US008991086B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Fitzpatrick et al.

(10) **Patent No.: US 8,991,086 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent: Mar. 31, 2015**

(54) **AMMUNITION MAGAZINE**

(71) Applicant: **Magpul Industries Corp.**, Boulder, CO (US)

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(73) Assignee: **Magpul Industries Corp.**, Boulder, CO (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/461,229**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 15, 2014**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0352189 A1 Dec. 4, 2014

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 14/098,467, filed on Dec. 5, 2013, now Pat. No. 8,839,543, which is a continuation of application No. 13/307,431, filed on Nov. 30, 2011, now Pat. No. 8,635,796, which is a continuation of application No. 12/354,766, filed on Jan. 15, 2009, now Pat. No. 8,069,601, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 11/958,274, filed on Dec. 17, 2007, now Pat. No. 7,908,780.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/941,646, filed on Jun. 1, 2007.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

F41A 9/69	(2006.01)
F41A 9/65	(2006.01)
F41A 9/62	(2006.01)
F41A 9/70	(2006.01)
F41A 9/83	(2006.01)

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

CPC ... ***F41A 9/65*** (2013.01); ***F41A 9/62*** (2013.01); ***F41A 9/69*** (2013.01); ***F41A 9/70*** (2013.01); ***F41A 9/83*** (2013.01)

USPC **42/50**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC F41A 9/65; F41A 9/70; F41A 9/72; F41A 9/69; F41A 9/83

USPC 42/50, 7, 70.02; 89/33.1

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Stephen M Johnson

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Neugeboren O'Dowd PC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention is an ammunition magazine, preferably made of a reinforced polymer, utilizing a structurally enhancing ridge, angular guide rails and a follower made to interface with said guide rails to reduce wobble. The preferred embodiment also features a protective cover that distributes forces from the spring to more structurally sound areas of the magazine, thus reducing feed end splay, and an ammunition indication system comprised of at least one window and a noticeable marker on the follower spring. The follower and magazine casing are also designed to interface to prevent the follower from popping out of the feed end and the floor plate of the magazine utilizes a locking plate and sliding relationship between the floor plate, locking plate and magazine to secure the floor plate onto the magazine casing. The cover features built in tools for, among other things, unloading and disassembling the magazine.

20 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets

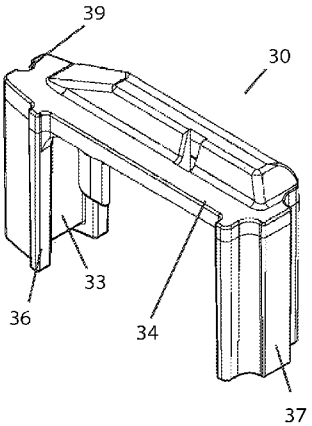
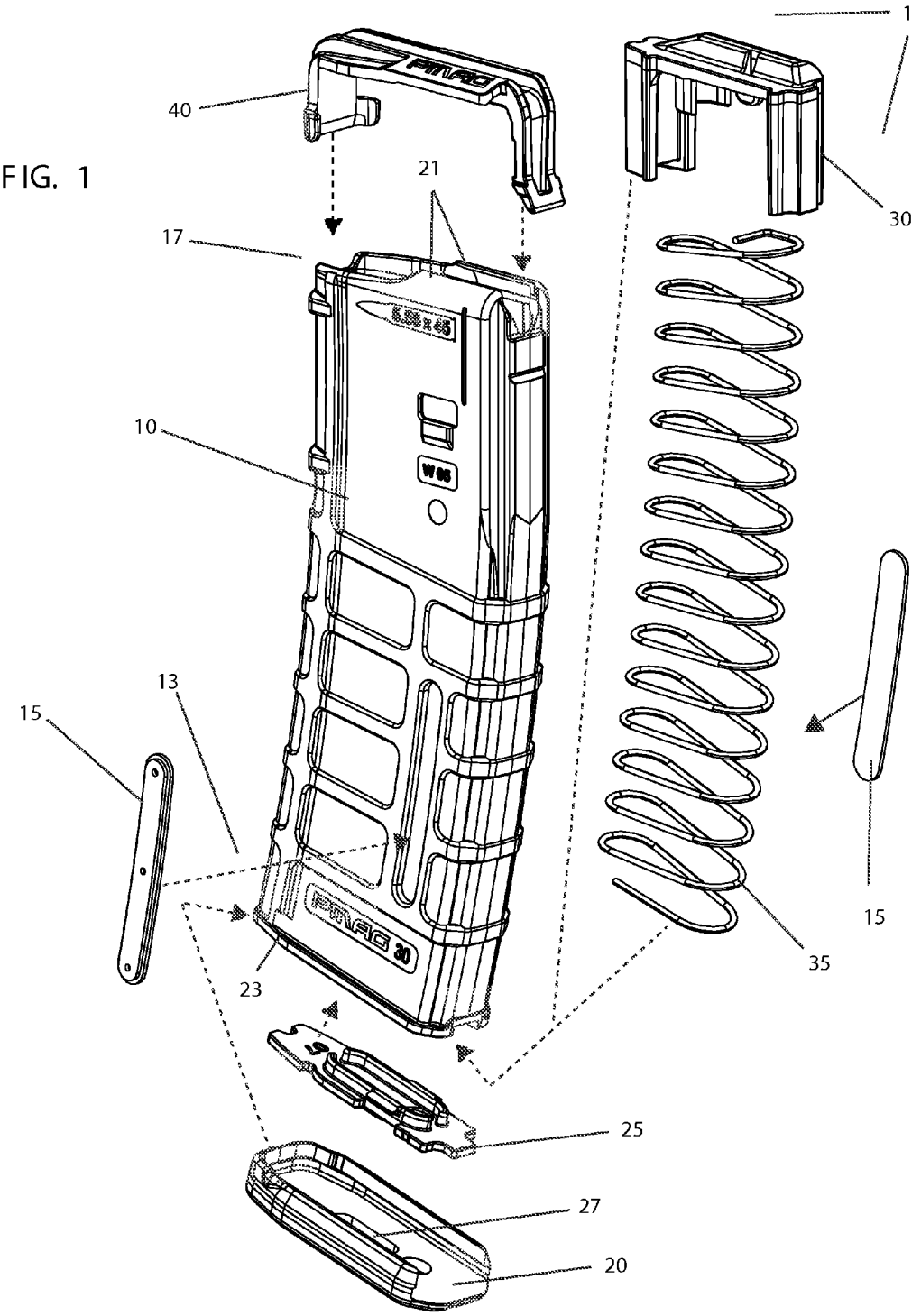
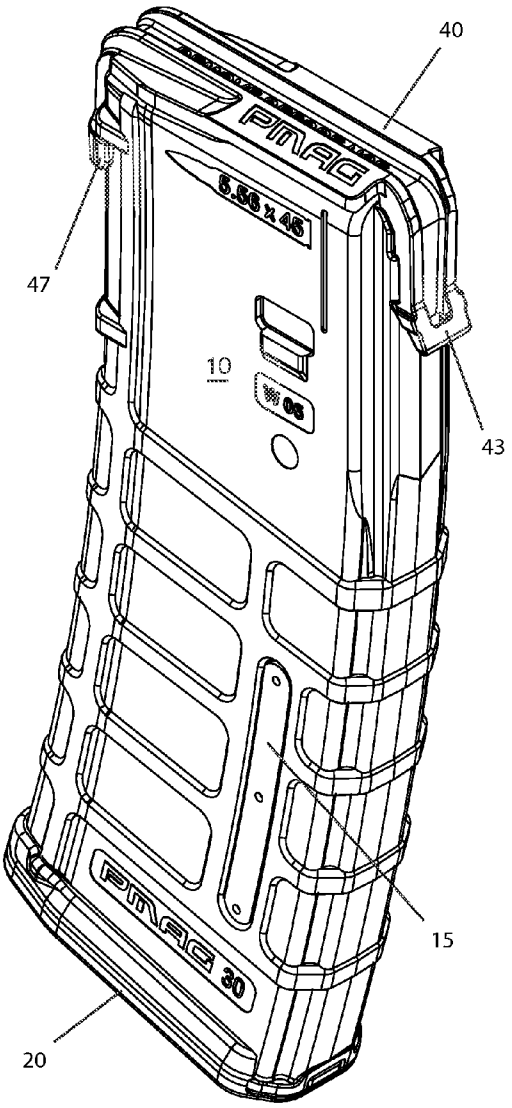


FIG. 1

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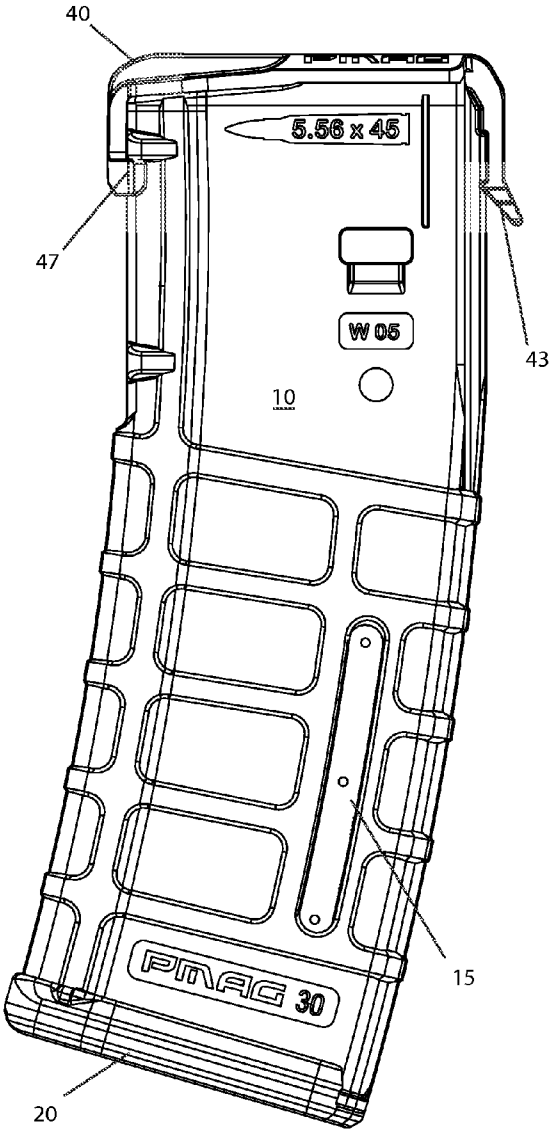
5.56 x 45
W 05
PMAG 30

FIG. 2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PMAG 30

FIG. 3

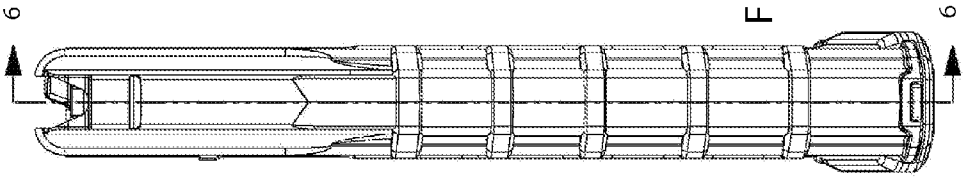
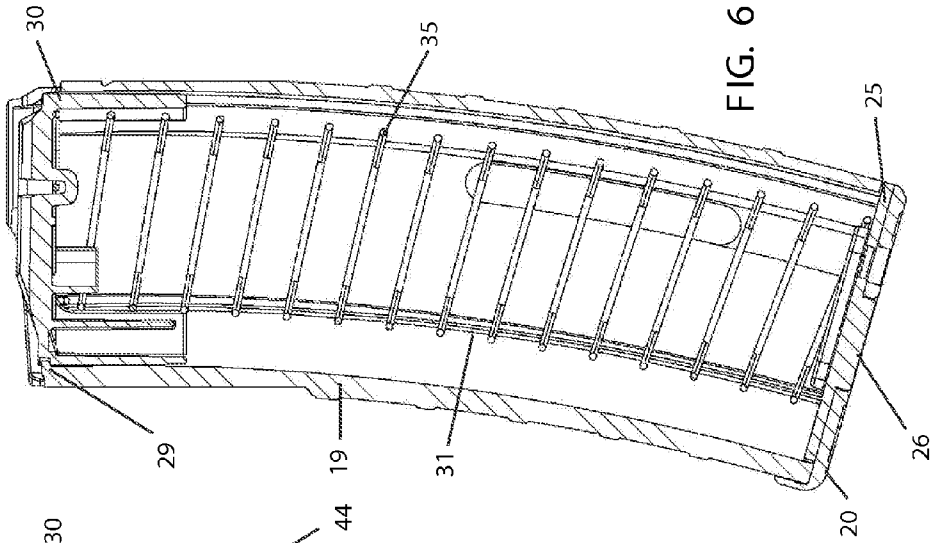


FIG. 5



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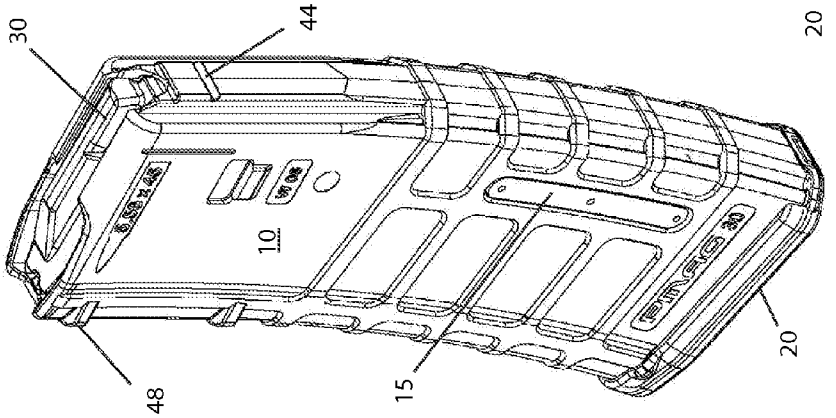

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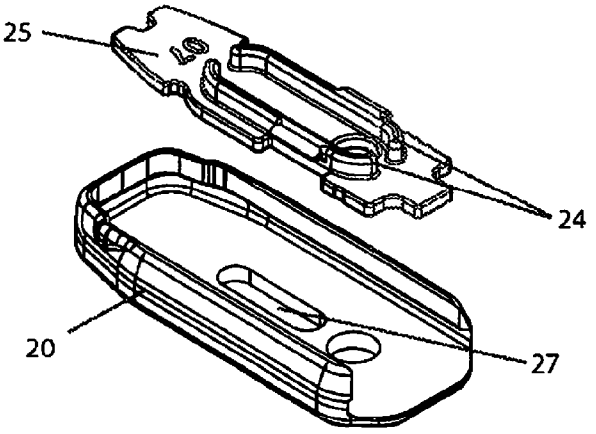


FIG. 6a

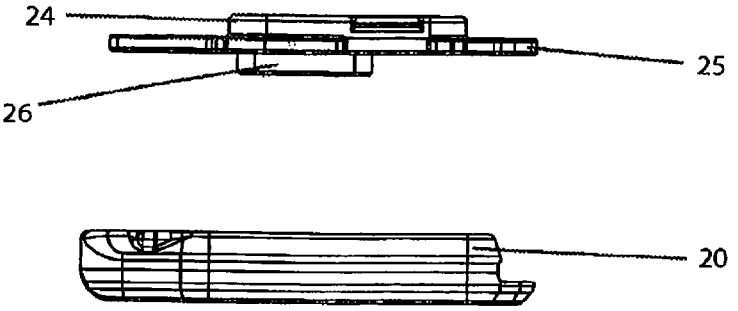


FIG. 6b

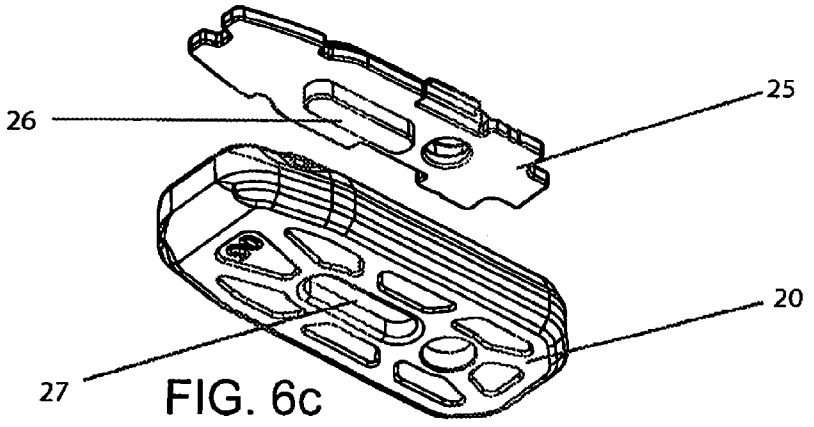


FIG. 6c

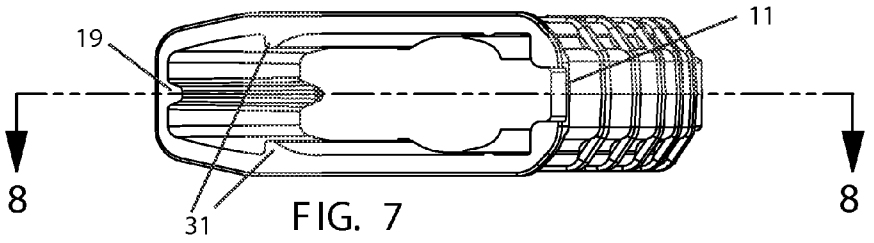


FIG. 7

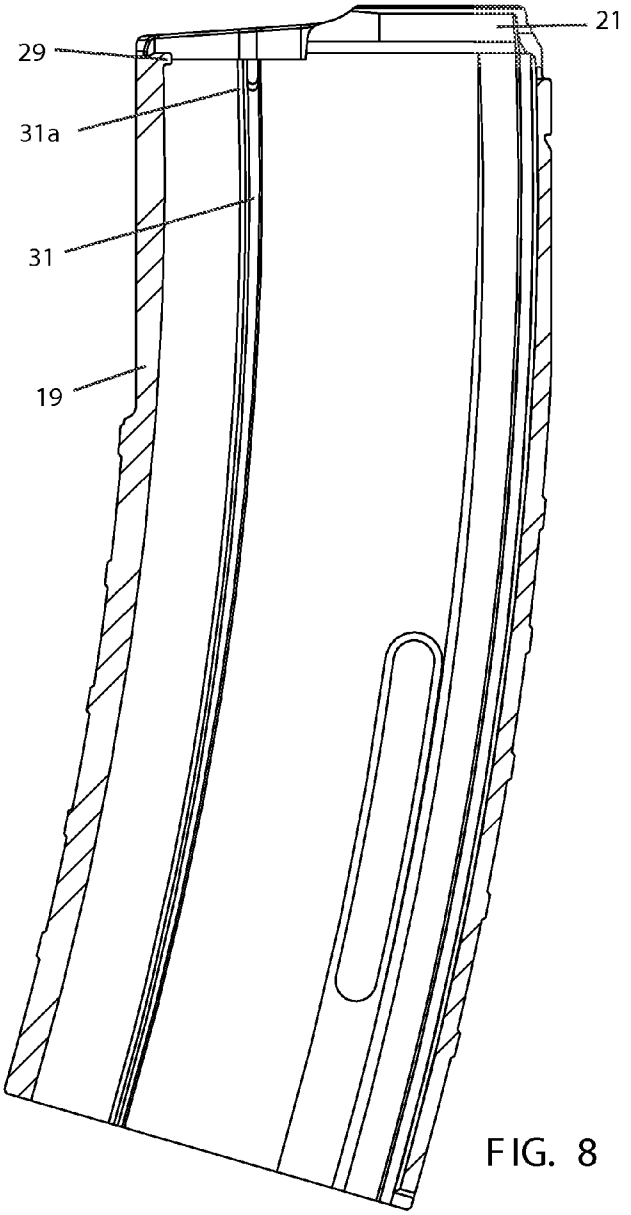


FIG. 8

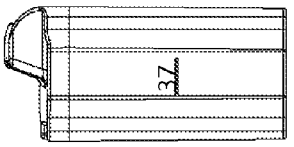


FIG. 9c

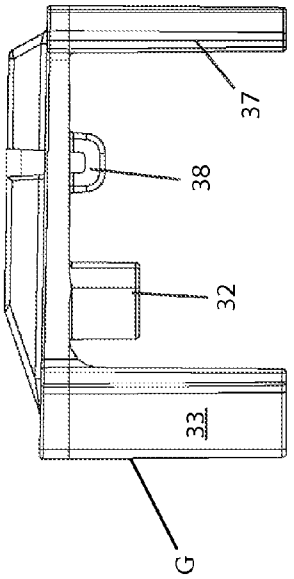


FIG. 9a

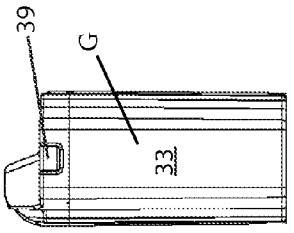


FIG. 9b

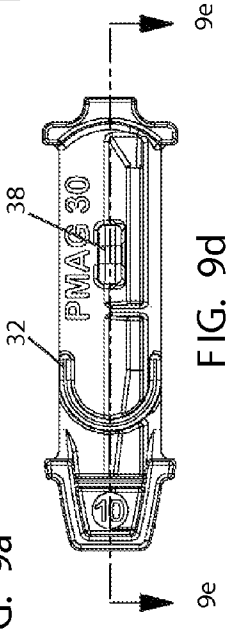
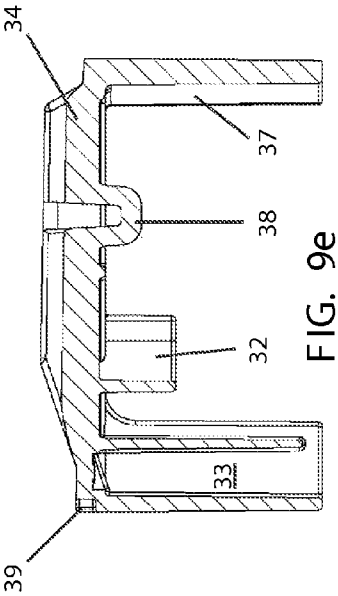


FIG. 9d



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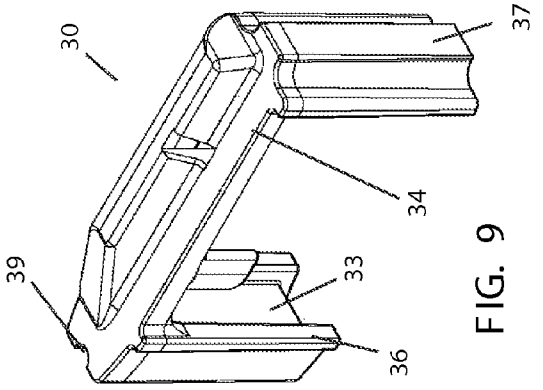

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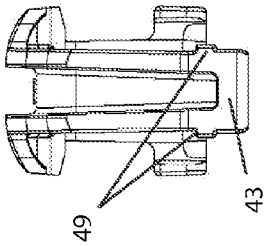

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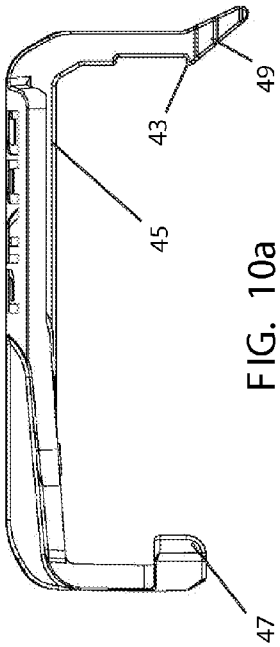
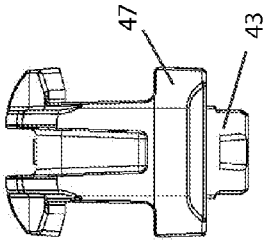


FIG. 10a



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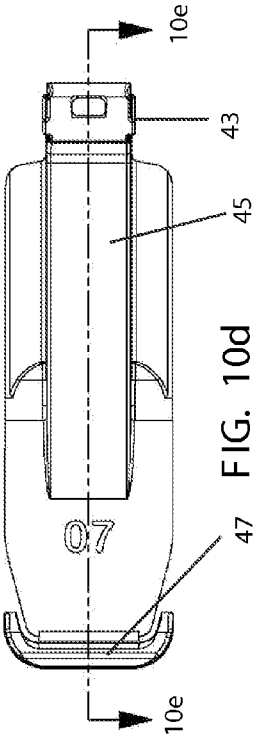

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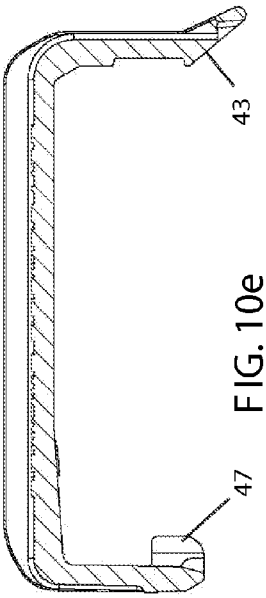

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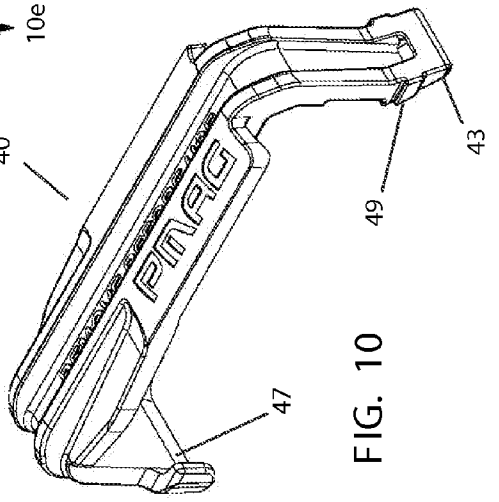

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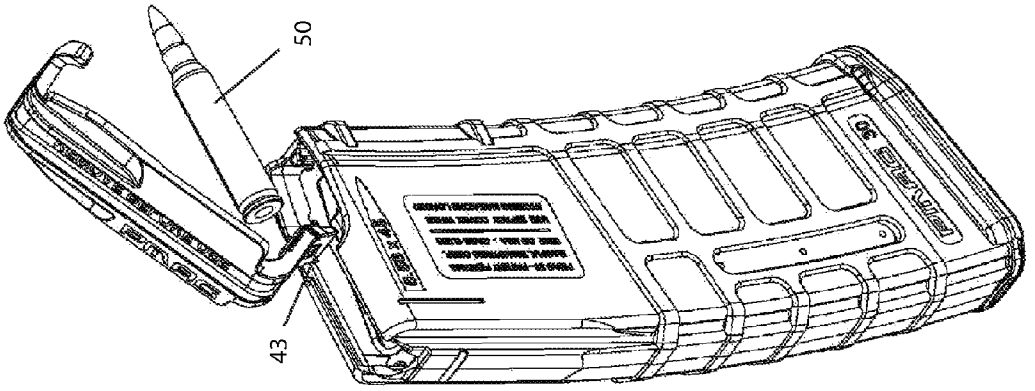


FIG. 11c

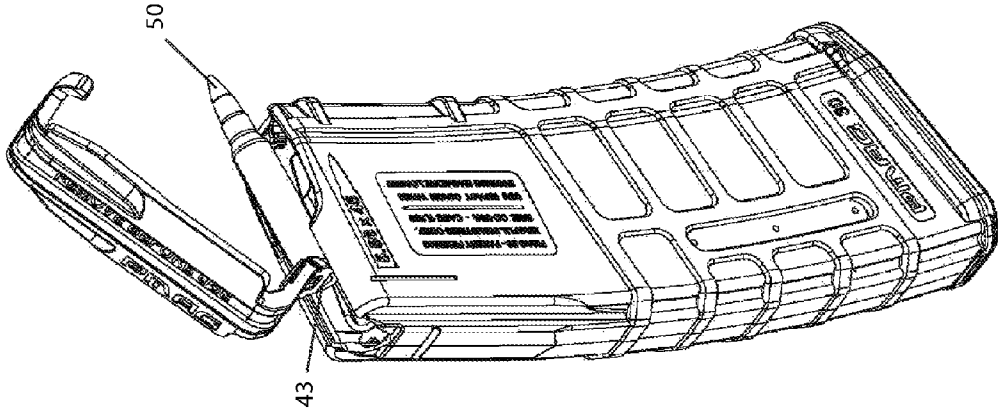


FIG. 11b

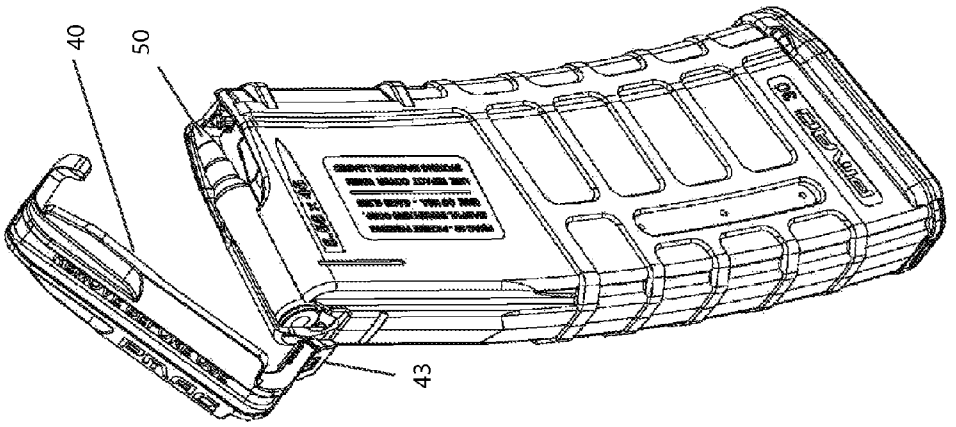
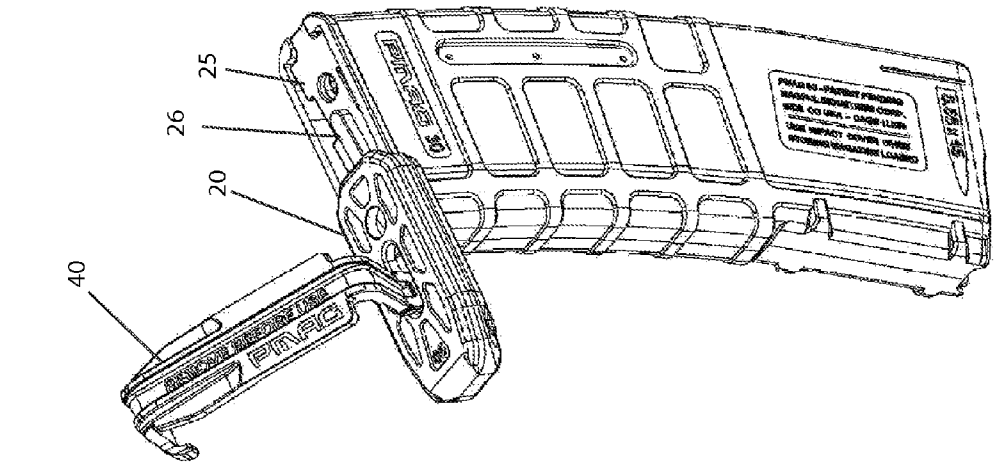


FIG. 11a



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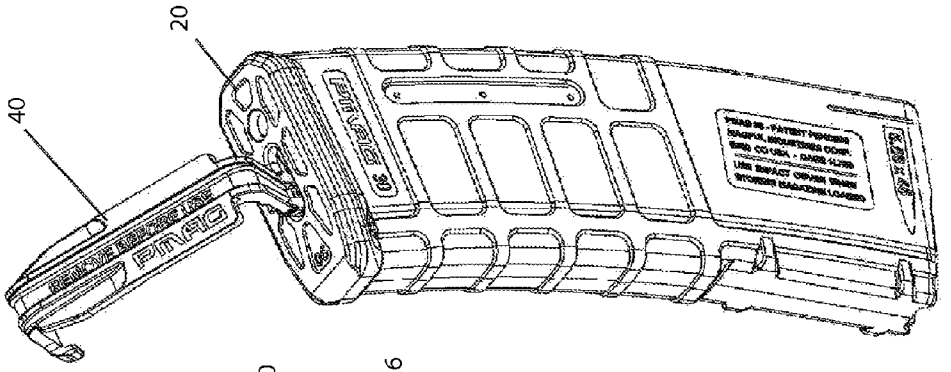

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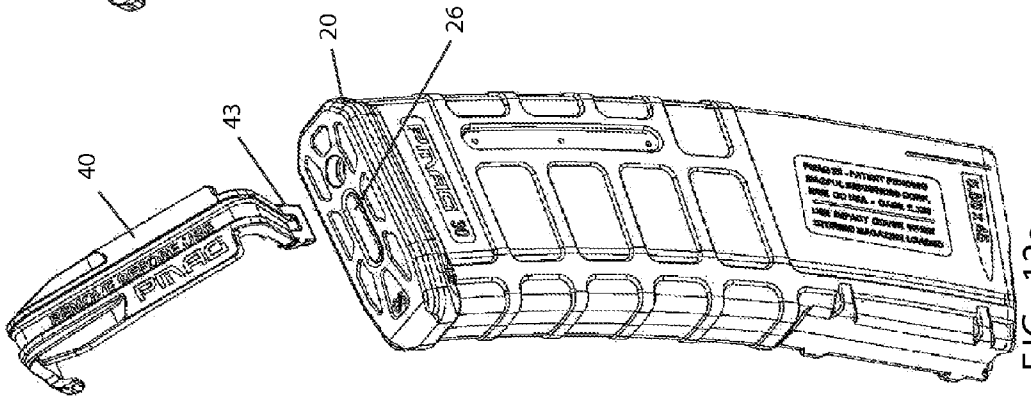

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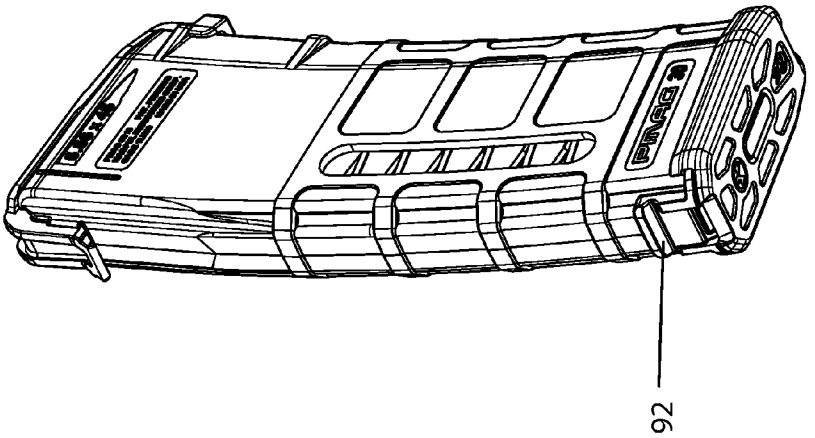


FIG. 14

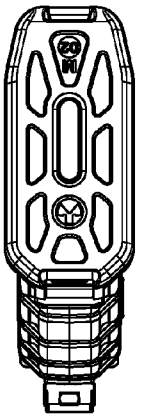


FIG. 15

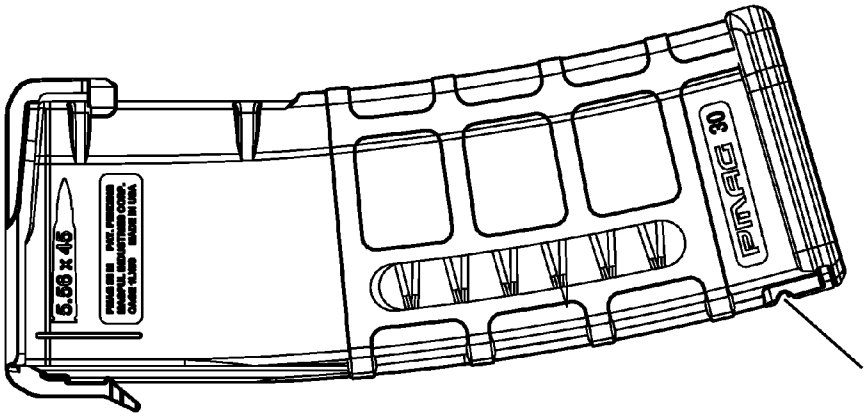
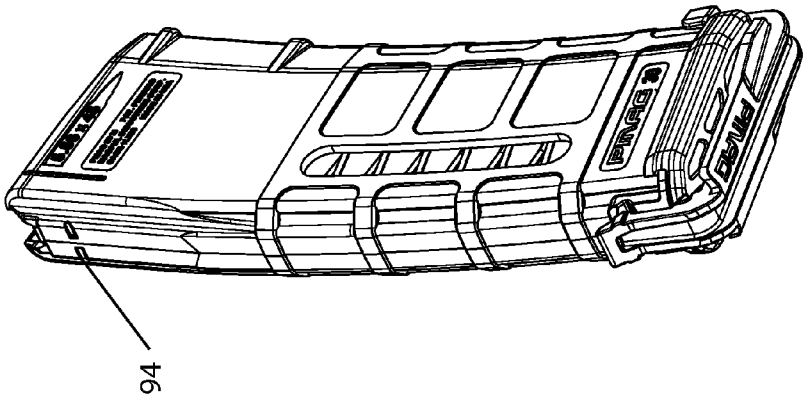


FIG. 13



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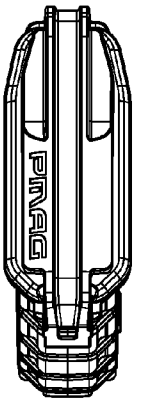
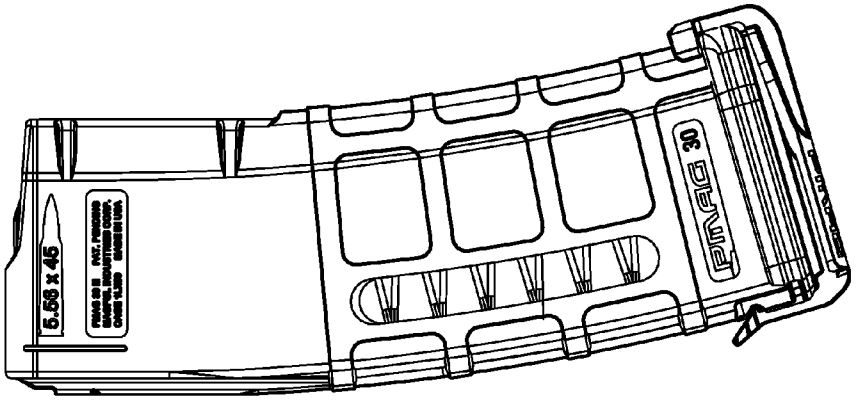


FIG. 18



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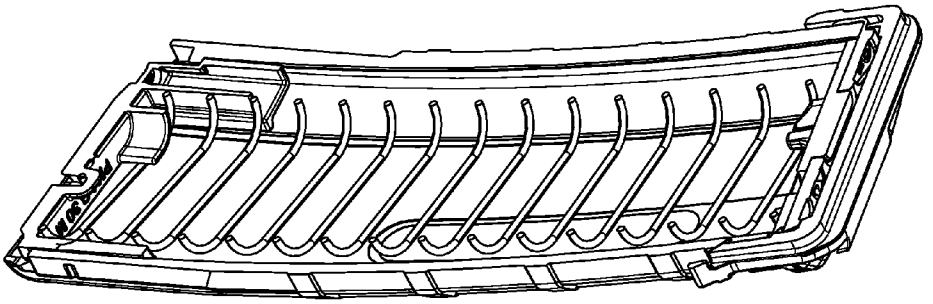

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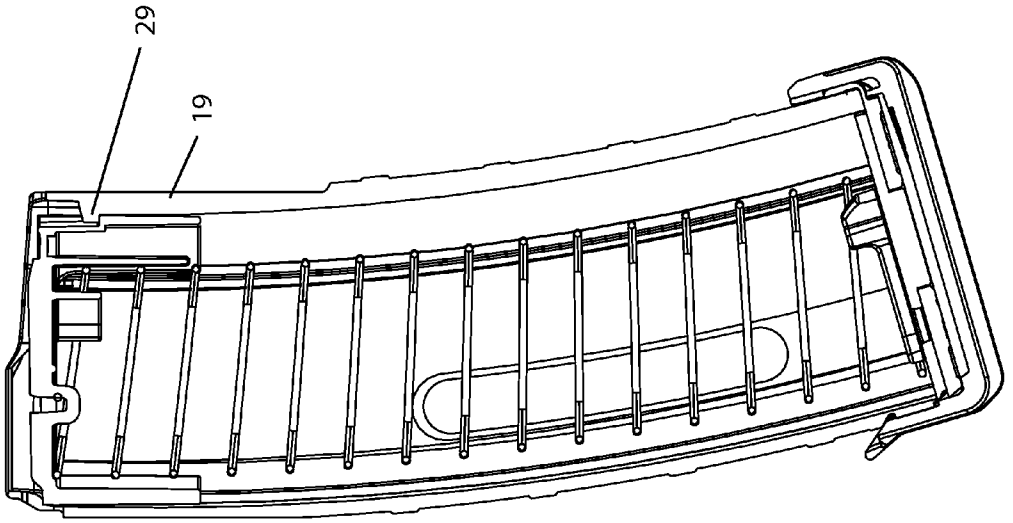
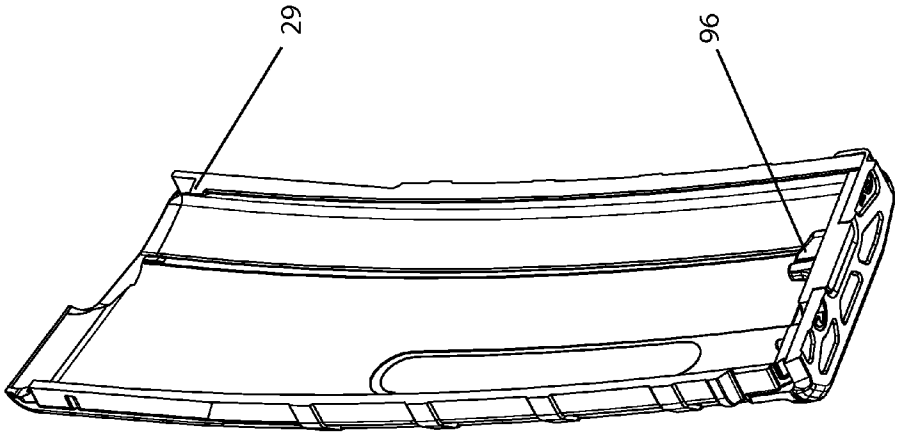


FIG. 19



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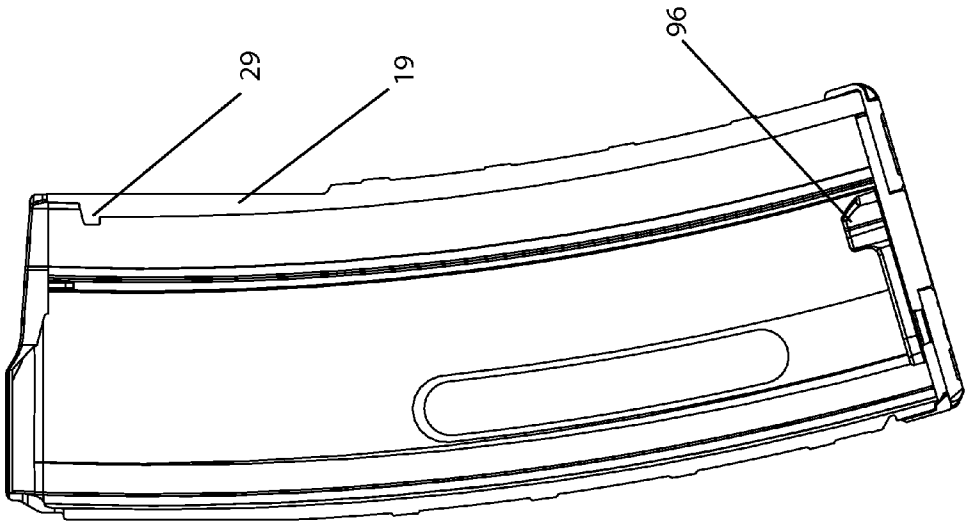

FIG. 21

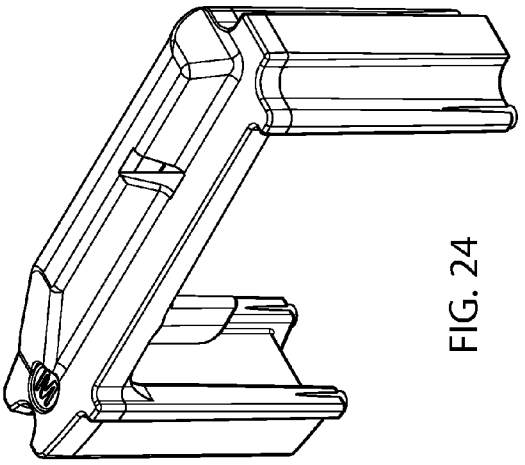

FIG. 24

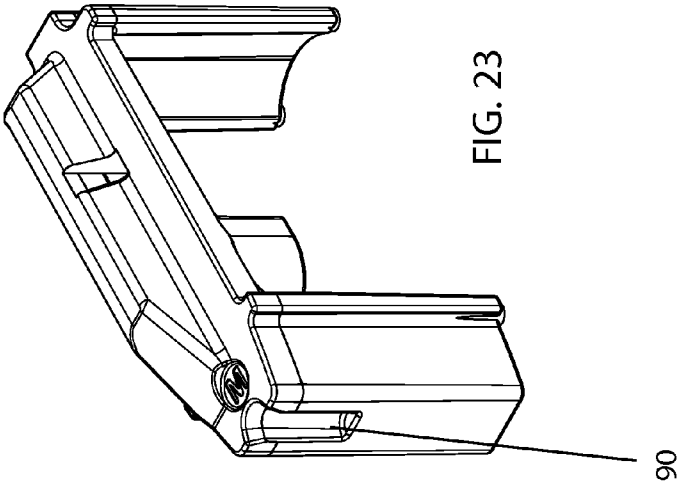

FIG. 23

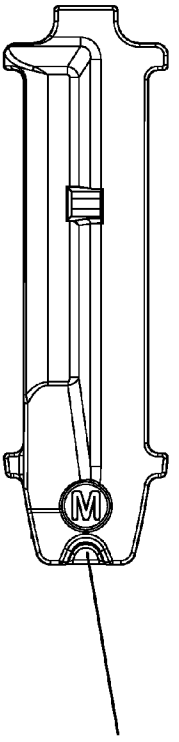

FIG. 25

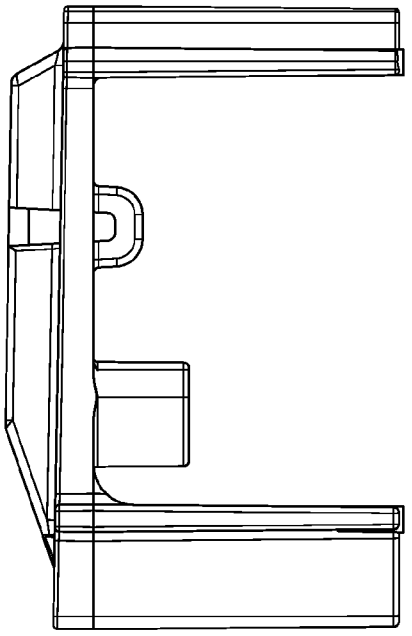

FIG. 26

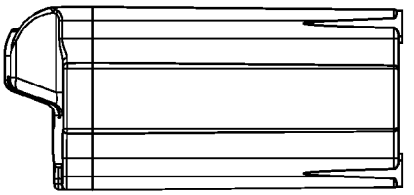

FIG. 28

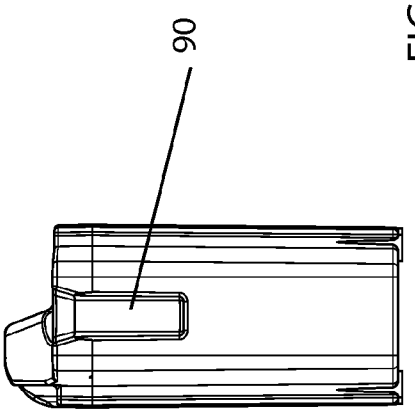

FIG. 27

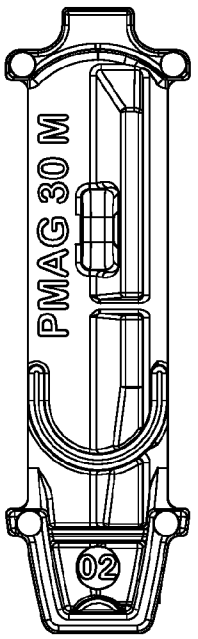

FIG. 29

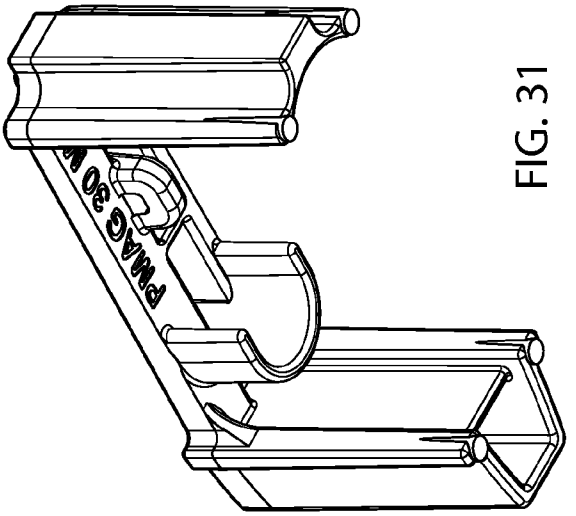

FIG. 31

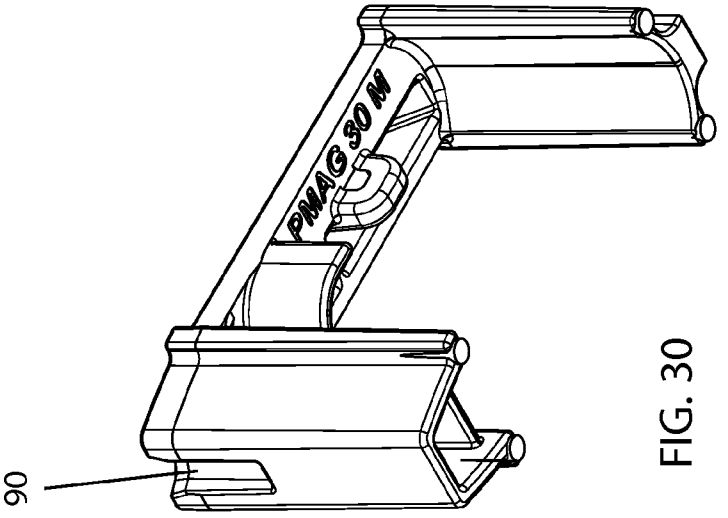

FIG. 30

AMMUNITION MAGAZINE

CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. §120

The present Application for Patent is a Continuation-in-Part of patent application Ser. No. 14/098,467, now U.S. Pat. No. 8,839,543, entitled "Ammunition Magazine" filed Dec. 5, 2013, which is a Continuation of patent application Ser. No. 13/307,431 entitled "Ammunition Magazine" filed Nov. 30, 2011 and issued on Jan. 28, 2014 as U.S. Pat. No. 8,635,796, which is a Continuation of prior filed U.S. application Ser. No. 12/354,766, filed Jan. 15, 2009 and issued on Dec. 6, 2011 as U.S. Pat. No. 8,069,601 which, in turn, is a Continuation-in-Part of prior filed U.S. application Ser. No. 11/958,274, filed on Dec. 17, 2007 issued on Mar. 22, 2011 as U.S. Pat. No. 7,908,780, which, in turn, claims priority to earlier filed U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/941,646, filed on Jun. 1, 2007. Each of these patents and applications are assigned to the assignee hereof and are hereby expressly incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to the field of firearms and more particularly relates to an improved ammunition magazine.

BACKGROUND

Ammunition magazines are well known in the art of firearms. Their basic construction is a containment shell with two open ends. One end is deemed the "floor" of the magazine and is covered by a plate while the opposite end is the "feed" end and interfaces with the weapon. Inside the volume defined by the shell and plate is a spring and follower assembly. When ammunition is loaded into the magazine, the ammunition pushes the follower down towards the floor and thereby compresses the spring. In use, when one cartridge of ammunition is expended, the compressed spring releases and pushes the follower and associated ammunition upwards toward the feed end and the next round of ammunition is thereby readied.

Prior magazines have been manufactured in many different configurations and of different materials. Perhaps the best known in the U.S. are the AK-47 and the USGI AR15/M16 magazines. These magazines function similarly, though they are made with slight variations to interface with their host system. Of notable difference is that the AK-47 magazine has a relatively constant curvature while the AR15/M16 magazine has a less curved lower region that gradually resolves to a more linear function towards the feed end. Both use the same type of internal system. Of particular note with both, and all follower magazine systems, is that the system works well only as the follower smoothly and levelly travels the inside of the magazine. As the follower must move, there is room for the follower in all the known prior art magazines to move axially, or "wobble" and possibly jam. This is notorious in the AR15/M16 magazine style as the geometry of the magazine is inherently not uniform.

The present invention is a polymer magazine with angularly shaped guide rails to interface with the internal follower, thereby restricting axial motion of the follower. The magazine also features a load indicator and a two-piece floor plate locking system. The present invention represents a departure from the prior art in that the magazine of the present invention allows for more stable and level motion of the follower while the magazine is loaded or unloaded.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSURE

In view of the foregoing disadvantages inherent in the known types of ammunition magazines, this invention provides an improved magazine. As such, the present invention's general purpose is to provide a new and improved magazine that is backwards compatible with known weapon platforms and presents a more stable follower and follower path.

To accomplish these objectives, the improved ammunition magazine comprises a plurality of lateral angularly shaped guide rails within the magazine shell and a follower that is configured to abut them. By interfacing with more internal structure, all non-advantageous linear and axial motion is inhibited and the follower is then more stable in its progress. The magazine also features a polymer construction and an ammunition load indicator system. The magazine also features a cover for storage.

The more important features of the invention have thus been outlined in order that the more detailed description that follows may be better understood and in order that the present contribution to the art may better be appreciated. Additional features of the invention will be described hereinafter and will form the subject matter of the claims that follow.

Many objects of this invention will appear from the following description and appended claims, reference being made to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate corresponding parts in the several views.

Before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting.

As such, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other structures, methods and systems for carrying out the several purposes of the present invention. It is important, therefore, that the claims be regarded as including such equivalent constructions insofar as they do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is an exploded view of the magazine according to the present invention.

FIG. **2** is a perspective view of the assembled magazine according to the present invention.

FIG. **3** is a side plan view of the magazine of FIG. **2**.

FIG. **4** is a perspective view of the magazine according to the present invention, without the impact cover.

FIG. **5** is a hind plan view of the magazine of FIG. **4**.

FIG. **6** is a sectional view of the magazine in FIG. **5**, taken along line **6-6**.

FIG. **6***a* is a perspective view of the floor and lock plates according to the present invention.

FIG. **6***b* is a side plan view of the floor and lock plates of FIG. **6***a*.

FIG. **6***c* is an alternative perspective view of the floor and lock plates of FIG. **6***a*.

FIG. **7** is a bottom plan view of the magazine body, according to the present invention.

FIG. **8** is a cross-section of the magazine body of FIG. **7**, taken along line **8-8** and re-orientated with the bottom down.

FIG. **9** is a perspective view of the follower according to the present invention.

FIG. **9***a* is a side plan view of the follower of FIG. **9**.

FIG. **9***b* is a front plan view of the follower of FIG. **9**.

FIG. **9***c* is a rear plan view of the follower of FIG. **9**.

FIG. **9***d* is a bottom plan view of the follower of FIG. **9**.

FIG. **9***e* is a sectional view of the follower of FIG. **9***d*, taken along line **9***e*-**9***e*.

FIG. **10** is a perspective view of the impact cover according to the present invention.

FIG. **10***a* is a side plan view of the impact cover of FIG. **10**.

FIG. **10***b* is a front plan view of the impact cover of FIG. **10**.

FIG. **10***c* is a rear plan view of the impact cover of FIG. **10**.

FIG. **10***d* is a bottom plan view of the impact cover of FIG. **10**.

FIG. **10***e* is a sectional view of the impact cover of FIG. **10***d*, taken along line **10***e*-**10***e*.

FIGS. **11***a*-**11***c* are successive plan views showing use of the impact cover as a magazine unloading tool.

FIGS. **12***a*-**12***c* are successive plan views showing use of the impact cover to disassemble the magazine.

FIG. **13** is a side plan view of an alternate embodiment of the magazine according to the present invention.

FIG. **14** is a rear perspective view of the magazine of FIG. **13**.

FIG. **15** is a bottom plan view of the magazine of FIG. **13**.

FIG. **16** is a side plan view of the magazine of FIG. **13**, with the impact cover in a stowed position on the magazine.

FIG. **17** is a rear perspective view of the magazine of FIG. **16**.

FIG. **18** is a bottom plan view of the magazine of FIG. **16**.

FIG. **19** is a sectional view of the magazine of FIG. **16**.

FIG. **20** is a sectional view of the magazine of FIG. **17**.

FIG. **21** is a sectional view of the magazine's external components, along the same section line as FIG. **19**.

FIG. **22** is a sectional view of the magazine's external components, along the same section line as FIG. **20**.

FIG. **23** is a left, front, top perspective view of a follower for the alternative magazine embodiment depicted in FIG. **13**.

FIG. **24** is a left, rear, top perspective view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **25** is a top plan view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **26** a left plan view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **27** is a front plan view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **28** is a rear plan view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **29** is a bottom plan view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **30** is a left, front, bottom perspective view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

FIG. **31** is a left, rear, bottom perspective view of the follower of FIG. **23**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

With reference now to the drawings, the preferred embodiment of the ammunition magazine is herein described. It should be noted that the articles "a", "an" and "the", as used in this specification, include plural referents unless the content clearly dictates otherwise.

With reference to FIG. **1**, the magazine **1** generally comprises a body **10** having a floor end **13** and a feed end **17**. The magazine **1**, can have fore and aft sides and two lateral sides longer than the fore and aft sides. Feed lips **21** are provided at the feed end **17** to interface with a weapon and to guide cartridges into the firing chamber of said weapon. The floor end is capped with a floor plate **20** which is secured by a lock plate **25**. A spring **35** rests against the lock plate **25**, centered by walls **24** (see FIG. **6***a*), and floor plate **20** combination and provides tension to bias the follower **30** and the floor plate **20** so that the follower **30** will progress up the magazine body **10** as ammunition is used. Floor plate **20** slides over a rim **23** of the floor end **13**, using a ledge to interface with the rim, and simultaneously over the lock plate **25**. The floor plate **20** and lock plate **25** interface together with a tab **26** on the lock plate resting within a slot **27** of the floor plate (shown in FIGS. **6**-**6***c*), so, with the floor plate **20** holding the magazine **1** and the lock plate **25** holding the floor plate **20** laterally, as it is forced against the floor plate **20** by the spring, the floor plate **20** does not slide off the magazine **1**. A protective impact cover **40** is also provided for use during storage. Magazine **1** also features two indicator windows **15** to view the spring. An indicator, which could be as simple as a colored dot or a dab of properly placed paint, is positioned on the spring and is viewable through the windows when the magazine **1** is assembled. Ideally, the windows **15** are positioned on either side of the magazine body **10** and are close enough to the floor end so that they are not obscured when the magazine **1** is inserted in a weapon's magazine well. FIGS. **2**-**4** provide views of the magazine **1** assembled, FIG. **4** without the impact cover **40**.

Inside the body **10**, along the fore side of the magazine **1**, is a ridge **19**, shown in FIGS. **6**, **7**, and **8**. The ridge serves three purposes. The first purpose is to provide additional stability and strength to the magazine body **10**. The second purpose is to divide tips of cartridges, left from right, in their off-set stacking in the magazine. The third purpose is to provide an additional interface with the follower **30** to prevent forward linear and axial tilt. In order to accommodate stripper clips, the ridge **19** may terminate at a point significantly below the feed lips, about 0.5 inches for a 0.223 Remington caliber magazine, as shown in FIGS. **19**-**22**. The factors that govern this dimension relate to cartridge size, stripper clip design and geometry, the method used to move the cartridges from the stripper clip to the magazine, and the number of rounds on the stripper clip, among other factors. The body also has two lateral guide rails **31** extending through the body **10**. The guide rails **31** are flattened in front and angular towards the rear so as to present a more solid surface for the follower to abut and to guide cartridges as they travel through the magazine body **10**. So as to not interfere with feeding of cartridges into the weapon, the guide rails **31** should terminate **31***a* at approximately a cartridge's diameter of the feed end **17** of the magazine body (as defined by the level where the rib **19** terminates with tab **29**), or about ¼ inch for a 0.223 Remington magazine or 5/16 of an inch for a .308 Winchester caliber magazine. This is, however, only for certain embodiments, as the guide rails **31** can extend the entire length of the magazine body **10** and the magazine will still be functional.

As shown in FIGS. **9**-**9***e*, the follower **30** has two tines, a forward tine **33** and hind tine **37**. Both tines are elongated and extending from platform **34**. The forward tine **33** presses against the ridge **19** and prevents axial movement, particularly those movements caused by the simple act of firing the weapon, which would push the rear of the ammunition (and the follower **30**) down. The hind tine **37** fits into trough **11** (FIG. **7**) to prevent lateral movement. The extension of the tines greatly inhibits axial and lateral movement as the extension increases contact with the magazine body and provides more counter-torque when forces would cause such movement. The follower also has two lateral arms **36** that fit alongside of the guide rails **31** to further inhibit rotation. The follower **30** interfaces with spring **35** by attachment of the spring **35** to loop **38** and retention of the spring **35** by retaining

wall **32**. In some embodiments, the hind tine **37** can be excluded and the interaction of the lateral arms **36** and the guide rails **31** can be a primary inhibitor of rotation of the follower. In other embodiments, the one or more tines **33**, **37** can be split via a vertical separation or gap (G).

At the top of ridge **19** is a slight tab **29** (FIGS. **6** and **8**) that protrudes towards the interior of the magazine **1**. Tab **29** serves as a block to prevent the follower **30** from exiting the feed end **17** of the magazine **1**. It interfaces with a detent **39** provided in the follower **30** (FIGS. **9**, **9***b*, and **9***e*). In the embodiment shown in FIGS. **19-22**, the tab **29** is, of course, lower in relation to the feed lips. The follower **30** then, as shown in FIGS. **23-31** has a chamfered groove **90** so as to allow the follower **30** to still be blocked, but in a manner that allows it to fully rise in relation to the magazine. The groove **90** also allows further interface to reduce disadvantageous tilt in the follower. In an embodiment, the lock plate **25** may also feature a ridge **96** to interface with the bottom of the follower **30** when the magazine is fully loaded, so as to support the follower **30** and round stack and reduce spring fatigue, as shown in FIGS. **19-22**.

In an embodiment, the magazine body is comprised of a reinforced thermoplastic polymer selected to resist damage from use (e.g., the ejection of a magazine which causes the magazine to impact a hard surface, which may occur during a speed reload). However, other polymers may be used and the magazines may be made in any color or opacity (which can reduce or eliminate the need for a magazine level indicator). Some polymers may be used without reinforcement. Various reinforcement materials, such as glass, carbon (e.g., carbon fiber or carbon nanotubes), minerals, or metals (e.g., steel, titanium, aluminum, etc.) may also be used to reinforce the magazine. Likewise, the magazine body may be made of other materials having suitable strength and durability, such as titanium, ceramics, laminates, amorphous metals, etc. The follower is preferred to be made of polyoxymethylene, or acetal resin, available commercially from DuPont under the trade name DELRIN, though other materials are suitable, just not preferred.

The magazine **1** is structured to increase its structural integrity. To that end, fore ridge **19** provides added durability to the magazine. Protective cover **40** also provides reinforcement during storage, as pressures from the stored ammunition and spring **35** would normally force the feed lips **21** of the magazine **1** apart. Protective cover **40**, shown in FIGS. **10-10***e*, interfaces with geometry, namely notch **44** and hinge base **48**, on the magazine body **10** with latch **43** and cover hinge **47** (FIGS. **2**, **3** and **4**), and forces the ammunition downward with an underside spacer **45**, thereby redirecting and distributing the forces that would normally be applied to the feed lips **21** in a more advantageous manner. Geometry **92** may be added to the magazine to allow the cover to fasten on the bottom of the magazine for storage (FIGS. **13-18**). A double notch **94** may be utilized (FIG. **17**) as this geometry can benefit the molding process.

The cover **40** also serves as a magazine tool as the cover latch **43** will fit between the feed lips **21** so as to push rounds of ammunition **50** out of the magazine **1** (FIGS. **11***a*-**11***c*). It also has a specialized gauge **49** to determine if the feed lips **21** have either splayed or compressed in a manner to prevent operability of the magazine with the weapon (FIGS. **10-10***e*). Gauge **49** is a flared area, specially sized depending upon the size of ammunition, slightly above latch **43**. The operable magazine **1** will accommodate the latch **43** between the feed lips **21**, but not the gauge. If the latch **43** is unable to fit between feed lips **21**, then the feed lips **21** have compressed in some manner, perhaps due to impact or compression damage, and the magazine **1** is then not fit for use. If the gauge **49** is able to fit between feed lips **21**, then the feed lips **21** have splayed, perhaps due to long term storage without the impact cover **40**, and the magazine **1** is not fit for use. Measurements of the gauge and latch widths will be dependent upon the type of ammunition used Likewise, this magazine **1** is capable of being used in multiple weapon platforms, each with its own tolerances. The widths of the latch **43** and gauge **49** would be dependent upon those tolerances and different weapon platforms may be accommodated by merely fashioning a different version of the impact cover **40** for that platform, without changing the magazine as a whole. Impact cover **40** may also be used to depress the locking plate tab **26** so as to remove the floor plate **20** (FIGS. **12***a*-**12***c*).

It should also be noted that magazine body **10** presents a constant internal curve, with slight straightening near the interior rear face of the feed lips only to allow interface with a weapon. As such, the follower **30** and associated ammunition travel more smoothly through the magazine body **10** with lessened round stack variation.

Although the present invention has been described with reference to preferred embodiments, numerous modifications and variations can be made and still the result will come within the scope of the invention. No limitation with respect to the specific embodiments disclosed herein is intended or should be inferred.

What is claimed is:

1. An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two lateral sides longer than the fore and aft sides and first and second open ends, the casing further comprising a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side;

a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising a follower platform with one or more tines, one of the one or more tines being at a fore position that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom, the one of the one or more tines having a front face that presses against the ridge to help prevent forward linear and axial tilt of the follower, wherein the one or more tines limit rotation of the follower within the casing;

a floor plate coupled to the casing at the second open end;

a follower spring residing between the follower and floor plate; and

a stop tab, projecting internally from or near the ridge terminus and generally perpendicularly from the ridge, and a groove serving as a detent, situated in the follower platform to interface with the stop tab, thereby preventing the follower from exiting the magazine through the first end.

2. The ammunition magazine of claim **1**, wherein the casing further comprises a constant internal curve initiating at the second open end and continuing through a majority of the casing of the magazine.

3. The ammunition magazine of claim **1**, wherein the follower comprises a second tine at an aft position of the follower that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom.

4. The ammunition magazine of claim **1**, wherein the casing further comprises two guide rails situated opposite each other along the lateral sides of an interior of the casing, the two guide rails contacting the follower to act as a guide for the follower to inhibit rotation of the follower.

5. The ammunition magazine of claim **1**, wherein one or more of the one or more tines is split into two regions via a vertical gap arranged at a center of the tine.

6. An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two lateral sides longer than the fore and aft sides and first and second open ends,

the casing further comprising a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side, and the casing further comprising a constant internal curve initiating at the second open end and continuing through a majority of the casing of the magazine;

a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising a follower platform with one or more tines, one of the one or more tines being at a fore position that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom, the one of the one or more tines having a front face that presses against the ridge to help prevent forward linear and axial tilt of the follower, wherein the one or more tines limit rotation of the follower within the casing;

a floor plate coupled to the casing at the second open end; and

a follower spring residing between the follower and floor plate.

7. The ammunition magazine of claim **6**, further comprising a stop tab, projecting internally from or near the ridge terminus and generally perpendicularly from the ridge, and a groove serving as a detent, situated in the follower platform to interface with the stop tab, thereby preventing the follower from exiting the magazine through the first end.

8. The ammunition magazine of claim **6**, wherein the follower comprises a second tine at an aft position of the follower that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom.

9. The ammunition magazine of claim **6**, wherein the casing further comprises two guide rails situated opposite each other along the lateral sides of an interior of the casing, the two guide rails contacting the follower to act as a guide for the follower to inhibit rotation of the follower.

10. The ammunition magazine of claim **6**, wherein one or more of the one or more tines is split into two regions via a vertical gap arranged at a center of the tine.

11. An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two lateral sides longer than the fore and aft sides and first and second open ends, the casing further comprising a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side, the casing further comprising guide rails running along an insides of the two longer lateral sides;

a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising a follower platform with one or more tines, one of the one or more tines being at a fore position that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom, the one of the one or more tines having a front face that presses against the ridge to help prevent forward linear and axial tilt of the follower, wherein the one or more tines limit rotation of the follower within the casing, the two guide rails contacting the follower to act as a guide for the follower;

a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising one or more tines at least at a fore position that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom, and wherein at least one of the one or more tines is shaped to interface with the guide rails to inhibit rotation of the follower;

a floor plate coupled to the casing at the second open end; and

a follower spring residing between the follower and floor plate.

12. The ammunition magazine of claim **11**, further comprising a stop tab, projecting internally from or near the ridge terminus and generally perpendicularly from the ridge, and a groove serving as a detent, situated in the follower platform to interface with the stop tab, thereby preventing the follower from exiting the magazine through the first end.

13. The ammunition magazine of claim **11**, wherein the casing further comprises a constant internal curve initiating at the second open end and continuing through a majority of the casing of the magazine.

14. The ammunition magazine of claim **11**, wherein the follower comprises a second tine at an aft position of the follower that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom.

15. The ammunition magazine of claim **11**, wherein one or more of the one or more tines is split into two regions via a vertical gap arranged at a center of the tine.

16. An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral sides longer than the fore and aft sides and first and second open ends, the casing further comprising guide rails running along the insides of the longer lateral sides, the casing further comprising a constant internal curve initiating at the second open end and continuing through a majority of the casing of the magazine, the casing further comprising a stop tab projecting internally from a front of the casing;

a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising one or more tines, one of the one or more tines being at a fore position that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom, the two guide rails contacting the follower to act as a guide for the follower, the follower configured to interface with the stop tab;

a floor plate coupled to the casing at the second open end; and

a follower spring residing between the follower and floor plate.

17. The ammunition magazine of claim **16**, wherein the guide rails interface with the follower to inhibit rotation of the follower relative to the casing.

18. The ammunition magazine of claim **16**, further comprising a ridge, and a groove serving as a detent situated in the follower platform to interface with the stop tab, thereby preventing the follower from exiting the magazine through the first end.

19. The ammunition magazine of claim **16**, wherein the follower comprises a second tine at an aft position of the follower that extends generally perpendicularly therefrom.

20. The ammunition magazine of claim **16**, wherein one or more of the one or more tines is split into two regions via a vertical gap arranged at a center of the tine.

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