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(54) **THERMAL DAMPENING DEVICE FOR A
BEVERAGE CONTAINER**

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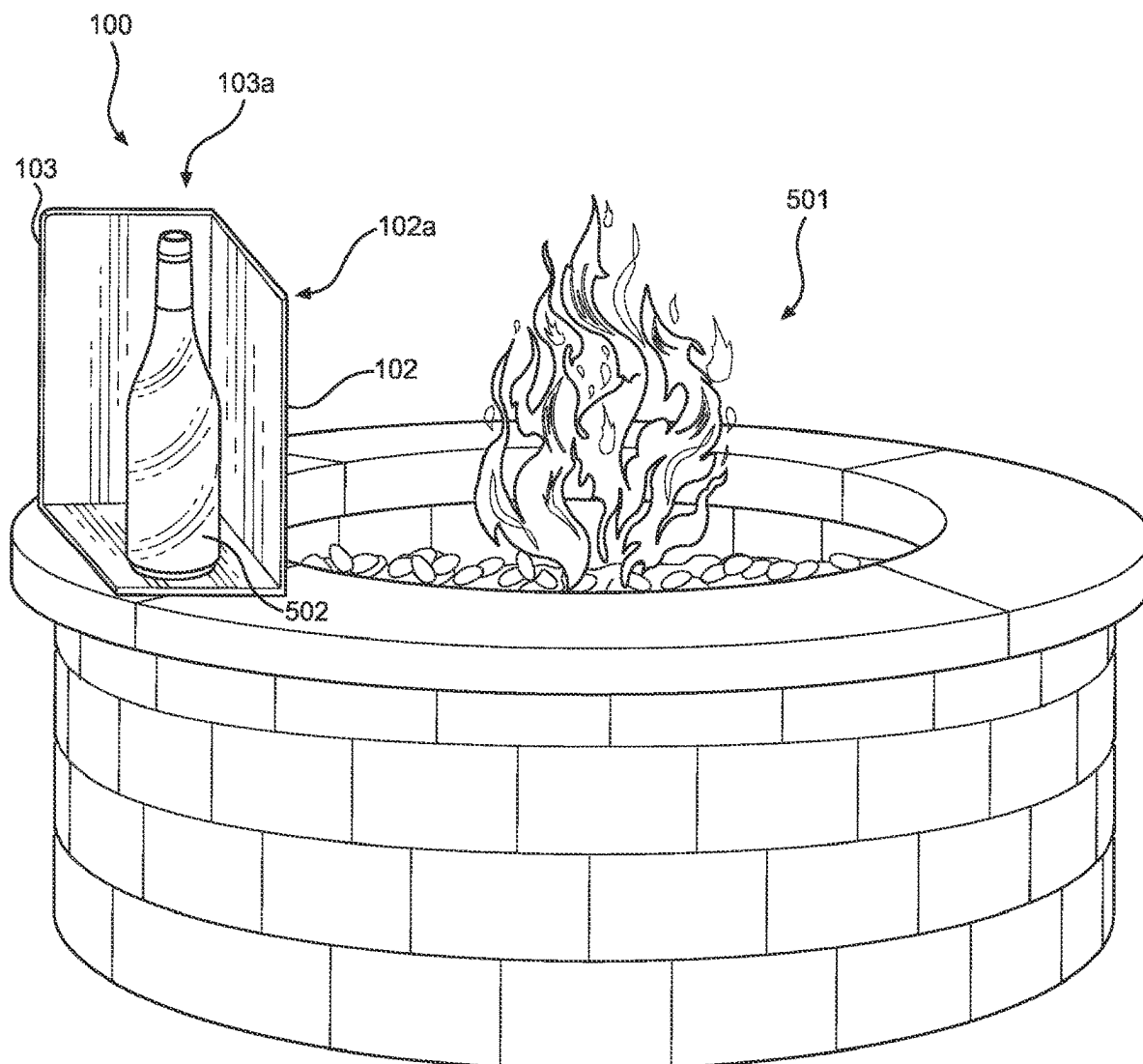
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A thermal dampening device for a beverage container is shown and described. The thermal dampening device includes a base. The base has a first sidewall and a second sidewall rising therefrom. The first sidewall and the second sidewall are made up of at least two layers of material. At least one of the two layers is a thermal dampening layer.



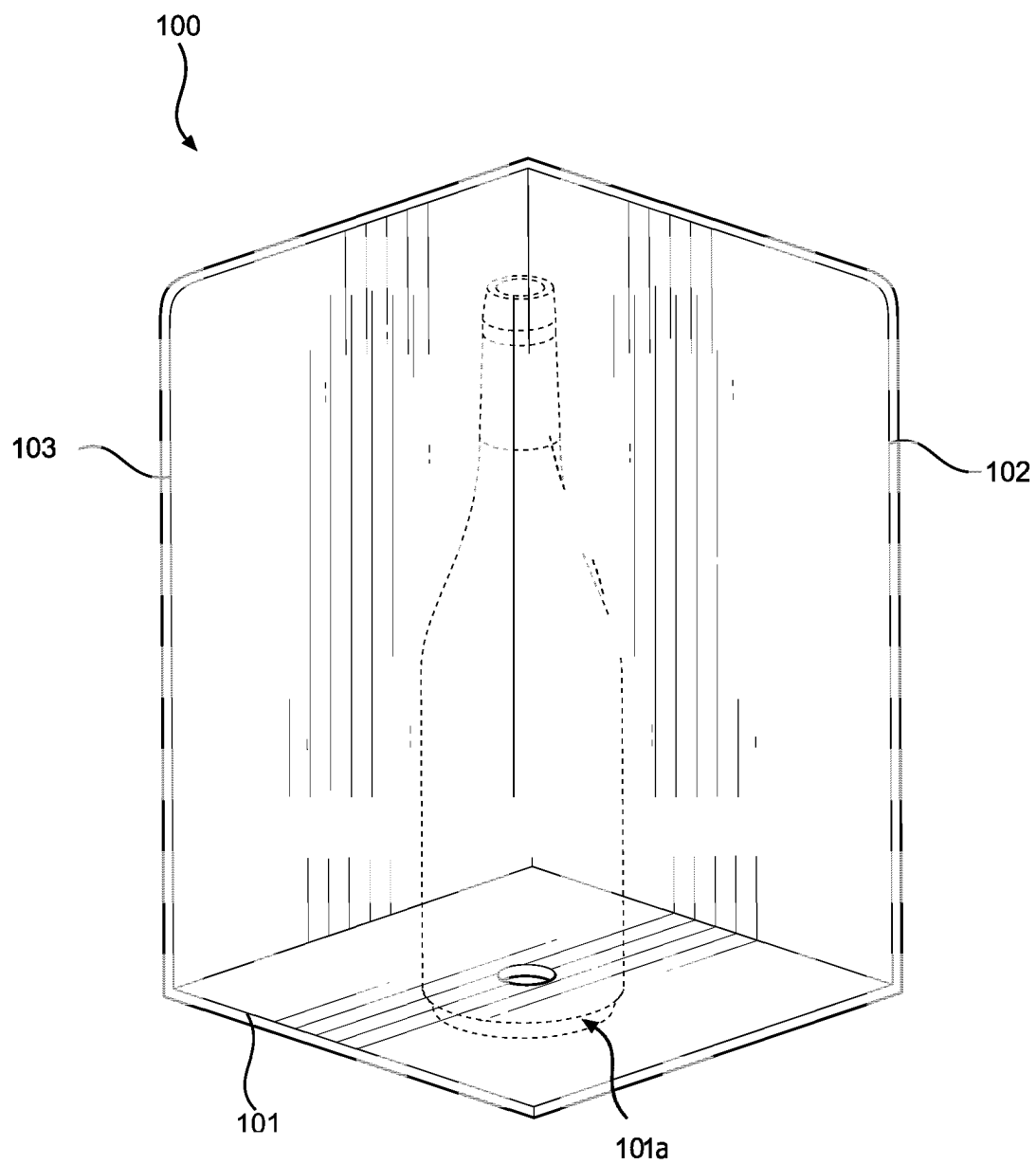


FIG. 1

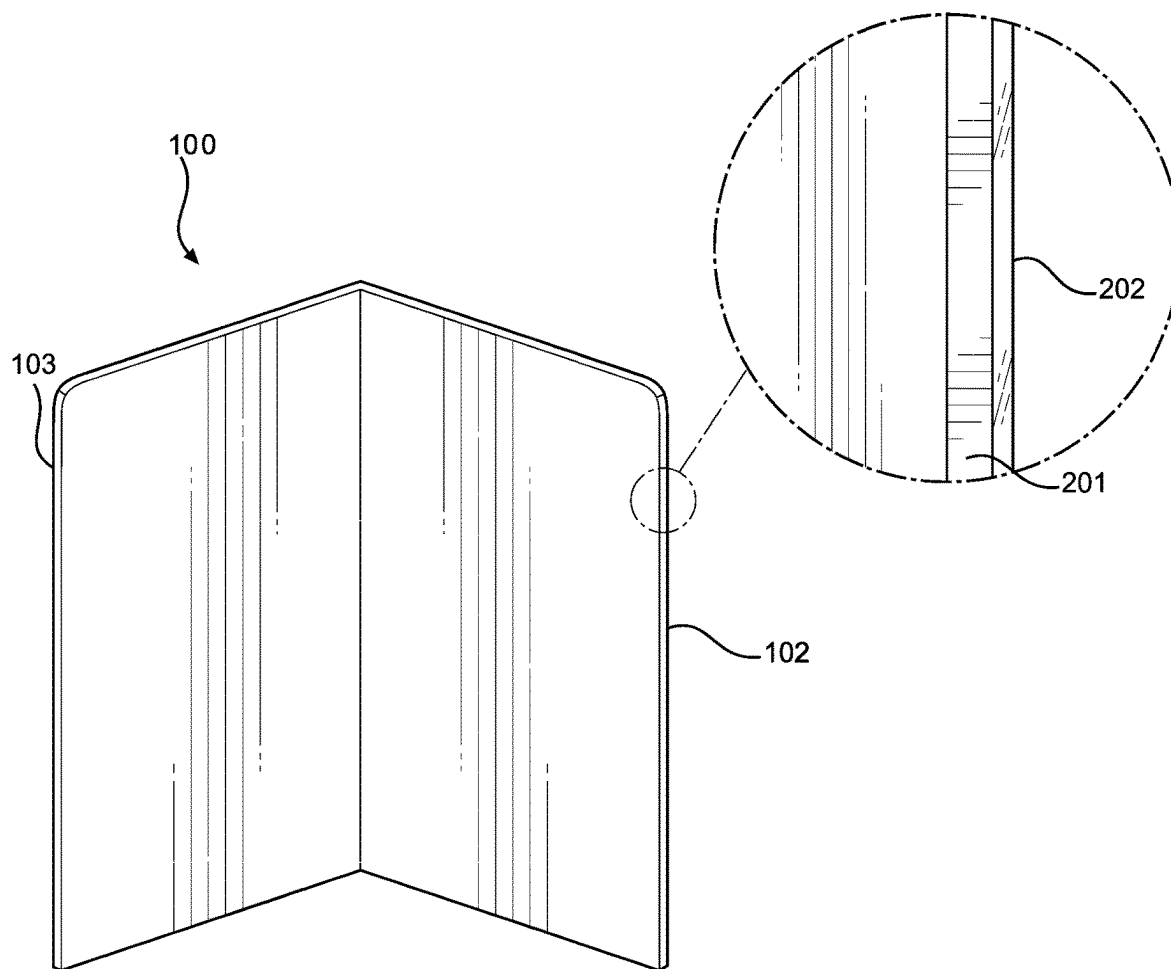


FIG. 2

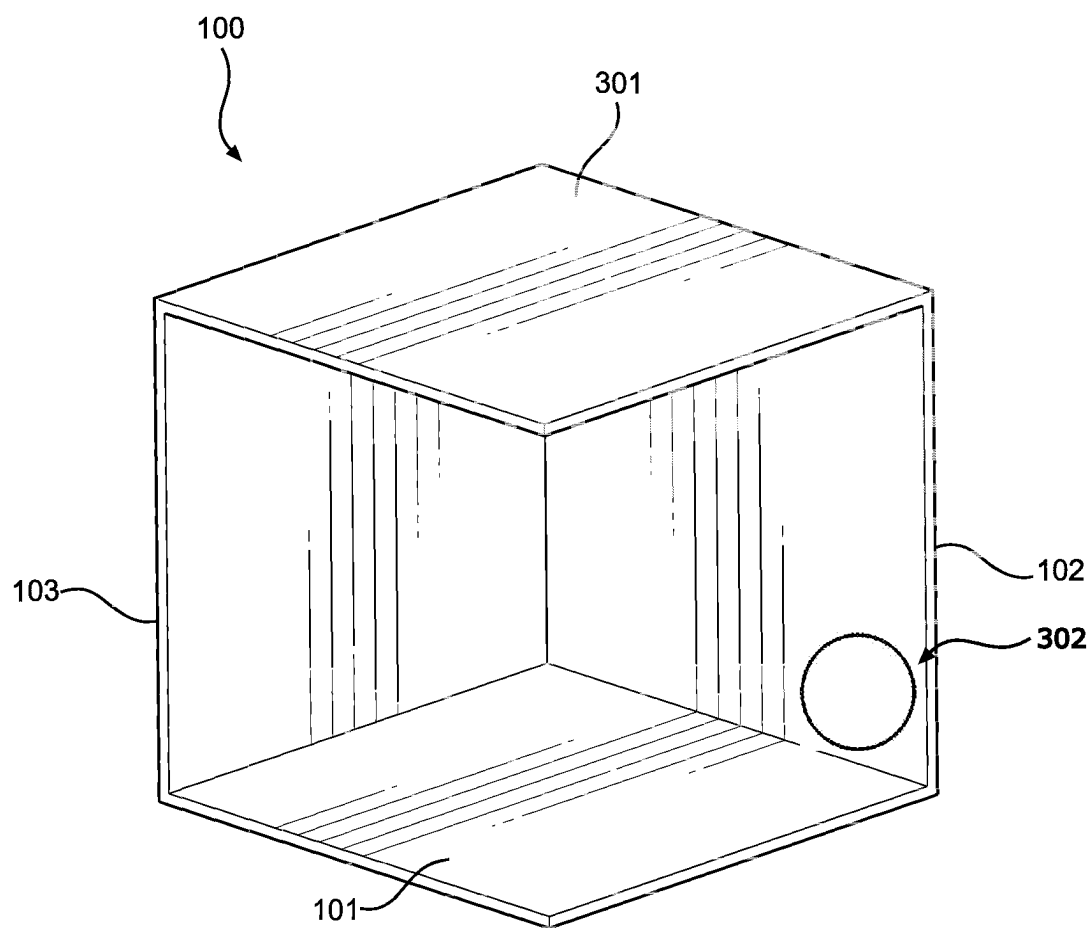


FIG. 3

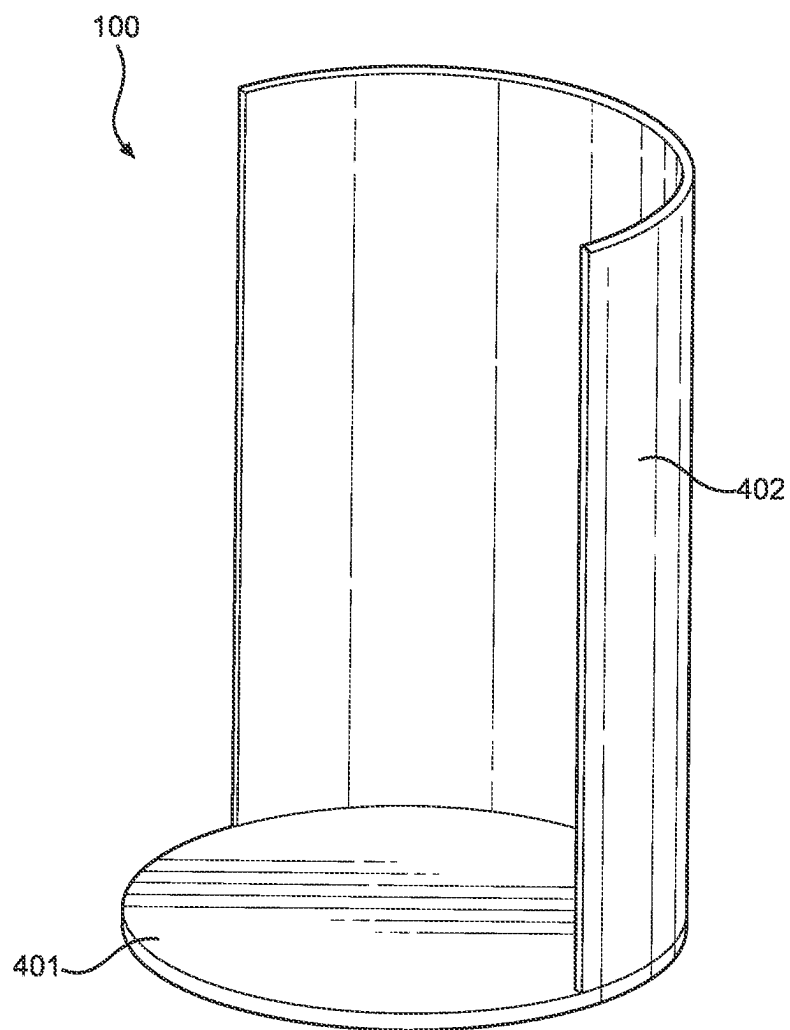


FIG. 4

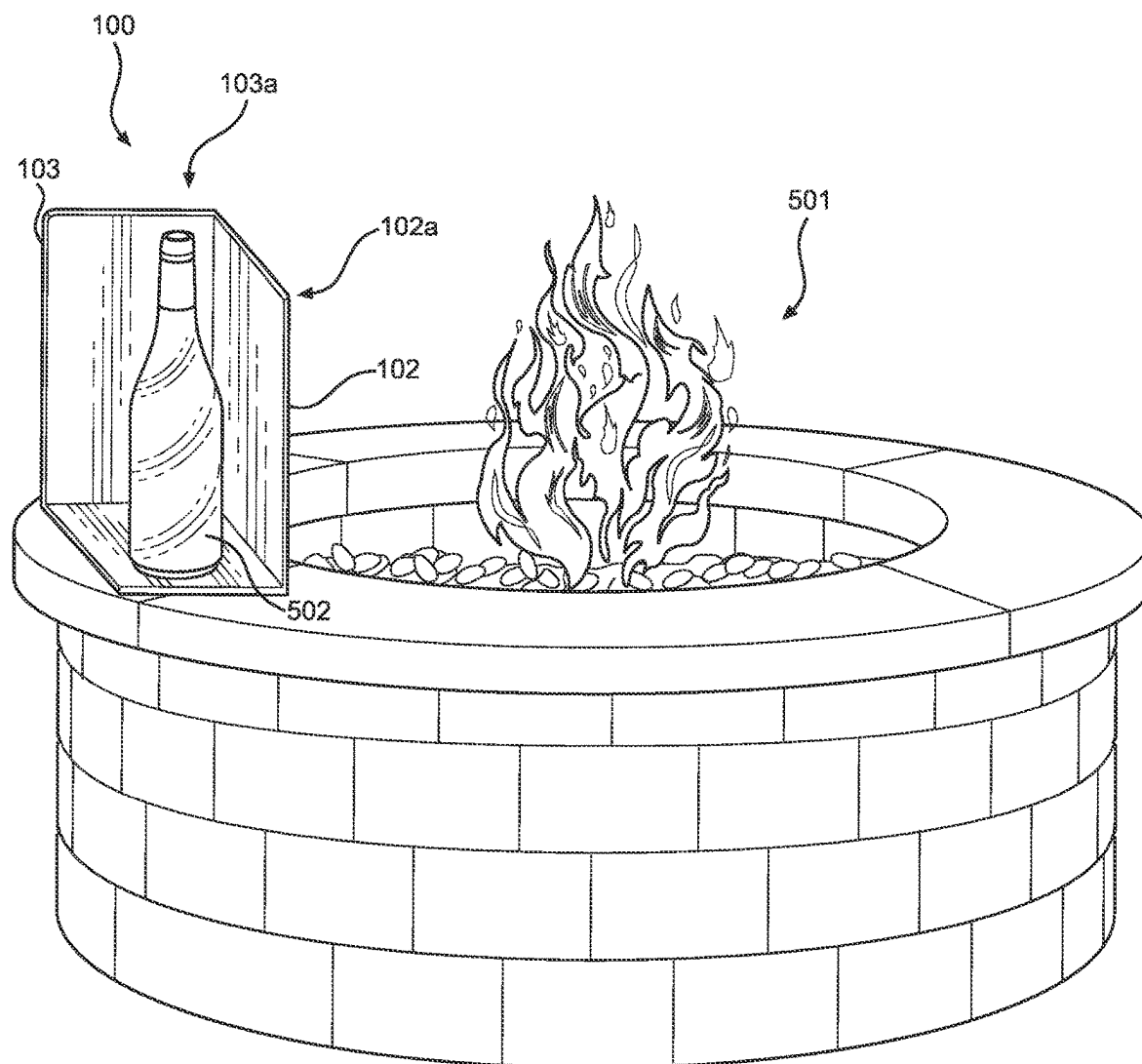


FIG. 5

THERMAL DAMPENING DEVICE FOR A BEVERAGE CONTAINER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to thermal dampening devices. More particularly, the present invention provides a device to hold a beverage which will keep the beverage and the container it is in from becoming hot when exposed to a heat source.

[0002] Many people enjoy beverages when sitting near a heat source such as a fire or propane generated source. These heat sources are capable of putting off a tremendous amount of heat. This heat can then transfer to a beverage container, and in some instances the beverage inside. Some heat sources are designed to have an edge for setting beverages on. This, which convenient, places the beverage even closer to the heat source.

[0003] In some cases, this may be helpful in keeping something like a coffee warm for extended periods of time. However, when the beverage is supposed to be kept cold, like a beer or soda, the life of the beverage can be cut extremely short due to the quick rise in temperature. This temperature rise often results in a lack of enjoyment.

[0004] Due to the nature of some heat sources beverage containers are also capable of being heated to an unsafe level. For example, sometimes fires can heat glass or metal containers to a level which may burn a user. This means even if a product is used that will keep the beverage itself cool the container may become a problem.

[0005] Consequently, there is a need for an improvement in the art of thermal protection for beverages. The present invention substantially diverges in design elements from the known art while at the same time solving a problem many people face when sitting near a heat source with a beverage. In this regard the present invention substantially fulfills these needs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] The present invention provides a thermal dampening device for a beverage container wherein the same can be utilized for providing convenience for the user when enjoying a beverage near a heat source. The thermal dampening device includes a base having a first sidewall and a second sidewall rising therefrom. The sidewalls share an edge. The first sidewall and the second sidewall are made from at least two layers of material. One of the layers is made from a thermal dampening material.

[0007] Another object of the device is to have the first layer of material be a solid material.

[0008] The Another object of the device is to have the first layer of material be aluminum.

[0009] Another object of the device is to have a second layer of material be a coating.

[0010] Another object of the device is to have the second layer of material be a thermal dampening paint.

[0011] Another object of the device is to have a cover secured to the first sidewall and the second sidewall opposite the base.

[0012] Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] Although the characteristic features of this invention will be particularly pointed out in the claims, the invention itself and manner in which it may be made and used may be better understood after a review of the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein like numeral annotations are provided throughout.

[0014] FIG. 1 shows a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container.

[0015] FIG. 2 shows a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container.

[0016] FIG. 3 shows a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container.

[0017] FIG. 4 shows a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container having a round sidewall.

[0018] FIG. 5 shows a perspective in-use view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

[0019] With regard to the reference numerals used, the following numbering is used throughout the drawings.

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 100 | Thermal Dampening Device |
| 101 | Base |
| 101a | Aperture |
| 102 | First Sidewall |
| 102a | Exterior of First Sidewall |
| 103 | Second Sidewall |
| 103a | Exterior of Second Sidewall |
| 201 | First Layer |
| 202 | Second Layer |
| 301 | Cover |
| 302 | Handle |
| 401 | Base |
| 402 | Sidewall |
| 501 | Heat Source |
| 502 | Beverage Container |

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0020] Reference is made herein to the attached drawings. Like reference numerals are used throughout the drawings to depict like or similar elements of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. For the purposes of presenting a brief and clear description of the present invention, a preferred embodiment will be discussed as used for the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. The figures are intended for representative purposes only and should not be considered to be limiting in any respect.

[0021] Referring now to FIG. 1, there is shown a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. The thermal dampening device 100 includes a base 101. The base has at least one sidewall rising therefrom. In the shown embodiment a first

sidewall **102** rises therefrom adjacent to a second sidewall **103** rising therefrom such that the first sidewall **102** and the second sidewall **103** share an edge. In one embodiment the opposite corners of the first sidewall **102** and the second sidewall **103** are rounded to remove sharp edges.

[0022] The base **101** must have a surface area which is sufficient enough to prevent the thermal dampening device **100** from tipping due to the weight of the first sidewall **102** and the second sidewall **103** creating a higher center of gravity. In different embodiments the base **101** may be of different geometric shapes. In one embodiment the base **101** is rectangular. In another embodiment as described below the base **101** is round. In one embodiment the base **101** has an aperture **101a** therein. The aperture **101a** can be used as a drain to allow sweat from a beverage container to drain from the base **101**. In another embodiment the aperture **101a** can be used as a securement hole. In this embodiment a fastener can be placed therein to secure the thermal dampening device **100** to a surface.

[0023] The thermal dampening device **100** shall be of a size which will allow for a beverage container to be placed on the base **101**. When placed the beverage should still be able to be grasped and removed without knocking over the thermal dampening device **100**.

[0024] Referring now to FIG. 2, there is shown a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. In one embodiment the thermal dampening device **100** only includes the first sidewall **102** and the second sidewall **103**. The base has been removed. This will allow for the thermal dampening device **100** to require less material. In one embodiment this will allow for the thermal dampening device **100** to be easily stackable for storage.

[0025] The thermal dampening device **100** is made of at least two layers of material. A first layer of material **201** is made from a solid material. In one embodiment aluminum is used because it has a temperature dampening property. In another embodiment other materials may be used such as steel or iron. In some embodiments heat resistant plastic could be used to the same effect.

[0026] The thermal dampening device **100** includes a second layer of material **202**. In some embodiments the second layer of material **202** is a solid layer. In other embodiments the second layer of material **202** is a coating of the first layer of material **201**. In some embodiments the coating is paint. In other embodiments the coating is enamel. In one embodiment the second layer of material is a coating including temperature resistant and dampening paint. In another embodiment the coating is a ceramic coating.

[0027] In some embodiments additional layers or partial layers may be included. For example, in one embodiment a deco may be added to the front of the thermal dampening device **100**. In another embodiment an additional heat dampening layer may be included. In yet a further embodiment a layer may be added to the inside of the first layer **201**.

[0028] Referring now to FIG. 3, there is shown a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. In yet another embodiment of the thermal dampening device **100** a cover **301** may be included. The cover **301** is configured to attached to at least one sidewall at an end opposite the base **101**. In this embodiment the cover **301** is attached to the first sidewall

102 and the second sidewall **103**. The cover **301** can have several purposes. In one instance the cover **301** can prevent the debris from entering a beverage. In another instance, the cover **301** can further help to prevent heat transfer.

[0029] The cover **301** is designed to be made of the same materials and layers as the rest of the thermal dampening device **100**. In this embodiment the cover **301** will have a first layer and a second layer. The second layer will be a thermal dampening layer.

[0030] In one embodiment the thermal dampening device **100** includes a handle **302** of sorts. In the shown embodiment the thermal dampening device **100** includes the cover **301**. However, the handle **302** is independent of the cover. In one embodiment the handle **302** is an aperture located through one of the sidewalls. The handle **302** will allow for a user to use a single finger placed therein to move the device.

[0031] Referring now to FIG. 4, there is shown a perspective view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container having a round sidewall. In another embodiment the thermal dampening device **100** includes a base **401**. In the shown embodiment the base **401** is a round base. A single sidewall **402** rises therefrom. The round base **401** allows for a single curved sidewall **402** to cover a similar amount of surface areas as multiple flat sidewalls connected at angles.

[0032] Referring now to FIG. 5, there is shown a perspective in-use view of one embodiment of the thermal dampening device for a beverage container. In use thermal dampening device **100** can be placed near a heat source **501** such that an exterior **102a** of the first sidewall **102** and an exterior **103a** of the second sidewall **103** are facing the heat source **501**. In different embodiments a heat source **501** may be different items. In one embodiment a heat source **501** is a fire. In another embodiment the heat source is a propane heat generation device.

[0033] The first sidewall **102** and the second sidewall **103** will prevent heat from the heat source **501** from penetrating through to a beverage container **502** which is placed on the base **101** of the thermal dampening device **100**. In this way the beverage container **502** will be kept cool. This will help the container maintain a temperature which can be grasped. In a further embodiment this will allow for the beverage inside of the beverage container **502** to stay cool as well.

[0034] It is therefore submitted that the instant invention has been shown and described in what is considered to be the most practical and preferred embodiments. It is recognized, however, that departures may be made within the scope of the invention and that obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art. With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

[0035] Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and

described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.

- 1) A thermal dampening device, the device comprising:
a base having a first sidewall and a second sidewall rising therefrom, wherein the sidewalls share an edge;
the first sidewall and the second sidewall are made from at least two layers of material, wherein at least one of the layers is made from a thermal dampening material.
- 2) The thermal dampening device of claim 1, wherein a first layer of material is a solid material.
- 3) The thermal dampening device of claim 2 wherein the first layer of material is aluminum.
- 4) The thermal dampening device of claim 1, wherein a second layer of material is a coating.
- 5) The thermal dampening device of claim 4, wherein the second layer of material is a thermal dampening paint.
- 6) The thermal dampening device of claim 1 further comprising a cover secured to the first sidewall and the second sidewall opposite the base.
- 7) A thermal dampening device, the device comprising:
a base having at least one sidewall rising therefrom;
the at least one sidewall is made from at least two layers of material, wherein at least one of the layers is made from a thermal dampening material.
- 8) The thermal dampening device of claim 7, wherein a first layer of material is a solid material.

9) The thermal dampening device of claim 8 wherein the first layer of material is aluminum.

10) The thermal dampening device of claim 7, wherein a second layer of material is a coating.

11) The thermal dampening device of claim 10, wherein the second layer of material is a thermal dampening paint.

12) The thermal dampening device of claim 7, further comprising a cover secured to the first sidewall and the second sidewall opposite the base.

13) A thermal dampening device, the device consisting of:
a rectangular shaped base which has a rectangular cross-section;

a first sidewall extending from a first edge of the rectangular base;

a second sidewall extending from a second edge of the rectangular base that is perpendicular to the first edge;

the first sidewall and the second sidewall are made from at least two layers of material, wherein a first layer of material is made from solid material that is a poor conductor of heat;

wherein the second layer of material is coated in a ceramic material.

14) The thermal dampening device of claim 13, wherein the first layer of material is aluminum.

15) The thermal dampening device of claim 13, wherein the second layer of material is paint.

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