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(54) **DISPLAY ASSEMBLY**

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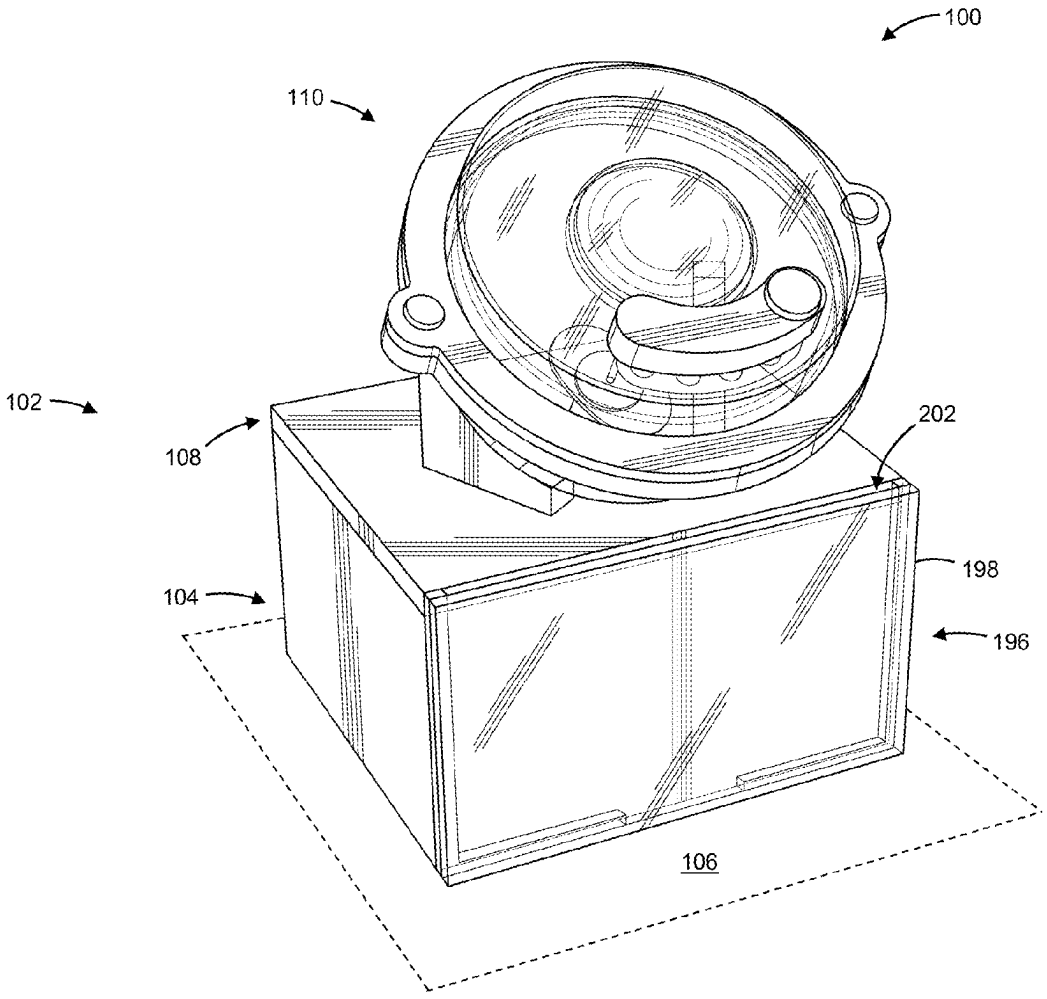
(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***A47F 3/002*** (2013.01); ***E05B 73/00*** (2013.01); ***G09F 5/00*** (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A display assembly includes (a) a display stand having a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base; (b) at least one display container supported atop and securely fastened to the platform, at least a portion of the container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; and (c) a locking mechanism mounted to the display stand. The locking mechanism is moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display container away from the base.



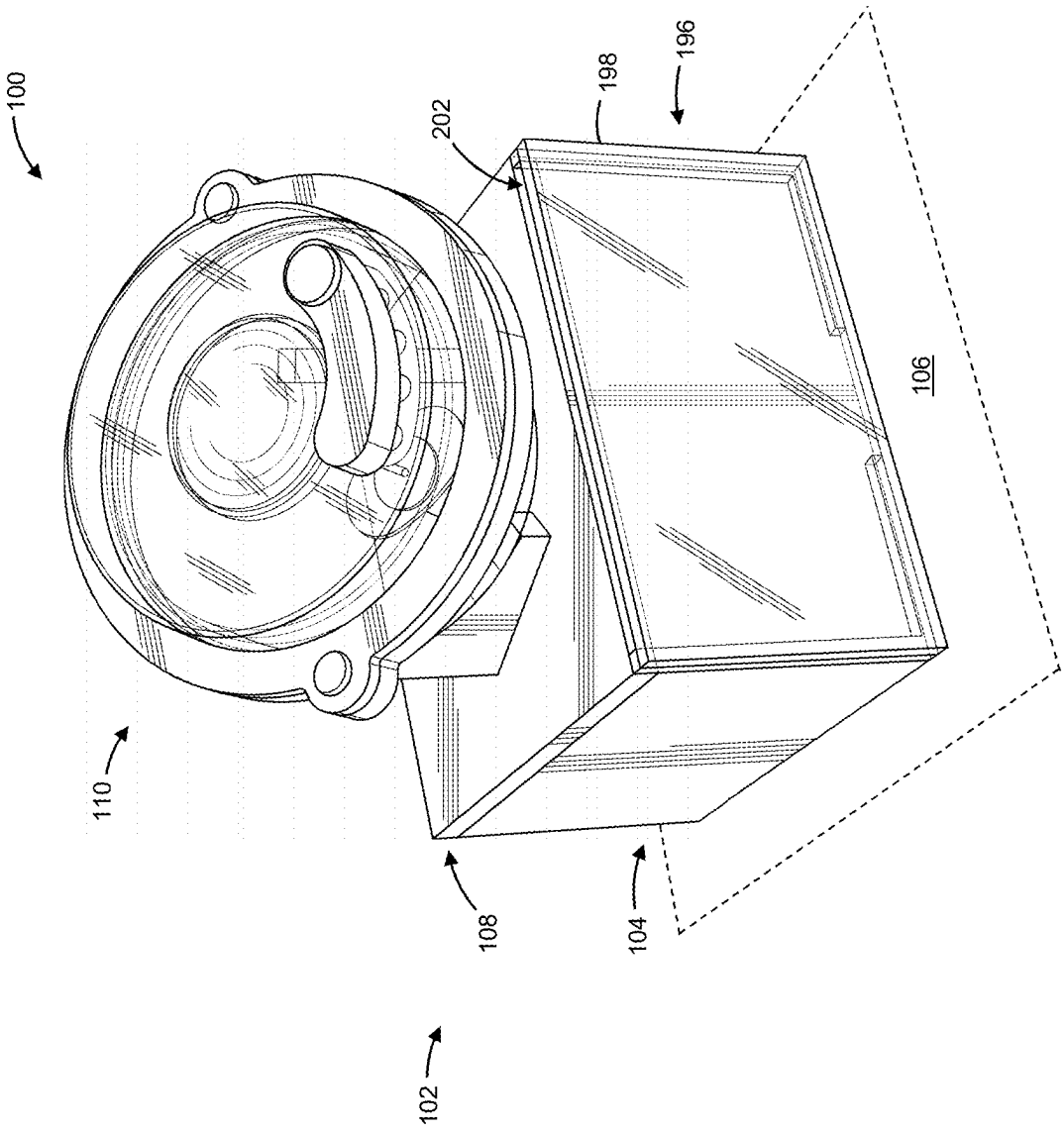


FIG. 1

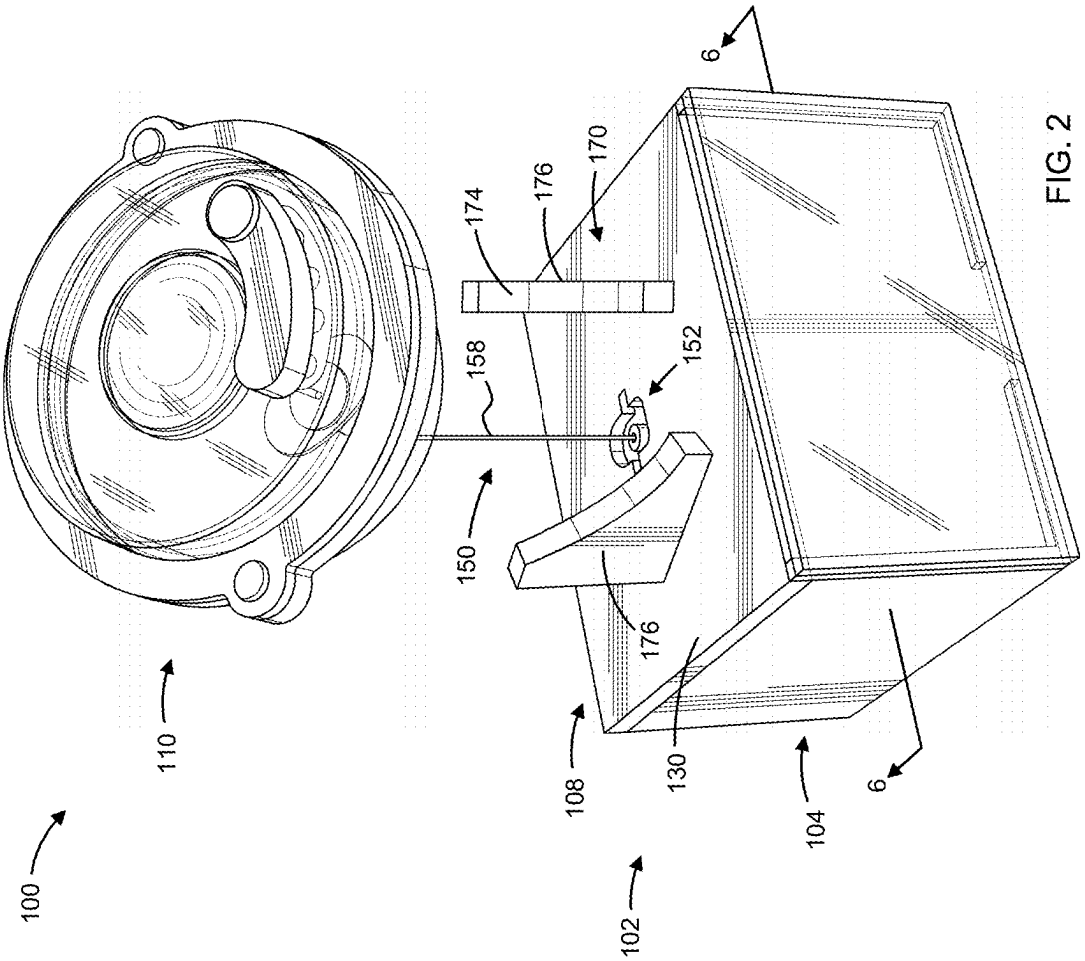


FIG. 2

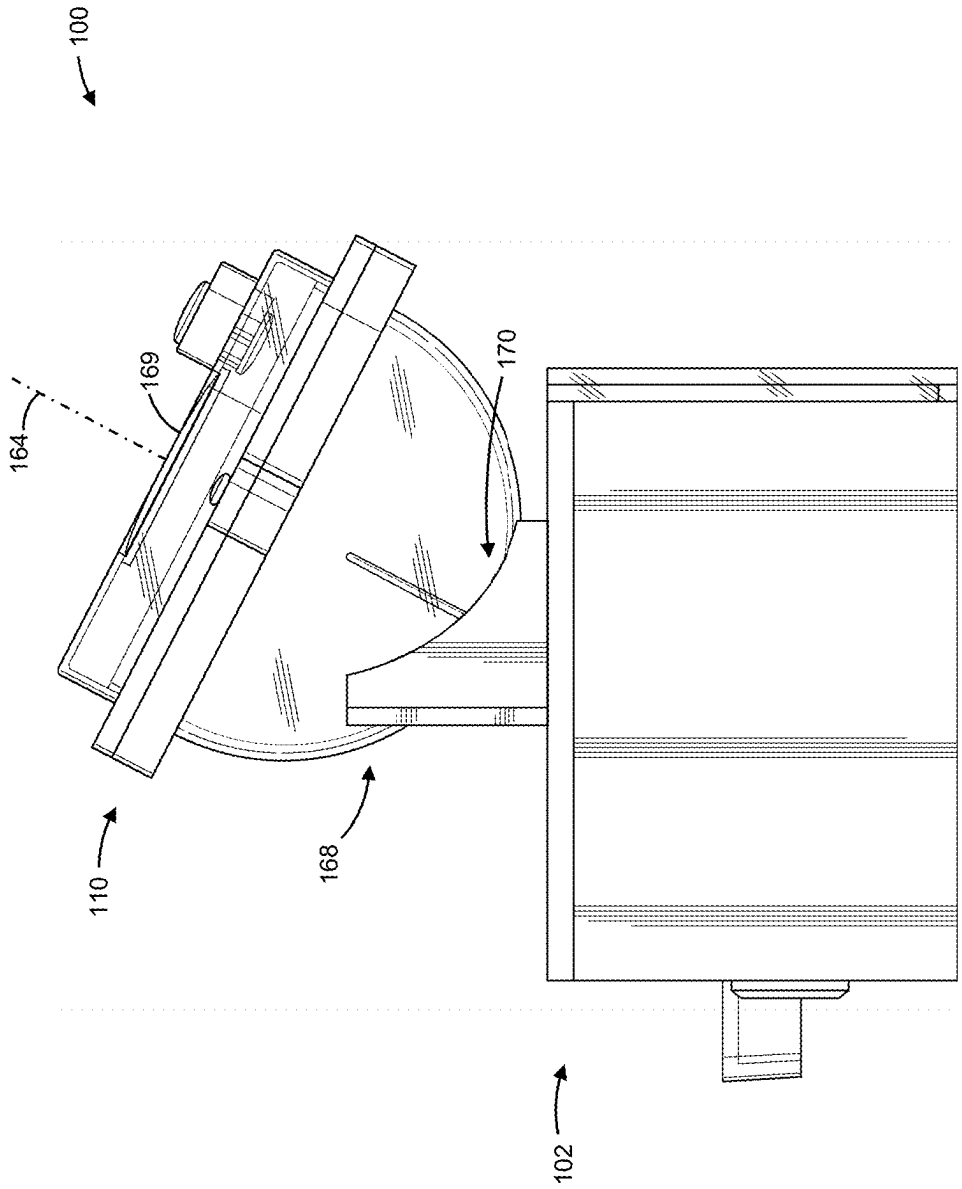


FIG. 3

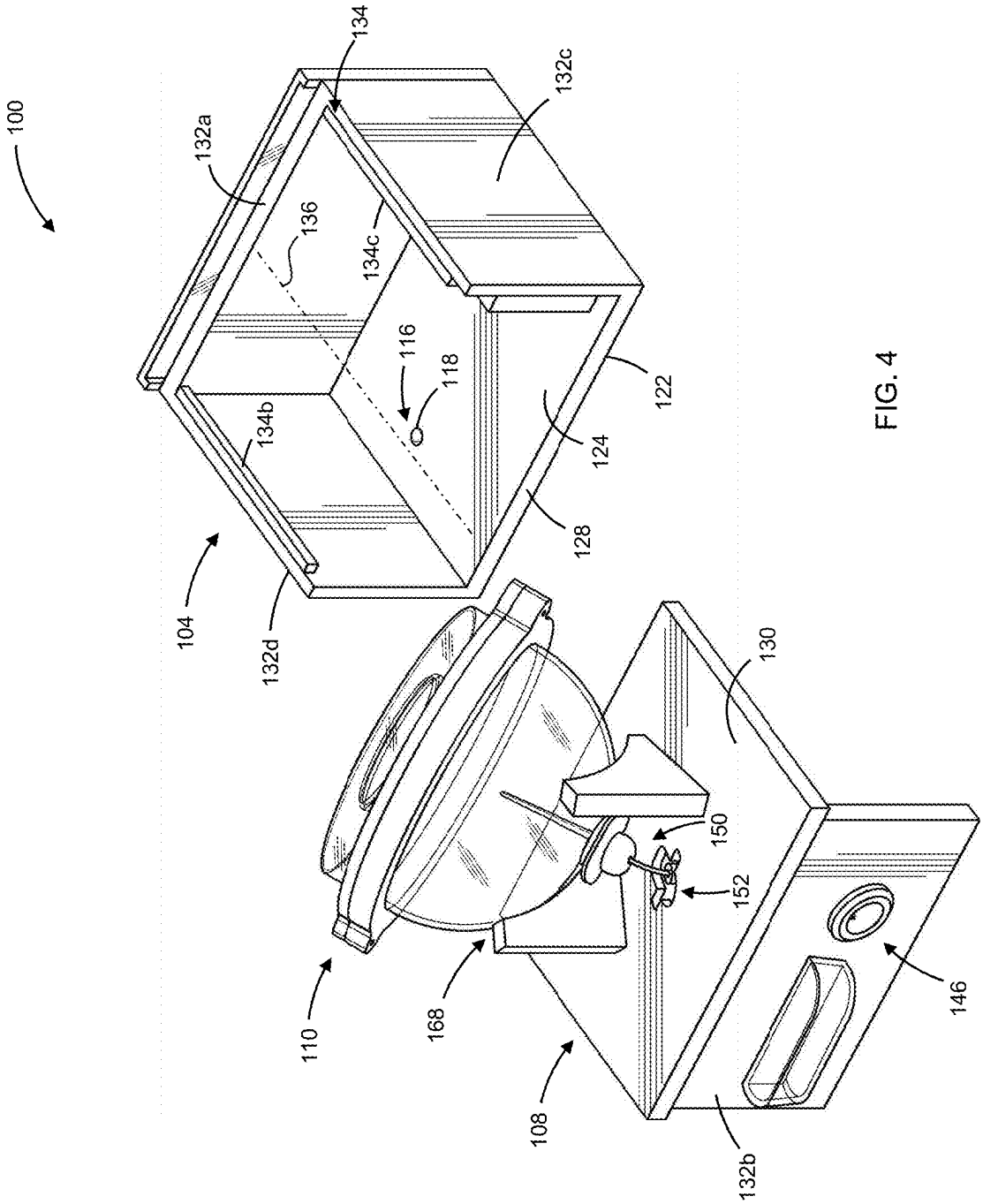

100
104
108
110
116
118
122
124
128
130
132a
132b
132c
132d
134
134b
134c
136
146
150
152
168

FIG. 4

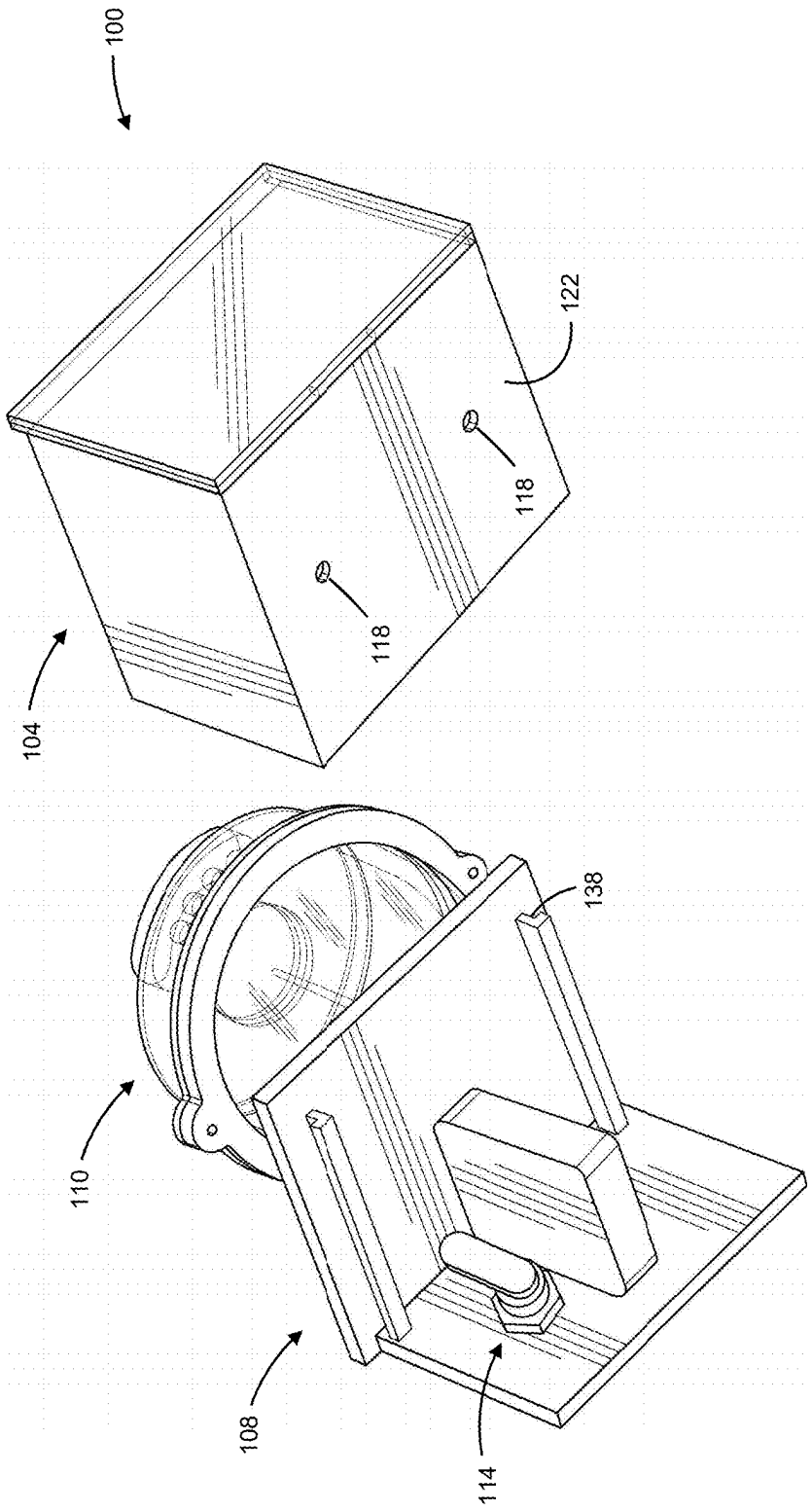


FIG. 5

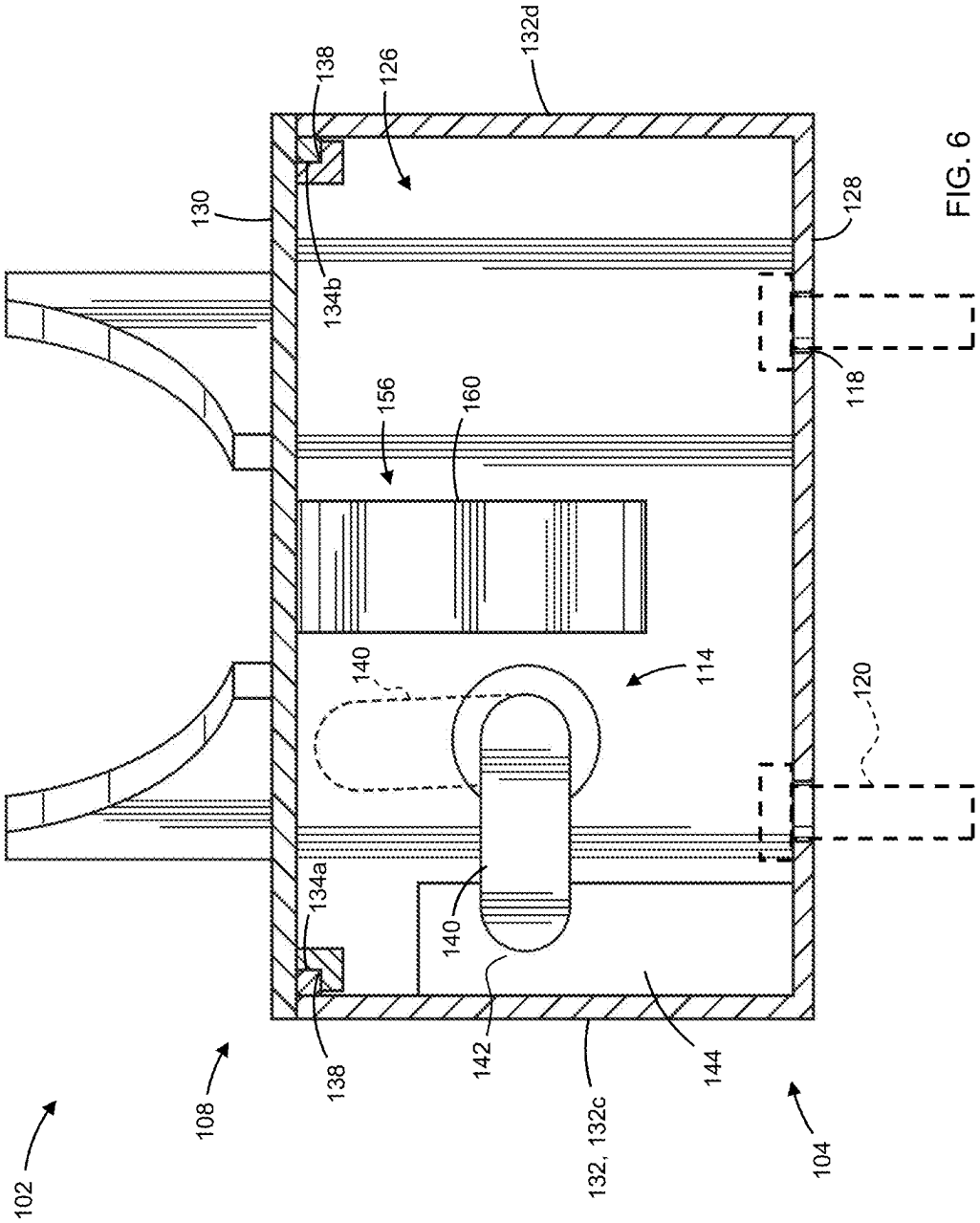

132d
138
126
130
128
134b
118
156
160
140
114
120
134a
140
142
138
144
132, 132c
102
108
104

FIG. 6

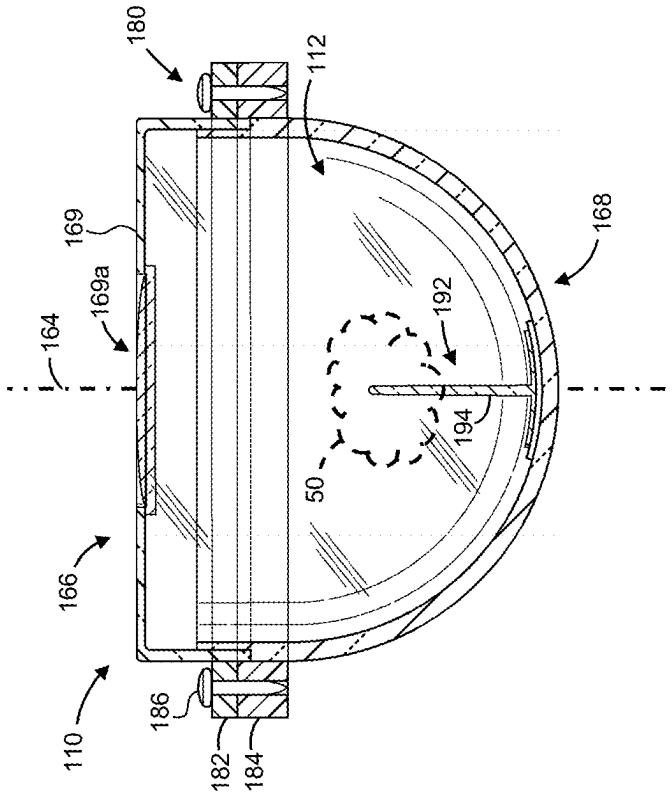

180
112
169
169a
164
168
192
194
50
166
110
186
182
184

FIG. 8

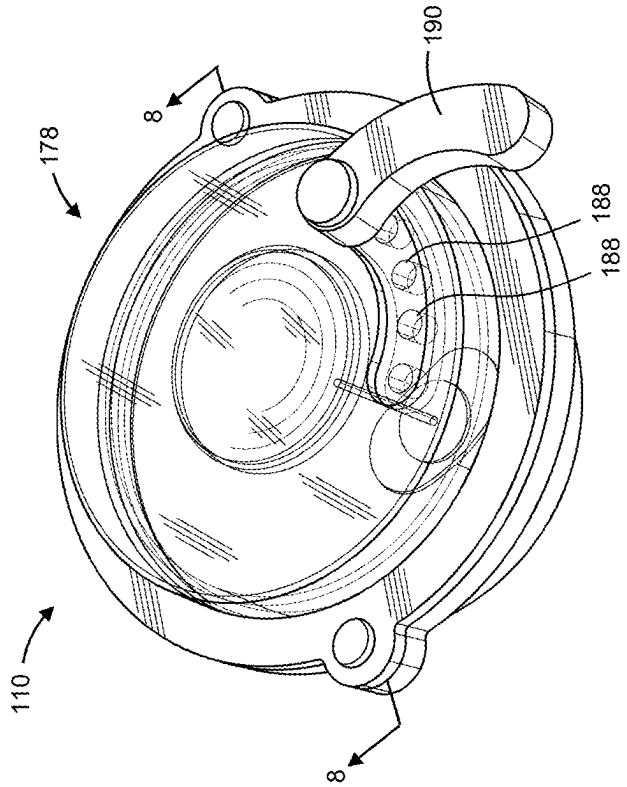

190
8
178
188
188
110
8

FIG. 7

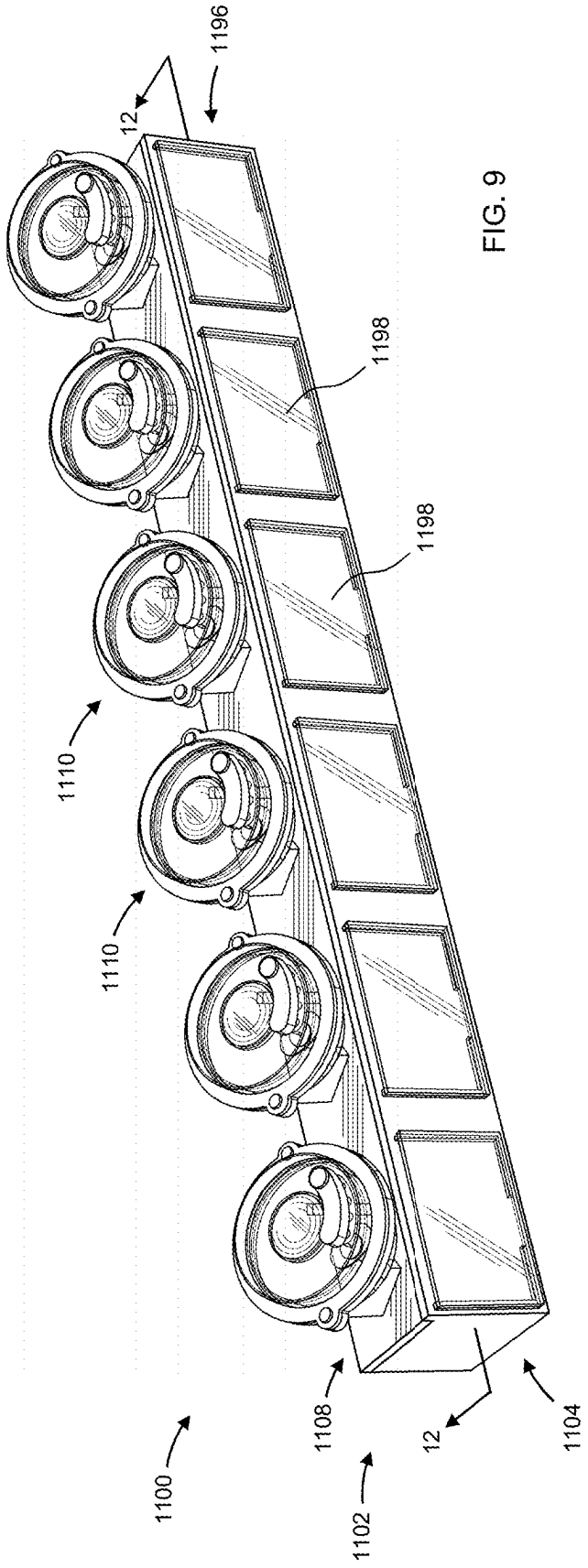


FIG. 9

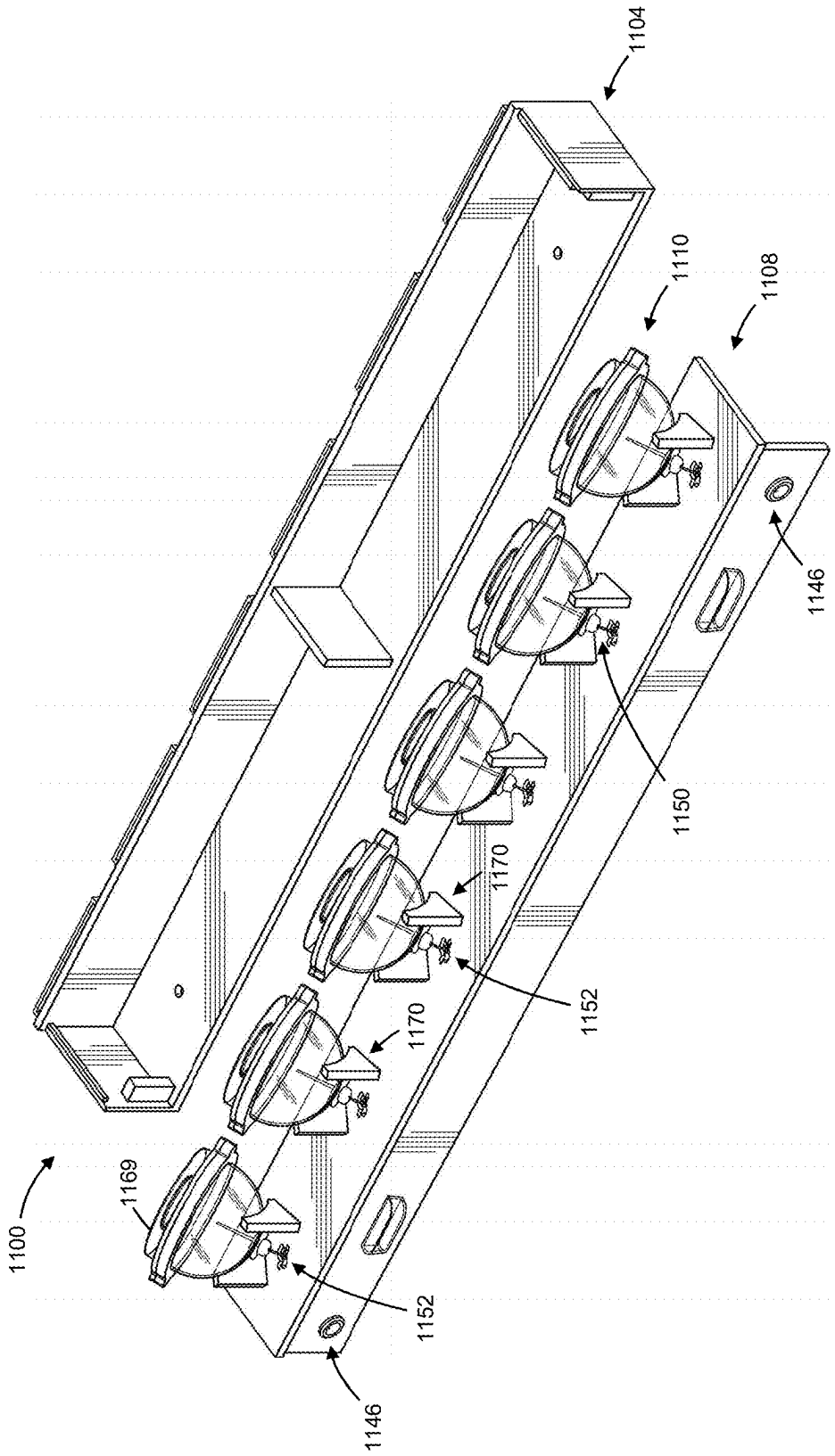


FIG. 10

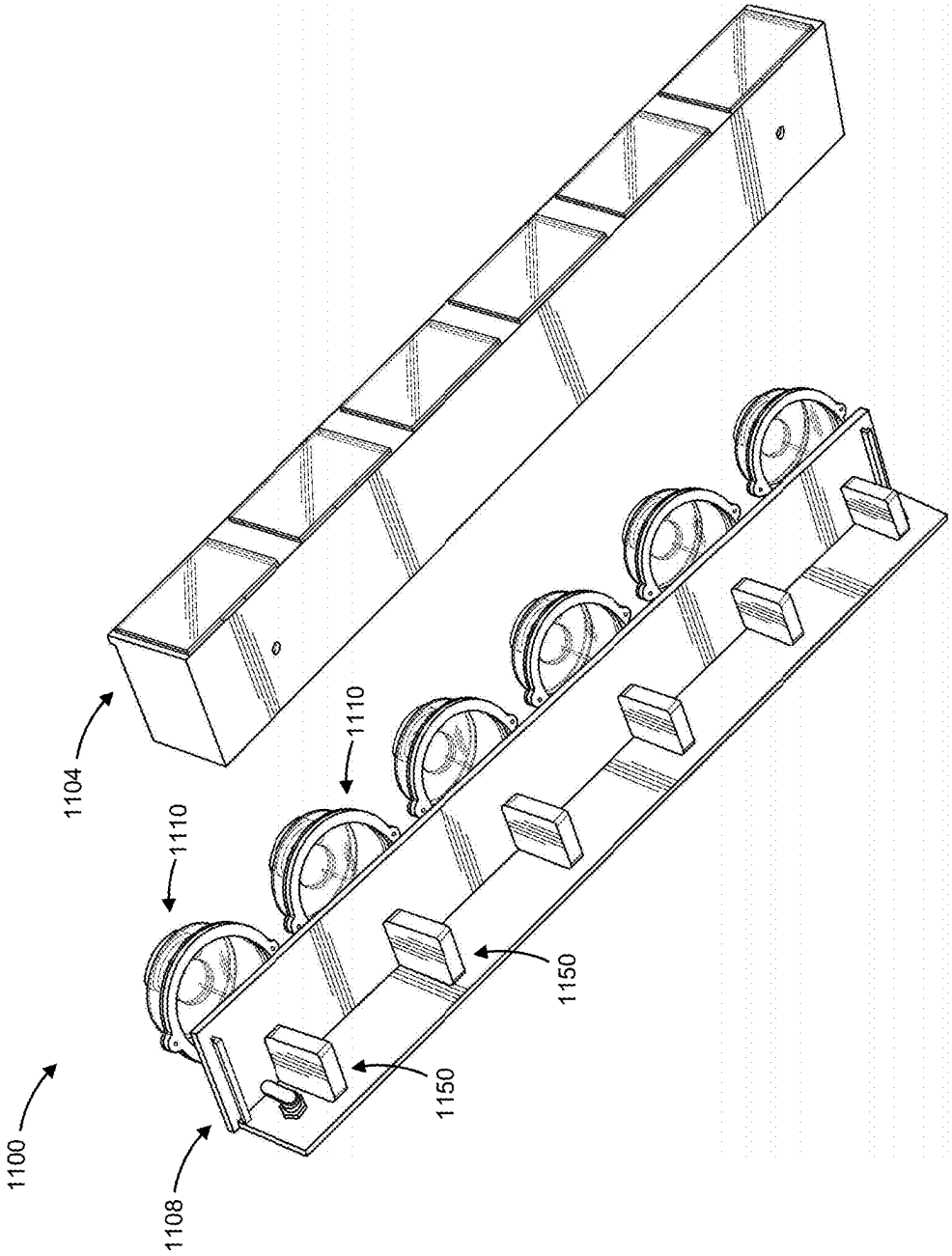


FIG. 11

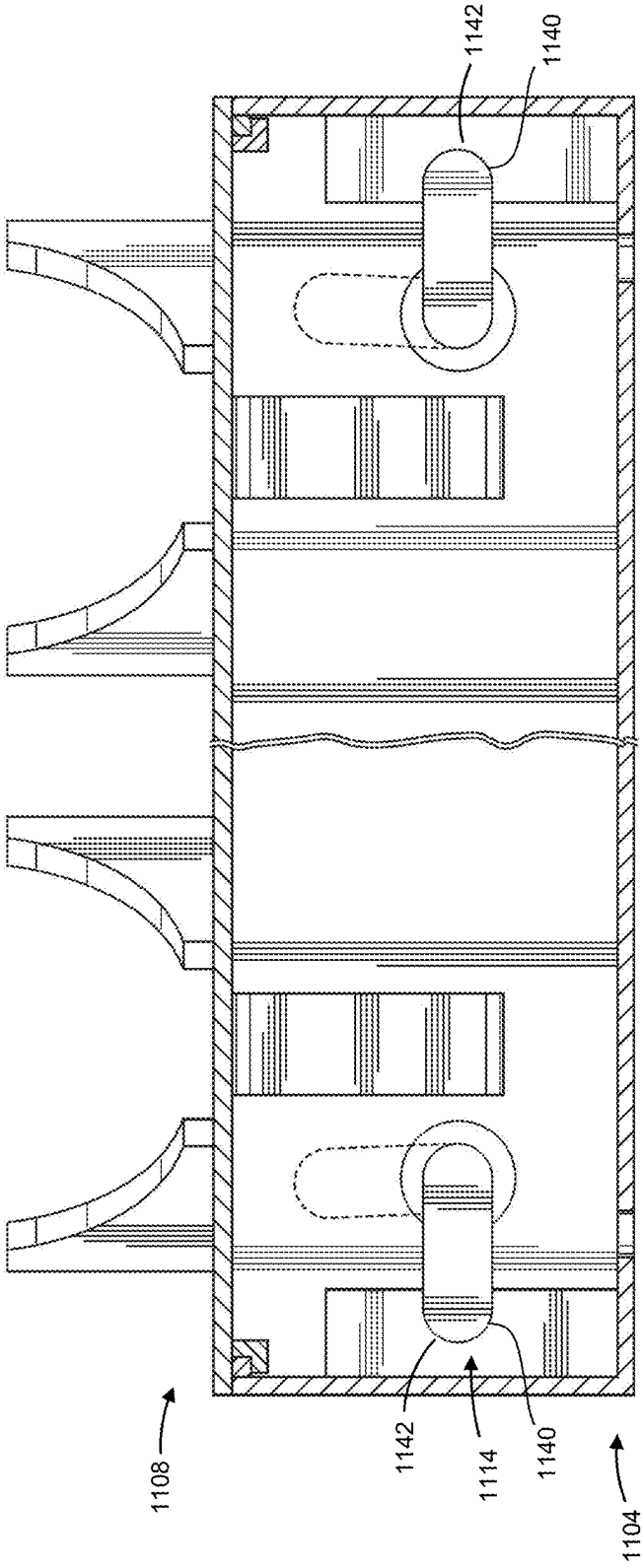


FIG. 12

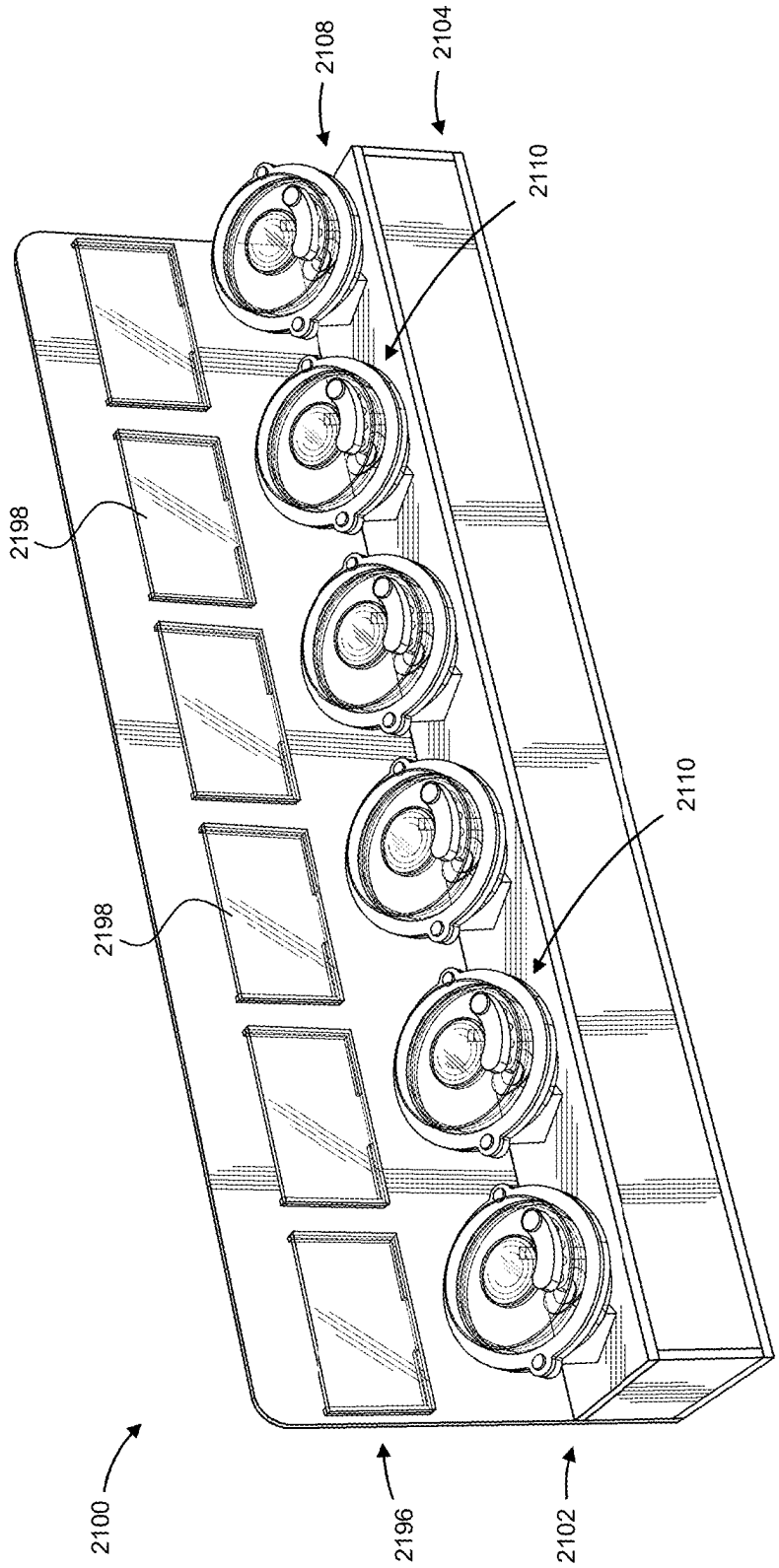


FIG. 13

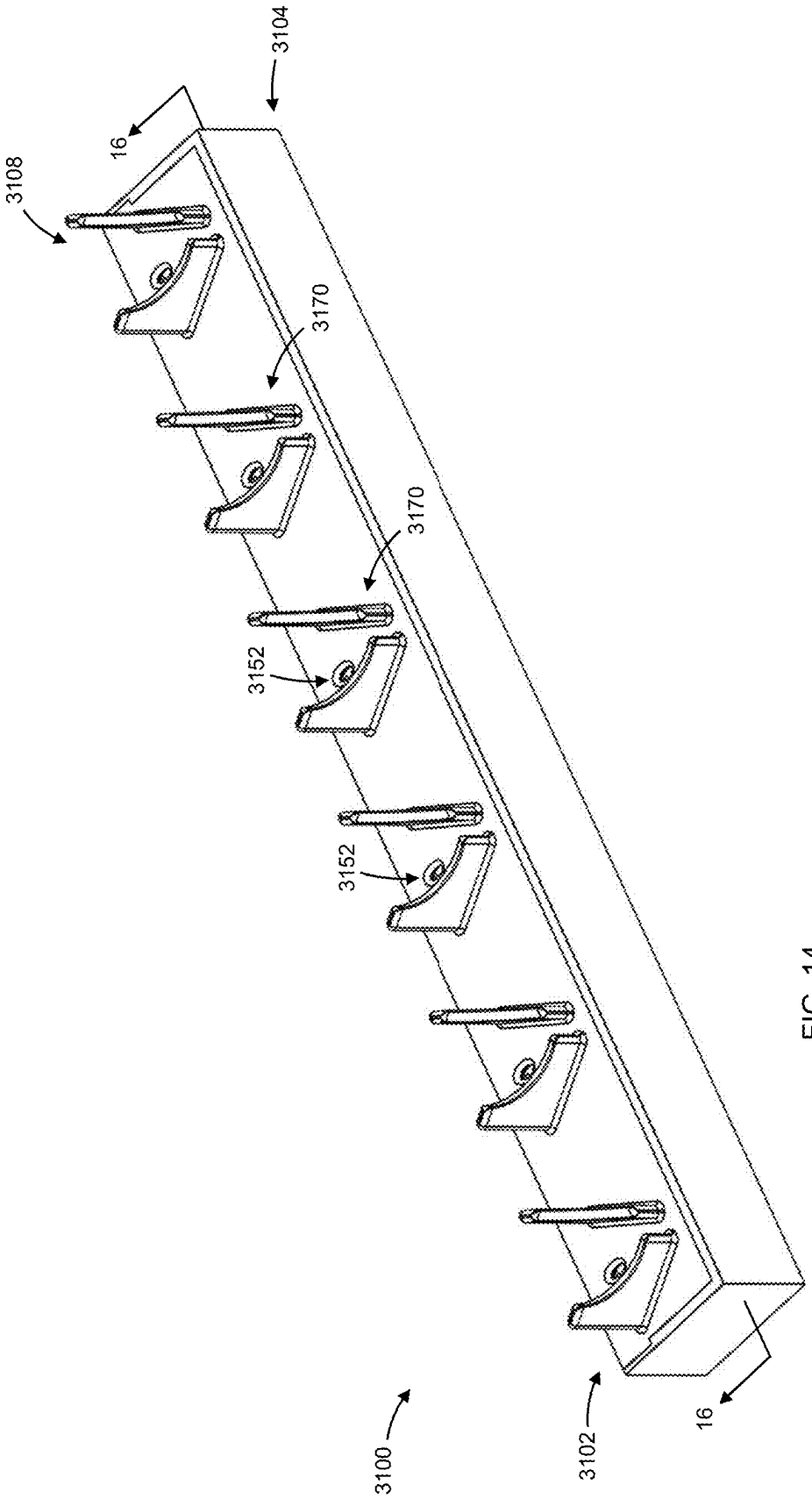
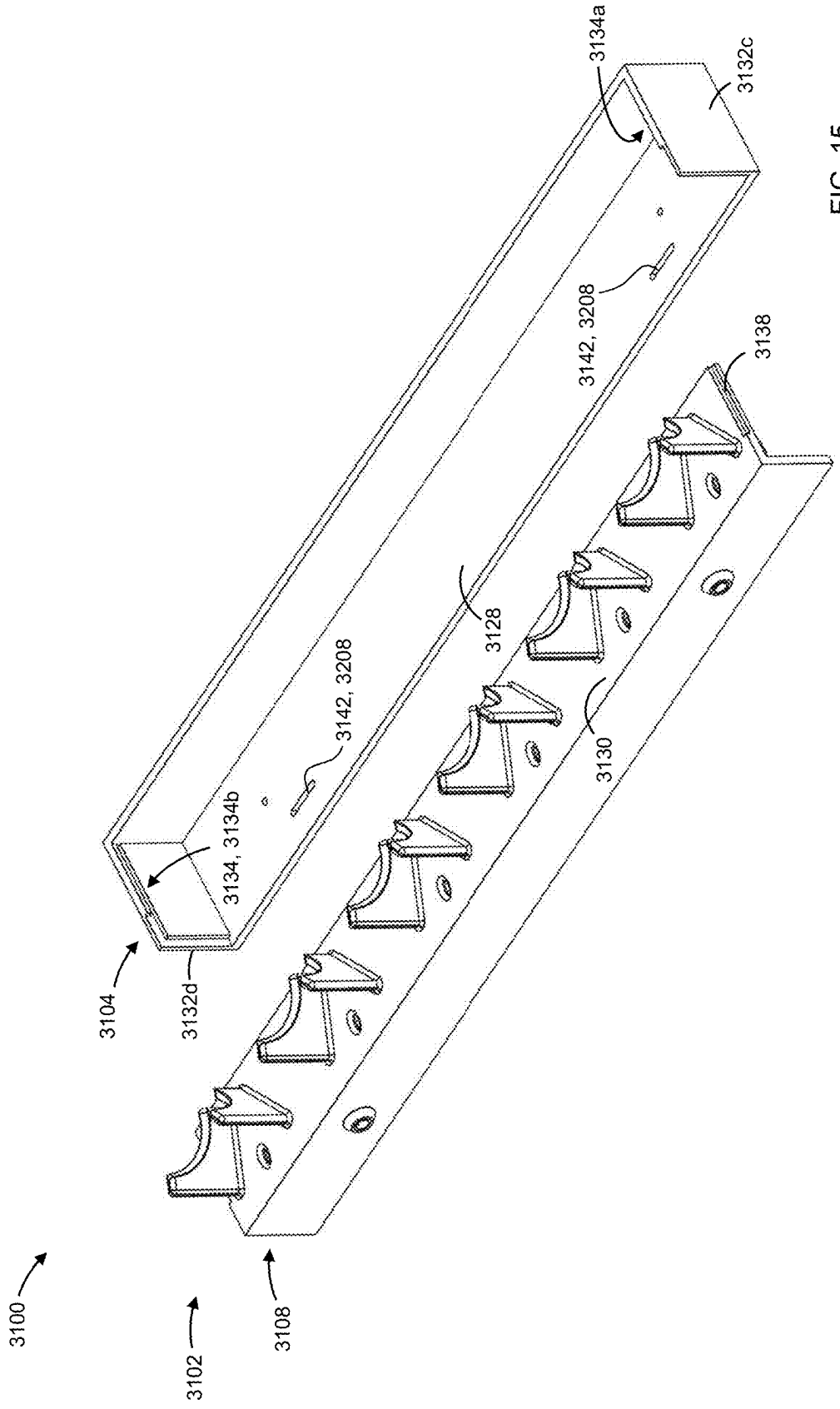


FIG. 14


3100
3102
3108
3104
3132d
3134, 3134b
3142, 3208
3128
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3142, 3208
3138
3134a
3132c

FIG. 15

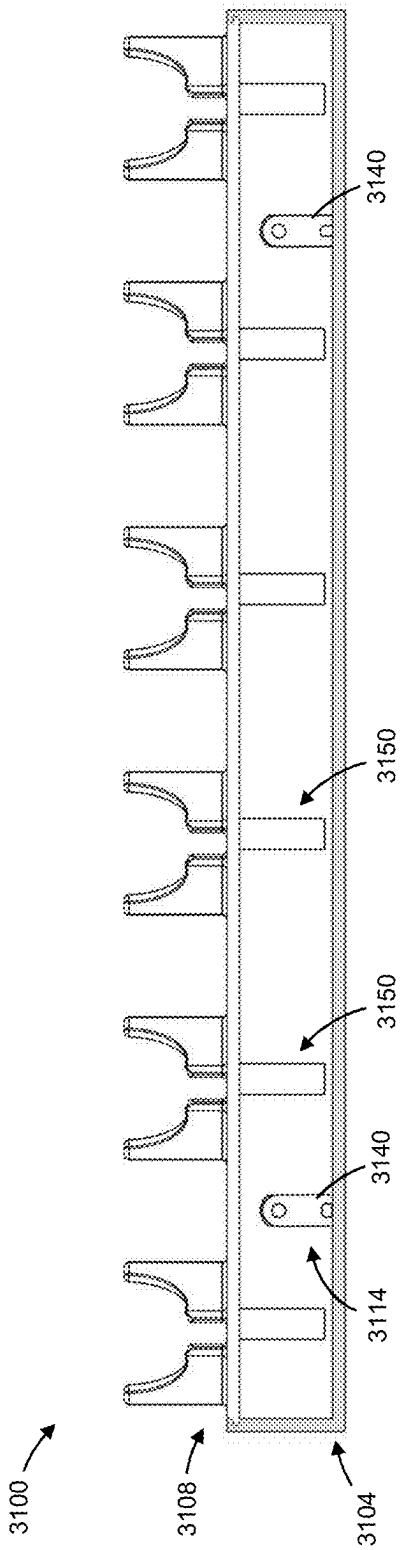

FIG. 16

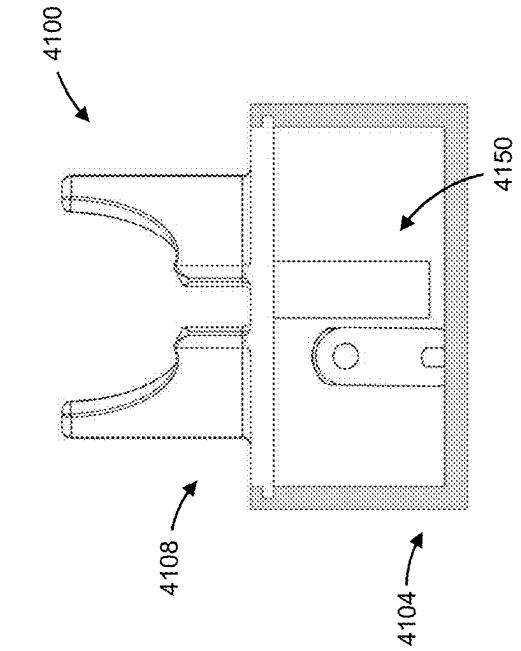

FIG. 19

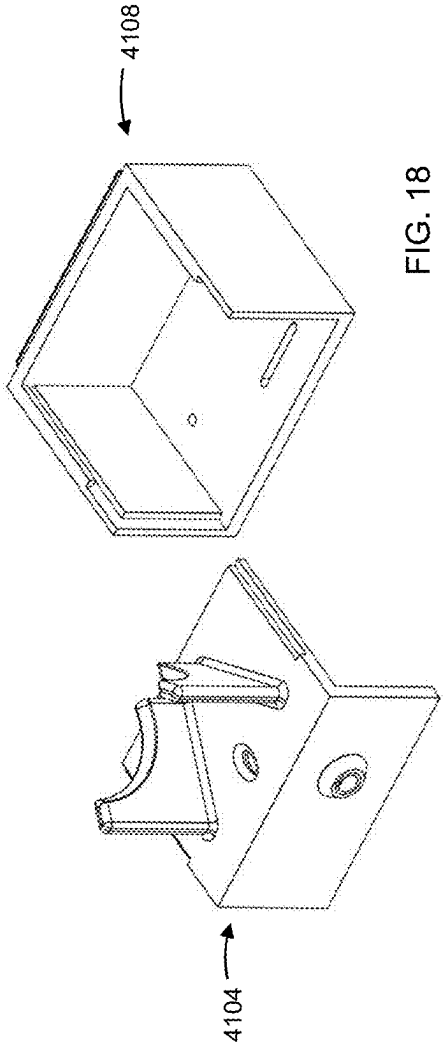

FIG. 18

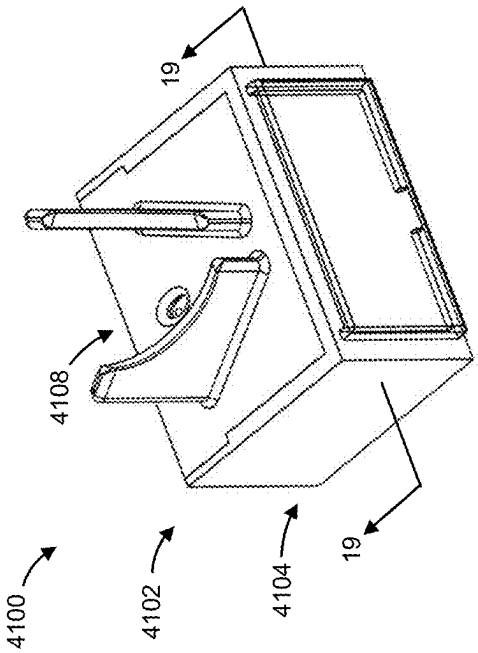

FIG. 17

DISPLAY ASSEMBLY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 17/225,423, filed on Apr. 8, 2021, which claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/009,959, filed on Apr. 14, 2020, and is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Design patent application Ser. No. 29/702,730, filed on Aug. 21, 2019, each of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

FIELD

[0002] The specification relates generally to secure display of articles, and more specifically, to display assemblies for securely displaying articles.

BACKGROUND

[0003] U.S. Pat. No. 9,630,747 B2 (Smith et al.) discloses a container for displaying, visualizing, and aroma sampling botanical materials—such as tea, *cannabis*, and the like including a container body, lid, and lens. The container body is shaped to define a mounting projection wherein a sample, such as a botanical sample, may be held. Container body and lid form an airtight seal. A sample may be visualized through the lens. In a preferred embodiment, lid is shaped to define scent openings permitting aroma sampling of a sample contained within. In one embodiment option, one or more projections secure a card bearing sample identification information.

SUMMARY

[0004] The following summary is intended to introduce the reader to various aspects of the applicant's teaching, but not to define any invention.

[0005] According to some aspects, a display assembly includes: (a) a display stand including a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base; (b) at least one display container supported atop and securely fastened to the platform, at least a portion of the display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; and (c) a locking mechanism mounted to the display stand. The locking mechanism is moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display container away from the base.

[0006] In some examples, the base includes one or more mounting features for securing the base to the support surface, the mounting features inaccessible when the base is secured to the support surface and the platform is mounted to the base, and the mounting features accessible when the platform is detached from the base.

[0007] In some examples, the mounting features include a plurality of holes for receiving fasteners, the holes extending through the base between an underside surface of the base positionable over the support surface and a topside surface of the base, the holes covered by the platform when the platform is mounted to the base and exposed when the platform is detached from the base.

[0008] In some examples, the display assembly further includes at least one retractable tether securely fastening the display container to the platform, the retractable tether permitting limited movement of the display container away from the platform to facilitate viewing of the articles and urging the display container back to the platform.

[0009] In some examples, the display stand has a generally enclosed interior bounded by the base and the platform, and at least one tether port extending between the interior and an exterior of the display stand. The retractable tether is mounted to the platform in the interior and extends through the tether port to the display container.

[0010] In some examples, the retractable tether comprises a retraction mechanism mounted in the interior and a tether line extending through the tether port between a proximal end coupled to the retraction mechanism and a distal end fixed to the display container.

[0011] In some examples, the display container extends along a container axis between a top portion and a bottom portion vertically opposite the top portion, the top portion comprising a generally transparent viewing surface normal to the container axis and through which the articles are viewable.

[0012] In some examples, the platform comprises at least one seat shaped for supporting the bottom portion of the display container.

[0013] In some examples, when the display container is in the seat, the seat and the retractable tether cooperate to hold the display container at an angled orientation, in which the viewing surface is inclined from horizontal toward the front of the display stand.

[0014] In some examples, the bottom of the display container has a generally hemispherical shape, and the seat has an arcuate curvature corresponding to the hemispherical shape.

[0015] In some examples, the viewing surface comprises a viewing lens.

[0016] In some examples, the locking mechanism includes a latch movably mounted to one of the base and the platform, and a strike surface fixed relative to the other one of the base and the platform, the latch positioned for engagement with the strike surface when the locking mechanism is in the locked position to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and the latch clear of the strike surface when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked position to permit detachment of the platform from the base.

[0017] In some examples, the locking mechanism includes a key slot for receiving a key to move the locking mechanism between the locked and unlocked positions.

[0018] In some examples, the base includes a track extending along a track axis and the platform is slidably mounted on the track for constraining movement of the platform to along the track axis.

[0019] In some examples, the display assembly further includes an information display system supported by the display stand for displaying information about the articles in the display container.

[0020] According to some aspects, a display assembly includes: (a) a display stand including a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base; (b) a plurality of display containers supported atop the platform, at least a portion of each display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; (c) a plurality of retractable

tethers mounted to the platform, each tether securely fastening a corresponding display container to the platform, each tether permitting limited movement of the corresponding display container away from the platform and urging the display container back toward the platform; and (d) a locking mechanism mounted to the display stand, the locking mechanism moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display containers away from the base.

[0021] In some examples, the display stand has a generally enclosed interior bounded by the base and the platform, and a plurality of tether ports extending between the interior and an exterior of the display stand. The retractable tethers are mounted to the platform in the interior and each tether extends through a corresponding tether port to a corresponding display container.

[0022] In some examples, the platform comprises a plurality of seats, each seat shaped for supporting a corresponding display container.

[0023] According to some examples, a display assembly includes: (a) a housing having a generally enclosed interior; (b) at least one display container adjacent the housing, at least a portion of the display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; (c) at least one tether port extending through the housing between the interior and an exterior of the housing; and (d) at least one retractable tether mounted in the interior of the housing, the retractable tether extending through the tether port and fastening the display container to the housing, the tether permitting limited movement of the display container away from the housing to facilitate viewing of the articles, and urging the display container back toward the housing.

[0024] In some examples, the housing includes a first portion securable to a secure support surface and a second portion detachably mounted to the first portion, the first and second portions bounding the interior of the housing. The tether port is provided in the second portion of the housing and the retractable tether is mounted to the second portion.

[0025] In some examples, the first portion includes one or more mounting features for securing the base to the secure support surface, the mounting features inaccessible when the first portion is secured to the support surface and the second portion is mounted to the first portion, and the mounting features accessible when the second portion is detached from the first portion.

[0026] In some examples, the display assembly further includes a locking mechanism mounted to the housing. The locking mechanism is moveable between a locked position in which the second portion is securely locked to the first portion to prevent detachment of the second portion from the first portion, and an unlocked position in which the second portion is unlocked from the first portion to permit detachment of the second portion from the first portion for transporting the second portion, tethers, and display containers away from the first portion.

[0027] According to some aspects, a display assembly includes: (a) a display stand including a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base; (b) a plurality of display containers fastened to the platform, at least a portion of each display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; and (c) a locking mechanism mounted to the housing. The locking mechanism is moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display containers away from the base.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0028] The drawings included herewith are for illustrating various examples of apparatuses, articles, and methods of the present specification and are not intended to limit the scope of what is taught in any way. In the drawings:

[0029] FIG. **1** is a perspective view from the front and top of an example display assembly;

[0030] FIG. **2** is a perspective view like that of FIG. **1**, but with a display container shown raised above a platform portion of the display assembly of FIG. **1**;

[0031] FIG. **3** is a side elevation view of the display assembly of FIG. **1**;

[0032] FIG. **4** is a partially exploded perspective view from the rear and top showing a platform portion detached from a base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **1**;

[0033] FIG. **5** is a partially exploded perspective view from the front and bottom showing the platform portion detached from the base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **1**;

[0034] FIG. **6** is a cross-sectional view of a display stand portion of the display assembly of FIG. **1**, taken along line **6-6** in FIG. **2**;

[0035] FIG. **7** is a perspective view of a display container of the display assembly of FIG. **1**, with a plug portion of the container in an open position;

[0036] FIG. **8** is a cross-sectional view of the display container of FIG. **7**, taken along line **8-8** in FIG. **7**;

[0037] FIG. **9** is a perspective view from the top and front of another example display assembly;

[0038] FIG. **10** is a perspective view from the rear and top showing a platform portion detached from a base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **9**;

[0039] FIG. **11** is a perspective view from the front and bottom showing the platform portion detached from the base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **9**;

[0040] FIG. **12** is a cross-sectional view of a display stand portion of the display assembly of FIG. **9**, taken along line **12-12** in FIG. **9**;

[0041] FIG. **13** is a perspective view from the top and front of another example display assembly;

[0042] FIG. **14** is a perspective view from the top and front of another example display assembly;

[0043] FIG. **15** is a perspective view from the rear and top showing a platform portion detached from a base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **14**;

[0044] FIG. **16** is a cross-sectional view of the display assembly of FIG. **14**, taken along line **16-16** in FIG. **14**.

[0045] FIG. **17** is a perspective view from the top and front of another example display assembly;

[0046] FIG. **18** is a perspective view from the rear and top showing a platform portion detached from a base portion of the display assembly of FIG. **17**; and

[0047] FIG. **19** is a cross-sectional view of the display assembly of FIG. **17**, taken along line **19-19** in FIG. **17**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0048] Various apparatuses, articles, or processes will be described below to provide an example of an embodiment of each claimed invention. No embodiment described below limits any claimed invention and any claimed invention may cover apparatuses, articles, or processes that differ from those described below. The claimed inventions are not limited to apparatuses, articles, or processes having all of the features of any one apparatus, article, or process described below or to features common to multiple or all of the apparatuses, articles, or processes described below. It is possible that an apparatus, article, or process described below is not an embodiment of any claimed invention. Any invention disclosed in an apparatus, article, or process described below that is not claimed in this document may be the subject matter of another protective instrument, for example, a continuing patent application, and the applicants, inventors, or owners do not intend to abandon, disclaim, or dedicate to the public any such invention by its disclosure in this document.

[0049] In retail or other environments, it may be desirable or necessary to display articles for sale in secure display containers. The containers can be locked and tamper-proof to prevent patrons from touching the articles being displayed therein. The containers may also be fastened to a secure surface at a display location through, for example, a tether to allow patrons to handle and manipulate the display containers for viewing and/or sampling an aroma of the articles contained therein while deterring theft or misplacement of the containers. The present application discloses examples of display assemblies for securely displaying articles in secure display containers fastened at a display location. The display assemblies can allow for convenient detachment and reattachment of the display containers for transport away from and back to the display (or other) location. This can facilitate, for example, servicing, replacement, and/or more secure storage (e.g. during store closure, overnight, etc.) of the display containers and/or articles contained therein. The articles can include, for example, aromatic botanical specimens such as, for example, *cannabis* specimens.

[0050] Referring to FIG. **1**, an example display assembly **100** for secure display of one or more articles is illustrated. In the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** includes a display stand **102** having a first portion (in the form of a base **104** in the example illustrated) securable to a secure support surface **106** (shown schematically in FIG. **1**) and a second portion (in the form of a platform **108** in the example illustrated) detachably mounted to the base **104**. The support surface **106** can comprise a permanent and/or semi-permanent fixture or structure such as, for example, a counter, table, and/or other construction to which the display assembly **100** can be securely mounted to prevent removal of the display assembly **100** from the premises while on display.

[0051] Still referring to FIG. **1**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** further includes at least one display container **110** adjacent the display stand **102**. In the example illustrated, the display container **110** is supported atop and fastened to the platform **108**. The display container **110** has a generally enclosed container interior **112** (FIG. **8**) for containing one or more articles **50** (shown schematically in FIG. **8**) for display, and in the example illustrated, is locked and tamper-proof to prevent patrons from touching the articles **50** being displayed therein. At least a portion of the container **110** is generally transparent to allow for viewing of the articles **50** contained therein.

[0052] Referring to FIG. **5**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** further includes a locking mechanism **114** mounted to the display stand **102**. The locking mechanism is moveable between a locked position (shown in FIG. **6** in solid lines) and an unlocked position (shown in FIG. **6** in dashed lines). When the locking mechanism **114** is in the locked position, the platform **108** is securely locked to the base **104** to prevent detachment of the platform **108** from the base **104**, which can help prevent removal of the display containers fastened to the platform from the premises. When the locking mechanism **114** is in the unlocked position, the platform **108** is unlocked from the base **104** to permit detachment of the platform **108** from the base **104** for transporting the platform **108** and the display container **110** fastened to the platform **108** away from the base **104**. This can allow for the display container **110** to be securely displayed at a predetermined display location where the base **104** is mounted, and for convenient detachment and reattachment of the platform **108** and display container **110** for transport away from and back to the display location, which can facilitate servicing, replacement, and/or more secure storage (e.g. during store closure, overnight, etc.) of the display container **110** and articles **50** contained therein.

[0053] Referring to FIG. **4**, in the example illustrated, the base **104** includes one or more mounting features **116** for securing the base **104** to the support surface **106**. The mounting features **116** are inaccessible when the base **104** is secured to the support surface **106** and the platform **108** is mounted to the base **104** (see e.g. FIG. **1**). The mounting features **116** are accessible when the platform **108** is detached from the base. This can help inhibit tampering of the mounting features **116** by blocking access to the mounting features **116** when the platform **108** (and display container **110**) is locked to the base **104**, and by providing access to the mounting features **116** only when the platform **108** is unlocked and (at least partially) removed from the base **104**.

[0054] In the example illustrated, the mounting features **116** include a plurality of mounting holes **118** for receiving fasteners **120** (e.g. screws or bolts; shown schematically in FIG. **6**) to secure the base **104** to the support surface **106** (FIG. **1**). In the example illustrated, the mounting holes **118** extend through the base **104** between an underside surface **122** of the base **104** positionable over the support surface **106** and a topside surface **124** of the base **104** opposite the underside surface **122**. In the example illustrated, the topside surface **124** of the base **104** and the holes **118** are covered by the platform **108** when the platform **108** is mounted to the base **104**, and the topside surface **124** and the holes **118** (and fasteners **120** when the base **104** is secured to the support surface **106**) are exposed when the platform **108** is detached from the base **104**.

[0055] Referring to FIG. **6**, in the example illustrated, the display stand **102** comprises a housing having a generally enclosed interior **126** bounded by the base **104** and the platform **108**. In the example illustrated, the display stand **102** has a bottom wall **128** at a bottom of the display stand **102** and bounding the interior **126** from below, a top wall **130** vertically opposite the bottom wall **128** at a top of the display stand **102** and bounding the interior **126** from above, and a sidewall **132** extending vertically between the bottom and top walls **128**, **130** and bounding the interior **126** horizontally. Referring to FIGS. **4** and **5**, in the example

illustrated, the sidewall **132** includes a sidewall front portion **132***a* at a front of the display stand **102**, a sidewall rear portion **132***b* axially opposite the sidewall front portion **132***a* and at a rear of the display stand **102**, a sidewall left portion **132***c* extending between the sidewall front and rear portions **132***a*, **132***b* on a left side of the display stand **102**, and a sidewall right portion **132***d* extending between the sidewall front and rear portions **132***a*, **132***b* on a right side of the display stand laterally opposite the left side. In the example illustrated, the base **104** comprises the bottom wall **128**, sidewall front portion **132***a*, sidewall left portion **132***c*, and sidewall right portion **132***d*, and the platform **108** comprises the top wall **130** and the sidewall rear portion **132***b*. In the example illustrated, the mounting holes **118** extend through the bottom wall **128** of the base **104** and are open to the interior **126**.

[0056] Referring to FIG. **4**, in the example illustrated, the base **104** includes a track **134** extending along a track axis **136**, and the platform **108** is slidably mounted on the track **134**. Referring to FIG. **5**, in the example illustrated, the platform **108** includes one or more track engagement surfaces **138** for interlocking with the track **134** to constrain movement of the platform **108** to along the track axis **136** (and inhibit movement of the platform **108** in a direction transverse to the track axis **136**) when the platform **108** is slidably mounted on the track **134**. In the example illustrated, the track **134** (and track axis **136**) extends axially between the front and rear of the display stand **102**. Referring to FIG. **6**, in the example illustrated, the track **134** includes a first guide surface **134***a* fixed relative to the sidewall left portion **132***c* and a second guide surface **134***b* fixed relative to the sidewall right portion **132***d*. In the example illustrated, each guide surface **134***a*, **134***b* comprises a rail extending along the track axis **136** and projecting laterally into the interior **126** of the display stand **102**. In the example illustrated, each track engagement surface **138** defines a groove slidable over a respective rail and is fixed relative to the top wall **130** of the platform **108**.

[0057] In the example illustrated, when the platform **108** is mounted to the base **104** and the locking mechanism **114** is in the locked position, the track **134** prevents movement of the platform **108** in the direction transverse to the track axis **136** and the locking mechanism **114** prevents movement of the platform **108** along the track axis **136**. When the locking mechanism **114** is in the unlocked position, the platform **108** is movable along the track axis **136** for detachment from the base **104**.

[0058] Referring to FIG. **6**, in the example illustrated, the locking mechanism **114** includes a latch **140** movably mounted to one of the base **104** and the platform **108**, and a strike surface **142** fixed relative to the other one of the base **104** and the platform **108**. The latch **140** is positioned for engagement with the strike surface **142** when the platform **108** is mounted to the base **104** and the locking mechanism **114** is in the locked position, to prevent detachment of the platform **108** from the base **104**. The latch **140** is clear of the strike surface **142** when the locking mechanism **114** is in the unlocked position to permit the platform **108** to be mounted to and detached from the base **104**. In the example illustrated, the latch **140** is mounted to the platform **108** and the strike surface **142** is fixed relative to the base **104**. In the example illustrated, the strike surface **142** comprises a strike plate **144** fixed to the sidewall **132** and projecting laterally into the interior **126** of the display stand **102**. Referring to FIG. **4**, in the example illustrated, the locking mechanism **114** includes a key slot **146** for receiving a key to move the locking mechanism **114** (in particular, the latch **140** in the example illustrated) between the locked and unlocked positions. In the example illustrated, the latch **140** and key slot **146** are mounted to the sidewall rear portion **132***b*. The key slot **146** is accessible from the rear of the display assembly **100**, and the latch **140** is in the interior **126** when the platform **108** is mounted to the base **104**.

[0059] Referring to FIG. **2**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** further includes at least one retractable security tether **150** securely fastening the display container **110** to the platform **108**. The retractable tether **150** permits limited movement of the display container **110** away from the platform **108** to facilitate viewing of the articles **50** therein, and urges the display container **110** back to the platform **108**. In the example illustrated, the retractable tether **150** holds the display container **110** adjacent the platform **108**.

[0060] In the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** includes at least one tether port **152** extending between the interior **126** and an exterior of the display stand **102**. In the example illustrated, the retractable tether **150** is mounted to the platform **108** in the interior **126** (FIG. **6**) and extends through the tether port **152** to the display container **110**. In the example illustrated, the tether port **152** passes through the top wall **130** of the platform **108**.

[0061] Referring to FIG. **6**, in the example illustrated, the retractable tether **150** comprises a retraction mechanism **156** mounted in the interior **126** and a tether line **158** (in the form of a cable, in the example illustrated-see FIG. **2**) extending through the tether port **152** between a proximal end coupled to the retraction mechanism **156** and a distal end secured to the display container **110**. The distal end can be secured to the display container **110** through, for example, a loop and fastener connection, adhesive, and/or in any other suitable manner.

[0062] Referring to FIG. **2**, in the example illustrated, the tether line **158** is extendible from the retraction mechanism **156** to accommodate movement of the display container **110** away from the platform **108**, and the retraction mechanism **156** urges retraction of the tether line **158** back into the retraction mechanism **156** for returning the display container **110** back to the platform **108**. Referring to FIG. **6**, in the example illustrated, the retraction mechanism **156** includes a casing **160** mounted in the interior **126** to an inner surface of the platform **108**, a spring-loaded reel in the casing **160** and around which the tether line **158** is wound for urging retraction of the tether line **158** into the casing **160**, and a casing opening through which the tether line **158** extends from within the casing **160**. In the example illustrated, the retractable tether **150** is mounted to an underside of the platform **108**, and the casing opening is in alignment with the tether port **152**.

[0063] Referring to FIG. **8**, in the example illustrated, the display container **110** extends along a container axis **164** between a top portion **166** and a bottom portion **168** vertically opposite the top portion. The top and bottom portions **166**, **168** generally enclose the interior **112** of the container **110**. In the example illustrated, the top portion **166** comprises a generally transparent viewing surface **169** normal to the container axis **164** and through which articles **50** in the container **110** can be viewed. In the example illustrated, the viewing surface **169** comprises a viewing lens **169***a* for

viewing the articles **50** in the display container **110**. In the example illustrated, the bottom portion **168** is also generally transparent.

[0064] Referring to FIG. **3**, in the example illustrated, the platform **108** includes at least one seat **170** shaped for supporting the bottom portion **168** of the display container **110**. In the example illustrated, when the display container **110** is in the seat **170**, the seat **170** and the retractable tether **150** cooperate to hold the display container **110** at an angled orientation, in which the viewing surface **169** is inclined from horizontal toward the front of the display stand **102** (and in which the container axis **164** is oriented at an oblique angle from vertical). This can help orient the viewing surface **169** toward patrons when the display container **110** is in the seat **170** to facilitate presentation and display of the articles **50**.

[0065] Referring to FIG. **2**, in the example illustrated, the seat **170** comprises a seating surface **174** for engagement with the bottom portion **168** of the display container **110** when in the seat **170**. Referring to FIG. **4**, in the example illustrated, the tether **150** is fastened to a bottom end at the bottom portion **168** of the display container **110** adjacent the container axis **164**, and the tether port **152** is positioned generally rearward of and at an elevation below the seating surface **174** so that the tether **150** pulls the bottom portion **168** downwardly and rearwardly into the seat **170** and urges the display container **110** into the angled orientation.

[0066] In the example illustrated, the bottom portion **168** of the display container **110** has a generally hemispherical shape, and the seat **170** has an arcuate curvature corresponding to the hemispherical shape. Referring to FIG. **2**, in the example illustrated, the seat **170** projects upwardly from the top wall **130** of the platform **108**. In the example illustrated, the seat **170** comprises a pair of laterally spaced apart support members **176** projecting upwardly from the top wall **130**. In the example illustrated, the tether port **152** is laterally intermediate the support members **176**.

[0067] Referring to FIG. **8**, in the example illustrated, the top portion **166** of the container **110** comprises a lid **178** and is detachably locked to the bottom portion **168** of the container **110**. In the example illustrated, the container **110** includes a locking ring **180** for detachably locking the top portion **166** to the bottom portion **168**. In the example illustrated, the locking ring **180** includes a ring first portion **182** fixed relative to the top portion **166** of the container **110** (through an adhesive, for example) and a ring second portion **184** fixed relative to the bottom portion **168** of the container **110**. In the example illustrated, the ring first portion **182** is locked to the ring second portion **184** with one or more removable fasteners **186** (e.g. screws) to inhibit tampering and/or unauthorized opening of the display container **110**. The fasteners **186** can be removed to detach the top portion **166** of the container **110** from the bottom portion **168** for opening the display container **110** to insert or remove the article **50** from the interior **112** of the display container **110**.

[0068] Referring to FIG. **7**, in the example illustrated, the display container **110** includes a plurality of scent ports **188** extending between the interior **112** of the display container and environment, and a plug **190** sealing the scent ports **188**. The plug **190** is movable away from the scent ports **188** to expose the scent ports **188** and facilitate sampling of an aroma of the articles **50** in the display container **110**. In the example illustrated, the scent ports **188** are in the lid **178** of the display container **110**, and the plug **190** is movably mounted to the lid **178**.

[0069] Referring to FIG. **8**, in the example illustrated, the display container **110** further includes a retainer **192** in the interior **112** of the display container **110** for retaining the article **50** at a predetermined location in the interior **112**. In the example illustrated, the retainer **192** includes an elongate mounting projection **194**. In the example illustrated, the mounting projection **194** is generally coaxial with the container axis **164**. In the example illustrated, the elongate mounting projection comprises a spike for piercing the article **50**.

[0070] Referring to FIG. **1**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **100** further includes an information display system **196** supported by the display stand **102** adjacent the display container **110** for displaying information about the articles **50** in the display container **110**. In the example illustrated, the display system **196** is mounted to the base **104**. In the example illustrated, the information display system **196** includes at least one card holder **198** shaped to receive and hold an information card providing the information about the articles **50**. In the example illustrated, the card holder **198** comprises a transparent wall defining a card slot **202** for receiving and holding the information card.

[0071] Referring to FIG. **9**, another example display assembly **1100** is illustrated. The display assembly **1100** has similarities to the display assembly **100**, and like features are identified using like reference characters, incremented by 1000.

[0072] In the example illustrated, the display assembly **1100** includes a display stand **1102** having a base **1104** securable to a secure support surface and a platform **1108** detachably mounted to the base **1104**. In the example illustrated, a plurality of display containers **1110** are supported atop and fastened to the platform **1108**. Referring to FIG. **11**, in the example illustrated, a plurality of retractable security tethers **1150** are mounted to the platform **1108**. Each tether **1150** securely fastens a corresponding display container **1110** to the platform **1108**. Referring to FIG. **10**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **1100** includes a plurality of tether ports **1152** extending between an interior and an exterior of the display stand **1102**. In the example illustrated, the retractable tethers **1150** are mounted to the platform **1108** in the interior and each tether **1150** extends through a corresponding tether port **1152** to a corresponding display container **1110**.

[0073] Referring to FIG. **10**, in the example illustrated, the platform **1108** includes a plurality of seats **1170**, each seat **1170** shaped for supporting a corresponding display container **1110**. In the example illustrated, when the display container **1110** is in the seat **1170**, the seat **1170** and the retractable tether **1150** cooperate to hold the display container **1110** at an angled orientation, in which a transparent viewing surface **1169** of the display container **1110** is inclined from horizontal toward the front of the display stand **1102** (to angle the viewing surface **1169** toward patrons when the container is in the seat **1170**).

[0074] Referring to FIG. **12**, in the example illustrated, a locking mechanism **1114** is mounted to the display stand **1102**, and movable between a locked position and an unlocked position. When the locking mechanism **1114** is in the locked position, the platform **1108** is securely locked to the base **1104**. When the locking mechanism **1114** is in the

unlocked position, the platform **1108** is unlocked from the base **1104** to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the platform **1108** and the plurality of display containers **1110** fastened to the platform **1108** away from the base **1104**.

[0075] In the example illustrated, the locking mechanism **1114** includes a pair of laterally spaced apart latches **1140** movably mounted to the platform **1108**, and a pair of laterally spaced apart corresponding strike surfaces **1142** fixed relative to the base **1104**. The strike surfaces **1142** are positioned for engagement by the latches **1140** when the platform **1108** is mounted to the base **1104** and the locking mechanism **1114** is in the locked position, to prevent detachment of the platform **1108** from the base **1104**. The latches **1140** are clear of the strike surfaces **1142** when the locking mechanism **1114** is in the unlocked position to permit the platform **1108** to be mounted to and detached from the base **1104**. Referring to FIG. **10**, in the example illustrated, the locking mechanism **1114** includes a pair of key slots **1146**, each key slot **1146** for actuating a corresponding latch **1140** independently.

[0076] Referring to FIG. **9**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **1100** further includes an information display system **1196** supported by the display stand **1102** adjacent the display containers **1110** for displaying information about the articles **50** containable in the display containers **1110**. In the example illustrated, the information display system **1196** includes a plurality of card holders **1198**. Each card holder **1198** is adjacent a corresponding display container **1110** and is shaped to receive and hold an information card providing information about articles **50** containable in that display container **1110**. In the example illustrated, the card holders **1198** are supported by the display stand **1102** in front of and at an elevation below the display containers **1110**.

[0077] Referring to FIG. **13**, another example display assembly **2100** is illustrated. The display assembly **2100** has similarities to the display assembly **1100**, and like features are identified using like reference characters, incremented by 1000.

[0078] In the example illustrated, the display assembly **2100** includes a display stand **2102** having a base **2104** securable to a secure support surface and a platform **2108** detachably mounted to the base **2104**. A plurality of display containers **2110** are supported atop and fastened to the platform **2108** through corresponding tethers (e.g. similar to tethers **1150**) mounted to the platform **2108**. In the example illustrated, the display assembly **2100** further includes an information display system **2196** supported by the display stand **2102** adjacent the display containers **2110** for displaying information about the articles **50** containable in the display containers **2110**. In the example illustrated, the information display system **2196** includes a plurality of card holders **2198**, each card holder **2198** for receiving a corresponding information card. In the example illustrated, the card holders **2198** are supported by the display stand **2102** behind and at an elevation above the display containers **2110**.

[0079] Referring to FIG. **14**, another example display assembly **3100** is illustrated. The display assembly **3100** has similarities to the display assembly **100**, and like features are identified using like reference characters, incremented by 3000.

[0080] The display assembly **3100** includes a display stand **3102** having a base **3104** securable to a secure support surface and a platform **3108** detachably mounted to the base **3104**. Referring to FIG. **16**, in the example illustrated, a plurality of retractable security tethers **3150** are mounted to the platform **3108**. Each tether **3150** is for securely fastening a corresponding display container (like the container **110**) to the platform **3108**. Referring to FIG. **14**, in the example illustrated, the display assembly **3100** includes a plurality of tether ports **3152** extending between an interior and an exterior of the display stand **3102**. In the example illustrated, the retractable tethers **3150** are mounted to the platform **3108** in the interior and each tether **3150** is extendable through a corresponding tether port **3152** to a corresponding display container. In the example illustrated, the platform **3108** includes a plurality of seats **3170**, each seat **3170** shaped for supporting a corresponding display container at an angled orientation (e.g. similar to that shown in FIG. **1** for the display container **110**).

[0081] Referring to FIG. **16**, in the example illustrated, a locking mechanism **3114** is mounted to the display stand **3102**. The locking mechanism **3114** is moveable between a locked position and an unlocked position. When the locking mechanism **3114** is in the locked position, the platform **3108** is securely locked to the base **3104**. When the locking mechanism **3114** is in the unlocked position, the platform **3108** is unlocked from the base **3104** to permit detachment of the platform **3108** from the base for transporting the platform **3108** and the plurality of the display containers fastened to the platform **3108** away from the base **3104**.

[0082] In the example illustrated, the locking mechanism **3114** includes a pair of laterally spaced apart latches **3140** and a pair of corresponding strike surfaces **3142** fixed relative to the base **3104** for engagement by the latches **3140**. In the example illustrated, the latches **3140** are mounted to the platform **3108**. Referring to FIG. **15**, in the example illustrated, each strike surface **3142** is defined by a corresponding opening **3208** in a bottom wall **3128** of the base **3104** for receiving a corresponding latch **3140**.

[0083] Referring to FIG. **15**, in the example illustrated, the base **3104** includes a track **3134** and the platform **3108** is slidably mounted on the track **3134**. In the example illustrated, the platform **3108** includes one or more track engagement surfaces **3138** for interlocking with the track **3134** to constrain movement of the platform **3108** to along the track **3134**. In the example illustrated, the track **3134** includes a first guide surface **3134***a* fixed relative to a sidewall left portion **3132***c* and a second guide surface **3134***b* fixed relative to a sidewall right portion **3132***d* of the base **3102**. In the example illustrated, each guide surface **3134***a*, **3134***b* comprises a groove in an inner surface of the base **3104**. In the example illustrated, each track engagement surface **3138** defines a ridge fixed relative to the top wall **3130** of the platform **3108** and slidable into a corresponding groove.

[0084] Referring to FIGS. **17** to **19**, another example display assembly **4100** is illustrated. The display assembly **4100** has similarities to the display assembly **3100**, and like features are identified using like reference characters, incremented by 1000. The display assembly **4100** includes a display stand **4102** having a base **4104** securable to a secure support surface and a platform **4108** detachably mounted to the base **4104**. In the example illustrated, a single retractable security tether **4150** is mounted to the platform **4108** (in an

interior of the display stand) for securely fastening a single display container (like the container **110**) to the platform **4108**.

1. A display assembly, comprising:

a) a display stand including a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base;

b) at least one display container supported atop and securely fastened to the platform, at least a portion of the display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; and

c) a locking mechanism mounted to the display stand, the locking mechanism moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display container away from the base.

2. The display assembly of claim **1**, wherein the base includes one or more mounting features for securing the base to the support surface, the mounting features inaccessible when the base is secured to the support surface and the platform is mounted to the base, and the mounting features accessible when the platform is detached from the base.

3. The display assembly of claim **1**, further comprising at least one retractable tether securely fastening the display container to the platform, the retractable tether permitting limited movement of the display container away from the platform to facilitate viewing of the articles and urging the display container back to the platform.

4. The display assembly of claim **3**, wherein the display stand has a generally enclosed interior bounded by the base and the platform, and at least one tether port extending between the interior and an exterior of the display stand, and wherein the retractable tether is mounted to the platform in the interior and extends through the tether port to the display container.

5. The display assembly of claim **3**, wherein the retractable tether comprises a retraction mechanism mounted in the interior and a tether line extending through the tether port between a proximal end coupled to the retraction mechanism and a distal end fixed to the display container.

6. The display assembly of claim **3**, wherein the display container extends along a container axis between a top portion and a bottom portion vertically opposite the top portion, the top portion comprising a generally transparent viewing surface normal to the container axis and through which the articles are viewable.

7. The display assembly of claim **6**, wherein the platform comprises at least one seat shaped for supporting the bottom portion of the display container.

8. The display assembly of claim **7**, wherein when the display container is in the seat, the seat and the retractable tether cooperate to hold the display container at an angled orientation, in which the viewing surface is inclined from horizontal toward the front of the display stand.

9. The display assembly of claim **7**, wherein the bottom of the display container has a generally hemispherical shape, and the seat has an arcuate curvature corresponding to the hemispherical shape.

10. The display assembly of claim **6**, wherein the viewing surface comprises a viewing lens.

11. The display assembly of claim **1**, wherein the locking mechanism is key-operated and includes a latch movably mounted to one of the base and the platform, and a strike surface fixed relative to the other one of the base and the platform, the latch positioned for engagement with the strike surface when the locking mechanism is in the locked position to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and the latch clear of the strike surface when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked position to permit detachment of the platform from the base.

12. The display assembly of claim **1**, wherein the base includes a track extending along a track axis and the platform is slidably mounted on the track for constraining movement of the platform to along the track axis.

13. A display assembly, comprising:

a) a display stand including a base securable to a secure support surface and a platform detachably mounted to the base;

b) a plurality of display containers fastened to the platform, at least a portion of each display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display; and

c) a locking mechanism mounted to the display stand, the locking mechanism moveable between a locked position in which the platform is securely locked to the base to prevent detachment of the platform from the base, and an unlocked position in which the platform is unlocked from the base to permit detachment of the platform from the base for transporting the display containers away from the base.

14. The display assembly of claim **13**, further comprising (d) a plurality of retractable tethers mounted to the platform, each tether securely fastening a corresponding display container to the platform, and each tether permitting limited movement of the corresponding display container away from the platform and urging the display container back toward the platform.

15. The display assembly of claim **14**, wherein the display stand has a generally enclosed interior bounded by the base and the platform, and a plurality of tether ports extending between the interior and an exterior of the display stand, and wherein the retractable tethers are mounted to the platform in the interior and each tether extends through a corresponding tether port to a corresponding display container.

16. The display assembly of claim **13**, wherein the platform comprises a plurality of seats, each seat shaped for supporting a corresponding display container.

17. A display assembly, comprising:

a) a housing having a generally enclosed interior;

b) at least one display container adjacent the housing, at least a portion of the display container being generally transparent for viewing one or more articles containable therein for display;

c) at least one tether port extending through the housing between the interior and an exterior of the housing; and

d) at least one retractable tether mounted in the interior of the housing, the retractable tether extending through the tether port and fastening the display container to the housing, the tether permitting limited movement of the display container away from the housing to facilitate viewing of the articles, and urging the display container back toward the housing.

18. The display assembly of claim **17**, wherein the housing includes a first portion securable to a secure support

surface and a second portion detachably mounted to the first portion, the first and second portions bounding the interior of the housing, and wherein the tether port is provided in the second portion of the housing and the retractable tether is mounted to the second portion.

19. The display assembly of claim **18**, wherein the first portion includes one or more mounting features for securing the first portion to the secure support surface, the mounting features inaccessible when the first portion is secured to the support surface and the second portion is mounted to the first portion, and the mounting features accessible when the second portion is detached from the first portion.

20. The display assembly of claim **18**, further comprising a locking mechanism mounted to the housing, the locking mechanism moveable between a locked position in which the second portion is securely locked to the first portion to prevent detachment of the second portion from the first portion, and an unlocked position in which the second portion is unlocked from the first portion to permit detachment of the second portion from the first portion for transporting the second portion, tethers, and display containers away from the first portion.

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