US 20250257964A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2025/0257964 A1**

Dulude et al. (43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 14, 2025**

(54) **LOCKING MAGAZINE**

(71) Applicant: **Go Safe Technology, Inc.**, Stamford, CT (US)

(72) Inventors: **Matthew P. Dulude**, Granby, CT (US); **Michael D. Bush**, Somers, CT (US)

(73) Assignee: **Go Safe Technology, Inc.**, Stamford, CT (US)

(21) Appl. No.: **19/185,356**

(22) Filed: **Apr. 22, 2025**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 18/766,079, filed on Jul. 8, 2024, now Pat. No. 12,305,941, which is a continuation of application No. 17/141,404, filed on Jan. 5, 2021, now Pat. No. 12,055,355, which is a continuation of application No. 17/013,087, filed on Sep. 4, 2020, now Pat. No. 10,914,543, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 16/299,251, filed on Mar. 12, 2019, now Pat. No. 10,914,542, which is a continuation of application No. 16/123,441, filed on Sep. 6, 2018, now Pat. No. 10,260,831, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/258,276, filed on Sep. 7, 2016, now abandoned.

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**

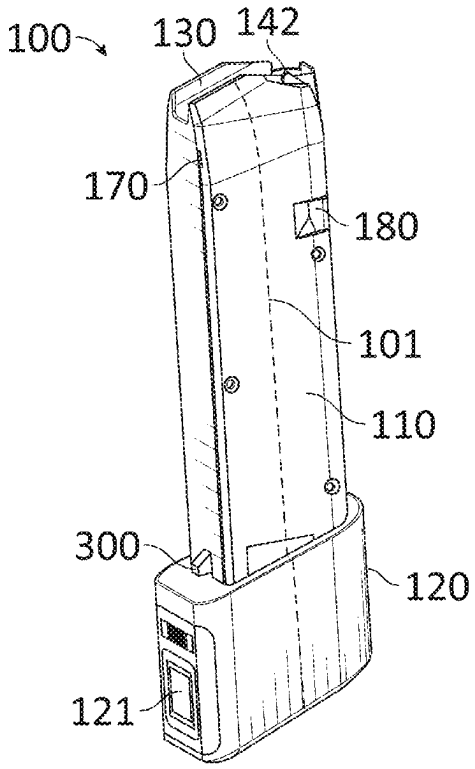
F41A 17/34	(2006.01)
F41A 9/61	(2006.01)
F41A 9/64	(2006.01)
F41A 17/06	(2006.01)
F41A 17/38	(2006.01)
F41A 17/46	(2006.01)
F41A 17/48	(2006.01)

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

CPC ***F41A 17/34*** (2013.01); ***F41A 9/64*** (2013.01); ***F41A 17/066*** (2013.01); ***F41A 17/38*** (2013.01); ***F41A 17/46*** (2013.01); ***F41A 17/48*** (2013.01); *F41A 9/61* (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A magazine is provided for a firearm. The magazine comprises a locking mechanism. The locking mechanism has a user interface adapted to enable a user to select between a locked condition and an unlocked condition. The locking mechanism has a rotor movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The magazine comprises an elongated shaft connected to the rotor. The magazine comprises a block element connected to the elongated shaft. The block element is adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition in which at least one of firearm operation and magazine extraction are prevented, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition in which firearm operation and magazine extraction are enabled.



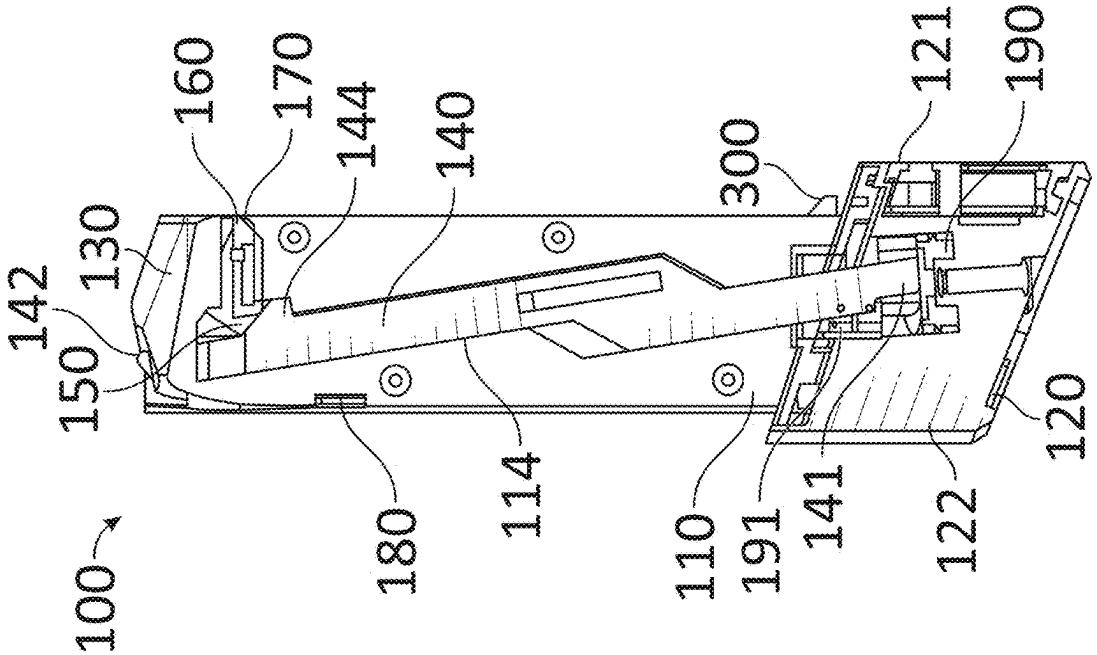

160
170
144
140
300
121
190
142
130
150
100
180
114
110
191
141
122
120

Fig. 1B

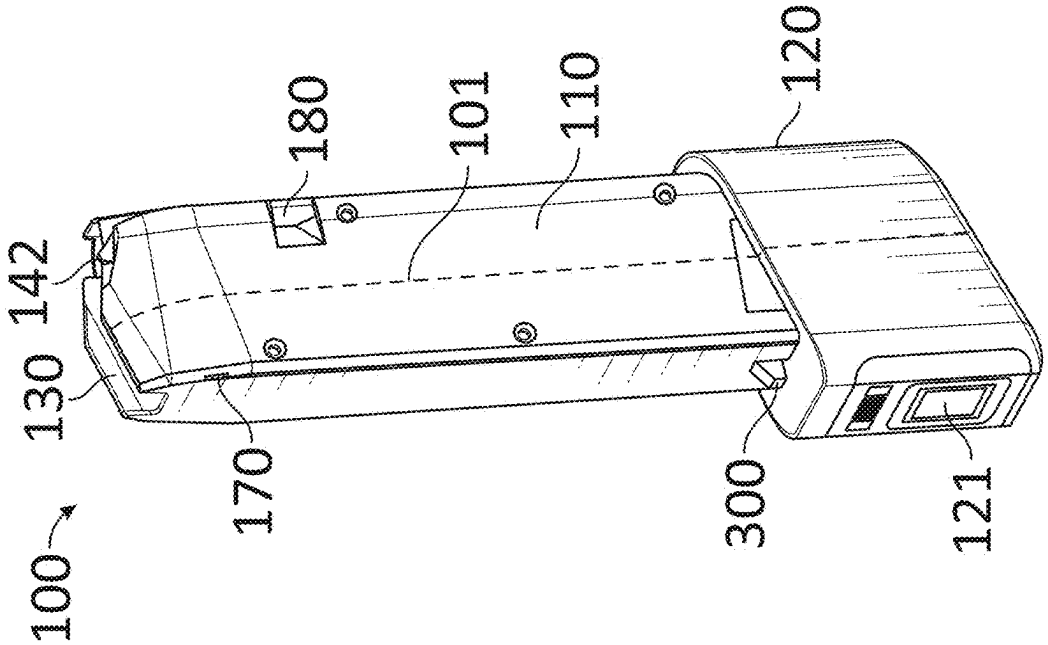

180
101
110
120
142
130
100
170
300
121

Fig. 1A

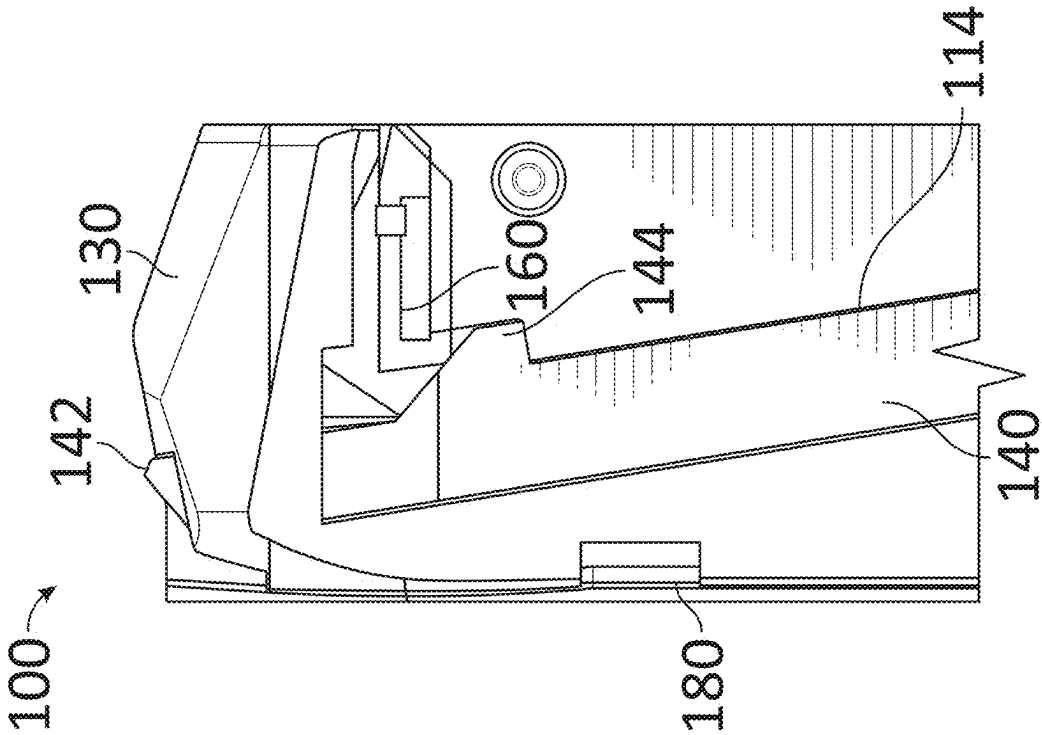

114
130
160
144
142
140
100
180

Fig. 2B

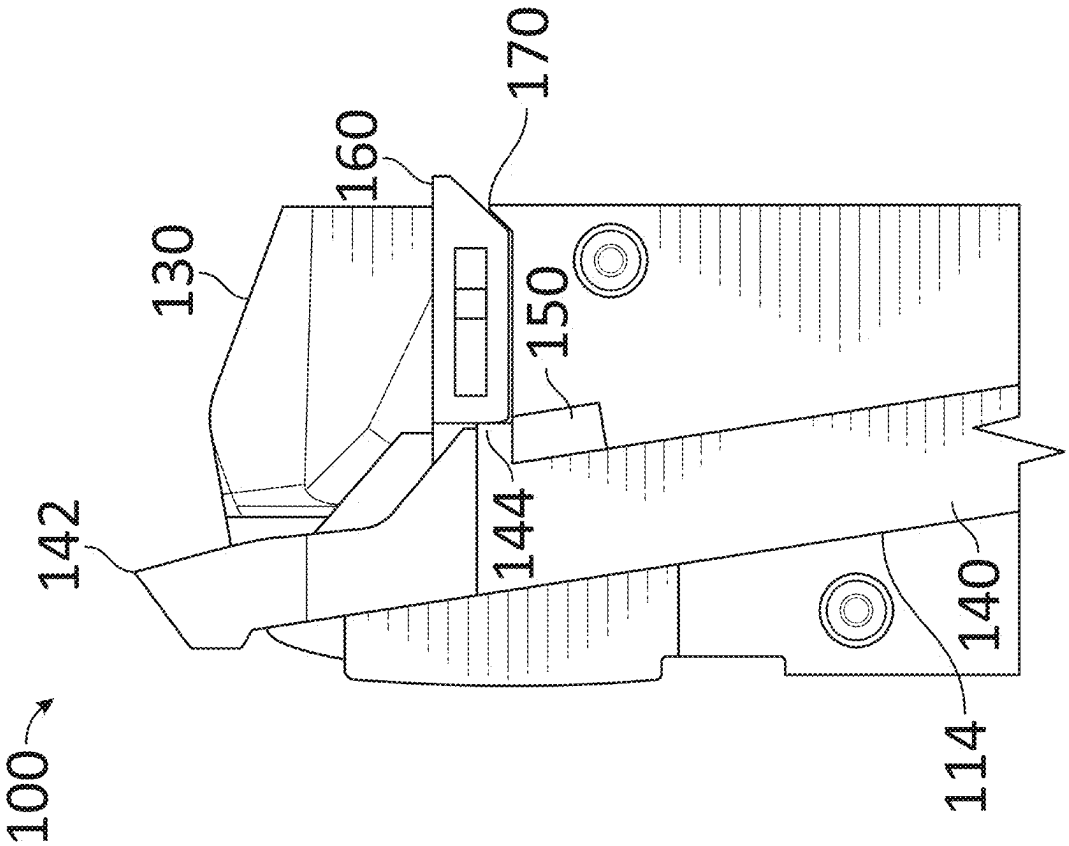

170
160
130
150
142
144
140
100
114

Fig. 2A

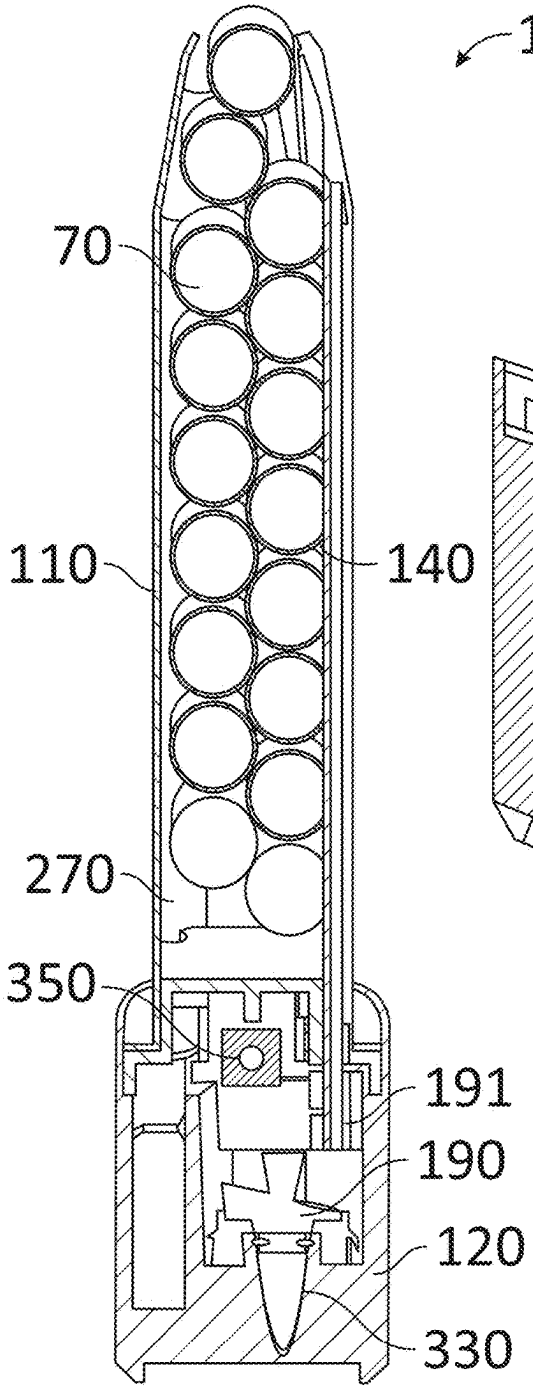

100
70
110
140
270
350
191
190
120
330

Fig. 3A

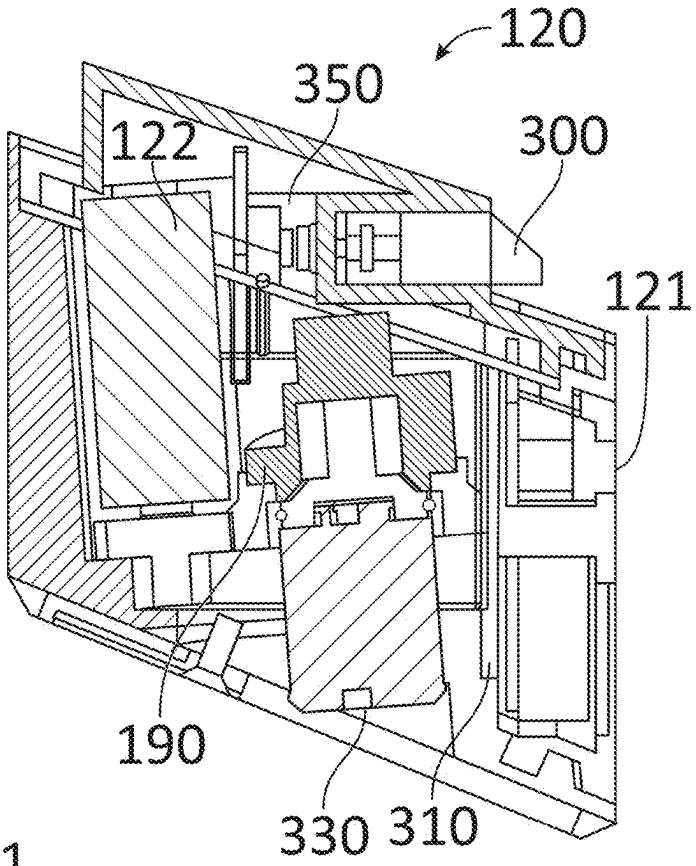

120
350
122
300
121
190
330
310

Fig. 3B

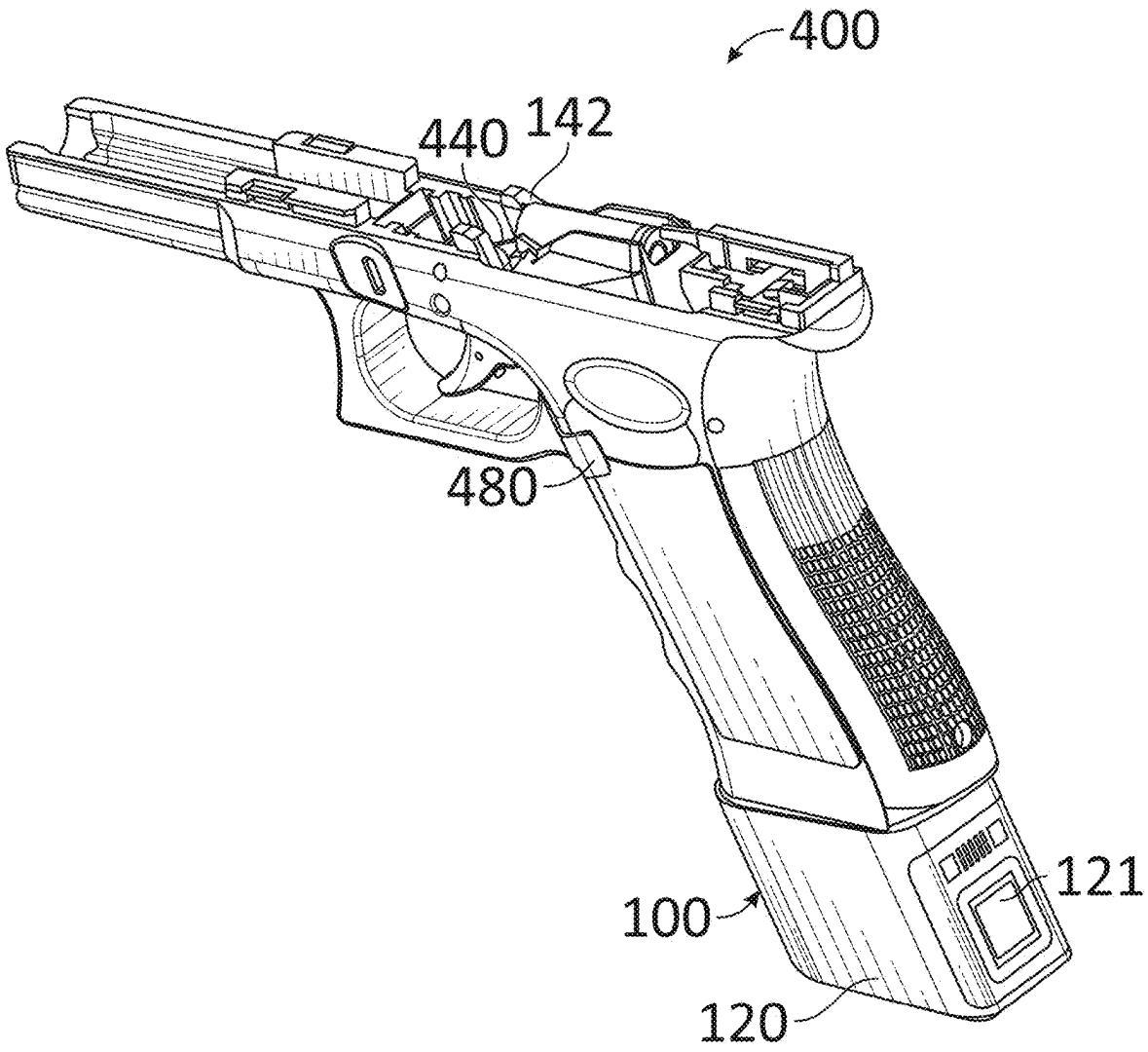


Fig. 4A

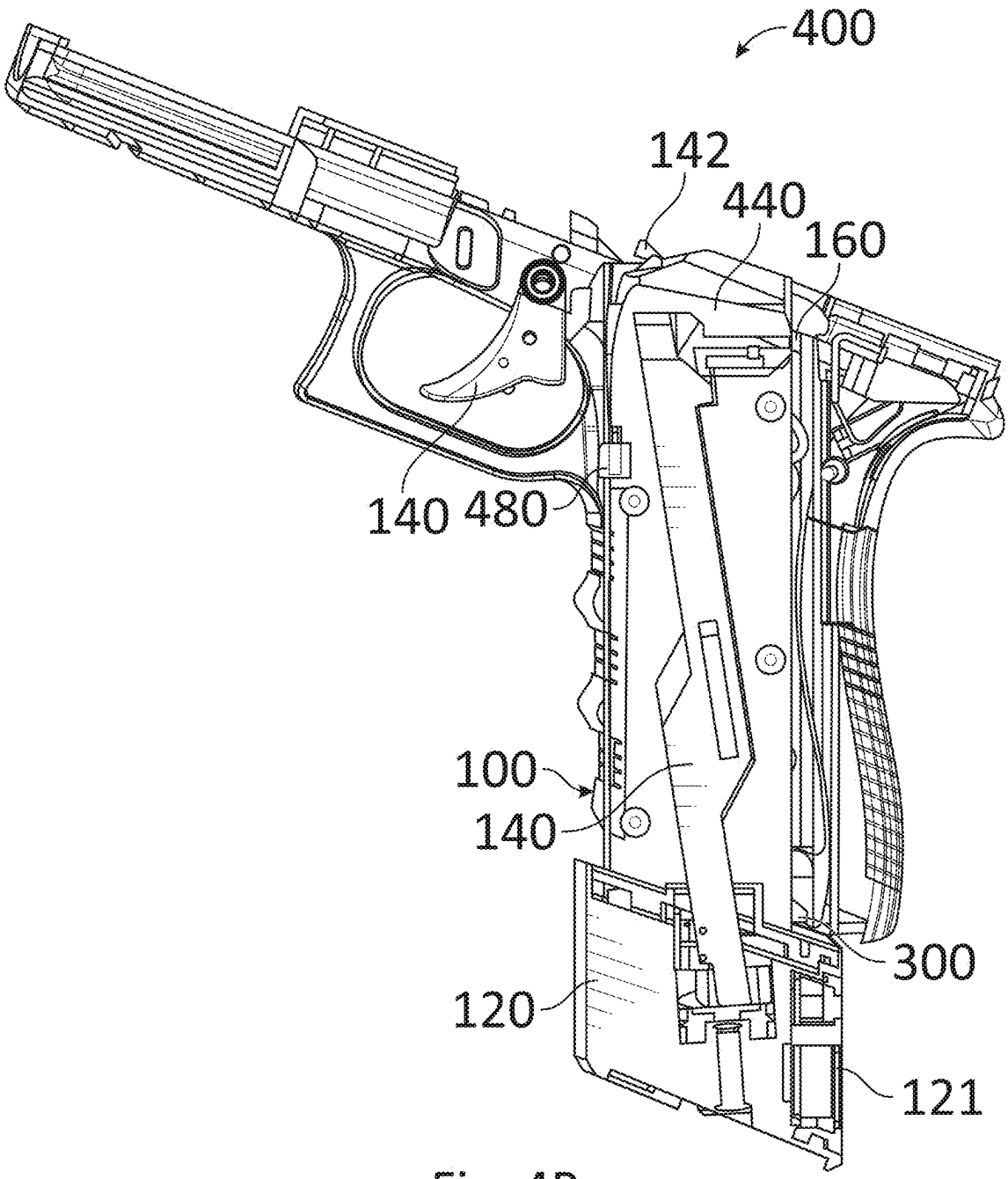


Fig. 4B

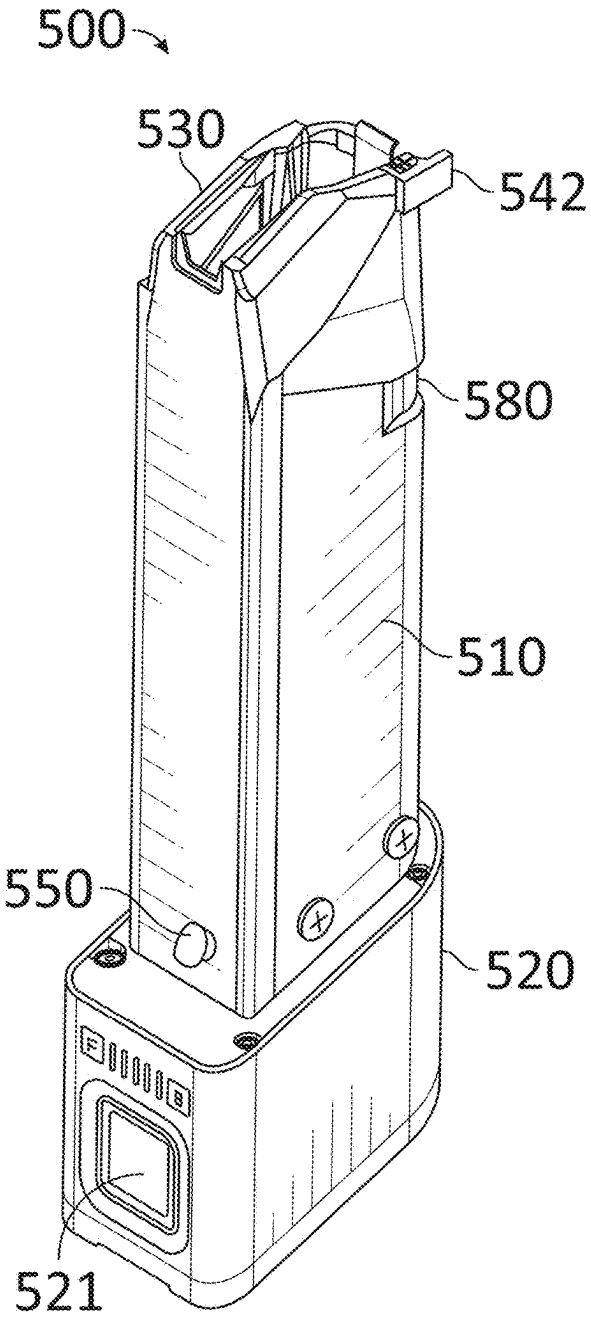


Fig. 5A

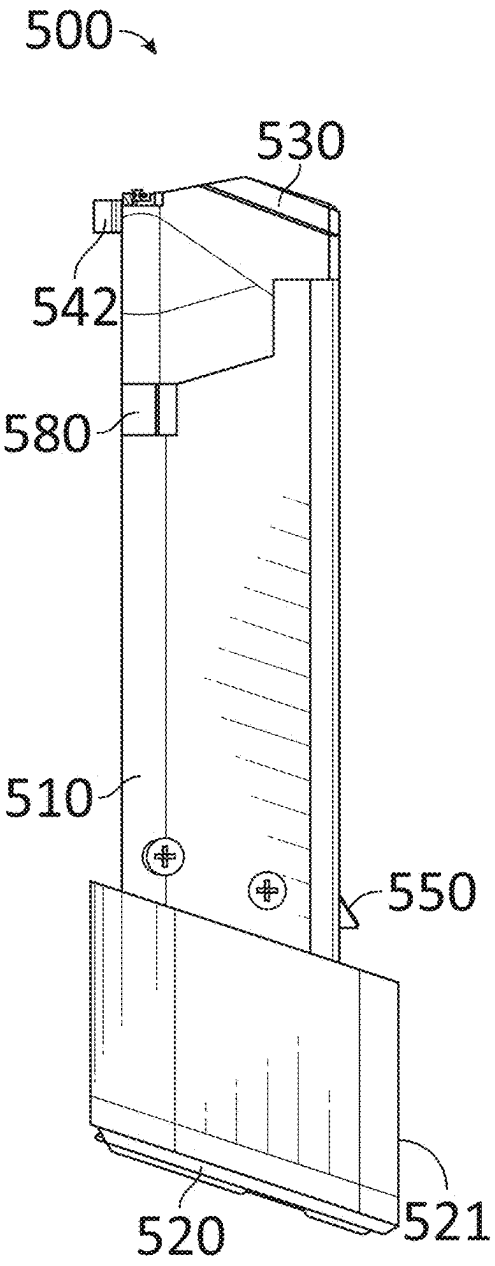


Fig. 5B

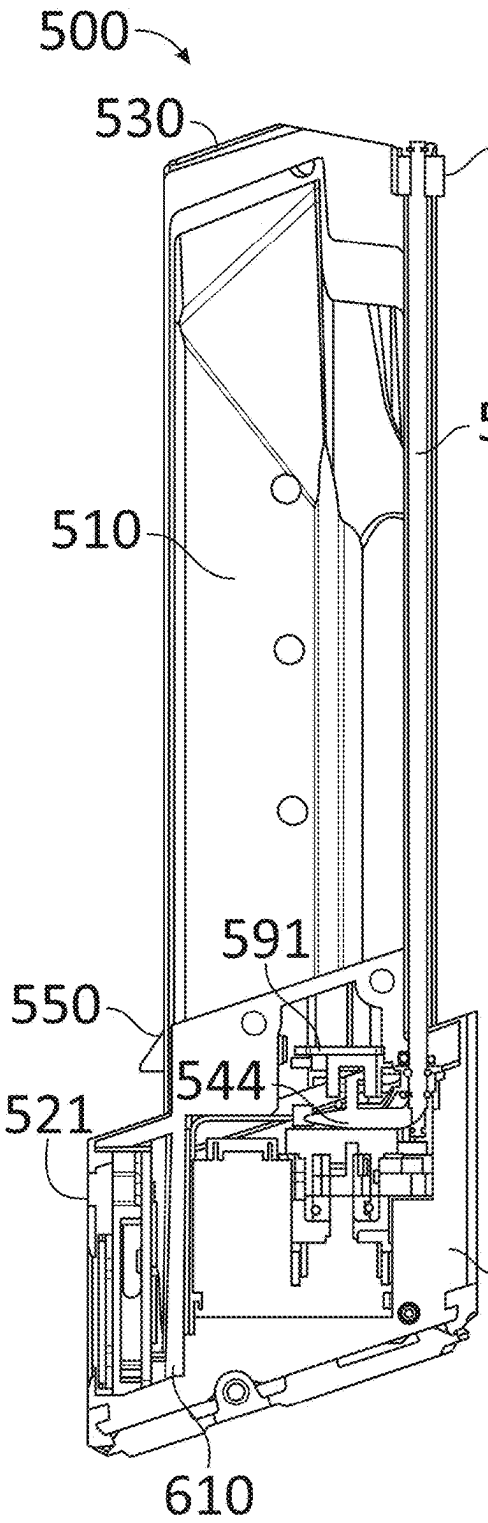

500
530
542
540
510
591
550
544
521
520
610

Fig. 6A

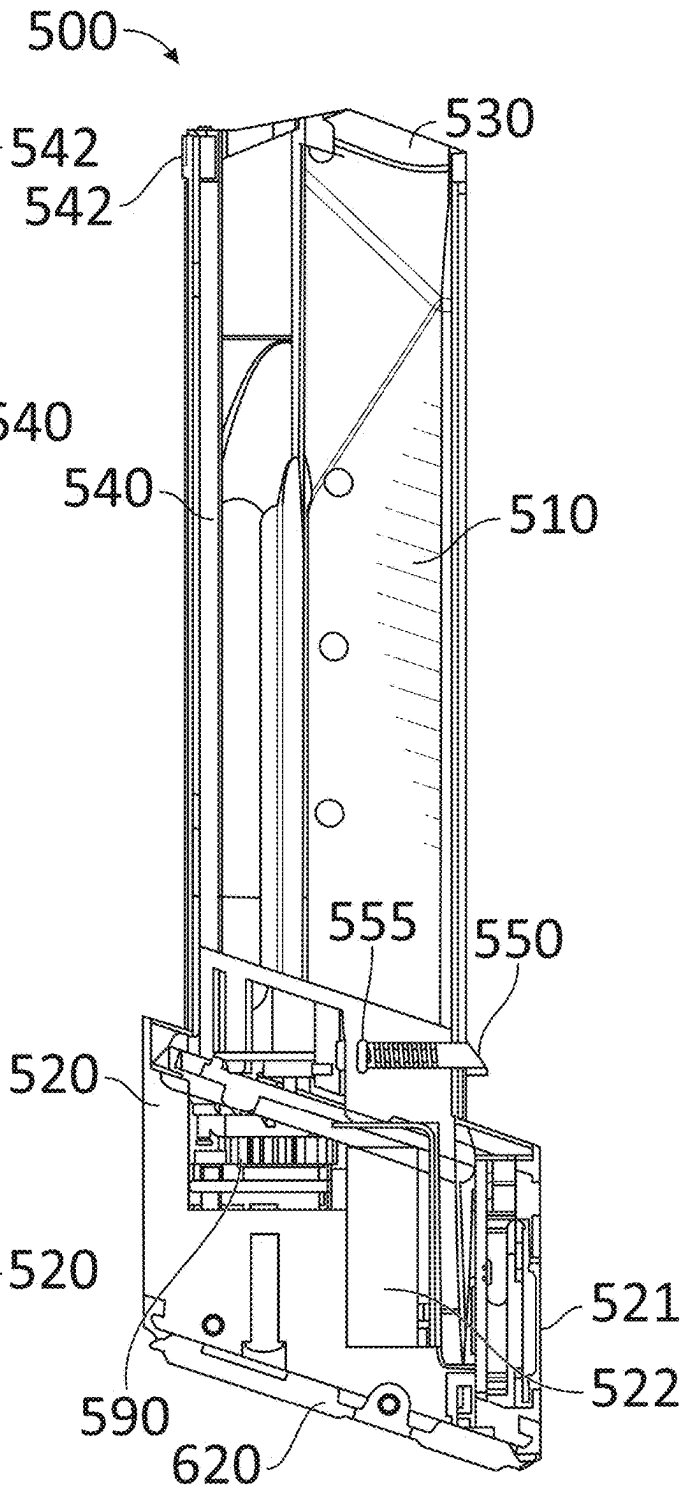

500
530
542
540
510
555
550
520
521
522
590
620

Fig. 6B

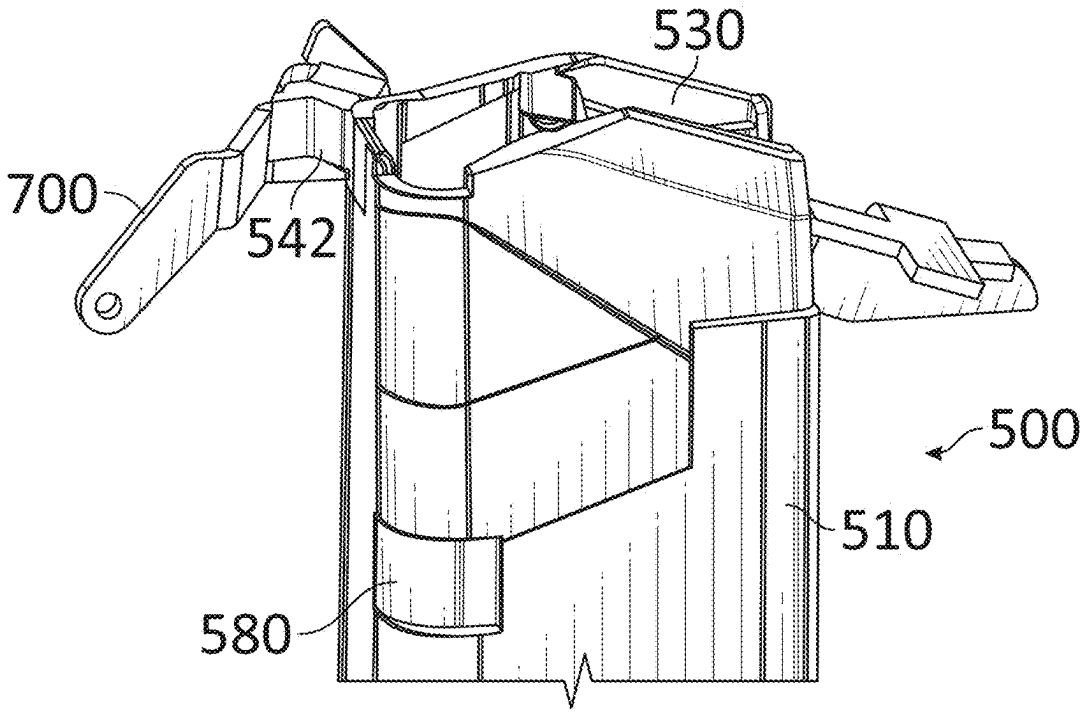


Fig. 7A

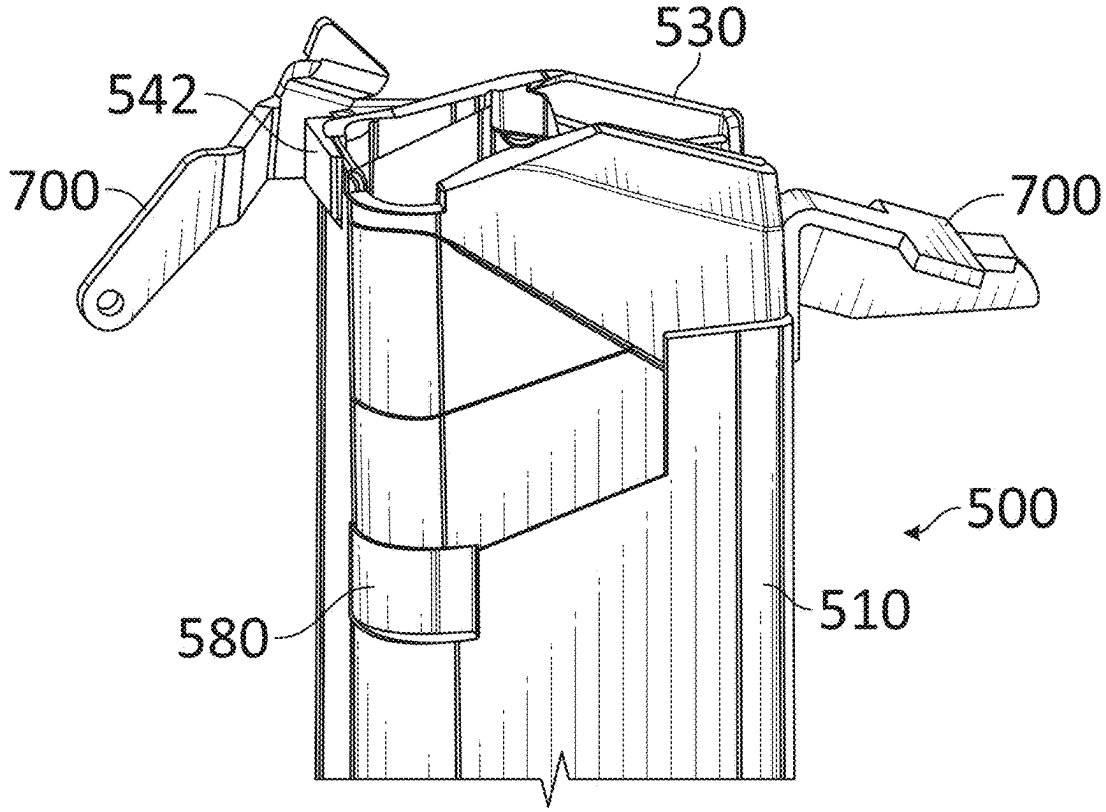


Fig. 7B

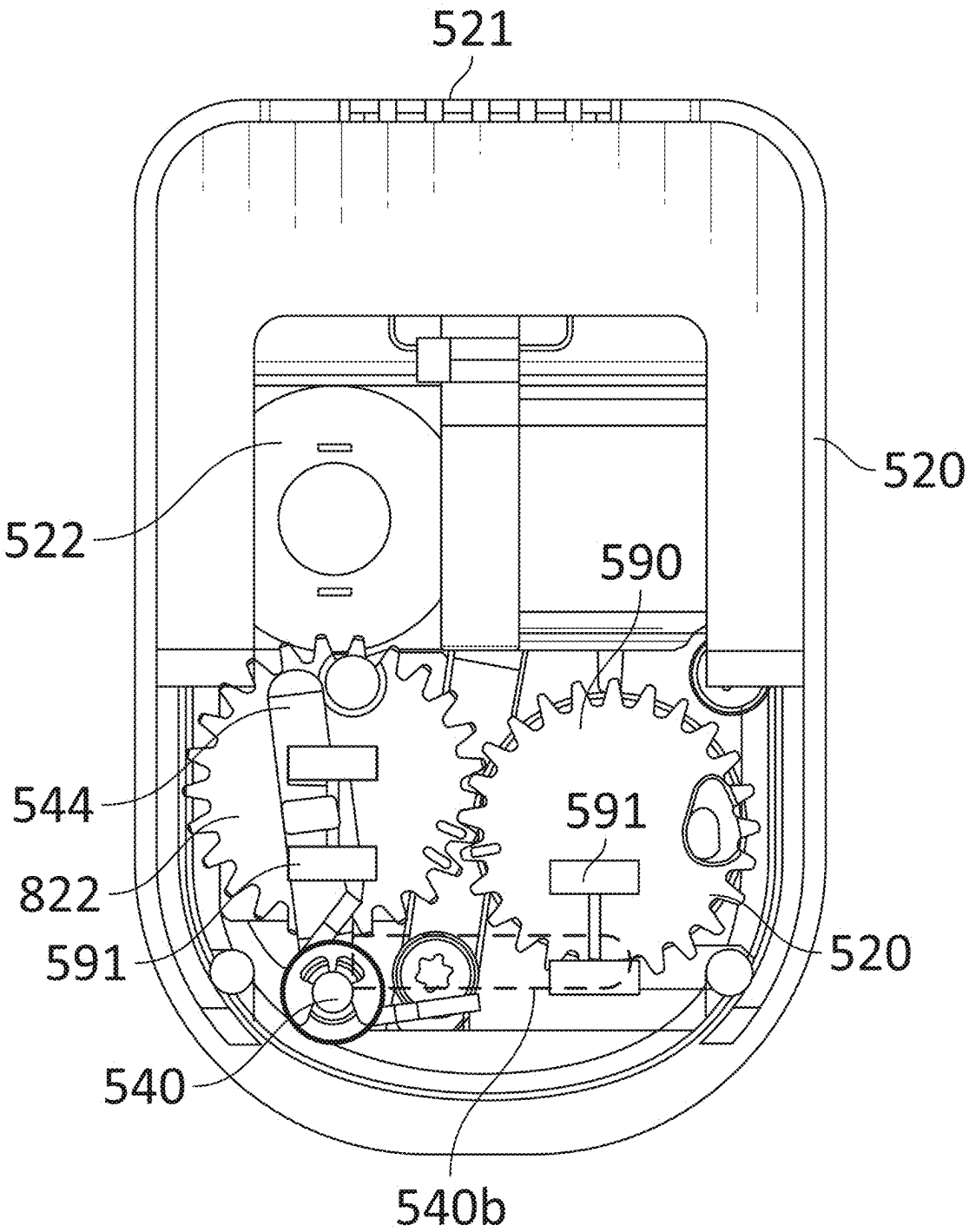


Fig. 8

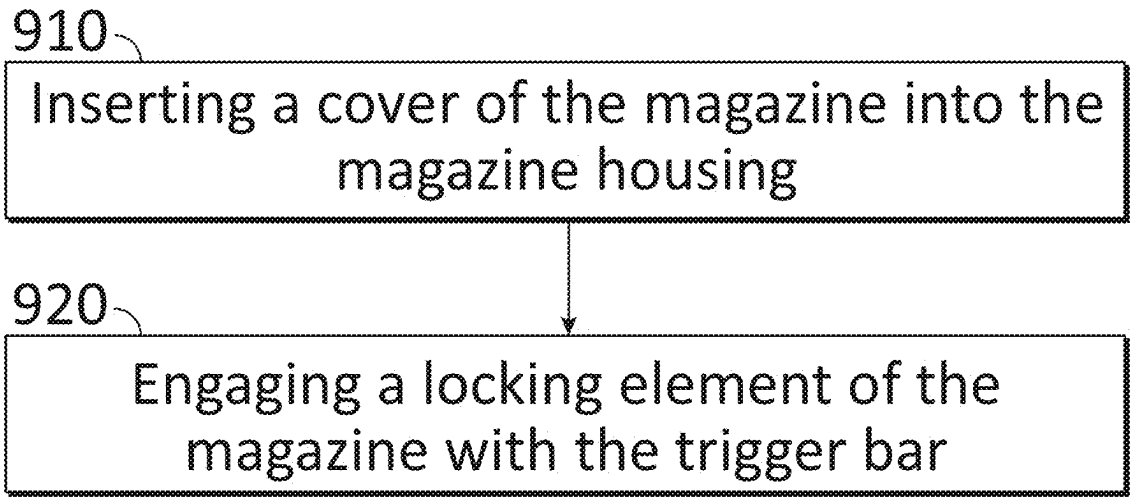

910
Inserting a cover of the magazine into the magazine housing
920
Engaging a locking element of the magazine with the trigger bar

Fig. 9

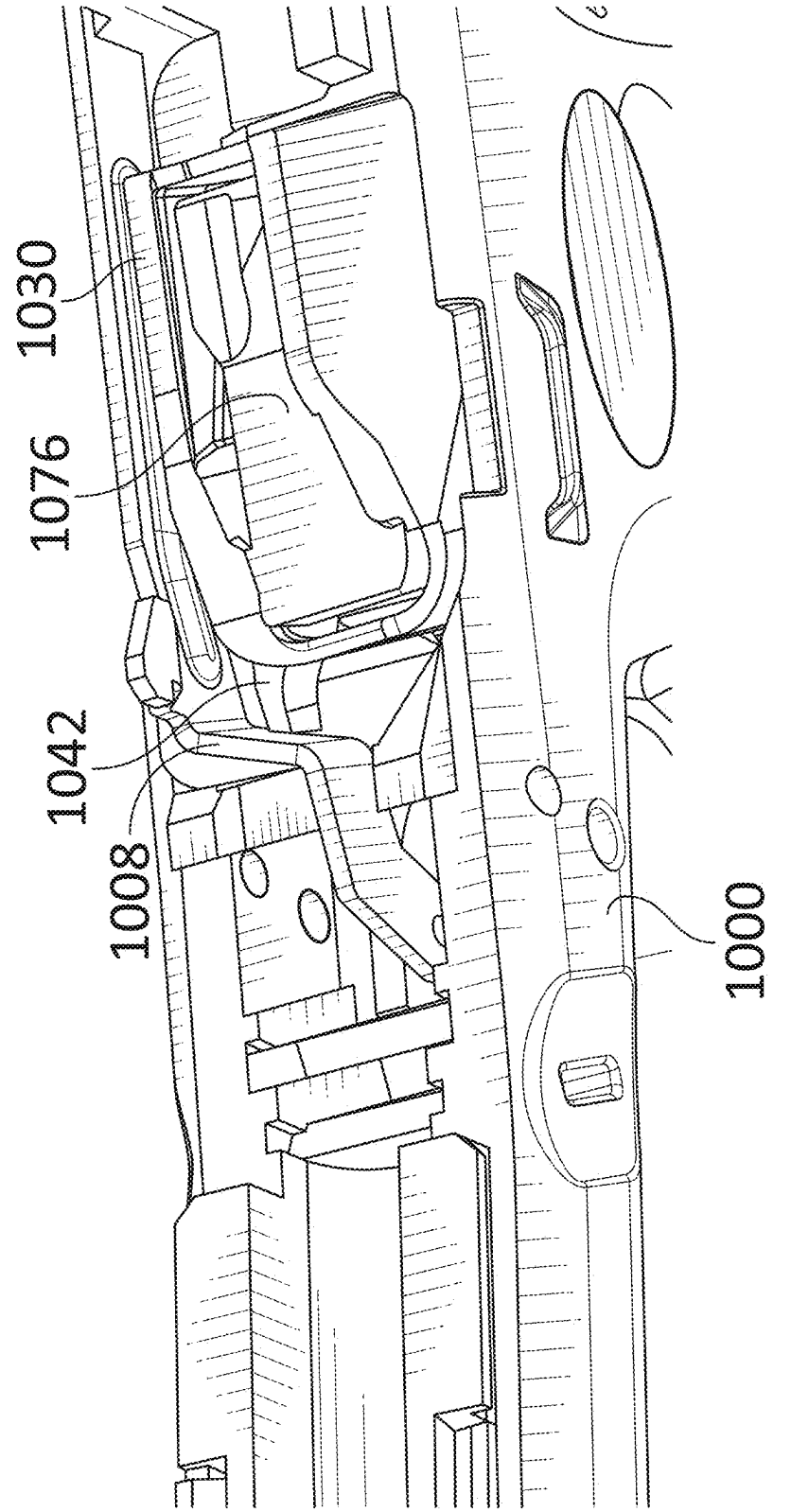


Fig. 10

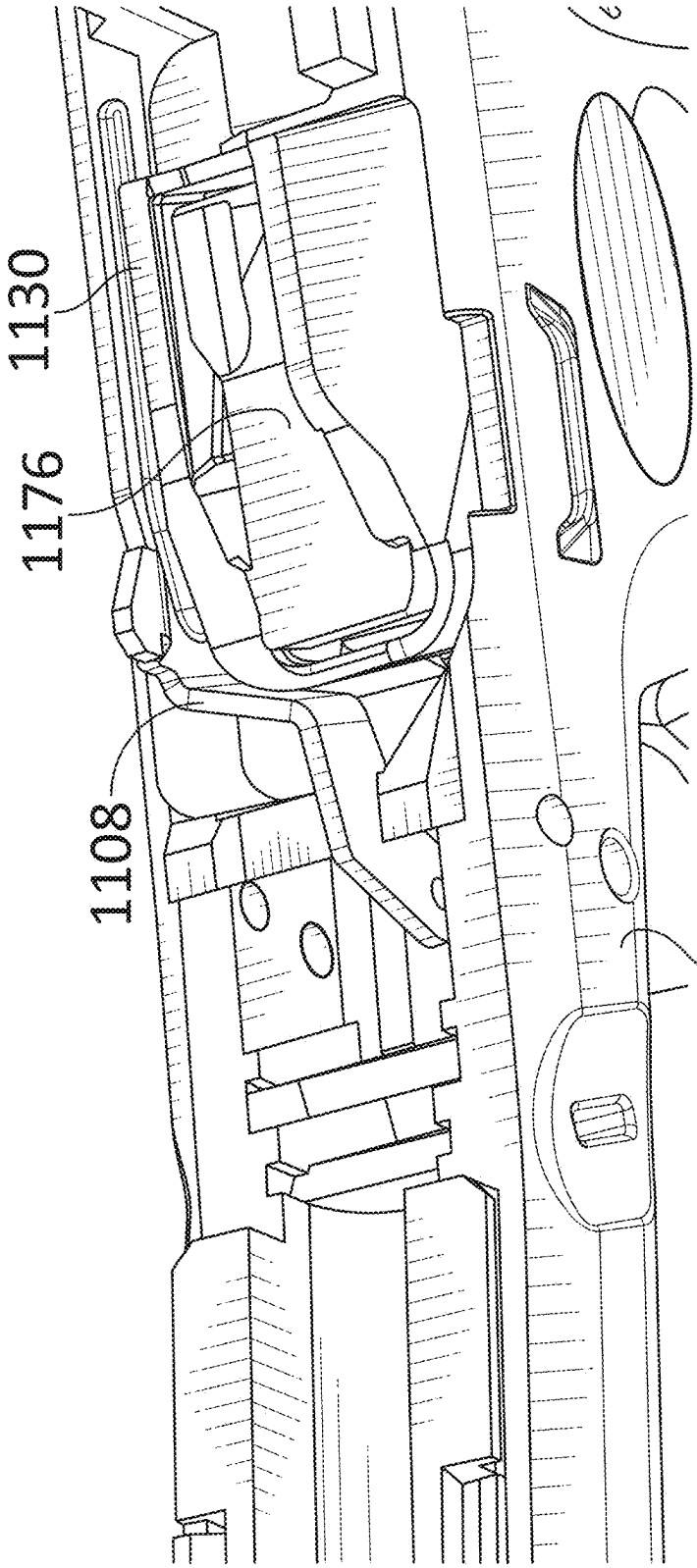


Fig. 11

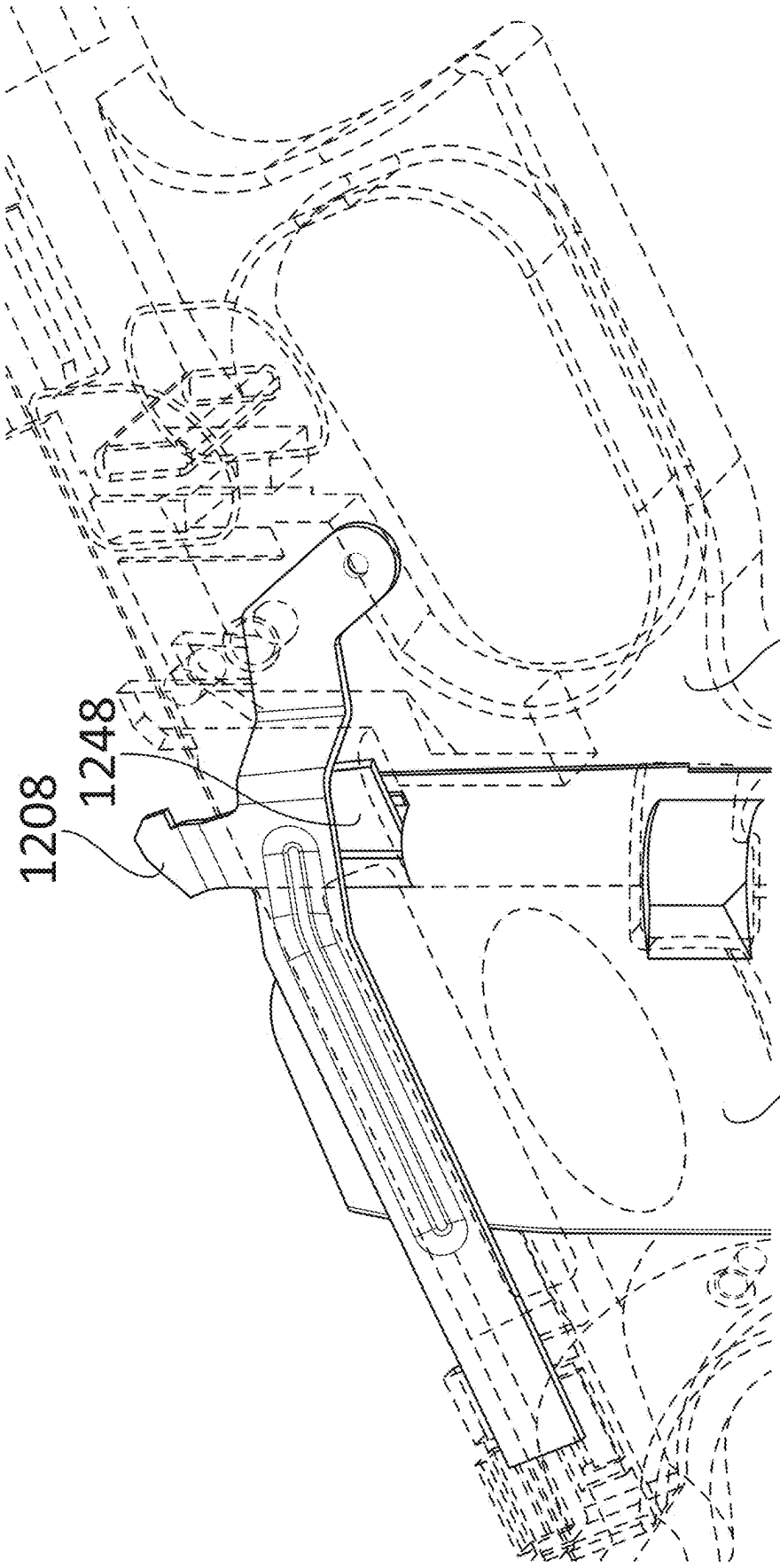


Fig. 12

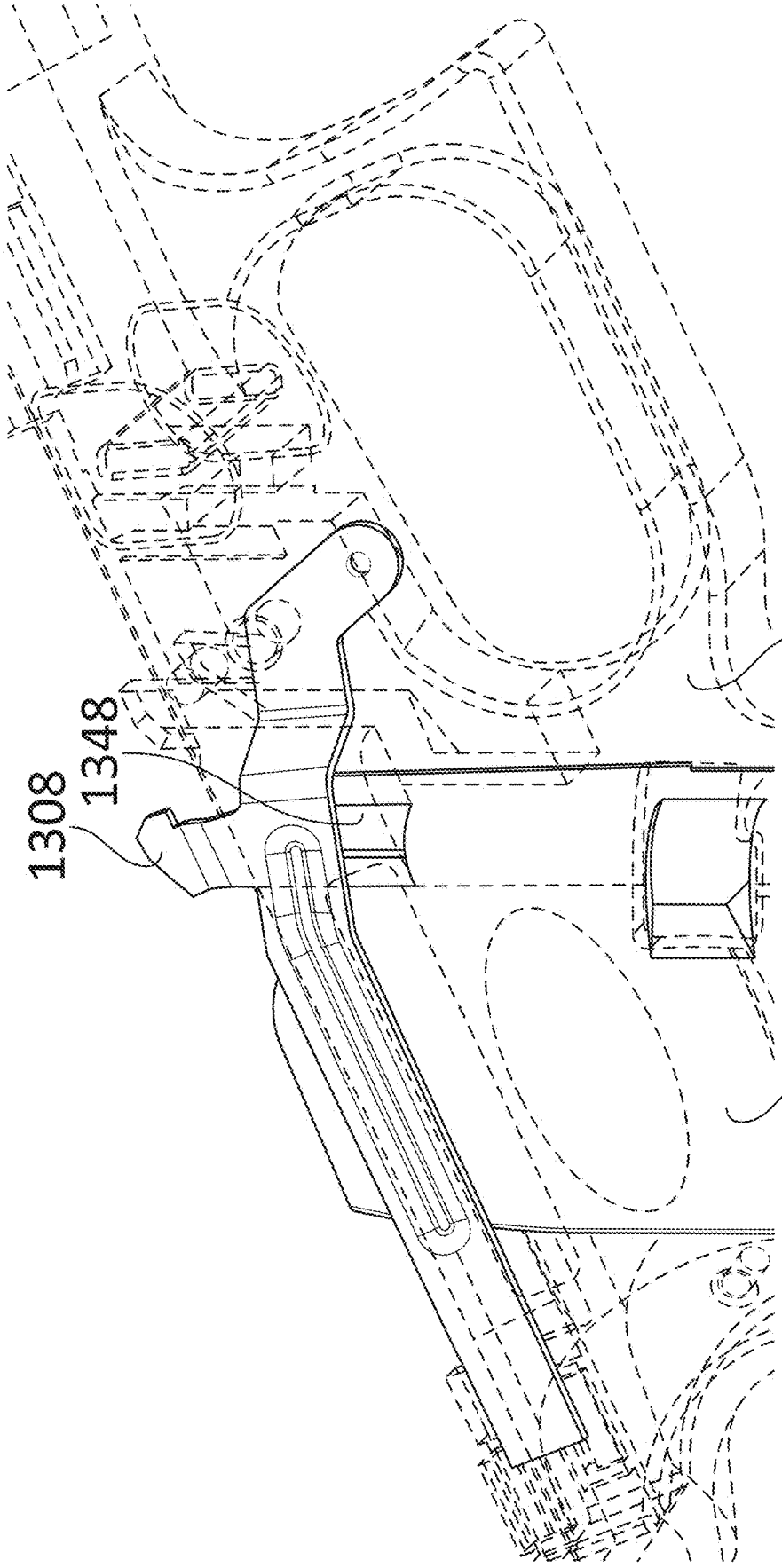


Fig. 13

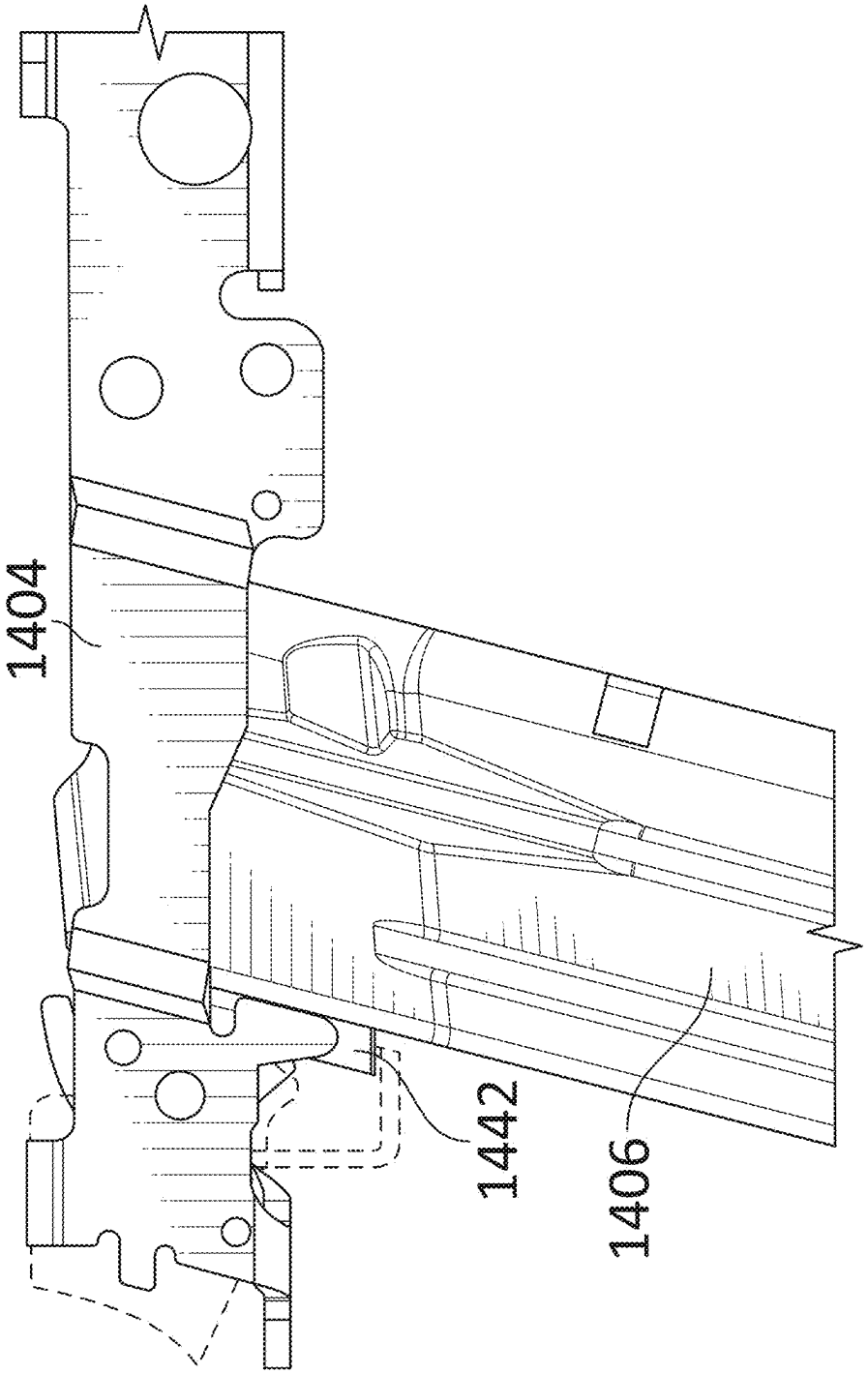


Fig. 14

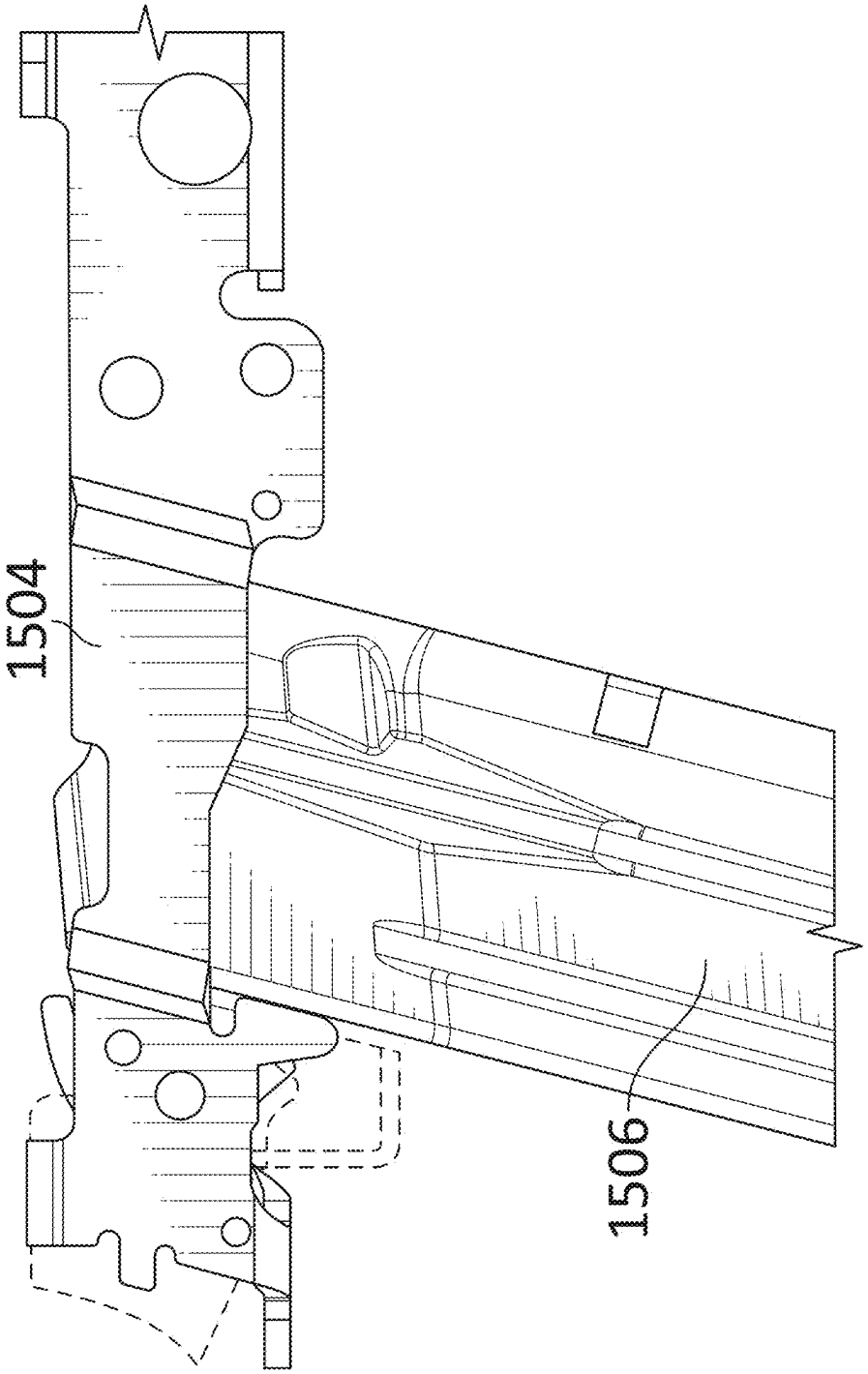


Fig. 15

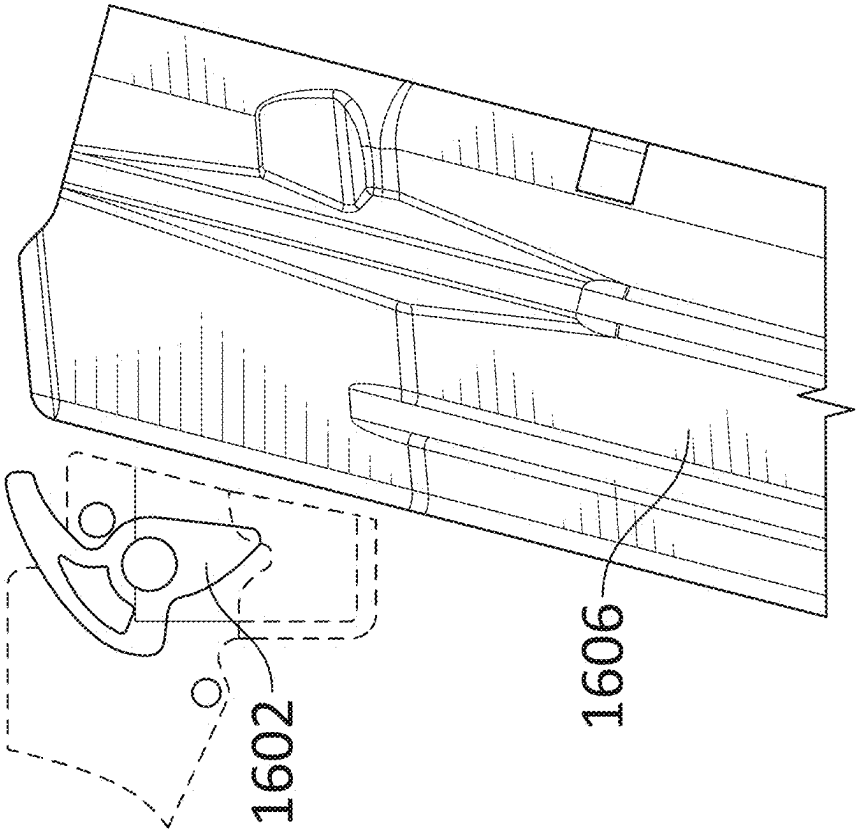


Fig. 16B

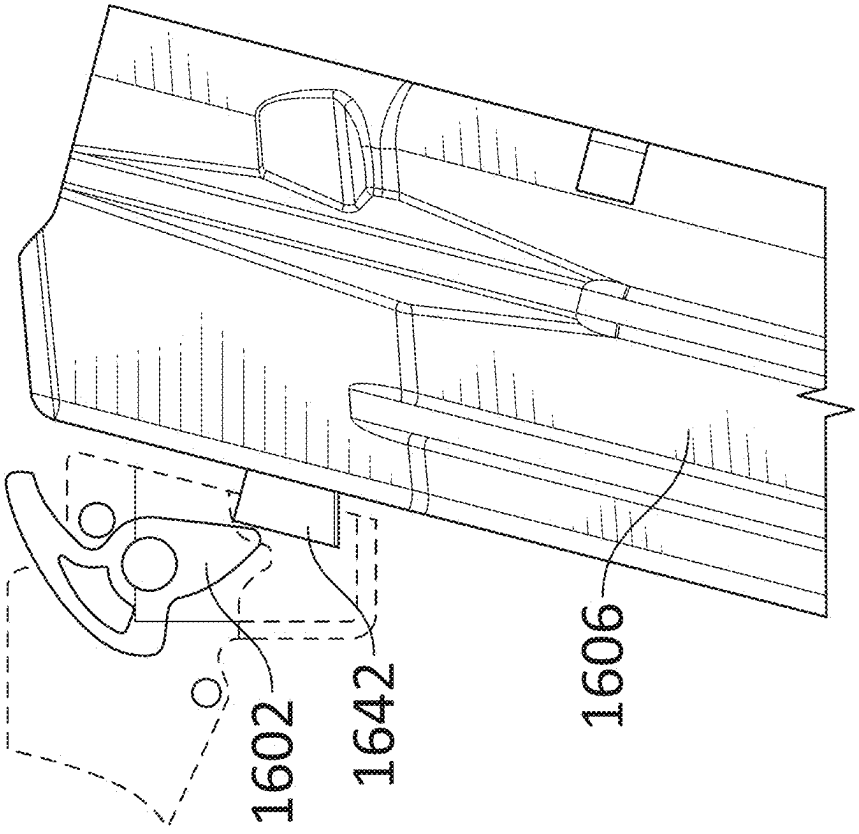


Fig. 16A

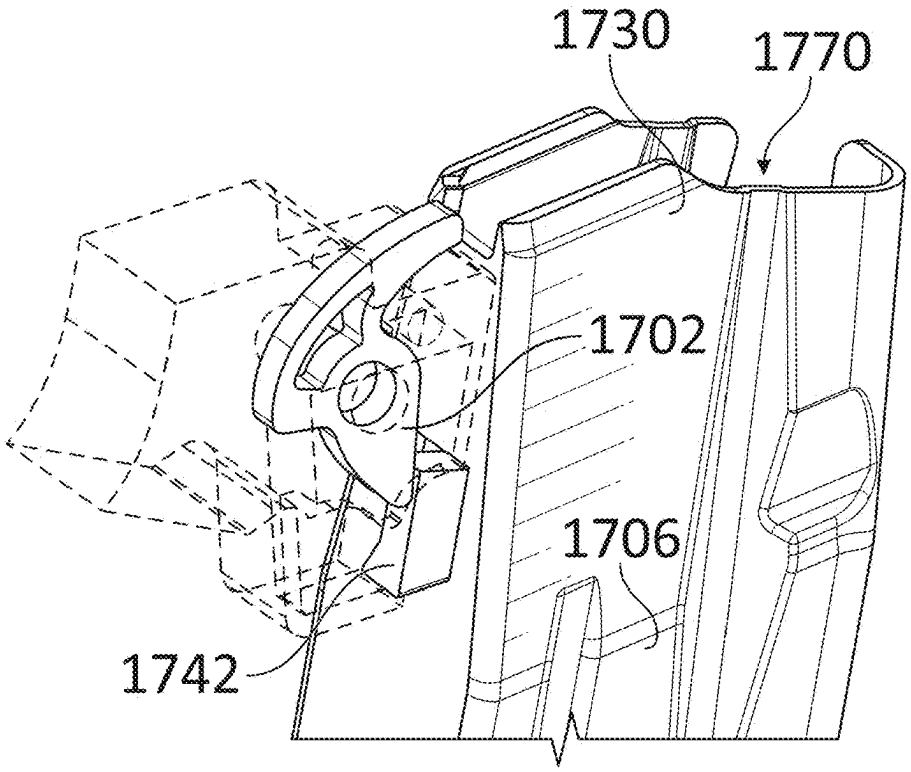


Fig. 17

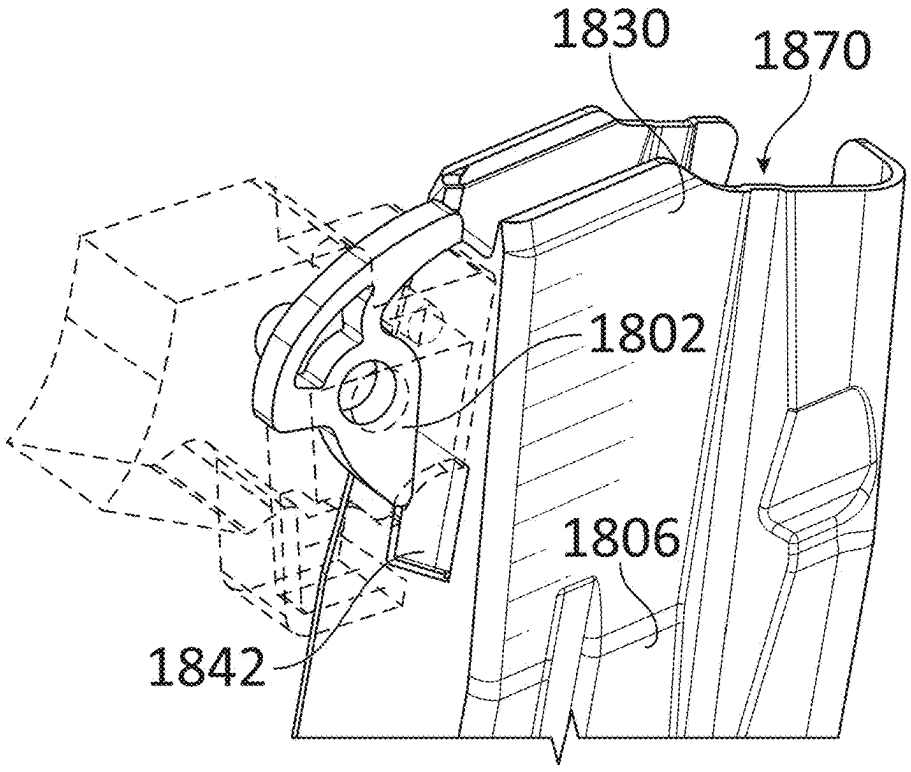


Fig. 18

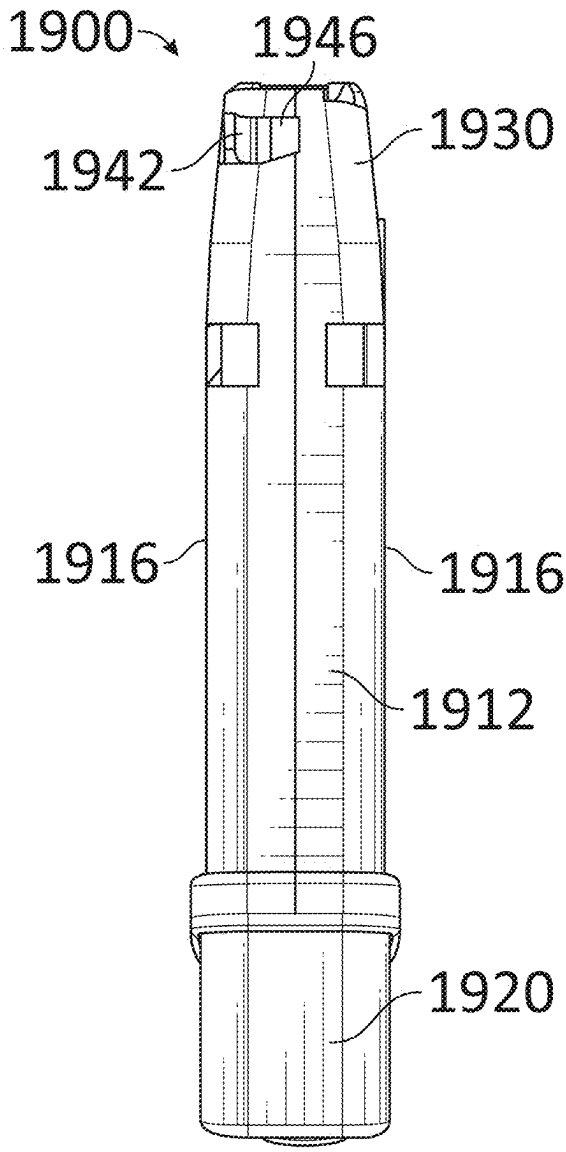


Fig. 19A

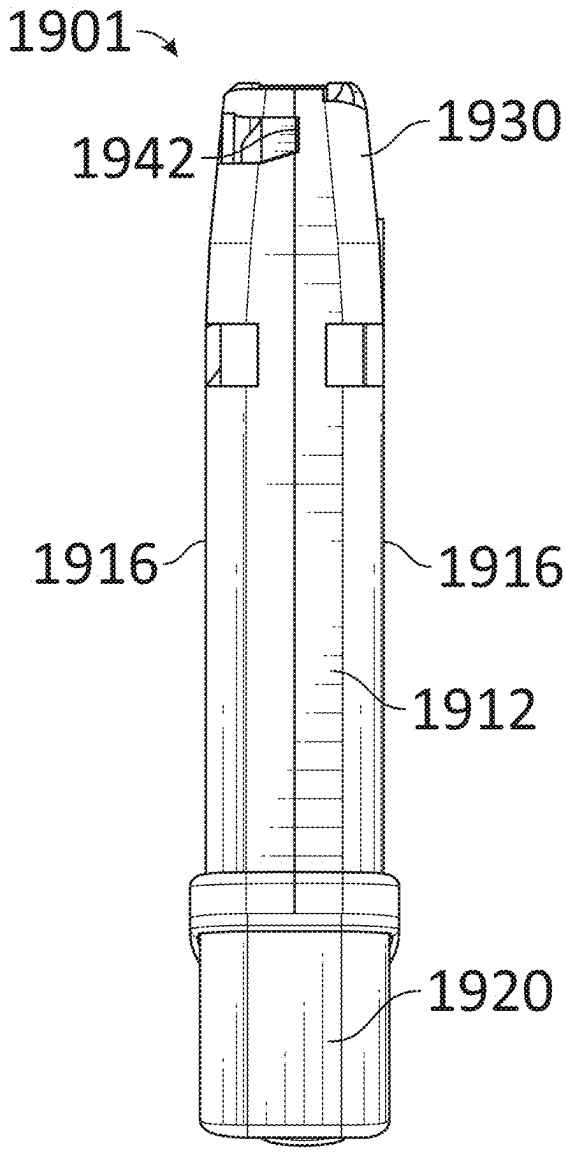


Fig. 19B

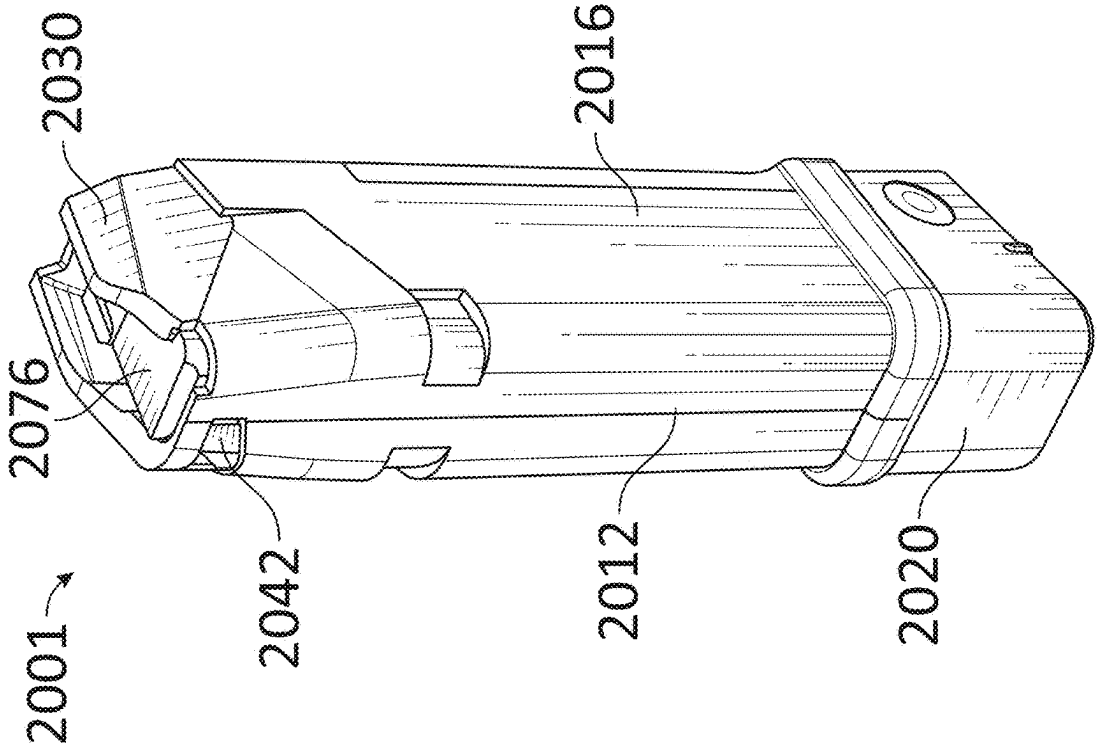


Fig. 20B

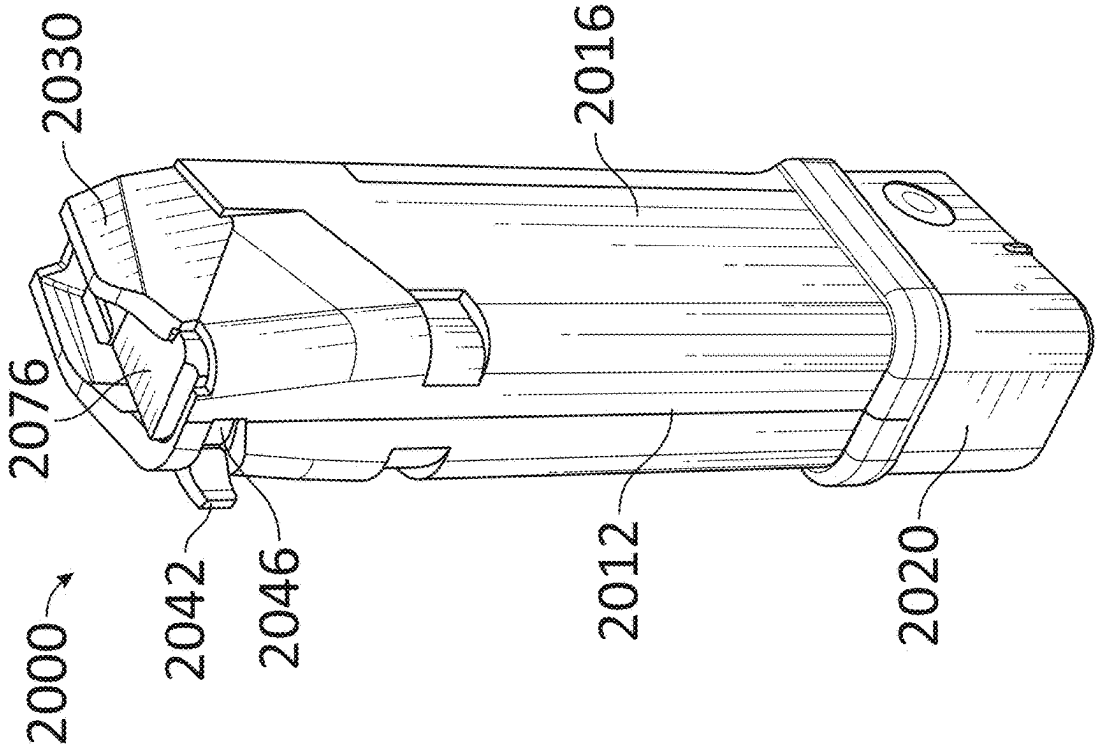


Fig. 20A

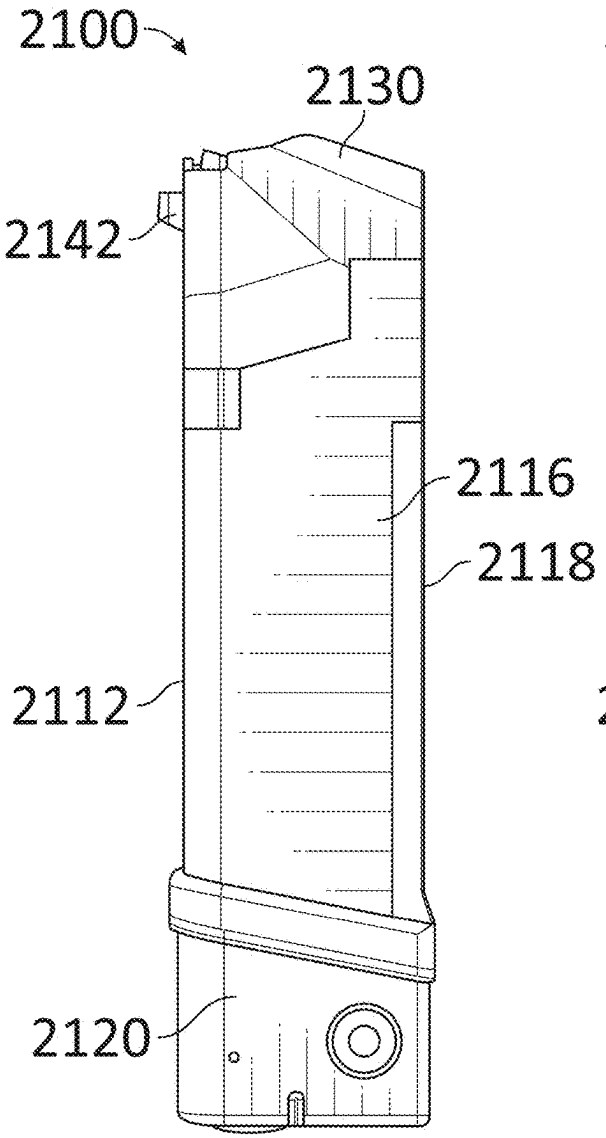


Fig. 21A

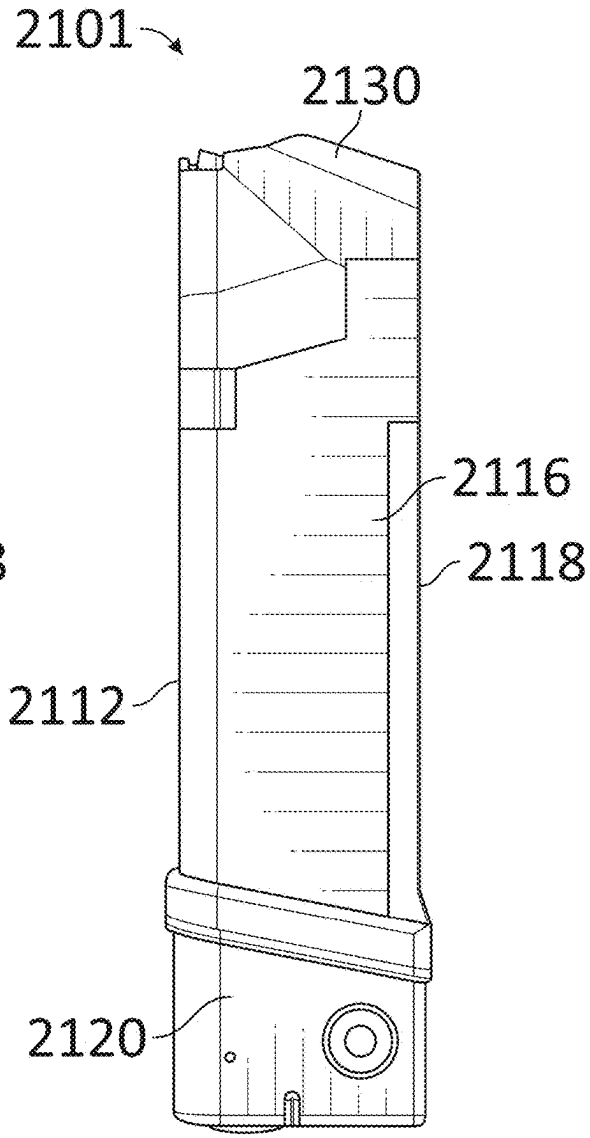


Fig. 21B

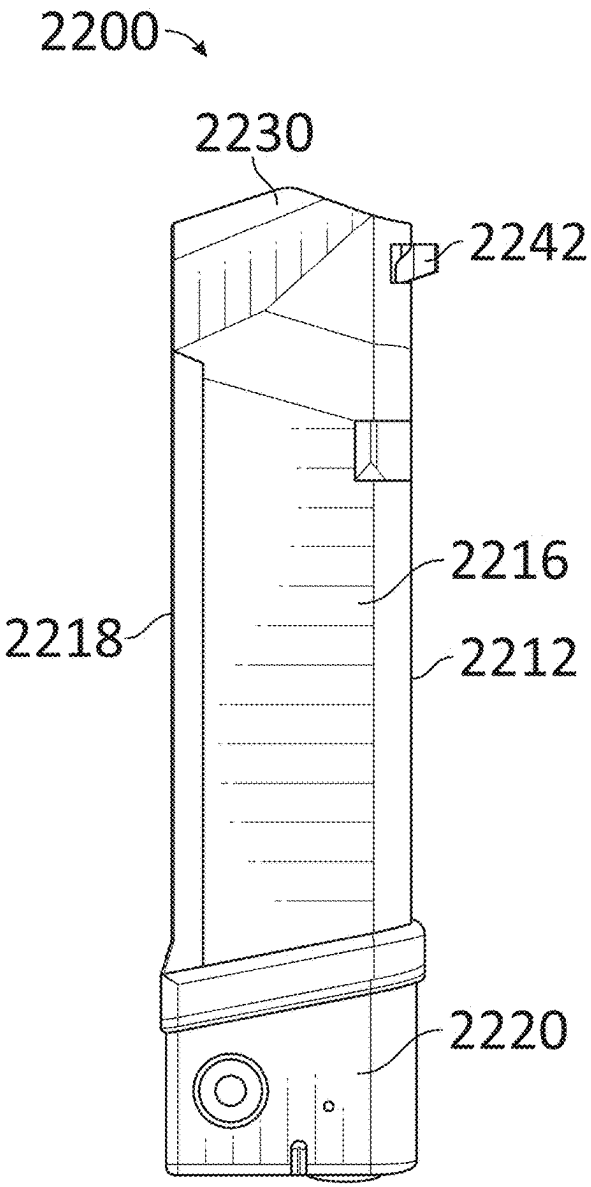


Fig. 22A

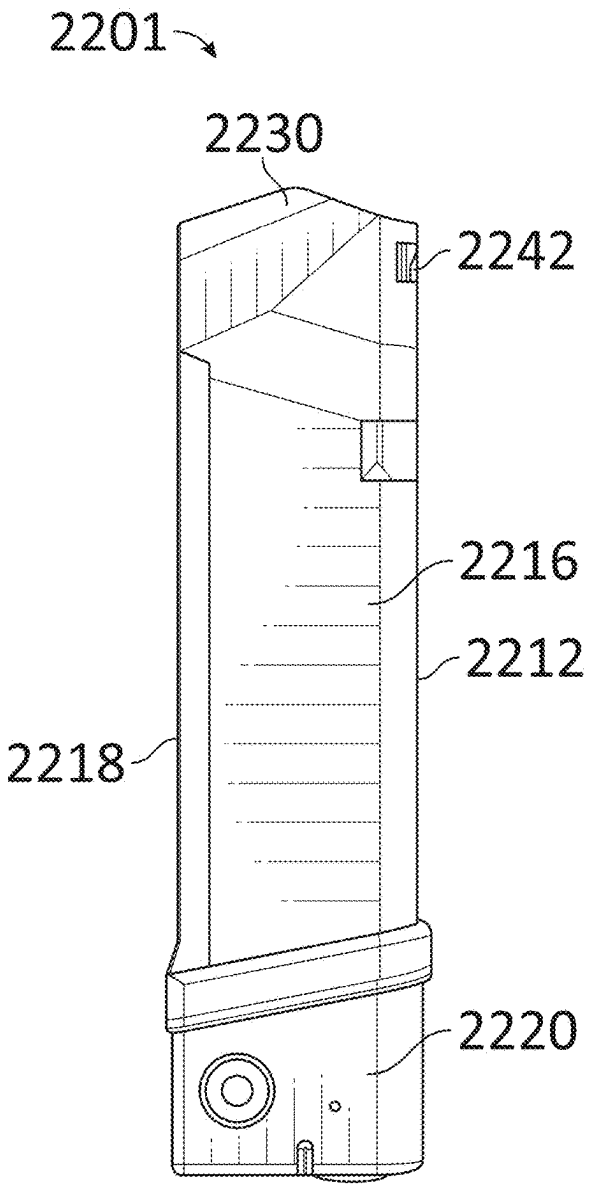


Fig. 22B

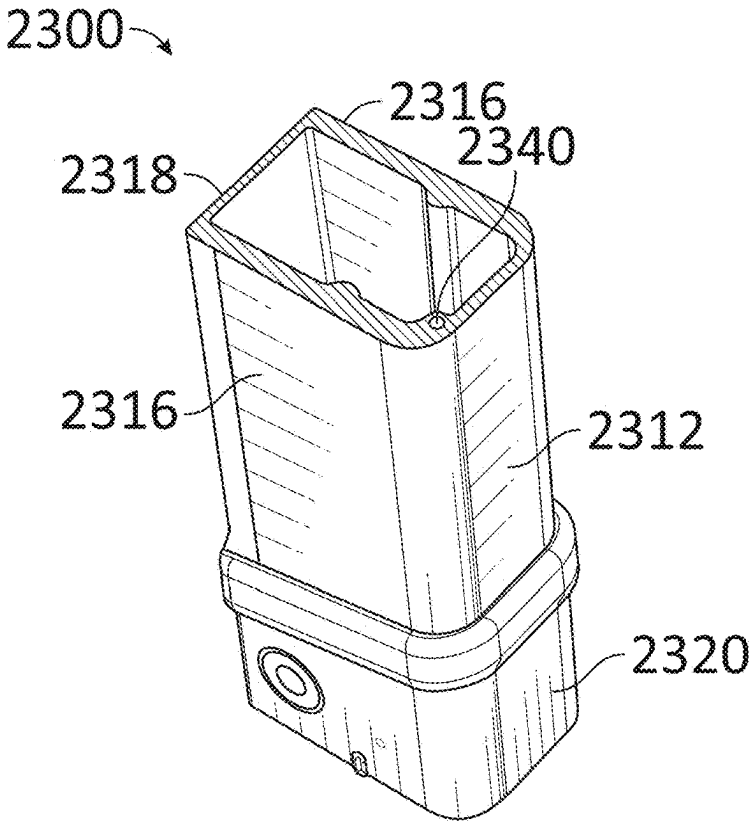


Fig. 23A

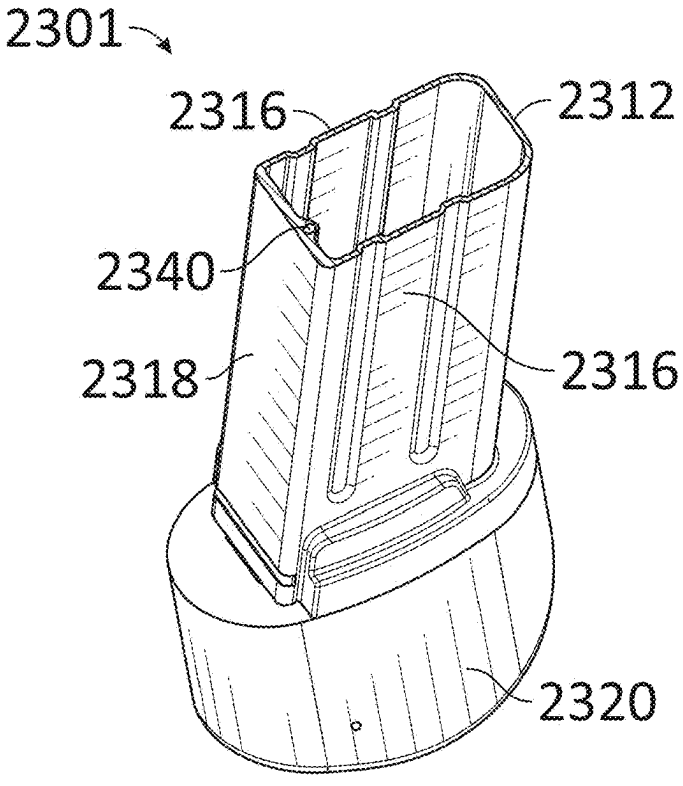


Fig. 23B

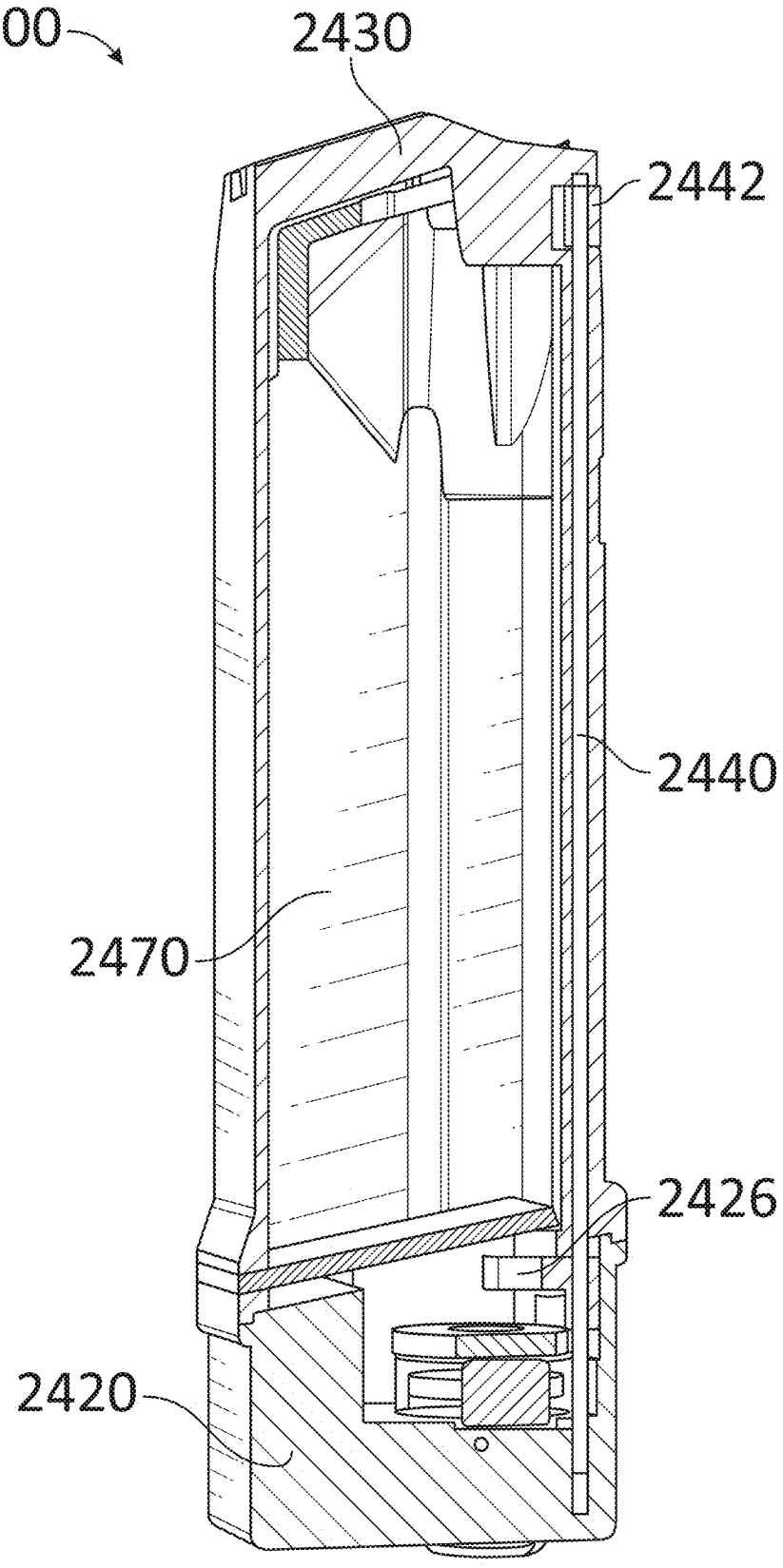


Fig. 24

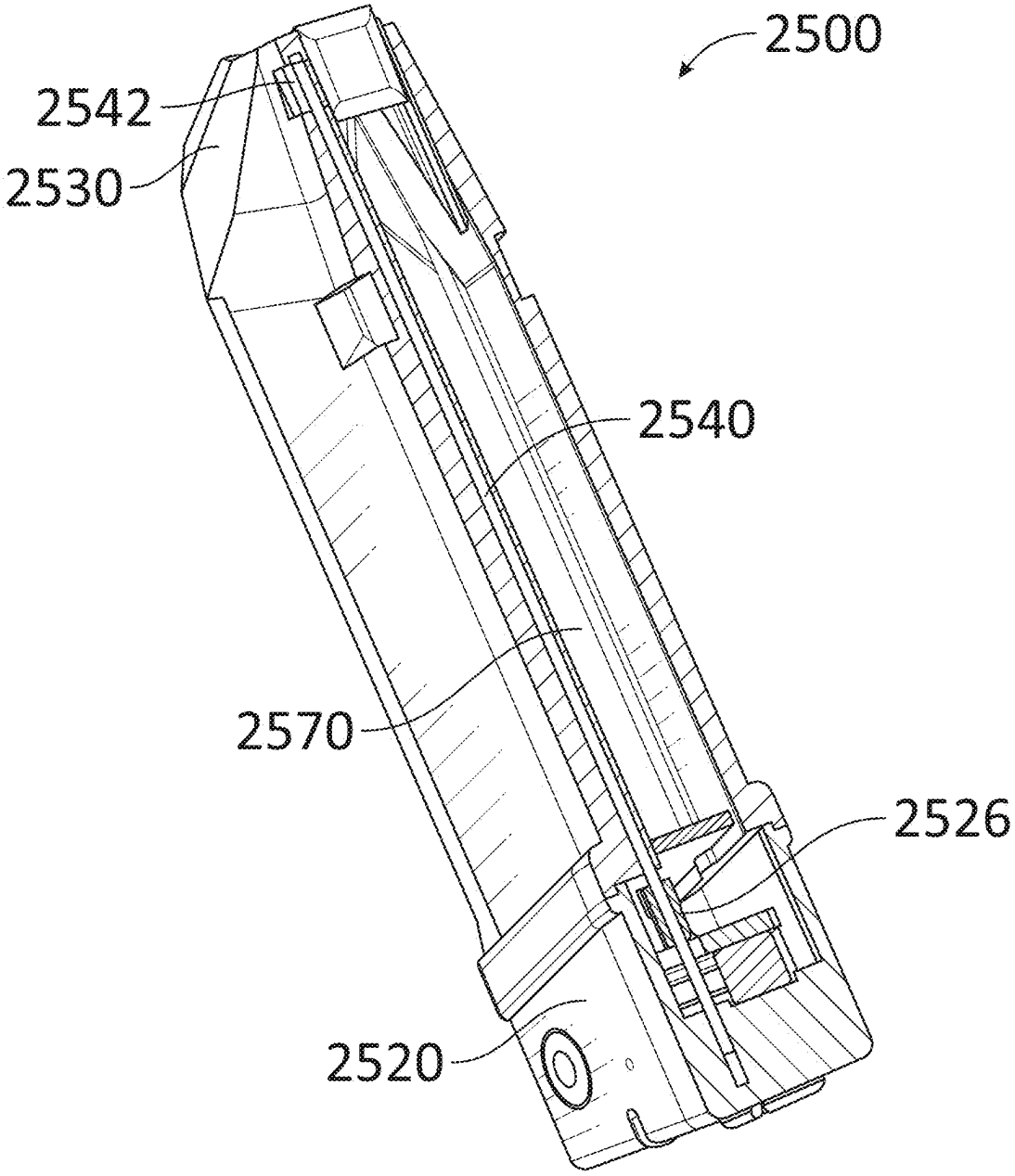


Fig. 25

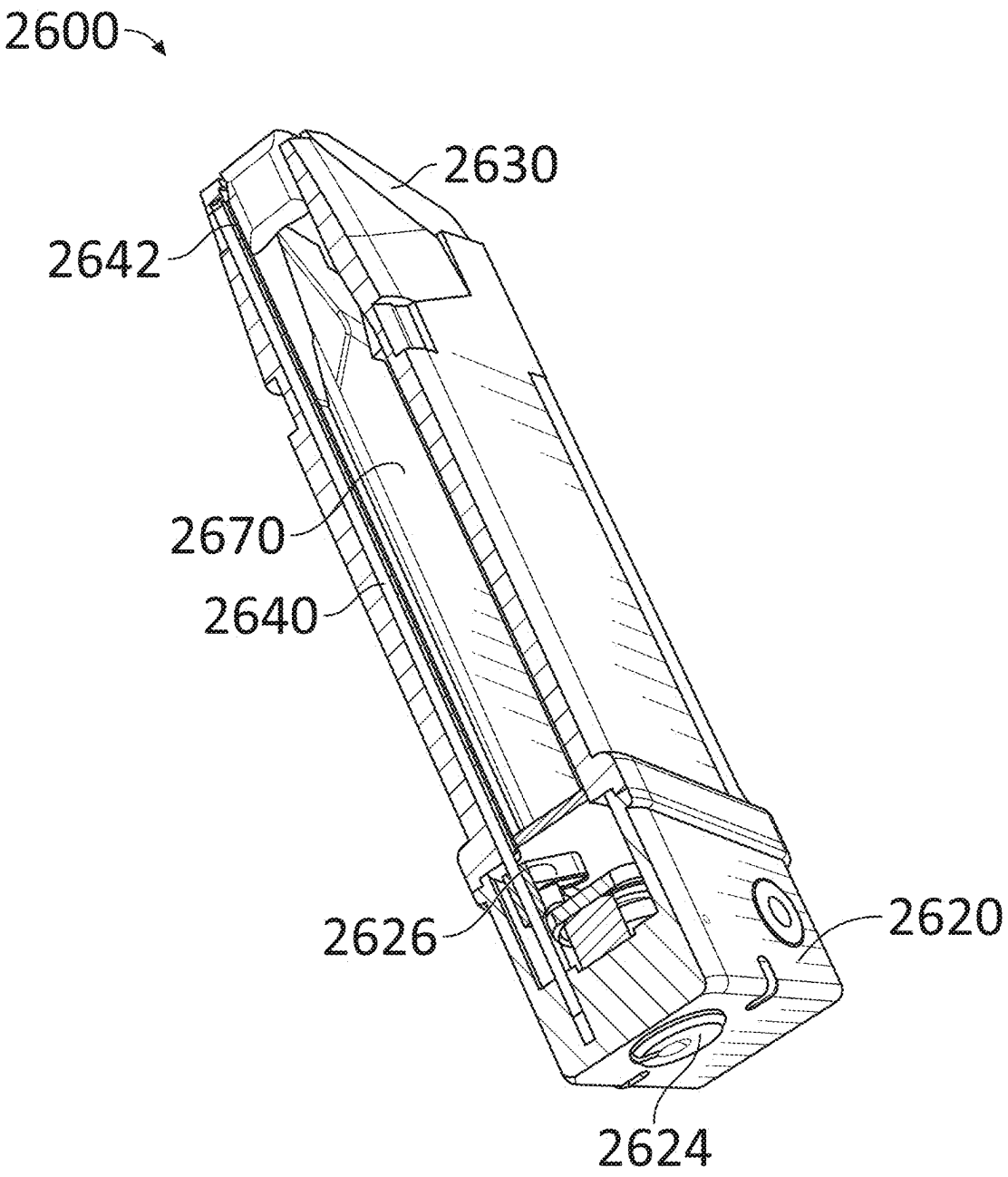


Fig. 26

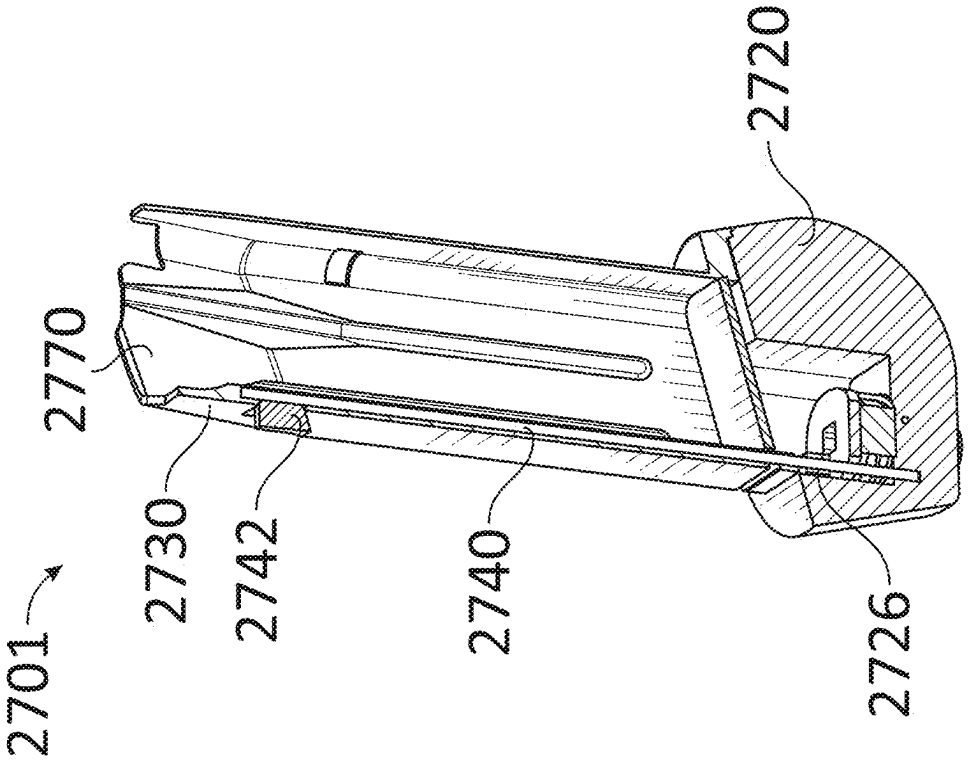


Fig. 27B

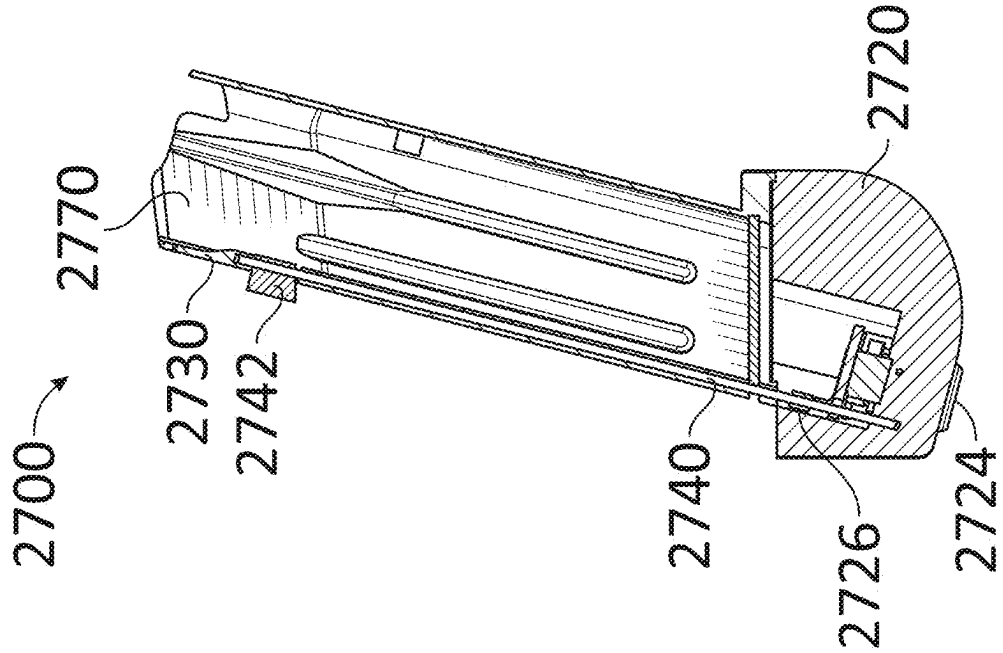


Fig. 27A

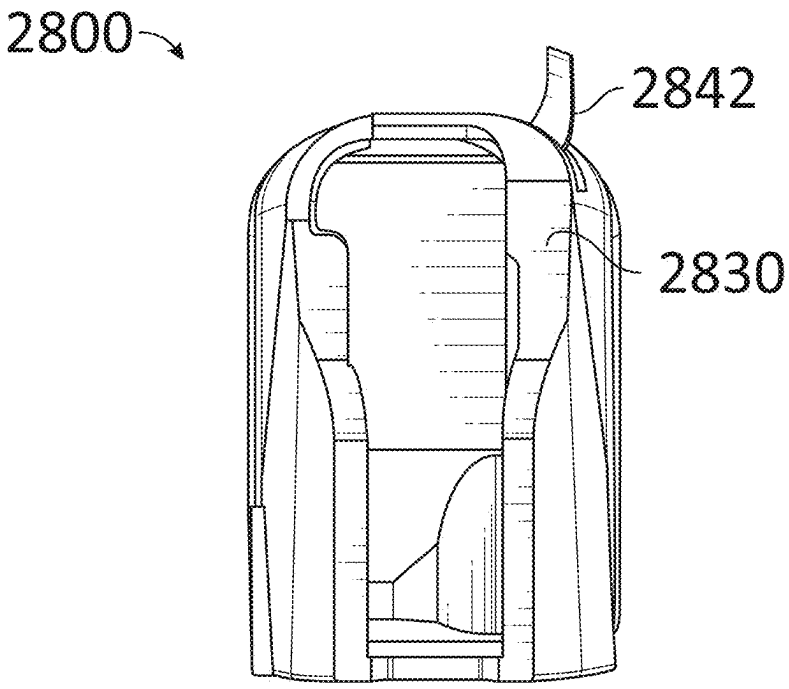


Fig. 28A

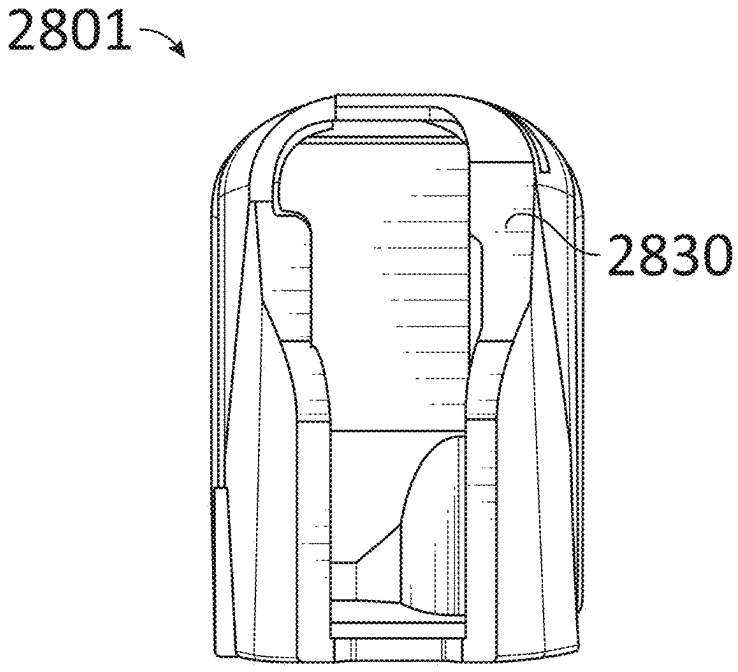


Fig. 28B

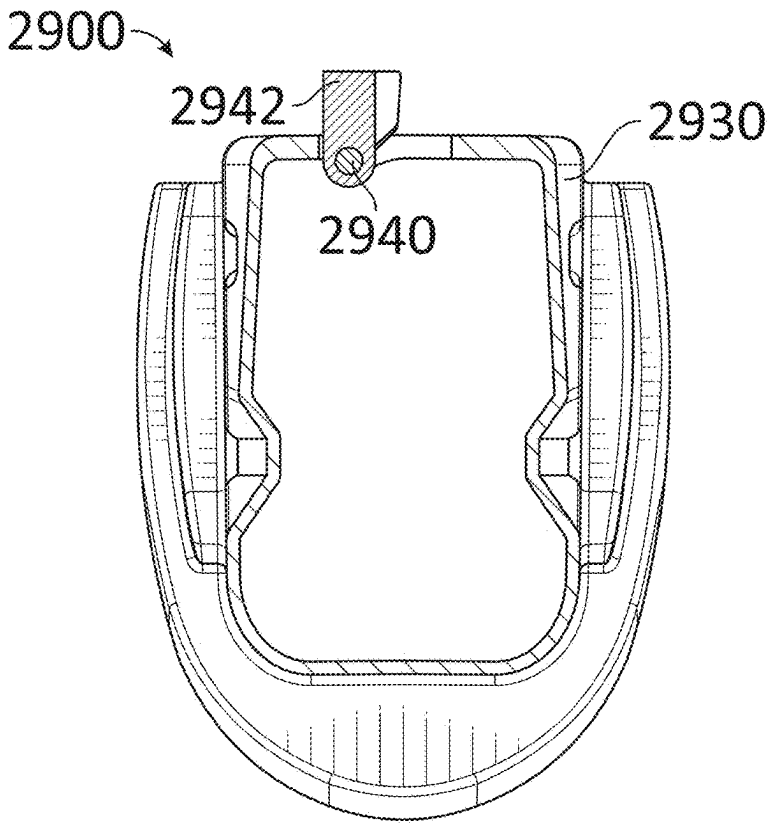


Fig. 29A

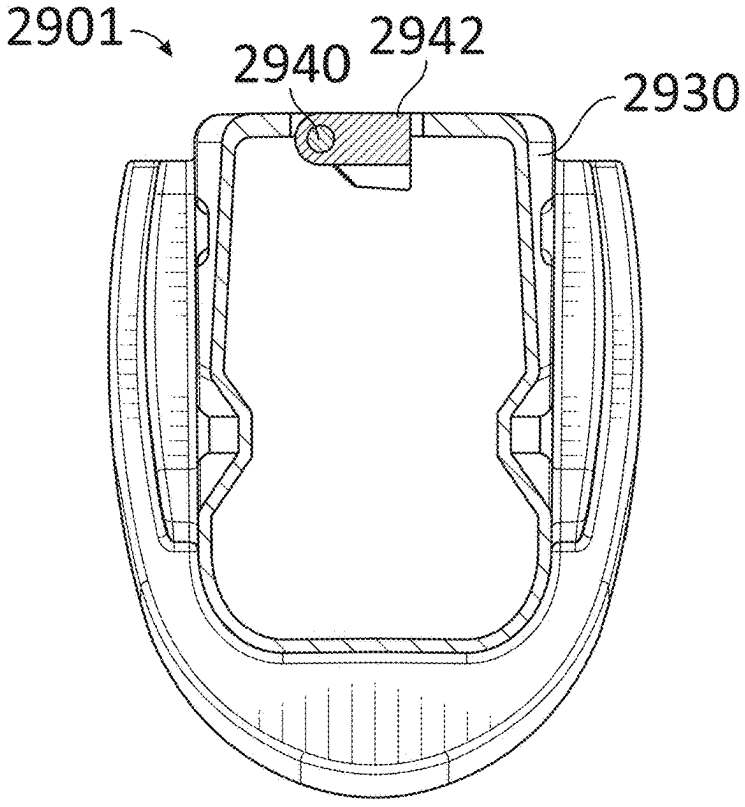


Fig. 29B

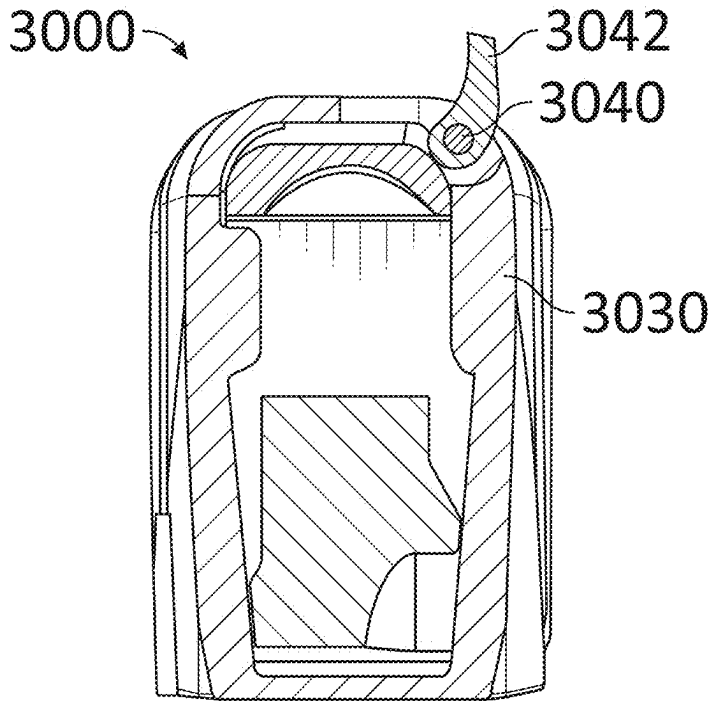


Fig. 30A

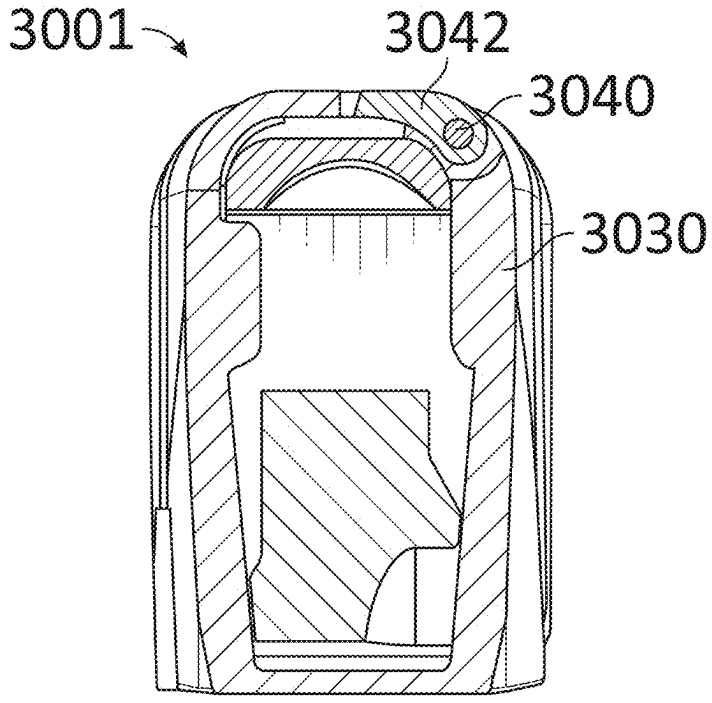


Fig. 30B

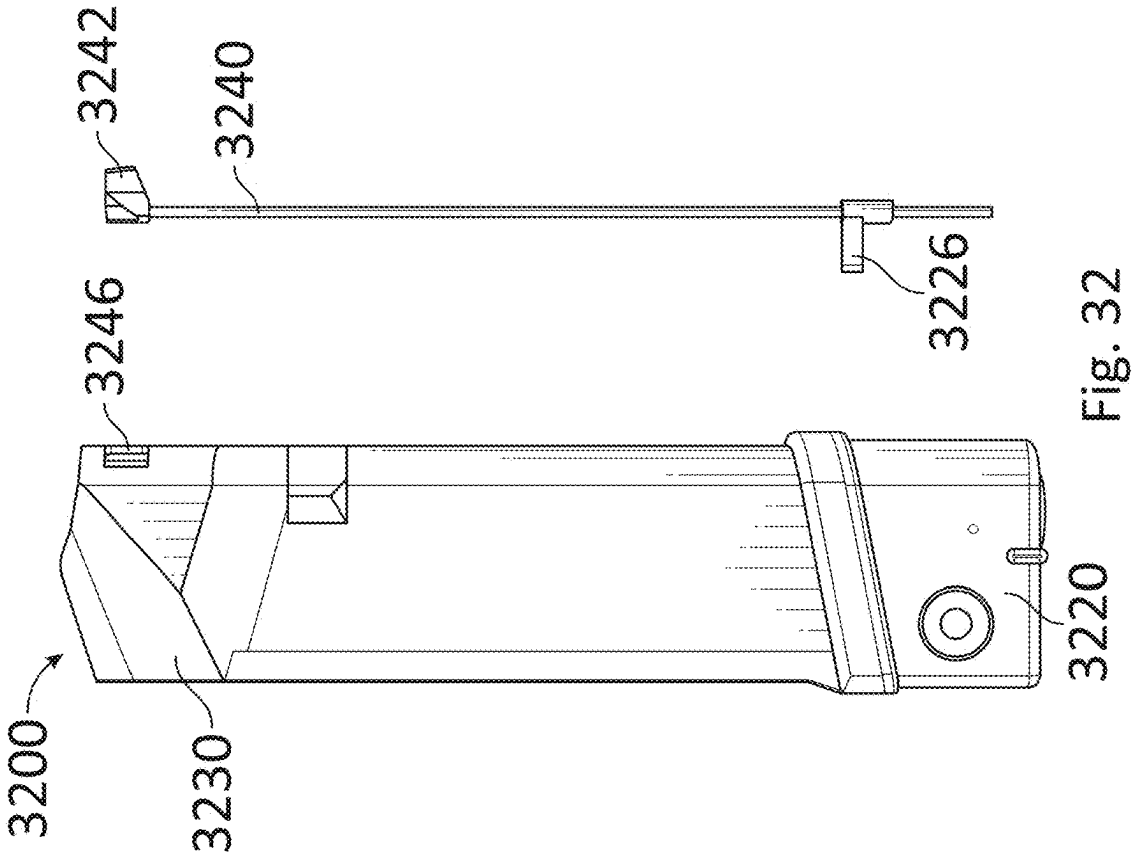

3242
3240
3246
3226
3220
3200
3230

Fig. 32

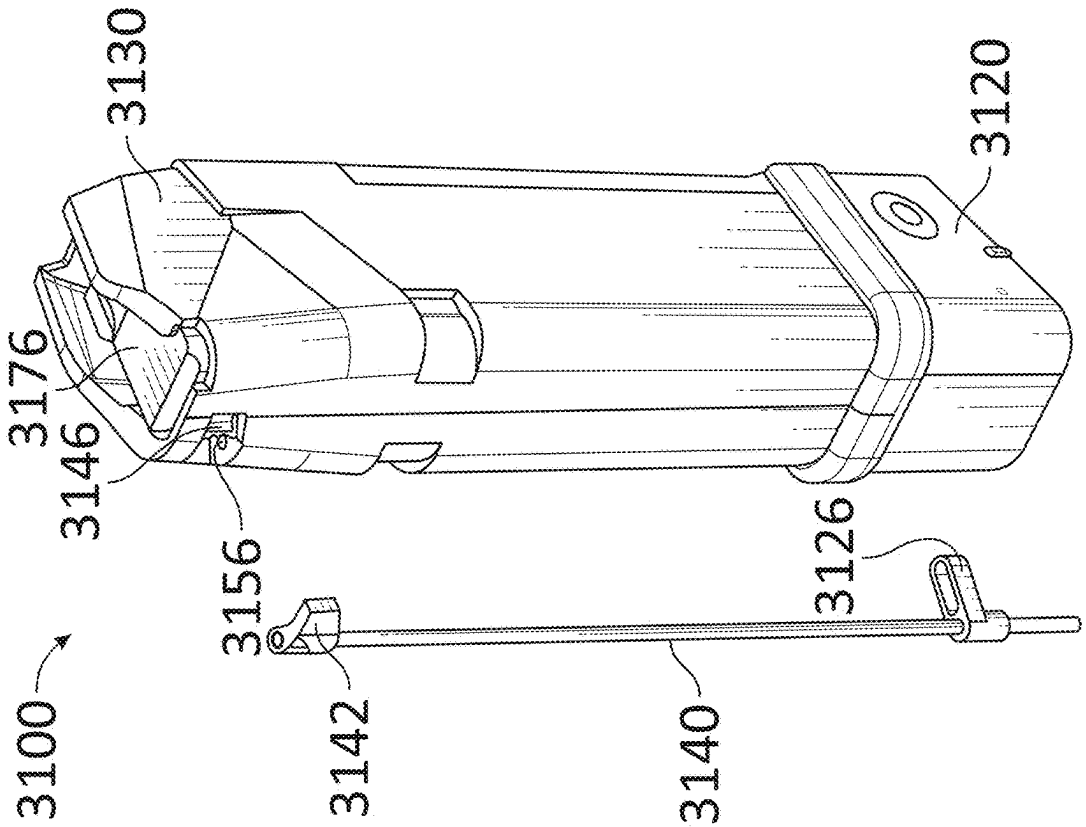

3130
3120
3176
3146
3156
3126
3100
3142
3140

Fig. 31

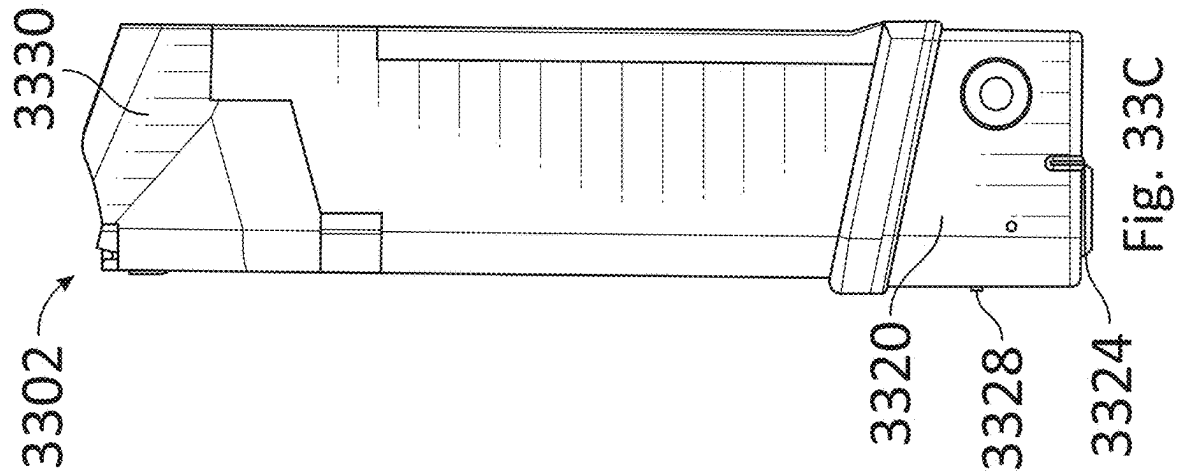


Fig. 33C

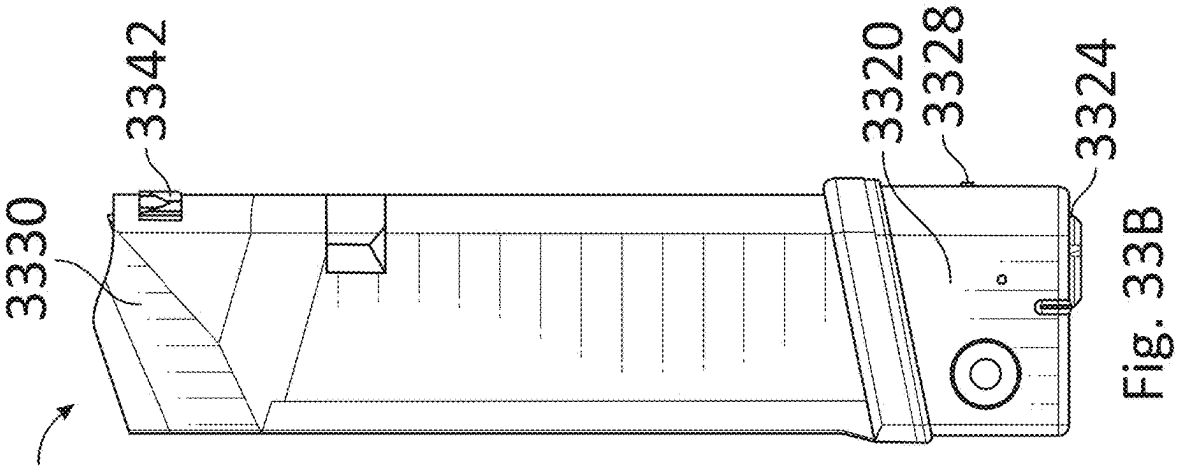


Fig. 33B

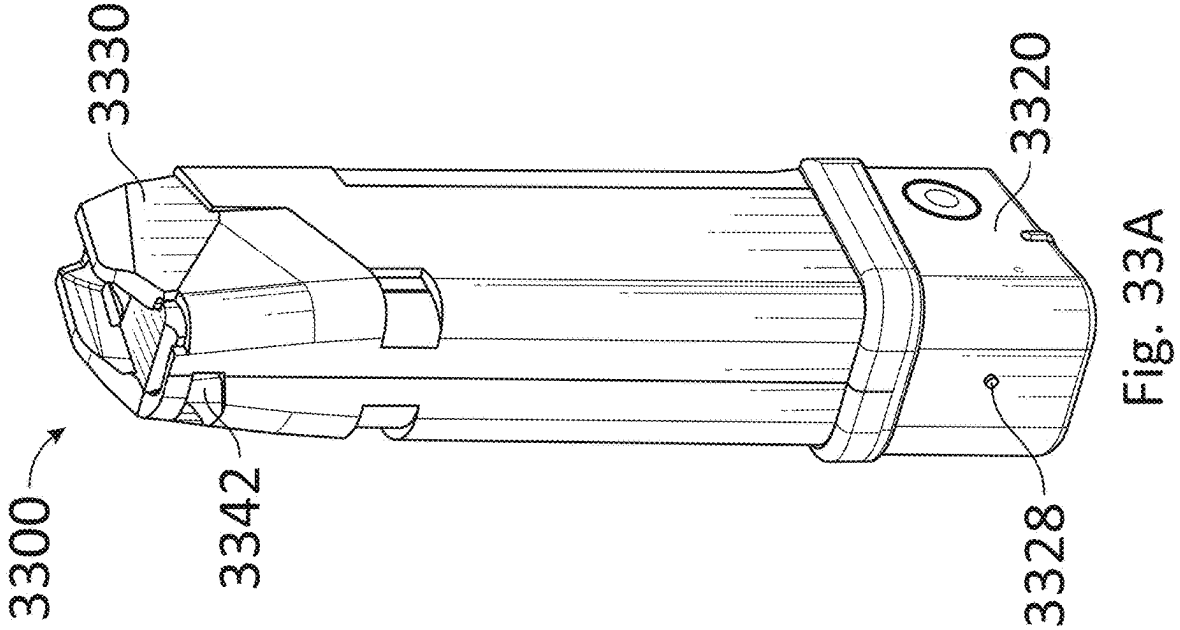


Fig. 33A

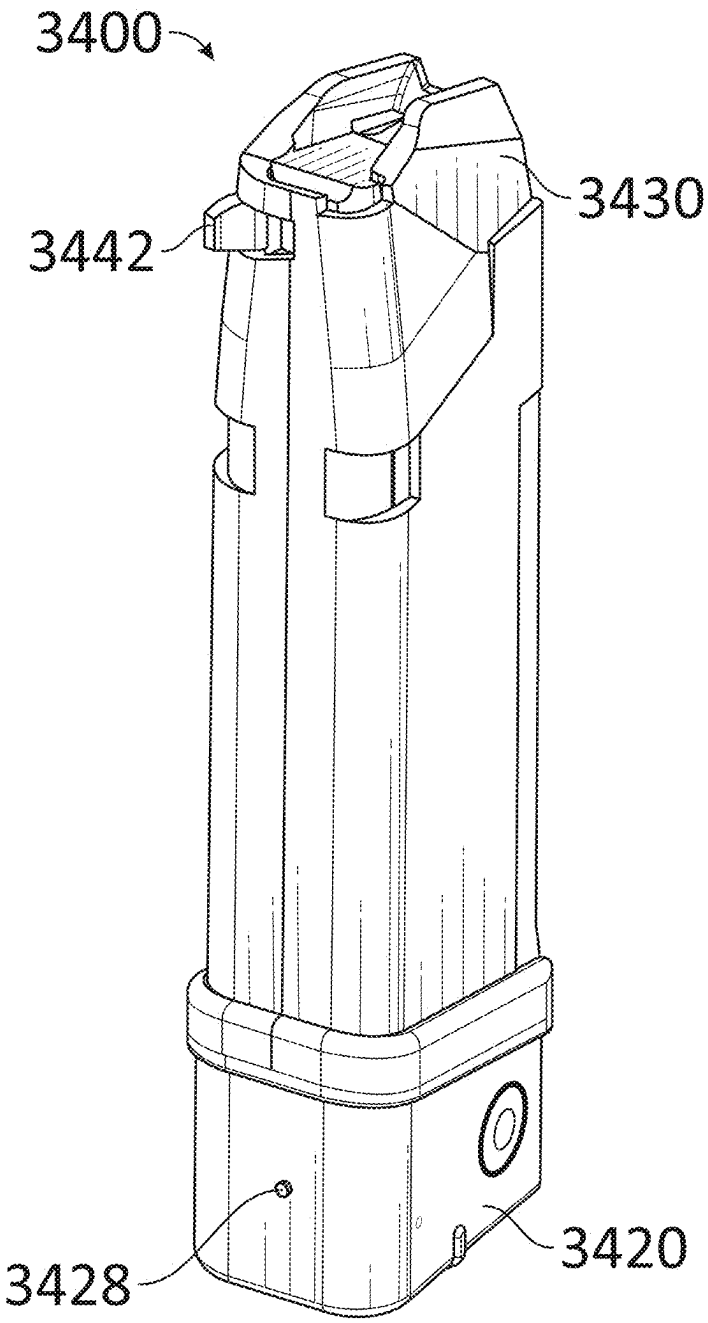


Fig. 34

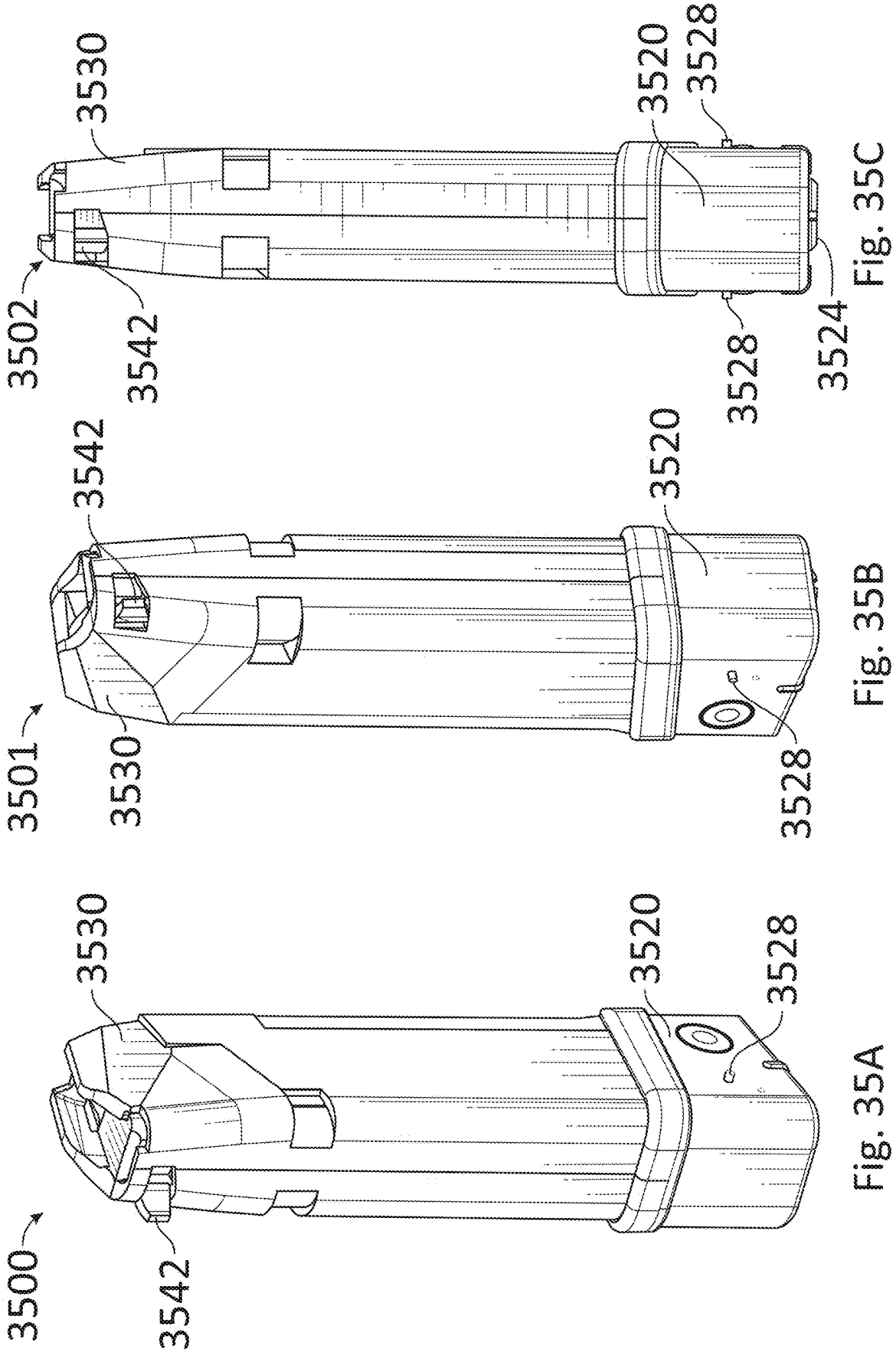


Fig. 35C

Fig. 35B

Fig. 35A

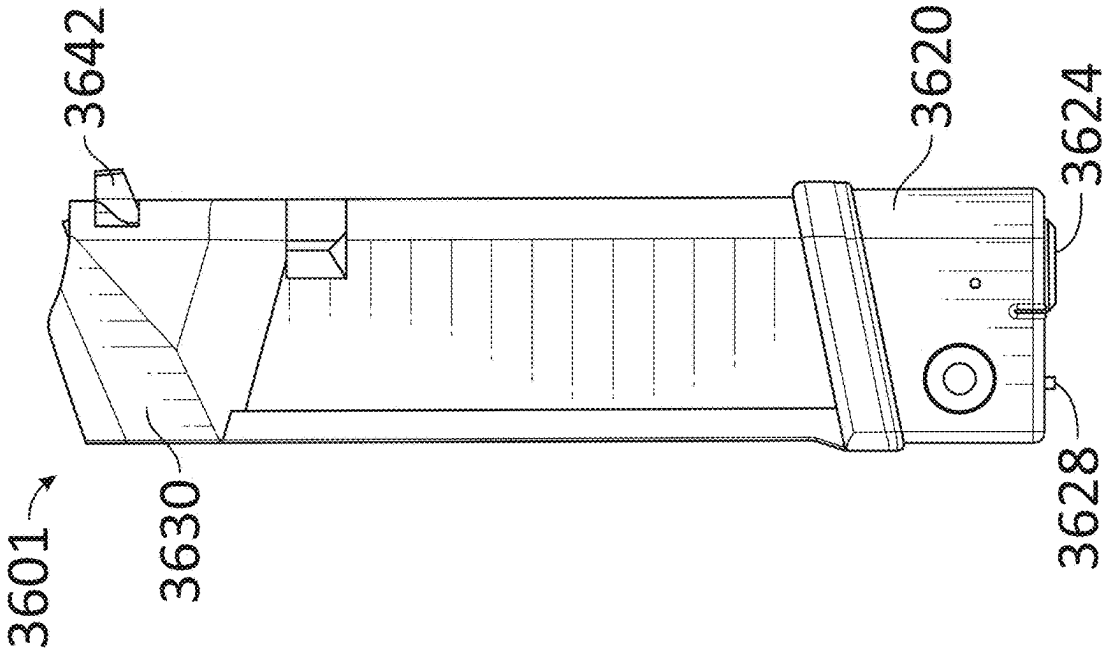


Fig. 36B

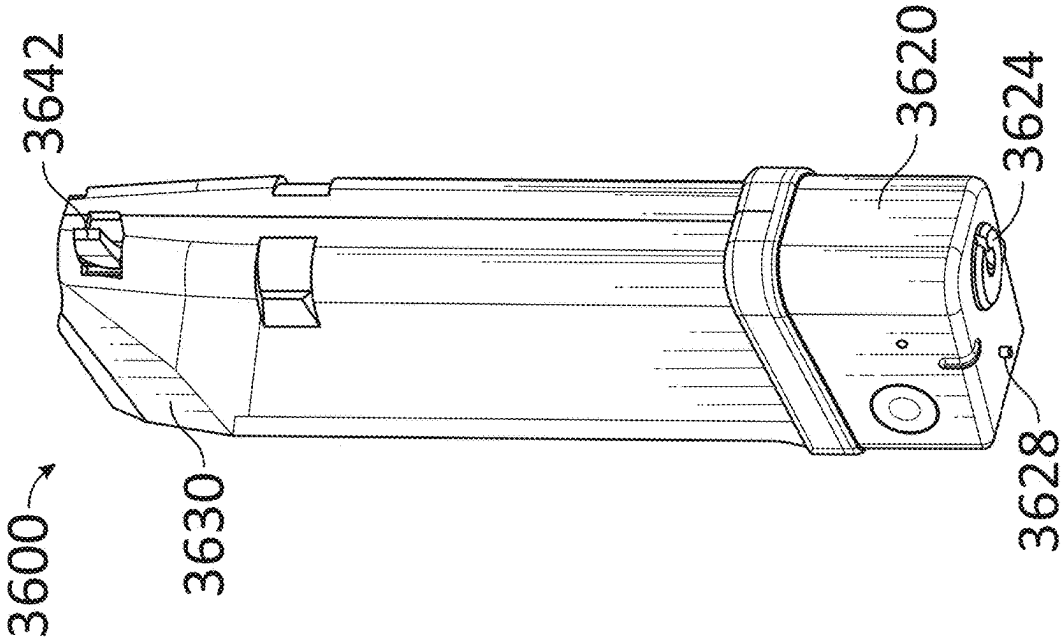


Fig. 36A

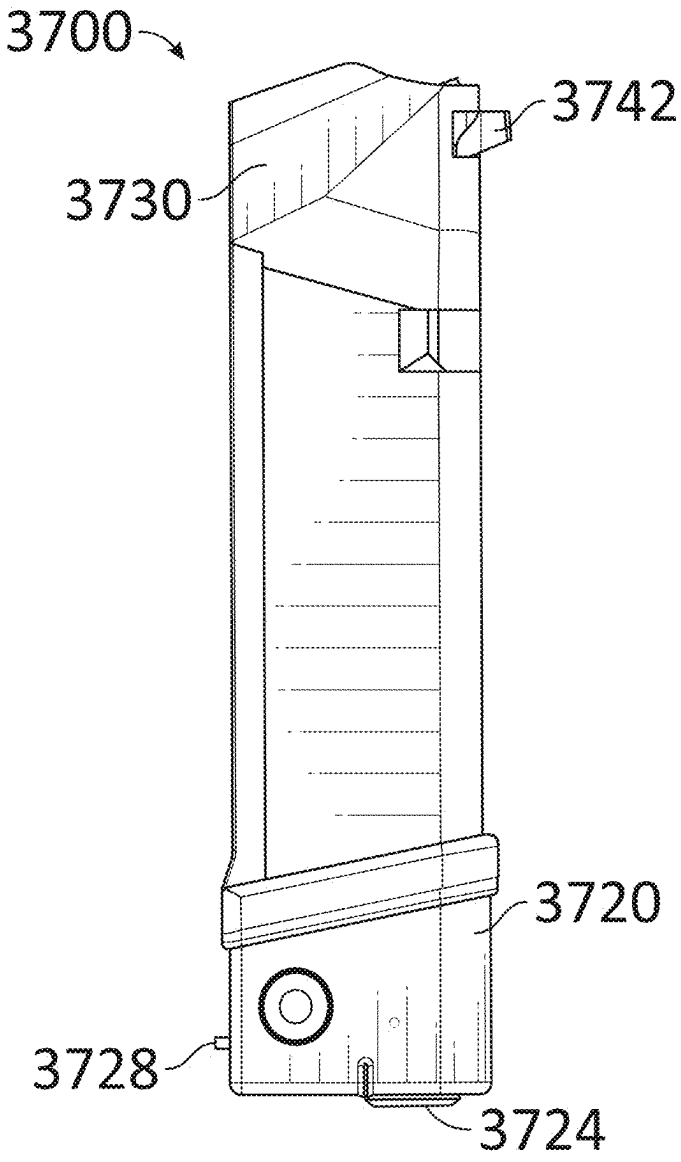


Fig. 37

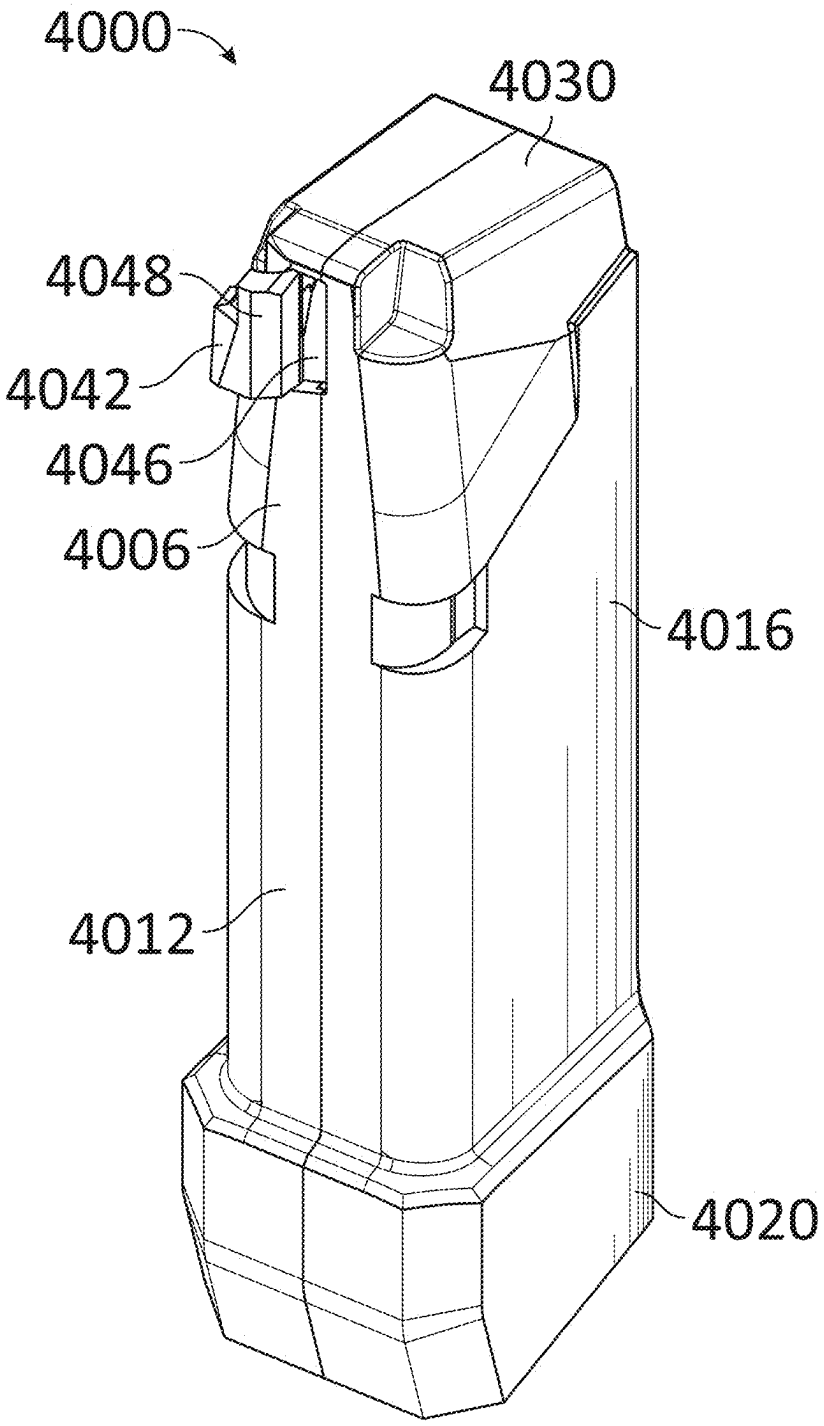


Fig. 38

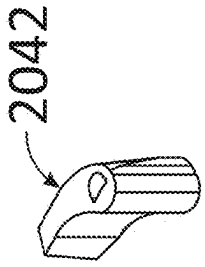


Fig. 40B

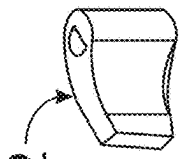


Fig. 40A

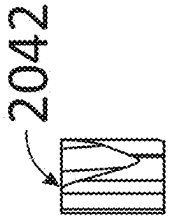


Fig. 40D

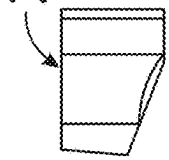


Fig. 40C

Fig. 40E

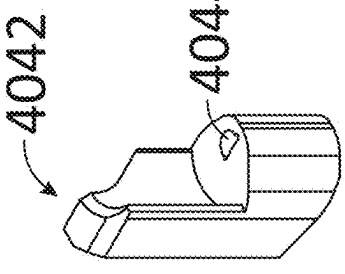


Fig. 39B

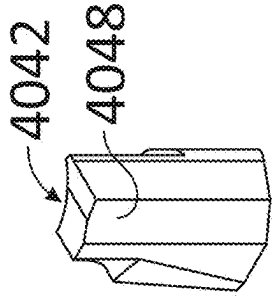


Fig. 39A

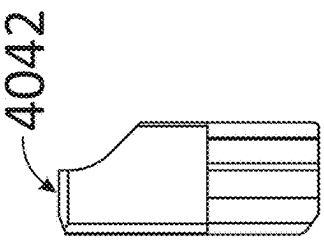


Fig. 39D

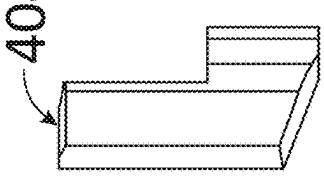


Fig. 39C

Fig. 39E

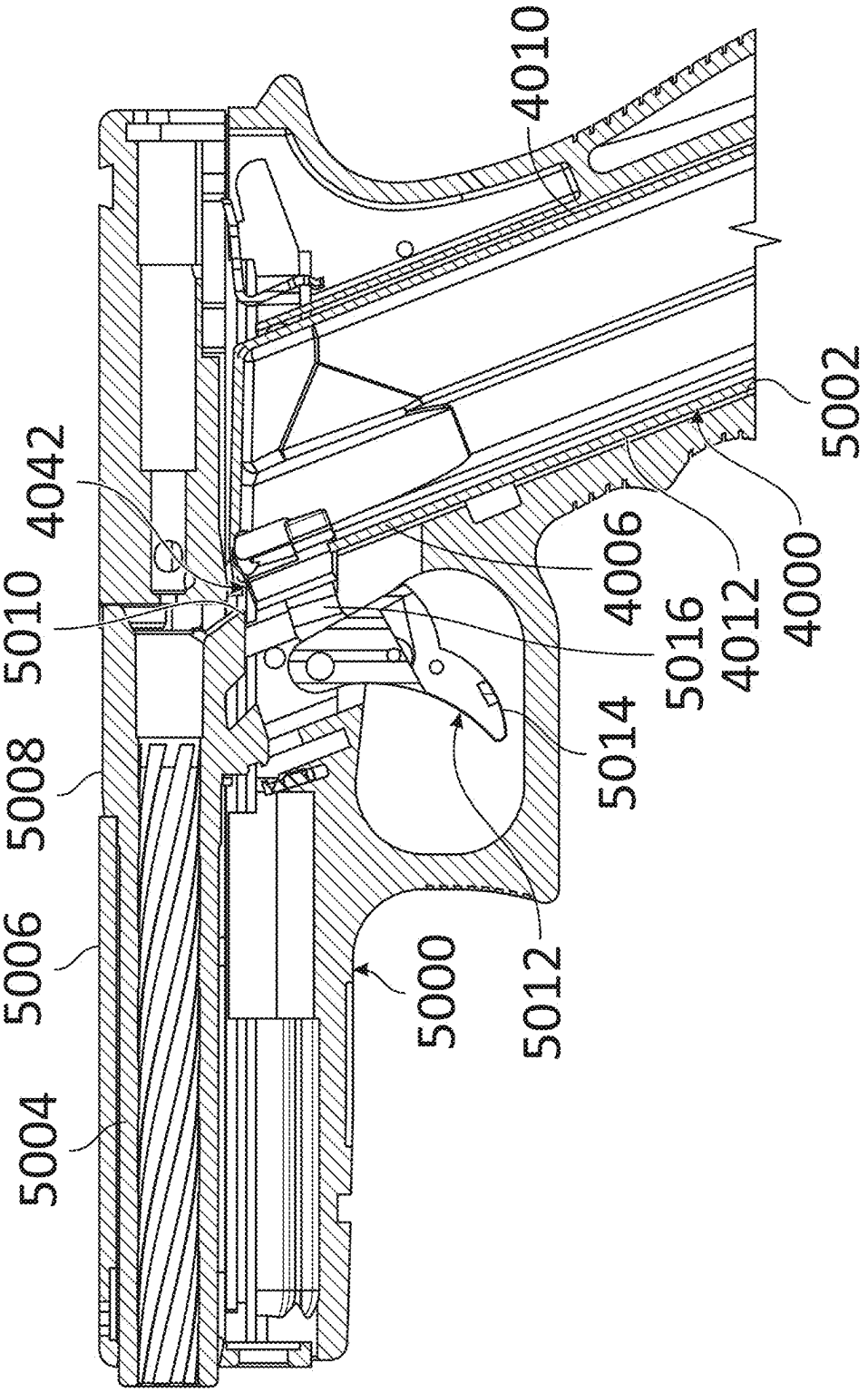

4010
5002
4042
4006
5010
4012
4000
5016
5008
5014
5006
5000
5012
5004

Fig. 41

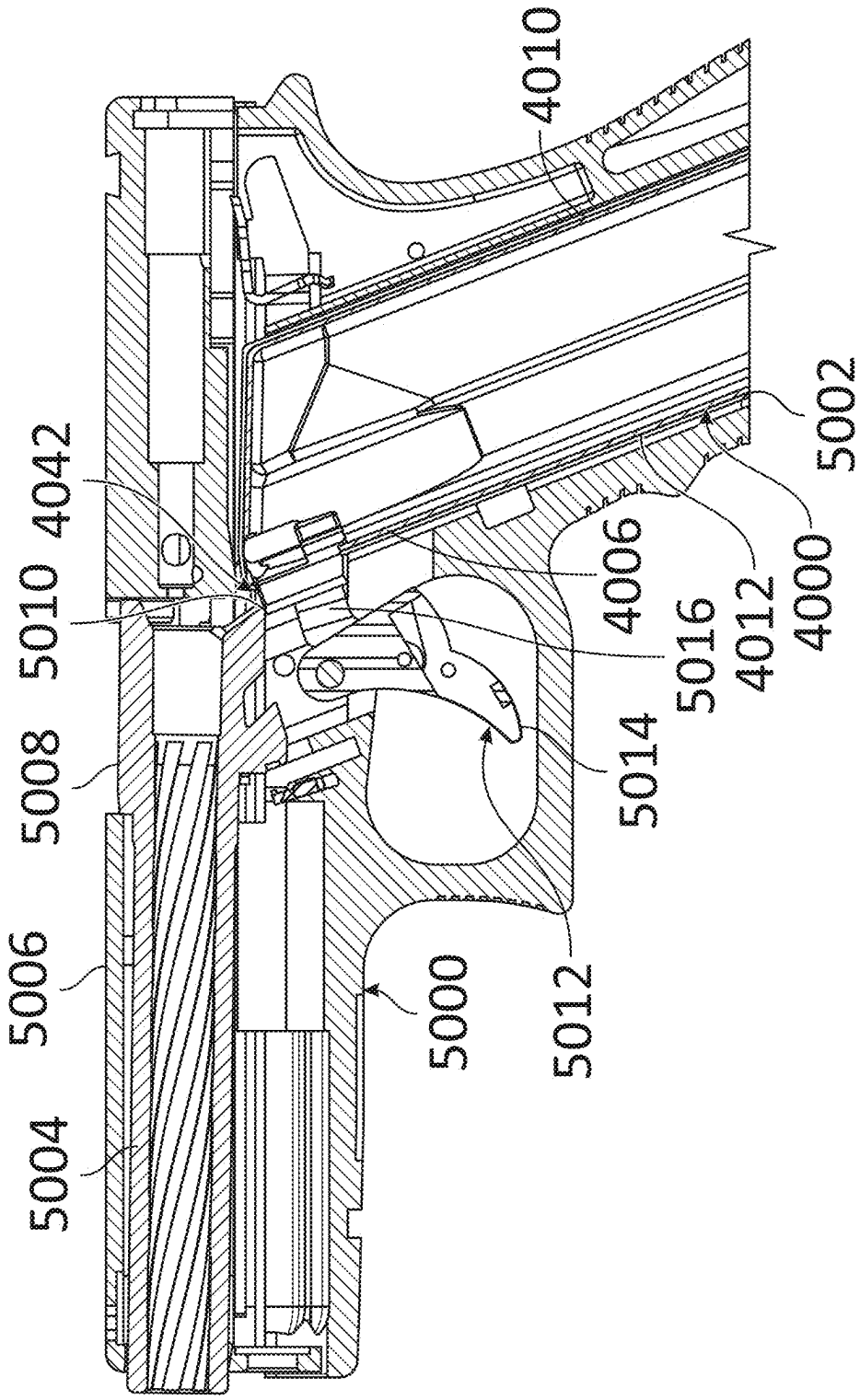

4010
4042
5010
5008
5006
5004
5000
5012
5014
5016
4006
4012
4000
5002

Fig. 42

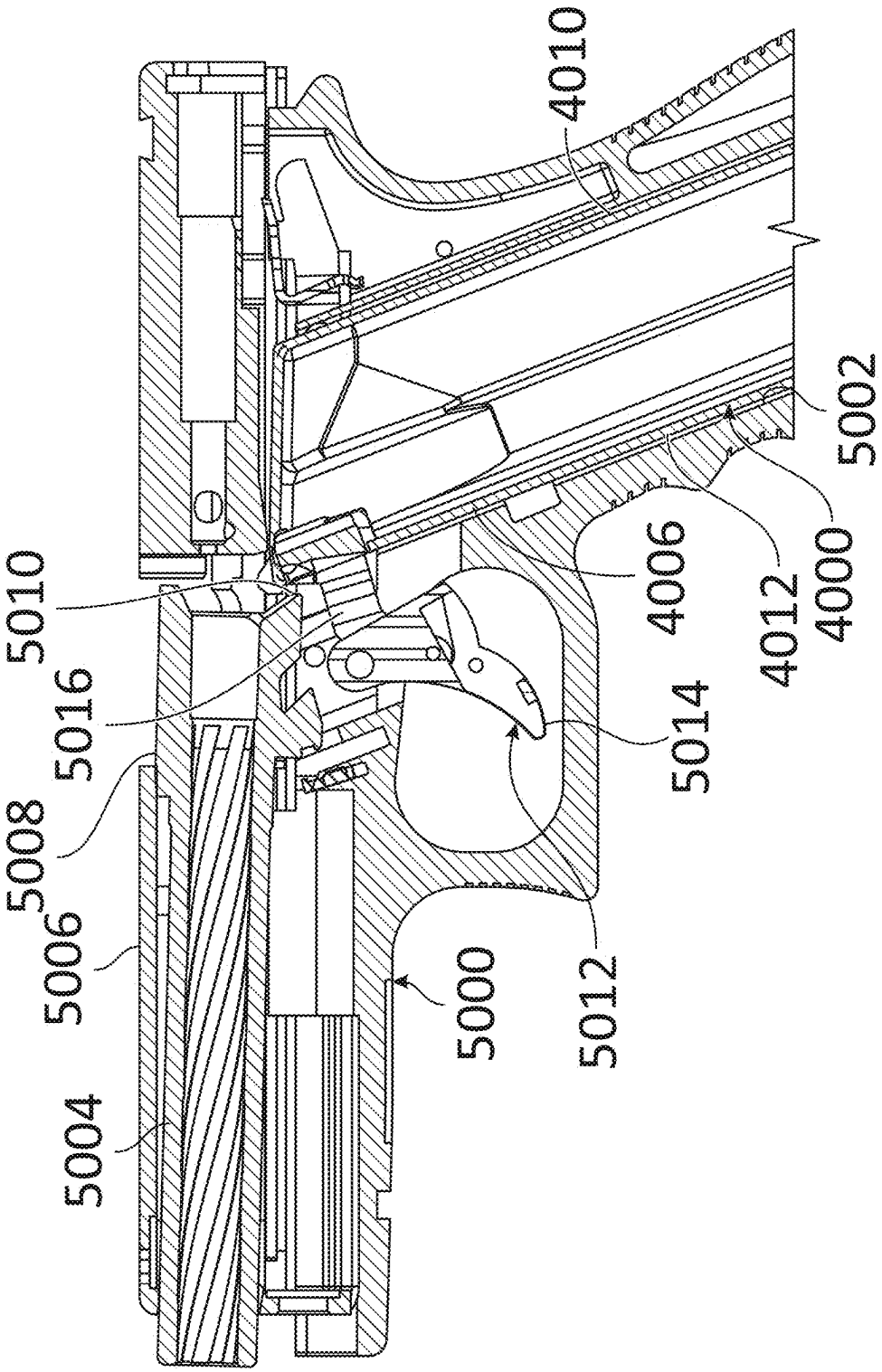

4010
5002
4000
4012
4006
5014
5012
5000
5004
5006
5008
5016
5010

Fig. 43

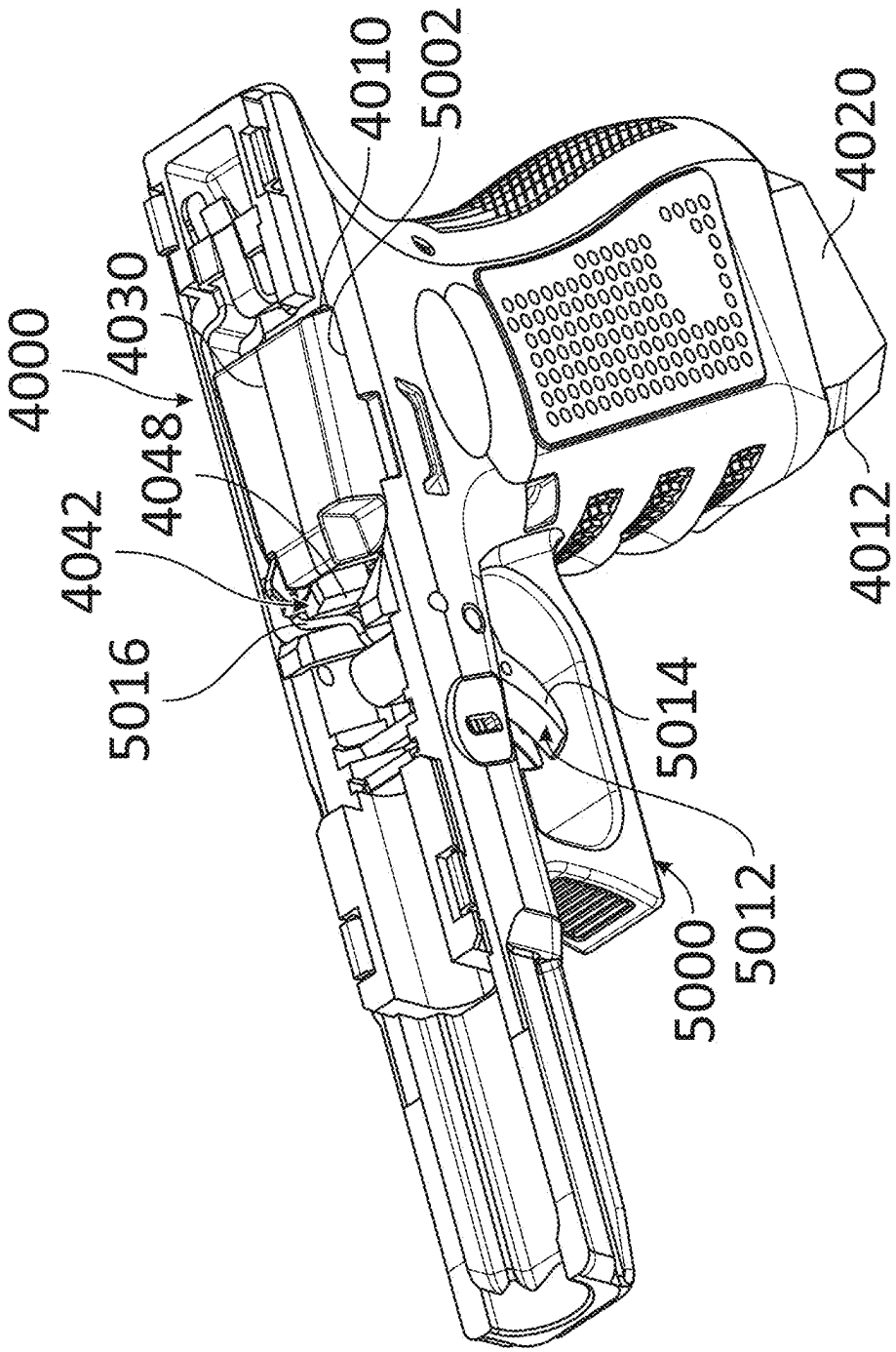


Fig. 44

LOCKING MAGAZINE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 18/766,079, filed Jul. 8, 2024, currently pending, which is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 17/141,404, filed Jan. 5, 2021, issued as U.S. Pat. No. 12,055,355 on Aug. 8, 2024, which is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 17/013,087, filed Sep. 4, 2020 and issued as U.S. Pat. No. 10,914,543 on Feb. 9, 2021, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Ser. No. 16/299,251, filed Mar. 12, 2019 and issued as U.S. Pat. No. 10,914,542 on Feb. 9, 2021, which a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 16/123,441, filed Sep. 6, 2018, now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 10,260,831 on Apr. 16, 2019, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Ser. No. 15/258,276, filed Sep. 7, 2016, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates to firearms. More particularly, the present invention relates to a magazine for various firearms.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of accidental, negligent or unauthorized discharge from various firearms, particularly handguns. Such incidents typically occur when the trigger of the firearm is deliberately pulled for a purpose other than shooting, such as dry-fire practice, demonstration or function testing, but the ammunition is unintentionally left in the chamber. Unintentionally leaving a firearm loaded is more likely to occur when the individual handling the gun is poorly trained, and perhaps also with removable-magazine-fed firearms (as the magazine may be removed, giving an unloaded appearance even when a round remains chambered). Since most handguns are designed such that the magazine constantly remains inside, thus keeping the handgun constantly loaded, such accidental or otherwise undesired or unauthorized discharge is more likely to occur.

[0004] A second common cause of negligent discharge is placement by the gun-handler of his/her finger on the trigger before deciding to shoot. With the finger so positioned, many activities may cause the finger to compress the trigger unintentionally. For example, if one attempts to holster the firearm with finger on trigger, the holster edge might drive the finger onto the trigger, and discharge is likely.

[0005] Accidental discharges not involving a trigger-pull can also occur if the firearm is mechanically unsound: due to poor maintenance, abuse and/or the use of defective ammunition in the gun, may all lead to breakage.

[0006] Furthermore, recently there has been a sharp increase in misuse of firearms with unauthorized users firing (for fun or by accident), and particularly youngsters using their parents' firearms. Such incidents cause many injuries (and sometimes fatalities) since there are no means to prevent other people from using a gun of an authorized user.

[0007] It would, therefore, be advantageous to provide safety means for firearms so as to prevent unintentional and/or unauthorized firing and/or accidental discharge.

[0008] Many of the existing magazine based safety means for firearms may reduce or eliminate the ammunition capacity of a magazine. Many of the existing magazine based safety means for firearms may be difficult and/or time consuming to manipulate between locked and unlocked conditions. Many of the existing magazine based safety means for firearms may require extensive hardware which adds to the weight of a magazine and/or firearm. What is needed are improved magazines for firearms.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] At least some embodiments of the present invention provide a magazine for a firearm.

[0010] The magazine comprises an elongated tubular body defining an ammunition compartment. The magazine has an upper end defining an ammunition exit aperture and a lower end opposed to the upper end. The magazine comprises a locking mechanism connected to the lower end of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism has a locked condition and an unlocked condition. The locking mechanism has a user interface adapted to enable a user to select between the locked condition and the unlocked condition. The locking mechanism has a rotor movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position is different than the first rotational position. The magazine comprises an elongated shaft. The elongated shaft has a lower end connected to the rotor, and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The magazine comprises a block element connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft. The block element is adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition in which at least one of firearm operation and magazine extraction are prevented, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition in which firearm operation and magazine extraction are enabled.

[0011] According to some of the various embodiments, the elongated shaft may be a straight element. The elongated shaft may be a cylindrical element. The elongated shaft may have a circular cross section.

[0012] According to some of the various embodiments, the upper end of the elongated shaft may be proximate the upper end of the elongated tubular body. The upper end of the elongated shaft may be closer to the upper end of the elongated tubular body than to the lower end of the elongated tubular body.

[0013] According to some of the various embodiments, the elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage closely receiving the elongated shaft. The elongated tubular body may have opposed sidewalls, a front wall, and a rear wall. The elongated shaft may be proximate to one of the opposed sidewalls. The elongated shaft may be proximate to the front wall. The elongated shaft may be proximate to the rear wall. The elongated tubular body may have an exterior profile adapted to be closely received in a firearm magazine well. The block element may be within the exterior profile to enable extraction of the magazine when in the second position. The block element may protrude from the exterior profile to prevent extraction of the magazine when in the first position.

[0014] According to some of the various embodiments, the block element may be an elongated element extending

away from the elongated shaft. The block element may be a planar element having a major surface flush with an external surface of the elongated tubular body when the block element is in the second position. The block element may extend laterally from the elongated shaft. The block element may extend radially from the elongated shaft. The block element may extend transversely from the elongated shaft. The block element may extend perpendicularly from the elongated shaft. The block element may define a block passage receiving the elongated shaft.

[0015] According to some of the various embodiments, the firearm may include a trigger element movable between a rest position and a discharge position. When the block element is in the first position, the block element may be adapted to contact the trigger element to prevent motion of the trigger element.

[0016] According to some of the various embodiments, the magazine may include a status indicator movable between a first position and a second position based on whether the locking mechanism is in the locked condition or the unlocked condition. The status indicator may be adapted to provide a tactile indication of its condition.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0017] The subject matter regarded as the invention is particularly pointed out and distinctly claimed in the concluding portion of the specification. The invention, however, both as to organization and method of operation, together with objects, features, and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following detailed description when read with the accompanying drawings in which:

[0018] FIG. **1**A schematically illustrates a right perspective view of a discharge blocking device, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0019] FIG. **1**B schematically illustrates a left side cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0020] FIG. **2**A schematically illustrates a left side partial cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device in a locked state, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0021] FIG. **2**B schematically illustrates a left side partial cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device in an unlocked state, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0022] FIG. **3**A schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0023] FIG. **3**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of the base of the discharge blocking device, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0024] FIG. **4**A schematically illustrates a perspective view of the discharge blocking device accommodated in a magazine housing of a firearm, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0025] FIG. **4**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device accommodated in the magazine housing of a firearm, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0026] FIG. **5**A schematically illustrates a right perspective view of a rotating element discharge blocking device, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0027] FIG. **5**B schematically illustrates a left side view of the rotating element discharge blocking device, according to some embodiments of the invention;

[0028] FIG. **6**A schematically illustrates a right side cross-sectional view of the rotating element discharge blocking device, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0029] FIG. **6**B schematically illustrates a left side cross-sectional view of the rotating element discharge blocking device, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0030] FIG. **7**A schematically illustrates a partial perspective view of the rotating element discharge blocking device adjacent to a trigger bar in a locked mode, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0031] FIG. **7**B schematically illustrates a partial perspective view of the rotating element discharge blocking device adjacent to a trigger bar in an unlocked mode, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0032] FIG. **8** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of rotating element discharge blocking device, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0033] FIG. **9** shows a flow chart for a method of blocking discharge in a firearm, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

[0034] FIG. **10** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0035] FIG. **11** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0036] FIG. **12** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0037] FIG. **13** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0038] FIG. **14** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a frame of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0039] FIG. **15** schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a frame of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0040] FIG. **16**A schematically illustrates a magazine in a locked condition and a trigger element of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0041] FIG. **16**B schematically illustrates a magazine in an unlocked condition and a trigger element of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0042] FIG. **17** schematically illustrates a magazine in a locked condition and a trigger element of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0043] FIG. **18** schematically illustrates a magazine in an unlocked condition and a trigger element of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0044] FIG. **19**A schematically illustrates a front view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0045] FIG. **19**B schematically illustrates a front view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0046] FIG. **20**A schematically illustrates a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0047] FIG. **20**B schematically illustrates a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0048] FIG. **21**A schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0049] FIG. **21**B schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0050] FIG. **22**A schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0051] FIG. **22**B schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0052] FIG. **23**A schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a lower portion of a magazine, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0053] FIG. **23**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a lower portion of a magazine, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0054] FIG. **24** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0055] FIG. **25** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0056] FIG. **26** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0057] FIG. **27**A schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0058] FIG. **27**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0059] FIG. **28**A schematically illustrates a top view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0060] FIG. **28**B schematically illustrates a top view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0061] FIG. **29**A schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0062] FIG. **29**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0063] FIG. **30**A schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0064] FIG. **30**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0065] FIG. **31** schematically illustrates an exploded view of a magazine, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0066] FIG. **32** schematically illustrates an exploded view of a magazine, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0067] FIGS. **33**A, **33**B, and **33**C schematically illustrate various views of a magazine in an unlocked condition with a status indicator, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0068] FIG. **34** schematically illustrates an isometric view of a magazine in a locked condition with a status indicator, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0069] FIGS. **35**A, **35**B, and **35**C schematically illustrate various views of a magazine in a locked condition with a plurality of status indicators, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0070] FIGS. **36**A and **36**B schematically illustrate various views of a magazine in a locked condition with a status indicator, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0071] FIG. **37** schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine in a locked condition with a status indicator, according to some of the various embodiments;

[0072] FIG. **38** schematically illustrates an isometric view of a current embodiment of a lock for a pistol in the locked condition;

[0073] FIG. **39**A schematically illustrates a front isometric view of the block element of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38**;

[0074] FIG. **39**B schematically illustrates a rear isometric view of the block element of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38**;

[0075] FIG. **39**C schematically illustrates a side view of the block element of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38**;

[0076] FIG. **39**D schematically illustrates a rear view of the block element of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38**;

[0077] FIG. **39**E schematically illustrates a bottom view of the block element of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38**;

[0078] FIG. **40**A schematically illustrates a front isometric view of the block element of the magazine of FIG. **20**A;

[0079] FIG. **40**B schematically illustrates a rear isometric view of the block element of the magazine of FIG. **20**A;

[0080] FIG. **40**C schematically illustrates a side view of the magazine of FIG. **20**A;

[0081] FIG. **40**D schematically illustrates a rear view of the magazine of FIG. **20**A;

[0082] FIG. **40**E schematically illustrates a bottom view of the magazine of FIG. **20**A;

[0083] FIG. **41** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional partial view of the lock for a pistol of

[0084] FIG. **38** accommodated in the magazine housing of a pistol in the locked condition with the barrel/slide in the forward battery position;

[0085] FIG. **42** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional partial view of the lock for a pistol of

[0086] FIG. **38** accommodated in the magazine housing of a pistol in the locked condition with the barrel/slide partially open and the barrel lug in contact with the top of the deployed block element;

[0087] FIG. **43** schematically illustrates a cross-sectional partial view of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38** accommodated in the magazine housing of a pistol in the unlocked condition with the barrel/slide fully unlocked and the block element retracted showing clearance with the barrel lug; and

[0088] FIG. **44** schematically illustrates an isometric view of the lock for a pistol of FIG. **38** accommodated in the magazine housing of a pistol in the locked condition with the barrel/slide in battery, the block element deployed, and the trigger bar in reset position. The slide and barrel have been removed for clarity.

[0089] It will be appreciated that, for simplicity and clarity of illustration, elements shown in the figures have not

necessarily been drawn to scale. For example, the dimensions of some of the elements may be exaggerated relative to other elements for clarity. Further, where considered appropriate, reference numerals may be repeated among the figures to indicate corresponding or analogous elements.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT EMBODIMENT

[0090] In the following detailed description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of embodiments of the invention. However, it will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that the embodiments of the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known methods, procedures, and components have not been described in detail so as not to obscure the embodiments of the invention.

[0091] Reference is now made to FIGS. **1**A-**1**B, which show a discharge blocking device **100**, according to some embodiments of the invention. FIG. **1**A schematically illustrates a right perspective view (with respect to the shooting direction of the firearm) of a discharge blocking device **100**, and FIG. **1**B schematically illustrates a left side cross-sectional view of the discharge blocking device **100**.

[0092] It is appreciated that discharge blocking device **100** (as a safety magazine) according to some embodiments of the invention is adapted to allow a user, operating a firearm, to block the discharge by having a safety mechanism (within the discharge blocking device) set in a locked mode, such that the discharge may be enabled only according to the selection by an authorized user with the safety mechanism. Therefore, in addition to the existing safety selector on the firearm, discharge blocking device **100** may provide further means for controlling the firing mode of the firearm (e.g., locked or unlocked mode), further described hereinafter.

[0093] Discharge blocking device **100** may include a cover **110** having a structure that is compatible with some commercially available magazines for firearms, for instance having a shape and dimensions corresponding to and adapted to be inserted into a magazine housing of, for example, a Glock® handgun. Discharge blocking device **100** may further include a base **120** that at least partially covers a safety mechanism that is configured to block the discharge.

[0094] In some embodiments, base **120** may have a shape protruding with respect to cover **110**, such that easy gripping (of base **120**) by a user operating the firearm may be allowed for insertion into and removal from the firearm. It is therefore appreciated that only with the base **120**, the difference from commercially available magazines (for example, a Glock® handgun) may be observed, when the safety magazine is inserted into a firearm.

[0095] In some embodiments, cover **110** may have a top segment **130** that is configured to couple with the magazine housing (also referred to as a magazine well) in a compatible firearm (for example as shown in FIG. **4**A). Top segment **130** may have an opening for insertion of cartridges therein (e.g., in a single column or stacked), such that the cartridge that is last inserted partially protrudes through top segment **130** in order to engage the firearm upon coupling with the magazine housing. Thus, operation similar to regular magazines for firearms may be enabled as discharge blocking device **100** provides accommodation of cartridges, and also engagement of these cartridges with the corresponding firearm upon coupling.

[0096] In some embodiments, cover **110** may further include a recess **180** that corresponds in shape to an external magazine catch **480** (as shown in FIGS. **4**A-**4**B) in order to allow locking the position of discharge blocking device **100** within the magazine housing once the external magazine catch **480** is inserted thereto. Thus, cover **110** may provide features similar to commercially available firearm magazines, as well as enhanced features for blocking discharge upon the selection of an authorized user.

[0097] It may be appreciated that a locking element (or latch) **140**, accommodated within discharge blocking device **100**, may be configured to be capable of at least partially protruding from top segment **130** to block discharge of the firearm due to movement of element **140** from one (stowed) position to another (extended) position. In some embodiments, locking element **140** may be at least partially accommodated within a channel **114** inside cover **110**. When discharge blocking device **100** is enabled (e.g., in an unlocked mode) the firearm may be immediately operated, with locking element **140** configured to move within channel **114** between locked and unlocked states. It is noted that the operation of locking element **140**, for instance with movement within channel **114**, may be configured to allow locking element **140** to protrude from discharge blocking device **100**. Protrusion of locking element **140** may be performed in order to engage and/or block a compatible trigger bar of the firearm so as to push the trigger bar into a locked position during transition from unlocked state to locked state and thereby block the discharge.

[0098] According to some embodiments, a top portion **142** of locking element **140** may protrude from top segment **130**, in order to allow top portion **142** to engage the trigger bar when locking element **140** is in a locked state and top portion **142** protrudes from top segment **130**. It may be appreciated that protruding top portion **142** may prevent movement of the trigger bar rearwards, namely towards the back of the barrel of the firearm, and thereby may prevent and/or block the discharge, as further described hereinafter.

[0099] According to some embodiments, a side jag **144** of locking element **140** may protrude from channel **114** and be accommodated within volume **150** such that movement of locking element **140** within channel **114** may also move side jag **144** within volume **150** accordingly. Discharge blocking device **100** may further include a wedge **160** that may be built in into cover **110**. In some embodiments, wedge **160** may at least partially protrude into volume **150** from a first end, for example when discharge blocking device **100** is in unlocked state. In some embodiments, wedge **160** may at least partially protrude from cover **110**, through a compatible window **170**, from a second end opposite to the first end, for example when discharge blocking device **100** is in a locked state. It may be appreciated that movement of locking element **140** from unlocked state to locked state (for example causing top portion **142** to protrude from top segment **130**) may cause side jag **144** to move within volume **150** so as to engage the first end of wedge **160**.

[0100] Reference is now made to FIGS. **2**A-**2**B, which schematically illustrate a left side partial cross-sectional view of discharge blocking device **100** in locked and in unlocked states, respectively, according to some embodiments of the invention.

[0101] In some embodiments, wedge **160** may have a shape corresponding to the shape of side jag **144**, such that movement of side jag **144** from unlocked state (e.g., as

shown in FIG. **2**B) to locked state (e.g., as shown in FIG. **2**A) may at least partially push one end of wedge **160** outwardly from cover **110** in order to at least partially protrude the second end of wedge **160** from window **170**, out of cover **110**. Thus, in a locked state while top portion **142** may protrude from top segment **130** to engage and/or block the trigger bar, side jag **144** may move the second end of wedge **160** so as to at least partially protrude the second end of wedge **160** from window **170**. It may be appreciated that wedge **160** protruding from window **170** may engage with magazine housing and thereby prevent the safety mechanism from being removed from the firearm. In some embodiments, top portion **142** may block movement of the trigger bar backwards at substantially the same time as wedge **160** blocks movement forwards. In some embodiments, wedge **160** protruding from window **170** may lock discharge blocking device **100** to the magazine housing and thereby prevent removal of the discharge blocking device **100**, as further described hereinafter.

[0102] In some embodiments, in an unlocked state side jag **144** may move within volume **150** such that wedge **160** is not engaged to it, and thereby second end of wedge **160** may not engage the magazine housing (e.g., as shown in FIGS. **4**B). In some embodiments, wedge **160** may have a spring like effect (e.g., spring loaded) that may enable self-inward return towards volume **150** when not engaged by side jag **144**.

[0103] Referring back to FIG. **1**B, locking element **140** may further include a bottom portion **141** (e.g., on the opposite side of locking element **140** in respect of top portion **142**) that may be in contact with a sensor **191** that is configured to detect movement of bottom portion **141** between locked and unlocked modes. For example, sensor **191** may be an optical sensor having an optical path that is blocked when locking element **140** is in unlocked mode. In some embodiments, sensor **191** may be operably coupled to a central controller **310** (e.g., a processor, denoted "PCB" in FIG. **3**B) that is configured to electrically control the operation of discharge blocking device **100**. In some embodiments, in case of electrical malfunction, manual operation of discharge blocking device **100** may also be possible, as further described hereinafter.

[0104] According to some embodiments, bottom portion **141** may be also in contact with a switching element **190** that is configured to allow switching between locked and unlocked modes. Switching element **190** may be operationally coupled to a motor **122** (e.g., accommodated within base **120**) capable of electrically and/or mechanically moving locking element **140** (as further described hereinafter) between locked and unlocked modes. In some embodiments, switching element **190** may be of helical shape and/or include a lead screw, which is capable of translating rotational movement into linear movement, so as to allow rotational movement of switching element **190** to be translated into lateral movement of locking element **140**. Thus, rotational movement of switching element **190** may move bottom portion **141** coupled thereto and thereby linearly move locking element **140** in channel **114** between locked and unlocked states. In some embodiments, if bottom portion **141** engages the bottom end of switching element **190**, then discharge blocking device **100** is in "FIRE" mode and discharge is allowed, whereas if bottom portion **141** engages the top end of switching element **190**, then discharge blocking device **100** is in "SAFE" mode (e.g., as shown in FIG. **1**B) and discharge is prevented with blocking of the trigger bar.

[0105] According to some embodiments, discharge blocking device **100** may further include a user identification segment **121**. User identification segment **121** may be operably coupled to the locking mechanism (e.g., inside base **120**) within discharge blocking device **100** and thereby coupled to locking element **140** so as to disable the blocking, i.e. switch to "unlocked" mode upon identification of an authorized user. User identification segment **121** may include biometric user identification (e.g., fingerprint identification) unit, password identification means with a dedicated user interface, or any other identification means (for example buttons to be pressed by the user, for example for entering a secret buttons' sequence, and/or wireless communication means such as radio frequency or near field communication). In some embodiments, user identification segment **121** may further include storage of ID data for storing ID data of authorized users. In some embodiments, discharge blocking device **100** may further include at least one indicator that is configured to indicate the locking mode of discharge blocking device **100**, e.g., "locked", "unlocked", "error", etc. The user may control the mode of discharge (and thereby change the indication of the indicator) in order to change the mode of discharge blocking device **100**, for instance by placing a finger on a fingerprint sensor and identifying via fingerprint in order to switch the device to an "unlocked" mode. In some embodiments, changing from "unlocked" to "locked" mode may be done automatically by the device when the safety device detects an insertion of safety device into magazine housing. It should be noted that user identification segment **121** and the at least one indicator may be electrically coupled to the locking mechanism, e.g., by means of controller **310**, so as to allow control of the locking mode of discharge blocking device **100**. In some embodiments, a central controller **310** (e.g., a processing unit, as shown in FIG. **3**B) may control the operation of discharge blocking device. Specifically, controller, such as controller **310**, may control switching between "locked" and "unlocked" modes based on input from user identification segment **121**.

[0106] In some non-limiting embodiments, discharge blocking device **100** may further include a power storage unit, e.g., a battery, configured to provide power for the locking mechanism, so as to allow operation of the mechanical elements. In some embodiments, a battery status indicator may also be provided with the indicators. It is appreciated that, upon insertion into a magazine housing, discharge blocking device **100** may become automatically in a "locked" state with locking element **140** protruding and blocking the trigger bar of the firearm.

[0107] In some embodiments, the locking mechanism may further include a communication unit capable of sending and receiving wireless data (e.g., via Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, or cellular networks). The communication unit may therefore allow a user to set conditions for the discharge blocking device to become locked or unlocked, as may be desired. For example, once the discharge blocking device detects data that indicates that the firearm is inside an authorized area (for instance data from a GPS device), then the locking is removed and the firearm may be used. Alternatively, a dedicated signal may be wirelessly received by the discharge blocking device such that a user may select that in a

particular time the locking is removed, no matter who operates the firearm. For example, a training officer at the police academy may wirelessly remove the locking from multiple firearms that are scheduled for practice.

[0108] Reference is now made to FIG. **3**A, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of discharge blocking device **100**, wherein the cross-section plane is performed along imaginary dashed line **101** of FIG. **1**A, according to some embodiments of the invention. Discharge blocking device **100** may include a space **270** covered by cover **110** and dedicated for accommodation of cartridges **70** (e.g., fourteen cartridges in a double row) as in a commercially available magazine. In some embodiments, the external structure of cover **110** may correspond to that of a commercially available magazine capable of accommodating cartridges (e.g., in a stacked column), such that, when discharge blocking safety mechanism is provided, for instance locking element **140** embedded into the wall of cover **110**, cartridges may be accommodated within discharge blocking device **100**. It is noted that discharge blocking device **100** may be operated both as a regular magazine, storing cartridges at dedicated space **270**, such that the firearm can be used in the regular fashion, as well as be operated as a discharge blocking device that prevents unwanted (or unauthorized) use of firearm, when in locked mode.

[0109] Reference is now made to FIG. **3**B, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of base **120**, wherein the cross-section is carried out parallel to locking element **140**, according to some embodiments of the invention. In some embodiments, base **120** includes a positioning lever **300**, embedded therein, which is initially in an "open" state and configured to detect accommodation of discharge blocking device **100** within the magazine housing. Positioning lever **300** may be configured to be capable of protruding from base **120**, such that, upon insertion into the magazine housing of a firearm, positioning lever **300** may engage the inner wall of the magazine housing and be forced to move into base **120** (e.g., by means of a loaded spring). Upon accommodation within the magazine housing and detection thereof, positioning lever **300** may move back into base **120** and switch to a "closed" state. In some embodiments, at a "closed" state positioning lever **300** may engage a positioning sensor **350** that is configured to provide a signal (e.g., to central controller **310**) corresponding to detected states.

[0110] It may be appreciated that positioning lever **300** may provide an initial locking mechanism, that may be configured to disable the operation of the firearm unless in "closed" state. In some embodiments, positioning lever **300** may be coupled to the positioning sensor **350** that is capable of electrically detecting change between "open" and "closed" states.

[0111] Upon switching to a "closed" state (i.e., detection of discharge blocking device **100** within the magazine housing) by positioning lever **300**, locking element **140** may, according to embodiments of the present invention, be automatically operated to move to a "locked" mode and block the trigger bar of the firearm so as to block any discharge until the user switches to "unlocked" mode. For example, upon insertion into a magazine housing, positioning lever **300** may engage the inner wall of the magazine housing and be forced to move inwardly into base **120** to engage positioning sensor **350**. Positioning sensor **350** may then send a signal to central controller **310** indicating that discharge blocking device **100** is in a "closed state" (e.g., within the magazine housing). This may cause control motor **122** to move locking element **140** to a "locked" position blocking the trigger bar. In some embodiments, motor **122** may be coupled to switching element **190** with movable gears such that movement of a first gear coupled to motor **122** may move second gear coupled to switching element **190**.

[0112] It should be noted that, initially, positioning lever **300** may be in an "open" state and locking element **140** is in "unlocked" mode, such that, upon engagement with the magazine housing positioning lever **300** may switch to "closed" state and thereby locking element **140** moved to a "locked" mode. Thus, discharge blocking device **100** may automatically switch to "locked" mode and prevent discharge upon engagement with the magazine housing.

[0113] It may be appreciated that positioning lever **300** and wedge **160** protrude from the back side of cover **110** (adjacent to user identification segment **121**), opposite to top portion **142**, protruding from the frontal side of cover **110** (the side that points toward the barrel end when inserted into the firearm).

[0114] According to some embodiments, discharge blocking device **100** may further include a manual override segment **330** that is configured to allow a user to manually switch between locked and unlocked states, for instance when motor **122** is not responsive, when power source providing power to the control system is lost, and the like. In some embodiments, a user may operate manual override segment **330** using a dedicated key. In some embodiments, a user may connect an external device to control discharge blocking device **100** (e.g., via USB cable), and thereby control the controller, for example managing user settings or upgrading the software.

[0115] Reference is now made to FIGS. **4**A-**4**B, which show the discharge blocking device **100** accommodated in a magazine housing of a compatible firearm **400**, with top portion of firearm **400** removed. FIG. **4**A schematically illustrates a perspective view of discharge blocking device **100** accommodated in the magazine housing of a firearm **400**, and FIG. **4**B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of the same **120**, according to some embodiments of the invention.

[0116] It may be appreciated that the user cannot squeeze the trigger to discharge the firearm (in a locked mode) since, upon insertion into magazine housing of firearm **400**, locking element **140** may prevent any backward movement of trigger bar **440**. In order to allow discharge, the user may change the state of discharge blocking device **100** from "locked" to "unlocked", for example by using user identification segment **121** such that locking element **140** moves towards base **120** and no longer protrudes from the discharge blocking device **100**, and then trigger bar **440** may be operated to discharge the firearm **400**.

[0117] Reference is now made to FIGS. **5**A-**5**B, which show a rotating element discharge blocking device **500** in a locked mode. FIG. **5**A schematically illustrates a right perspective view (with respect to the shooting direction of the firearm) of a rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, and FIG. **5**B schematically illustrates a left side view of the rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, according to some embodiments of the invention.

[0118] It is appreciated that rotating element discharge blocking device **500** (as a safety magazine) according to the

invention is adapted to allow a user, operating a firearm, to block the discharge by having the safety mechanism (within the discharge blocking device) in a locked mode, such that the discharge may be enabled only according to the selection by an authorized user with the safety mechanism. Therefore, in addition to the existing safety selector on the firearm, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may provide further means for controlling the firing mode of the firearm (e.g., locked or unlocked mode), further described hereinafter.

[0119] Discharge blocking device **500** may include a cover **510** having a structure that is compatible with some commercially available magazines for firearms, for instance having a shape and dimensions corresponding to and adapted to be inserted into a magazine housing of, for example, a Glock® handgun. Discharge blocking device **500** may further include a base **520** that at least partially covers a safety mechanism that is configured to block the discharge.

[0120] In some embodiments, base **520** may have a shape protruding with respect to cover **510**, such that easy gripping (of base **520**) by a user operating the firearm may be allowed for insertion into and removal from the firearm. It is, therefore, appreciated that only with the base **520**, the difference from commercially available magazines (for example, a Glock® handgun) may be observed, when the safety magazine is inserted into a firearm.

[0121] In some embodiments, cover **510** may have a top segment **530** that is configured to couple with the magazine housing in a compatible firearm. Top segment **530** may have an opening for insertion of cartridges therein (e.g., in a single column or stacked), such that the cartridge that is last inserted partially protrudes through top segment **530** in order to engage the firearm upon coupling with the magazine housing. Thus, operation similar to regular magazines for firearms may be enabled as rotating element discharge blocking device **500** provides accommodation of cartridges, and also engagement of these cartridges with the corresponding firearm upon coupling.

[0122] In some embodiments, cover **510** may further include a recess **580** that corresponds in shape to an external magazine catch in order to allow locking the position of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** within the magazine housing once the external magazine catch is inserted thereto. Thus, cover **510** may provide features similar to commercially available firearm magazines, as well as enhanced features for blocking discharge upon the selection of an authorized user.

[0123] According to some embodiments, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may further include a positioning switch **550** which is initially in an "open" state and configured to detect accommodation of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** within the magazine housing. Positioning switch **550** (e.g., spring loaded) may be configured to be capable of protruding from base **520**, such that upon insertion into the magazine housing of a firearm, positioning switch **550** may engage the inner wall of the magazine housing and be forced to move into base **520**. Upon accommodation within the magazine housing and detection thereof, positioning switch **550** may move back into base **520** and switch to a "closed" state. In some embodiments, at a "closed" state positioning switch **550** may engage a corresponding positioning sensor **555** (e.g., as shown in FIG. **6**B) that is configured to provide a signal (e.g., to the central controller) corresponding to detected states.

[0124] Upon switching to a "closed" state (i.e., detection of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** within the magazine housing) by positioning switch **550**, a rotating locking element **540** (e.g., as shown in FIGS. **6**A-**6**B) may be automatically operated to move to a "locked" mode and block the trigger bar of the firearm so as to block any discharge until an authorized user switches to "unlocked" mode. For example, upon insertion into a magazine housing, positioning switch **550** may engage the inner wall of the magazine housing and move back into base **520** to engage the positioning sensor **555** (e.g., as shown in FIG. **6**B). A corresponding signal may then be sent to the central controller that rotating element discharge blocking device **500** is in a "closed state" (e.g., within the magazine housing) so as to move rotating projection **542** to a "locked" position blocking the trigger bar. In some embodiments, in a locked position, rotating projection **542** may prevent extraction of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** from the firearm and thereby prevent ejection of discharge blocking device **500** (and replacement with a standard magazine) until returned to unlocked position.

[0125] It should be noted that, initially, positioning switch **550** may be in an "open" state and rotating locking element **540** is in "unlocked" mode, such that upon engagement with the magazine housing positioning switch **550** may switch to "closed" state and thereby rotating projection **542** moved to a "locked" mode. Thus, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may automatically switch to "locked" mode and prevent discharge upon engagement with the magazine housing.

[0126] According to some embodiments, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may further include a user identification segment **521**. User identification segment **521** may be operably coupled to the locking mechanism (e.g., inside base **520**) within rotating element discharge blocking device **500** configured to disable the blocking, i.e., switch to "unlocked" mode upon identification of an authorized user. User identification segment **521** may include biometric user identification (e.g., fingerprint identification), password identification with a dedicated user interface, wireless communication means such as radio frequency or near field communication, or any other identification means (for example buttons to be pressed by the user). In some embodiments, user identification segment **521** may further include storage of ID data for storing ID data of authorized users. In some embodiments, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may further include at least one indicator that is configured to indicate the locking mode of rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, e.g., "locked", "unlocked", "error", etc. In some embodiments, mode of discharge (and thereby change the indication of the indicator) in order to change the mode of discharge blocking device **500**, for instance by placing a finger on a fingerprint sensor and identifying via fingerprint in order to switch the device to an "unlocked" mode. In some embodiments, changing from "unlocked" to "locked" mode may be done automatically by the device when the safety device detects an insertion of safety device into magazine housing.

[0127] It should be noted that user identification segment **521** and indicator may be electrically coupled to the locking mechanism so as to allow control of the locking mode of

rotating element discharge blocking device **500**. In some embodiments, a central controller (e.g., a processing unit) may control the operation of rotating element discharge blocking device **500**. Specifically, such a controller may control switching between "locked" and "unlocked" modes based on input from user identification segment **521**.

[0128] In some non-limiting embodiments, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may further include a power storage unit, e.g., a battery, configured to provide power for the locking mechanism, so as to allow operation of the mechanical elements. In some embodiments, a battery status indicator may also be provided with the indicators. It is appreciated that, upon insertion into a magazine housing, rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may be activated automatically and set to a "locked" state with a rotating projection **542** of locking element **540**, protruding and blocking the trigger bar of the firearm, as further described in FIGS. **7**A-**7**B.

[0129] In some embodiments, the locking mechanism (e.g., within base **520**) may further include a communication unit capable of sending and receiving wireless data (e.g., via Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, or cellular networks). The communication unit may therefore allow a user to set conditions for the discharge blocking device to become locked or unlocked, as may be desired. For example, once the discharge blocking device detects data that indicates that the firearm is inside an authorized area (for instance data from a GPS device), then the locking is removed and the firearm may be used. Alternatively, a dedicated signal may be wirelessly received by the discharge blocking device such that a user may select that in a particular time the locking is removed, no matter who operates the firearm. For example, a training officer at the police academy may wirelessly remove the locking from multiple firearms that are scheduled for practice.

[0130] Reference is now made to FIGS. **6**A-**6**B, which show a cross-sectional view of the rotating element discharge blocking device **500** in an unlocked mode. FIG. **6**A schematically illustrates a right side cross-sectional view (with respect to the shooting direction of the firearm) of the rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, and FIG. **6**B schematically illustrates a left side cross-sectional view of the rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, according to some embodiments of the invention.

[0131] It may be appreciated that a rotating projection **542** of rotating locking element **540**, accommodated within rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, may be configured to be capable of protruding from top segment **130** to block discharge of the firearm. In some embodiments, rotating locking element **540** may be at least partially accommodated within a wall inside cover **510**. When rotating element discharge blocking device **500** is enabled (e.g., in an unlocked mode) the firearm may be immediately operated, where rotating locking element **540** may be configured to allow movement between locked and unlocked states. It is noted that the operation of rotating locking element **540** may be configured to allow rotating locking element **540** to rotatably protrude from rotating element discharge blocking device **500** in order to engage and/or block a compatible trigger bar of the firearm so as to push the trigger bar into a locked position during transition from unlocked state to locked state and thereby block the discharge. It may be appreciated that rotating projection **542** may prevent movement of the trigger bar rearwards, namely towards the back of the barrel of the firearm, and thereby may prevent and/or block the discharge, as further described in FIGS. **7**A-**7**B.

[0132] In various embodiments, rotating locking element **540** may be accommodated within the wall of cover **510**. In some embodiments, rotating locking element **540** may be a rotatable rod configured to rotate rotating projection **542** between locked and unlocked states the rod and accommodated within a corner of cover **510**, thereby occupying minimal space and allowing accommodation of bullets within a dedicated space inside cover **510**, thereby allowing use of standard magazines. It may be appreciated that rotating locking element may rotate about an axis that is aligned with the longitudinal dimension of the cover.

[0133] In various embodiments, rotating locking element **540** may further include a bottom portion **544** that may be in contact with a sensor **591** that is configured to detect movement of bottom portion **544** between locked and unlocked modes, as further described in FIG. **8**. In some embodiments, sensor **591** may be operably coupled to a central controller **610** that is configured to electrically control the operation of discharge blocking device **500**. In some embodiments, in case of electrical malfunction, manual operation of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** may also be possible, as further described hereinafter.

[0134] According to some embodiments, bottom portion **544** may be also in contact with a switching element **590** that is configured to allow switching between locked and unlocked modes. Switching element **590** may be operationally coupled to a motor **522** (e.g., accommodated within base **120**) capable of electrically and/or mechanically moving rotating locking element **540** (as further described in FIG. **8**) between locked and unlocked modes. In some embodiments, rotational movement of switching element **590** may move bottom portion **544** coupled thereto and thereby rotate locking element **540** between locked and unlocked states.

[0135] According to some embodiments, base **520** may include a bottom cover **620** configured to cover a manual override segment that is configured to allow a user to manually switch between locked and unlocked states, for instance when motor **522** is not responsive. In some embodiments, a user may operate the manual override segment using a dedicated key. In some embodiments, a user may connect an external device to control discharge blocking device **500** (e.g., via USB cable), and thereby control the controller, for example managing user settings or upgrading the software.

[0136] Reference is now made to FIGS. **7**A-**7**B, which schematically illustrate a partial perspective view of rotating element discharge blocking device **500** adjacent to a trigger bar **700** in locked and unlocked modes, respectively, according to some embodiments of the invention. In various embodiments, rotation of rotating locking element **540** may rotate rotating projection **542** and thereby allow blocking of trigger bar **700**.

[0137] It may be appreciated that the user cannot squeeze the trigger to discharge the firearm (in a locked mode) since upon insertion into magazine housing of a compatible firearm, rotating projection **542** of rotating locking element **540** may prevent any backward movement of trigger bar **700**. In order to allow discharge, an authorized user may change the state of discharge blocking device **500** from "locked" to "unlocked", for example by using user identification segment **521** such that rotating projection **542** moves towards

cover **510** and no longer projects from the discharge blocking device **500**, and then trigger bar **700** may be operated to discharge the firearm **400**.

[0138] Reference is now made to FIG. **8**, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of rotating element discharge blocking device **500**, showing the locking mechanism within base **520** wherein the cross-section is carried out perpendicular to user identification segment **521**, according to some embodiments of the invention. Base **520** may include a motor gear **822** operably coupled to motor **522**, wherein central controller **610** is configured to send a signal to motor **522** to rotate motor gear **822**. In some embodiments, motor gear **822** may be rotated manually, for instance using the manual override segment.

[0139] In some embodiments, motor gear **822** may be coupled to switching element **590** (e.g., a gear) such that rotation of motor gear **822** may consequently rotate switching element **590**. In some embodiments, motor gear **822** may be operably coupled to bottom portion **544** of rotating locking element **540** such that rotation of motor gear **822** may also move bottom portion **544**. It may be appreciated that FIG. **8** shows rotating element discharge blocking device **500** in an unlocked mode with bottom portion **544** adjacent to motor gear **822**, and a dashed line indicated the position of bottom portion **540***b* in a locked mode, being adjacent to switching element **590**.

[0140] In some embodiments, switching from unlocked mode to locked mode may move motor gear **822** (and consequently rotate switching element **590**) so as to move bottom portion **544** from being adjacent to motor gear **822** to being adjacent to switching element **590**, and vice versa. It may be appreciated that movement of bottom portion **544** may accordingly rotate rotating locking element **540** and thereby rotate rotating projection **542** to switch between locked and unlocked modes.

[0141] Reference is now made to FIG. **9**, which shows a flow chart for a method of blocking discharge in a firearm, according to some embodiments of the invention. The method may include inserting a cover of the magazine into the magazine housing **910** and then engaging a locking element of the magazine with the trigger bar **920**.

[0142] According to some of the various embodiments, a magazine may comprise an elongated tubular body. At least a portion of an upper end of the elongated tubular body may comprise a structure that is compatible with some commercially available magazines for firearms, for instance having a shape and dimensions corresponding to and adapted to be inserted into a magazine well of, for example, a Glock®, Smith& Wesson®, Ruger®, or SIG SAUER® handgun. At least a portion of a lower end of the elongated tubular body may be adapted to at least partially house a locking mechanism, a central controller, a user interface, at least one sensor, at least one indicator, at least one status indicator, a switching element, a motor, a motor gear, a rotor, a ball screw, a linear actuator, a Nitinol wire, a pulley, a lower end of an elongated shaft, combinations thereof, and/or the like.

[0143] Reference is now made to FIG. **10**, which schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver **1000** of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an exterior profile adapted to be closely received in a magazine well of the receiver **1000**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1030**. The magazine may comprise a follower **1076**, and a block element **1042**. The block element **1042** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in a locked condition. The firearm may comprise a trigger bar **1008**. The trigger bar may be movable between a rest position (as shown) and a discharge position. Operation of the firearm may be prevented when the block element **1042** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1042** may be adapted to contact the trigger bar **1008** to prevent motion of the trigger bar **1008**. Extraction of the magazine may be prevented when the block element **1042** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1042** may protrude from the exterior profile to prevent extraction of the magazine. In the first position, the block element **1042** may be adapted to contact a portion of the firearm to prevent extraction of the magazine.

[0144] Reference is now made to FIG. **11**, which schematically illustrates a magazine installed in a receiver **1100** of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an exterior profile adapted to be closely received in a magazine well of the receiver **1100**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1130**. The magazine may comprise a follower **1176**, and a block element (hidden from view due to the top portion of the magazine). The block element may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition. The firearm may comprise a trigger bar **1108**. The trigger bar may be movable between a rest position and a discharge position (as shown). Operation of the firearm may be enabled when the block element is in the second position. In the second position, the block element may be within the exterior profile to enable extraction of the magazine. In the second position, the block element may be adapted to prevent contact with the trigger bar **1108** to enable motion of the trigger bar **1108**. Extraction of the magazine may be enabled when the block element is in the second position.

[0145] Reference is now made to FIG. **12**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1206** installed in a receiver **1200** of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **1206** may comprise a block element. The block element may be a planar element. The block element may comprise a major surface **1248**. The block element may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in a locked condition. The firearm may comprise a trigger bar **1208**. Operation of the firearm may be prevented when the block element is in the first position. In the first position, the block element may be adapted to contact the trigger bar **1208** to prevent motion of the trigger bar **1208**. Extraction of the magazine may be prevented when the block element is in the first position. In the first position, the block element may be adapted to contact a portion of the firearm to prevent extraction of the magazine.

[0146] Reference is now made to FIG. **13**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1306** installed in a receiver **1300** of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine may comprise a block element. The block element may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition. The block element may be a planar element. The block element may comprise

a major surface **1348**. The major surface **1348** may be flush with an external surface of an elongated tubular body of the magazine **1306** when the block element is in the second position. The firearm may comprise a trigger bar **1308**. Operation of the firearm may be enabled when the block element is in the second position. In the second position, the block element may be adapted to prevent contact with the trigger bar **1308** to enable motion of the trigger bar **1308**. Extraction of the magazine may be enabled when the block element is in the second position.

[0147] Reference is now made to FIG. **14**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1406** installed in a frame **1404** of an example firearm and in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the grip module and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1406** may comprise a block element **1442**. The block element **1442** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in a locked condition. Extraction of the magazine **1406** may be prevented when the block element **1442** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element may be adapted to contact a portion of the firearm (e.g. a shelf in the frame **1404**) to prevent extraction of the magazine.

[0148] Reference is now made to FIG. **15**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1506** installed in a frame **1504** of an example firearm and in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the grip module and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1506** may comprise a block element. The block element may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition.

[0149] Reference is now made to FIG. **16**A, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1606** in a locked condition and a trigger element **1602** of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the frame and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1606** may comprise a block element **1642**. The block element **1642** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in a locked condition. The firearm may comprise the trigger element **1602**. The trigger element **1602** may be movable between a rest position (as shown) and a discharge position. For the purposes of this disclosure, the trigger element **1602** may comprise any component employed by the firearm in a discharge sequence including, but not limited to, a trigger, a trigger bar, a hammer, a safety, a firing pin, a firing pin safety, a firing pin safety lever, a sear, a striker, combinations thereof, and/or the like. Operation of the firearm may be prevented when the block element **1642** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1642** may be adapted to contact the trigger element **1602** to prevent motion of the trigger element **1602**. Extraction of the magazine **1606** may be prevented when the block element **1642** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1642** may be adapted to contact a portion of the firearm to prevent extraction of the magazine **1606**.

[0150] Reference is now made to FIG. **16**B, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1606** in an unlocked condition and a trigger element **1602** of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the frame and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1606** may comprise a block element. The block element may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition. The firearm may comprise the trigger element **1602**. The trigger element **1602** may be movable between a rest position (as shown) and a discharge position. Operation of the firearm may be enabled when the block element is in the second position. In the second position, the block element may be adapted to prevent contact with the trigger element **1602** to enable motion of the trigger element **1602**. Extraction of the magazine **1606** may be enabled when the block element is in the second position.

[0151] Reference is now made to FIG. **17**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1706** in a locked condition and a trigger element **1702** of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the frame and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1706** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1730**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **1770**. The upper end **1730** may define an ammunition exit aperture. The magazine **1706** may comprise a block element **1742**. The block element **1742** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in a locked condition. The firearm may comprise a trigger element **1702**. The trigger element **1702** may be movable between a rest position (as shown) and a discharge position. Operation of the firearm may be prevented when the block element **1742** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1742** may be adapted to contact the trigger element **1702** to prevent motion of the trigger element **1702**. Extraction of the magazine **1706** may be prevented when the block element **1742** is in the first position. In the first position, the block element **1742** may be adapted to contact a portion of the firearm to prevent extraction of the magazine.

[0152] Reference is now made to FIG. **18**, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1806** in an unlocked condition and a trigger element **1802** of an example firearm, according to some of the various embodiments. In this example, the frame and other components of the firearm have been removed for illustrative purposes. The magazine **1806** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1830**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **1870**. The upper end **1830** may define an ammunition exit aperture. The magazine **1806** may comprise a block element **1842**. The block element **1842** may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition. The firearm may comprise the trigger element **1802**. Operation of the firearm may be enabled when the block element **1842** is in the second position. In the second position, the block element **1842** may be adapted to prevent contact with the trigger element **1802** to enable motion of the trigger element **1802**. Extraction of the magazine **1806** may be enabled when the block element **1842** is in the second position.

[0153] Reference is now made to FIG. **19**A, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1900** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **1900** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1930**, a lower end **1920**, and a block recess **1946**. The lower end

1920 may be opposed to the upper end **1930**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **1916**, a front wall **1912**, and a rear wall. The magazine **1900** may comprise a block element **1942**. The block element **1942** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **1900** is in a locked condition.

[0154] Reference is now made to FIG. **19**B, which schematically illustrates a magazine **1901** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **1901** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **1930**, a lower end **1920**, and a block recess. The lower end **1920** may be opposed to the upper end **1930**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **1916**, a front wall **1912**, and a rear wall. The magazine **1901** may comprise a block element **1942**. The block element **1942** may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **1901** is in an unlocked condition. The block recess may be configured to house the block element **1942** when in the second position (as shown).

[0155] Reference is now made to FIG. **20**A, which schematically illustrates a magazine **2000** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2000** may comprise an elongated tubular body and a follower **2076**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2030**, a lower end **2020**, and a block recess **2046**. The lower end **2020** may be opposed to the upper end **2030**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2016**, a front wall **2012**, and a rear wall. The magazine **2000** may comprise a block element **2042**. The block element **2042** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2000** is in a locked condition.

[0156] Reference is now made to FIG. **20**B, which schematically illustrates a magazine **2001** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2001** may comprise an elongated tubular body and a follower **2076**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2030**, a lower end **2020**, and a block recess. The lower end **2020** may be opposed to the upper end **2030**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2016**, a front wall **2012**, and a rear wall. The magazine **2001** may comprise a block element **2042**. The block element **2042** may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2001** is in an unlocked condition.

[0157] Reference is now made to FIG. **21**A, which schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine **2100** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2100** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2130** and a lower end **2120**. The lower end **2120** may be opposed to the upper end **2130**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2116**, a front wall **2112**, and a rear wall **2118**. The magazine **2100** may comprise a block element **2142**. The block element **2142** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2100** is in a locked condition.

[0158] Reference is now made to FIG. **21**B, which schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine **2101** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2101** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2130** and a lower end **2120**. The lower end **2120** may be opposed to the upper end **2130**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2116**, a front wall **2112**, and a rear wall **2118**. The magazine **2101** may comprise a block element. The block element may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2101** is in an unlocked condition.

[0159] Reference is now made to FIG. **22**A, which schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine **2200** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2200** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2230** and a lower end **2220**. The lower end **2220** may be opposed to the upper end **2230**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2216**, a front wall **2212**, and a rear wall **2218**. The magazine **2200** may comprise a block element **2242**. The block element **2242** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2200** is in a locked condition.

[0160] Reference is now made to FIG. **22**B, which schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine **2201** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2201** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2230** and a lower end **2220**. The lower end **2220** may be opposed to the upper end **2230**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2216**, a front wall **2212**, and a rear wall **2218**. The magazine **2201** may comprise a block element **2242**. The block element **2242** may be moved into a second position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the magazine **2201** is in an unlocked condition.

[0161] Reference is now made to FIG. **23**A, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a lower portion of a magazine **2300**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2300** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise a lower end **2320**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2316**, a front wall **2312**, and a rear wall **2318**. The magazine **2300** may comprise an elongated shaft **2340**. The elongated shaft **2340** may comprise a lower end connected to a locking mechanism of the magazine **2300**. The elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage closely receiving the elongated shaft **2340**. The elongated shaft **2340** may be proximate to one of the opposed sidewalls **2316** and to the front wall **2312**.

[0162] Reference is now made to FIG. **23**B, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a lower portion of a magazine **2301**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2301** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise a lower end **2320**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **2316**, a front wall **2312**, and a rear wall **2318**. The magazine **2301** may comprise an elongated shaft **2340**. The elongated shaft **2340** may comprise a lower end connected to a locking mechanism of the magazine **2301**. The elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage closely receiving the elongated shaft **2340**. The elongated shaft **2340** may be proximate to the rear wall **2318**.

[0163] Reference is now made to FIG. **24**, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine

2400 in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2400** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2430** and a lower end **2420**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **2470**. The magazine **2400** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **2420** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a locked condition and an unlocked condition (as shown). The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor **2426**. The rotor **2426** may be movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The magazine **2400** may comprise an elongated shaft **2440**. The elongated shaft **2440** may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The lower end of the elongated shaft **2440** may be connected to the rotor **2426**. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2440** may be proximate the upper end **2430** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2400** may comprise a block element **2442**. The block element **2442** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2440**. The block element **2442** may be an elongated element extending away from the elongated shaft **2440**. The block element **2442** may be adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0164] According to some of the various embodiments, a magazine may comprise a locking mechanism. The locking mechanism may comprise a rotating mechanism or rotor. The rotating mechanism may be movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in a locked condition and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in an unlocked condition. The rotating mechanism may be connected to an elongated shaft. Persons of ordinary skill in the art will recognize other locking mechanism configurations adapted to rotate the elongated shaft between a locked condition and an unlocked condition. For example, the locking mechanism may comprise a ball screw adapted to threadably connect to the elongated shaft. The ball screw may be driven by a linear actuator. For example, the locking mechanism may comprise a Nitinol wire adapted to contract with electrical current. The Nitinol wire may be connected to one or more pulleys. The Nitinol wire and/or one of the one or more pulleys may be connected to the elongated shaft. A torsional spring may be employed to return the elongated shaft to the previous condition (locked or unlocked).

[0165] Reference is now made to FIG. **25**, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine **2500** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2500** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2530** and a lower end **2520**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **2570**. The magazine **2500** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **2520** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a locked condition and an unlocked condition (as shown). The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor **2526**. The rotor **2526** may be movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The magazine **2500** may comprise an elongated shaft **2540**. The elongated shaft **2540** may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The lower end of the elongated shaft **2540** may be connected to the rotor **2526**. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2540** may be proximate the upper end **2530** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2500** may comprise a block element **2542**. The block element **2542** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2540**. The block element **2542** may be an elongated element extending away from the elongated shaft **2540**. The block element **2542** may be adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0166] Reference is now made to FIG. **26**, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine **2600** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2600** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2630** and a lower end **2620**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **2670**. The magazine **2600** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **2620** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a locked condition and an unlocked condition (as shown). The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor **2626**. The rotor **2626** may be movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The locking mechanism may comprise a user interface **2624**. The user interface **2624** may be adapted to enable a user to select between the locked condition and the unlocked condition. The magazine **2600** may comprise an elongated shaft **2640**. The elongated shaft **2640** may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The lower end of the elongated shaft **2640** may be connected to the rotor **2626**. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2640** may be proximate the upper end **2630** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2600** may comprise a block element **2642**. The block element **2642** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2640**. The block element **2642** may be an elongated element extending away from the elongated shaft **2640**. The block element **2642** may be adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0167] Reference is now made to FIG. **27**A, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine **2700** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2700** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2730** and a lower end **2720**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **2770**. The magazine **2700** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **2730** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a

locked condition (as shown) and an unlocked condition. The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor **2726**. The rotor **2726** may be movable between a first rotational position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The locking mechanism may comprise a user interface **2724**. The magazine **2700** may comprise an elongated shaft **2740**. The elongated shaft **2740** may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The lower end of the elongated shaft **2740** may be connected to the rotor **2726**. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2740** may be proximate the upper end **2730** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2700** may comprise a block element **2742**. The block element **2742** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2740**. The block element **2742** may be adapted to move between a first position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0168] Reference is now made to FIG. **27**B, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of a magazine **2701** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2701** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2730** and a lower end **2720**. The elongated tubular body may define an ammunition compartment **2770**. The magazine **2701** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **2720** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a locked condition (as shown) and an unlocked condition. The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor **2726**. The rotor **2726** may be movable between a first rotational position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The magazine **2701** may comprise an elongated shaft **2740**. The elongated shaft **2740** may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The lower end of the elongated shaft **2740** may be connected to the rotor **2726**. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2740** may be proximate the upper end **2730** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2701** may comprise a block element **2742**. The block element **2742** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2740**. The block element **2742** may be adapted to move between a first position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0169] Reference is now made to FIG. **28**A, which schematically illustrates a top view of a magazine **2800** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2800** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2830**. The magazine **2800** may comprise a block element **2842**. The block element **2842** may be adapted to move between a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0170] Reference is now made to FIG. **28**B, which schematically illustrates a top view of a magazine **2801** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2801** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2830**. The magazine **2801** may comprise a block element. The block element may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0171] Reference is now made to FIG. **29**A, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine **2900** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2900** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2930**. The magazine **2900** may comprise an elongated shaft **2940**. The elongated shaft **2940** may comprise an upper end. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2940** may be proximate the upper end **2930** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2900** may comprise a block element **2942**. The block element **2942** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2940**. The block element **2942** may be adapted to move between a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0172] Reference is now made to FIG. **29**B, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine **2901** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **2901** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **2930**. The magazine **2901** may comprise an elongated shaft **2940**. The elongated shaft **2940** may comprise an upper end. The upper end of the elongated shaft **2940** may be proximate the upper end **2930** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **2901** may comprise a block element **2942**. The block element **2942** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **2940**. The block element **2942** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0173] Reference is now made to FIG. **30**A, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine **3000** in a locked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3000** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3030**. The magazine **3000** may comprise an elongated shaft **3040**. The elongated shaft **3040** may comprise an upper end. The upper end of the elongated shaft **3040** may be proximate the upper end **3030** of the elongated tubular body. The magazine **3000** may comprise a block element **3042**. The block element **3042** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **3040**. The block element **3042** may be adapted to move between a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0174] Reference is now made to FIG. **30**B, which schematically illustrates a cross-sectional top view of a magazine **3001** in an unlocked condition, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3001** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3030**. The magazine **3001** may comprise an elongated shaft **3040**. The elongated shaft **3040** may comprise an upper end. The upper end of the elongated shaft **3040** may be proximate the upper end **3030** of the

elongated tubular body. The magazine **3001** may comprise a block element **3042**. The block element **3042** may be connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft **3040**. The block element **3042** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0175] Reference is now made to FIG. **31**, which schematically illustrates an exploded view of a magazine **3100**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3100** may comprise an elongated tubular body and a follower **3176**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3130**, a lower end **3120**, and a block recess **3146**. The magazine **3100** may comprise an elongated shaft **3140**, a block element **3142**, and a rotor **3126**. The elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage **3156**. The shaft passage **3156** may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3140**. The block element **3142** may define a block passage. The block passage may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3140**. The rotor **3126** may define a rotor passage. The rotor passage may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3140**.

[0176] Reference is now made to FIG. **32**, which schematically illustrates an exploded view of a magazine **3200**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3200** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3230**, a lower end **3220**, and a block recess **3246**. The magazine **3200** may comprise an elongated shaft **3240**, a block element **3242**, and a rotor **3226**. The elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage. The shaft passage may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3240**. The block element **3242** may define a block passage. The block passage may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3240**. The rotor **3226** may define a rotor passage. The rotor passage may be adapted to closely receive the elongated shaft **3240**.

[0177] According to some of the various embodiments, a magazine may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end and a lower end. The magazine may comprise at least one status indicator. The at least one status indicator may be disposed to the lower end. The at least one status indicator may be movable between a first position and a second position based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The at least one status indicator may be adapted to provide a tactile indication of its condition. The condition of at least one status indicator may be based on its position, the condition of the locking mechanism, the position of a block element, combinations thereof, and/or the like. For example, a status indicator may be adapted to project past the exterior surface of the elongated body in a first position, and retract beneath the exterior surface of the elongated body in a second position. For example, a status indicator may comprise a pivot and a lever. The lever may be adapted to pivot through a range of degrees (e.g. a range of **45** or **90** degrees) from the first position to the second position. A plurality of status indicators may be disposed to the lower end. The plurality of status indicators may be adapted to accommodate a variety of user firearm grip positions and/or ambidextrous use of a firearm with the magazine installed. The at least one status indicator may be coupled to at least one indicator. The at least one indicator may be adapted to present one of: a safe condition and a fire condition. The condition of the at least one indicator may be based on the condition of the locking mechanism, the position of the block element, combinations thereof, and/or the like.

[0178] Reference is now made to FIGS. **33**A, **33**B, and **33**C, which schematically illustrate various views of a magazine (e.g. **3300**, **3301**, and **3302**) in an unlocked condition with a status indicator **3328**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine (e.g. **3300**, **3301**, and **3302**) may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3330** and a lower end **3320**. The magazine (e.g. **3300**, **3301**, and **3302**) may comprise a block element **3342** and the status indicator **3328**. The status indicator may be movable between a first position (as shown) and a second position based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The block element **3342** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position (as shown) when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The magazine (e.g. **3301** and **3302**) may comprise a user interface **3324**.

[0179] Reference is now made to FIG. **34**, which schematically illustrates an isometric view of a magazine **3400** in a locked condition with a status indicator **3428**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3400** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3430** and a lower end **3420**. The magazine **3400** may comprise a block element **3442** and the status indicator **3428**. The status indicator may be movable between a first position and a second position (as shown) based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The block element **3442** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition (as shown), and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0180] Reference is now made to FIGS. **35**A, **35**B, and **35**C, which schematically illustrate various views of a magazine (e.g. **3300**, **3301**, and **3302**) in a locked condition with a plurality of status indicators **3528**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine (e.g. **3500**, **3501**, and **3502**) may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3530** and a lower end **3520**. The magazine (e.g. **3500**, **3501**, and **3502**) may comprise a block element **3542** and the plurality of status indicators **3528**. The plurality of status indicators may be movable between a first position (as shown) and a second position based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The block element **3542** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition (as shown), and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The magazine (e.g. **3501** and **3502**) may comprise a user interface **3524**.

[0181] Reference is now made to FIGS. **36**A and **36**B, which schematically illustrate various views of a magazine (e.g. **3600** and **3601**) in a locked condition with a status indicator **3628**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine (e.g. **3600** and **3601**) may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3630** and a lower end **3620**. The magazine (e.g. **3600** and **3601**) may comprise a block element **3642** and the status indicator **3628**. The status

indicator may be movable between a first position (as shown) and a second position based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The block element **3642** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition (as shown), and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The magazine (e.g. **3600** and **3601**) may comprise a user interface **3624**.

[0182] Reference is now made to FIG. **37**, which schematically illustrates a side view of a magazine **3700** in a locked condition with a status indicator **3728**, according to some of the various embodiments. The magazine **3700** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **3730** and a lower end **3720**. The magazine **3700** may comprise a block element **3742** and the status indicator **3728**. The status indicator may be movable between a first position (as shown) and a second position based on whether a locking mechanism is in a locked condition or an unlocked condition. The block element **3742** may be adapted to move between a first position when a locking mechanism is in the locked condition (as shown), and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The magazine **3700** may comprise a user interface **3724**.

[0183] Reference is now made to FIG. **38**, which schematically illustrates a lock for a pistol **4000** of the present invention in a locked condition. The lock for a pistol **4000** may comprise an elongated tubular body. The elongated tubular body may comprise an exterior profile adapted to be closely received in a magazine well **5002** of a host firearm (pistol **5000** shown in FIGS. **41-44**. The elongated tubular body may comprise an upper end **4030**, a lower end **4020**, and a block recess **4046**. The lower end **4020** may be opposed to the upper end **4030**. The elongated tubular body may comprise opposed sidewalls **4016**, a front wall **4012**, and a rear wall **4010** (visible in FIGS. **41-44**). The lock for a pistol **4000** may comprise a block element **4042**. The block element **4042** may be moved into a first position (as shown) when a locking mechanism of the lock for a pistol **4000** is in a locked condition. In the first position, the block element **4042** may protrude from the exterior profile to prevent extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000**. The block element **4042** may be moved into a second position (shown in FIG. **43**) when a locking mechanism of the lock for a pistol **4000** is in an unlocked condition. In the second position, the block element **4042** may be flush with or within the exterior profile to enable extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000**. The block element **4042** may be a planar element comprising a major surface **4048**. The major surface **4048** may be flush with an external surface **4006** of the elongated tubular body of the lock for a pistol **4000** when the block element **4042** is in the second position. The block element **4042** may define a block passage **4044**. The block passage may be adapted to closely receive an elongated shaft.

[0184] Reference is now made to FIGS. **39**A-**40**E, which schematically illustrate the block element **4042** of the lock for a pistol **4000** (FIGS. **39**A-E) and block element **2042** of the magazine **2000** (FIGS. **40**A-E) for comparison purposes. Both the block element **4042** and block element **2042** have functional similarities in that they prevent operation of a host firearm (pistol **5000** illustrated in FIGS. **41-44**) when they are in the locked condition by blocking the movement of the trigger element **5012** of the host firearm. Both the block element **4042** and block element **2042** also enable operation of the host firearm when they are in the unlocked condition by enabling movement of the trigger element **5012** of the host firearm. Both the block element **4042** and block element **2042** also are connected proximate to the upper end of an elongated shaft, which rotates the connected block element between the locked and unlocked conditions. Both the block element **4042** and block element **2042** also prevent extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000** in the case of block element **4042** and the magazine **2000** in the case of block element **2042** from the host firearm's magazine well **5002** when in the locked condition, and enable extraction from the host firearm's magazine well **5002** when in the unlocked condition. However, it should be appreciated that the block element **4042** not only prevents movement of the trigger element of the host firearm when in the locked condition, but also prevents movement of the host firearm's barrel block **5008** to the lowered disengaged position when in the locked condition, thereby preventing movement of the host firearm's slide **5006** to the loading position. This additional functionality of keeping the slide **5006** closed is enabled in part by the greater height of block element **4042** relative to block element **2042**.

[0185] Reference is now made to FIGS. **41** & **44**, which schematically illustrates the lock for a pistol **4000** of the present invention in a locked condition. The lock for a pistol is installed in the magazine well **5002** of a host firearm (pistol **5000**). The pistol **5000** also has a barrel **5004**, slide **5006**, barrel block **5008** having a bottom **5010**, and a trigger element **5012** including a trigger **5014** connected to a trigger bar **5016**. The trigger element is movable between a rest position and a discharge position. The slide **5006** is operable to reciprocate between a forward battery position and a rear loading position. The barrel **5004** and slide **5006** are illustrated in battery with the block element **4042** deployed in the first position (the locked condition). In the first position, the block element **4042** prevents motion of the trigger element **5012** when the trigger **5014** is pulled by contacting the trigger bar **5016**. Thus, the pistol **5000** is rendered inoperable even if a round is chambered in the barrel **5004**. Furthermore, the block element **4042** in the first position prevents extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000** from the magazine well **5002** of pistol **5000**.

[0186] Reference is now made to FIG. **42**, which schematically illustrates the lock for a pistol **4000** of the present invention in a locked condition. The lock for a pistol is installed in the magazine well **5002** of a host firearm (pistol **5000**). The barrel **5004** and slide **5006** are illustrated in a partially open condition as would occur when a user attempted to manually cycle the slide **5006**. The block element **4042** is deployed in the first position (the locked condition). In the first position, the block element **4042** blocks further rearward movement of the barrel **5004** and slide **5006** by contact occurring between the bottom **5010** of the barrel block **5008** and the block element **4042**. This contact prevents the barrel **5004** from being movable with respect to the slide **5006** from an elevated engaged condition in which the barrel **5004** prevents movement of the slide **5006** to the rear loading position to a lowered disengaged position in which movement of the slide to the rear loading position is enabled. Thus, the pistol **5000** is further rendered inoperable because the slide cannot travel sufficiently rearward to reach the rear loading position. Furthermore, the

block element **4042** in the first position prevents extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000** from the magazine well **5002** of pistol **5000**.

[0187] Reference is now made to FIG. **43**, which schematically illustrates the lock for a pistol **4000** of the present invention in an unlocked condition. The lock for a pistol is installed in the magazine well **5002** of a host firearm (pistol **5000**). The barrel **5004** and slide **5006** are illustrated in a fully unlocked position as would occur when a user successfully manually cycled the slide **5006**. The block element **4042** is retracted in the second position (the unlocked condition). In the second position, the block element **4042** has rotated relative to the first position so the major surface **4048** is flush with an external surface **4006** of the elongated tubular body of the lock for a pistol **4000**. With the block element **4042** in the second position, sufficient clearance exists between bottom **5010** of the barrel block **5008** and the block element **4042**. Thus, the barrel **5004** can move with respect to the slide **5006** from an elevated engaged condition shown in FIGS. **41** & **42** in which the barrel **5004** prevents movement of the slide **5006** to the rear loading position to a lowered disengaged position shown in FIG. **43** in which movement of the slide to the rear loading position is enabled. Furthermore, the block element **4042** in the second position enables extraction of the lock for a pistol **4000** from the magazine well **5002** of pistol **5000**. Once the lock for a pistol **4000** is extracted from the magazine well **5002**, a loaded magazine can be inserted into the magazine well **5002** to make the pistol operable.

[0188] It should be appreciated that the elongated tubular body of the lock for a pistol **4000** is a lock for a pistol only, with no option to store and feed ammunition. However, despite omitting an ammunition compartment for receiving ammunition and an opening in the upper end **4030** for feeding ammunition, the lock for a pistol **4000** has a locking mechanism and user interface identical to those associated with the various embodiments of the magazine illustrated in FIGS. **1-37**. Specifically the lock for a pistol **4000** may comprise a locking mechanism connected to the lower end **4020** of the elongated tubular body. The locking mechanism may comprise a locked condition and an unlocked condition. The locking mechanism may comprise a rotor. The rotor may be movable between a first rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second rotational position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition. The second rotational position may be different than the first rotational position. The locking mechanism may comprise a user interface. The user interface may be adapted to enable a user to select between the locked condition and the unlocked condition. The lock for a pistol may comprise an elongated shaft. The elongated shaft may comprise a lower end and an upper end opposed to the lower end. The elongated tubular body may define a shaft passage closely receiving the elongated shaft. The elongated shaft may be proximate to one of the opposed sidewalls **4016** and to the front wall **4012**. The lower end of the elongated shaft may be connected to the rotor. The upper end of the elongated shaft may be proximate the upper end **4030** of the elongated tubular body. The block element **4042** may be operably connected proximate to the upper end of the elongated shaft, thus making the block element **4042** operably connected to the locking mechanism. The block element **4042** may be an elongated element extending away from the elongated shaft. The block element **4042** may be adapted to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition.

[0189] According to some embodiments, an elongated shaft may be a straight element. An elongated shaft may be a cylindrical element. An elongated shaft may comprise a circular cross section. An upper end of the elongated shaft may be closer to an upper end of an elongated tubular body of a magazine than to a lower end of the elongated tubular body of the magazine.

[0190] According to some embodiments, a block element may extend laterally from an elongated shaft. A block element may extend radially from an elongated shaft. A block element may extend transversely from an elongated shaft. A block element may extend perpendicularly from an elongated shaft.

[0191] According to some embodiments, a user interface may be operably coupled to a locking mechanism. The user interface may comprise a user identification segment. The user interface may comprise a manual override segment, which may include use of a mechanical key in a lock cylinder. The lock cylinder may be located close the center of the elongated tube body while keeping the elongated shaft at the extremity of the elongated tube body, yet linked to and controlled by the lock cylinder.

[0192] The user interface may also include ability to control the status (rotational position) of the locking mechanism through the use of RFID (Radio-Frequency IDentification) communication and authentication. This approach would involve an item having an embedded, passive RFID tag which is preprogrammed to communicate with the user interface to establish authorization to unlock the locking mechanism. Once the user interface has detected the presence of the authorized tag, this will either trigger, or allow the user to trigger, a status change from locked to unlocked or vice versa. There are multiple options for how such a system could be set up:

[0193] Upon the RFID tag coming within a predefined radius of the user interface antennae (i.e. 18 inches), the user interface will recognize the tag's presence and change the locking mechanism's status from locked to unlocked. This method of operation could be used by a homeowner who has a loaded handgun stored in an area of their house and wants to be sure the handgun cannot be used by anyone other than those who are wearing an embedded RFID tag.

[0194] Upon the RFID tag coming within a predefined radius of the user interface antennae, the user interface will recognize the tag's presence and wait for an additional user input to change the locking mechanism's status. This version would also include one or more buttons on the portion of the user interface which protrudes from the frame of the pistol.

[0195] A RFID tag is embedded into a holster. While the pistol is holstered, the locking mechanism is locked. Upon removal from the holster, the locking mechanism will unlock and remain unlocked until the user interface can no longer communicate with the RFID tag. In the event that the pistol goes outside of a predetermined radius, the user interface will cause the locking mechanism to lock again. This could be used by a civilian or law enforcement officer user who carries a handgun and wants to have quick access to a live pistol when unholstered, but confidence that the pistol cannot be used against them if it is dropped or stolen from them.

[0196] A more specific application of the RFID functionality would be in a commercial range facility where firearms are being loaned/rented. One scenario would be that upon renting a firearm, the customer has their membership card scanned at the rental counter. This is then used to assign that customer one or more magazines. The magazines are programmed via a control station so as to only be allowed to function in a specific shooting lane at the range. This would be done similarly to how RFID room keys are programmed at hotels, except that instead of programming a code onto the magazine, the system captures the unique signature of the magazine. This information is then sent to a transmitter in the shooting lane. The customer is handed their firearm and one or more magazines which are locked. This means they cannot be inserted into the firearm and used until they are unlocked. Once the customer arrives at the shooting lane, they will sign in with their membership card, and the transmitter in the shooting lane will emit a signal which will authorize the locking mechanism in the magazine to unlock. The customer can then continue to use the magazines for a predetermined time (however much time they rented at the counter) and only in a given location as the signal transmitter will broadcast the signal at a strength which will allow the magazine to remain unlocked only when the customer is standing in the rented shooting lane. A further improvement to this system would be to include an ability to track each magazine within the facility.

[0197] In addition to controlling which shooting lane the magazine can be used in, there is an option to install a radio transmitter downrange which will send out a high frequency signal that must be received by the magazine in a predefined orientation in order to allow the locking mechanism to unlock. This will effectively enforce a narrow cone emanating from the shooting position through which the shooter will be able to fire the weapon. Any movement of the receiver inside of the baseplate of the magazine out of the acceptable signal window will cause the locking mechanism to lock the magazine and prevent the host firearm from being fired. This practice is commonly known and referred to as the "180 plane" which is an attempt to ensure that each shooter uses proper muzzle discipline and keeps their firearm pointed downrange at all times. This practice is also known to be frequently disregarded by many and is a major safety concern.

[0198] Expanding upon the RFID functionality would be the addition of Bluetooth/Wi-Fi connectivity. Some advantages to Bluetooth/Wi-Fi when compared to RFID are that they both have an increased communication range and systems using these methods would have the ability to control multiple units. Two potential scenarios are laid out below detailing how a system could be structured and used.

[0199] A training facility has a class of students where the student to instructor ratio is greater than 5:1. This type of class structure can pose significant challenges for an instructor who wants to be able to have multiple students firing at once while maintaining a safe environment. This is especially true when the students are either new to firearms entirely or are very novice shooters, and it becomes even more dangerous when the training regimen is designed to mimic real world scenarios where there are high levels of stress on the students. A Range Management System would provide the Range Safety Officer (RSO) with the ability to monitor the entire range for unsafe behavior and, with the press of a button, simultaneously disable all of the firearms on the line which are using a magazine. The instructor cadre can then provide correction to the students who need it, and the class can continue safely. This would be compared to the current system where the RSO would need to yell a command to cease fire and hope the students (who are already under stress from the training itself) hear, comprehend and respond to his command to cease fire before the unsafe act which triggered the command results in an injury.

[0200] A facility such as a school or a correctional institution is a place where the safety and security of those inside of the building is of the utmost importance. At the same time, there are certain roadblocks in place which prevent responsible employees/officers from being able to carry a firearm in each. This same situation holds true in many public places throughout society today. The magazine with Wi-Fi connectivity could provide a solution which would allow for the carrying and/or staging of loaded firearms inside the facility while ensuring that they cannot be used unless activated by a designated authority. This can be done on a facility wide scale or in a specific building, wing or even room. Further control can also be employed by requiring authorized users to wear a RFID tag which will ensure once the magazine is unlocked, the host firearm can only be used by authorized personnel.

[0201] A person of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that components shown in and described with respect to the figures are provided by way of example only. Numerous other configurations are possible. Accordingly, embodiments of the invention should not be construed as being limited to any particular configuration. It will be appreciated that while the disclosure may in certain instances describe a single example embodiment, there may be other configurations, shapes, and orientations of features and components without departing from example embodiments of the invention. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize the applicability of embodiments of the invention to various firearms and magazines known in the art. A person of ordinary skill in the art may recognize that embodiments of the invention may comprise stamped, molded, and/or 3D printed parts comprising one material or a plurality of materials. Embodiments of the invention should not be construed as being limited to any particular firearm or firearm component. Additionally, it is to be recognized that, while the invention has been described above in terms of one or more embodiments, it is not limited thereto. Various features, aspects, and/or components of the above described embodiments may be used individually or jointly, and embodiments not specifically described may include various features described herein. Accordingly, the claims set forth below should be construed in view of the full breadth of the embodiments as disclosed herein.

[0202] Unless explicitly stated, the method embodiments described herein are not constrained to a particular order in time or chronological sequence. Additionally, some of the described method elements can be skipped, or they can be repeated, during a sequence of operations of a method.

We claim:

1. A magazine for a pistol having a magazine well, a slide operable to reciprocate between a forward battery position and a rear loading position, and a barrel with a barrel block movable with respect to the slide between an elevated engaged condition in which the barrel prevents movement of the slide to the rear loading position and a lowered disen-

gaged position in which movement of the slide to the rear loading position is enabled, the magazine comprising:

an elongated body configured to be closely and removably received in the magazine well;

the elongated body defining an ammunition passage configured to receive a supply of ammunition;

the elongated body having feed lips at an upper end configured to retain the supply of ammunition;

a restriction facility connected to the elongated body and having a locked condition and an unlocked condition;

a follower within the ammunition passage;

the locking mechanism being below the follower;

the locking mechanism having a user interface operable to enable a user to select between the locked condition and the unlocked condition;

a block element operably connected to the locking mechanism; and

the block element operable to move between a first position when the locking mechanism is in the locked condition in which movement of a firearm trigger is prevented, and a second position when the locking mechanism is in the unlocked condition in which movement of the trigger is enabled.

* * * * *