



US00D612915S

(12) **United States Design Patent**  
**McPheat**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US D612,915 S**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*\* Mar. 30, 2010**

(54) **FLEXIBLE TUBULAR CONNECTOR**

(75) Inventor: **Blair Forres McPheat**, Auckland (NZ)

(73) Assignee: **BFM Technology Limited**, Auckland (NZ)

(\*\*) Term: **14 Years**

(21) Appl. No.: **29/268,886**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 15, 2006**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

May 15, 2006 (NZ) ..... 407573  
Oct. 26, 2006 (NZ) ..... 408278

(51) **LOC (9) Cl.** ..... **23-01**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **D23/262**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... D23/259–269;  
138/118–120, 125–127; 285/148.3, 223–227,  
285/235, 240, 222.1–222.5

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

282,967 A \* 8/1883 Duffy ..... 285/226  
1,099,833 A \* 6/1914 White ..... 193/25 R  
2,754,848 A \* 7/1956 Knowland et al. .... 138/125  
4,050,703 A \* 9/1977 Tuvevsson et al. .... 277/615  
4,550,042 A \* 10/1985 Andrae et al. .... 428/34.8  
4,625,998 A \* 12/1986 Draudt et al. .... 285/7  
4,714,279 A \* 12/1987 Custeau ..... 285/239  
5,308,123 A \* 5/1994 Zorn ..... 285/226  
5,813,701 A \* 9/1998 Noble ..... 285/4  
6,777,051 B1 \* 8/2004 Mazzer ..... 428/36.1  
6,941,972 B2 \* 9/2005 Toliver et al. .... 138/26  
2003/0122373 A1 \* 7/2003 Hirth et al. .... 285/92

2006/0123617 A1 \* 6/2006 Ingram ..... 29/447  
2006/0131880 A1 \* 6/2006 Hashem ..... 285/333  
2008/0265570 A1 \* 10/2008 McPheat ..... 285/235

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—T. Chase Nelson

*Assistant Examiner*—Eric L Goodman

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Jacobson Holman PLLC

(57) **CLAIM**

The ornamental design for the flexible tubular connector, as shown and described.

**DESCRIPTION**

FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of the flexible tubular connector embodying my design;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the flexible tubular connector as shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a greatly enlarged partial sectional view taken along line 3—3 as shown in FIG. 2 of the flexible tubular connector as shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a broken away detail as seen within the circle 4 in FIG. 3 of the flexible tubular connector of FIG. 1;

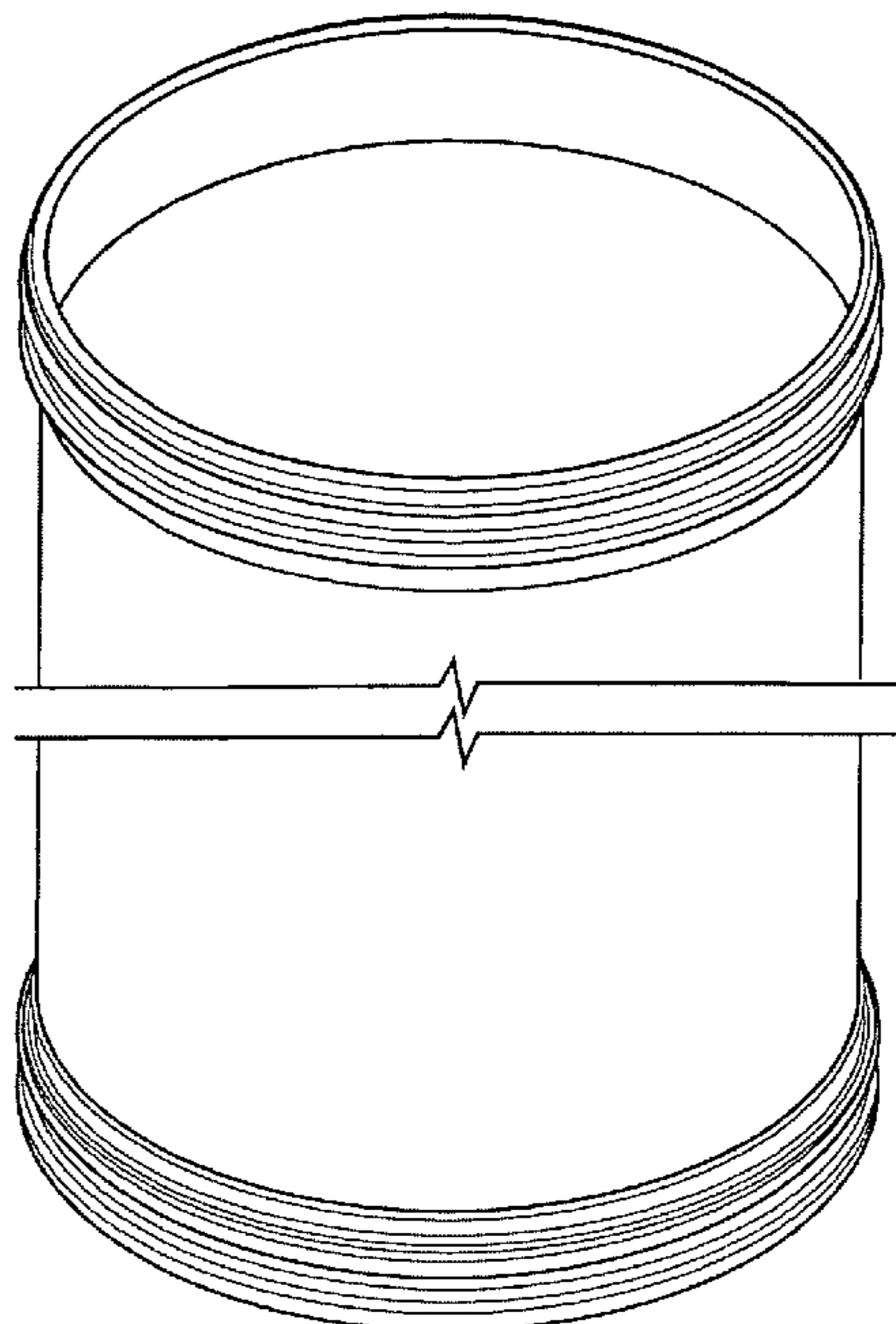
FIG. 5 is a side elevational view of the flexible tubular connector of FIG. 1; and,

FIG. 6 is a front perspective view of the flexible tube connector of FIG. 1 showing the flexible sleeve portion in an alternate configuration.

The sleeve region between the deformable resilient end cuffs can be either rigid or flexible.

The design is shown broken away to indicate that a specific length of flexible tubular connector forms no part of the claimed design.

**1 Claim, 3 Drawing Sheets**



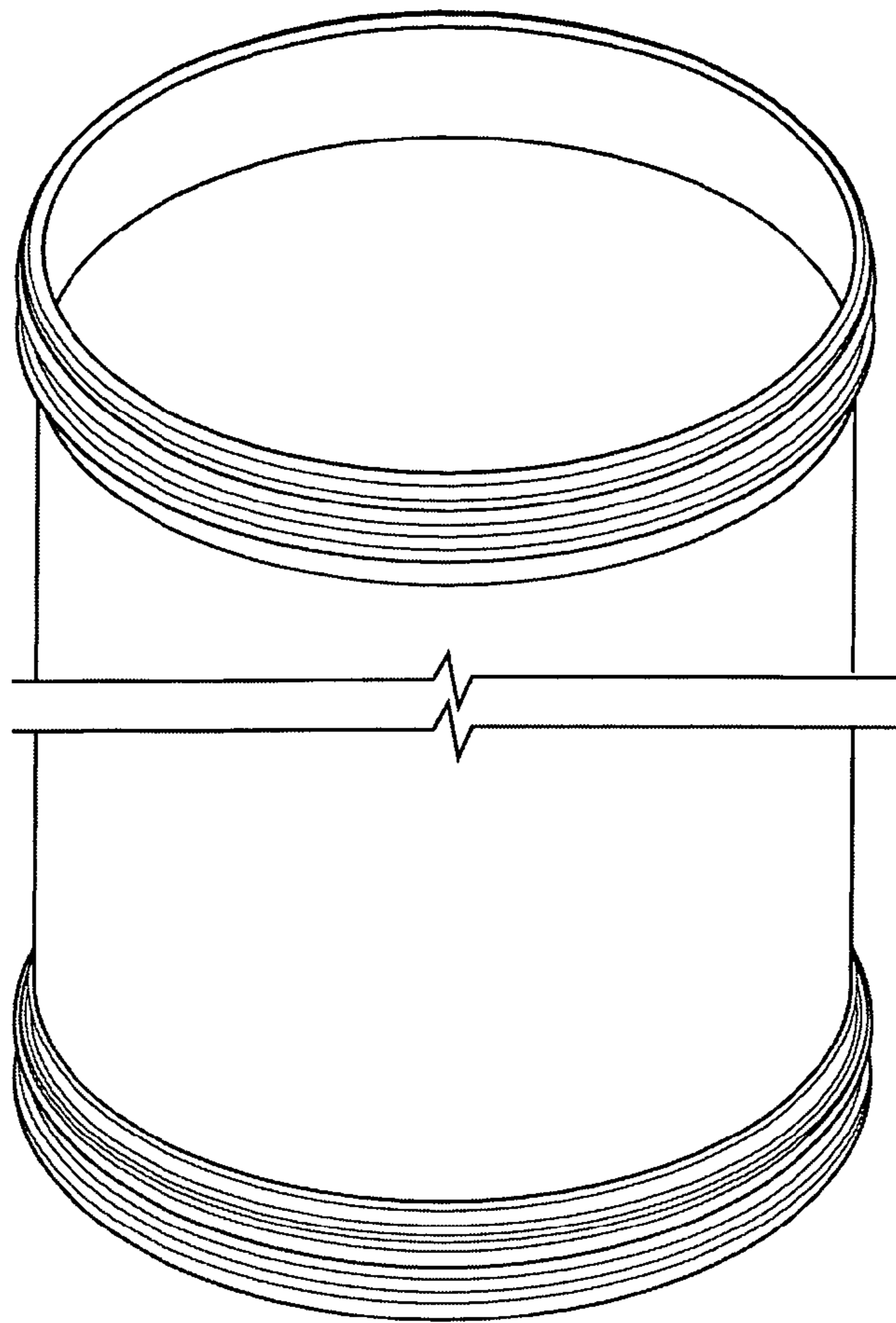


FIGURE 1

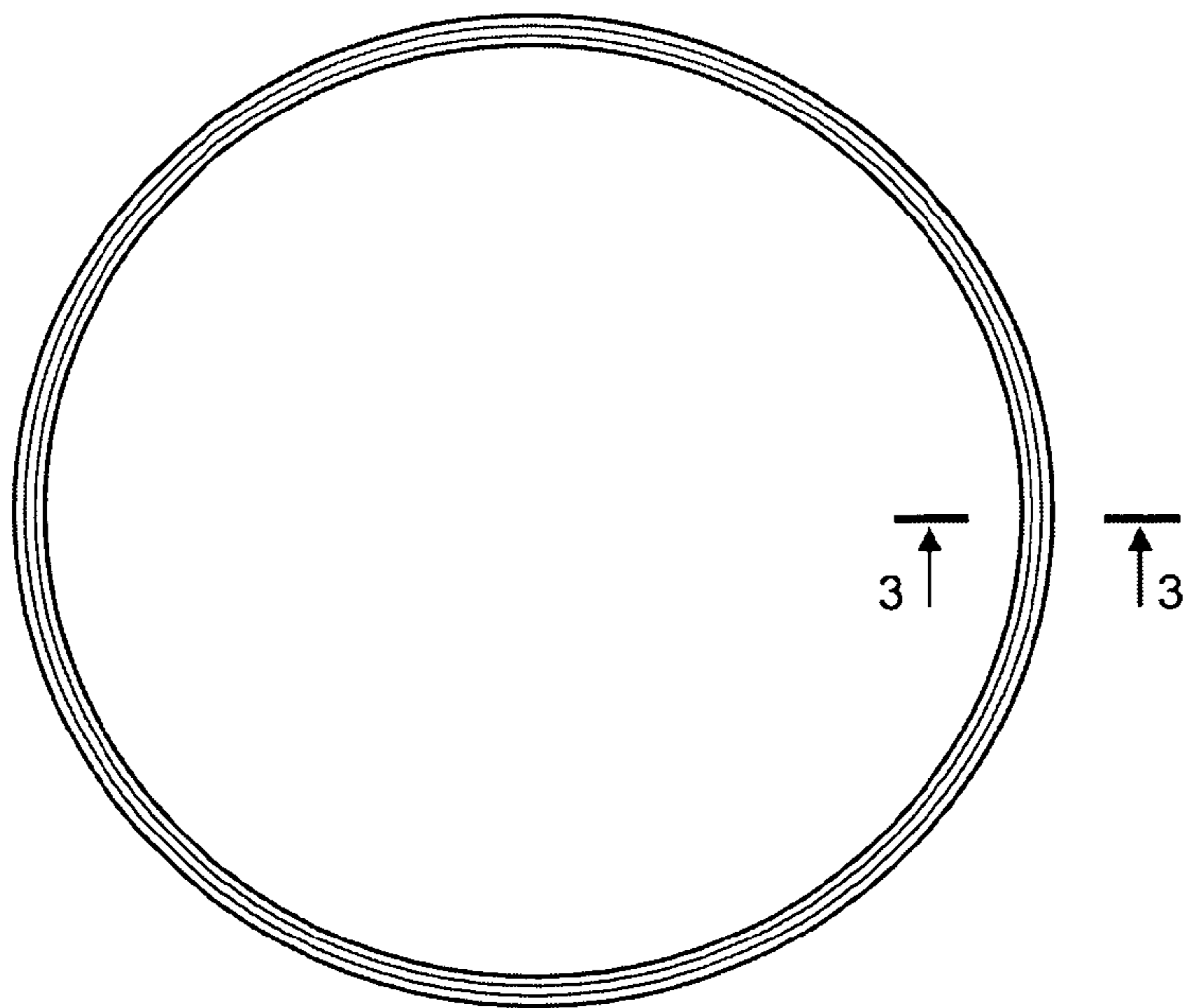


FIGURE 2

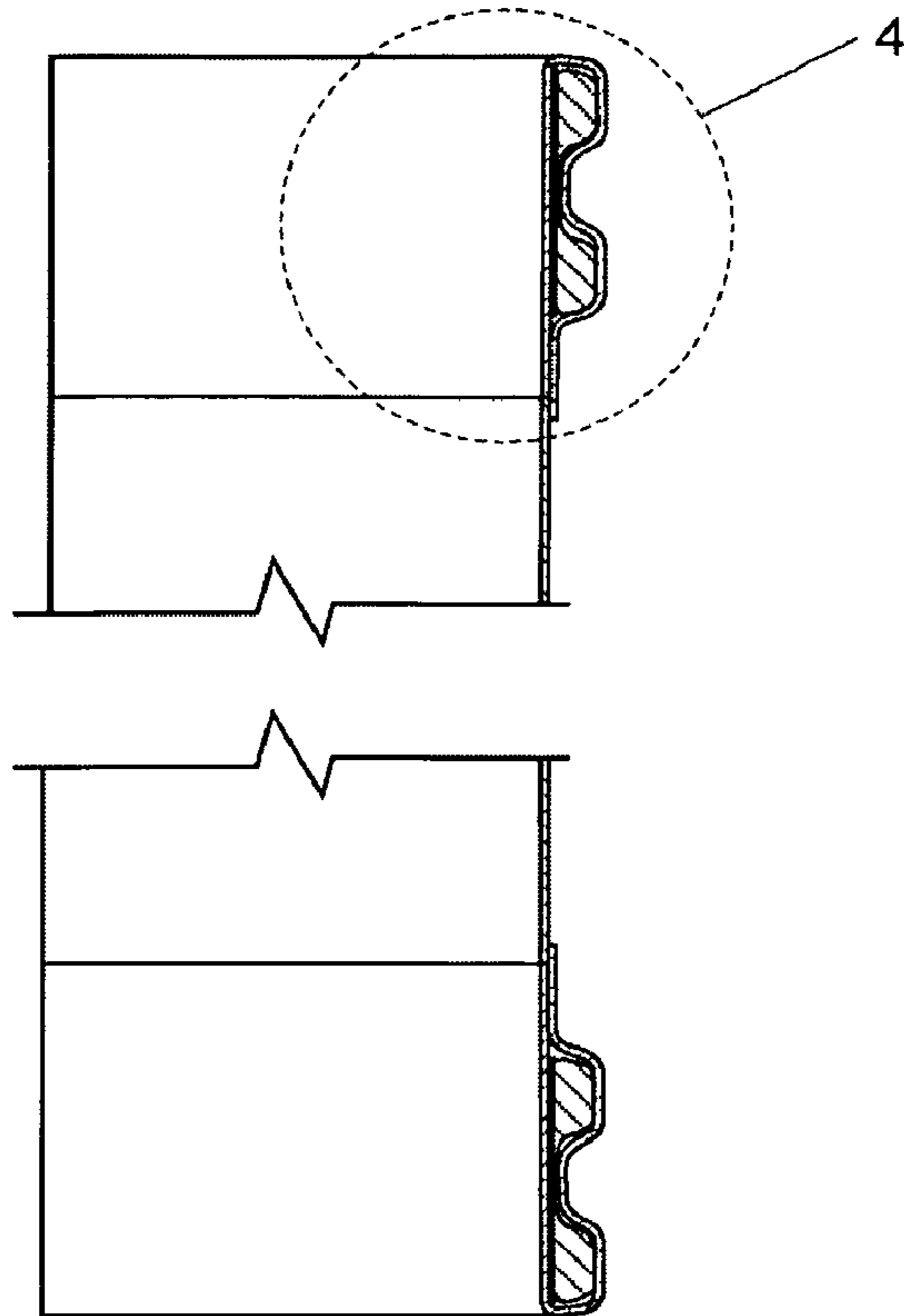


FIGURE 3

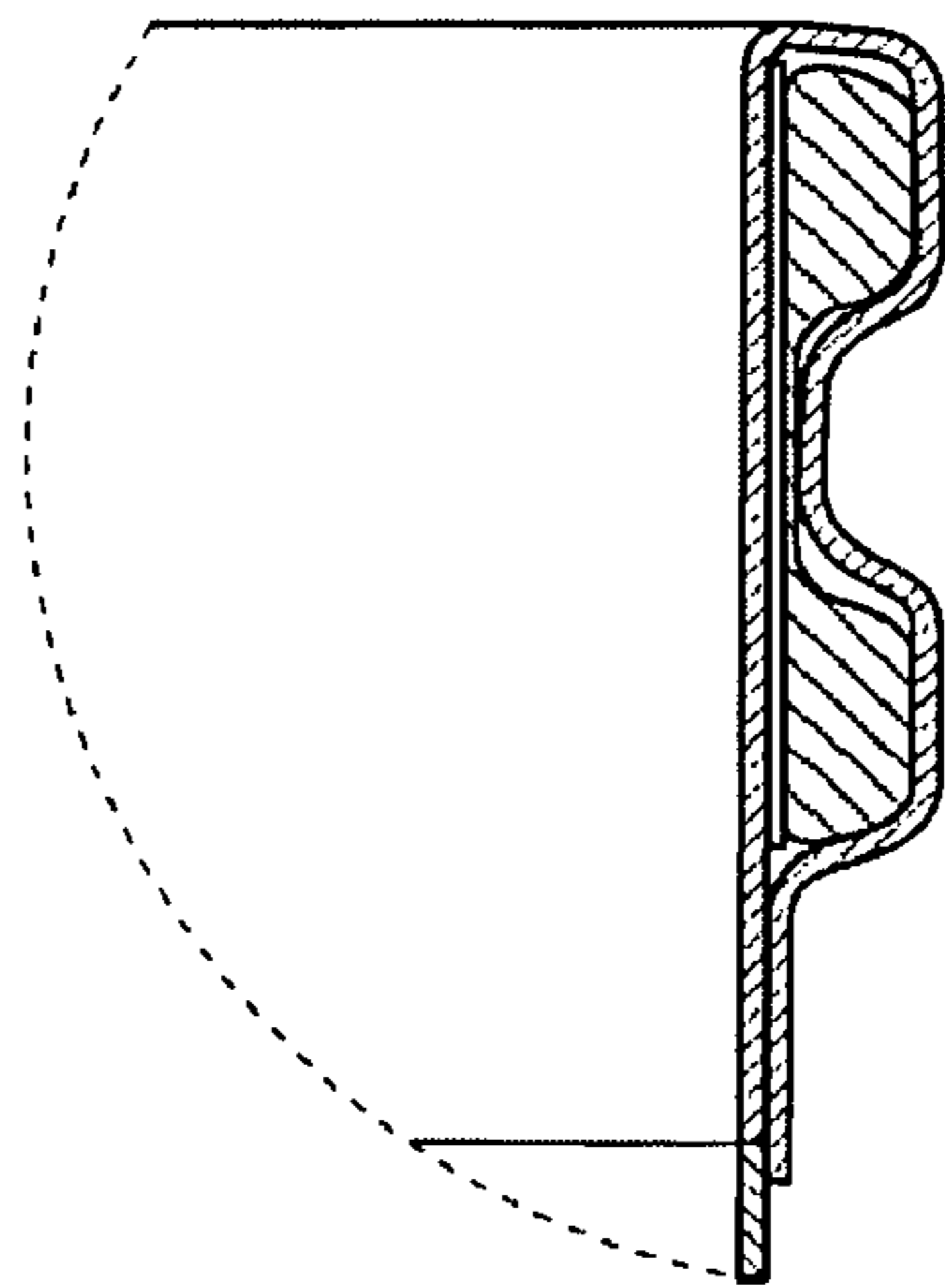


FIGURE 4

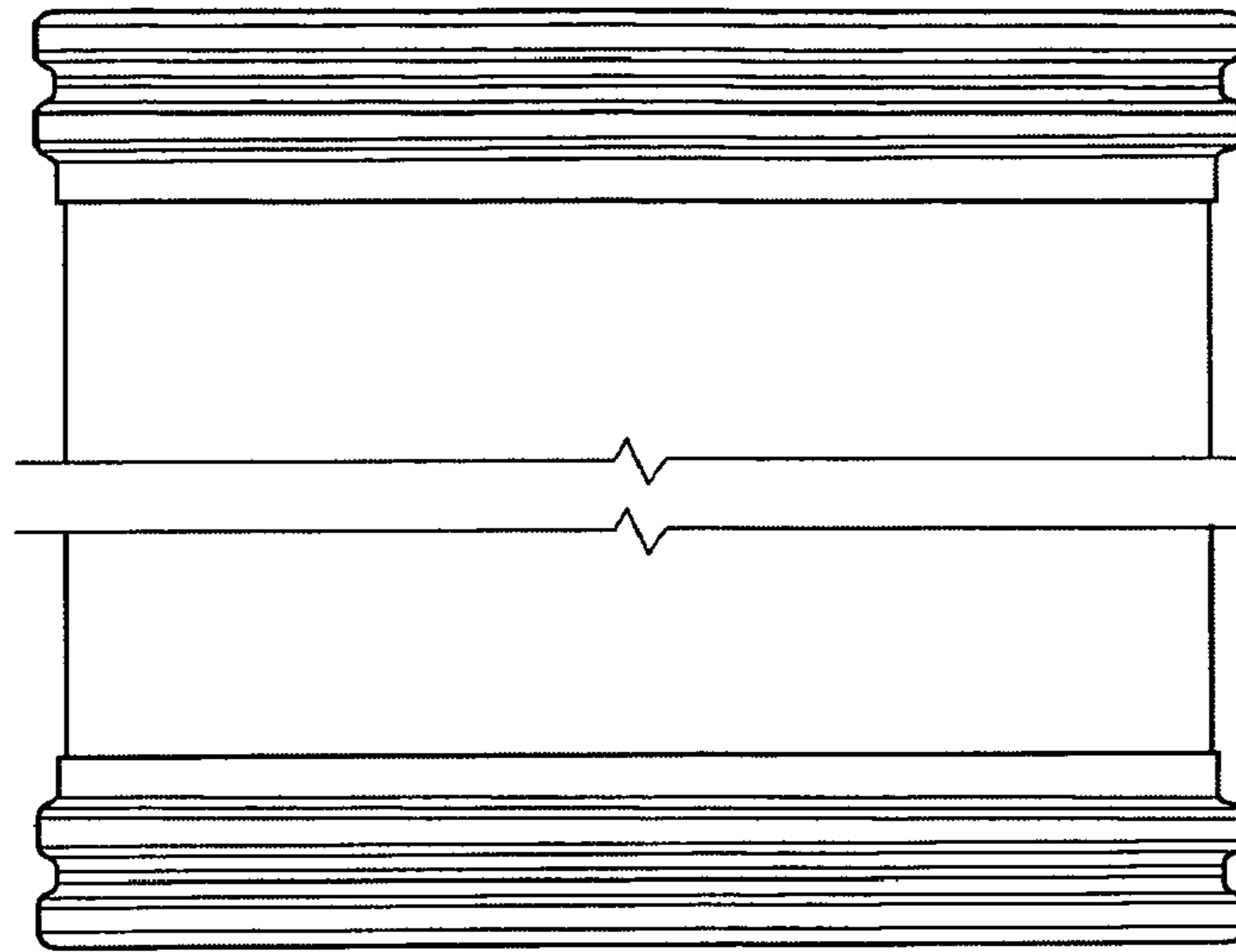


FIGURE 5

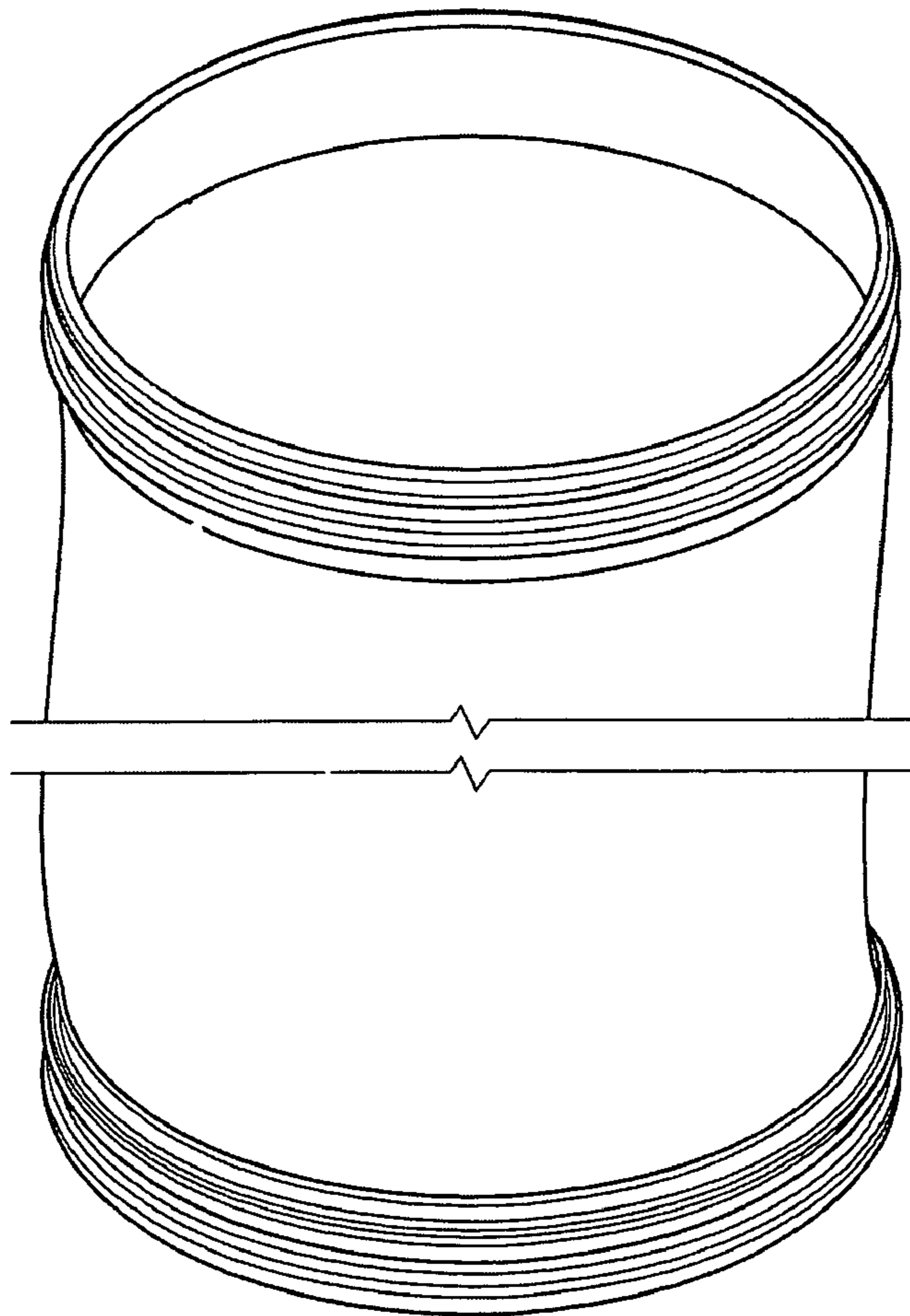


FIGURE 6