

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 March 2006 (23.03.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/031755 A2

(51) International Patent Classification:

B65B 63/02 (2006.01) **B65D 85/00** (2006.01)

B65B 13/20 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2005/032459

(22) International Filing Date:

12 September 2005 (12.09.2005)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/609,293 13 September 2004 (13.09.2004) US

60/616,171 5 October 2004 (05.10.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MEAD-WESTVACO CORPORATION** [US/US]; One High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **CARRIGAN, David, J.** [US/US]; 87 Root Road, Somers, CT 06071 (US). **MISIASZEK, Witold** [US/US]; 14 A Street, Post Office Box 393, West Warren, MA 01092 (US).

(74) Agent: **LEVY, Mark, P.**; Thompson Hine LLP, 2000 Courthouse Plaza NE, 10 West Second Street, Dayton, OH 45402-1758 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

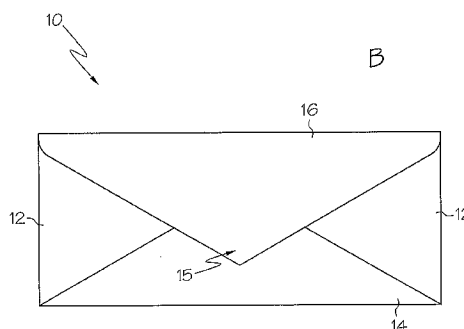
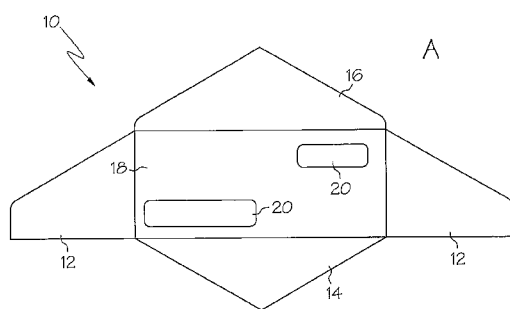
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: BANDED ENVELOPES AND METHOD FOR ASSEMBLING A PACKAGE OF BANDED ENVELOPES



(57) Abstract: A method for processing envelopes including the steps of providing a plurality of generally aligned envelopes and compressing the plurality of envelopes together. The method further includes the step of placing a band around the compressed envelopes such that the band retains the plurality of envelopes in a state of compression.