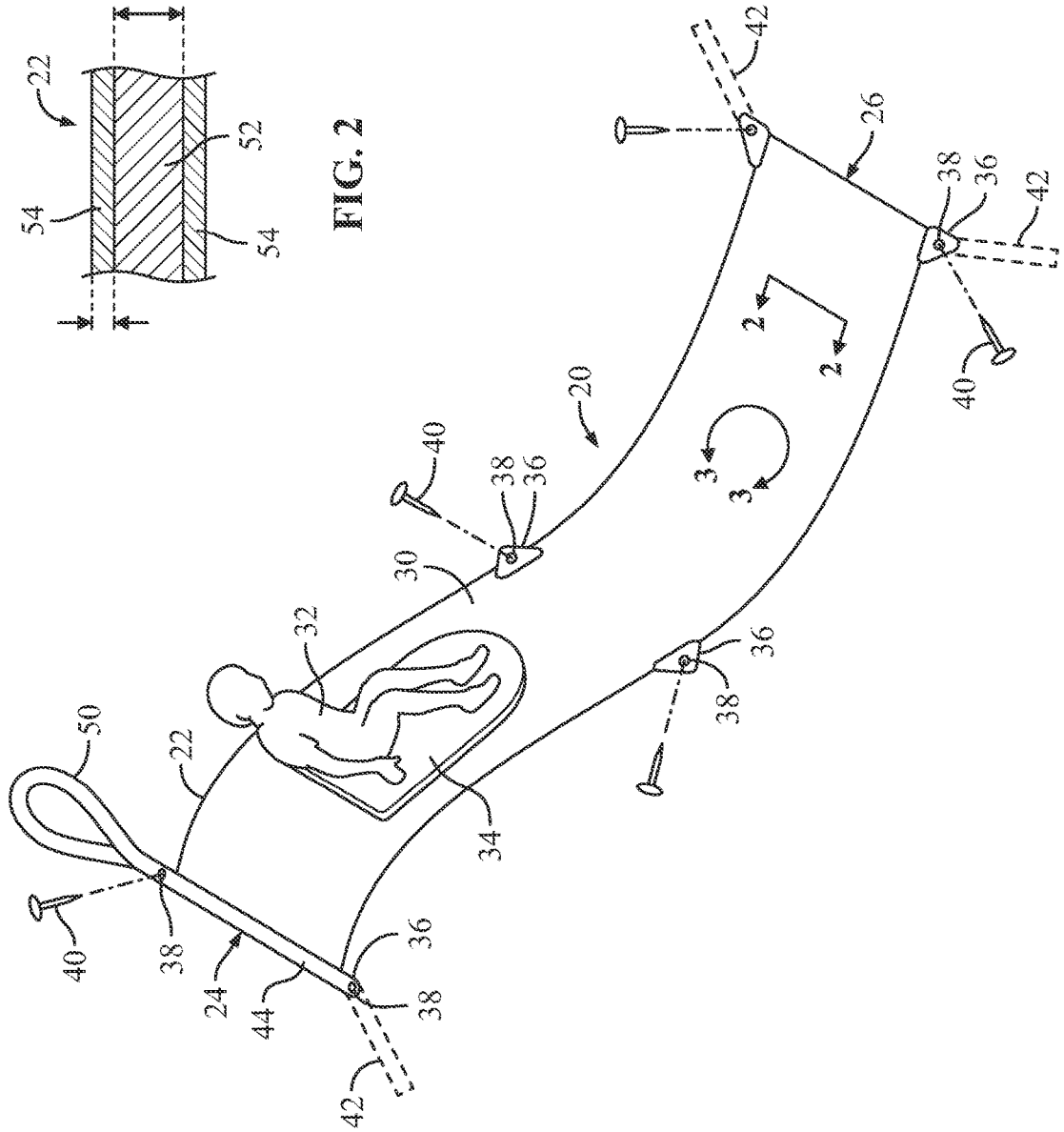



FIG. 1

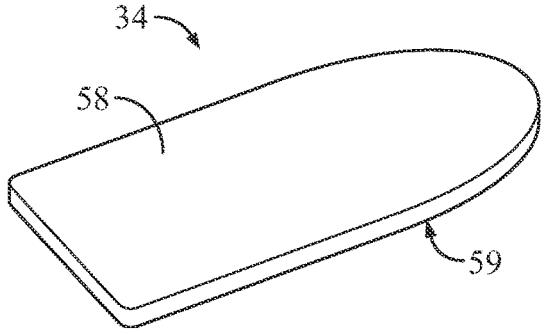



FIG. 4

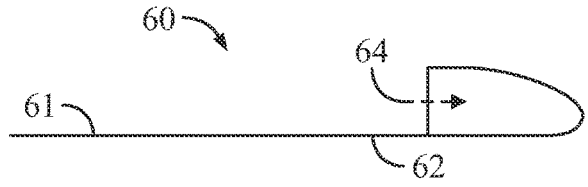



FIG. 5

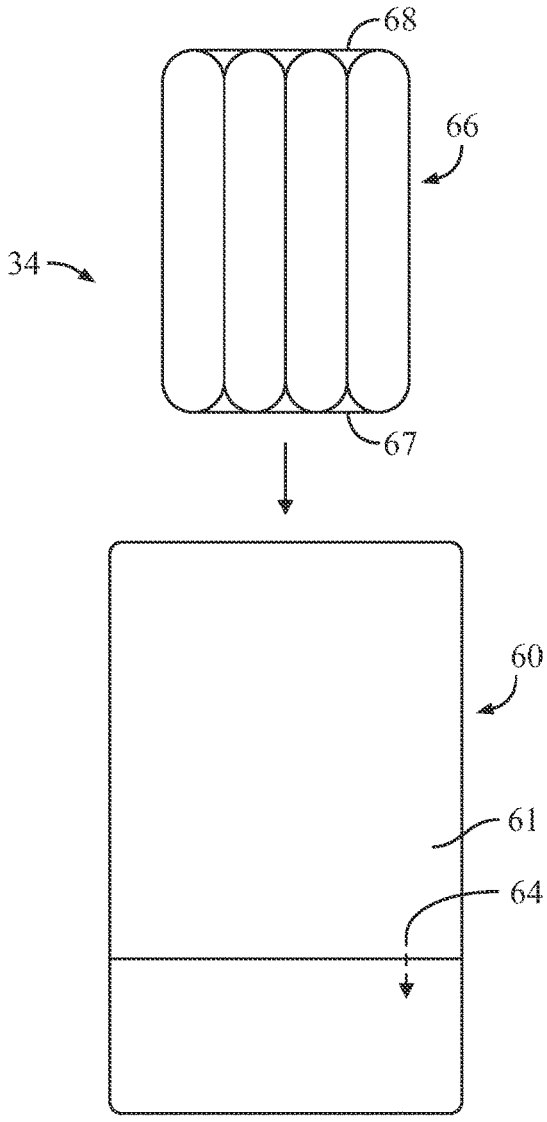



FIG. 6

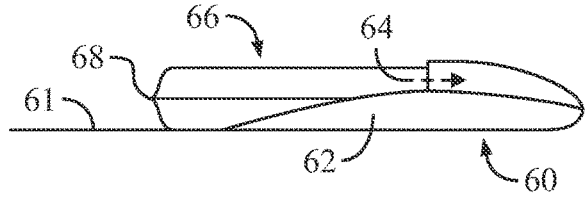



FIG. 7

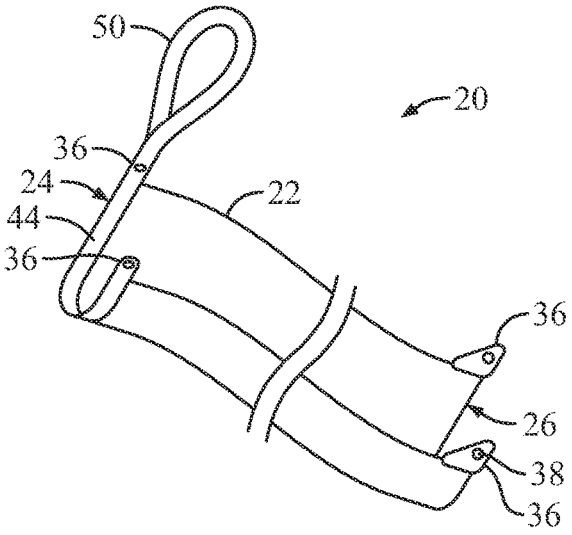



FIG. 8

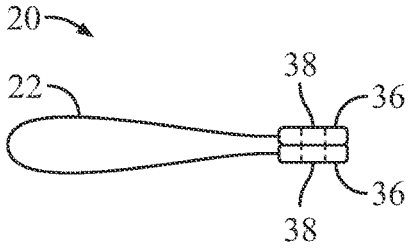



FIG. 9

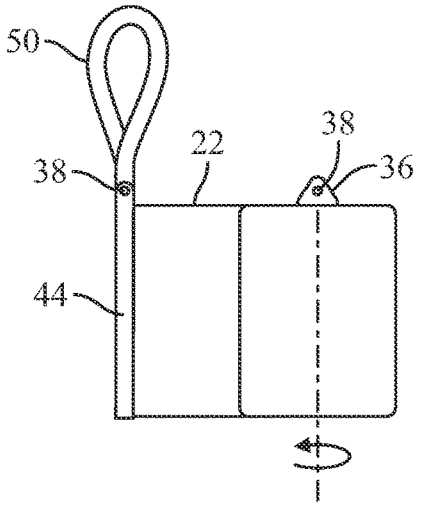



FIG. 10

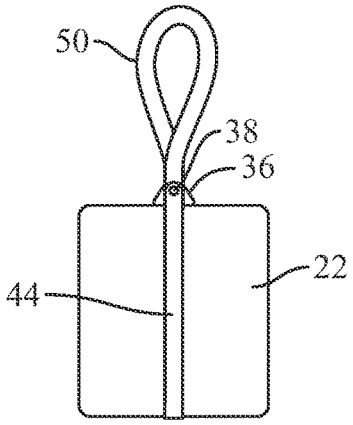



FIG. 11

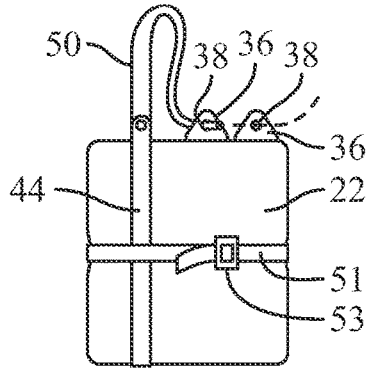



FIG. 12

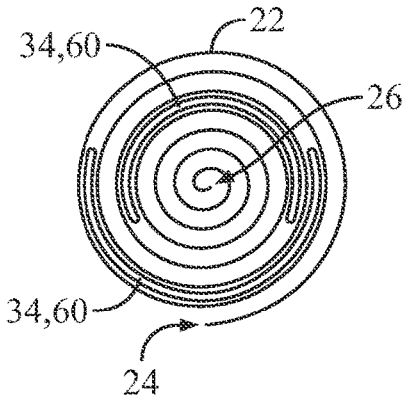



FIG. 13

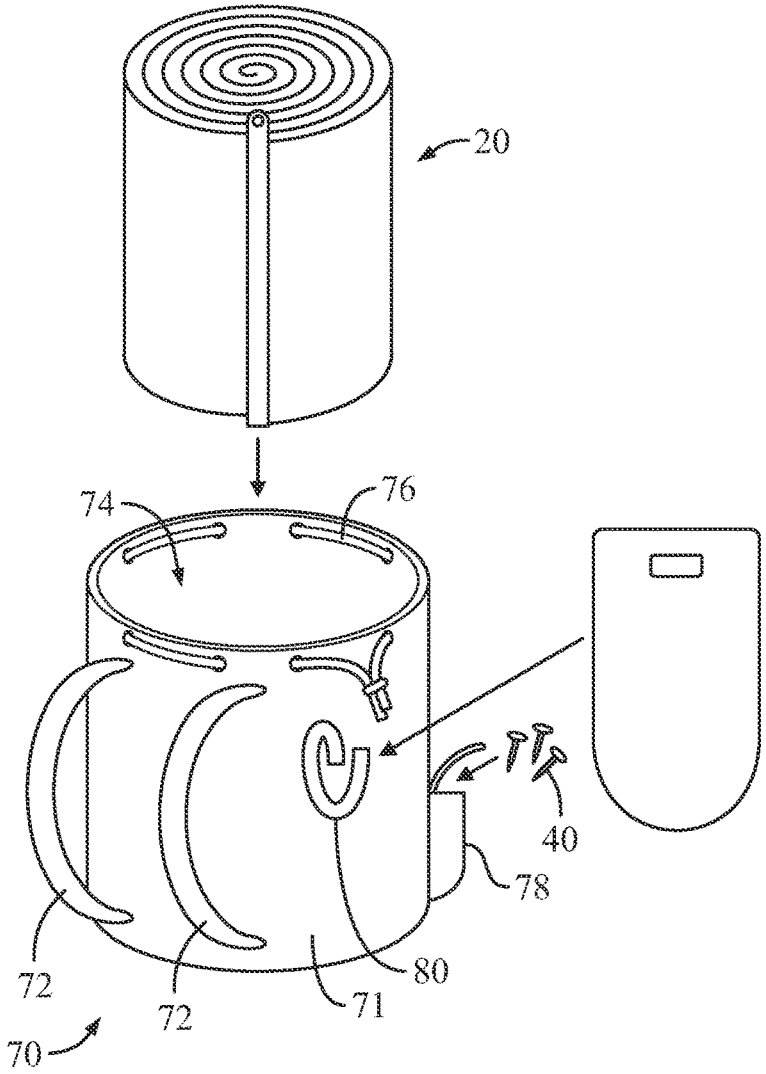



FIG. 14

# PORTABLE DRY RECREATIONAL SLIDE

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

**[0001]** The application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/262,969, which was filed Oct. 24, 2021, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

## BACKGROUND

**[0002]** The present disclosure relates to the field of dry recreational slides, and more particularly to portable dry recreational slides.

**[0003]** Recreational slides are longstanding popular attractions at playgrounds and for backyards. However, such slides typically are expensive, permanent structures that require steeply-sloped inclines in order for a user to slide thereon. Not only are such slide permanent installations, but because of the steep slope requirements it can be prohibitively expensive, and even dangerously high, to provide a slide with 10 or more feet of length. Bounce houses are portable inflatable structures that often incorporate slides. While technically portable, bounce houses typically are very heavy, requiring involvement by multiple adults in order to transport and set up the structure. Further, a source of electricity, when a plug-in outlet or a dedicated generator, is typically required. Like other dry slides, bounce houses also require steeply-sloped surfaces in order for users to readily slide with gravity, and thus must be very large in order to accommodate a slide of more than a few feet. Further, due to their size, bounces houses are only appropriate for placement only on certain types of terrain, such as relatively flat surfaces. Thus, bounce houses have important limitations in portability and location of use. Portable water slides made of elongated plastic sheeting flooded with water have proven popular and effective. However, in order for users to slide sufficiently upon the plastic sheeting, water and/or another medium (such as oils and soaps) must be used. Thus, portable water slides require access to a water source and/or other slide medium source, substantially limiting their portability. Also, user's must be willing to get wet in order to use the water slide, limiting their use to certain seasons and situations.

## SUMMARY

**[0004]** The present disclosure discloses aspects of a portable dry recreational slide that can be readily used in a broad range of locations, can be truly portable, in that some embodiments can be readily carried by a single person or even a child, and provides a sliding experience of ten feet or more without requiring application of water or any other slide medium.

**[0005]** The present disclosure presents aspects and embodiments of a portable dry recreational slide that can be stored and transported in a compacted configuration that is small and lightweight enough to be carried by a single person and even a child. The dry slide is easily converted from the compacted configuration to a deployed configuration in which it defines an elongated slide body that conforms to the shape of the underlying support surface, be it a flat, inclined and/or undulating outdoor grass or dirt surface or a hard or carpeted indoor surface, and includes a low-friction surface that enable riders to slide thereon without addition of added, temporary lubricants such as water, oil, soap or the like. Further, the dry slide can be compacted to a small volume, such as to fit within a 15"×5" volume for a 3'×30' sliding surface.

**[0006]** The slide body is made of a low-friction textile, most preferably a woven textile substrate such as a woven nylon, polyester or polyethylene with a low friction coating such as a silicone coating. The coating defines the sliding surface upon which riders may slide, and preferably has a coefficient of friction of about 0.25 or less. Most preferably the dry slide includes one or more vehicles which participants can use to distribute weight and/or which include low-friction surfaces so as to enhance the sliding experience. Vehicles can include, for example, plastic vehicles that can distribute the weight of a rider sitting or otherwise disposed thereon, and can also include a low-friction surface. Vehicles can also be made of the same or similar material as used to make the slide body. Such a textile vehicle can include a front pouch in which a rider can place their feet or which can receive a front end of a secondary vehicle, such as an inflatable vehicle, so as to take advantage of the weight-distribution and comfort of the secondary vehicle but also provide the low-friction surface of the textile vehicle.

**[0007]** The textile of which the slide body is made preferably is light and flexible so as to be easily reconfigured from the deployed configuration to the compacted configuration. Most preferably the textile is sufficiently light in weight so that it can be compacted, such as by being rolled up, into a size that is easily manageable, and is 10 pounds or less in weight, and even more preferably 5 pounds or less in weight for a dry slide of about 30 feet. Furthermore, in order to enhance portability, carrying straps can be integrated into the dry slide and/or a carrying bag such as a dedicated backpack can be provided so as to maintain the dry slide apparatus, including all or most components, together in one kit for easy storage and transportation.

**[0008]** In accordance with one embodiment the present specification provides a portable dry recreational slide apparatus, comprising a slide body that is changeable from a compacted configuration to a deployed configuration. The slide body is configured so that when it is in the deployed configuration it has a longitudinal axis and is elongated along the longitudinal axis from a start end to a finish end. The slide body comprises a flexible textile substrate comprising a woven fabric and a friction-reducing coating deposited on the textile substrate. The friction-reducing coating has a coefficient of friction less than a coefficient of friction of the textile substrate. A carrying structure is integrally formed with the slide body. The carrying structure is configurated to be accessible when the slide body is in the compacted configuration.

**[0009]** In some such embodiments, the slide body has a thickness less than about 0.2 mm and a density of about 150 g/m^2 or less. In further variations, the slide body comprises a woven textile chosen from the group consisting of nylon, polyester and polyethylene. In still further variations, the friction-reducing coating comprises a silicone compound.

**[0010]** In some embodiments, the slide body has a length of at least 30 feet and a total weight less than 5 lb.

**[0011]** Some embodiments can be combined with a backpack defining a backpack space sized and configured to receive the slide body therewithin when the slide body is in the compacted configuration.

**[0012]** In further embodiments, a sliding surface is defined atop the friction-reducing coating, and the sliding surface

has a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25. In further embodiments the sliding surface can have a dry coefficient of friction of about 0.21 or less.

**[0013]** Additional embodiments can also comprise a flexible woven textile substrate formed separately from the slide body and having a friction-reducing coating deposited on a bottom surface thereof so that the bottom surface has a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25. In some variations, the textile vehicle comprises a front pocket defining a front pocket space. Further variations can additionally comprise an elongated secondary vehicle having a front end configured to fit into the front pocket space of the textile vehicle and to at least partially support a rider thereon.

**[0014]** In yet additional embodiments, the slide body can comprise a plurality of spaced-apart anchor structures, and wherein adjacent ones of the anchor structures are configured to be attachable one to another so as to maintain the slide body in the compacted configuration.

**[0015]** In further embodiments, the slide body comprises a plurality of spaced-apart apertures disposed along an edge of the slide body, and the carrying structure comprises a carrying strap that is configured to fit through the spaced-apart apertures so as to maintain the slide body in the compacted configuration.

**[0016]** In accordance with another embodiment, the present specification discloses a portable dry recreational slide apparatus, comprising a slide body that is changeable from a compacted configuration to a deployed configuration. The slide body is configured so that when it is in the deployed configuration it has a longitudinal axis and is elongated along the longitudinal axis from a start end to a finish end. The slide body has a thickness less than about 0.2 mm and a density of about 150 g/m^2 or less. The slide body further comprises a flexible textile substrate comprising a woven or non-woven fabric chosen from the group consisting of nylon, polyester and polyethylene, and a friction-reducing coating deposited on the textile substrate. The friction-reducing coating comprises a silicone compound and having a dry coefficient of friction less than a coefficient of friction of the textile substrate and less than about 0.25.

**[0017]** In accordance with another embodiment, the present specification provides a method of storing and transporting a portable dry recreational slide apparatus that has an elongated slide body made up of a flexible woven fabric substrate having a low-friction coating deposited thereon. The method comprises folding the slide body about a fold line generally parallel to its longitudinal axis and engaging a plurality of first anchoring structures spaced apart on a first edge of the slide body with a plurality of second anchoring structures spaced apart on a second edge of the slide body. The slide body can be rolled from a distal end to a proximal end. A strap structure integrated with the proximal end of the slide body can be used to secure the slide body in a fully-rolled compacted configuration. The compacted slide body can be supported using a carry portion of the strap structure.

**[0018]** In another variation, the slide body defines a sliding surface having a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25. In a further variation the slide body has a weight density between about 90-150 g/m^2.

**[0019]** Yet another variation additionally comprises placing a textile vehicle comprising a flexible woven substrate having a low-friction coating deposited thereon onto the folded slide body and rolling the textile vehicle with the slide body.

**[0020]** A still further variation additionally comprises placing a flexible molded polymer-based vehicle onto the slide body and rolling the molded polymer-based vehicle with the slide body.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**[0021]** FIG. **1** is a perspective view of an embodiment of a dry slide having features as discussed herein;

**[0022]** FIG. **2** is a cross-sectional view taken along lines **2-2** of FIG. **1**;

**[0023]** FIG. **3** is a cutaway view taken along lines **3-3** of FIG. **1** and exploded;

**[0024]** FIG. **4** is a perspective view of one embodiment of a ride vehicle;

**[0025]** FIG. **5** is a side view of an embodiment of a textile vehicle;

**[0026]** FIG. **6** shows the textile vehicle of FIG. **5** in combination with another embodiment of a ride vehicle;

**[0027]** FIG. **7** shows the textile vehicle and ride vehicle of FIG. **6** assembled together;

**[0028]** FIG. **8** shows the dry slide of FIG. **1** being folded about a longitudinal fold line;

**[0029]** FIG. **9** shows the arrangement of FIG. **9** viewed from a distal end;

**[0030]** FIG. **10** shows the arrangement of FIG. **9** partially compacted;

**[0031]** FIG. **11** shows the dry slide of FIG. **8** fully compacted;

**[0032]** FIG. **12** shows another embodiment of a dry slide as in FIG. **8** fully compacted;

**[0033]** FIG. **13** is a top view of an embodiment of a dry slide rolled up with ride vehicles rolled up with the dry slide; and

**[0034]** FIG. **14** is a perspective view of a dry slide system comprising a backpack for receiving and storing a compacted dry slide and simultaneously holding other components for use with the dry slide.

## DESCRIPTION

**[0035]** The present disclosure presents aspects and embodiments of a portable dry recreational slide that can be stored and transported in a compacted configuration that is small and lightweight enough to be carried by a single person or even a child. The dry slide is easily converted from the compacted configuration to a deployed configuration in which it defines an elongated slide body that conforms to the shape of the underlying support surface, be it a flat, inclined and/or undulating outdoor grass surface or a hard or carpeted indoor surface.

**[0036]** The slide body is made of a low-friction textile, most preferably a textile substrate such as a woven nylon, woven polyester or non-woven polyethylene with a low friction coating such as a silicone coating. The coating defines the sliding surface upon which riders may slide, and preferably has a coefficient of friction of about 0.25 or less. Most preferably the dry slide includes one or more vehicles which participants can use to distribute weight and/or which include low-friction surfaces so as to enhance the sliding experience. Vehicles can include, for example, plastic vehicles that can distribute the weight of a rider sitting or

otherwise disposed thereon, and can also include a low-friction surface. Vehicles can also be made of the same or similar material as used to make the slide body. Such a textile vehicle can include a front pouch in which a rider can place their feet or which can receive a front end of a secondary vehicle, such as an inflatable vehicle, so as to take advantage of the weight-distribution and comfort of the secondary vehicle but also provide the low-friction surface of the textile vehicle.

**[0037]** The textile of which the slide body is made preferably is light and flexible so as to be easily reconfigured from the deployed configuration to the compacted configuration. Most preferably the textile is sufficiently light in weight so that it can be compacted, such as by being rolled up, into a size that is easily manageable, and is 10 pounds or less in weight. Furthermore, in order to enhance portability, carrying straps can be integrated into the dry slide and/or a carrying bag such as a dedicated backpack can be provided.

**[0038]** With initial reference to FIG. **1**, an embodiment of a dry slide **20** is depicted in a deployed configuration on an undulating hill. The dry slide **20** comprises an elongated slide body **22** that extends from a start, or proximal, end **24** to an exit, or distal, end **26**. The slide body **22** defines a sliding surface **30** upon which a rider **32** can slide. Preferably, the sliding surface **30** is about 2-6 feet wide, more preferably about 3-5 feet wide, and has a length of 10 to 30 feet or longer. Of course, it is to be understood that any number of configurations, such as multiple side-by-side tracks defined on the sliding surface **30** to enable racing, can be used.

**[0039]** As shown in FIG. **1**, the rider **32** can ride upon a vehicle **34**. A plurality of anchoring structures **36** can be provided at or adjacent the proximal end **24**, distal end **26** and/or midway along the length of the slide body **22**. The anchoring structures **36** can comprise a durable material such as a canvas or the like, and can include grommets **38** defining an aperture or similar structure. Further anchoring structures, such as flat-top stakes **40**, elongated straps **42**, or the like, can be attached at the grommets **38** to maintain the position of the dry slide **20** as desired. In the illustrated embodiment, the anchoring structures **36** extend outwardly in a direction away from the longitudinal axis of the slide body **22**, further than does an edge of the sliding surface **30**. As such, anchoring structures are anticipated to not interfere with riders on the sliding surface **30**. Of course, in additional embodiments anchoring structures can be inwardly of outer side edges of the sliding surface **30**.

**[0040]** In the illustrated embodiment, the dry slide **20** is deployed in an outdoors configuration, such as on a grassy hill, and stakes **40** help secure the dry slide **20** in place. In other situations, the dry slide **20** may be deployed indoors such as on a carpet or hard floor, in which deployment of stakes **40** is not an option. In such a situation, elongated straps **42** can be extended through the grommets **38** and can attach to furnishings or other structure so as to help hold the dry slide **20** in place. It is to be understood also that the dry slide **20** can be used without any anchoring structure.

**[0041]** Continuing with reference to FIG. **1**, a proximal reinforcement **44** can be provided along the proximal end **24** of the slide body **22** and can comprise and support the anchoring structures **36**. The proximal reinforcement **44** can help provide and maintain sturdy support to maintain the slide body **22** in a desired position during use. In the illustrated embodiment, a carrying strap **50** is attached or integrated into the proximal reinforcement **44**. The illustrated carrying strap **50** comprises a loop large enough to fit over a user's shoulder to facilitate carrying of the dry slide **20** when in a compacted configuration, as will be discussed in more detail below.

**[0042]** With reference next to FIGS. **2** and **3**, the slide body **22** can be formed of multiple layers. In the illustrated embodiment, a substrate layer **52** is a thin polymer-based layer that is flexible, durable and resistant to tearing. A low-friction coating **54** preferably is applied to the substrate layer **52**, and defines the sliding surface **30**. Preferably, the low-friction coating **54** has a static coefficient of friction less than about 0.30, more preferably less than about 0.25, and even more preferably about 0.21 or less. In the illustrated embodiment, a coating **54** is applied to both the top and bottom surfaces of the substrate **52**. Additional embodiments may coat only the top surface. And still further embodiments may apply a high-friction coating to the bottom surface of the substrate **52**.

**[0043]** In a preferred embodiment, the substrate comprises a textile, such as a woven textile formed of nylon or polyester fully drawn yarn **56** woven in various weaves, such as an oxford weave. The nylon or polyester textile preferably is about 0.1 mm-0.2 mm in thickness, thus providing weight reduction and cost reduction while maintaining toughness, strength and performance. The coating **54** can be applied to the woven textile, such as by an atomized spray, forming a low-friction layer. In a preferred embodiment, the coating **54** comprises a silicone compound solution having a thickness of about 0.009-0.013 mm, and more preferably about 0.011 mm. In additional embodiments, the fully drawn yarns **56** can be coated with a low-friction silicone coating prior to being woven. Another suitable substrate **52** can comprise a non-woven polyethylene blend of about 85% or more medium weight polyethylene (density of at least about 0.935 g/cm^3) and a thickness of about 0.030-0.07 mm, also coated with a silicone. Most preferably, the slide body **22** material has a weight of about 90-150 g/m^2. As such, the total weight of a slide body **22** about 4 feet wide and 30 feet long can be expected to be less than about 2.5-5 lb.

**[0044]** It is to be understood that other materials may be available, or may become available, that may be operative but may have other negative aspects. For example, high-density polyethylene, PTFE (Teflon) and fluorinated polymers may exhibit low friction, but can be unsuitable due to excessive weight and/or high cost.

**[0045]** With reference next to FIG. **4**, one embodiment of a ride vehicle **34** can comprise a molded polymer that is generally flat and comprises an upper surface **58** upon which a rider can sit, kneel, lay or the like. A bottom surface **59** can be coated with a low-friction coating. Even if not so coated, however, the molded polymer preferably is sufficiently stiff and thick to distribute a rider's weight so as to minimize the frictional drag as the rider **32** slides along the sliding surface **30**.

**[0046]** With reference next to FIG. **5**, a textile vehicle **60** can comprise a body **61** formed of a textile that is the same or similar to the slide body **22**. As such, a bottom surface **62** of the textile vehicle **60** comprises a low-friction coating **54**. When a rider uses the textile vehicle **60**, the low-friction bottom surface **62** of the textile vehicle **60** slides over the low-friction slide surface **30**, providing enhanced sliding performance. In the illustrated embodiment, a front portion

of the textile vehicle body **61** is folded backwardly and sewn or otherwise attached to itself so as to form a front pocket **64**. In use, a rider can place feet, hands, or the like within the front pocket **64** during sliding.

**[0047]** With additional reference to FIGS. **6** and **7**, another embodiment of a ride vehicle **34** can comprise an inflatable body **66** having a front end **67** and a back end **68**. In some variations the inflatable body **66** can have a low-friction coating, such as a silicone coating **54**, applied to one or both of its bottom and top surfaces. In other variations, the inflatable body **66** may not have any friction-reducing structure, but the front end **67** can be sized and configured to fit within the front pocket **64** of the textile vehicle **60**. Thus, the inflatable body **66** can take advantage of the low-friction coating **54** of the textile vehicle **60**, providing excellent sliding performance while also providing increased comfort (due to its inflated nature) and weight distribution for the rider. Preferably a length of the inflatable body **66** is less than a length of the textile vehicle body **61** so that the entire inflatable body **66** can take advantage of the low-friction bottom surface **62** of the textile vehicle **60**.

**[0048]** It is to be understood that other types and sizes of ride vehicles can be employed. For example, foam body-boards can be used on their own or in conjunction with a textile vehicle **60**. Additional materials that are not necessarily dedicated for use with the dry-slide **20** can also be used. For example, a user may procure cardboard for use as a ride vehicle, either on its own or in conjunction with a textile vehicle **60**. Some suitable ride vehicles may include boards having bottom surfaces made of high density plastics such as Surlyn® or high density polyethylene, stiff or flexible, can also be used with the dry slide **20**. Further, riders can enhance their sliding experience by wearing low-friction clothing, such as clothing having components or portions made with nylon, spandex, polyester with or without fluorocarbon-based durable water repellent (DWR) or silicone coating. Such clothing can include, for example, shoes, socks, gloves, pants and knee pads.

**[0049]** Multiple dry slides **20** can be combined to form an extra-long dry slide. For example, the proximal end **24** of a second dry slide can be positioned—and preferably anchored—just proximal of the distal end **26** of a first dry slide **20** so that the distal end of the first dry slide **20** overlaps on top of and over the proximal end **24** of the second dry slide. As such, a rider sliding the length of the first dry slide **20** will be deposited onto the second dry slide **20**, enabling continued sliding along the second dry slide. Such an arrangement preferably will cover the proximal reinforcement **44** of the second dry slide underneath the first dry slide so that it will not affect the rider's progress.

**[0050]** With reference next to FIG. **8**, when use of the dry slide **20** is complete, the user can reconfigure it from its deployed configuration (as in FIG. **1**) to a compacted configuration (such as in FIG. **11**). In the illustrated embodiment, breakdown of the dry slide **20** can comprise folding the slide body **22** along its longitudinal axis so that opposing anchoring structure **36** are aligned. As shown in FIG. **9**, in some embodiments the grommets **38** or other portion of the anchoring structures **36** can comprise a fastener, such as a snapping fastener, so that the opposing anchoring structures **36** are held together, such as with an audible "snap". In another variation, an elongated strap **42** can, instead, be advanced through aligned grommets **38** of the anchoring structures **36**. Continuing with reference to FIGS. **10** and **11**, the folded slide body **22** can then be rolled up, starting at the distal end **26** and moving toward the proximal end **24**. During the rolling process, further connection or engagement with other anchoring structures **36** can take place mid way through the rolling/compaction process. Eventually, when rolling is complete, the anchoring structure **36** from the distal end **26** can be linked to the anchoring structure **36** from the proximal end **24**, such as through a "snap"-type fastener. In embodiments in which the anchoring structure **36** extends outwardly from the sliding surface **30**, the distal anchoring structure **36** and other anchoring structures will be accessible for connection to the proximal anchoring structure **36** notwithstanding the slide body **22** being tightly rolled up.

**[0051]** FIG. **12** shows an embodiment in which, after the slide body **22** is rolled up, the carry strap **50** can be advanced through the grommets **38** of the anchoring structures **36**. In this manner, the compacted dry slide **20** is supported by the carrying strap **50**, and thus the carrying strap **50** supports the compacted slide body **22** at multiple locations along its length. Not only is the carrying strap **50** capable of enabling a user to easily carry the dry slide **20**, but since the slide body **22** is supported at multiple locations along its length, it is likely to retain its compacted structure and not partially or fully unwind while being carried. FIG. **12** also show an optional secondary strap **51** that is configured to fit about a circumference of the rolled slide body **22** and can be secured with a secondary strap buckle **53**. Other circumferential securement structures, including structures that can be integrated with the carrying strap **50**, can also be employed as desired.

**[0052]** With reference next to FIG. **13**, in some embodiments, the vehicles **34**, **60** can be rolled up/compacted with the slide body **22** so that the dry slide **20**, including components, can be carried all at once. In embodiments in which a textile vehicle **60** is provided, the textile vehicle body **61** will easily fit within and be rolled up with the rest of the slide body **22**. If an inflatable body **66** is employed, it should first be uninflated. Preferably, the material that from which the inflatable body **66** is made is flexible and easily included into the compacted dry slide **20**. In embodiments in which the vehicle **34** is a molded piece of plastic, preferably the plastic is selected, and a thickness of such plastic is selected, so that the vehicle can be elastically bent in a manner to accommodate compaction, such as being rolled up with the slide body **22**. Otherwise, preferably the vehicle **34** itself comprises an aperture through which the carrying strap **50** can be advanced so that the slide body **22** and vehicles **34** can all be carried together. Additionally, a supplemental bag (not shown) can be supplied for items such as stakes **40**, which bag can also be looped over the carrying strap **50**.

**[0053]** With reference next to FIG. **14**, in another embodiment a backpack **70** can have a backpack body **71** to which a pair of shoulder straps **72** are attached. An opening **74** can be provided to enable access to a storage space defined within the backpack body **71**. A compacted dry slide **20** can be advanced through the opening **74** into the backpack storage space and enclosed therewithin with a closure **76**. A secondary pocket **78** can be provided for components such as stakes **74**, and secondary connector(s) **80**, such as a snap-closing or Velcro-closing strap **80** can be provided to attach to other vehicles **34**. As such, the entire dry slide **20** and related components can be carried/transported/stored together.

**[0054]** In embodiments discussed above, compacting the dry slide **20** to the compacted configuration has involved rolling up the slide from the distal end **26** to the proximal end **24**. It is to be understood that, in additional embodiments, such rolling can take place without first folding the slide body **22** along a longitudinally-extending fold line, or may include multiple such folds. Also, in some variations the slide body **22** can be folded in multiple different directions rather than being rolled. In still further variations, the slide body **22** can be stuffed into a bag such as the backpack **70** without regard to rolling or folding, as with a sleeping bag.

**[0055]** In another embodiment, a slide body **22** can be configured for use with another dry sliding structure such as, for example, a bounce house having a slide. A slide body **22** comprising the materials discussed herein and having the low friction properties which can be selectively attached (such as via straps **42** extending through grommets **38**) and detached from a slide surface of the bounce house, and particularly combined with a textile vehicle **60**, can provide an improved and exciting sliding experience for the rider.

**[0056]** The embodiments discussed above have disclosed structures with substantial specificity. This has provided a good context for disclosing and discussing inventive subject matter. However, it is to be understood that other embodiments may employ different specific structural shapes and interactions.

**[0057]** Although inventive subject matter has been disclosed in the context of certain preferred or illustrated embodiments and examples, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the inventive subject matter extends beyond the specifically disclosed embodiments to other alternative embodiments and/or uses of the invention and obvious modifications and equivalents thereof. In addition, while a number of variations of the disclosed embodiments have been shown and described in detail, other modifications, which are within the scope of the inventive subject matter, will be readily apparent to those of skill in the art based upon this disclosure. It is also contemplated that various combinations or subcombinations of the specific features and aspects of the disclosed embodiments may be made and still fall within the scope of the inventive subject matter. Accordingly, it should be understood that various features and aspects of the disclosed embodiments can be combined with or substituted for one another in order to form varying modes of the disclosed inventive subject matter. Thus, it is intended that the scope of the inventive subject matter herein disclosed should not be limited by the particular disclosed embodiments described above, but should be determined only by a fair reading of the claims that follow.

What is claimed is:

**1**. A portable dry recreational slide apparatus, comprising:

a slide body that is changeable from a compacted configuration to a deployed configuration, the slide body configured so that when it is in the deployed configuration it has a longitudinal axis and is elongated along the longitudinal axis from a start end to a finish end, the slide body comprising:

a flexible textile substrate comprising a woven or non-woven fabric; and

a friction-reducing coating deposited on the textile substrate, the friction-reducing coating having a coefficient of friction less than a coefficient of friction of the textile substrate; and

a carrying structure integrally formed with the slide body;

wherein the carrying structure is configurated to be accessible when the slide body is in the compacted configuration.

**2**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the slide body has a thickness less than about 0.2 mm and a density of about 150 g/m^2 or less.

**3**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **2**, wherein the slide body comprises a woven or non-woven textile chosen from the group consisting of nylon, polyester and polyethylene.

**4**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **3**, wherein the friction-reducing coating comprises a silicone compound.

**5**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **4**, wherein the slide body has a length of at least 30 feet and a total weight less than 5 lb.

**6**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **5**, in combination with a backpack defining a backpack space sized and configured to receive the slide body therewithin when the slide body is in the compacted configuration.

**7**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **2**, wherein a sliding surface is defined atop the friction-reducing coating, and the sliding surface has a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25.

**8**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **7**, wherein the sliding surface has a dry coefficient of friction of about 0.21 or less.

**9**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **7**, comprising a textile vehicle comprising a flexible woven or non-woven textile substrate having a friction-reducing coating deposited on a bottom surface thereof so that the bottom surface has a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25.

**10**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **9**, wherein the textile vehicle comprises a front pocket defining a front pocket space.

**11**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **10** additionally comprising an elongated secondary vehicle having a front end configured to fit into the front pocket space of the textile vehicle and to at least partially support a rider thereon.

**12**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **7**, wherein the slide body comprises a plurality of spaced-apart anchor structures, and wherein adjacent ones of the anchor structures are configured to be attachable one to another so as to maintain the slide body in the compacted configuration.

**13**. The portable dry recreational slide apparatus of claim **7**, wherein the slide body comprises a plurality of spaced-apart apertures disposed along an edge of the slide body, and wherein the carrying structure comprises a carrying strap that is configured to fit through the spaced-apart apertures so as to maintain the slide body in the compacted configuration.

**14**. A portable dry recreational slide apparatus, comprising:

a slide body that is changeable from a compacted configuration to a deployed configuration, the slide body configured so that when it is in the deployed configuration it has a longitudinal axis and is elongated along the longitudinal axis from a start end to a finish end, the

slide body having a thickness less than about 0.2 mm and a density of about 150 g/m^2 or less, the slide body comprising:

a flexible textile substrate comprising a woven or non-woven fabric chosen from the group consisting of nylon, polyester and polyethylene; and

a friction-reducing coating deposited on the textile substrate, the friction-reducing coating comprising a silicone compound and having a dry coefficient of friction less than a coefficient of friction of the textile substrate and less than about 0.25.

**15**. A method of storing and transporting a portable dry recreational slide apparatus that has an elongated slide body made up of a flexible woven or non-woven fabric substrate having a low-friction coating deposited thereon, comprising:

folding the slide body about a fold line generally parallel to its longitudinal axis and engaging a plurality of first anchoring structures spaced apart on a first edge of the slide body with a plurality of second anchoring structures spaced apart on a second edge of the slide body;

rolling the slide body from a distal end to a proximal end;

using a strap structure integrated with the proximal end of the slide body to secure the slide body in a fully-rolled compacted configuration; and

supporting the compacted slide body using a carry portion of the strap structure.

**16**. The method of claim **15**, wherein the slide body defines a sliding surface having a dry coefficient of friction less than about 0.25.

**17**. The method of claim **16**, wherein the slide body has a weight density between about 90-150 g/m^2.

**18**. The method of claim **15**, additionally comprising placing a textile vehicle comprising a flexible woven substrate having a low-friction coating deposited thereon onto the folded slide body and rolling the textile vehicle with the slide body.

**19**. The method of claim **19**, additionally comprising placing a flexible molded polymer-based vehicle onto the slide body and rolling the molded polymer-based vehicle with the slide body.

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