Claims

1.

A package for multi-instance photosensitive authentication, comprising:

a container;

a photochromic material non-removably carried by the container and irreversibly changeable upon exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light; and

a UV protector carried over the photochromic material to protect the photochromic material from premature exposure to the UV light, and having multiple portions that are removable to expose multiple portions of the photochromic material to UV light and are irreplaceable once removed,

wherein multi-instance photosensitive authentication of the package is facilitated.

2.

The package set forth in claim 1, wherein the multiple portions of the UV protector include preweakenings to facilitate tearing of the multiple portions.

3.

The package set forth in claim 1, wherein the package further comprises a UV blocking beverage carried inside the container, such that removal of the beverage exposes at least one of the multiple portions of the photochromic material to UV light.

4.

The package set forth in claim 1, further comprising a latent image indicative of authenticity carried by the photochromic material to provide a visible indication to a purchaser that the package is authentic.

5.

The package set forth in claim 1, further comprising an identification (ID) code non-removably carried by the container.

6.

The package set forth in claim 5, wherein the ID code includes a latent image carried by the photochromic material, wherein the UV protector includes a main portion that covers the ID code and that is liftable away from the container and replaceable thereto.

7.

The package set forth in claim 5, wherein the ID code includes a permanent marking via laser engraving in a portion of the photochromic material, and a UV protective coating is applied over a portion of the photochromic material coded with the ID code.

8.

The package set forth in claim 5, wherein the ID code is machine readable by a code analyzer having a code reader.

9.

A method of authenticating the package set forth in claim 8, wherein the code analyzer recognizes the code, and reports verification of authenticity to a user in response to a cross-reference of the code with a database of authentic codes.

10.

The package set forth in claim 5, further comprising a second ID code that is carried by the container and that corresponds to the ID code.

11.

A method of authenticating the package set forth in claim 10, wherein the codes are readable by a code analyzer having a code reader, and wherein the code analyzer recognizes the codes, and reports verification of authenticity to a user in response to a cross-reference of the codes with a database to establish that the codes belong together on the same package.

12.

The package set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a UV light source carried by the container;

a power source carried by the container to power the UV light source; and

an activator carried by the container to activate the UV light source to expose the photochromic material.

13.

A method of authenticating the package set forth in claim 5, comprising receiving the ID code from a user, cross-referencing the ID code with a database of authentic codes, and transmitting an indication of authenticity to the user.

14.

The method set forth in claim 13, further comprising removing a portion of the UV protector to expose a corresponding portion of the photochromic material.

15.

A package produced by the method set forth in claim 14.

16.

A package for multi-instance photosensitive authentication, comprising:

a glass container;

a photochromic material non-removably carried by the glass container and irreversibly activated upon exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light;

a UV protector carried over the photochromic material to protect the photochromic material from premature exposure to the UV light, and having multiple portions that are removable to expose multiple portions of the photochromic material to UV light and irreplaceable once removed, wherein the multiple portions of the UV protector include preweakenings to facilitate tearing of the multiple portions; and

a UV blocking beverage carried inside the container, such that removal of the beverage exposes at least one of the multiple portions of the photochromic material to UV light,

wherein multi-instance photosensitive authentication of the package is facilitated.

17.

The package set forth in claim 16, further comprising a latent image indicative of authenticity carried by the photochromic material to provide a visible indication to a purchaser that the package is authentic.

18.

The package set forth in claim 16, further comprising an identification (ID) code non-removably carried by the glass container.

19.

The package set forth in claim 18, wherein the ID code includes a latent image carried by the photochromic material, wherein the UV protector includes a main portion that covers the ID code and that is liftable away from the container and replaceable thereto.

20.

The package set forth in claim 18, wherein the ID code includes a permanent marking via laser engraving in a portion of the photochromic material, and a UV protective coating is applied over a portion of the photochromic material coded with the ID code.

21.

The package set forth in claim 18, further comprising a second ID code that is carried by the container and that corresponds to the ID code.

22.

The package set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

a UV light source carried by the container;

a power source carried by the container to power the UV light source; and

an activator carried by the container to activate the UV light source to expose the photochromic material.

23.

A package for multi-instance photosensitive authentication, comprising:

a container;

a photochromic material non-removably carried by the container and irreversibly changeable upon exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light;

a UV protector carried over the photochromic material to protect the photochromic material from premature exposure to the UV light, and having multiple portions that are removable to expose multiple portions of the photochromic material to UV light; and

at least one of:

an identification (ID) code non-removably carried by the container, or

a latent image indicative of authenticity carried by the photochromic material to provide a visible indication to a purchaser that the package is authentic.