DESCRIPTION

PROTECTIVE PACKAGING FOR SUITCASES

Technical field

The present invention relates to a protective packaging for suitcases whose evident purpose is to provide a means of protection for suitcases, especially designed for use in airports, bus stations, train stations and the like. The object of the invention is to provide a means which, in addition to protecting the suitcase against knocks, scratches and the like, determines a means of evidencing any tampering with the suitcase. The invention aims to provide a new protective means, with which, once implemented, the suitcase can be used conventionally, i.e., leaving its telescopic handle and wheels operational, all with a more ecological and environmentally friendly structure, 100% recyclable.

Background of the invention

As is well known, when travelling on planes, buses and even trains, if the suitcases exceed a certain volume, they must be stored in the cargo hold or in receptacles separate from the passenger, which makes it possible for them to be tampered with, for example to remove belongings contained in them. In an attempt to avoid this problem, there are known packing services in which the suitcase is rolled up a large number of times with a transparent plastic film, so that removing the film is a significant waste of time that tends to discourage any opportunist, as well as highlighting any tampering manoeuvre. The fundamental problem with this system is that it involves the use of a large volume of plastic, with the environmental problem that this entails.

Document EP-A-2174564 discloses a suitcase protector in which a rectangular, horizontally elongated, major section is defined, which, by means of vertical folding lines determine the two larger and smaller sides of the rectangular prismatic container. Recesses are provided at the corners, determining the windows for the wheels of the suitcase to be packaged. Further recesses determine a window for the passage of the telescopic handle of the suitcase.

Document WO2006053921A1 relates to a case comprising: a pair of wheels that are designed to roll along the ground; a storage body which is equipped with a handle that is dimensioned such that it can be gripped by part of the user's hand in the upright position when the suitcase is resting on the ground on the wheels thereof; and an opening through which objects can be inserted into, or removed from, the interior of the storage body. The body and handle are formed by means of folding using a laminar material. The inventive case can be used, for example, at conventions or fairs.

Document US2007204943A1 provides a luggage cover having a first side panel, an opposite second side panel, and a main panel. The second side panel is substantially parallel to the first side panel. Each of the panels is generally laminar. The main panel is generally disposed between the first side panel and the second side panel having a first, a second, a third, and a fourth edge. Specifically, the main panel is dimensioned to cover a plurality of sides of an article of luggage where the first and second edges are generally parallel to one another. The third edge of the main panel also includes an integral securing member and fastener for securing the third edge to the fourth edge. Moreover, the first edge is secured to the majority of the perimeter of the first side panel, and the second edge is secured to the majority of the perimeter of the second side panel. Additionally, a first ligature is provided to secure the first and second side panels together.

Explanation of the invention

The recommended protective packaging for suitcases solves the above-mentioned problem in a fully satisfactory manner, based on a simple but effective solution. More specifically, the packaging of the invention is based on a prismatic cardboard box, with an elongated rectangular

base, in short, of dimensions in accordance with the suitcase to be contained inside, obtained from the development of a die-cut cardboard sheet, in which, from a horizontally elongated rectangular sector, with four vertical folding lines, The four side walls of the box and the closing flange are defined by gluing the box with four vertical folding lines in order to obtain a foldable and easy to assemble tubular body, in which only the bottom and the upper base need to be assembled as described below.

From the lower edges of the side walls emerge four tabs with their corresponding folding lines, with double-sided adhesive tape and cut-outs which, when assembled, provide recesses for the wheels of the suitcase. Once assembled, the lower side cannot be removed due to the adhesive.

Four folding flanges also emerge from the upper edges of the side walls of the case, also equipped with adhesive for gluing them together, and with cut-outs which provide a window for the telescopic handle of the case.

One of these flanges, specifically the one linked to one of the larger sides, will have a longitudinal tear line that allows the user to access the inside of the container by tearing it once the journey has been completed.

Finally, it only remains to be noted that the smaller side walls of the box may also include tear lines which determine the respective rectangular windows for access to the manual grip handle which some cases have on one of their smaller side walls. The following advantages are derived from this structure: 100% ecological, recyclable and environmentally friendly product, which avoids the use of plastics; easier (and less time-consuming) installation and removal; offers a higher level of protection to the case against knocks and scratches; inviolable system that prevents any type of tampering with it; it offers a large labelable surface, ideal for advertising; and improves the stability of the luggage in the cargo hold, as it is a perfectly prismatic-rectangular body.

Brief description of the drawings

In order to complement the description to be given below and in order to help a better understanding of the characteristics of the invention, in accordance with a preferred example of its practical application, a set of drawings is included as an integral part of this description, in which the following has been shown for illustrative and non-limiting purposes:

Figure 1.- Shows a perspective view of a protective packaging for suitcases made in accordance with the object of the present invention, in an initial phase of deployment for its assembly.
Figure 2.- Shows a side-bottom perspective view of the packaging of the previous figure.
Figure 3.- Shows a perspective view of the packaging with the bottom assembled, and with its upper mouth open.
Figure 4.- Shows, finally, a perspective view of the packaging in closed position.

Preferred embodiment of the invention

In view of the above figures, it can be seen that the packaging of the invention is made from the development of a die-cut sheet of cardboard, in which a rectangular, horizontally elongated, majority sector is defined, which by means of vertical folding lines determines the two larger (1-1') and smaller (2-2') sides of a rectangular prismatic container, The prism is formed by attaching a tab (3) associated laterally to one of the larger sides (1) and fixed to the free smaller side (2), as shown in figure 3, with the particularity that from the lower edges of the larger sides (1-1') emerge larger flanges (4-4') with their corresponding folding lines, the smaller sides (2-2') have smaller flanges (5-5'), all of which are intended to form the bottom by gluing them together with double-sided adhesive tape, not shown in the figures, which will be supplied attached to one of these flanges, the other side of which will be protected with waxed or siliconized paper that will be removed when the box is assembled, the larger flanges (4-4') have rectangular recesses (6) that affect both their inner and outer corners, while the smaller flanges have rectangular recesses (7) that only affect their inner corners, so that when the bottom is assembled, both recesses create windows for the wheels of the suitcase to be packed.

As for the upper mouth of the packaging, in correspondence with the upper edges of the walls or larger side faces (1-1') there is a front tab (10) and a rear tab (9), the former with a "U" cut-out (13) on its free upper edge, while the latter incorporates a rectangular cut-out (14) in

correspondence with the hinged area of the said flanges, and which partially affects the upper end of said larger side face (1'), while from the smaller side faces (2-2') emerge two smaller tabs (11-11') which include an "L" shaped recess (12) on their rear and upper edge, so that these recesses coincide in the closure of the upper mouth of the container, forming a single common window through which the telescopic handle of the suitcase can be extracted.

For this closure, once the suitcase has been inserted into the suitcase in the correct orientation, the smaller tabs (11-11') are folded, then the front tab (10), and finally, after removing the corresponding sheet of paraffin paper laid on one or more double-sided adhesives fixed to the inside face of the rear tab (9), this tab is fixed immovably on the front tab (10).

The rear tab (9), the only one visible once the container is closed, shall have a longitudinal tear line (15) that allows the gluing area of the said tab to be separated from the front tab, so that in order to remove the suitcase, the said tear line must be broken, thus showing that it has been tampered with.

Finally, it only remains to point out that the smaller side faces are susceptible of incorporating rectangular climbing lines (16) in their middle area, determining windows for the passage of the corresponding manual grip handle that some suitcases incorporate in one of their side faces.

CLAIMS

1.- A suitcase protector comprising a cardboard packaging, made from the development of a die-cut sheet of cardboard, in which a rectangular, horizontally elongated, major section is defined, which, by means of vertical folding lines determine two larger (1-1') and smaller (2-2') sides of a rectangular prismatic container, a prism being formed by attaching a tongue (3) associated laterally to one of the larger sides (1) and fixed by adhesive to a free smaller side (2), forming a foldable rectangular prism, wherein from a lower edge of the larger (1-1') and smaller (2-2') sides, folding flanges (4, 4', 5, 5') emerge with adhesive fixing means determining a bottom of the container, wherein the folding flanges have recesses provided at corners, determining windows for wheels of a suitcase to be packed, while an upper mouth of the container includes a pair of smaller closing tabs (11-11'), which are complemented by a front tab (10) and a rear tab (9), equipped an adhesive attachment, as well as with recesses that determine a window for the passage of a telescopic handle of the suitcase; and wherein the rear tab (9) includes a longitudinal tear line (15) that allows the gluing area of said rear tab (9) to be separated from the front tab (10).

2.- The suitcase protector according to claim 1, wherein on at least one of smaller side faces of the container and in correspondence with its middle area, there are rectangular climbing lines (16) that determine a window for the passage of a corresponding handle for manual gripping of the suitcase that can be housed inside it.