

plurality of inner frame blanks; wherein: the cut lines are spaced along the longitudinal direction of the strip at a longitudinal spacing equal to the longitudinal spacing of the cut-outs, each cut line intersects a respective cut-out in the strip, and each cut line together with its respective intersected cut-out corresponds to an edge of at least one of the plurality of inner frame blanks. Preferably, each cut line comprises a straight transverse section and a curved section, wherein each cut line intersects its respective cut-out in the strip in the curved section of the cut line. Preferably, the edge of the inner frame blank is an edge which is visible to the consumer when the inner frame is mounted within the box. The edge may comprise the upper edge of the inner frame front wall. The edge may comprise a cut-away portion facilitating access to the consumer goods in the container.

~~According to a fourth aspect of the invention, there is~~ also provided a continuous strip of material for forming a plurality blanks for use in packaging for consumer goods, wherein the continuous strip of material comprises a plurality of cut-outs spaced along a longitudinal direction of the strip.

In one embodiment, each of the plurality of cut-outs in the continuous strip of material are the same shape.

The continuous strip of material may further comprise an additional plurality of cut-outs spaced along the longitudinal direction of the strip, the additional plurality of cut-outs being spaced from the plurality of cut-outs along a transverse direction of the continuous strip.

Features described in relation to one aspect of the invention may also be applicable to another aspect of the invention.

The invention will be further described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a first example of a continuous strip of material having a plurality of cut-outs spaced along a longitudinal direction of the strip;

Figure 2 shows a step of cutting a continuous strip of material along a plurality of cut lines;

Figure 3 shows a blank for an inner frame for packaging for smoking articles according to a first embodiment of the invention;

Figure 4 shows a container for smoking articles incorporating the inner frame blank of Figure 3;

Figure 5 shows a second example of a continuous strip of material having a plurality of cut-outs spaced along a longitudinal direction of the strip;

Figure 6 shows a blank for an inner frame for packaging for smoking articles according to a second embodiment of the invention; and

the strip, the additional plurality of cut-outs being spaced from the plurality of cut-outs along a transverse direction of the continuous strip.

8. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the longitudinal spacing of the plurality of cut lines is the same as the longitudinal spacing of the plurality of cut-outs.

9. A method according to any preceding claim, further comprising the step of using the plurality of blanks in packaging for consumer goods.

10. A blank formed according to the method of any preceding claim.

11. A container for consumer goods, the container comprising an inner frame formed from a blank formed according to the method of any of claims 1 to 9.

~~12. A continuous strip of material for forming a plurality blanks for use in packaging for consumer goods, wherein the continuous strip of material comprises a plurality of cut-outs spaced along a longitudinal direction of the strip.~~

~~13. A continuous strip of material according to claim 11, wherein each of the plurality of cut-outs in the continuous strip of material are the same shape.~~

~~14. A continuous strip of material according to claim 12 or claim 13, further comprising an additional plurality of cut-outs spaced along the longitudinal direction of the strip, the additional plurality of cut-outs being spaced from the plurality of cut-outs along a transverse direction of the continuous strip.~~