

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO CONTAINERS

(71) We, GPG HOLDINGS LIMITED, of Cranford, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to containers and is particularly concerned with means whereby a ticket or label may be displayed on a plastics moulded container in such manner that the ticket or label is adequately protected against adverse weather conditions and damage during handling of the container, can easily be removed or replaced, and yet may be substantially tamper resistant from the outside of the container.

According to the present invention there is provided a container assembly which comprises a plastics moulded container having a recessed part on the outer side of a wall of the container; the area of said recessed part being provided on the outer side of the container with a cover comprising a sheet of transparent plastics material which is substantially complementary in shape to the area of the recess and is received therein and secured to the wall to form a pocket with the wall in said recessed part, and wherein the wall in the recessed part is provided with an elongated aperture or slot through which a ticket or label is intended to be inserted into and removed from, the pocket only from within the container.

Preferably the plastics sheet is secured to the wall so that it can be removed easily only by manipulation from within the container. Such securing is conveniently achieved by providing at the periphery of the plastics sheet a spaced array (by which is meant two or more) of flanges which are so shaped to engage in substantially complementary apertures provided in the

wall of the container within the area of the recessed part (and preferably at the periphery of such area). In this way, if the outer face of the plastics sheet is substantially coplanar with the outer face of the container wall adjacent to its recessed part, the only way in which the plastics sheet can be removed by manipulation from the outside of the container is by prising the sheet from the recess.

Preferably the elongated aperture or slot through which the ticket or label is passed into the pocket is located substantially at or adjacent to the periphery of the recessed part to extend part way along said periphery. Generally the recessed part and plastics sheet will be located on a side wall of the container although they may be located on a lid (which for convenience, is considered as a wall) of the container when such is provided.

One embodiment of the present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying illustrative drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of part of a side wall of a container which is recessed to receive the plastics sheet in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the plastics sheet prior to assembly in the recess of the side wall in Figure 1, and

Figure 3 is a section of the side wall in Figure 1 taken on the line III-III and shows the plastics sheet of Figure 2 assembled therewith.

The container assembly comprises a container which is injection moulded in plastics to have an upstanding side wall 1 and a rectangularly shaped recessed part 2 in the wall 1 on the outer side of the container. Provided in the wall 1 within the recessed part 2 and at the periphery of the recessed part in the upper edge of its area is a locating aperture 3. The aperture 3

opens into a slot 4 which extends within, and across the width of, the recess 2 adjacent to the upper edge of the recess 2. Additional locating apertures 5 are provided in the wall 1 within the recessed part 2 at the periphery of the recessed part and spaced along its side and lower edges.

The recess 2 is intended to receive a cover which comprises a substantially rectangular sheet 6 of transparent or clear plastics material (see Figure 2). The sheet 6 is substantially complementary in shape to the area of recess 2 and is provided with outwardly extending flanges 7 which are located to be complementary to the apertures 3 and 5. The flanges 7 are located on ribs 7a to be slightly spaced from the plane of sheet 6. On assembly of the cover into the recess 2, the plastics sheet 6 is flexed sufficiently to allow the flanges 7 to snap engage with the wall 1 in the respective apertures 3 and 5 as shown in Figure 3. On such engagement of the cover and side wall, the outer face of the sheet 6 is substantially coplanar with the outer face of the side wall 1 which is adjacent to the recess 2 and the inner face of the sheet 6 is spaced (by ribs 7a and slight bowing of the sheet 6) from the outer face of the wall 1 within the recess 2 to form a pocket 8 which is substantially co-extensive with the area of the recess.

The pocket 8 is intended to receive a rectangularly shaped label or ticket 9 which is easily passed into the pocket (and removed therefrom) only from within the container by way of slit 4. To permit ease of access to the pocket 8, particularly for the purpose of withdrawing the label 9, the slit 4 has an enlarged part 4a.

Although the recess and transparent plastics sheet will usually be of substantially rectangular shape (as above described and illustrated), it will be apparent that such shape is by no means essential and they can, for example, be of circular, elliptical, or polygonal shape.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A container assembly which comprises a plastics moulded container having a recessed part on the outer side of a wall of the container; the area of said recessed part being provided on the outer side of the container with a cover comprising a sheet

of transparent plastics material which is substantially complementary in shape to the area of the recess and is received therein and secured to the wall to form a pocket with the wall in said recessed part, and wherein the wall in the recessed part is provided with an elongated aperture or slot through which a ticket or label is intended to be inserted into, and removed from, the pocket only from within the container.

2. A container assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the plastics sheet is removably secured to the container.

3. A container assembly as claimed in either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the plastics sheet is provided at the periphery thereof with a spaced array of flanges and said sheet is secured to the container by said flanges engaging in apertures (preferably substantially complementary apertures) provided in the wall of the container.

4. A container assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein the apertures are located within the area of the recessed part and at the periphery thereof.

5. A container assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the outer face of the plastics sheet is substantially coplanar with the outer face of the wall adjacent to its recessed part.

6. A container assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the elongated aperture or slot is located substantially at or adjacent to the periphery of the recessed part to extend part way along said periphery.

7. A container assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the recessed part and plastics sheet are located on a side wall or on a lid of the container.

8. A container assembly substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying illustrative drawings.

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6. A container assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the elongated aperture or slot is located substantially at or adjacent to the periphery of the recessed part to extend part way along said periphery.

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