

**DRAFTING OF PATENT SPECIFICATIONS: 2007**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM**

**PAPER 1A**

1. Your client writes to you as follows:

Figures 3 and 4 show a prior art metallic soft drink can 1.

The can 1 has an opener ring 2, with a radially outwardly extending tab 3 attached to a closure member 4.

The closure member 4 is formed by punching a line of weakness 5 into a top wall 6 of the can 1.

When one lifts the free side of the ring, its attachment to the closure member causes a lever action, tearing an inner part 7 of the closure member, along the line of weakness, from the top wall.

Further lifting and pulling of the ring, at its free side, in the direction of the arrow A, causes the closure member to tear free from the top wall 6.

A problem with this ring and closure member is that they do not remain attached to the can after opening the can. This causes a litter problem as many people

drop or lose the ring and closure member without properly disposing of it in dustbins and the like.

As a result of this problem, I have invented the can 8 and opener device shown in figures 1 and 2.

The opener device includes an opener lug 9 attached to a top wall 10 of the can 8.

The lug forms a type of over-centre lever as it has lever sections 11 and 12 on each side of its attachment point.

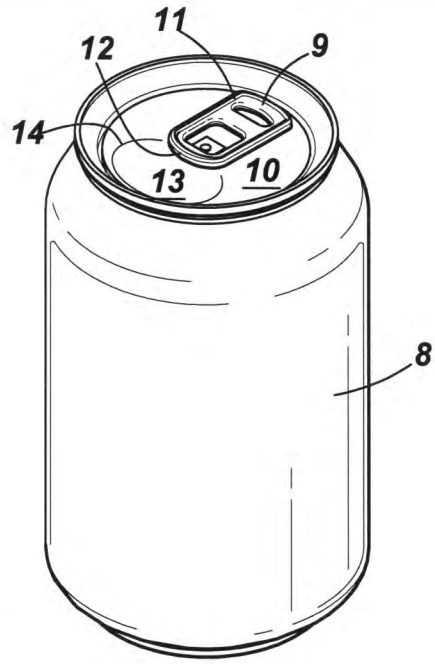
An opener section 13 is defined inside of a semi-circular line of weakness 14 punched in the top wall 10.

Lifting of the lug 9 causes the lever section 12 to push down on the opener section 13, thus tearing it free at the line of weakness, and bending it down at 15 where it is attached to, and from where it forms an extension of, the top wall.

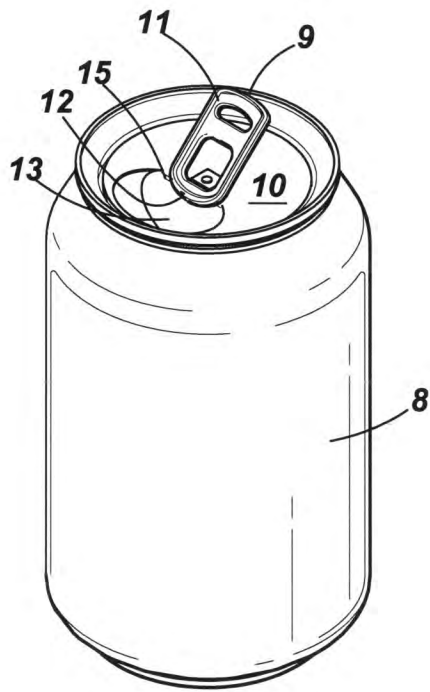
In my invention the lug 9 and opener section 13 remain attached to the can. The lug remains attached to the top wall and the section 13 does not separate from the top wall as it is bent downwards and into the can, to open the can.

The can can thus be discarded together with the lug 9 and opening section 13.

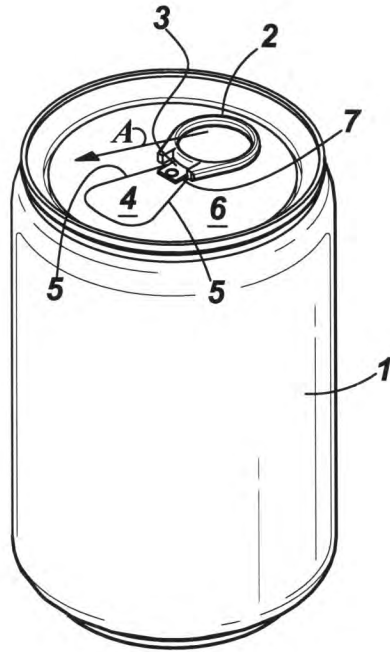
2. Identify the inventive feature(s) of the invention and draft a claim to protect the invention.



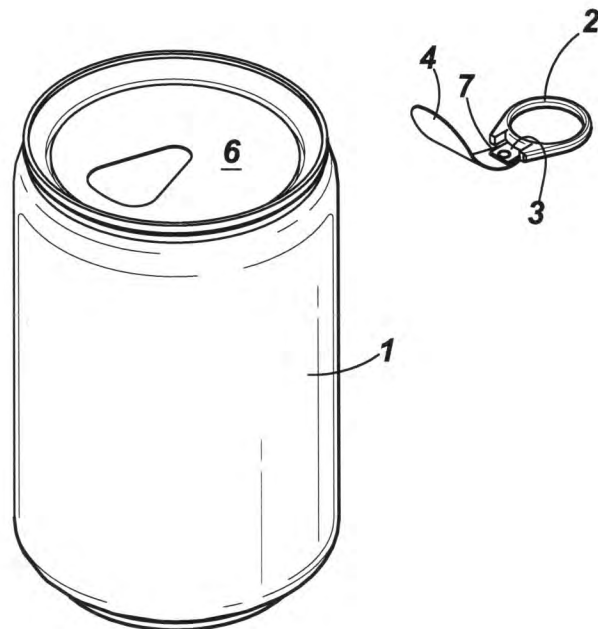
**FIGURE 1**



**FIGURE 2**



**FIGURE 3**



**FIGURE 4**