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(54) Title: FOOD CONTAINER HAVING SUBSTRATE IMPREGNATED WITH PARTICULATE MATERIAL**(57) Abstract**

A food container (10) having a first user-facing surface (11) and an opposed second surface (12). The food container (10) comprises a substrate (30). The substrate has particulate material juxtaposed with the user facing surface. Furthermore, a cut-resistant external facing (32) may be juxtaposed with and preferably coincident the user facing surface (11). The external facing (32) is disposed on the substrate (30). In this configuration, both the external facing (32) and the substrate (30) comprise particulate material. Optionally, an intermediate facing (40) may be disposed between the external facing (32) and the substrate (30). The intermediate facing (40) may also comprise particulate material (36).

The external facing (32), intermediate facing (40) and/or substrate may comprise binder material. The binder material may be clay or resin. Preferably, the particulate materials (34, 36) have a Mohs hardness of at least 3 and a particle size of at least 5 microns.

