CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A seal ring comprising:

an outer sidewall comprising:

an exterior outer sidewall surface comprising a substantially arcuate portion for interfacing with a corresponding semi-circular bead of a sidewall of a container in an attached configuration;

a top surface;

an upper portion outer surface substantially perpendicular to the top surface; and

a upper portion bottom surface substantially parallel to the top surface and perpendicular to the outer surface;

a generally hook-shaped aperture comprising:

an aperture surface substantially parallel to the upper portion outer surface and intersecting with the upper portion bottom surface; and

an undercut surface substantially perpendicular to the aperture surface, wherein the undercut surface is configured to interface with a corresponding surface on the container in the attached configuration;

an inner sidewall forming a seal structure for sealing an interior cavity of the container with a lid; and

a floor connecting the inner sidewall and the outer sidewall.

2. The seal ring of claim 1, wherein the substantially arcuate portion of the exterior outer sidewall surface transitions to an exterior floor surface, the exterior floor surface substantially parallel to the upper portion outer surface.

3. The seal ring of claim 2, wherein the generally hook-shaped aperture and the substantially arcuate portion of the exterior outer sidewall surface seals the seal ring with the container in the attached configuration.

~~4. The seal ring of claim 1, wherein the floor slopes downwardly from the inner sidewall to the outer sidewall.~~

~~5. The seal ring of claim 1, wherein the top surface transitions to an interior outer sidewall surface via a vertical wall substantially perpendicular to the top surface.~~

~~6. The seal ring of claim 5, wherein the outer sidewall and the inner sidewall form a generally u-shaped channel for receiving the lid for sealing the interior cavity of the container.~~

~~7. The seal ring of claim 1, wherein the inner sidewall comprises:~~

~~an inner seal surface;~~

~~a substantially flat outer seal surface; and~~

~~a ring bead integrally formed with the inner seal surface and extending from the inner seal surface toward an interior outer sidewall surface for engaging with a corresponding structure on the lid.~~

~~8. The seal ring of claim 7, wherein the ring bead comprises an upper ring bead slope and a lower ring bead slope, the upper ring bead slope and lower ring bead slope culminating in a ring bead peak.~~

~~9. The seal ring of claim 7, wherein the inner seal surface and the substantially flat outer seal surface converge at a seal surface peak.~~

~~10. The seal ring of claim 1, wherein the seal ring is plastic.~~

~~11.~~1. A container comprising~~:~~ a container body comprising a bottom and an external wall extending from the bottom and defining an interior cavity, wherein the external wall~~:~~ comprises~~ing~~ an exterior wall surface~~; and~~ terminating in a container rim area,

(a) wherein the container rim area comprises~~ing~~:

a latch surface extending outwardly from the exterior wall surface; and

a semi-circular bead; and

a seal ring attached to the container rim area and comprising:

an outer sidewall comprising:

an exterior outer sidewall surface comprising a substantially arcuate portion interfacing with the semi-circular bead of the container rim area;

a top surface;

an upper portion outer surface substantially perpendicular to the top surface;

an upper portion bottom surface substantially parallel to the top surface and perpendicular to the upper portion outer surface; and

a generally hook-shaped aperture comprising:

an aperture surface substantially parallel to the upper portion outer surface and intersecting with the upper portion bottom surface; and

an undercut surface substantially perpendicular to the aperture surface, wherein the undercut surface interfaces with the latch surface of the container rim area;

an inner sidewall forming a seal structure for sealing the interior cavity of the container body with a lid; and

a floor connecting the inner sidewall and the outer sidewall; and

(b) wherein the top surface of the outer sidewall includes a substantially flat shape configured to provide a level surface for a separate container to rest without contact between the separate container and the lid of the container when the separate container is stacked on top of the container.

2. The container of claim 1:

(a) wherein the bottom of the container includes an upper leg with an upper base and a lower leg with a lower base;

(b) wherein the upper base is configured to provide support when the container is stacked on top of the separate container; and

(c) wherein the lower base is substantially parallel to the bottom of the container and is configured to provide support when the container rests on a surface other than the separate container.

~~12.~~3. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the substantially arcuate portion of the exterior outer sidewall surface transitions to an exterior floor surface, the exterior floor surface substantially parallel to the upper portion outer surface and to the exterior wall surface of the container body.

~~13.~~4. The container of claim ~~12~~3, wherein the generally hook-shaped aperture, the substantially arcuate portion of the exterior outer sidewall, and the exterior floor surface seals the seal ring with the container.

~~14.~~5. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the floor slopes downwardly from the inner sidewall to the outer sidewall.

~~15.~~6. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the top surface transitions to an interior outer sidewall surface via a vertical wall substantially perpendicular to the top surface.

~~16.~~7. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the outer sidewall and the inner sidewall form a generally u-shaped channel for receiving the lid for sealing the interior cavity of the container body.

~~17.~~8. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the inner sidewall comprises:

an inner seal surface;

a substantially flat outer seal surface; and

a ring bead integrally formed with the inner seal surface and extending from the inner seal surface toward an interior outer sidewall surface for engaging with a corresponding structure on the lid.

~~18.~~9. The container of claim ~~17~~8, wherein the ring bead comprises an upper ring bead slope and a lower ring bead slope, the upper ring bead slope and lower ring bead slope culminating in a ring bead peak.

~~19.~~10. The container of claim ~~18~~9, wherein the inner seal surface and the substantially flat outer seal surface converge at a seal surface peak.

~~20.~~11. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the container body and the seal ring are plastic.

~~21.~~12. The container of claim ~~1~~1, wherein the container comprises the lid.

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