IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Richard M. Fitzpatrick Application No.: 14/098,467 Filed: 12/05/2013 Title: Ammunition Magazine Attorney Docket No.: 1338.100.01US	Art Unit: 3641 Confirmation Number: 1084 Examiner: Johnson, Stephen

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of April 8, 2014, please consider the following:

Amendments to the **Claims** begin on page **2**; and

Remarks begin on page **12**.

In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral 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 two tines at fore and aft positions that extend generally perpendicularly therefrom, one of the two tines having a front face that presses against the ridge to prevent forward linear and axial tilt of the follower, wherein the 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. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The magazine of claim 1, further comprising at least one window in the casing, through which the spring is viewable.

4. (Original) The magazine of claim 1, the magazine further comprising a rim about the second end and the floor plate being capable of a sliding relationship over said rim.

5. (Original) The magazine of claim 4, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening and a ledge capable of interfacing with the rim, the interior locking plate also having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The magazine of claim 1, further comprising a constant internal curve initiating at the second open end and continuing through a majority of the casing of the magazine.

9. (Original) The magazine of claim 8, the magazine further comprising a rim about the second end and the floor plate being capable of a sliding relationship over said rim.

10. (Original) The magazine of claim 9, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening and a ledge capable of interfacing with the rim, the interior locking plate also having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The magazine of claim 1, further comprising a protective cover and interfacing geometry on the casing with which to secure the protective cover, the protective cover capable of forcing the follower downward and absorbing at least some pressure applied to the magazine by the spring.

14. (Original) The magazine of claim 13, further comprising a constant internal curve through a majority of the length of the magazine.

15. (Original) The magazine of claim 14, the magazine further comprising a rim about the second end and the floor plate being capable of a sliding relationship over said rim.

16. (Original) The magazine of claim 15, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening and a ledge capable of interfacing with the rim, the interior locking plate also having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 16, the magazine casing being made from a fiber-reinforced polymer.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 16, the magazine casing being made from a fiber-reinforced polymer.

21. (Original) The magazine of claim 13, the protective cover further comprising at least one tool portion.

22. (Original) The magazine of claim 21, the at least one tool portion being at least one tool selected from the set of magazine tools consisting of: a magazine unloading tool, a magazine disassembly tool, and a feed lip width gauge.

23. (Original) The magazine of claim 1, wherein the two tines at fore and aft positions extend generally perpendicularly from a horizontal plane comprising a bottom surface of the follower platform.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral 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 two tines at fore and aft positions that extend generally perpendicularly therefrom, one of the two tines having a front face that presses against the ridge to prevent forward linear and axial tilt of the follower, wherein the 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 protective cover and interfacing geometry on the casing with which to secure the protective cover, the protective cover capable of forcing the follower downward and absorbing at least some pressure applied to the magazine by the spring.

26. (Original) An ammunition magazine comprising:

a casing with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral sides and first and second open ends, the casing further comprising guide rails running along the insides of the longer lateral sides, the guide rails having a cross section that includes at least one angle, 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 two tines at fore and aft positions that extend generally perpendicularly therefrom, and wherein at least one of the tines interfaces with the guide rails;

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

a follower spring residing between the follower and floor plate.

27. (Original) The ammunition magazine of Claim 26, wherein extensions of the at least one of the tines interface with the guide rails, and wherein the extensions inhibit rotation of the follower relative to the casing.

28. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

29. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 28, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

30. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, further comprising at least one window in the casing, through which the spring is viewable.

31. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, the magazine further comprising a rim about the second end and the floor plate being capable of a sliding relationship over said rim.

32. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 31, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening and a ledge capable of interfacing with the rim, the interior locking plate also

having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

33. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 32, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

34. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 33, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

35. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 31, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

36. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 35, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

37. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening, the interior locking plate also having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

38. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 37, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

39. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 38, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

40. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, further comprising a protective cover and interfacing geometry on the casing with which to secure the protective cover, the protective cover capable of forcing the follower downward and absorbing at least some pressure applied to the magazine by the spring.

41. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 40, the magazine further comprising a rim about the second end and the floor plate being capable of a sliding relationship over said rim.

42. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 41, the floor plate further comprising an interior locking plate with at least one locking tab and a floor plate cover with at least one mating opening and a ledge capable of interfacing with the rim, the interior locking plate also having at least one support wall extending therefrom on a side opposite the at least one locking tab.

43. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 42, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

44. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 43, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

45. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 44, the magazine casing being made from a fiber-reinforced polymer.

46. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 41, where the casing further comprises a stop tab, projecting internally and generally perpendicularly from the fore side and located at or near the terminus of the first open end, 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.

47. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 46, where the casing further comprises a ridge, centrally located on an interior side of the fore side.

48. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 47, the magazine casing being made from a fiber-reinforced polymer.

49. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 40, the protective cover further comprising at least one tool portion.

50. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 49, the at least one tool portion being at least one tool selected from the set of magazine tools consisting of: a magazine unloading tool, a magazine disassembly tool, and a feed lip width gauge.

51. (Previously Presented) The magazine of claim 26, wherein the two tines at fore and aft positions extend generally perpendicularly from a horizontal plane comprising a bottom surface of the follower platform.

REMARKS

Claim 24 has been cancelled and Claims 2, 6-7, 11-12, 17, and 19 were previously cancelled. Therefore, Claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 13-16, 18, 20-23, and 25-51 are pending. No Claims have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's thoughtful and detailed consideration of the claims and indication that, Claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 13-16, 18, 20-23, and 25-51 are allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 101

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 USC § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 8 of prior U.S. Patent No. 8,069,601 or claim 69 of prior U.S. Patent No. 8,635,796. While Applicants do not concede to the USPTO's position relative to Claim 24, in order to expedite prosecution, Claim 24 has been cancelled. Thus, this rejection is moot and allowance of all remaining claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Steve Gruber, Applicants' Attorney at 720-536-4908 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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