



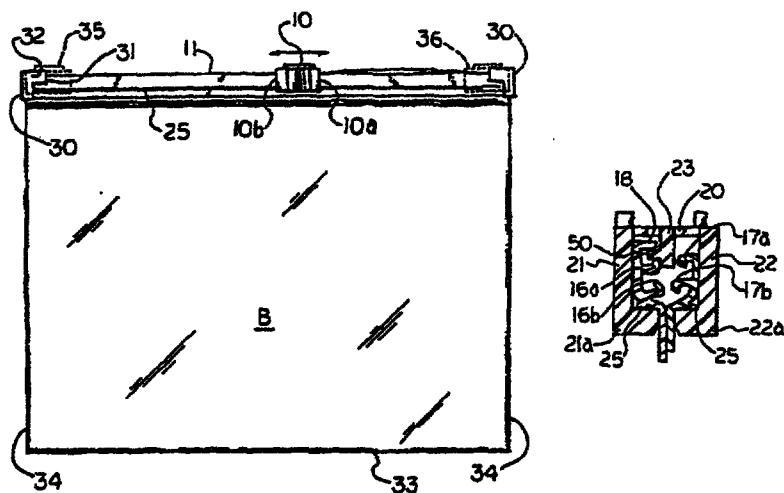
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/11416 (22) International Filing Date: 30 June 1997 (30.06.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/711,643 10 September 1996 (10.09.96) US (71) Applicant: DOWBRANDS INC. [US/US]; 9550 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268 (US). (72) Inventors: PORCHIA, Jose; 3614 Windsor Court, Midland, MI 48640 (US). DAIS, Brian, C.; 368 East Saginaw Road, Sanford, MI 48657 (US). (74) Agent: JOZWIAK, Elisabeth, T.; Patent Dept., P.O. Box 1967, Midland, MI 48641-1967 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU. ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: RECLOSABLE FASTENER ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract

A reclosable fastener assembly having two interlocking profiles with uppermost closure elements and bottommost closure elements and a slider for moving between a closed position and an open position along the profiles in straddling relation. The slider has a top and side walls depending from opposite sides of the top for receiving the profiles therebetween. The side walls extend downward from the top to a point at or below the profiles, and the side walls extend from a separating end of the slider to a pinching end. The side walls have a greater spacing at the separating end than at the pinching end, but close enough at the pinching end to press the first and second profiles into an interlocked relationship as the slider is moved toward the closed position. The slider has a separating leg depending from the top between the first and second side walls at the separating end of the slider. The separating leg is inserted past at least one of the uppermost closure elements of the profiles, but not between the bottommost closure elements. In a second aspect, the fastener assembly includes means for holding the bottommost closure elements in interlocked relationship when the slider is in the closed position, such that the bottommost closure elements are in interlocked relationship throughout their entire length.