Evan A. Raynes, State Bar No. 164447

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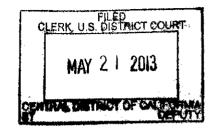
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Counsel for Plaintiff LITTLE I, INC.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN DIVISION

Civil ACO N1 3 - 03639

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT AND TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Little i, Inc.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

World Packaging Corp.,

Defendant.

Plaintiff Little i, Inc. ("Plaintiff") brings this Complaint against Defendant World Packaging Corp. d/b/a Clik Clak Co. ("Defendant"). Plaintiff states as follows, upon actual knowledge with respect to itself and its own acts, and upon information and belief as to all other matters.

Introduction

This Complaint seeks to vindicate Plaintiff's rights in a patent for its mirrored mint containers and its MIRROR MINTS trademark used to identify such products. Defendant has been aware of Plaintiff's rights since at least as early as 2005 as result of Plaintiff's strong position in the marketplace and contacts between Plaintiff and Defendant advising Defendant of Plaintiff's patent rights. Further, Plaintiff's patent rights have been of public record since 2006. Notwithstanding, Defendant has decided to ignore Plaintiff's patent rights by selling mirrored

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mint containers that are virtually identical to Plaintiff's containers. What's more, Defendant is doing so under a trademark that is virtually identical to Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark. Thus, there is no question that Defendant is willfully infringing Plaintiff's rights. In fact, as the parties' products and trademarks are virtually indistinguishable, Defendant's actions amount to counterfeiting. Plaintiff therefore seeks both treble and exemplary damages. A large award of damages is necessary to discourage similar conduct by Defendants in the future.

Parties

- 1. Plaintiff is a Washington corporation with its principal place of business at 713 3rd Street, Blaine, Washington 98230.
- 2. Defendant is a New York corporation with a place of business and a registered address at 68 Jay Street, Suite 301, Brooklyn, New York 11201. Defendant also maintains a place of business at 300 Wilson Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06854. Defendant does business as Clik Clak Co. ("Click Clak") and maintains a website at www.clikclak.com (the "Click Clak").

Jurisdiction

- 3. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a), as this action involves questions of federal patent and trademark law, and arises under 35 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., including 35 U.S.C. § 271, and under Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1051 et seq., including 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114, 1125(a), as Defendant has violated Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state-law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 4. This court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant has substantial contacts and conducts business in the State of California and in this judicial district, and has been infringing Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights in California and in this judicial district, as well as elsewhere. Defendant's Clik Clak Website states that Defendant "sells [its products] through a nationwide network of recognized and established distributors." Defendant's products

are sold or offered to companies located in California, including companies located in this judicial district, such as Ask Jeeves, Lucy, Google, The Upper Deck, Westfield, and Yahoo!

5. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391, as Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction in this district and a substantial part of the events giving rise to Defendant's claims occurred in this judicial district.

Facts

A. Plaintiff's Patent Rights

- 6. Patent No. 7237677 for a "MIRRORED ORAL-PRODUCT CONTAINER" was published on July 20, 2006 and issued to Robert I. Berg on July 3, 2007 ("Plaintiff's Patent"). (**Exhibit A.**) Mr. Berg is Plaintiff's president.
- 7. Plaintiff was the exclusive licensee of Plaintiff's Patent throughout the period of Defendant's acts giving rise to this action, including Defendant's infringing acts, and Plaintiff currently is the exclusive licensee of Plaintiff's Patent.
- 8. Plaintiff sells breath mints in tins featuring sliding covers, rectangular mirrors on platforms, and elongated holes for dispensing the mints ("Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins"), among other products.
- 9. Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins have been sold in several colors, including silver.

 Representative examples of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins, including Plaintiff's silver mirrored tins, are shown below.



10. The bolded patent marking "Patent No. 7,237,677" has appeared on virtually every one of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins, for example, as shown below.

- 11. Plaintiff's patent markings provide notice of Plaintiff's rights in Patent No. 7237677.
- 12. Plaintiff has sold over 10 million units of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins throughout the United States since 2004, including in the New York area, where Defendant is located.
- 13. Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins have been sold to numerous companies, including CVS, Hallmark, Pier 1, Sephora, Target, Walgreens, and Walmart.
- 14. Plainiff's Mirrored Tins have appeared in numerous publications and television shows, including Glamour, the Herald-Tribune, InStyle, Marie Claire, the New York Daily News, Seventeen, the Today Show, and the Wall Street Journal.
- 15. Plaintiff has vigorously enforced its rights in Plaintiff's Patent, including by obtaining a judgment enforcing its rights in Patent No. 7237677 in 2008. The judgment entered by the court states that Patent No. 7237677 is "valid and enforceable." *Robert Isaac Berg, et al. v. Webb Company, et al.*, CV 08-00164, D. Hawaii, June 20, 2008.
 - 16. The Patent is an asset of great value to Plaintiff.
 - 17. Plaintiff has never given Defendant authorization to use Plaintiff's Patent.

B. Plaintiff's Trademark Rights

- 18. Plaintiff owns the trademark MIRROR MINTS. Plaintiff also owns Trademark Registration No. 2939960 for the mark MIRROR MINTS, covering "candy, breath mints" ("Plaintiff's Registration"). (Exhibit B.)
- 19. Plaintiff's Registration issued on April 12, 2005, and indicates that the MIRROR MINTS trademark was first used in commerce at least as early as June 16, 2004.
- 20. Plaintiff's Registration is valid, subsisting, incontestable, and constitutes *prima facie* evidence of the validity of the MIRROR MINTS trademark and registration, and Plaintiff's exclusive right to use the MIRROR MINTS mark in commerce.

- 21. Plaintiff's Registration issued to Innovative Product Development, Inc. d/b/a Little i, and was subsequently assigned to Plaintiff. (**Exhibit B.**)
- 22. Plaintiff was the exclusive licensee or owner of the MIRROR MINTS trademark and registration throughout the period of Defendant's acts giving rise to this action, including Defendant's infringing acts, and Plaintiff currently owns the trademark and the registration.
 - 23. Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins are sold under its MIRROR MINTS trademark.
- 24. Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark is used on Plaintiff's website to identify Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins, as shown below.



25. Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark has been used on virtually every one of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins, for example, as shown below.



- 26. Plaintiff has sold millions of units of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins under its MIRROR MINTS trademark and has invested substantial amounts of money on the advertising and promotion of such products under the mark.
- 27. Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins sold under the MIRROR MINTS trademark have received significant media attention.
- 28. Plaintiff has developed extensive goodwill in its MIRROR MINTS trademark as a result of the long use, advertising, and promotion of the mark, and the degree of public recognition of the mark.
- 29. Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark and registration are assets of great value to Plaintiff.
- 30. Plaintiff has never given Defendant authorization to use its MIRROR MINTS trademark.

C. Defendant's Wrongful Acts

- 31. Amy Katz, who is identified on Defendant's Clik Clak Website as a co-founder of Clik Clak (Defendant's assumed name), approached Robert Berg, who is Plaintiff's president, at a trade show in New York held on July 10-12, 2005. During their discussions, Mr. Berg indicated that patent applications had been filed for Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins. Mr. Berg's statement placed Defendant on notice of Plaintiff's patent rights. Ms. Katz indicated that she did not believe any patent applications had been filed for Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins because she could not find any record of such applications. As a lawyer, Ms. Katz knew or should have known that patent applications are not public until they are published by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and that, as a result, the absence of any record of a pending application does not indicate that no such application exists.
- 32. On July 26, 2005, Mr. Berg's patent counsel sent Ms. Katz a letter stating that Plaintiff had filed several patent applications in the United States and in foreign countries covering Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins. (Exhibit C.) This letter reinforced Defendant's knowledge of Plaintiff's pending patent application. Mr. Berg's counsel also stated that Plaintiff had vigorously

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enforced its patent rights in the past, but would be willing to consider entering into a collaborative relationship with Defendant if Ms. Katz wished to pursue any products protected by Plaintiff's intellectual property. (*Id.*)

- 33. Notwithstanding Defendant's knowledge of Plaintiff's patent rights, Defendant has sold or offered to sell large numbers of mirrored tins that are virtually indistinguishable from Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins ("Defendant's Mirrored Tins").
- 34. Defendant's Mirrored Tins have been sold or distributed through Lowe's department store one of the largest department stores in the United States. An example of the tins sold or distributed through Lowe's, as depicted on the Defendant's Clik Clak Website, is shown below.



- 35. Defendant's Mirrored Tins have been offered to Sencha Naturals, Inc. Sencha is located in this judicial district at 104 North Union Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90026. Defendant sent Sencha Naturals a sample of Defendant's Mirrored Tins on March 22, 2013. Defendant provided Sencha with a pro forma invoice for 10,000 of Defendant's Mirrored Tins on March 29, 2013. Defendant indicated to Sencha on April 3, 2013 that it only stocks Defendant's Mirrored Tins in silver. Defendant indicated to Sencha on April 4, 2013 that Defendant's Mirrored Tins are a "stock item for us," that the tins are "definitely one of our most unique tins," and that Defendant currently had 25,000 units of the tins.
- 36. The design, size, and shape of Defendant's Mirrored Tins and Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins is identical. The materials comprising Defendant's Mirrored Tins and Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins appear to be identical. Defendant's Mirrored Tins and Plaintiff's silver mirrored tins are identical in color. The only differences between Defendant's Mirrored Tins and Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins are the trademarks appearing on the tins.

- 37. Defendant's Mirrored Tins are advertised on Defendant's Clik Clak Website. Defendant's Mirrored Tins are the first item on the "Tins, Containers & Candy" page of Defendant's Clik Clak Website. (Exhibit D.)
- 38. Defendant prominently uses MIRROR MINT TIN as a trademark in initial capital letters and bolded print (i.e., **Mirror Mint Tin**) to identify Defendant's Mirrored Tins on the "Tins, Containers & Candy" page and the "Mirror Mint Tin" page of Defendant's Clik Clak Website. (**Exhibit D.**)
- 39. Defendant intentionally selected the mark MIRROR MINT TIN to be identical with, or substantially indistinguishable from, Plaintiff's mark, and to injure Plaintiff.
- 40. The information accessible through the "Pricing" tab on the "Mirror Mint Tin" page of Defendant's Clik Clak Website indicates that the price of Defendant's Mirrored Tins is between \$2.02 and \$2.18, depending on the number of units involved. (**Exhibit D.**)

D. Injury to Plaintiff

- 41. Defendant's sale and offer for sale of Defendant's Mirrored Tins infringes Plaintiff's Patent.
- 42. Defendant's use of the mark MIRROR MINT TIN to identify Defendant's Mirrored Tins creates a likelihood of confusion with Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark and infringes Plaintiff's rights in the trademark and the registration for the mark.
- 43. Defendant's use of the mark MIRROR MINT TIN constitutes use of a counterfeit mark within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1116, as MIRROR MINT TIN is identical with, or substantially indistinguishable from, Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark.
- 44. Defendant was aware of Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights at least as early as 2005 as a result of the substantial sales of Plaintiff's Mirrored Tins, including in the New York region, and Defendant's contacts with Plaintiff. Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights were of public record soon after Defendant's contacts with Plaintiff, as Plaintiff's Registration issued in 2005, Plaintiff's patent application was published in 2006, and Plaintiff's Patent issued in 2007.

Defendant's knowledge of Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights establishes that Defendant's acts of infringement and counterfeiting have been willful at all times relevant to this Complaint.

- 45. Defendant's willful infringement of Plaintiff's patent and trademark rights has caused substantial harm to Plaintiff and was designed to cause such harm.
- 46. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law for Defendant's acts of intentional patent and trademark infringement.

COUNT I INFRINGEMENT OF PATENT NO. 7237677 35 U.S.C. § 271

- 47. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 48. Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe Patent No. 7237677 by making, importing, distributing, selling, offering to sell, or otherwise using mirrored tins that embody the patented invention in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271.
- 49. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages, including lost sales, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 50. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm, including the loss of exclusivity conferred to Plaintiff by the patent laws of the United States, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 51. Defendant had actual and constructive notice of Plaintiff's rights in the Patents at all times relevant to this Complaint and its acts of infringement have been and continue to be willful, making this an exceptional case.

COUNT II INFRINGEMENT OF TRADEMARK REGISTRATION NO. 2939960 15 U.S.C. § 1114, Lanham Act § 32(a)

- 52. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 53. Defendant's actions are likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception as to the origin, sponsorship, approval, or licensing of Defendant's products and commercial activities, and

thus constitute infringement of Plaintiff's registration for the MIRROR MINTS trademark, Trademark Registration No. 2939960, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1114(1).

- 54. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages, including lost sales, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 55. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm, including the loss of exclusivity conferred to Plaintiff by the trademark laws of the United States, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 56. Defendant had actual and constructive notice of Plaintiff's rights in the MIRROR MINTS trademark at all times relevant to this Complaint and its acts of infringement have been and continue to be willful, making this an exceptional case.

COUNT III TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AND UNFAIR COMPETITION 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(A), Lanham Act § 43(a)(1)(A)

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 58. Defendant's actions are likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception as to the origin, sponsorship, approval, or licensing of Defendant's products and commercial activities, and thus constitute trademark infringement, false designation of origin, passing off, and unfair competition with respect Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark in violation 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(A).
- 59. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages, including lost sales, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 60. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm, including the loss of exclusivity conferred to Plaintiff by the trademark laws of the United States, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 61. Defendant had actual and constructive notice of Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark at all times relevant to this Complaint and its acts of infringement have been and continue to be willful, making this an exceptional case.

COUNT IV COMMON LAW TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

Plaintiff incorporates and realleges all of the allegations contained in the preceding

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paragraphs of this Complaint.

- 63. Defendant's actions constitute common law trademark infringement, passing off, and unfair competition with respect Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark in violation of California common law.
- 64. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages, including lost sales, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 65. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm, including the loss of exclusivity conferred to Plaintiff by the trademark laws of the United States, as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's infringement.
- 66. Defendant had actual and constructive notice of Plaintiff's rights in the MIRROR MINTS trademark at all times relevant to this Complaint and its acts of infringement have been and continue to be willful, making this an exceptional case.

Prayer for Relief

- I. Plaintiff prays for entry of judgment in its favor on its claim for patent infringement and respectfully requests:
 - A. That this Court find Defendant has infringed Patent No. 723767 under 35 U.S.C. § 271;
 - B. That this Court preliminarily and permanently enjoin Defendant from infringing
 Patent No. 7237677 and any further acts of infringement of the patent under 35
 U.S.C. § 283;
 - C. That this Court award damages to compensate Plaintiff for Defendant's infringement of Patent No. 7237677 in an amount to be determined at trial, and in no event less than Defendant's profits, together with interest and cost, under 35 U.S.C. § 284, which Plaintiff preliminarily estimates to be no less than \$50,000;

- II.
- D. That this Court treble any damages awarded to Plaintiff as a result of Defendant's willful infringement of Patent No. 7237677 under 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- E. That this Court find this to be an exceptional case and award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- F. That this Court award Plaintiff its costs under Rule 54(d)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; and
- G. That this Court award Plaintiff such other relief as it deems just and proper, including exemplary damages and pre- and post-judgment interest.
- II. Plaintiff prays for entry of judgment in its favor on its claims for trademark infringement and unfair competition, and respectfully requests:
 - A. That this Court find Defendant has infringed Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark, and Plaintiff's registration for the MIRROR MINTS trademark,

 Trademark Registration No. 2939960, under 15 U.S.C. § 1114(1) and 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(A);
 - B. That this Court preliminarily and permanently enjoin Defendant from infringing Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark, and Plaintiff's registration for the MIRROR MINTS trademark, Trademark Registration No. 2939960, under 15 U.S.C. § 1116;
 - C. That this Court award damages to compensate Plaintiff for Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's MIRROR MINTS trademark, and Plaintiff's registration for the MIRROR MINTS trademark, Trademark Registration No. 2939960, in an amount to be determined at trial, and in no event less than Defendant's profits, together with interest and cost, under 35 U.S.C. § 1117, which Plaintiff preliminarily estimates to be no less than \$50,000;
 - D. That this Court treble any damages awarded to Plaintiff as a result of Defendant's use of the counterfeit mark MIRROR MINT TIN to infringe Plaintiff's MIRROR

1		MINTS trademark, and Plaintin	ff's registration for the MIRROR MINTS trademark,		
2		Trademark Registration No. 29	939960, under 15 U.S.C. § 1117;		
3	E.	That this Court award Plaintiff statutory damages, at Plaintiff's election, of up to			
4		\$2,000,000 for Defendant's wi	llful use of the counterfeit mark MIRROR MINT		
5		TIN to infringe Plaintiff's MIR	ROR MINTS trademark, and Plaintiff's registration		
6		for the MIRROR MINTS trade	emark, Trademark Registration No. 2939960, under		
7		15 U.S.C. § 1117;			
8	F.	That this Court find this to be an exceptional case and award Plaintiff its reasonable			
9		attorneys' fees under 15 U.S.C	. § 1117;		
10	G.	That this Court award Plaintiff its costs under Rule 54(d)(1) of the Federal Rules of			
11		Civil Procedure; and			
12	H.	That this Court award Plaintiff such other relief as it deems just and proper,			
13		including exemplary damages	and pre- and post-judgment interest.		
14		Demand	l for Jury Trial		
15	Plaintiff respectfully requests a trial by jury on all issues.				
16			Respectfully submitted,		
17					
18	Dated: Mag	y 21, 2013	Ins. Nayna		
19			Evan A. Raynes Symbus Law Group, LLC		
20			1425 K Street, N.W., Suite 350		
21			Washington, D.C. 20005 Phone: 202-258-0652		
22			Fax: 540-518-9037		
23			eraynes@symbus.com		
24			Counsel for Plaintiff LITTLE I, INC.		
25			,		
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EXHIBIT A



US007237677B2

(12) United States Patent Berg

(10) Patent No.: US 7,237,677 B2 (45) Date of Patent: Jul. 3, 2007

(54) MIRRORED ORAL-PRODUCT CONTAINER

(76) Inventor: Robert I. Berg, 8435 Seafair Ct.,

Blaine, WA (US) 98230

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 281 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 10/858,391

(22) Filed: Jun. 2, 2004

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2006/0157378 A1 Jul. 20, 2006

Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 60/511,298, filed on Oct. 16, 2003.
- (51) **Int. Cl.**

B65D 71/00 (2006.01)

- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **206/581**; 206/37; 206/235

See application file for complete search history.

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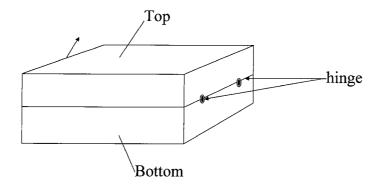
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Primary Examiner—Luan K. Bui (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Stephen B. Parker, Esq.

(57) ABSTRACT

An oral-product container is disclosed that includes: a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes; and b) a mirror for visage freshening purposes.

22 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets



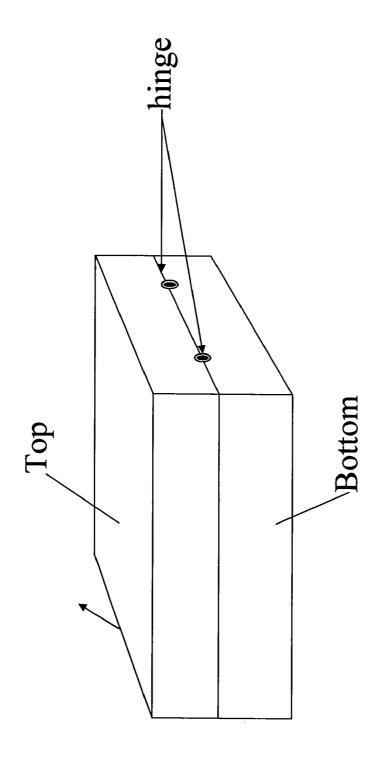
Mirror: Attached or integrally formed in interior bottom and/or top.

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Mirror: Attached or integrally formed in interior bottom and/or top.

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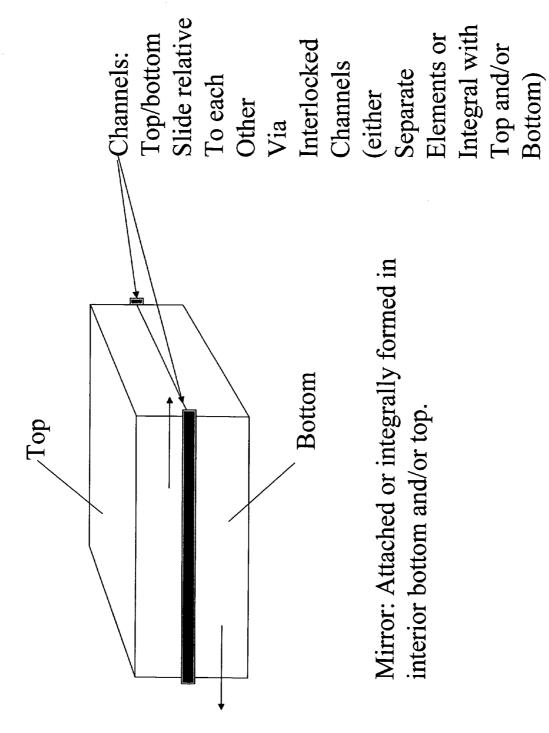
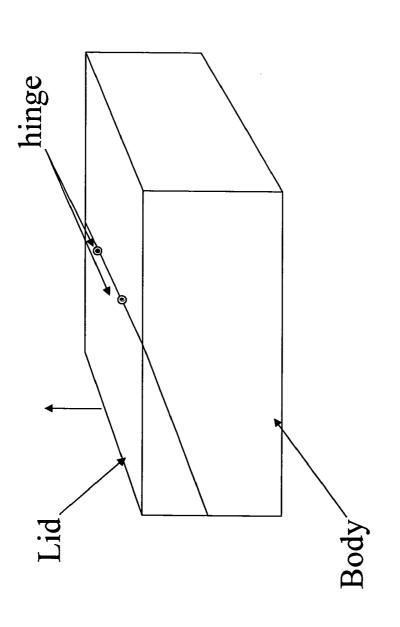


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

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Mirror: Attached or integrally formed in interior of lid (i.e., sub-portion of container).

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Interior.)

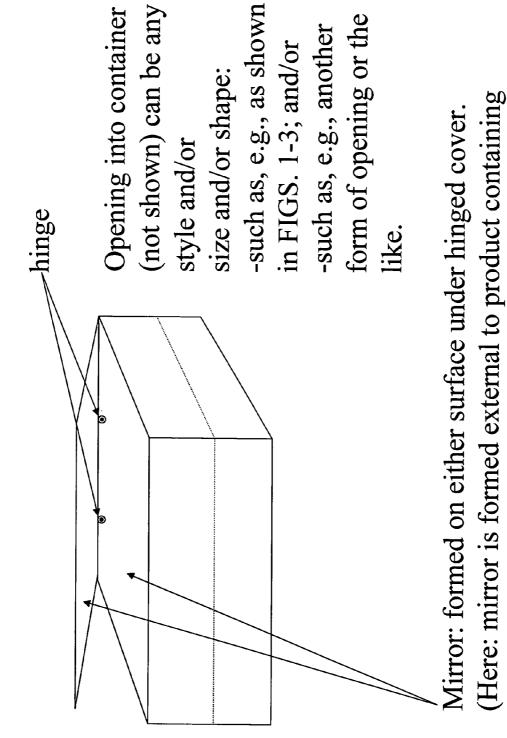


FIG. 4

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Mirror: formed in exterior surface of container; and/or attached to exterior

of container.

covering (such as, e.g., during transport) to, e.g., can be (if desired) contained within a protective Dashed line indicates that exterior of container protect mirror. Cover can include, e.g., plastic

wrap (e.g., providing a full enclosure) a removable sticker (e.g., covering only a mirror and/or a portion of the container); etc.

Top

Bottom

Dashed line indic

FIG.

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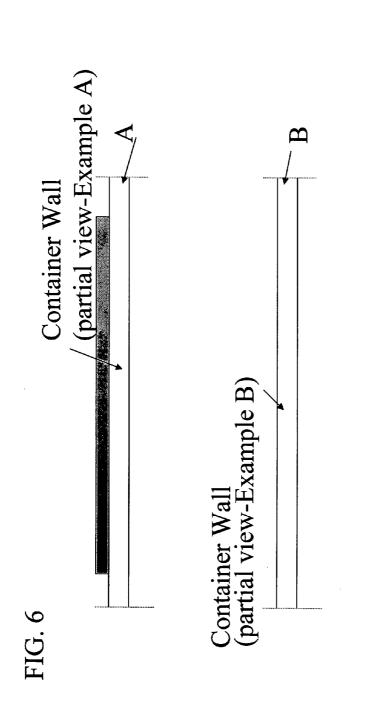
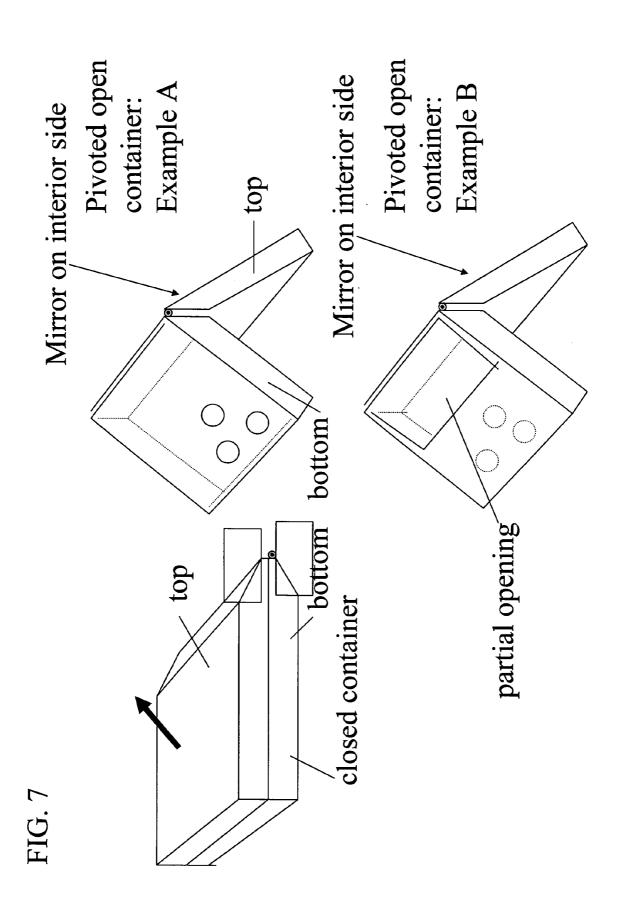


Diagram A: mirror attached to container wall (e.g., mirror sticker, glue attachment, magnetic attachment and/or other)

Diagram B: mirror integral with container wall (e.g., buffed reflective surface and/or other).

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U.S. Patent Jul. 3, 2007 US 7,237,677 B2 Sheet 8 of 18 Average sized adult Container (e.g., preferably sized to fit easily within pocket during use pants Rear pockets

FIG. 8



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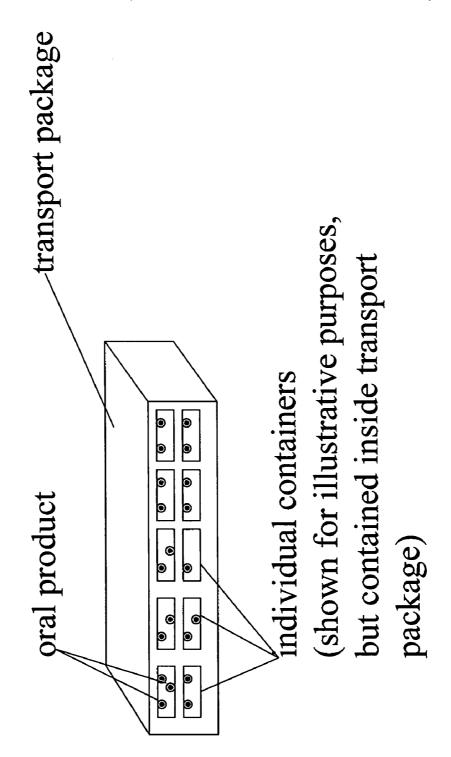
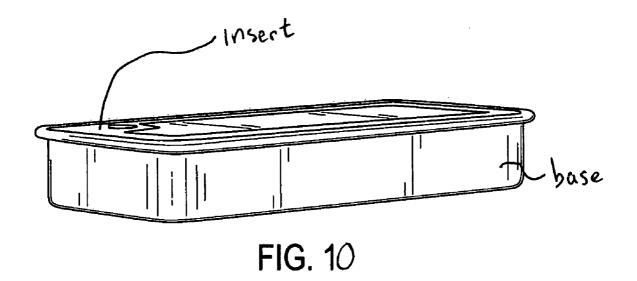


FIG. 9

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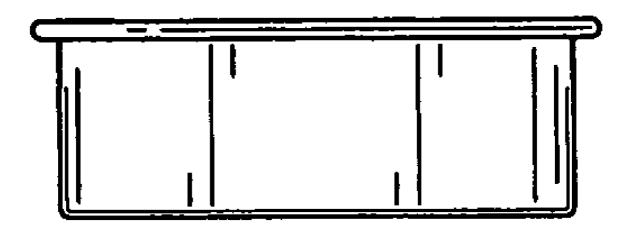


FIG. 1

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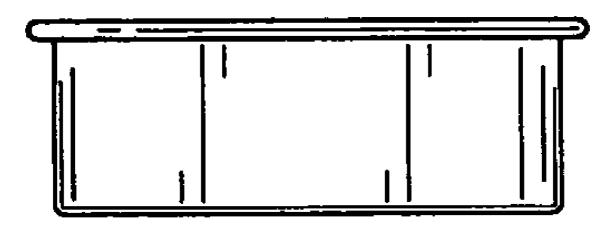


FIG.12

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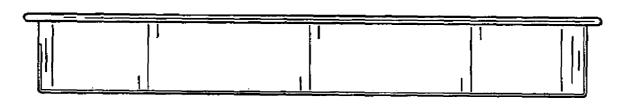


FIG.13

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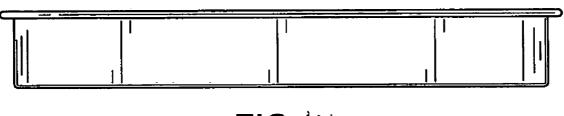


FIG.14

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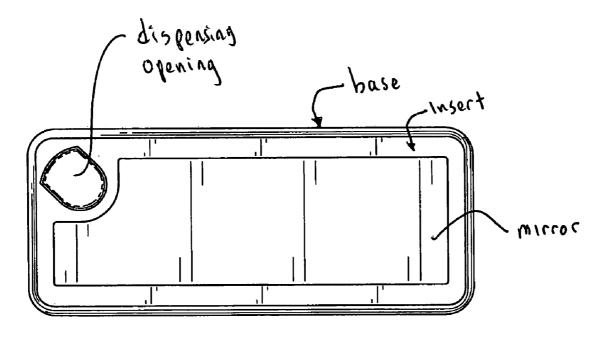


FIG.15

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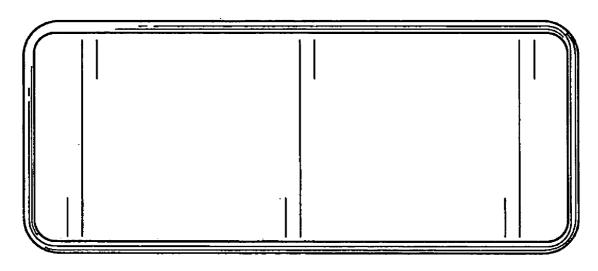


FIG. 16

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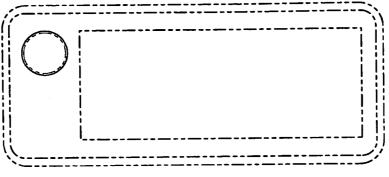


FIG. 17(A)

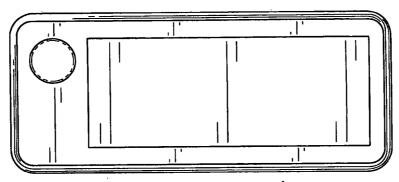


FIG. 17(B)

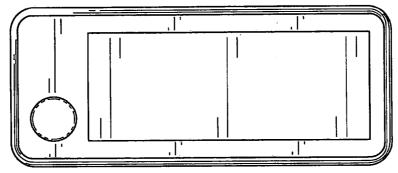


FIG. 17(c)

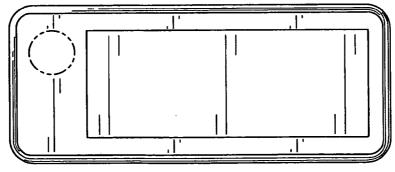
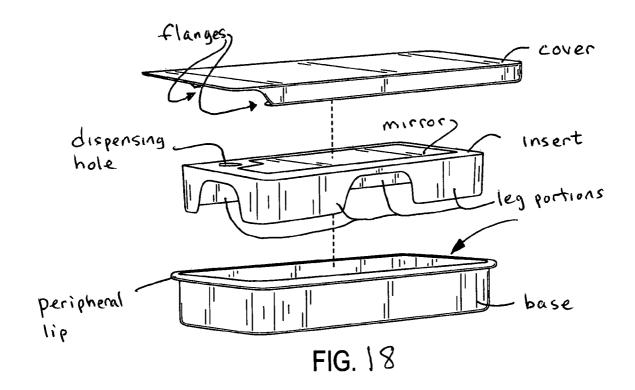


FIG. 17 (D)

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Here: cover includes downward flanges that can slide around and engage the base under the peripheral lip shown.

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1 MIRRORED ORAL-PRODUCT CONTAINER

The present application claims priority to U.S. provisional application Ser. No. 60/511,298 filed on Oct. 16, 2003, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by refer- 5 ence as though recited herein in full.

BACKGROUND

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to containers for oral-products and some preferred embodiments relate to containers for breath fresheners, such as, e.g., mints or the like.

2. Discussion of the Background

In some circumstances in modem culture, individuals 15 seek to enhance their personal image, such as, e.g., their appearance, their odor, and/or the like. Individuals may seek to enhance their personal image for a variety of reasons, such as, by way of example, to: a) prepare for a date and/or a romantic encounter; b) make a good impression on one or 20 more individual; c) enhance one's self-confidence; and/or d) achieve a wide variety of other goals.

Breath Freshening

In modern culture, the use of breath fresheners to, e.g., enhance an individual's oral freshness, such as, e.g., oral 25 cleanliness, oral odor and/or the like, has become widely accepted. A wide variety of breath fresheners exist in the market, such as, e.g., various breath freshening confectionaries and candies and/or the like, such as, e.g., mint-flavored breath fresheners, cinnamon-flavored breath fresheners, 30 fruit-flavored (such as, e.g., lemon, lime, orange and/or the like) breath fresheners; and/or the like. Some existing breath fresheners include that of, e.g., ALTOIDS, TIC TAC, BAR-KLEYS and various other breath freshener products.

Visage Freshening

In modern culture, the use of items to enhance an individual's visage or face is not as widely accepted. In some instances, individuals may carry compacts (having small mirrors and make-up) with which they may attend to their personal visage freshening (such as, e.g., farding).

However, while individuals often freely take breath fresheners in the accompaniment of others, individuals are often more reluctant to use a compact in the accompaniment of others. Among other things, the use of cosmetics, make-up and/or the like visage freshening products can often have a 45 negative connotation, such as, e.g., creating an appearance of vanity. As a result, in order to be able to look at oneself in a mirror (such as, e.g., to ascertain if a need exists for visage freshening and/or to engage in visage freshening), an individual often has to leave a room to a location of privacy, 50 such as, e.g., a bathroom or the like. While individuals may carry compacts or the like, in many contexts, individuals will not use them in the accompaniment of others. By way of example, while in a romantic setting, a woman may be reluctant to check her facial make-up in front of her partner. 55 according to some illustrative embodiments; Among other things, the woman may not wish to portray vanity and/or to provide an appearance to her partner that she has some concern for the freshness of her visage—e.g. which might inadvertently be suggestive of personal of vanity, of a level of interest in her partner, and/or the like. 60

There has been a need for a product that can overcome some of the above and/or other problems.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The preferred embodiments of the present invention have been developed in view of the above mentioned and/or other 2

issues in the related art. In some embodiments, one or more of the above and/or other problems related to visage freshening can be overcome. In addition, some preferred embodiments can advantageously provide a highly unique breath freshening container product having unique functional and aesthetic qualities.

According to some illustrative embodiments, an oralproduct container includes: a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes; and b) a mirror for visage freshening purposes. In some embodiments, the mirror can be on an interior of said container when said container is closed. In some embodiments, the mirror can be on an exterior of said container when said container is closed. In some illustrative embodiments, said breath fresheners include at least flavor from the group consisting of: peppermint; spearmint; other mint flavors; wintergreen; cinnamon; licorice; citric flavors; sour flavors; and herbal or spice flavors.

According to some illustrative embodiments, a method of distributing the containers can include, e.g.: filling a plurality of said containers in a packaging container; and transporting the filled packaging container to a retail center (such as, e.g., for direct sales to consumers).

According to some illustrative embodiments, a method of freshening an individual includes: providing the individual with a container having a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein and a mirror; having the individual place at least one of said breath fresheners in the individual's mouth for breath freshening purposes; and having the individual view himself or herself in said mirror for visage freshening purposes. In some embodiments, said visage freshening purposes can include determining whether the individual's face needs freshening and/or can include freshening the individual's face with cosmetic products or devices.

The above and/or other aspects, features and/or advantages of various embodiments will be further appreciated in view of the following description in conjunction with the accompanying figures. Various embodiments can include and/or exclude different aspects, features and/or advantages where applicable. In addition, various embodiments can combine one or more aspect or feature of other embodiments where applicable. The descriptions of aspects, features and/ or advantages of particular embodiments should not be construed as limiting other embodiments or the claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying figures are provided by way of example, without limiting the broad scope of the invention or various other embodiments, wherein:

- FIG. 1 is a schematic side perspective view of a container
- FIG. 2 is a schematic side perspective view of another container according to some illustrative embodiments;
- FIG. 3 is a schematic side perspective view of another container according to some illustrative embodiments;
- FIG. 4 is a schematic side perspective view of another container according to some illustrative embodiments;
- FIG. 5 is a schematic side perspective view of another container according to some illustrative embodiments;
- FIG. 6 is a schematic side view showing portions of illustrative examples A and B depicting some illustrative mirror forming embodiments;

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FIG. 7 is a plurality of schematic side perspective views showing other containers according to some illustrative embodiments in which the container can be operable as a mirror stand;

FIG. **8** is a schematic diagram showing a container located 5 within the pants pocket of a user;

FIG. 9 is a schematic diagram showing a plurality of containers filled with oral products, such as, e.g., breath fresheners, contained within a transport package (such as, e.g., a crate, cardboard box, box and/or the like);

FIGS. 10-18 are other views of containers according to some illustrative embodiments;

In particular, FIG. 10 is a front perspective view according to some embodiments, FIG. 11 is a first end view taken from the left side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 12 is a second end view taken from the right side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 13 is a side view taken from a front side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 14 is a side view taken from a back side of the embodiment shown in FIG, FIG. 15 is a top view of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, and FIG. 16 is a bottom view of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10;

In addition, FIGS. 17(A)-17(D) show various alternative top views that may be employed instead of the structure shown in FIG. 15; and

FIG. 18 is an exploded view showing a device similar to that shown in FIG. 10 with an internal cover plate member removed and with an illustrative slider cover.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The following description sets forth some illustrative preferred embodiments of the invention. It should be understood based on this disclosure that the following description is illustrative and non-limiting and that various modifications, alterations, changes and/or the like can be employed in various embodiments of the invention. In addition, various components of the various embodiments can be replaced with equivalent structures (including presently know equivalents and/or future known equivalents) as would be understood based on this disclosure.

Illustrative Embodiments

FIGS. **1-9** show some illustrative embodiments of the invention. In the preferred embodiments (such as, e.g., in preferred implementations of the embodiments shown in FIGS. **1-9**), an oral-product container is provided that includes: a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes; and b) a mirror for visage freshening purposes. Although a variety of illustrative embodiments are shown, it should be understood based on this disclosure that the illustrative embodiments can vary widely and that these are merely some preferred examples.

In preferred embodiments, the container can be used by an individual in order to orally consume one or more breath freshener for breath freshening purposes and/or to visually view himself or herself for visage freshening purposes. In 60 this disclosure, the terminology visage freshening purposes includes, among other things, viewing for purposes of determining if a need exists for visage freshening and conducting visage freshening, such as, e.g., using cosmetic products or devices (such as, e.g., applying blush with a 65 blush applicator, applying mascara with a mascara applicator, applying lipstick with a lipstick applicator, removing

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cosmetics with a cosmetic remover [which can include, e.g., a tissue and/or the like], etc.).

FIG. 1 shows one illustrative embodiment including a container having top and bottom halves that are connected together via a hinge. When in a closed condition, such as, e.g., shown in FIG. 1, the two halves form an enclosure in which oral products can be contained.

In some preferred embodiments, a mirror can be formed on an interior surface of the top half. Upon pivoting the top half away from the bottom half, the mirror can be revealed. In this manner, the mirror can be—to some degree—hidden from view of those accompanying the user. Thus, a user can, e.g., take a quick look at himself or herself while appearing to merely open a container to merely access, e.g., some breath fresheners.

In some preferred embodiments, a mirror can alternatively or additionally be formed on an exterior surface of the top half. In this manner, a user can, among other things, easily utilize the mirror without regard to oral product inside the container (e.g., the user can easily utilize the mirror while the oral product is securely contained in the container)

In some preferred embodiments, a mirror can alternatively or additionally be formed on interior and/or exterior surfaces of the bottom half. Additionally, while in preferred embodiments a mirror will be formed upon a larger side of the container, in some embodiments a mirror could alternatively or additionally be formed on a narrower edge of the container (e.g., either interior and/or exterior to the container, but preferably exterior to the container).

FIG. 2 illustrates another embodiment in which a container has a top portion and a bottom portion that are laterally slidable with respect to one another in order to open the container. In this embodiment, a mirror can be formed—as before—on interior and/or exterior surfaces of the top and/or bottom portions, and upon large sides and/or narrow edges thereof.

FIG. 3 illustrates another embodiment in which a hinged lid is formed in a sub-portion of the container. Among other things, this embodiment can, e.g., facilitate opening of the container to reveal and internal mirror while the oral product is securely contained therein. In preferred implementations of this embodiment, the mirror could be formed internal to the hinged lid. However, in other embodiments, a mirror could be formed alternatively or additionally on other portions of the container.

FIG. 4 illustrates another embodiment in which a mirror can be formed underneath a separate mirror cover. In some embodiments, such as, e.g., shown in FIG. 4, the separate mirror cover can be hinged to the container. In such embodiments, a mirror can be formed on either surface under the hinged cover. In this illustrative embodiment, the mirror can be protected from external environmental factors (e.g., under the cover) and can be isolated from the container interior (e.g., separate from the oral product therein).

FIG. 5 illustrates another embodiment in which a container can have a generally round large side (such as, e.g., a generally circular, elliptical or other rounded shape). It should be understood that a variety of container shapes could be used and the illustrative embodiments are merely exemplary. In the most preferred embodiments, however, the container has a large side and a narrow edge. In this manner, as shown in FIG. 8, the container can, most preferably, easily slide into a storing position, such as, e.g., inside a user's pocket (such as, e.g., a rear pants pocket as shown by way of example).

In some illustrative embodiments, a large side of the container can have a maximum diameter of between about 1 inches and 6 inches. In some other illustrative embodiments, a large side of the container can have a maximum diameter of between about 2 and 5 inches. In some other 5 illustrative embodiments, a large side of the container can have a maximum diameter of between about 3 and 4 inches. In some illustrative embodiments, a narrow side of the container can have a maximum width of between about 1/4 inch and 1 inch. In some other illustrative embodiments, the narrow side of the container can have a maximum width of between about 1/3 inch and 2/3 inch. Although not shown, in some embodiments, one or more of the large sides of the container can also include a bowed configuration or curvature so as to conform to a user's buttocks when placed within 15

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The illustrative example shown in FIG. 5 also includes a reflective surface or mirror formed exterior to the container. It should be understood based on this disclosure that a mirror

a pant pocket as shown in FIG. 8.

FIG. 6 shows some illustrative methods for forming the mirror on the container. Example A illustrates some instances in which the mirror includes materials attached to the container wall (such as, e.g., using a mirror sticker that 25 is applied, using glues or adhesives to attach mirror components, using a magnetic attachment, using a mechanical attachment [such as, e.g., a rivet, a screw and/or other mechanism] and/or the like). Example B illustrates some instances in which the mirror is formed integrally in the 30 container wall (such as, e.g., a highly buffed metal surface, a chemically treated surface and/or the like).

FIG. 7 shows some illustrative embodiments in which a container has an open position in which the container serves as a stand for the mirror. While the container can serve as a 35 stand for the mirror using a variety of other configurations (as would be apparent based on this disclosure), in the illustrative embodiment, the container can include an internal mirror on a top half of the container. The container can then be configured such that when it is pivoted open, it can 40 be placed in a fully open position as shown in FIG. 7 in which the container forms a generally A-frame structure or a generally inverted-V structure as shown. Preferably, the container is configured such that the container is lockable in an open position and/or in a closed position (such as, e.g., 45 providing snap-fit engaging members between the top and bottom portions).

FIG. 7 also shows two illustrative examples: Example A shows an opened container having a substantially fully open bottom; and Example B shows an opened container having 50 a partially open bottom. Among other things, Example B can facilitate use of the container in the open position while breath fresheners (shown in dashed lines in Example B) are securely retained in the container.

In some preferred embodiments, the container can be 55 made with metal, such as, e.g., of tin, aluminum, stainless steel, iron, copper and/or other metal. In some preferred embodiments, the container can be made with natural and/or synthetic resins, such as, e.g., various plastics and/or the like. In some preferred embodiments, the container can be 60 made with paper, cardboard, wood and/or the like materials. In some preferred embodiments, the container can be shrouded within a plastic wrap and/or another wrapping medium, such as, e.g., a foil wrap. Among other things, such a wrap can help to protect the contents within the container 65 and/or can help to protect the container itself. Such a plastic wrap could be, e.g., a manually removable wrap that is

removed by an end consumer who uses the container for oral and/or visage freshening purposes. In some embodiments, a plurality of containers can be wrapped together for bulk sales to a consumer (such as, e.g., in groups of 2, 4, 6, 12 and/or the like).

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Mirror(s)

In various embodiments, a number of mirror constructions can be employed. For example, in some embodiments one or more of the following types of mirrors (i.e., reflective surfaces) can be employed.

- 1. A glass with a reflective coating (such as, e.g., a metal undercoating), such as, e.g., a common household
- 2. A polymer material with a reflective coating;
- 3. A metal, such as, e.g., aluminum, chrome and/or other metal having a highly reflective surface (such as, e.g., a buffed surface and/or otherwise smooth and reflective surface finish and/or the like).

In preferred embodiments, the mirror has a sufficient could be alternatively or additionally formed interior to the 20 extent of reflectivity to enable an individual to hold the mirror or otherwise locate the mirror within about 6 inches to 1 foot, or even within about 1 foot to 2 feet, from the individual's face and to visually perceive facial details without significant content distortion. In preferred embodiments, the reflectivity is sufficient to enable a user to perform common cosmetic visage freshening tasks.

> In some preferred embodiments, the mirrors are made with one or more of the following properties: a) breakproof or substantially breakproof materials; b) shatterproof or substantial shatterproof materials; c) appropriate non-toxic materials for food product packaging; and/or d) other appropriate properties for food product packaging.

> In some illustrative embodiments, mirrors can employ aspects of one or more of the features of the mirrors shown in the following documents (each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties and are included in the above-reference provisional application):

- 1. http://www.ultralight-sports.com/mirror.html (including, e.g., mirrors made from made from a premium reflective plastic film laminated to smooth coated paper);
- 2. http://www.e-sci.com/genSci/RENDER/7/1035/1080/ 9982. html (including, e.g., mirrors having a substrate that is acrylic with an aluminum coating for a reflecting surface);
- 3. http://www.goodturn.biz/mirrors.html
- 4. http://www.csmirrors.co.uk/index.php?pageID=acrylic (including, e.g., acrylic mirrors);
- http://www.csmirrors.co.uk/ index.php?pageID=stainlesssteel (including, stainless steel mirrors);
- 6. http://www.alsacorp.com/Laminates.html (including, e.g., "ChromeFX sheeting [that] is a decorative product based upon GE HP92H LEXAN® films and a Molecular Metallic Chrome Film protected by the LEXAN® film and backed by an adhesive system").

In various embodiments, a plethora of different oralproducts can be contained within the containers. In some embodiments, the oral-products can include, e.g., breath fresheners. For example, such breath fresheners may, e.g., enhance an individual's oral freshness, such as, e.g., oral cleanliness, oral odor and/or the like. Various embodiments can use any currently known and/or later known fresheners, such as, e.g., various breath freshening candies and/or the like, such as, e.g., mint-flavored fresheners, cinnamonflavored fresheners, fruit-flavored (such as, e.g., lemon, 7

lime, orange and/or the like) fresheners and/or the like. In some embodiments, breath fresheners similar to, e.g., ALTOIDS, TIC TACS, BARKLEYS, CERTS and/or various other breath freshener products can be used.

In some illustrative embodiments, oral products can 5 include one or more of the following:

- a) gum (such as, e.g., wrapped chewing gum strips [such
 as, e.g., WRIGLEY'S BIG RED gum sticks, WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT gum sticks, etc.], gum balls
 [such as, e.g., EVERCREST mint gum balls, etc.]);
- b) candy coated gum (such as, e.g., WRIGLEY'S ECLIPSE rectangular gum chews);
- c) hard-confectionary (such as, e.g., hard mints);
- d) quick-dissolving confectionary (such as, e.g., quick dissolving mints)(such as, e.g., lasting under about 30 seconds in normal usage in an adult user's mouth);
- e) slow-dissolving confectionary (such as, e.g., longer lasting mints or lozenges)(such as, e.g., lasting over one minute in normal usage in an adult user's mouth); and/or
- strip-shaped confectionary (such as, e.g., ALTOIDS strips and/or LISTERINE POCKET PACKS, etc.).

While a variety of illustrative oral products are described herein, it should be understood based on this disclosure that various embodiments can employ a variety of other oral products (such as, e.g., various food products [e.g., candies, confectioneries or other food products], medicinal products, flavored products and/or the like).

In some embodiments, the oral products can include breath fresheners having one or more of the following flavors: peppermint, spearmint; other mint flavors; wintergreen; cinnamon; licorice; citric flavors (e.g., lemon, orange, lime, etc.); sour flavors; herbal or spice flavors (e.g., garlic, onion and/or the like) and/or other now or later known breath freshener flavors.

In some embodiments, the oral products include all or substantially all natural ingredients. In some embodiments, all or substantially all of the ingredients contributing to the flavor of the oral products are natural ingredients.

In some embodiments, the oral products can include at least some or all of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in BARKLEYS PEPPERMINT mints): sugar; powdered glucose; sorbitol; maltodextrin; magnesium stearate; oil of peppermint (e.g., triple distilled oil of peppermint); astural and artificial flavors. In some embodiments, the oral products can include at least some or all of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in BARKLEYS WINTER-GREEN mints): sugar; powdered glucose; maltodextrin; magnesium stearate; artificial flavors. In some embodiments, the oral products can include at least some or all of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in BARK-LEYS CINNAMON mints): sugar; powdered glucose; maltodextrin; magnesium stearate; natural and artificial flavors; oil of peppermint.

In some embodiments, the oral products have very low calories. In some embodiments, the oral products have very low carbohydrate values, such as, e.g., less than about 10 grams per serving, or, more preferably, less than about 5 grams per serving, or, more preferably, less than about 3 grams per serving, or, more preferably, less than about 2 grams per serving.

In some embodiments, one or more of the following ingredients can be used to create a breath freshener product: sugar, dextrin, starch, arabic gum, natural and artificial 65 flavors, magnesium stearate, carnauba wax (such as, e.g., found in TIC TACS). In some embodiments, there will not

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be a significant source of calories from fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, fiber, vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium and/or iron.

In some illustrative embodiments, the breath fresheners can have a serving size of 1 piece (such as, e.g., about 0.3-0.4 grams per piece), can come in containers having about 30-50 per container, and can have a total amount of calories per serving of about 1-2 calories (such as, e.g., found in TIC TACS).

In some illustrative embodiments, each piece can have one or more, preferably all, of the following amounts (followed by % of daily value): total fat: 0 g, 0%; sodium: 0 mg, 0%; total carbohydrates: 0 g, 0%; sugars, 0 g; and/or protein, 0 g.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include one or more of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in ALTOIDS WINTERGREEN mints): sugar; artificial flavor; gum arabic; gelatin; glucose syrup; natural Flavor.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include one or more of the following nutrition facts (such as, e.g., found in ALTOIDS WINTERGREEN mints): serving size=3 pieces (about 2 g); servings per container=about 50; calories total=about 10; calories from fat=about 0.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include one or more of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in ALTOIDS PEPPERMINT): sugar; oil of peppermint, gum arabic, gelatin, corn syrup.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can be made to temporarily mask bad breath and/or a bad taste in one's mouth. In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can be made to (e.g. using chemicals, compounds or the like) help reduce bacteria (e.g., anaerobic bacteria) in a user's mouth.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include, e.g., retsyn, partially hydrogenated cottonseed oil and/or copper gluconate.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include chlorophyll (such as, e.g., in CLORETS) and/or the like to, for example, help absorb or reduce bad odors.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include maltitol and/or other sweeteners.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include xylitol. Among other things, xylitol can be used as a natural sweetener that may help avoid and/or fight cavities.

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include zinc gluconate (which, e.g., may block receptors on the anaerobic bacteria such that they will not bind with certain amino acids) such as in, e.g., ZOX mints.

In some embodiments, in which the breath fresheners include components that reduce bacteria, the breath fresheners can include one or more aspect of LISTERINE POCKET PAKS oral strips. In some embodiments, the strips can dissolve quickly in a user's mouth (such as, e.g., within about 30 seconds).

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include one or more of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in LISTERINE POCKET PAKS): pullulan; flavors; menthol; aspartame; potassium acesulfame; copper gluconate; polysorbate 80; carrageenan; glyceryl oleate; eucalyptol; methyl salicylate; thymol; locust bean gum; propylene glycol; xanthan gum; coloring (e.g., FD&C green no. 3).

In some embodiments, the breath fresheners can include one or more ingredient having anesthetic properties, such as, e.g., dyclonine and/or hexylresorcinol (which can be found in, e.g., SUCRETS lozenges) and/or other anesthetic elements.

In some examples, as set forth above, the breath fresheners can include gum breath fresheners. In some illustrative example, gum breath fresheners can include one or more of

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the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in WRIG-LEY'S ECLIPSE peppermint gum): maltitol; gum base; sorbitol; acacia; mannitol; glycerol; natural and artificial flavors; aspartame; color added; acesulfame K; carnauba wax; BHT (to maintain freshness); phenylalanine and/or the like. In some illustrative example, gum breath fresheners can include one or more of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in EVEREST POWERFUL MINT GUM: ECLIPSE peppermint gum): sugar; gum base; corn syrup; dextrose; natural flavors (including, e.g., peppermint oil); gum Arabic; xylitol and, e.g., about 2% or less of glycerine, titanium dioxide (or other colorant), confectioner's glaze, carnauba wax, acesulfame K, aspartame, maltodextrin, BHT; and/or the like. In some illustrative example, gum breath fresheners can include one or more of the following ingredients (such as, e.g., found in WRIGLEY'S SPEAR-MINT chewing gum sticks): sugar; gum base; corn syrup; dextrose; natural and artificial flavors, softeners, acesulfame K, BHT and/or the like).

In some embodiments, each individual breath freshener can be individually wrapped within the container (such as, e.g., gum sticks which can, e.g., be wrapped with a paper material, a plastic material, a foil material (such as, e.g., a metalized foil, etc.) and/or the like. In some embodiments, two or more sets of a plurality of breath fresheners can be separately wrapped within the container. In some embodiments, all of the breath fresheners in the container can be wrapped insider the container, such as, e.g., using a paper wrap inside of a container (such as, e.g., seen in ALTOIDS mints).

In some embodiments, when an internal mirror is employed, preferably the oral-products will not have a significant tendency to crumble such that particulate material (such as, e.g., dust from mints or the like) does not accumulate on the mirror.

With reference to FIG. 9, the figure shows a schematic diagram with a plurality of containers filled with oral products, such as, e.g., breath fresheners, contained within a transport package (such as, e.g., a crate, cardboard box, box and/or the like) according to some preferred embodiments. In this regard, in some embodiments, the oral product filled containers are preferably packaged with a plurality of oral products therein by a manufacturer and/or the like. Then, the products are preferably sold and transported in a packaged state to distributors and/or retailers. Then, the products are preferably sold to end customers or users of the products. In some preferred embodiments, a multitude of filled containers are packaged in transport packages for transport from the manufacturer to the distributor(s) and/or the retailer(s) and/or for transport to the end customer(s).

As described above with reference to FIG. 4, in some embodiments a mirror can be formed underneath a separate mirror cover. In that regard, FIG. 4 shows a mirror cover that can be hinged to the container or that can include any other 55 "covers or doors that are moved using other now or later known methodologies" (language quoted from below under Broad Scope of the Invention) such as, by way of example, employing a slider cover similar to that shown in FIG. 2. In this regard, FIG. 18 shows some illustrative embodiments in 60 which a slidable mirror cover can be used to cover a container having a base and a mirror supporting insert fitted therein. Notably, in preferred embodiments, the base and the insert together form a structure that can be similar to that shown in FIGS. 10-17(D). As discussed above, in these 65 types of illustrative embodiments employing a separate mirror cover, the mirror can be protected from external

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environmental factors (e.g., under the cover) and can be isolated from the container interior (e.g., separate from the oral product therein).

As described above, FIG. 10 is a front perspective view according to some embodiments, FIG. 11 is a first end view taken from the left side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 12 is a second end view taken from the right side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 13 is a side view taken from a front side of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, FIG. 14 is a side view taken from a back side of the embodiment shown in FIG, FIG. 15 is a top view of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10, and FIG. 16 is a bottom view of the embodiment shown in FIG. 10.

In the preferred embodiments, in the device shown in FIG. 10, a base (which is preferably formed of metal, such as, e.g., aluminum, steel, tin and/or any other appropriate metal) is provided that contains (e.g., snugly receives) an insert (which is preferably formed of plastic or the like) that supports a mirror as shown. In this regard, as shown in FIG. 15, the insert preferably includes a mirror that is mounted thereon. For example, the insert can include a recess that is configured to surround the mirror and to support the mirror such that a front face of the mirror is substantially flush with a front face of the insert.

In the preferred embodiments, as shown in FIG. 18, during assembly, the insert can be initially removed. Then, product (e.g., mints can be easily loaded into the base). Then, the insert can be easily placed over the product so as to contain the same within the base. Preferably, the insert includes a plurality of depending wide leg portions that taper slightly inwards to snugly wedge into the base when inserted (in the illustrated embodiment, four leg portions are shown by way of example). Preferably, the legs slide freely around any product within the base. In this manner, filling is simplified and does not need to be done via the small dispensing opening or the like. In this manner, the mirror can be supported external to the product. In addition, the mirror can be supported internal to an external cover. In addition, the mirror can be supported on a substantially rigid, but flexibly member (e.g., using a plastic insert having some resiliency) such that if the cover does bend, the insert can have some freedom of movement further protecting the mirror in some embodiments.

With reference to FIG. 15, in some embodiments, the dispensing opening includes a punch-put cover plate (not shown) sized to fit the opening. For instance, the plate could attach a few points around the opening to the insert body. Then, upon use, a user could punch out the plate and discard the cover plate or push the same down into the container. In some embodiments, however, the opening does not need to employ a cover plate, but the small opening can remain open. In the preferred embodiments, however, the insert substantially separates the mirror from the product compartment area (with, in some embodiments, a small exception for the region of the dispensing opening if such is open).

With respect to FIGS. 17(A)-17(D), these embodiments show other variations in which: FIG. 17(A) shows a view in which all lines shown in dashes are optional, but where the container includes a small opening in the upper surface at the location shown (NB: the opening can have a variety of shapes an this embodiment shows an illustrative circular opening which can be employed); FIG. 17(B) shows a view in which the mirror is not formed to surround the opening, but is formed into a generally rectangular configuration (NB: this embodiment also shows an illustrative circular opening); FIG. 17(C) is similar to FIG. 17(B) with the opening at a different location; and FIG. 17(D) is similar to the

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embodiments shown in FIGS. 17(B) and 17(C) but shows the opening in dashed lines to demonstrate that in other embodiments, the opening can be at any other desired location (such as, e.g., even formed into the base or another location or the like.

With respect to the embodiments shown in FIGS. 10-18, these embodiments depict some preferred embodiments, substantially to scale according to some preferred embodiments of the invention. In some preferred embodiments, devices having the ornamental design as shown in these 10 FIGS. are preferably implemented, which figures are substantially to scale and proportional in some illustrative embodiments.

Broad Scope of the Invention

While illustrative embodiments of the invention have been described herein, the present invention is not limited to the various preferred embodiments described herein, but includes any and all embodiments having modifications, omissions, combinations (e.g., of aspects across various embodiments), adaptations and/or alterations as would be appreciated by those in the art based on the present disclosure. As merely other examples, various other embodiments can include containers with fully removable covers, replaceable covers and/or covers or doors that are moved using other now or later known methodologies. The limitations in the claims are to be interpreted broadly based on the language employed in the claims and not limited to examples described in the present specification or during the prosecution of the application, which examples are to be construed as non-exclusive. For example, in the present disclosure, the term "preferably" is non-exclusive and means "preferably, but not limited to." Means-plus-function or step-plus-function limitations will only be employed where for a specific claim limitation all of the following conditions are present in that limitation: a) "means for" or "step for" is expressly recited; b) a corresponding function is expressly recited; and c) structure, material or acts that support that structure are not recited.

What is claimed is:

- 1. An oral-product container, comprising:
- a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes;
- b) a mirror unmovably fixed to said container for visage freshening purposes;
- c) a mirror cover such that the mirror can be protected from external environmental factors under the cover;
- d) wherein said mirror is isolated from the container interior such as to be separate from the oral product; and
- e) wherein said mirror is supported on a wall that is fixed relative to an opening in said container through which said breath fresheners are dispensed.
- 2. The oral-product container of claim 1, wherein said mirror is supported underneath said cover and wherein said cover is mounted so as to move relatively to said mirror to expose said opening.
- 3. The oral-product container of claim 2, wherein said cover is mounted so as to slide laterally in a plane substantially parallel to said mirror.
- **4**. The oral-product container of claim **2**, wherein said cover is mounted so as to pivot relatively to said mirror.
 - 5. An oral-product container, comprising:
 - a) a container body;
 - b) a plurality of breath fresheners or candies within said 65 container:
 - b) a laterally sliding lid on said container body;

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- c) a mirror beneath said laterally sliding lid and unmovably fixed to said container body;
- d) wherein said container is configured to expose both said mirror and an oral-product dispensing opening by lateral motion of said lid.
- **6**. The oral product container of claim **5**, wherein said oral-product dispensing opening is on a common wall with said mirror.
- 7. The oral-product container of claim 5, wherein said product dispensing opening is sized to dispense only a few breath fresheners or candies at a time and is substantially smaller than a side face of the container through which said dispensing opening passes.
 - 8. An oral-product container, comprising:
 - a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes;
 - b) a mirror for visage freshening purposes and unmovably fixed to said container:
 - c) a lid for covering said mirror, said lid being mounted on said container in a manner to move relative to the mirror;
 - d) wherein said container includes a dispensing opening configured to dispense a few breath fresheners at a time, said dispensing opening having an area less than about 10 times the size of said breath fresheners.
- **9**. The container of claim **8**, wherein said mirror is supported upon an insert within said container.
- 10. The container of claim 9, wherein said insert is formed from a molded plastic.
- 11. The container of claim 10, wherein said container is formed with a metal.
- 12. The container of claim 8, wherein said mirror is supported upon a wall within said container that is not an external wall of said container.
- 13. The container of claim 12, wherein said wall upon which said mirror is supported is an outer wall of a plastic insert and wherein said container is a metal container that encases said insert when said lid is closed.
- 14. The container of claim 8, wherein said lid is config-40 ured to move between a closed state in which said lid obstructs both said mirror and a dispensing opening and an open state in which said lid exposes both said mirror and said dispensing opening.
 - 15. An oral-product container, comprising:
 - a) a plurality of breath fresheners contained therein for breath freshening purposes;
 - b) a mirror for visage freshening purposes unmovably fixed to said container;
 - c) a lid for covering said mirror in a closed state and for exposing said mirror in a open state;
 - d) a product dispensing opening in said container, wherein said mirror is fixedly positioned with respect to said product dispensing opening so as not to move relative thereto.
 - **16**. The container of claim **15**, wherein said mirror is supported upon an insert within said container.
 - 17. The container of claim 16, wherein said insert is formed from a molded plastic.
 - **18**. The container of claim **15**, wherein said mirror is supported upon a wall within said container that is not an external wall of said container.
 - 19. The container of claim 18, wherein said wall that supports said mirror is an outer wall of a plastic insert and wherein said container is a metal container that surrounds said insert when said lid is dosed.
 - 20. The container of claim 15, wherein said lid is configured to move between a dosed state in which said lid

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obstructs both said mirror and a dispensing opening and an open state in which said lid exposes both said mirror and said dispensing opening.

21. The container of claim 15, wherein said lid is mounted for lateral sliding movement between a closed state and an 5 open state.

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22. The container of claim 15, wherein said lid is mounted for pivotal movement between a closed state and an open

* * * * *

EXHIBIT B

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Record 1 out of 1

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return to TESS)

MIRROR MINTS

Word Mark MIRROR MINTS

Goods and Services IC 030. US 046. G & S: CANDY, BREATH MINTS. FIRST USE: 20040604. FIRST USE IN

COMMERCE: 20040617

Standard Characters

Claimed

Mark Drawing Code (4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

78370092 **Serial Number**

Filing Date February 18, 2004

Current Basis 1A Original Filing Basis 1B

Published for

January 18, 2005 **Opposition**

Registration Number 2939960

International

0881820

Registration Number

Registration Date April 12, 2005

Owner (REGISTRANT) Innovative Product Development, Inc. DBA Little i CORPORATION

CALIFORNIA 815 3rd Street Blaine WASHINGTON 98230

(LAST LISTED OWNER) LITTLE I, INC. CORPORATION WASHINGTON 711 3RD STREET

BLAINE WASHINGTON 98230

Assignment Recorded ASSIGNMENT RECORDED

NO CLAIM IS MADE TO THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO USE MINTS APART FROM THE Disclaimer

MARK AS SHOWN

5/6/13 Case 2:13-cv-03639-JC Documetertal Eleptibe of 985/025/1990 (TESSign 44 of 61 Page ID #:50

Type of Mark TRADEMARK
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Affidavit Text SECT 15. SECT 8 (6-YR).

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Assignments on the Web > Trademark Query

Trademark Assignment Abstract of Title

Total Assignments: 1

Registrant: Innovative Product Development, Inc.

Mark: MIRROR MINTS

Assignment: 1

Conveyance: ASSIGNS THE ENTIRE INTEREST

Assignor: INNOVATIVE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, INC. Exec Dt: 02/20/2012

Entity Type: CORPORATION
Citizenship: CALIFORNIA
Entity Type: CORPORATION
Citizenship: WASHINGTON

711 3RD STREET

BLAINE, WASHINGTON 98230

888 MILILANI STREET

Assignee: LITTLE I, INC.

Correspondent: PAUL MAKI

8TH FLOOR

HONOLULU, HI 96813

Search Results as of: 05/06/2013 05:45 PM

If you have any comments or questions concerning the data displayed, contact PRD / Assignments at 571-272-3350. v.2.3.2 Web interface last modified: July 10, 2012 v.2.3.2

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EXHIBIT C

HP LaserJet 3200se

NOVAKDRUCE, LLP 2026590105 JUL-26-2005 4:34PM



Fax Call Report

Job	Date	Time	Туре	Identification	Duration	Pages	Result
746	7/26/2005	4:32:14PM	Send	912122606883	1:32	3	OK

NOVAK DRUCE LLP

Suite 400, East Tower 1300 Eye Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: (202) 204-4733 Telefax: (202) 318-7811

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: July 26, 2005

TO: Amy Katz

World Packaging

FACSIMILE NO.: 212-260-6883

FROM: Stephen B. Parker, Esq.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO:

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Telephone 202.659.0100

FACSIMILE 202.659.0105

www.novakdruce.com

July 26, 2005

VIA FACSIMILE

Attn: Amy Katz World Packaging 36 East 20th Street New York, NY 10003

Re: Inquiry Regarding Innovative Product Development

Patent Portfolio:

MIRROR MINTS® Mint Container Products.

I represent Innovative Product Development (Innovative). I understand from Mr. Berg that you may have some questions in relation to Innovative's patent portfolio covering the MIRROR MINTS® mint container products. In that regard, Innovative has various pending patent applications (including various Design Patent Applications and various Utility Patent Applications), in both the U.S. and abroad.

For your reference, Innovative has historically zealously enforced its issued patents against infringers. By way of example, we have worked with Mr. Berg to obtain broad protection on patents covering other container types, and we recently succeeded in enforcing patents related to another of Innovative's products in the District Court of Hawaii in Innovative Product Development, et al. v. Fantas-Eyes, et al., CV04-00021 (October 26, 2004 Order of the Honorable Samuel holding that defendants be "permanently enjoined and restrained from infringing" the patents). As for the MIRROR MINTS® mint container products, we are confident that we will obtain the broadest protection available under the circumstances. For your reference, I am rather familiar with the patenting of product containers and dispensers, and I even previously worked as a patent examiner in the U.S. Patent Office examining in the classification of product dispensers.



Amy Katz World Packaging July 26, 2005 Page 2

If your company is interested in pursuing products that may potentially fall under Innovative's intellectual property rights, Mr. Isaac Berg, President of Innovative, would consider meeting with you to discuss the possibility of establishing a collaborative relationship. Mr. Berg believes that there may be a good potential to establish a Win/Win arrangement between your companies. Toward that end, Mr. Berg plans to be in New York from August 13-18. If you would like to meet with Mr. Berg during that time period, please let us know.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

Stephen B. Parker

cc: R. Isaac Berg, Esq. SBP/jnj

EXHIBIT D

ASI 98289 PPAI 217084





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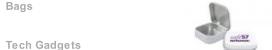
Tins, Containers & Candy

Tins, Containers & Candy

4 Color Process Printing

Mirror Mint Tin

Slide tin with mirror filled with mints Product Details...



Small Square Hinge Tin - item# 235

Small rounded square hinge tin filled with mints. Product Details...

Health & Beauty



Small Paint Can

Small paint can tin with faux leather handles. Product Details...

Green Products



Square Tin Box

Square tin with slip lid. Product Details...

Special Order

Case Studies

Trendy & New



Cylinder Tin - Tall

Tall cylinder tin tube with seamelss lid Product Details...



Specials



Large Clik Clak

Large clik clak tin filled with 3 silk tea sachets. Product Details...



Mini mint dispenser

Mini mint dispenser Product Details...



Large Pillow Pak

linen textured pillow box filled with handcrafted caramels in three delicious flavors- plain, sea salt and chocolate sea salt Product Details...



Clik Clak Tin - Item #201

12g tin with mints

Product Details...



Slide Tin - Item #202

10g tin with mints

Product Details...



Hinge Tin - Item #203

20g tin with mints

Product Details...



Square Hinge Tin - Item #225

20g tin with mints

Product Details...



Large Hinge Tin - Item #213

50g tin with mints

Product Details...



Tool Box™ Tin - Item #204

28g tin with mints

Product Details...



Business Card Case - Item #222

Aluminum card case

Product Details...



Business Card Case with Mints - Item #205

28g card case with mints **Product Details...**



Baseball Tin - Item #208

20g tin with mints **Product Details...**



Basketball Tin - Item #207

20g tin with mints

Product Details...



Power Puck™ - Item #401

6g plastic card

Product Details...



Master Mint Card™ - Item #402

7g mint card

Product Details...

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ASI 98289 PPAI 217084





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Mirror Mint Tin

Tins, Containers & Candy

4 Color Process Printing

Bags

Tech Gadgets

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Green Products

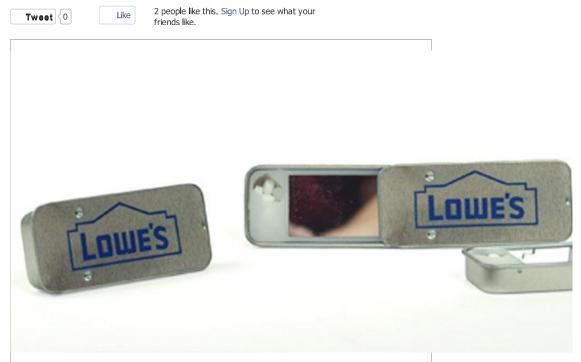
Trendy & New

Special Order

Case Studies

Closeouts

Specials



REQUEST A QUOTE FOR THIS PRODUCT

Slide tin with mirror filled with mints

Item Size | 3 1/8"L x 1 3/8"W x ½"D
Imprint Method | Pad Print
Max Imprint Area | 2"W x 1"H
Max # of Imprint Colors | 4
Product Color | Silver





ASI 98289 PPAI 217084





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Tins, Containers & Candy

4 Color Process Printing

Bags

Tech Gadgets

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Trendy & New

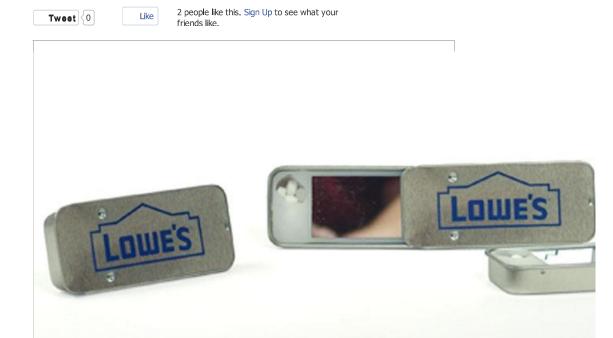
Special Order

Case Studies

Closeouts

Specials

Mirror Mint Tin



REQUEST A QUOTE FOR THIS PRODUCT

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	\$2.18	
	\$2.12	
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	DISTRICT COURT CT OF CALIFORNIA
Little i, Inc.,	CASE NUMBER
PLAINTIFF(\$) v. World Packaging Corp.,	CV13-03639
DEFENDANT(S).	SUMMONS
must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached ☐ counterclaim ☐ cross-claim or a motion under Rule or motion must be served on the plaintiff's attorney. E	12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer van A. Raynes, whose address is 350, Washington, D.C. 20005 If you fail to do so,

[Use 60 days if the defendant is the United States or a United States agency, or is an officer or employee of the United States. Allowed 60 days by Rule 12(a)(3)].

CV-01A (12/07)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

I (a) PLAINTINGS (Check box if you are representing yourself U) Little i, Inc. #13 3rd Street Blaine, Washington 98230					· Wo	Jay Sto	ITS kaging Corp eet, Suite 30 New York I	1			-		
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Addi yourself, provide same.)	css and	Telephone Number, If ye	u aure	representing	Attori	neys (If	Known)						
Symbus Law Group, LLC 725 K Street, N.W., Suite 3 Washington, D.C. 20005	350			•									
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION	(Place a	an X in one box only.)					INCIPAL P for plaintiff a			r Diversity Cases endant.)	Only		
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff		Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		Citizen of Th	is State			PIF U 1	_11	Incorporated or P of Business in thi		FTF □ 4	DEF □ 4
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Case Number: U13-0363

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CY-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

Case 2:18 MY DB STATES DESTRUCTED URF, I CENTE ALL BEST RECEON OF LAND REPORT OF

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has If yes, list case number(s):	this action been pro	eviously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? Yes
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Have If yes, list case number(s):	any cases been pre	viously filed in this court that are related to the present case? 🗹 No 🗆 Yes
□ B. (□ C. 1	Arise from the same Call for determination For other reasons w	te and the present case: cor closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or con of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or could entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or ctent, trademark or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.
IX. VENUE: (When completing the	following informat	ion, use an additional sheet if necessary.)
		utside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides. yees is a named plaintiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b).
County in this District:*		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
		Washington
. ,	•	utside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides. byces is a named defendant. If this box is checked, go to item (c).
County in this District:*		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
		New York
(c) List the County in this District; (County in this District; (Count	•	utside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose. on of the tract of land involved.
County in this District:*		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
Los Angeles		New York
* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernar Note: In land condemnation cases, us		entura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties e tract of land involved
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (Date May 21, 2013
or other papers as required by lav	v. This form, approv	ivil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings yed by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)
Key to Statistical codes relating to So	cial Security Cases:	
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))

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Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))

U.S.C. (g))

All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security

All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security

All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42

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