

Description

Title of Invention: PAPER CONTAINER

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to a paper container having a flat top-type top portion (including a brick-type paper container) and a paper container having a gable top-type top portion, which are configured to store a liquid beverage such as milk or juice.

Background Art

[0002] Hitherto, a flat top-type paper container and a gable top-type paper container have been widely used. The flat top-type paper container includes four body panels. On a body formed into a quadrangular tubular shape through sealing with a vertical direction sealing panel, the flat top-type paper container has a top portion formed of a pair of top panels and a pair of side panels folded on an inner side of the top panels. Below the body, the flat top-type paper container has a bottom portion formed of a pair of bottom panels and a pair of inner panels folded on an inner side of the bottom panels. The gable top-type paper container has a top portion formed of a pair of gable top forming panels and a pair of gable wall forming panels folded on an inner side of the gable top forming panels. Below the body, the gable top-type paper container has a bottom portion

formed of a pair of bottom panels and a pair of inner panels folded on an inner side of the bottom panels.

[0003] In the above-mentioned types of paper container, each of the body panels of the body formed in the quadrangular tubular shape generally has a flat surface. Thus, the body does not have any portion that is to be caught by fingers when the body of the paper container is grabbed. Therefore, it is unstable and difficult to keep holding the paper container. Especially when a volume of the paper container is large or dew condensation occurs on a surface of the paper container, there is a fear in that the paper container slips and falls out of the hand.

[0004] As a paper container capable of coping with the circumstances described above, there has been proposed a paper container having a ridge, which is formed on each of body panels of a body so as to be parallel to a bottom portion. A region continuous with the ridge at a corner portion at which the body panels adjacent to each other intersect with each other, specifically, in a ridgeline portion and the vicinity thereof is formed as a recess (see, for example, Patent Literature 1).

The paper container described in Patent Literature 1 is easy to grab and can be held without slippage owing to the ridge formed on each of the body panels of the body.

Citation List

Patent Literature

[0005] [PTL 1] JP 2007-55637 A

Summary of Invention

Technical Problem

[0006] The paper container described in Patent Literature 1 is easy to grab and can be held without slippage owing to the ridge formed on each of the body panels of the body. However, the ridges project from the body of the paper container, and hence there is a problem in that the ridges may be damaged during storage and conveyance of the paper container.

Further, prevention of the slippage is influenced by a projecting height of the ridge. When the height of each of the ridges is low, the paper container is liable to be more slippery when being grabbed. Thus, in order to more reliably enhance the prevention of the slippage, it is inevitably required that the height of each of the ridges be increased. However, in a case in which the height of each of the ridges is increased, for example, when the paper containers are arranged side by side, a large gap is formed between the paper containers. Thus, the amount of storage of paper containers and the amount of conveyance of paper containers are reduced. As a result, there arises a problem in that, for example, the storage and conveyance of paper containers are adversely affected.

[0007] An object of the present invention is to provide a

paper container, which is capable of preventing slippage at the time of grabbing the paper container to provide ease of holding and is less liable to adversely affect, for example, storage and conveyance of the paper container.

Solution to Problem

[0008] In order to achieve the object described above, according to the invention as described in claim 1, there is provided a paper container, which is made of a paper material having a thermoplastic resin laminated on each of a front surface and a back surface thereof, the paper container including: a body front panel, a body right side panel, a body left side panel, a body back panel, which are contiguous through body vertical folding lines; a vertical direction sealing panel configured to form a quadrangular tubular body; a pair of top panels contiguous with an upper end of the body front panel and an upper end of the body back panel so as to be opposed to the body front panel and the body back panel through top portion horizontal folding lines, respectively; a pair of side panels contiguous with an upper end of the body right side panel and an upper end of the body left side panel so as to be opposed to the body right side panel and the body left side panel through top portion horizontal folding lines, respectively, the pair of top panels and the pair of side panels being folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a top portion; and a pair of

bottom panels contiguous with a lower end of the body front panel and a lower end of the body back panel so as to be opposed to the body front panel and the body back panel through bottom portion horizontal folding lines, respectively; and a pair of inner panels contiguous with a lower end of the body right side panel and a lower end of the body left side panel so as to be opposed to the body right side panel and the body left side panel through bottom portion horizontal folding lines, the pair of bottom panels and the pair of inner panels being folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a bottom portion, wherein the top portion has an inclined surface which is lower on the body front panel side and higher on the body back panel side, wherein the inclined surface has an opening, and a spout is provided at the opening, and wherein the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward a center of the body front panel, and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward a center of the body back panel.

[0009] According to the invention described in claim 2, in the paper container of claim 1, bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines being the bent lines are located above a center of the body front panel and a center of the body back panel in a vertical direction.

[0010] According to the invention described in claim 3, in the paper container of claim 1 or 2, the body right side panel and the body left side panel have ridge portions extending along a vertical direction, and the ridge portions are formed of mountain-folded vertical folding lines.

[0011] According to the invention described in claim 4, in the paper container of any one of claims 1 to 3, the body back panel, one of the top panels, which is contiguous with the upper end of the body back panel, and one of the bottom panels, which is contiguous with the lower end of the body back panel, are divided into two at a center position of each of surfaces of the body back panel, the one top panel, and the one bottom panel in the vertical direction, wherein the vertical direction sealing panel is contiguous with division edges of one divided piece of the body back panel, one divided piece of the one top panel, and one divided piece of the one bottom panel, and wherein the vertical direction sealing panel is sealed to division edges of another divided pieces to form the quadrangular tubular body.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0012] With the paper container described in claim 1, the top portion has the inclined surface which is lower on the body front panel side and higher on the back panel side. Further, the inclined surface has the opening, and the spout is provided at the opening. Thus, even when the paper container is tilted by a large angle, the opening of the paper container is not closed by a liquid beverage. Accordingly, the liquid beverage can be quickly and smoothly poured through the spout.

Further, the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward the center of the body front panel, and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward the center of the body back panel. Thus, in the tubular body formed of the body front panel, the body right side panel, the body left side panel, and the body back panel, which are contiguous through the body vertical folding lines being the bent lines therebetween, each of the body front panel and the body back panel has a projecting surface on a region between the bent top portions of

the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, which is bent outward in accordance with a bent angle of each of the body vertical folding lines. Each of the body left side panel and the body right side panel has a recessed surface on a region between the bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, which is bent inward in accordance with the bent angle of each of the body vertical folding lines.

At the time of holding the paper container, the body right side panel and the body left side panel forming the recessed surfaces of the tubular body are grabbed. As a result, the paper container is locked in such a manner that upper-side surfaces of the recessed surfaces of the body right side panel and the body left side panel are placed on the fingers. Thus, slippage of the paper container at the time of grabbed can be reliably prevented. Accordingly, the paper container can easily be held without being strongly grabbed.

Further, even in a case in which the body right side panel and the body left side panel forming the recessed surfaces are pushed out to deform the center portion of the body right side panel and the center portion of the body left side panel along the vertical direction into an approximately linear shape due to, for example, pressing on the body front panel and the body back panel of the tubular body from an outer side or an internal pressure of the tubular body, when the region of the body right side panel, which is located between the bent top portions of

the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, and the region of the body left side panel, which is located between the bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, are grabbed so as to be pressed, the body right side panel and the body left side panel are elastically deformed to form the recessed surfaces. Accordingly, the paper container can easily be held.

Further, the tubular body does not have ridges as those formed on a paper container described in Patent Literature 1. Thus, there is no fear of, for example, adversely affecting storage and conveyance of the paper container.

[0013] According to the invention described in claim 2, in the paper container of claim 1, the bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines are located above the center of the body front panel and the center of the body back panel in the vertical direction. Thus, the paper container can be held in a stable state.

[0014] According to the invention described in claim 3, in the paper container of claim 1 or 2, the body right side panel and the body left side panel have the ridge portions extending along the vertical direction, and the ridge portions are formed of mountain-folded vertical folding lines. Thus, the ridge portions serve as ribs to prevent bulge of the body due to a weight of a liquid beverage stored therein.

At the time of holding the paper container, the ridge

portion in the region of the body right panel of the tubular body, which is located between the bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, and the ridge portion in the region of the body left panel, which is located between the bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines opposed to each other, are grabbed so as to be pressed inward. As a result, the body right panel and the body left panel are elastically deformed to form the recessed surfaces. Thus, the paper container can easily be held.

[0015] According to the invention described in claim 4, in the paper container according to any one of claims 1 to 3, the body back panel, one of the top panels, which is contiguous with the upper end of the body back panel, and one of the bottom panels, which is contiguous with the lower end of the body back panel, are divided into two at a center position of each of surfaces of the body back panel, the one top panel, and the one bottom panel in the vertical direction. The vertical direction sealing panel is contiguous with division edges of one divided piece of the body back panel, one divided piece of the one top panel, and one divided piece of the one bottom panel. The vertical direction sealing panel is sealed to division edges of another divided pieces to form the quadrangular tubular body. Accordingly, the quadrangular tubular body can easily be formed.

Brief Description of Drawings

[0016] FIG. 1 is a perspective view for illustrating a first example of an embodiment of a paper container according to the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a front view of the paper container of the first example.

FIG. 3 is a side view of the paper container of the first example.

FIG. 4 is a partially omitted enlarged sectional view taken along the line A-A of FIG. 2.

FIG. 5 is a front view for illustrating a state in which a body right panel and a body left panel of the paper container of the first example, which have been in a recessed surface shape, are pushed out to deform center portions of the body right panel and the body left panel along a vertical direction into an approximately linear shape.

FIG. 6 is a developed view of a carton blank for assembling the paper container of the first example.

FIG. 7 is a perspective view for illustrating a second example of the embodiment of the paper container according to the present invention.

FIG. 8 is a front view of the paper container of the second example.

FIG. 9 is a side view of the paper container of the second example.

FIG. 10 is a partially omitted enlarged sectional view

taken along the line B-B of FIG. 8.

FIG. 11 is an explanatory enlarged sectional view for illustrating a state in which a body left panel and a body right panel of the paper container of the second example are pushed inward to be deformed into a recessed surface shape.

FIG. 12 is a developed view of a carton blank for assembling the paper container of the second example.

FIG. 13 is a front view for illustrating a third example of the embodiment of the paper container according to the present invention.

FIG. 14 is a side view of the paper container of the third example.

Description of Embodiments

[0017] Now, a paper container according to each embodiment of the present invention is described in detail with reference to the drawings. FIG. 1 to FIG. 6 are illustrations of a first example of an embodiment of a paper container according to the present invention, in which FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the paper container of the first example. FIG. 2 is a front view of the paper container of the first example. FIG. 3 is a side view of the paper container of the first example. FIG. 4 is a partially omitted enlarged sectional view taken along the line A-A of FIG. 2. FIG. 5 is a front view for illustrating a state in which a body right panel and a body left panel of the paper

container of the first example, which have been in a recessed surface shape, are pushed out to deform center portions of the body right panel and the body left panel along a vertical direction into an approximately linear shape. FIG. 6 is a developed view of a carton blank for assembling the paper container of the first example.

[0018] The paper container of the first example is a container having a flat top-type top portion, and is obtained by assembling a carton blank having a development structure illustrated in FIG. 6, and providing a spout.

The carton blank for assembling the paper container of the first example is made of a paper material having a thermoplastic resin laminated on each of a front surface and a back surface thereof. A body front panel 5, a body left side panel 6, a body back panel 7, and a body right side panel 8 are contiguous through body vertical folding lines 1, 2, 3, and 4.

[0019] A pair of top panels 11 and 12 are contiguous with an upper end of the body front panel 5 and an upper end of the body back panel 7 so as to be opposed to the body front panel 5 and the body back panel 7 through a top portion horizontal folding line 9 and a top portion horizontal folding line 10, respectively. A pair of side panels 15 and 16 are contiguous with an upper end of the body left side panel 6 and an upper end of the body right side panel 8 so as to be opposed to the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 through a top

portion horizontal folding line 13 and a top portion horizontal folding line 14, respectively.

[0020] The top portion horizontal folding lines 13 and 14 of this example are inclined such that heights of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 on the body front panel 5 side are lower than heights on the body back panel 7 side. Further, the pair of top panels 11 and 12 and the pair of side panels 15 and 16 are contiguous with each other through top portion vertical folding lines 33, 34, 35, and 36. In this example, the carton blank is formed such that a sum of lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 33 and the top portion vertical folding line 36 is approximately equal to a length of the top portion horizontal folding line 14, and that a sum of lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 34 and the top portion vertical folding line 35 is approximately equal to a length of the top portion horizontal folding line 13.

[0021] The top panel 11 has an opening 37. The opening 37 is formed by cutting the carton blank. However, the opening 37 may be formed by half-cutting without completely punching out. For example, when a paper material having an aluminum sheet formed thereon through lamination is used as a material of the carton blank, the opening 37 may be formed by leaving only the aluminum sheet uncut and cutting other layer.

[0022] A pair of bottom panels 19 and 20 are contiguous with a lower end of the body front panel 5 and a lower end of

the body back panel 7 so as to be opposed to the body front panel 5 and the body back panel 7 through a bottom portion horizontal folding line 17 and a bottom portion horizontal folding line 18, respectively. A pair of inner panels 23 and 24 are contiguous with a lower end of the body left side panel 6 and a lower end of the body right side panel 8 so as to be opposed to the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 through a bottom portion horizontal folding line 21 and a bottom portion horizontal folding line 22, respectively.

[0023] Further, each of the body back panel 7, the top panel 12 contiguous with the upper end of the body back panel 7, and the bottom panel 20 contiguous with the lower end of the body back panel 7 is divided into two in a vertical direction at a center position of each of surfaces of the panels. A vertical direction sealing panel 25 to be sealed on division edges of another divided body back panel 7b, another top panel 12b, and another bottom panel 20b is contiguous with division edges of one body back panel 7a, one top panel 12a, and one bottom panel 20a, which are formed by the division.

[0024] A body vertical folding line 1 through which the body front panel 5 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other and a body vertical folding line 2 through which the body front panel 5 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent in an approximately doglegged shape toward a center

of the body front panel 5. Similarly, a body vertical folding line 3 through which the body back panel 7 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other and a body vertical folding line 4 through which the body back panel 7 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent in an approximately doglegged shape toward a center of the body back panel 7.

[0025] In the first example, bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1, 2, 3, and 4 being the bent lines are located above a center of the body front panel 5 and a center of the body back panel 7 in the vertical direction.

[0026] For assembly of the carton blanks having the development structure described above, the carton blank is first mountain-folded along the body vertical folding lines 1, 2, 3, and 4. Then, the vertical direction sealing panel 25 contiguous with the division edges of the one body back panel 7a, the one top panel 12a, and the one bottom panel 20a, which are formed by the division, is sealed to the division edges of the another body back panel 7b, the another top panel 12b, and the another bottom panel 20b to form a quadrangular tubular body 26.

[0027] Next, the pair of bottom panels 19 and 20, which are respectively contiguous with the lower end of the body front panel 5 and the lower end of the body back panel 7, and the pair of inner panels 23 and 24, which are respectively contiguous with the lower end of the body left side panel 6 and the lower

end of the body right side panel 8 of the tubular body 26, are folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a bottom portion 27.

[0028] Then, after a liquid beverage is filled in, the pair of top panels 11 and 12, which are respectively contiguous with the upper end of the body front panel 5 and the upper end of the body back panel 7, and the pair of side panels 15 and 16, which are respectively contiguous with the upper end of the body left side panel 6 and the upper end of the body right side panel 8, are folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a top portion 28.

At this time, in this example, the carton blank is formed such that the sum of the lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 33 and the top portion vertical folding line 36 is approximately equal to the length of the top portion horizontal folding line 14, and that the sum of the lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 34 and the top portion vertical folding line 35 is approximately equal to the length of the top portion horizontal folding line 13. Thus, the top forming panels 11 and 12 form the flat top portion 28. The top portion horizontal folding lines 13 and 14 of this example are inclined such that the heights of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 on the body front panel 5 side are lower than the heights on the body back panel 7 side. Thus, the top portion 28, as a whole, forms an inclined surface S which is lower on

the body front panel 5 side and higher on the body back panel 7 side.

[0029] A spout 38 is provided at the opening 37 of the carton blank assembled as described above. The spout 38 may be a publicly known spout having a spout part 39, and is not particularly limited. In this example, the spout 38 has the spout part 39, a cap part 40, and a flange part (not shown) that is bonded to an outer surface or an inner surface of the top panel 11 to fix the spout 38 to the opening 37. The spout 38 may be fixed to the opening 37 by any publicly known fixing method, and the method is not particularly limited. In this example, before the top portion 28 is formed, the spout 38 is inserted through the opening 37 such that the spout part 39 and the cap part 40 project upward with respect to the top portion 28, and the spout 38 is fixed by bringing an upper surface of the flange part into abutment against the inner surface side of the top panel 11 and bonding the flange part thereat. However, the spout 38 can also be fixed by bringing a lower surface of the flange part into abutment against the outer surface of the top panel 11 and bonding the flange part thereat.

[0030] In the paper container assembled as described above, the top portion 28 has the inclined surface S which is lower on the body front panel 5 side and higher on the back panel 7 side. Further, the top panel 11 forming the inclined surface S has the opening 37, and the spout 38 is provided at the opening 37. Thus,

even when the paper container is tilted by a large angle at the time of pouring the liquid beverage, the opening 37 of the paper container is not closed by the liquid beverage. Accordingly, the liquid beverage can be quickly and smoothly poured through the spout 38.

[0031] Further, the body vertical folding line 1 through which the body front panel 5 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line 2 through which the body front panel 5 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines, which are bent toward the center of the body front panel 5, and the body vertical folding line 3 through which the body back panel 7 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line 4 through which the body back panel 7 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines, which are bent toward the center of the body back panel 7. Thus, in the tubular body 26 formed of the body front surface 5, the body left side panel 6, the body right side panel 8, and the body back panel 7, which are contiguous through the body vertical folding lines 1, 2, 3, and 4, the body front panel 5 has a projecting surface X formed on a region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 2, which is bent outward in accordance with bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 2. The body

back panel 7 has a projecting surface X formed on a region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 3 and 4, which is bent outward in accordance with bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 3 and 4 (see FIG. 3).

[0032] Further, the body left side panel 6 forms a recessed surface Y on a region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 2 and 3, which is bent inward in accordance with the bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 2 and 3. The body right side panel 8 forms a recessed surface Y on a region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 4, which is bent inward in accordance with the bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 4 (see FIG. 2).

[0033] As described above, each of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 of the tubular body 26 forms the recessed surface Y. Thus, at the time of holding the paper container is held, the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 forming the recessed surfaces Y of the tubular body 26 are grabbed. As a result, the paper container is locked in such a manner that upper-side surfaces of the recessed surfaces Y of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 are fingers are placed on the fingers. Thus, slippage of the paper container at the time of being grabbed can be reliably prevented.

[0034] Further, even in a case in which the body left side

panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 forming the recessed surface Y are pushed out to deform the center portion of the body left side panel 6 and the center portion of the body right side panel 8 along the vertical direction into an approximately linear shape due to, for example, external pressing on the body front panel 5 and the body back panel 7 of the tubular body 26 or an internal pressure of the tubular body 26 (see FIG. 5), when the region of the body left side panel 6, which is located between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 2 and 3, and the region of the body right side panel 8, which is located between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 4 are grabbed so as to be pressed, the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 are elastically deformed to form the recessed surfaces Y. Accordingly, the paper container can easily be held.

[0035] Further, in the first example, the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1, 2, 3, and 4 being the bent lines are located above the center of the body front panel 5 and the center of the body back panel 7 in the vertical direction. Thus, the paper container can be held in a stable state.

[0036] FIG. 7 to FIG. 12 are illustrations of a second example of the embodiment of the paper container according to the present invention. FIG. 7 is a perspective view for illustrating the paper container of this example. FIG. 8 is a

front view of the paper container of the second example. FIG. 9 is a side view of the paper container of the second example. FIG. 10 is a partially omitted enlarged sectional view taken along the line B-B of FIG. 8. FIG. 11 is an explanatory enlarged sectional view for illustrating a state in which a body left panel and a body right panel of the paper container of the second example are pushed inward to be deformed in a recessed surface shape. FIG. 12 is a developed view of a carton blank for assembling the paper container of the second example.

The same configurations of the paper container of the second example as those of the first example are denoted by the same reference symbols, and the description thereof is omitted. Only configurations different from those of the first example are described.

[0037] The paper container of the second example is a container having a flat top-type top portion similarly to the first embodiment, and is obtained by assembling a carton blank having a development structure illustrated in FIG. 12, and providing a spout.

On the carton blank for assembling the paper container of the second example, the body left side panel 6 has a vertical folding line 30 formed along the vertical direction, which is continuous with the top portion horizontal folding line 13 and the bottom portion horizontal folding line 21. The vertical folding line 30 forms a ridge portion 29 when the carton blank

is mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 30. Similarly, the body right side panel 8 has a vertical folding line 32 formed along the vertical direction, which is continuous with the top portion horizontal folding line 14 and the bottom portion horizontal folding line 22. The vertical folding line 32 forms a ridge portion 31 when the carton blank is mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 32. The vertical folding lines 30 and 32 may be formed at any positions on the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8. In this example, the vertical folding lines 30 and 32 are formed at respective center portions of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8.

The other configurations are the same as those of the carton blank of the first example, which is illustrated in FIG. 6.

[0038] For the assembly of the paper container of the second example with use of the carton blank having the development structure described above, the carton blank is mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 30, which is continuous with the top portion horizontal folding line 13 and the bottom portion horizontal folding line 21 of the body left side panel 6, to thereby form the ridge portion 29 extending along the vertical direction on the body left side panel 6. Similarly, the carton blank is mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 32, which is continuous with the top portion horizontal folding line 14 and the bottom portion horizontal folding line 22 of the body

right side panel 8, to thereby form the ridge portion 31 extending along the vertical direction on the body right side panel 8. In this example, the vertical folding lines 30 and 32 are formed at respective center portions of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8. Thus, the ridge portions 29 and 31 are formed at the respective center portions of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8.

The other points regarding assembly of the carton blank are the same as those given in the first example.

Further, a configuration of the spout provided to the paper container and the way of fixing the spout at the opening are also the same as those given in the first example.

[0039] In the paper container assembled as described above, the body vertical folding line 1 through which the body front panel 5 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line 2 through which the body front panel 5 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward the center of the body front panel 5. The body vertical folding line 3 through which the body back panel 7 and the body left side panel 6 are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line 4 through which the body back panel 7 and the body right side panel 8 are contiguous with each other are the approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward the center of the body back panel 7. Thus, in the tubular body

26 formed of the body front surface 5, the body left side panel 6, the body right side panel 8, and the body back panel 7, the body front panel 5 forms the projecting surface X on the region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 2, which is bent outward in accordance with the bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 1 and 2. The body back panel 7 forms the projecting surface X formed on the region between the bent top portions T of the body vertical folding lines 3 and 4, which is bent outward in accordance with the bent angles of the body vertical folding lines 3 and 4 (see FIG. 9).

[0040] Further, the body left side panel 6 has an approximately linear center portion along the vertical direction because of the ridge portion 29 formed by the body left side panel 6 mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 30. The body left side panel 8 has an approximately linear center portion in the vertical direction because of the ridge portion 31 formed by the body right side panel 8 mountain-folded along the vertical folding line 32 (see FIG. 8).

[0041] As described above, the ridge portions 29 and 31 formed at the center portion of each of the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 along the vertical direction serves as a rib to prevent bulge of the tubular body 26, which is caused by a weight of the stored liquid beverage. Further, in this example, the ridge portions 29 and 31 are formed at the center portion of each of the body left side panel 6 and the

body right side panel 8, which protrude most when bulge of the body of the paper container occurs. Thus, the bulge of the body can reliably be prevented.

At the time of holding the paper container, the region of the body left side panel 6, which is located between the bent top portion T of the body vertical folding line 2 and the bent top portion T of the body vertical folding line 3 and the region of the body right side panel 8, which is located between the bent top portion T of the body vertical folding line 1 and the bent top portion T of the body vertical folding line 4 are grabbed so as to press the regions. As a result, the body left side panel 6 and the body right side panel 8 are elastically deformed to form the recessed surfaces Y (see FIG. 11). Thus, the paper container can easily be held.

The other effects are the same as those given in the first example.

[0042] FIG. 13 and FIG. 14 are illustrations of a third example of the embodiment of the paper container according to the present invention. FIG. 13 is a perspective view for illustrating the third example of the embodiment of the paper container according to the present invention. FIG. 14 is a developed view of a carton blank for assembling the paper container of the third example.

The same configurations of the paper container of the second example as those of the first example or the second

example are denoted by the same reference symbols, and the description thereof is omitted. Only configurations different from those of the first example and the second example are described.

[0043] The paper container of the third example is a paper container having a gable top-type top portion, and is obtained by assembling a carton blank having a development structure illustrated in FIG. 14, and providing a spout.

[0044] The carton blank for assembling the paper container of the third example is formed such that a sum of lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 33 and the top portion vertical folding line 36 is larger than a length of the top portion horizontal folding line 14, and that a sum of lengths of the top portion vertical folding line 34 and the top portion vertical folding line 35 is larger than a length of the top portion horizontal folding line 13.

The other configurations are the same as those of the carton blank of the second example illustrated in FIG. 12.

[0045] With regard to the top portion 28 of the paper container of the third example with the carton blank having such a development structure, after a liquid beverage is filled in, the pair of side panels 15 and 16 are folded inward between the pair of top panels 11 and 12 which are contiguous with the upper end of the body front panel 5 and the upper end of the body back panel 7 and sealed so as to be tightly closed to be formed into

the gable top-type having the inclined surface S which is lower on the body front panel 5 side and higher on the body back panel 7 side.

The other points regarding assembly of the carton blank are the same as those given in the first example.

Further, a configuration of the spout provided to the paper container and the way of fixing the spout at the opening are also the same as those given in the first example.

[0046] In the paper container assembled as described above, the top portion 28 has the inclined surface S which is lower on the body front panel 5 side and higher on the body back panel 7 side. Further, the opening 37 is formed in the top panel 11 forming the inclined surface S, and the spout 38 is provided at the opening 37. Thus, even when the paper container is tilted by a large angle at the time of pouring the liquid beverage, the opening 37 of the paper container is not closed by the liquid beverage. Accordingly, the liquid beverage can be quickly and smoothly poured through the spout 38.

Reference Signs List

[0047] 1, 2, 3, 4 body vertical folding line
5 body front panel
6 body left side panel
7 body back panel
7a one divided body back panel

7b another divided body back panel
8 body right side panel
9, 10 top portion horizontal folding line
11, 12 top panel
12a one top panel
12b another top panel
13, 14 top portion horizontal folding line
15, 16 side panel
17, 18 bottom portion horizontal folding line
19, 20 bottom panel
20a one bottom panel
20b another bottom panel
21, 22 bottom portion horizontal folding line
23, 24 inner panel
25 vertical direction sealing panel
26 tubular body
27 bottom portion
28 top portion
29 ridge portion
30 vertical folding line
31 ridge portion
32 vertical folding line
33, 34, 35, 36 top portion vertical folding line
37 opening
38 spout

39	spout part
40	cap part
T	bent top portion
X	projecting surface
Y	recessed surface
S	inclined surface

Claims

[Claim 1] A paper container, comprising:

a body front panel, a body right side panel, a body left side panel, a body back panel, which are contiguous through body vertical folding lines;

a vertical direction sealing panel configured to form a quadrangular tubular body;

a pair of top panels contiguous with an upper end of the body front panel and an upper end of the body back panel so as to be opposed to the body front panel and the body back panel through top portion horizontal folding lines, respectively;

a pair of side panels contiguous with an upper end of the body right side panel and an upper end of the body left side panel so as to be opposed to the body right side panel and the body left side panel through top portion horizontal folding lines, respectively, the pair of top panels and the pair of side panels being folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a top portion; and

a pair of bottom panels contiguous with a lower end of the body front panel and a lower end of the body back panel so as to be opposed to the body front panel and the body back panel through bottom portion horizontal folding lines, respectively; and

a pair of inner panels contiguous with a lower end of the body right side panel and a lower end of the body left side panel

so as to be opposed to the body right side panel and the body left side panel through bottom portion horizontal folding lines, the pair of bottom panels and the pair of inner panels being folded inward and sealed so as to be tightly closed to form a bottom portion,

wherein the top portion has an inclined surface which is lower on the body front panel side and higher on the body back panel side,

wherein the inclined surface has an opening, and a spout is provided at the opening, and

wherein the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body front panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward a center of the body front panel, and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body right side panel are contiguous with each other and the body vertical folding line through which the body back panel and the body left side panel are contiguous with each other are approximately symmetrical bent lines bent toward a center of the body back panel.

[Claim 2] The paper container according to claim 1, wherein bent top portions of the body vertical folding lines being the bent

lines are located above a center of the body front panel and a center of the body back panel in a vertical direction.

[Claim 3] The paper container according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the body right side panel and the body left side panel have ridge portions extending along a vertical direction, and the ridge portions are formed of mountain-folded vertical folding lines.

[Claim 4] The paper container according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the body back panel, one of the top panels, which is contiguous with the upper end of the body back panel, and one of the bottom panels, which is contiguous with the lower end of the body back panel, are divided into two at a center position of each of surfaces of the body back panel, the one top panel, and the one bottom panel in the vertical direction,

wherein the vertical direction sealing panel is contiguous with division edges of one divided piece of the body back panel, one divided piece of the one top panel, and one divided piece of the one bottom panel, and

wherein the vertical direction sealing panel is sealed to division edges of another divided pieces to form the quadrangular tubular body.