Claims

1. A container for consumer goods, the container formed from at least first and second folded blanks, wherein one of the folded blanks is substantially contained within the other folded blank, the container comprising:

a compartment for receiving consumer goods;

a moveable portion defined by the first folded blank and moveable relative to the second folded blank between a closed position in which consumer goods cannot be removed from the compartment and an open position in which consumer goods can be removed from the compartment; and

a magnetic closure comprising a first magnetic material provided on the moveable portion and a second magnetic material provided on the second folded blank, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials has a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres, and wherein the first and second magnetic materials are arranged to overlap each other when the moveable portion is in the closed position so that the magnetic closure releasably retains the moveable portion in the closed position.

2. A container according to claim 1, wherein the first and second magnetic materials comprise the same magnetic material.

3. A container according to claim 1 or 2, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials comprises at least one of barium ferrite, strontium ferrite, cobalt ferrite, and a rare earth cobalt.

4. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein one of the first and second magnetic materials comprises a magnetised material and the other comprises a magnetisable material.

5. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein at least one of the first and second magnetic materials is a magnetisable material and wherein only a portion of the magnetisable material is magnetised.

6. A container according to any preceding claim, further comprising at least one ink applied over at least one of the first and second magnetic materials.

7. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein the container is filled with a plurality of smoking articles.

8. A method of forming a container for consumer goods, the method comprising:

providing first and second laminar blanks;

applying a first magnetic material on the first laminar blank, the first magnetic material having a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres;

applying a second magnetic material on the second laminar blank, the second magnetic material having a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres; and

folding the first and second laminar blanks to form first and second folded blanks, wherein one of the folded blanks is substantially contained within the other folded blank, the folded blanks co-operating to form a container comprising a compartment for receiving consumer goods, at least a portion of the first folded blank being moveable relative to the second folded blank between a closed position in which consumer goods cannot be removed from the compartment and an open position in which consumer goods can be removed from the compartment;

wherein the first magnetic material is applied on the moveable portion and wherein the first and second magnetic materials are arranged to overlap each other when the moveable portion is in the closed position so that the first and second magnetic materials form a magnetic closure that releasably retains the moveable portion in the closed position.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the applying steps comprises applying the magnetic material on the laminar blank using gravure printing, offset printing, flexographic printing, lithographic printing, screen printing, slot die coating, roll coating or reverse roll coating, knife-over-roll gravure and reverse direct gravure, wire rod coating, air-knife coating, or slot-orifice coating.

10. A method according to claims 8 or 9, wherein the first and second magnetic materials comprise the same magnetic material.

11. A method according to any of claims 8 to 10, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials comprises at least one of barium ferrite, strontium ferrite, cobalt ferrite, and a rare-earth cobalt.

12. A method according to any of claims 8 to 11, wherein the first and second magnetic materials are magnetisable materials and wherein the first and second magnetisable materials are unmagnetised during the applying steps.

13. A method according to claim 12, further comprising a step of, after the folding step, magnetising at least one of the first and second magnetisable materials to form a permanent magnet.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the magnetising step magnetises only a portion of at least one of the first and second magnetisable materials.

15. A method according to any of claims 8 to 14, further comprising a step of printing at least one ink onto at least one of the first and second magnetic materials after the applying step.

Claims

1. A container for consumer goods, the container formed from at least first and second folded blanks, wherein one of the folded blanks is substantially contained within the other folded blank, the container comprising:

a compartment for receiving consumer goods;

a moveable portion defined by the first folded blank and moveable relative to the second folded blank between a closed position in which consumer goods cannot be removed from the compartment and an open position in which consumer goods can be removed from the compartment; and

a magnetic closure comprising a first magnetic material provided on the moveable portion and a second magnetic material provided on the second folded blank, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials has a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres, and wherein the first and second magnetic materials are arranged to overlap each other when the moveable portion is in the closed position so that the magnetic closure releasably retains the moveable portion in the closed position,

wherein at least one of the first and second magnetic materials is a magnetisable material and wherein only a portion of the magnetisable material is magnetised.

2. A container according to claim 1, wherein the first and second magnetic materials comprise the same magnetic material.

3. A container according to claim 1 or 2, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials comprises at least one of barium ferrite, strontium ferrite, cobalt ferrite, and a rare earth cobalt.

4. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein one of the first and second magnetic materials comprises a magnetised material and the other comprises a magnetisable material.

5. A container according to any preceding claim, further comprising at least one ink applied over at least one of the first and second magnetic materials.

6. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein the container is filled with a plurality of smoking articles.

7. A method of forming a container for consumer goods, the method comprising:

providing first and second laminar blanks;

applying a first magnetic material on the first laminar blank, the first magnetic material having a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres;

applying a second magnetic material on the second laminar blank, the second magnetic material having a thickness of between about 0.1 millimetres and about 0.4 millimetres; and

folding the first and second laminar blanks to form first and second folded blanks, wherein one of the folded blanks is substantially contained within the other folded blank, the folded blanks co-operating to form a container comprising a compartment for receiving consumer goods, at least a portion of the first folded blank being moveable relative to the second folded blank between a closed position in which consumer goods cannot be removed from the compartment and an open position in which consumer goods can be removed from the compartment;

wherein the first magnetic material is applied on the moveable portion and wherein the first and second magnetic materials are arranged to overlap each other when the moveable portion is in the closed position so that the first and second magnetic materials form a magnetic closure that releasably retains the moveable portion in the closed position,

wherein the first and second magnetic materials are magnetisable materials and wherein the first and second magnetisable materials are unmagnetised during the applying steps.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the applying steps comprises applying the magnetic material on the laminar blank using gravure printing, offset printing, flexographic printing, lithographic printing, screen printing, slot die coating, roll coating or reverse roll coating, knife-over-roll gravure and reverse direct gravure, wire rod coating, air-knife coating, or slot-orifice coating.

9. A method according to claims 7 or 8, wherein the first and second magnetic materials comprise the same magnetic material.

10. A method according to any of claims 7 to 9, wherein each of the first and second magnetic materials comprises at least one of barium ferrite, strontium ferrite, cobalt ferrite, and a rare earth cobalt.

11. A method according to claim 7, further comprising a step of, after the folding step, magnetising at least one of the first and second magnetisable materials to form a permanent magnet.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein the magnetising step magnetises only a portion of at least one of the first and second magnetisable materials.

13. A method according to any of claims 7 to 12, further comprising a step of printing at least one ink onto at least one of the first and second magnetic materials after the applying step.