



US00D977970S

(12) **United States Design Patent** (10) **Patent No.:** **US D977,970 S**
Stammen et al. (45) **Date of Patent:** **** Feb. 14, 2023**

(54) **ECOLOGY TAB**

(71) Applicant: **Stolle Machinery Company, LLC**,
Centennial, CO (US)

(72) Inventors: **Dennis Cornelius Stammen**,
Brookville, OH (US); **Robert Joseph Will**,
Maria Stein, OH (US); **Christopher Lawrence Macke**,
Sidney, OH (US); **Patrick Kevin McCarty**,
Dayton, OH (US); **Robert Herbert Brussell**,
New Bremen, OH (US); **Greg Scott Williams**,
Wapakoneta, OH (US); **Steven Todd Albright**,
Covington, OH (US)

(73) Assignee: **Stolle Machinery Company, LLC**,
Centennial, CO (US)

(**) Term: **15 Years**

(21) Appl. No.: **29/839,989**

(22) Filed: **May 25, 2022**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 29/734,199, filed on
May 11, 2020.

(51) **LOC (14) Cl.** **09-07**

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **D9/438**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC D7/392.1, 396.2; D9/452-454, 499, 438,
D9/443, 434-436; D23/260, 261
CPC B65D 17/28; B65D 17/40; B65D 17/34;
B65D 17/4012; B65D 79/00; B65D
2517/5075; B21D 51/383
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

D215,924 S 11/1969 Rodden et al.
D218,961 S 10/1970 Kennedy
D221,930 S * 9/1971 Saunders D9/438
D224,963 S * 10/1972 Saunders D9/438
3,785,522 A 1/1974 Prayer et al.
D240,385 S * 7/1976 Pfeider D9/438

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Bowdabra. Recycled Soda Can Tab Pendant with Mini Bowdabra
Bow. Apr. 22, 2014. <https://www.bowdabra.com/blog/2014/04/22/recycled-soda-can-tab-pendant-with-mini-bowdabra-bow/> (Year: 2014).*

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Darcey E Gottschalk

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Eckert Seamans Cherin
& Mellott, LLC

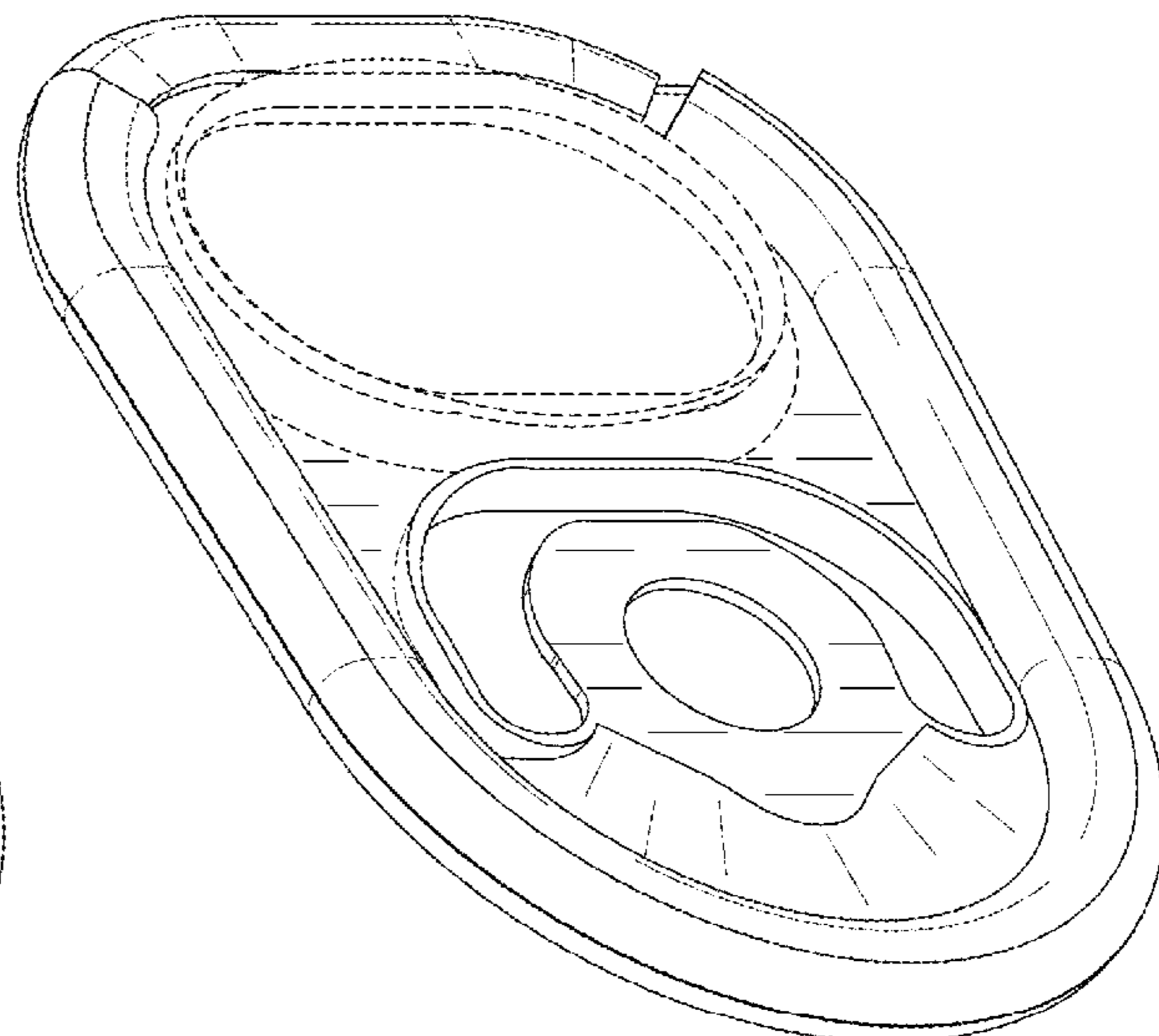
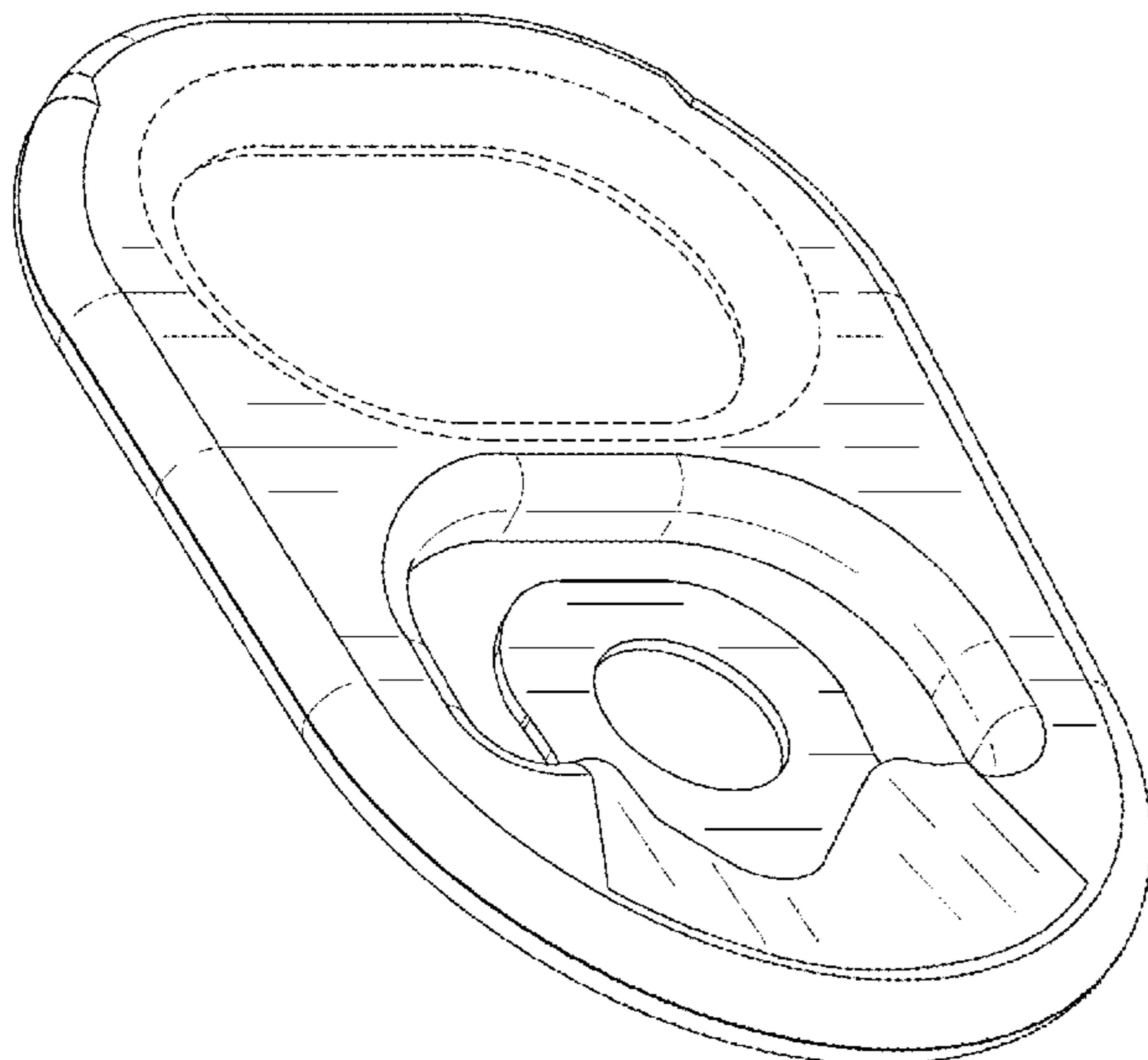
(57) **CLAIM**

The ornamental design for an ecology tab, as shown and
described.

DESCRIPTION

FIG. 1 is a top perspective view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 2 is another top perspective view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 3 is a bottom perspective view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 4 is another bottom perspective view of the ecology
tab;
FIG. 5 is a top plan view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 6 is a bottom plan view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 7 is a side elevation view of the ecology tab;
FIG. 8 is a section view taken in the direction of line 8-8
shown in FIG. 5;
FIG. 9 is a front end elevation view of the ecology tab; and,
FIG. 10 is a back end elevation view of the ecology tab.
The broken lines in the drawings depict portions of the
ecology tab that form no part of the claimed design.

1 Claim, 7 Drawing Sheets



(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

D244,915 S * 7/1977 Cudzik D9/438
 D262,607 S * 1/1982 Drolen, Jr. D9/438
 D263,802 S * 4/1982 Frazee D9/438
 D263,803 S * 4/1982 Frazee D9/438
 D265,463 S * 7/1982 Hasegawa D9/438
 D268,250 S * 3/1983 Smyth D9/438
 D271,857 S * 12/1983 Callahan D9/438
 D273,846 S * 5/1984 Frazee D9/438
 D337,521 S * 7/1993 McNulty D9/438
 D365,274 S * 12/1995 Cook D9/438
 D387,667 S 12/1997 Harrold et al.
 D387,987 S * 12/1997 Neiner D9/438
 D415,425 S * 10/1999 Turner D9/438
 D421,907 S 3/2000 Beige et al.
 D422,213 S * 4/2000 Sedgeley D9/434
 D424,438 S * 5/2000 Turner D9/438
 D454,307 S * 3/2002 Lindsey D9/438
 D600,116 S * 9/2009 Cherian D9/438
 D620,796 S 8/2010 McEldowney et al.
 D696,583 S * 12/2013 Ramsey D9/438
 D708,060 S 7/2014 Neiner et al.
 D708,516 S 7/2014 Neiner et al.

D715,647 S * 10/2014 Jacober D9/438
 D770,895 S * 11/2016 Brown D9/434
 D876,952 S 3/2020 Ramsey
 D893,298 S * 8/2020 Gogola B65D 17/34
 D9/438

2008/0078764 A1 4/2008 McEldowney et al.
 2011/0297679 A1 12/2011 Gogola et al.
 2019/0224738 A1 7/2019 Stammen et al.
 2019/0300234 A1* 10/2019 Van Jaarsveldt .. B65D 17/4012
 2021/0347526 A1* 11/2021 Stammen B65D 17/4012
 2021/0371159 A1 12/2021 Salik

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Stolle Machinery Company, LLC, Food End Line, No date specified, 4 pages, <https://www.stollemachinery.com/food-end-line>.
 Stolle Machinery Company, LLC, Beverage End Line, No date specified, 3 pages, <https://www.stollemachinery.com/beverage-end-line>.
 Stolle Machinery Company, LLC, X2 Beverage Tab, No date specified, 1 page, <https://stollemachinery.com/sites/default/files/uploads/tech-updates/1208-1-%20Stolle%20Beverage%20EOE%20Technical%20Update.pdf>.

* cited by examiner

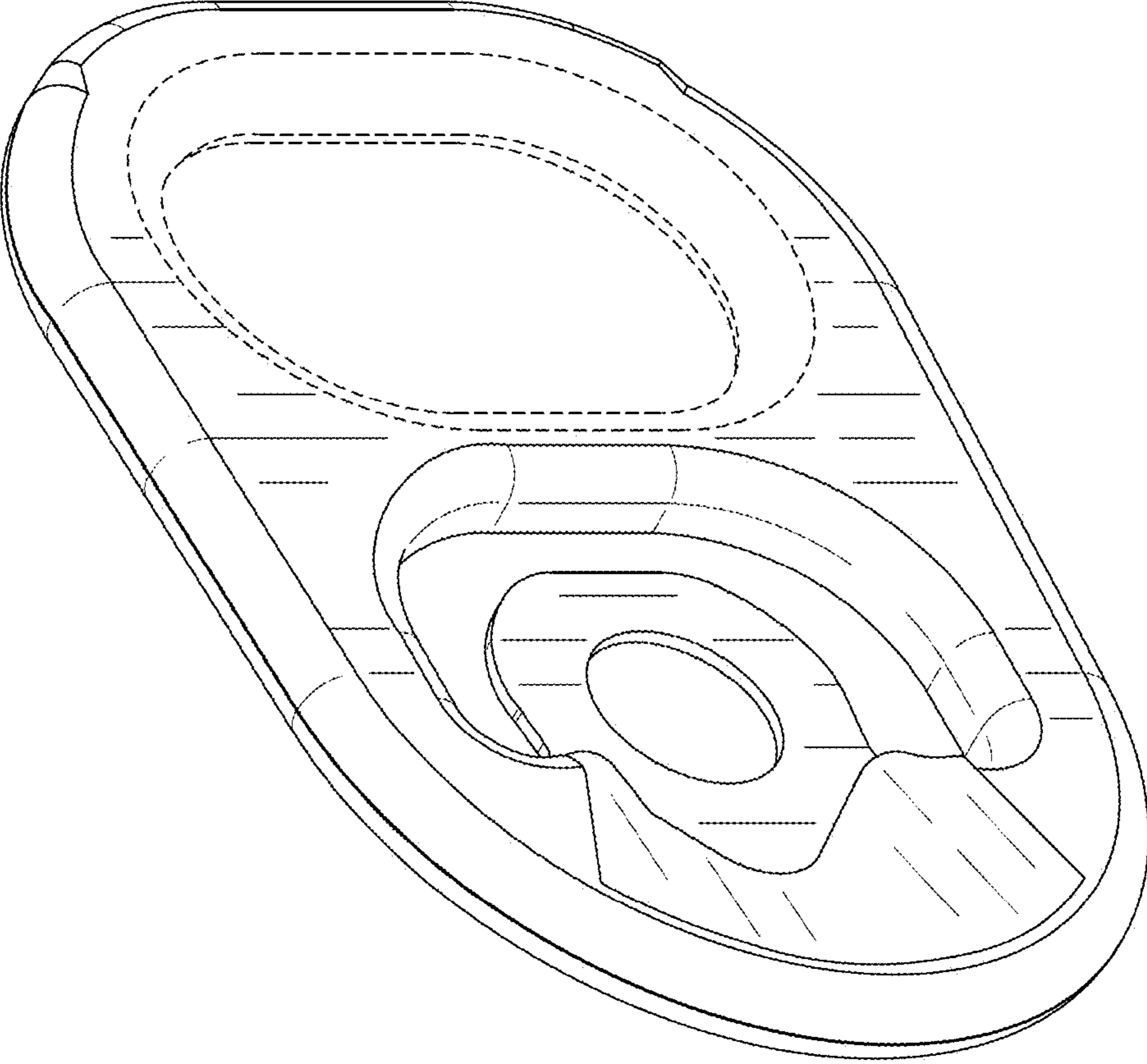


FIG. 1

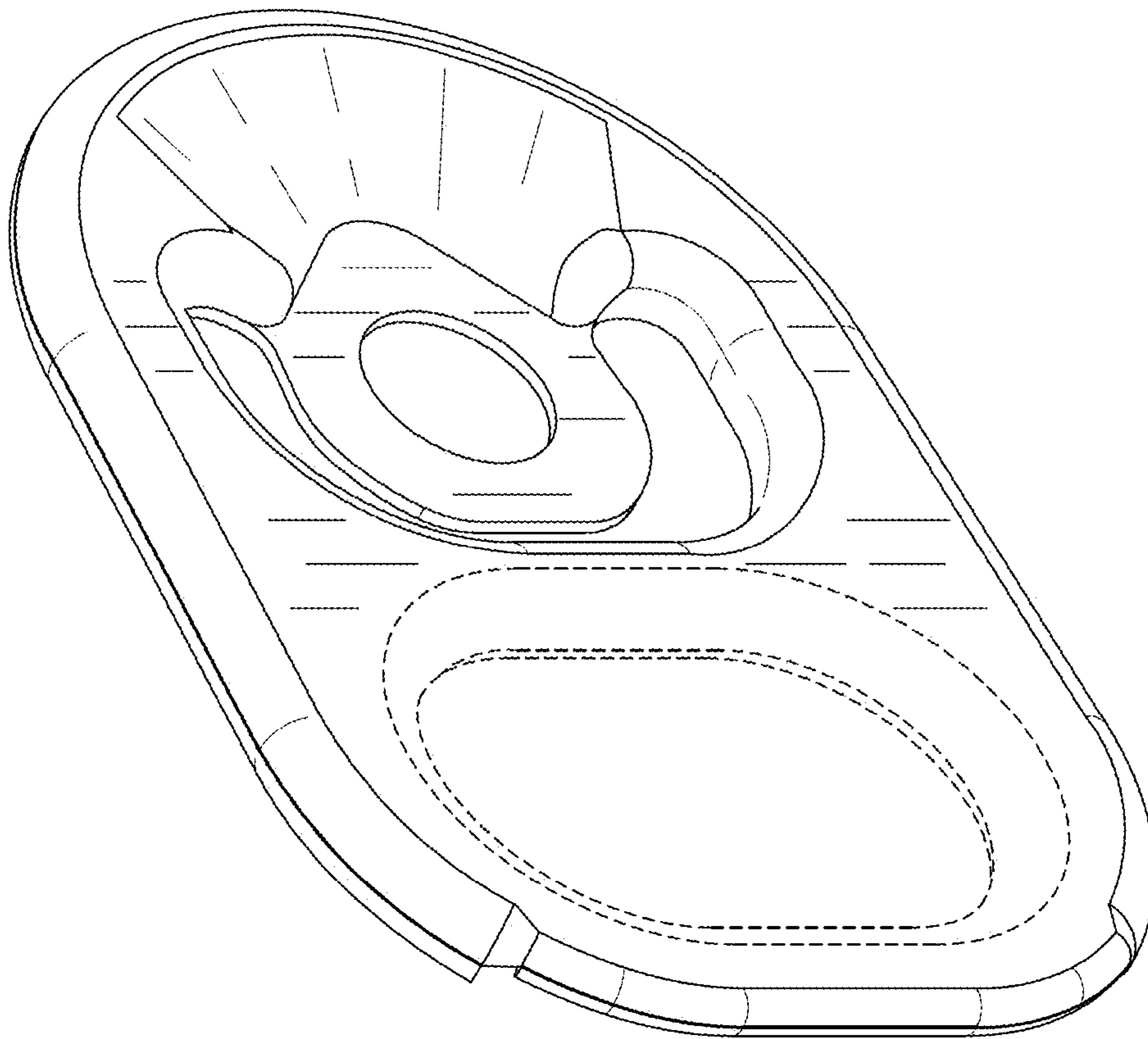


FIG. 2

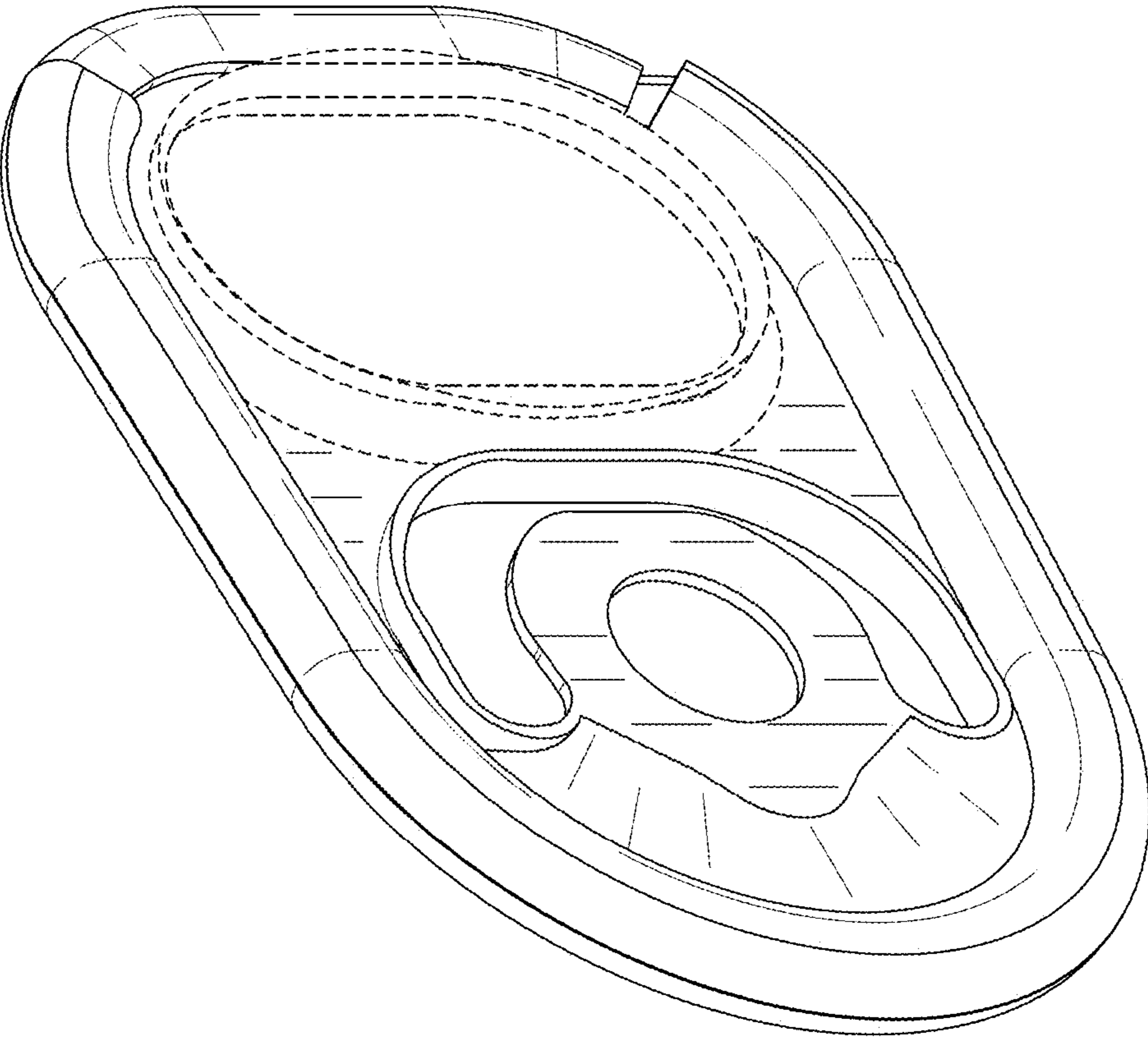


FIG. 3

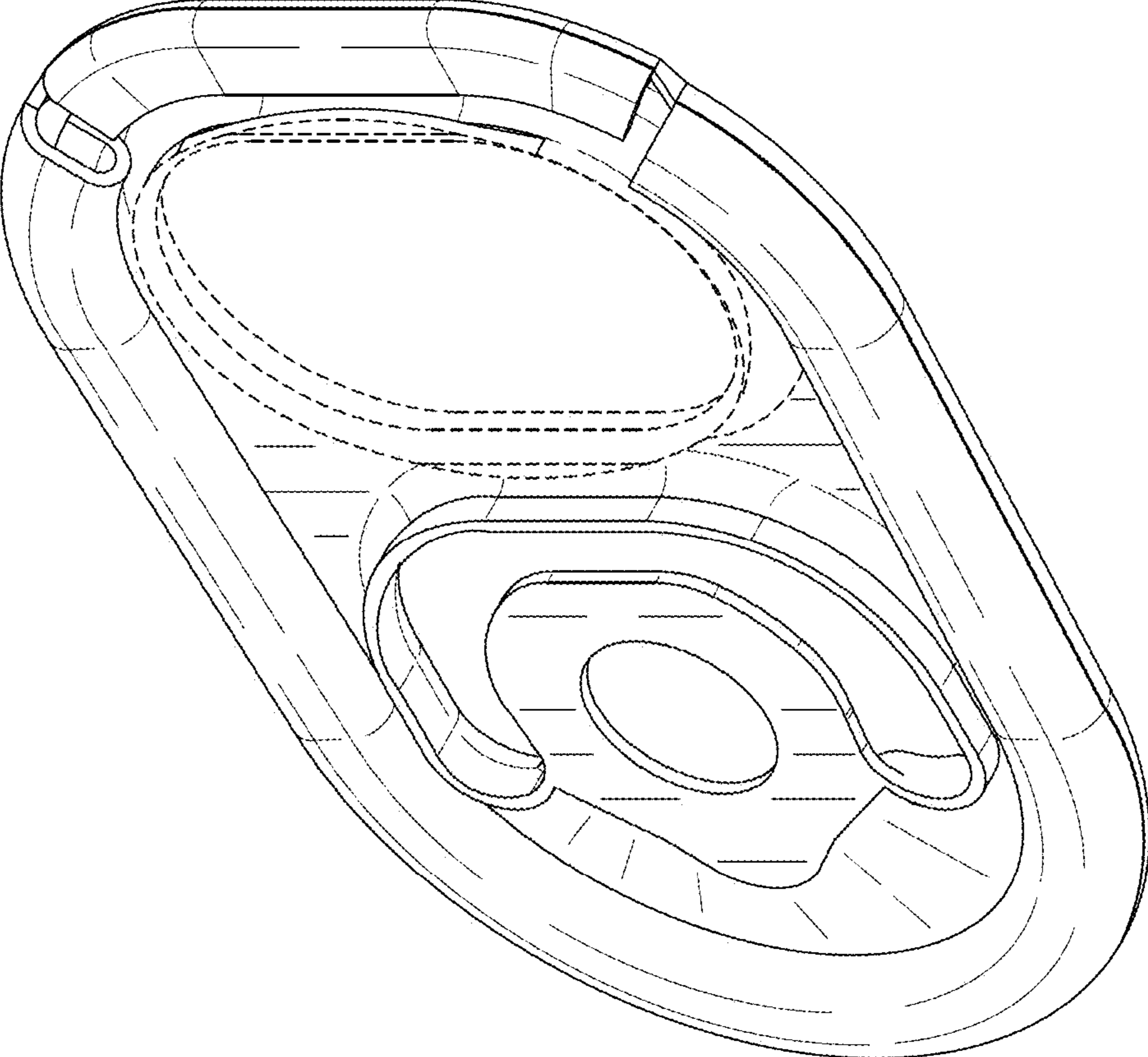


FIG. 4

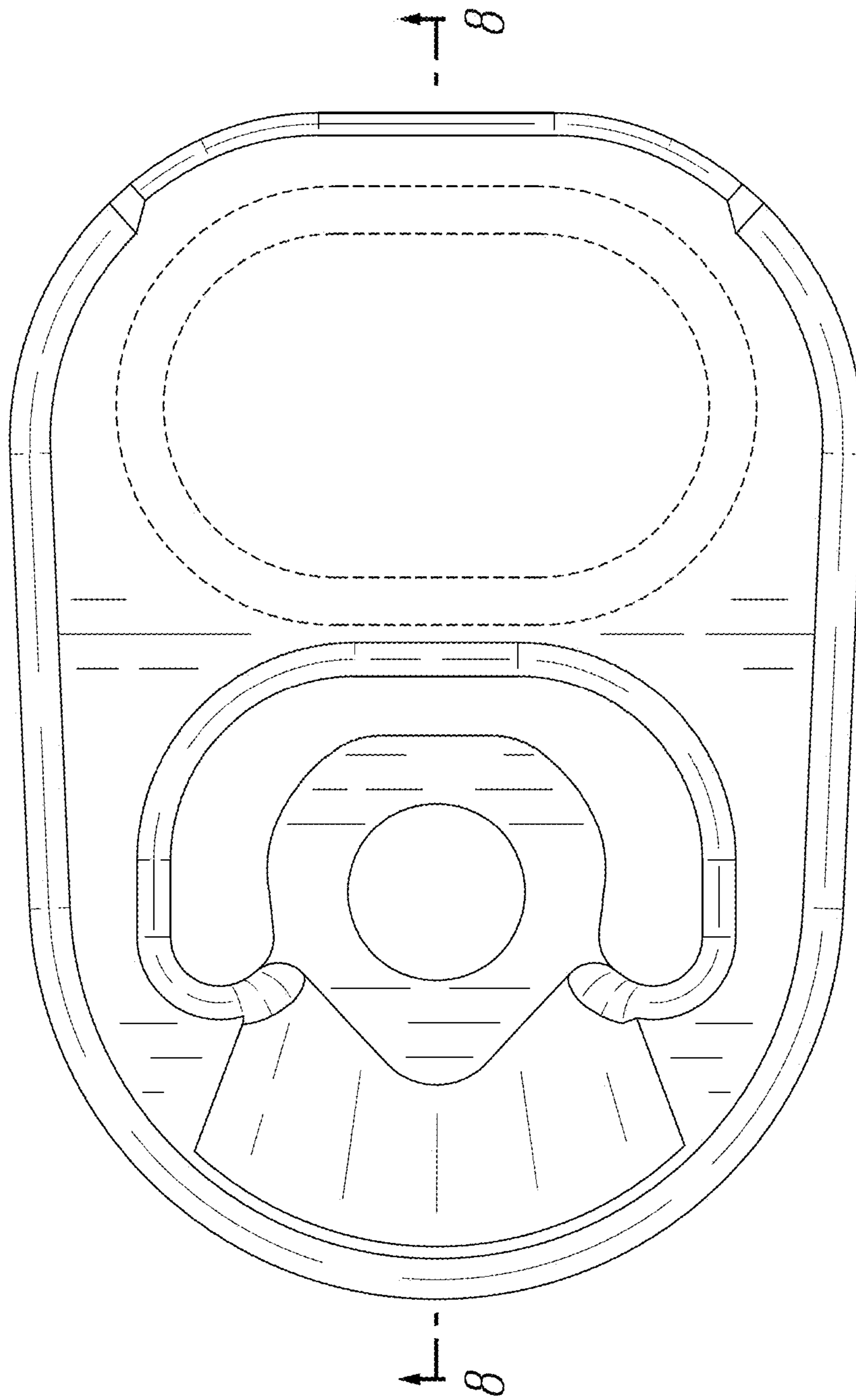


FIG. 5

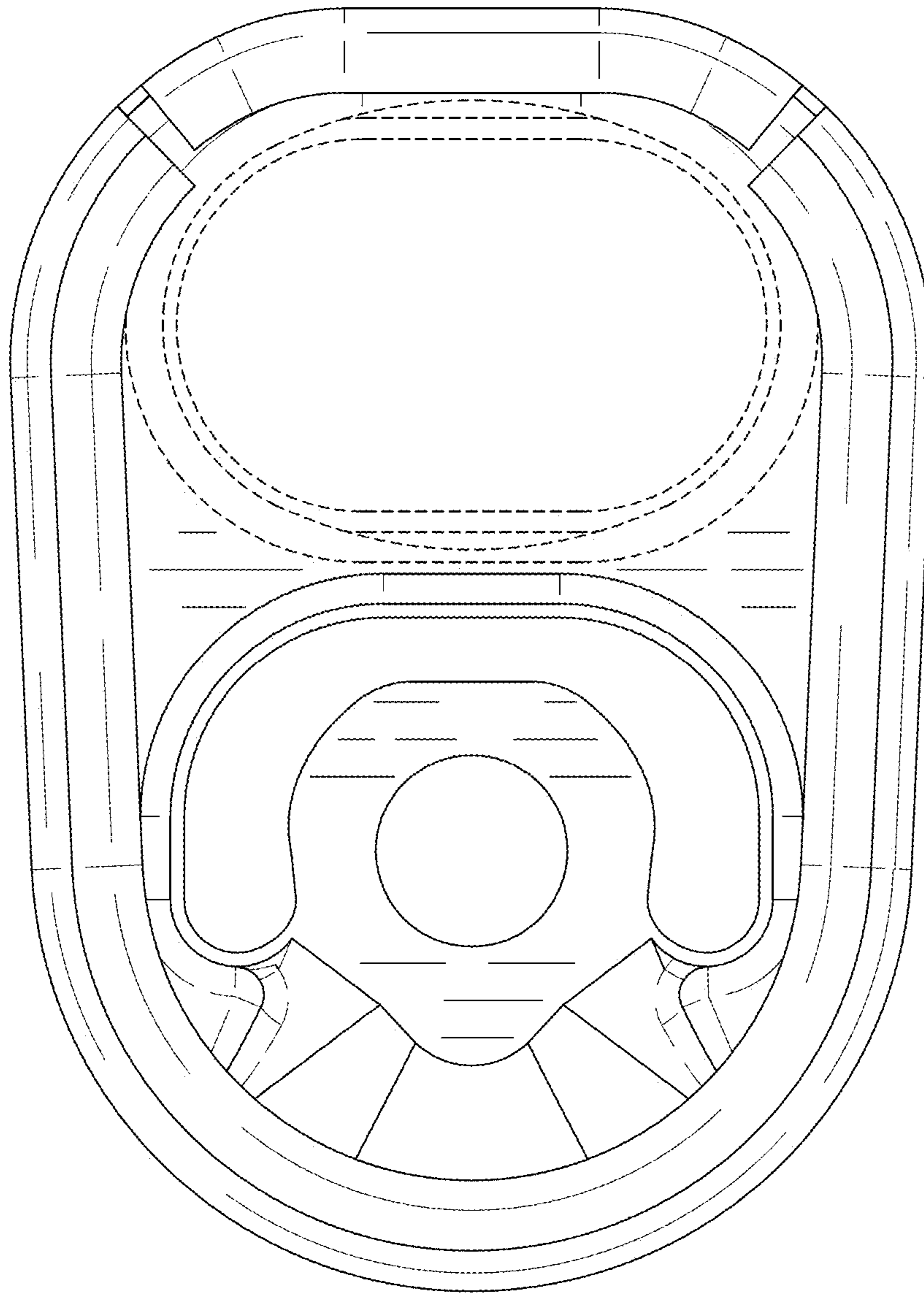


FIG. 6



FIG. 7

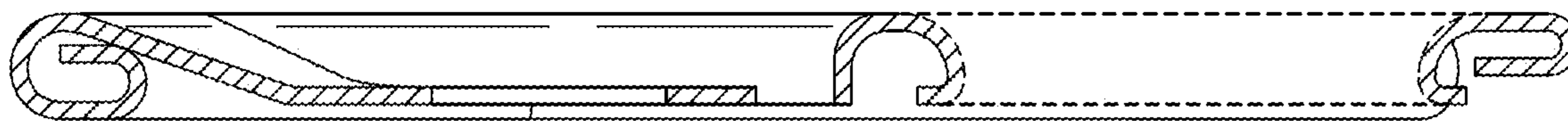


FIG. 8

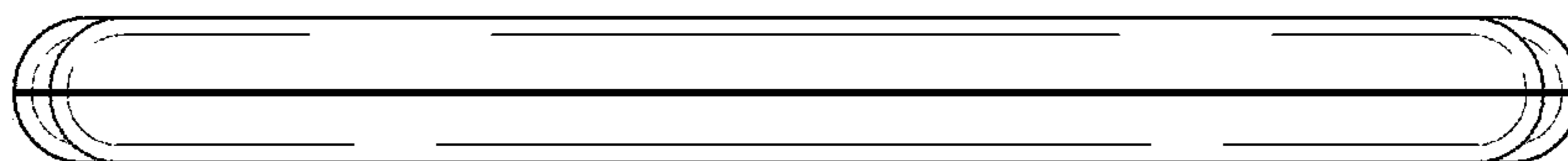


FIG. 9

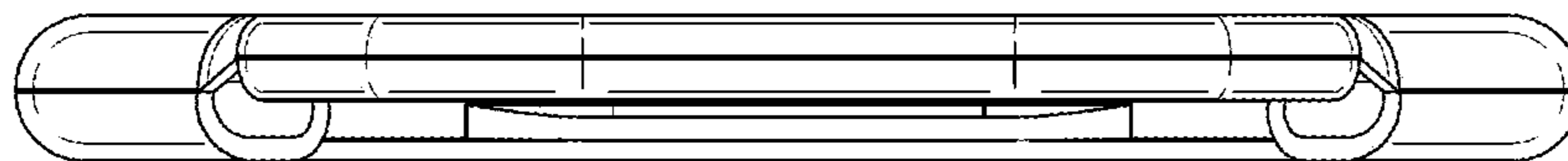


FIG. 10