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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS S.A.** [CH/CH]; Quai Jeanrenaud 3, CH-2000 Neuchâtel (CH).

(72) Inventors: **BOURGOIN, Philippe**; Chemin de la Plantaz 9, CH-1033 Cheseaux (CH). **VICKERSTAFF, John**; Rue de l' Evole 5, CH-2000 Neuchâtel (CH).

(74) Agent: **MILLBURN, Julie, Elizabeth**; Reddie & Grose, 16 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PL (GB).

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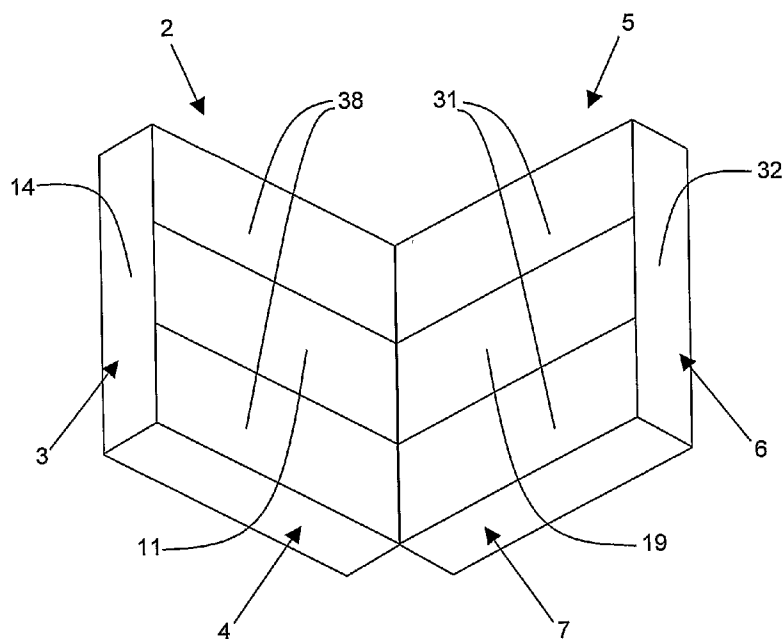


Figure 1a

(57) Abstract: A container for smoking articles comprises at least two packs (2, 5) hingedly connected in a Jacob's ladder arrangement, each for housing a separate bundle of smoking articles. In an initial position, the container comprises: a first pack (2) having a first wall (11, 51) with opposed first and second edges and an integral connector (17, 57) extending across the first wall (11, 51) and a second pack (5) having a first wall (31, 71) with opposed first and second edges and an integral connector (37, 77) extending across the first wall (31, 71). The integral connector (17, 57) of the first pack (2) comprises a first section (18, 58) hinged about the first edge of the first wall (11, 51) of the first pack (2) and a second section (19, 59) hinged about the second edge of the first wall (11, 51) of the first pack (2). The integral connector (37, 77) of the second pack (5) comprises a first section (38, 78) hinged about the second edge of the first wall (31, 71) of the second pack (5) and a second section (39, 79) hinged about the

first edge of the first wall (31, 71) of the second pack (5). The first section (18, 58) of the integral connector (17, 57) of the first pack (2) is affixed to the first section (38, 78) of the integral connector (37, 77) of the second pack and the second section (19, 59) of the integral connector (17, 57) of the first pack is affixed to the second section (39, 79) of the integral connector (37, 77) of the second pack so that the first edges of the first walls (11, 51, 31, 71) of the first (2) and second (5) packs are adjacent and the second edges of the first walls (11, 51, 31, 71) of the first (2) and second (5) packs are adjacent.

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