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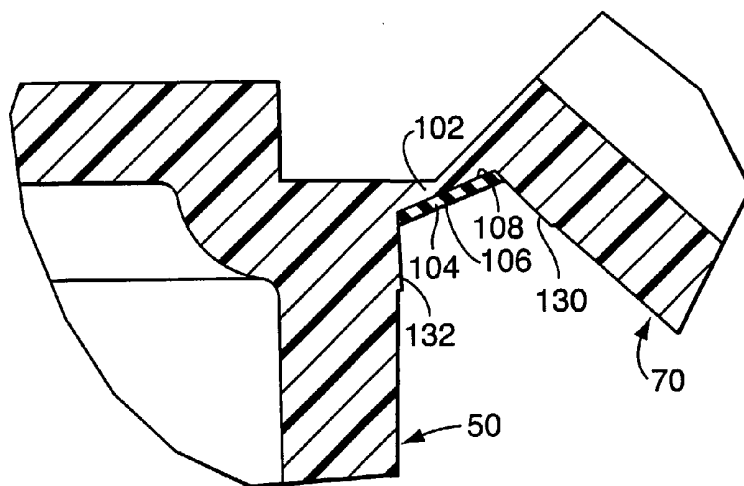
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- (71) Applicant: **SEAQUIST CLOSURES FOREIGN, INC.** [US/US]; 475 West Terra Cotta, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **WOOD, Christopher, J.**; 2900 S. 60th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53219 (US). **ROBERTS, Charles, E.**; S94 W34310 Jericho Drive, Eagle, WI 53119 (US). **DALLAS, Milton, R., Jr.**; 1739 Thomas Drive, East Troy, WI 53120 (US).
- (74) Agents: **ODELL, Paul, M.** et al.; Wood, Philips, Katz, Clark & Mortimer, Citicorp Center, Suite 3800, 500 West Madison Street, Chicago, IL 60661-2511 (US).
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(54) Title: ELASTOMERIC HINGE FOR A CLOSURE LID



(57) Abstract: A hinge structure (80, 80A, 80B) is provided for connecting two members (50, 70; 50A, 70A; 50B, 70B), such as a container closure base (50, 50A, 50B) and lid (70, 70A, 70B), so as to accommodate movement between an open position and a closed position. An elastomeric element (104, 104A, 104B) extends from one of the members to the other of the members. The elastomeric element (104, 104A, 104B) has an outer surface that is outwardly exposed when the two members are in the closed position as well as when the two members are in the open position. The elastomeric element (104, 104A, 104B) exerts a force to urge the two members from the closed position toward the open position. In one embodiment, the elastomeric element has two lateral margins (121, 122; 121A, 122A; 121B, 122B), and the hinge structure (80, 80A, 80B) is free of structure laterally of the elastomeric element (104, 104A, 104B) so that the two lateral margins are laterally exposed when the two members are in the closed position as well as when the two members are in the open position. The elastomeric element outer surface (106, 106A, 106B) is in tension when the two members are in the closed position.



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