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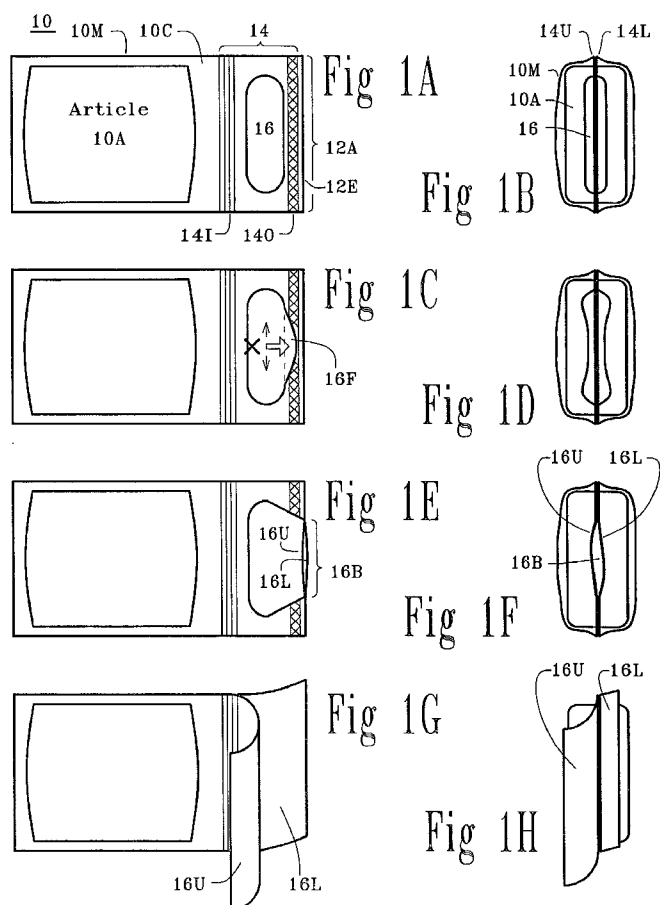
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(54) Title: BUBBLE-SEAL APPARATUS FOR EASILY OPENING A SEALED PACKAGE



(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 (14O) 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:**

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- *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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