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(54) **COMPOSITE COVER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE COVER**

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ABSTRACT

A composite cover includes a generally rectangular main portion having four main portion edges about a perimeter of the main portion and having opposing top and bottom surfaces defining respective upward and downward directions, and four generally rectangular side portions each contiguous with and extending downward from a respective one of the main portion edges. The main portion and the four side portions generally enclose an interior space and are made of a sandwich structure comprising an interior layer of continuous fiber reinforcements and resin and an exterior layer of metallic foil bonded to the interior layer. A method of manufacturing the cover, having a desired shape generally of a five-walled open box, includes attaching a formed sheet made of metallic foil and having the desired shape onto a shaped composite preform disposed in the desired shape, wherein the shaped composite preform is made of continuous fiber reinforcements and resin.

