BLANK FOR CONTAINER

PRIORITY CLAIM

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to US Provisional Application Serial No. 61/737,406, filed December 14, 2012, which is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

BACKGROUND

[0002] The present disclosure relates to vessels, and in particular to blanks for containers. More particularly, the present disclosure relates to a blank for an insulated container formed from polymeric materials.

SUMMARY

[0003] A vessel in accordance with the present disclosure is configured to hold a product in an interior region formed in the vessel. In illustrative embodiments, the vessel is an insulated container such as a drink cup, a food-storage cup, or a dessert cup. In particular, disclosed herein is a blank of polymeric material used to form a body of a cup, the blank comprising

an upper band formed to include a curved top edge and

a lower band formed to include a left-end edge, a right-end edge, and a curved bottom edge arranged to extend between the left-end and right-end edges, wherein the lower band is appended to the upper band along a curved fold line to locate the curved fold line between the curved top and bottom edges, the lower band is formed to include a series of high-density staves of a first density and low-density staves of a relatively lower second density, each stave is arranged to extend from the curved bottom edge of the lower band toward the curved fold line, and the high-density and low-density staves are arranged to lie in an alternating sequence extending from about the left-end edge of the lower band to the right-end edge of the lower band to cause density to alternate from stave to stave along a length of the lower band.

[0003A] Also disclosed herein is a blank used to form a body of a cup, the blank comprising a generally planar sheet of insulative cellular non-aromatic polymeric material having a first side and a second side, the sheet being defined by a first arcuate edge, a second arcuate edge, a first linear edge, and a second linear edge, the

sheet including a first strip and a second strip, the first and second strips being separated by a first area of reduced thickness, the second strip having a plurality of second areas of reduced thickness positioned in the second strip.

[0003B] The present disclosure further provides a blank used to form a body of a cup, the blank comprising a generally planar sheet of insulative cellular non-aromatic polymeric material having a first side and a second side and a nominal thickness, the sheet being defined by circular ring sector, the sheet including a first strip and a second strip, the first and second strips being separated by a first area of reduced thickness, and a plurality of second areas of reduced thickness positioned in the second strip.

[0003C] The present disclosure still further provides a blank used to form a body of a cup, the blank comprising a generally planar sheet of insulative cellular non-aromatic polymeric material having a first side and a second side, the sheet being defined by a first arcuate edge, a second arcuate edge, a first linear edge, and a second linear edge, an arcuately shaped area of reduced thickness being positioned between the first and second arcuate edges and parallel to at least one of the first and second arcuate edges, and a plurality of areas of reduced thickness being positioned between the arcuately shaped area of reduced thickness and at least one of the first arcuate edge and the second arcuate edge.

[0004] In illustrative embodiments, an insulative cup includes a body having a sleeve-shaped side wall and a floor coupled to the body to cooperate with the side wall to form an interior region for storing food, liquid, or any suitable product. The body also includes a rolled brim coupled to an upper end of the side wall and a floor mount interconnecting a lower end of the side wall and the floor.

[0005] The insulative cellular non-aromatic polymeric material included in the body is configured in accordance with the present disclosure to provide means for enabling localized plastic deformation in at least one selected region of the body (e.g., the floor mount and a floor-retaining flange included in the floor mount) to provide (1) a plastically deformed first material segment having a first density in a first portion of the selected region of the body and (2) a second material segment having a relatively lower second density in an adjacent second portion of the selected region of

the body. In illustrative embodiments, the more dense first material segment is thinner than the second material segment.

[0006] A blank of polymeric material in accordance with the present disclosure is used to form a body of a cup. In illustrative embodiments, the blank