

CLAIMS

1. A carton for holding articles, which carton comprises walls formed from a linear series of panels connected one to the next which walls ~~that define an~~
 interior volume for accepting the articles, the carton further comprising first and
 second partition panels for forming a partition to divide that interior volume, from
 which partition extends a handle structure, which handle structure is formed from
 a first handle element provided by a portion of the first partition panel and a
 second handle element hinged to a side edge of the first handle element, the first
 and second partition panels being hinged to one another, a third handle element
 for forming the handle structure being provided by a portion of the second partition
 panel.

2. The carton according to claim 140, wherein the second partition panel is
 folded into coplanar contact with the first partition panel such that the third handle
 element is in coplanar contact with the first handle element.

3. The carton according to claim 02, where the second handle element is one or
 more of: a) folded into coplanar contact with the third handle element thereby to
 sandwich that third handle element between the first and second handle elements;
 or, b) hinged to a connecting tab that connects the second handle element to an
 end wall of the carton.

4. The carton according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the second partition
 panel comprises a hinged tab that extends from a side edge of the second
 partition panel, through an aperture formed in an end connecting panel and is
 secured to an end wall of the carton, wherein said end connecting panel connects
 one end of the first partition panel to a side wall of the carton.

5. A blank for forming a carton, which blank comprises panels in linear series
connected one to the next for forming walls of the carton defining an interior
 volume for accepting articles, the blank further comprising first and second panels
 for forming a partition to

divide that interior volume, from which partition extends a handle structure, which handle structure is formed from first and second handle elements that are hinged to one another along a side edge thereof and extending along one edge of the aforesaid linear series, the first handle element being provided by a portion of the first panel, the second panel being hinged to the first panel and providing a third handle element for forming the handle structure.

6. The blank according to claim 5, wherein the first partition panel is hinged to the second partition panel along a lower edge thereof.

67. The blank according to claim 05, wherein the second panel is foldable into coplanar contact with the first panel such that the third handle element is in coplanar contact with the first handle element.

87. The blank according to claim 05, where the second handle element is one or more of:
a) foldable into coplanar contact with the third panel thereby to sandwich that third handle element between the first and second handle elements; or, b) is hinged to a connecting tab that connects the second handle element to a panel for forming an end wall of the carton.

98. The blank according to any one of claims 05 to 8-7, wherein the blank further comprises first and second bottom panels hinged to an edge of the aforesaid linear series, the first bottom panel being disposed adjacent the third handle element, and wherein the third handle element is substantially half the width of the first handle element such that a distance between adjacent edges of the third handle element and the first bottom panel, is substantially equal to the width of the second bottom panel.

109. The blank according to claim 98, wherein the first and second bottom panels have equal width and are spaced apart by a distance substantially equal to that width to allow first and second bottom panels of an identical blank to nest between the first and second bottom panels of the blank.

1140. The blank according to any one of claims 05 to 10-9, wherein the first panel for forming the partition is hinged to a first panel of the linear series, which first

panel of the linear series connects the first panel for forming the partition to a panel for forming an exterior wall of the carton, the first panel of the linear series comprising an aperture defined therein, whereby a portion of the partition is securable to a portion of an exterior wall of the carton through that aperture when the carton is erected.

1244. The blank according to any one of claims ~~05~~ to ~~11~~ 10, wherein the panels of the blank are sized such that a carton erected from that blank is capable of receiving six bottles each of a first volume, whilst the blank is nestable with other such blanks to allow six such blanks to be cut from a sheet of material measuring 1 meter by 1.4 meters, wherein said first volume is one of:

- a. 330ml; or
- b. 400ml; or
- c. 500ml.

~~12. A sheet of material within which are defined a plurality of blanks for forming cartons, each blank comprising panels in linear series for forming walls of the carton defining an interior volume for accepting articles, the blank further comprising first and second panels for forming a partition to divide that interior volume, from which partition extends a handle structure, which handle structure is provided by a first and a second handle element that are hinged one to the other and extending along one edge of the aforesaid linear series, the first handle element extending from the first panel for forming the partition, the second panel for forming the partition being hinged to the first panel for forming the partition and comprising a third handle element for forming the handle structure, and each blank comprising a first and a second bottom panel hinged to an edge of the aforesaid linear series adjacent the third handle element, and wherein the third handle element is substantially half the width of the first handle element such that a distance between adjacent edges of the third handle element and the first bottom panel, is substantially equal to the width of the second bottom panel, and wherein the first and second bottom panels have equal width and are spaced apart by a distance substantially~~

~~equal to that width to allow first and second bottom panels of an identical blank to nest between the first and second bottom panels of the blank.~~

13. The carton according to any one of claims 1 to 04, wherein the distance between the fold line connecting the first and second partition panels and the opposed edges of those two partition panels is less than or equal to half the total distance between those two opposed edges.

14. A blank for forming a carton for receiving a plurality of articles, said blank comprising:

an elongate medial section having an axis of elongation and including first and second side wall panels and first and second end wall panels connected one to the next in a linear series;

a first exterior section formed alongside said medial section and including a plurality of handle elements for, when said blank is erected into a finished carton, forming a composite handle structure by which said carton is lifted, said plurality of handle elements comprising first and second handle elements, said first handle element being arranged at one end of said first exterior section; and

a second exterior section formed alongside said medial section such that the medial section is disposed between the first and second exterior sections, the second exterior section including first and second bottom panels and a third handle element for, when said blank is erected into a finished carton, forming the composite handle structure in cooperation with the first and second handle elements;

further comprising first and second partition panels for forming a partition for dividing an interior volume of a carton when the blank is erected, wherein the first partition panel is hingedly connected to the medial section along a first fold line disposed generally perpendicular to the axis of elongation and wherein the second partition panel is hingedly connected to the first partition panel along a second fold line substantially parallel to the axis of elongation;

wherein the second handle element is hingedly connected to the first handle element along a third fold line that is disposed generally perpendicular to the axis of elongation..

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- ~~15. The blank according to claim 14, further comprising first and second partition panels for forming a partition for dividing an interior volume of a carton when the blank is erected, wherein the first partition panel is hingedly connected to the medial section along a first fold line disposed generally perpendicular to the axis of elongation and wherein the second partition panel is hingedly~~

~~connected to the first partition panel along a second fold line substantially parallel to the axis of elongation.~~

5 ~~16~~15. The blank according to claim ~~15~~14, wherein the second end wall panel is disposed at one of the opposed ends of the medial section, the medial section further including an end connecting panel that is disposed at the other opposed end of the medial section for, when the blank is erected, being secured to the second end wall panel, the first partition is hingedly connected to the end connecting panel along the first fold line.

10 ~~17~~16. The blank according to claim 14 or 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the first handle element is provided by a portion of the first partition panel and wherein the third handle element is provided by a portion of the second partition panel.

~~18. The blank according to any of claims 15 to 17, wherein the second handle element is hingedly connected to the first handle element along a third fold line that is disposed generally perpendicular to the axis of elongation.~~

15 ~~19~~17. The blank according to claim ~~18~~14, wherein the third fold line is disposed collinear with the first fold line.

20 ~~20~~18. The blank according to claim ~~16~~14, wherein the first and second end wall panels and the first and second side wall panels are arranged in the sequence of the second end wall panel, the second side wall panel, the first end wall panel and the first side wall panel, and wherein the end connecting panel is hingedly connected to the first side wall panel.