

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
1 April 2004 (01.04.2004)

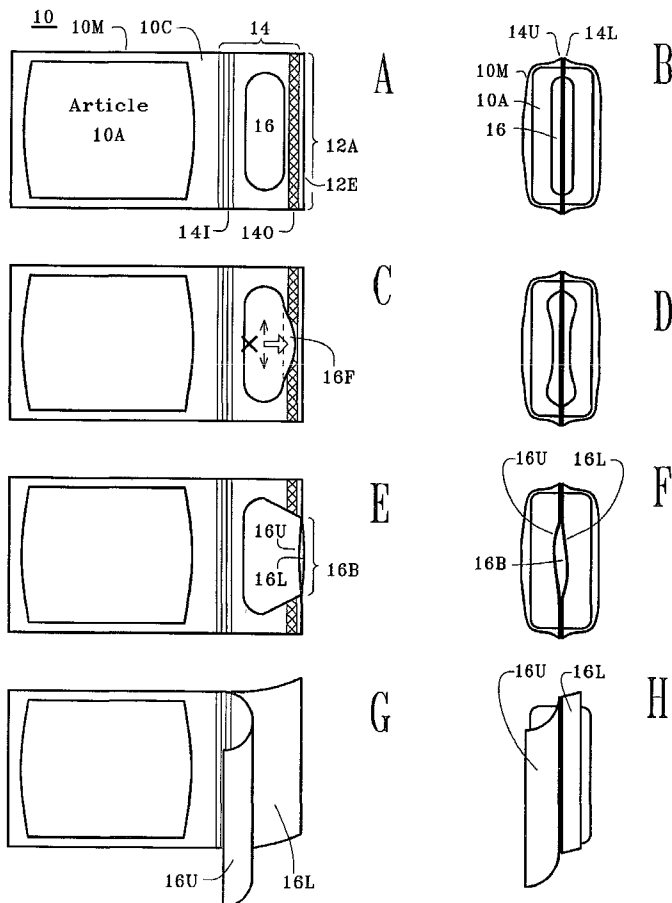
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/026693 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B65D**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/026064
- (22) International Filing Date: 21 August 2003 (21.08.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
10/246,893 19 September 2002 (19.09.2002) US
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: BUBBLE-SEAL APPARATUS FOR EASILY OPENING A SEALED PACKAGE



(57) Abstract: An easily opened storage package (10) has enclosure material (10M) forming storage chamber (10C) within the package containing stored article (10A). Chamber access region (12A) proximate edge (12E) of the package, provides entrance into the chamber and access to the stored article. Band seal (14) formed by upper lamina (14U) and lower lamina (14L) extends along the access region, enclosing breaching bubble (16). The band seal has inner seal portion (14I) between the bubble and the chamber, and outer seal portion (140) between the bubble and edge (12E) of the package. The bubble is expandable to open the package by external pressure applied by a consumer. Opposed pair of peel flaps, upper flap (16U) and lower flap (16L), are formed by the opposed laminae of the outer seal along the edge breach as the bubble breaches. These small initial flaps are grasped by the consumer and manually peeled apart to initiate opening the band seal.

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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