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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/03916 (22) International Filing Date: 27 February 1998 (27.02.98) (30) Priority Data: 9704235.2 28 February 1997 (28.02.97) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE MEAD CORPORATION [US/US]; Courthouse Plaza, Northeast, Dayton, OH 45463 (US). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): LE BRAS, Philippe [FR/FR]; 13, rue de la Bievre, F-36000 Chateauroux (FR). (74) Agents: BOSHINSKI, Thomas, A. et al.; The Mead Corporation, 4850D North Church Lane, Smyrna, GA 30080 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, BY, CA, CN, CZ, EE, HU, ID, IL, JP, KE, KR, LT, LV, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SG, SK, TR, US, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.
(54) Title: PANEL INTERLOCKING MEANS FOR CARTONS (57) Abstract Panel interlocking means for securing together a first and a second panel (10, 12) in overlapping relationship, said first panel comprising a locking tab (14) struck from said first panel, the locking tab having a neck portion (20) hinged at a base thereof to said first panel and a shoulder portion (22) contiguous therewith, said second panel including a retaining tab (30) defining a locking aperture struck from said second panel and wherein the retaining tab is displaced out of the plane of said second panel to receive said locking tab through the locking aperture and abuts a portion of said locking tab projecting beyond said shoulder portion and wherein a locking edge (25) of the locking tab is provided at each of the opposed side edges of the locking tab at the shoulder portions to interengage with panel portions of said second panel located adjacent complementary curved edges (43, 45) of said locking aperture to maintain said first panel and said second panel in a locked overlapped relationship.		