US007707948B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Lin

(10) **Patent No.: US 7,707,948 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent: May 4, 2010**

(54) **FOLDABLE TABLE**

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(73) Assignee: **Maxchief Investments, Ltd.** (CN)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 15 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/779,422**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 18, 2007**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2007/0272128 A1 Nov. 29, 2007

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 11/383,776, filed on May 17, 2006, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/763,155, filed on Jan. 21, 2004, now abandoned.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A47B 3/00 (2006.01)
A47B 3/083 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **108/169**; 108/115; 108/132

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 108/115–135, 108/162–179

See application file for complete search history.

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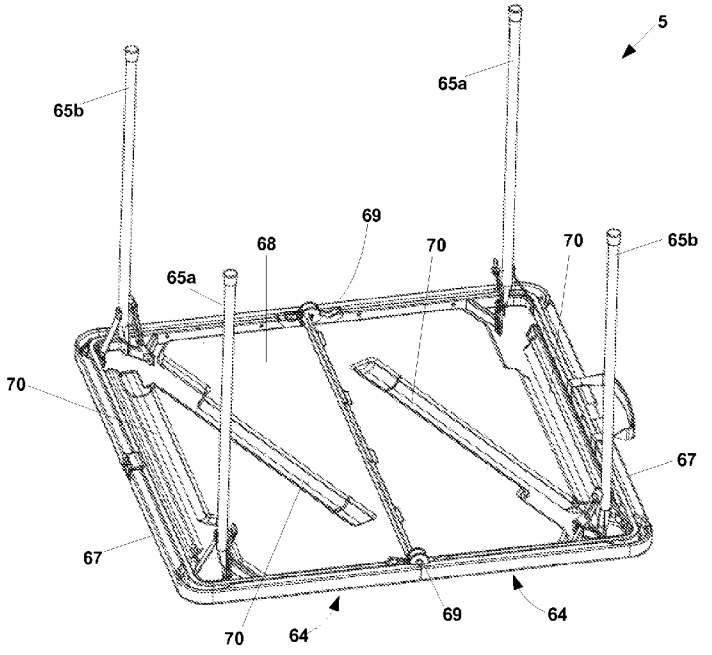
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A collapsible table has a blow-molded tabletop comprising two table top halves. Each tabletop half has a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge. A hinge assembly pivotally connects the two tabletop halves along their inner edges, allowing the two tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position. Four collapsible legs are attached to the bottom surface of the tabletop halves. Each collapsible leg is operable to collapse independently of any of the other legs. A first pair of the legs collapse to positions which are substantially parallel to the outer edges of the tabletop halves, and a second pair of the legs collapse to positions which are substantially diagonal to the outer edges of the tabletop halves.

15 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets



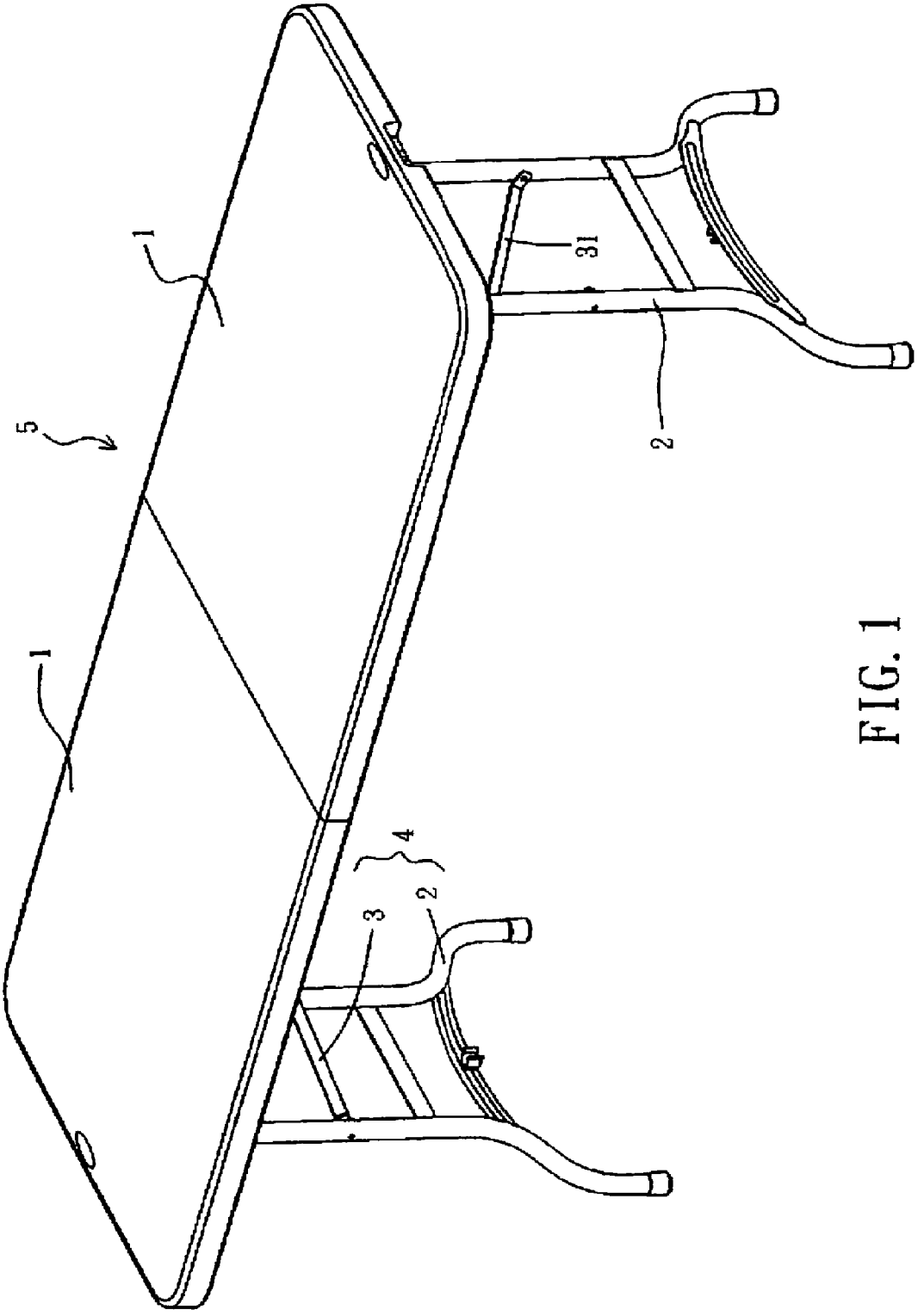


FIG. 1

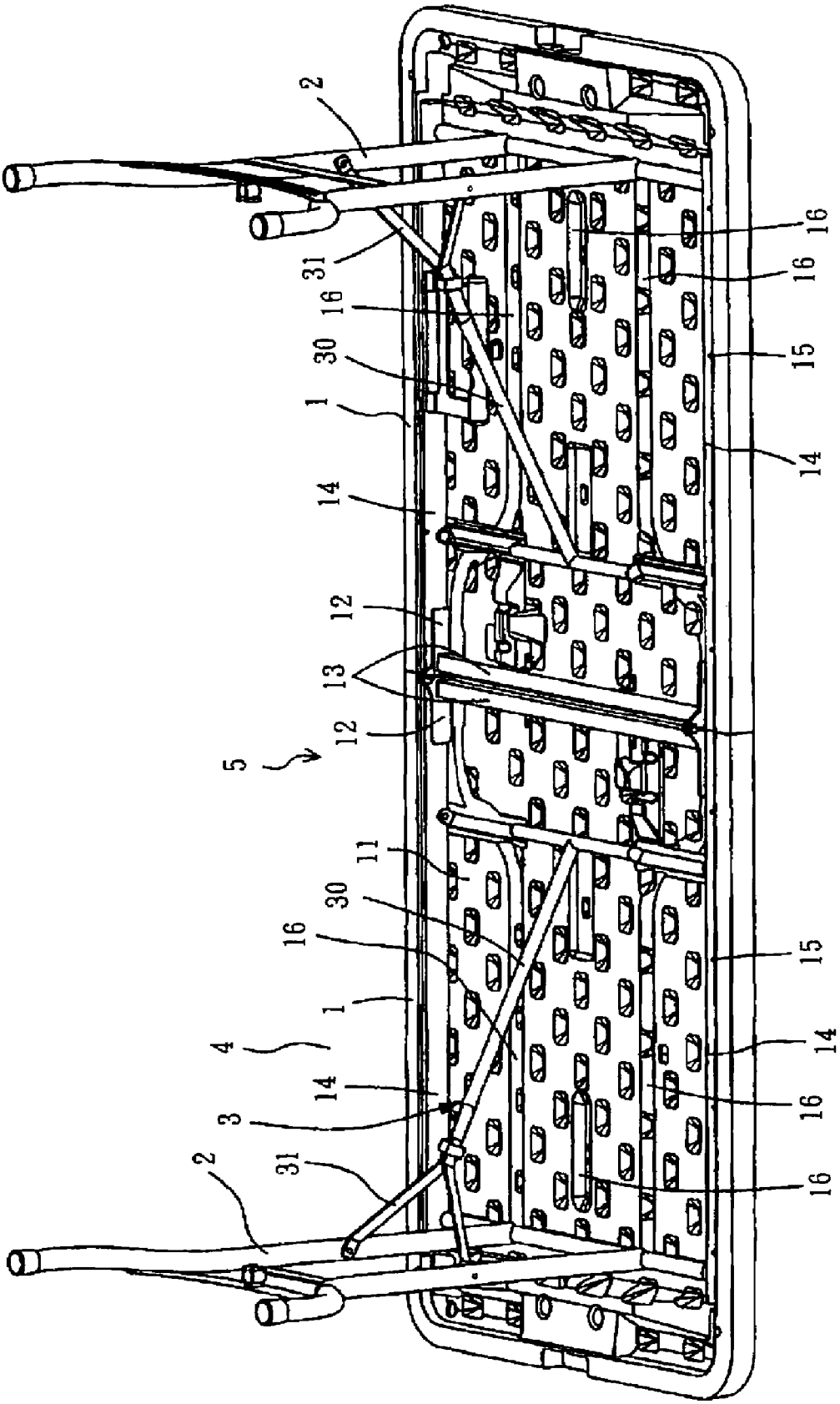


FIG. 2

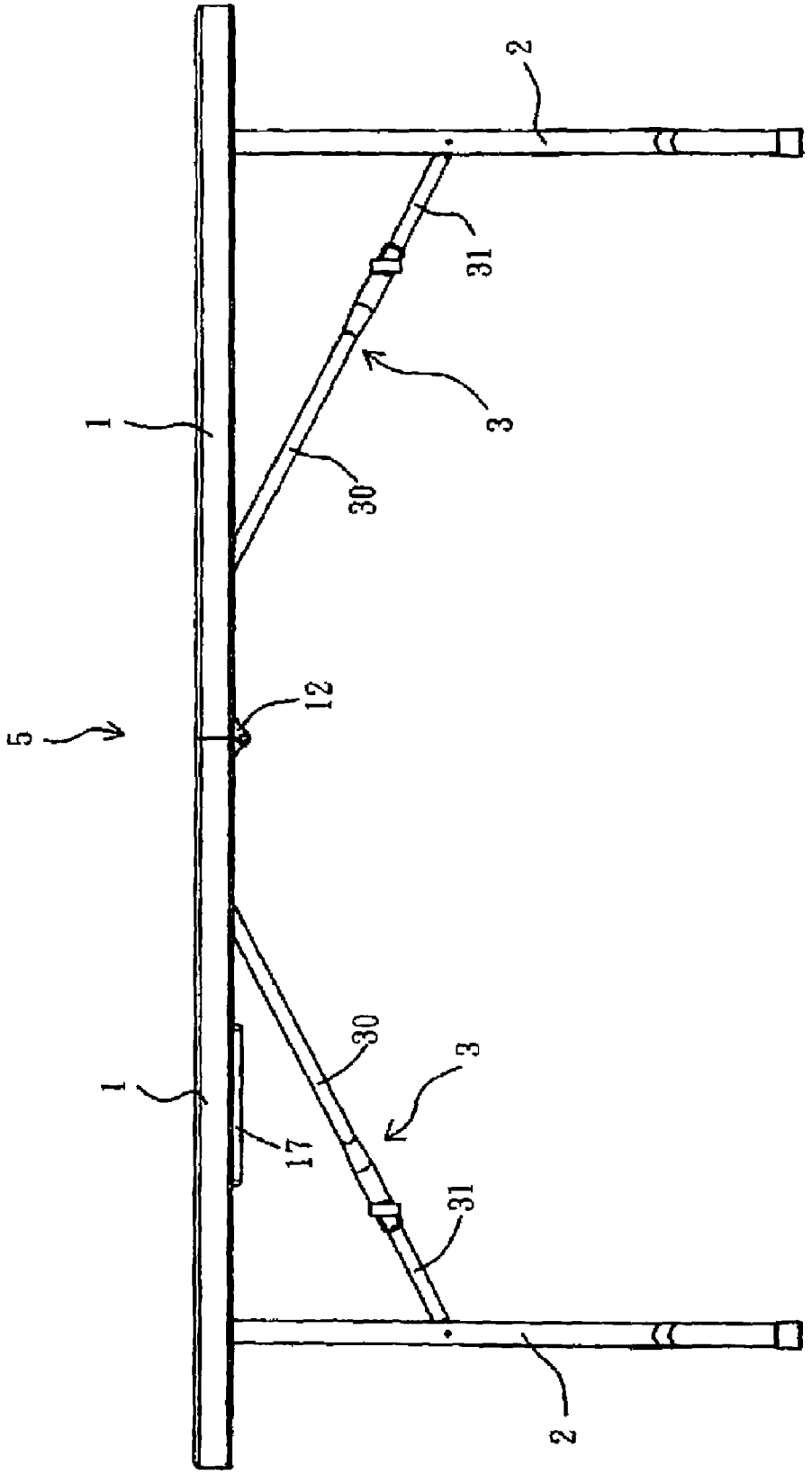


FIG. 3

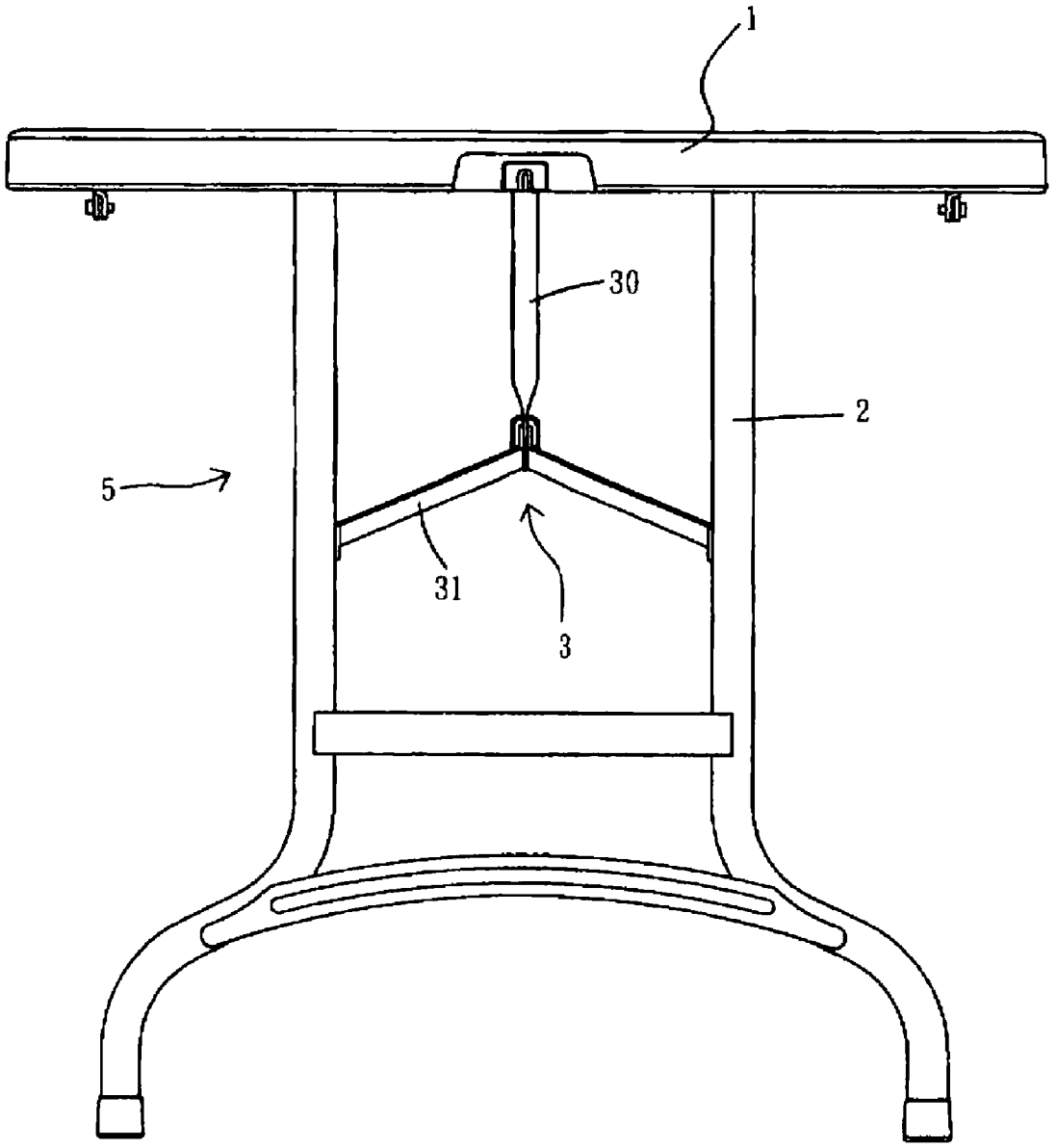


FIG. 4

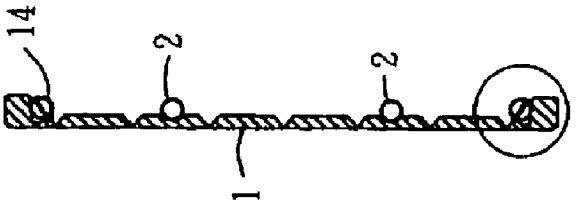


FIG. 6

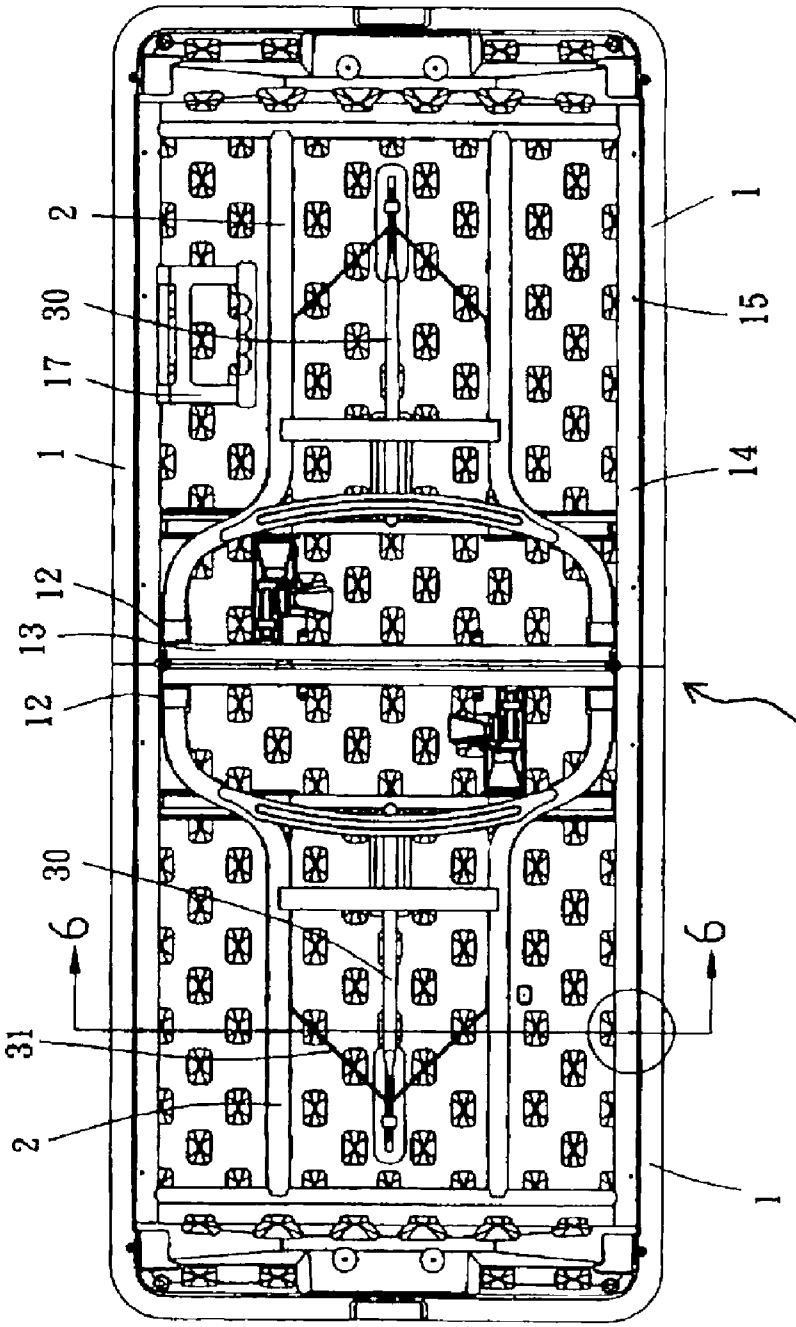


FIG. 5

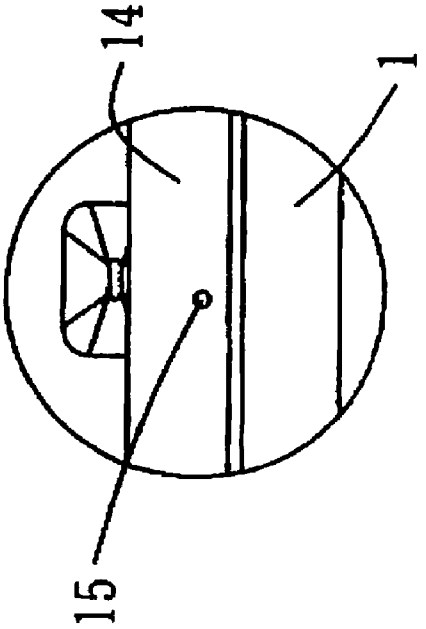


FIG. 8

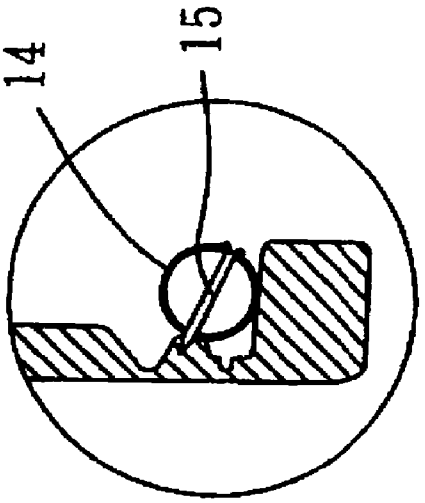


FIG. 7

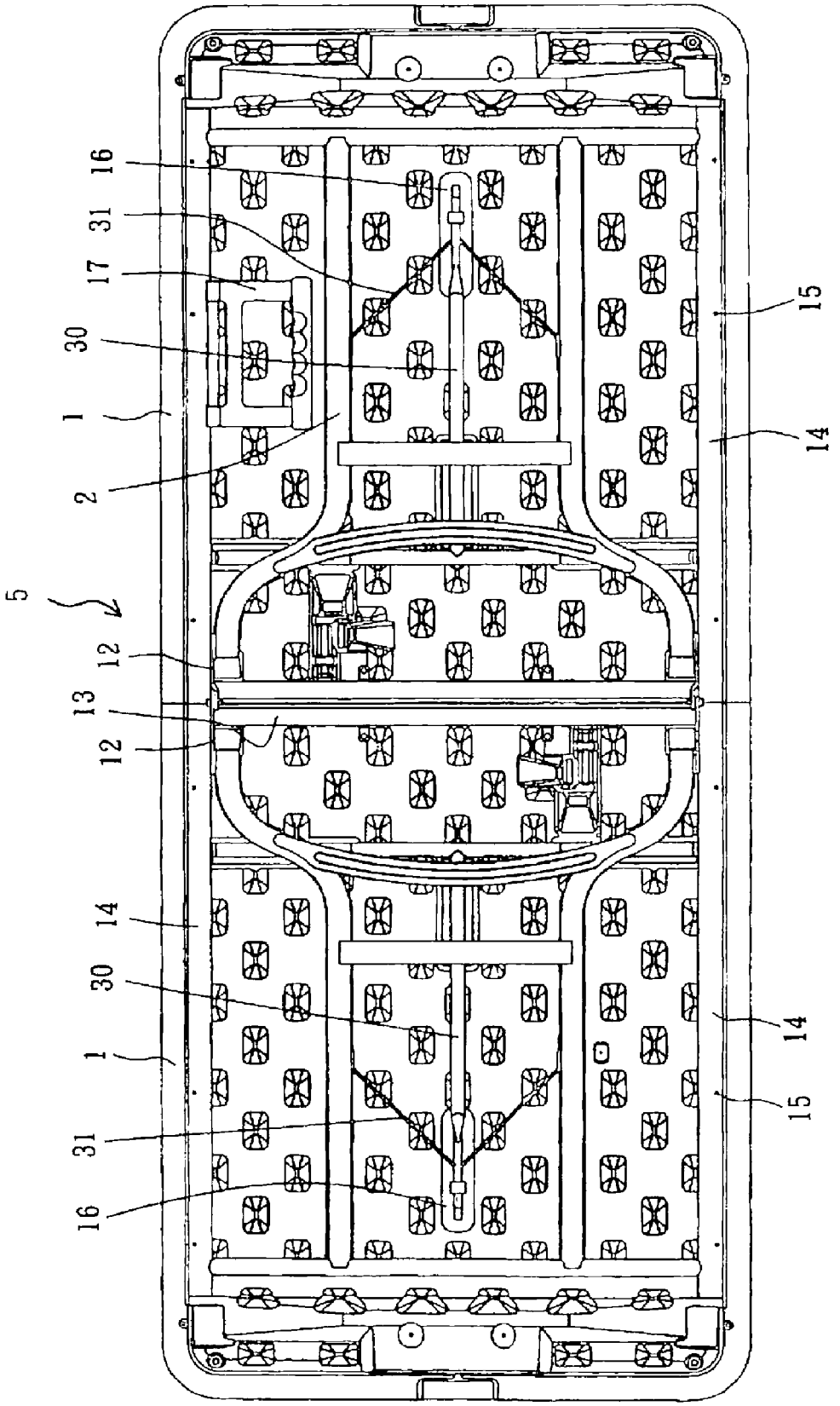


FIG. 9

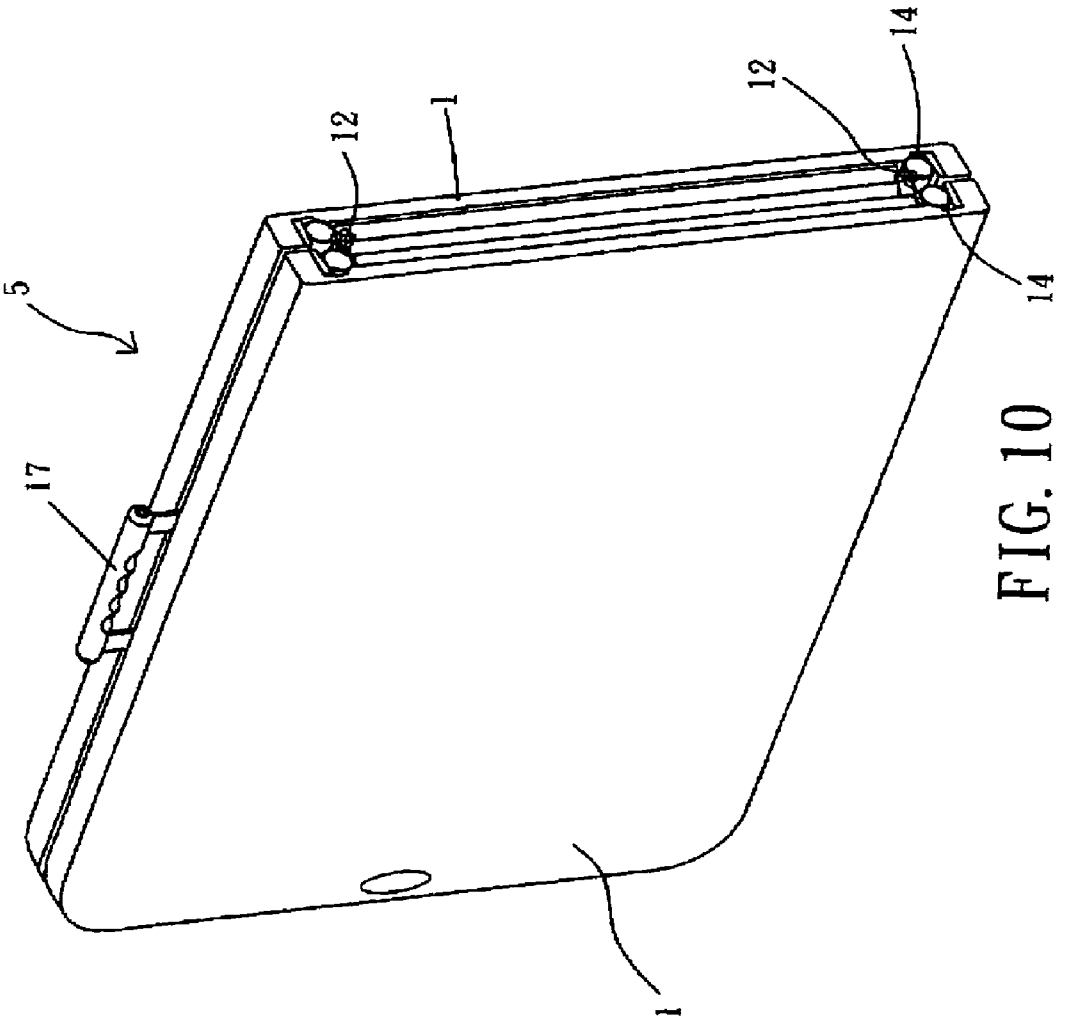


FIG. 10

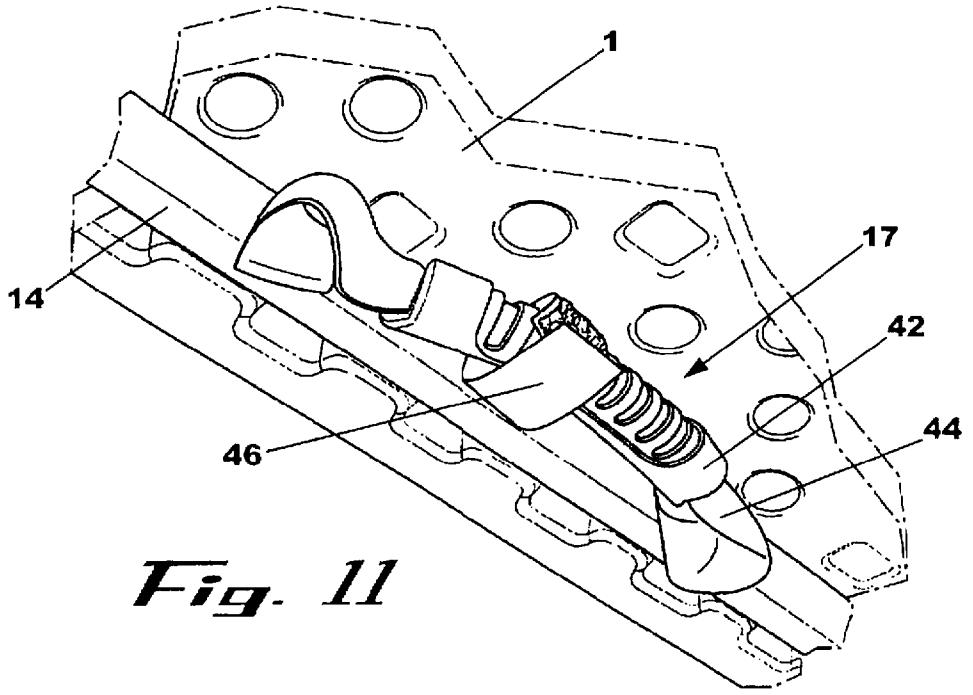


Fig. 11

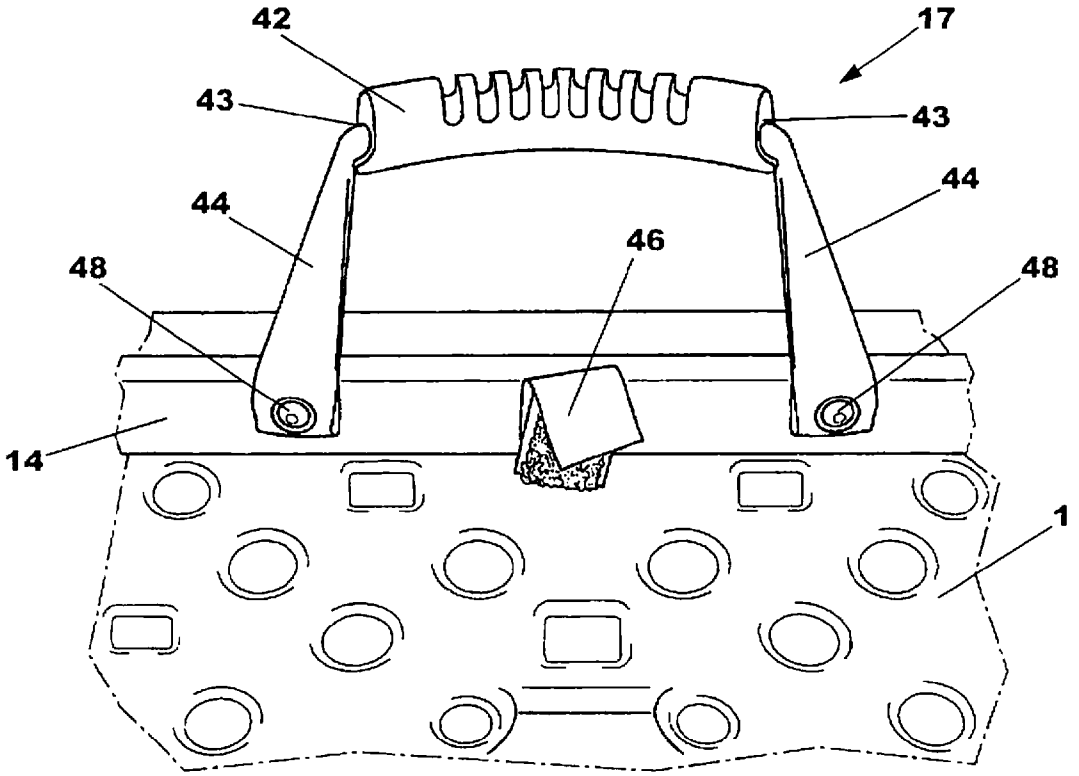


Fig. 12

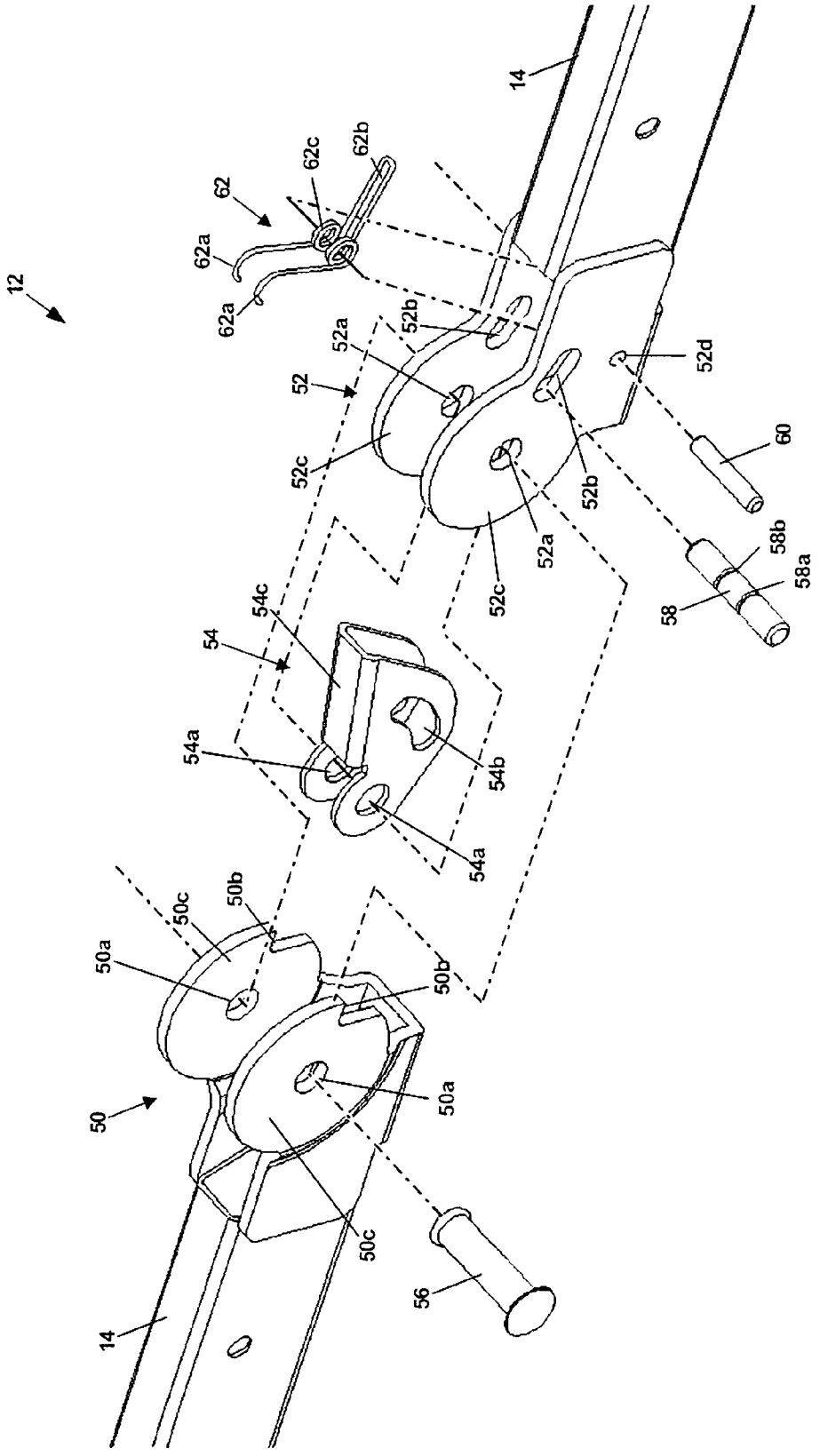

12
14
62
62a
62b
62c
52
52a
52b
52c
52d
60
58
58a
58b
54
54a
54b
54c
50
50a
50b
50c
56

FIG. 13

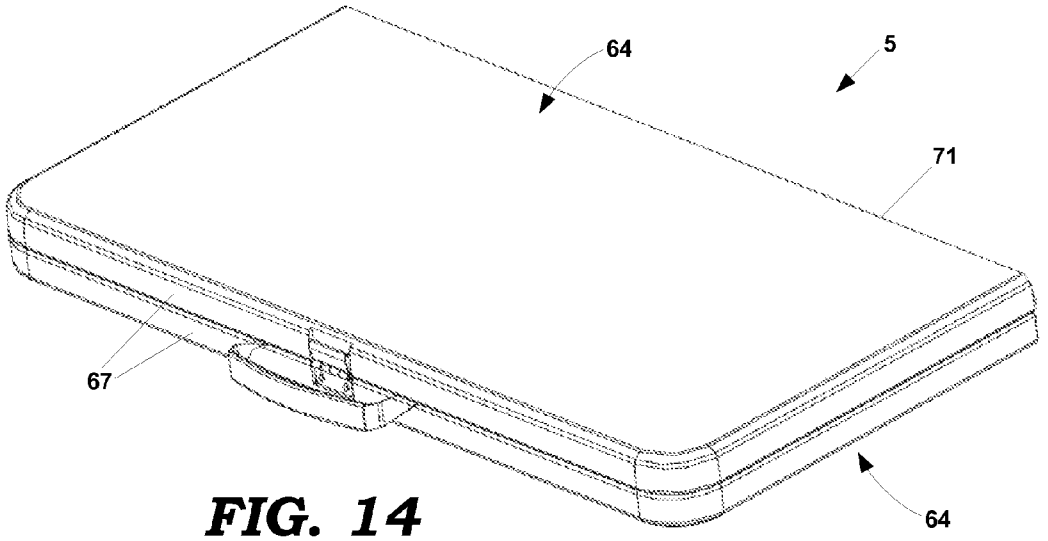


FIG. 14

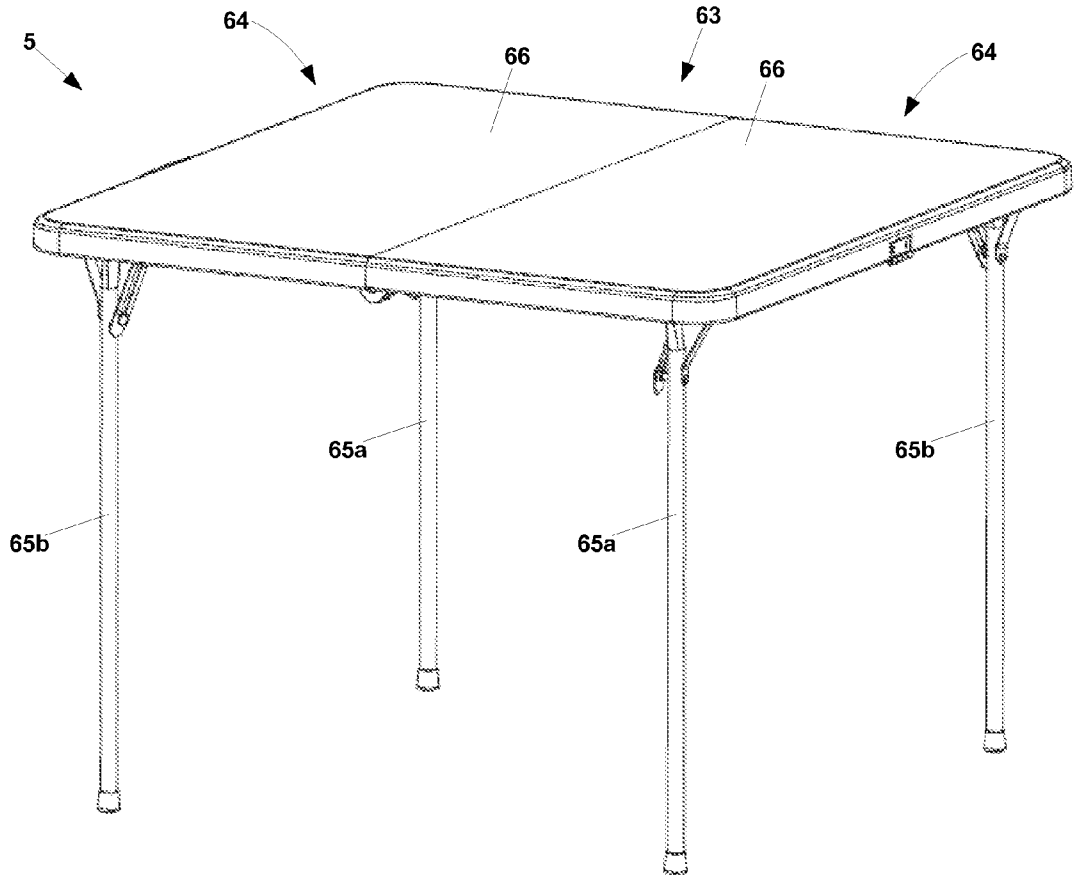


FIG. 15

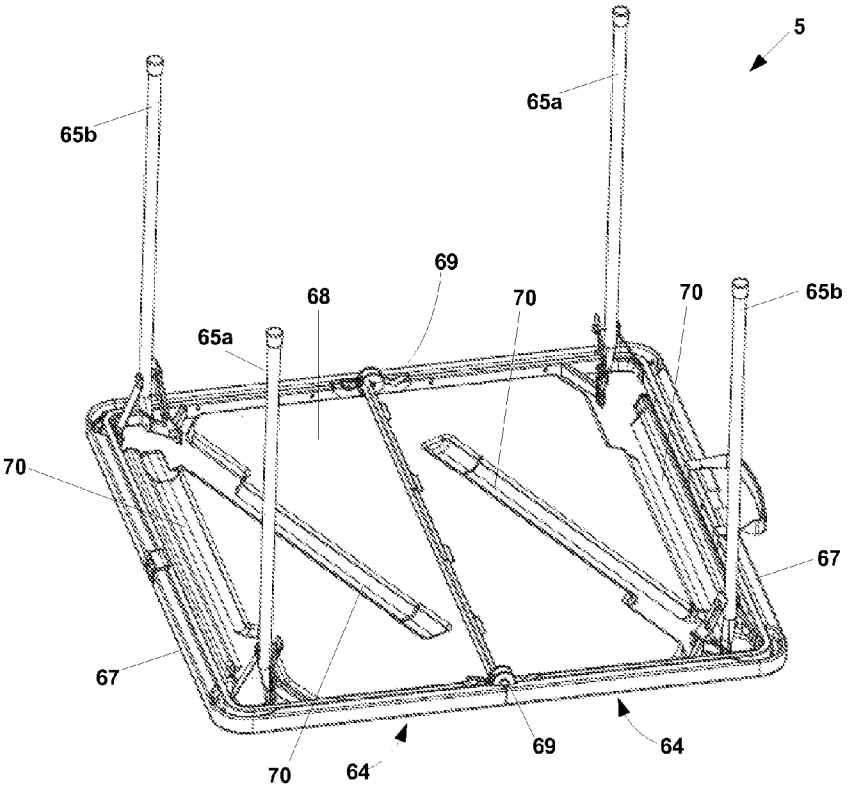
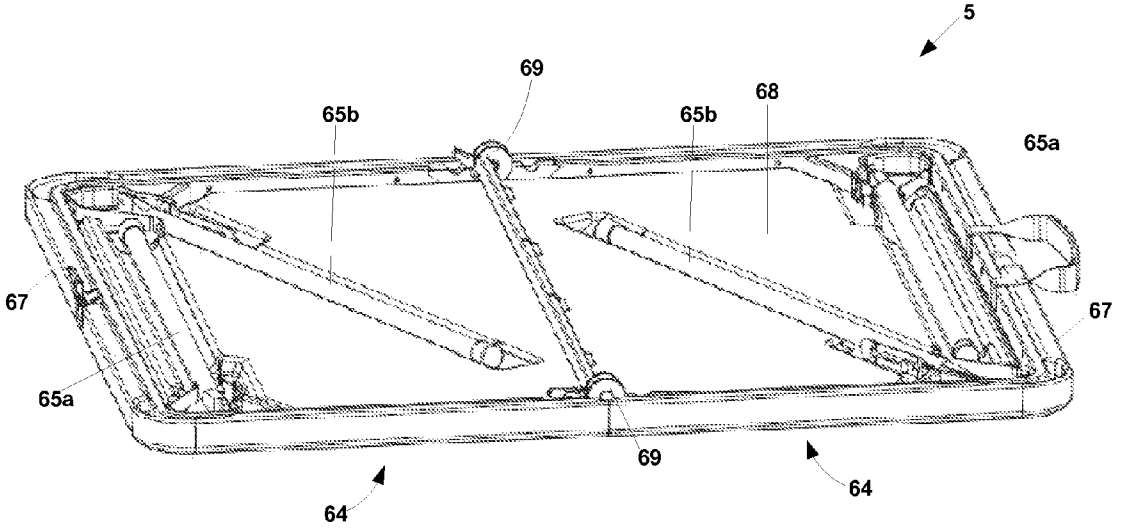

5
65a
65b
69
68
70
70
65b
65a
70
67
67
70
64
69
64

FIG. 16


5
69
65b
65b
68
65a
67
67
65a
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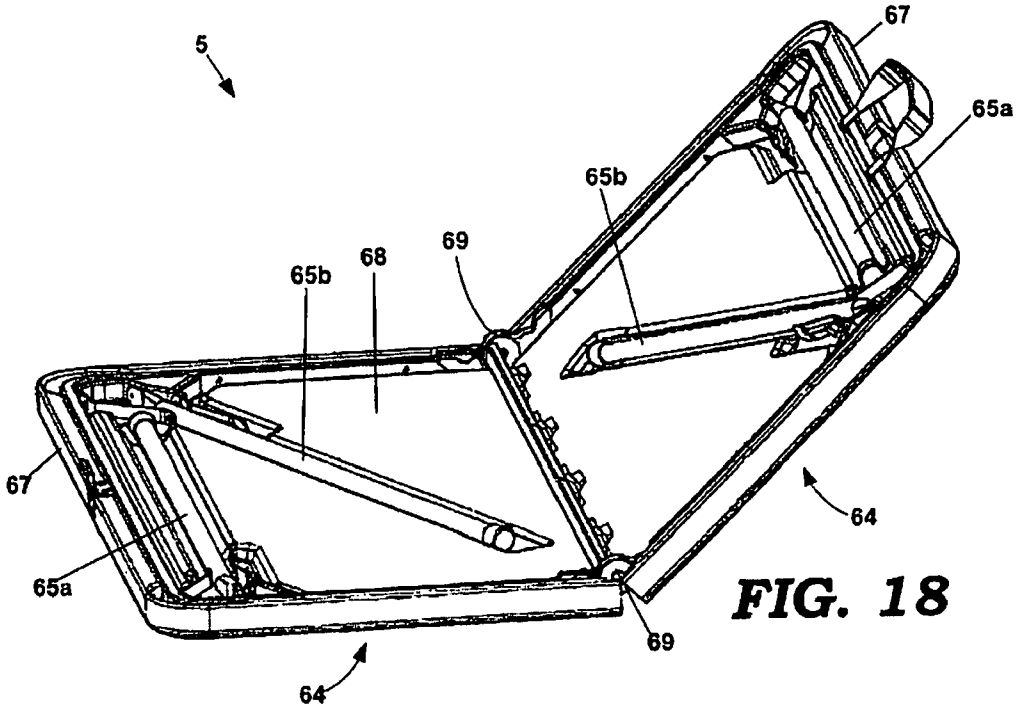
64
64

FIG. 17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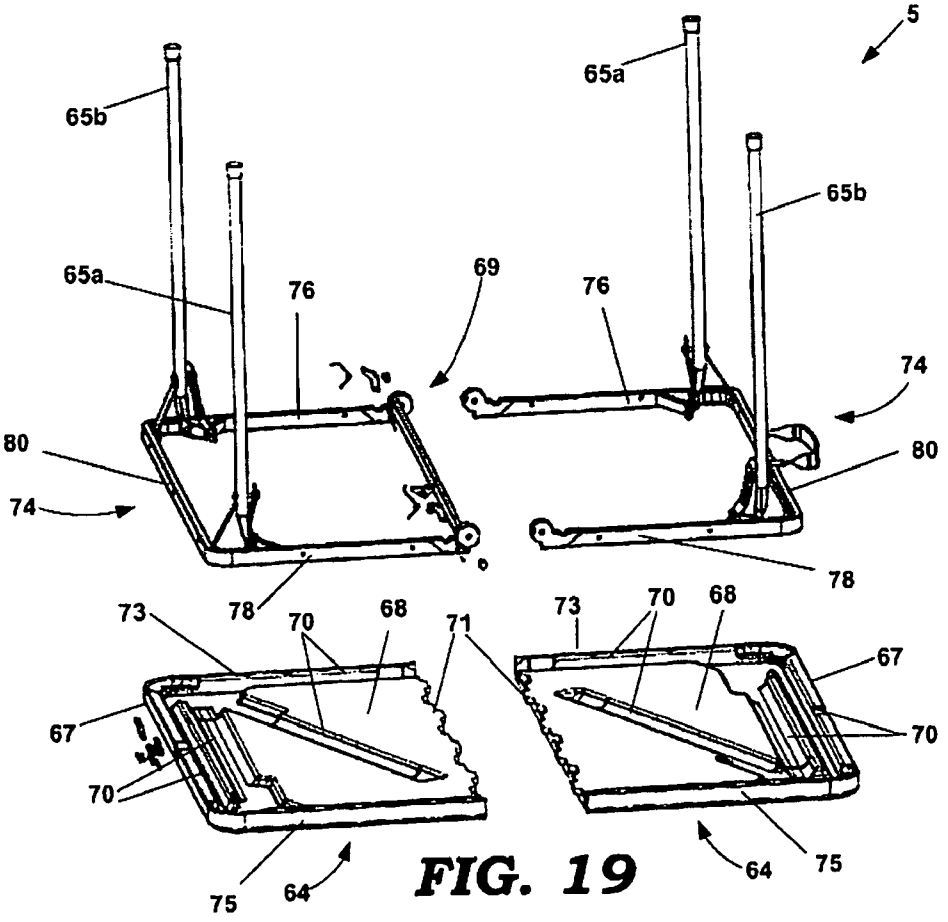
67
65a
65b
68
69
65b
67
65a
64
69
64

FIG. 18


5
65a
65b
65b
65a
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74
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75
64
64
75

FIG. 19

FOLDABLE TABLE

This application claims priority as a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/383,776 filed on May 17, 2006, which is a continuation-in-part of application Ser. No. 10/763,155 filed Jan. 21, 2004, now abandoned.

FIELD

The present invention relates to a foldable table, and more particularly to a foldable table that is folded when not in use, thereby saving space of storage, package and transportation.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

A conventional table is available for providing a support effect, thereby facilitating the user using the table. However, the conventional table has a fixed structure and cannot be folded when not in use, thereby increasing space of storage, and thereby causing inconvenience in storage, package and transportation.

The primary objective of the present invention is to provide a foldable table that is supported rigidly and stably when being expanded and is folded when not in use, thereby enhancing the versatility of foldable table.

Another objective of the present invention is to provide a foldable table, wherein the handle is pivoted outward to protrude from the two table boards, thereby facilitating the user carrying the foldable table.

A further objective of the present invention is to provide a foldable table that is folded when not in use, thereby saving space of storage, package and transportation.

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided a foldable table, comprising two table boards pivotally connected with each other, and two support units each foldably mounted on a respective one of the two table boards, wherein:

each of the two table boards has a bottom formed with a receiving space; and

each of the support units is mounted in the receiving space of a respective one of the two table boards and includes a support stand having an end pivotally mounted on a first end of the respective table board, and a support member pivotally mounted on a second end of the respective table board and pivotally connected with the support stand.

A preferred embodiment of the invention provides a collapsible table having a substantially square tabletop. The tabletop includes two tabletop halves. Each tabletop half has a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge. A hinge assembly pivotally connects the two tabletop halves along their inner edges to enable the two tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position. Attached to the bottom surface of the tabletop are legs that are collapsible to a position adjacent to the bottom surface of the tabletop.

In another embodiment, the invention provides a collapsible table having two tabletop halves, each half having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge. A hinge assembly pivotally connects the two tabletop halves along their inner edges so that the two tabletop halves can be folded together into a storage position. Attached to the bottom surface of the tabletop are four collapsible legs that are each operable to collapse independently of any of the other legs.

In yet another embodiment, the invention provides a collapsible table having two tabletop halves, each half having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge. A hinge assembly pivotally connects the two tabletop halves along their inner edges so that the two tabletop halves can be folded together into a storage position. Attached to the bottom surface of the tabletop are four collapsible legs. A first pair of the legs are operable to collapse to positions which are substantially parallel to the outer edges of the tabletop halves. A second pair of the legs are operable to collapse to positions which are substantially diagonal to the outer edges of the tabletop halves.

Further benefits and advantages of the present invention will become apparent after a careful reading of the detailed description with appropriate reference to the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Further advantages of the invention are apparent by reference to the detailed description in conjunction with the figures, wherein elements are not to scale so as to more clearly show the details, wherein like reference numbers indicate like elements throughout the several views, and wherein:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a foldable table in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **2** is a bottom perspective view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **1**;

FIG. **3** is a front plan view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **1**;

FIG. **4** is a side plan view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **1**;

FIG. **5** is a bottom plan folded view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **1**;

FIG. **6** is a plan cross-sectional view of the foldable table taken along line **6-6** as shown in FIG. **5**;

FIG. **7** is a partially enlarged view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **6**;

FIG. **8** is a partially enlarged view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **5**;

FIG. **9** is a partially enlarged view of the foldable table as shown in FIG. **5**;

FIG. **10** is a perspective folded view of the foldable table in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **11** depicts a handle for carrying the foldable table according to a preferred embodiment of the invention, wherein the handle is in a stowed position;

FIG. **12** depicts a handle for carrying the foldable table according to a preferred embodiment of the invention, wherein the handle is in a use position;

FIG. **13** depicts a hinge mechanism according to a preferred embodiment of the invention;

FIG. **14** is a perspective view of a substantially square foldable table in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, wherein the table is in its folded position;

FIG. **15** is a perspective view of a substantially square foldable table in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention;

FIG. **16** is a bottom perspective view of a substantially square foldable table in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, wherein the collapsible legs are extended;

FIG. **17** is a bottom perspective view of a rectangular foldable table in accordance with an alternative embodiment of the invention, wherein the collapsible legs are in a collapsed position;

FIG. **18** is a bottom perspective view of a rectangular foldable table in accordance with an alternative embodiment of the invention, wherein the collapsible legs are in a collapsed position and the table is partially folded; and

FIG. **19** depicts an exploded view of a rectangular foldable table according to an alternative embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring to the drawings and initially to FIGS. **1-8**, a foldable table **5** in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention comprises two table boards **1** pivotally connected with each other, and two support units **4** each foldably mounted on a respective one of the two table boards **1**.

The two table boards **1** are pivotally connected with each other by two pivot members **12**. Each of the two table boards **1** has a bottom formed with a receiving space **11**. The foldable table further comprises two juxtaposed reinforcement members **13** each secured on an edge of a respective one of the two table boards **1**. The receiving space **11** of each of the two table boards **1** has two sides each provided with a support tube **14** secured on each of the two table boards **1** by a plurality of screws **15** as shown in FIGS. **6-8**.

Each of the support units **4** is mounted in the receiving space **11** of a respective one of the two table boards **1** and includes a support stand **2** having an end pivotally mounted on a first end of the respective table board **1**, and a support member **3** pivotally mounted on a second end of the respective table board **1** and pivotally connected with the support stand **2**.

The support member **3** of each of the support units **4** includes a substantially T-shaped support bar **30** having a first end pivotally mounted on the second end of the respective table board **1**, and a substantially V-shaped extension bar **31** having a first end pivotally mounted on a second end of the support bar **30** and a second end pivotally mounted on a mediate portion of the support stand **2**.

The receiving space **11** of each of the two table boards **1** is formed with a plurality of receiving recesses **16** for receiving the support stand **2** and the support member **3** of each of the support units **4** when being folded.

As shown in FIG. **5**, the foldable table **5** further comprises a handle **17** pivotally mounted on either one of the two table boards **1**.

In practice, as shown in FIGS. **1-4**, the support stand **2** of each of the support units **4** is pulled outward relative to the respective table board **1** to drive the support member **3** to extend outward, thereby fully stretching the support member **3**, so that the two table boards **1** are supported by the support units **4** rigidly and stably, thereby fully expanding the foldable table **5** as shown in FIG. **1**.

As shown in FIGS. **5-10**, when the user wishes to fold the foldable table **5**, the support stand **2** of each of the support units **4** is pressed toward the respective table board **1** to drive the support member **3** to move and pivot inward, thereby folding the support member **3** and the support stand **2** into the receiving recesses **16** of the respective table board **1**, so that the two table boards **1** are pivoted relative to each other, thereby folding the foldable table **5** as shown in FIG. **10**. At this time, the handle **17** is pivoted outward to protrude from the two table boards **1**, thereby facilitating the user carrying the foldable table **5**.

FIGS. **11** and **12** depict an alternative embodiment of the invention wherein the handle **17** comprises a flexible strap **44** having a central grip portion **42**. The grip portion **42** preferably includes a passage **43** through which the strap **44** passes. Each end of the strap **44** is attached to the support tube **14** using fasteners **48**, such as rivets or screws. The strap **44** is preferably constructed from a heavyweight woven nylon material, such as may be used in cargo straps. The grip portion **42** is preferably molded from a flexible plastic or high-density foam material.

FIG. **11** depicts the handle **17** disposed in a stowed position, wherein the grip portion **42** is releasably secured adjacent the bottom surface of the table top **1**. In the stowed position, the handle **17** is generally hidden from view and does not hang down where it may contact a leg of someone sitting at the table. In the preferred embodiment, ends of the retaining strap **46** are secured around the grip portion **42** using a closure mechanism, such as a hook-and-loop closure (Velcro™) or a snap closure.

FIG. **12** depicts the handle **17** disposed in a carrying position, wherein the strap **44** is extended outward from the support tube **14**. In this position, a user may easily hold the grip portion **42** for carrying the table **5** when the table **5** is in the folded position (FIG. **10**).

FIG. **13** provides an exploded view of a preferred embodiment of one of the two pivot members **12**, also referred to herein as hinge assemblies **12**. The hinge assembly **12** includes two hinge members **50** and **52** pivotally connected together by a hinge pin **56** which passes through apertures **50***a* and **52***a* in circular tabs **50***c* and **52***c* of the hinge members **50** and **52**. Preferably, the spacing between the tabs **50***c* is sufficient to accommodate insertion of the tabs **52***c* there between.

The hinge assembly **12** includes a latch member **54** disposed between the tabs **52***c* of the hinge member **52**. As shown in FIG. **13**, the hinge pin **56** passes through apertures **54***a* in the latch member **54** so that the latch member is pivotally connected to the two hinge members **50** and **52**. On either side of the latch member **54** are arcuate slots **54***b* through which passes a pawl pin **58**. The pawl pin **58** also passes through slots **52***b* on either side of the hinge member **52**. The pawl pin **58** is operable to slide laterally in the slots **52***b* between a first position (to the inner end of the slots **52***b*) and a second position (to the outer end of the slots **52***b*).

In the first position, the pawl pin **58** engages notches **50***b* in the tabs **50***c* of the hinge member **50**, thereby preventing rotation of the hinge member **50** with respect to the hinge member **52**. In the second position, the pawl pin **58** disengages the notches **50***b*, thereby allowing rotation of the hinge member **50** with respect to the hinge member **52**.

As shown in FIG. **13**, a spring **62** is connected to the hinge member **52** by way of a spring pin **60**. The spring pin **60** passes through apertures **52***d* in the hinge member **52** and through a coil **62***c* formed in the spring **62**. The spring **62** has spring arms **62***a* extending from the coil **62***c* that engage indentions **58***a* in the pawl pin **58**. Due to tension in the coil **62***c*, the spring arms **62***a* constantly press against the pawl pin **58**, thereby urging the pawl pin **58** toward the first position in the slots **52***b*.

When a user applies pressure to the surface **54***c* of the latch member **54**, the latch member **54** rotates in relation to the hinge pin **56**. This rotational movement of the latch member **54** urges the pawl pin **58** to slide in the slots **52***b* toward the second position. This movement of the pawl pin **58** disengages the pawl pin **58** from the notches **50***b* in the tabs **50***c* of the hinge member **50**, thereby allowing the hinge members **50** and **52** to rotate in relation to each other.

Thus, when the table boards **1** are unfolded into a coplanar position, the action of the spring **62**, pawl pin **58** and notches **50***b* automatically locks the table boards **1** in the coplanar position. When a user applies pressure to the surface **54***c* of

the latch member, the pawl pin **58** disengages from the notches so that the table boards **1** may be folded together.

FIGS. **14-16** depict an embodiment of the invention wherein the collapsible table **5** has a substantially square fold-in-half tabletop **63**, preferably formed from blow-molded plastic. FIGS. **17-19** depict an alternative embodiment of the invention wherein the collapsible table **5** has a substantially rectangular fold-in-half tabletop **63**, also preferably formed from blow-molded plastic. in each embodiment, the tabletop **63** includes two tabletop halves **64**, with each half having a substantially planar top surface **66**, a bottom surface **68**, an inner edge **71**, and an opposing outer edge **67** which is substantially parallel to the inner edge **71**. As shown in FIG. **19**, the two tabletop halves **64** are pivotally connected at their respective inner edges **71** by a hinge assembly **69**. The particular type of hinge assembly **69** is not critical to this collapsible table as long as it provides the means for the two tabletop halves **64** to be folded together into a storage position as depicted in FIG. **14**. In a preferred embodiment, the hinge assembly **69** is similar to the hinge assembly **12** discussed above and depicted in FIG. **13**.

As shown in FIG. **16**, collapsible legs **65***a* and **65***b* are attached by way of collapsible bracket assemblies adjacent to the outer edges **67** of the bottom surface **68** of the two tabletop halves **64**. As shown in FIG. **17**, the collapsible legs **65***a*-**65***b* are operable to collapse to a position adjacent the bottom surface **68** of the tabletop **63**. In a preferred embodiment, each of the legs **65***a*-**65***b* is collapsible independently of any of the other legs **65***a*-**65***b*. In a preferred embodiment, the bottom surface **68** of the tabletop **63** includes molded receiving channels **70** for receiving each of the legs **65***a*-**65***b* in their respective collapsed positions.

In preferred embodiments of the invention, the collapsible legs **65***a*-**65***b* comprise two pairs of legs. The first pair of legs **65***a* collapse to positions which are substantially parallel to the outer edges **67** of the tabletop **63**, and the second pair of legs **65***b* collapse to positions which are substantially diagonal to the outer edges **67** of the tabletop **63**. The second pair of legs **65***b* collapse at diagonal angles so that the legs **65***b* do not interfere with the ability of the tabletop **63** to fold in half along the inner edges **71** of the two tabletop halves **64**. Thus, the particular angle at which the second pair of legs **65***b* collapses can vary as long as the ends of the second pair of legs **65***b* do not extend beyond the inner edges **71** of either of the tabletop halves **64**. In the square tabletop embodiment of FIGS. **14-16**, the diagonal collapsed position is at an angle of about 30° in relation to the outer edges **67** of the tabletop **63**. In the rectangular tabletop embodiment of FIGS. **17-19**, the diagonal collapsed position is at an angle of about 45° in relation to the outer edges **67** of the tabletop **63**.

Referring to FIG. **19**, the collapsible table **5** includes two continuous U-shaped support frames **74**. Each of the first and second continuous U-shaped support frames **74** includes a first side frame portion **76**, a second side frame portion **78**, and an outer frame portion **80**. The continuous U-shaped support frames **74** are attached to the bottom surfaces **68** of the two tabletop halves **64** such that the first side frame portions **76** are disposed adjacent the first side edges **73** of the tabletop halves **64**, the second side frame portions **78** are disposed adjacent the second side edges **75** of the tabletop halves **64**, and the outer frame portions **80** are disposed adjacent the outer edges **67** of the tabletop halves **64**. Preferably, the collapsible legs **65***a*-**65***b* are attached to the continuous U-shaped support frames **74**. In a preferred embodiment, the bottom surface **68** of the tabletop halves **64** includes molded receiving channels **70** for receiving the continuous U-shaped support frames **74** and each of the legs **65***a*-**65***b* in their respective collapsed positions.

The foregoing description of preferred embodiments for this invention have been presented for purposes of illustration and description. They are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise form disclosed. Obvious modifications or variations are possible in light of the above teachings. The embodiments are chosen and described in an effort to provide the best illustrations of the principles of the invention and its practical application, and to thereby enable one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the invention in various embodiments and with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. All such modifications and variations are within the scope of the invention as determined by the appended claims when interpreted in accordance with the breadth to which they are fairly, legally, and equitably entitled.

What is claimed is:

1. A collapsible table comprising:

a tabletop comprising a first tabletop half and a second tabletop half, the first and second tabletop halves each having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge, a first side edge, and an opposing second side edge which is substantially parallel to the first side edge, the bottom surface of the first tabletop half having at least one receiving channel therein;

a hinge assembly for pivotally connecting the first and second tabletop halves at the inner edges, thereby allowing the first and second tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position; and

collapsible legs attached to the bottom surfaces of the tabletop halves, including:

at least a first collapsible leg attached to the first tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the first tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the first collapsible leg is parallel to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and diagonal to the outer edge of the first tabletop half; and

at least a second collapsible leg attached to the first tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the first tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the second collapsible leg is parallel to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and parallel to the outer edge of the first tabletop half.

2. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein each of the collapsible legs is operable to collapse independently of any of the other legs.

3. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein the tabletop is substantially square.

4. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein the first and second tabletop halves are each formed from blow molded plastic.

5. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein the hinge assembly is a latching hinge assembly including a latch member for locking the tabletop halves into an unfolded position and for unlocking the tabletop halves from the unfolded position to allow the first and second tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position.

6. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein

the bottom surface of the second tabletop half has at least one receiving channel therein, and

the collapsible legs further comprise:

at least a third collapsible leg attached to the second tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the second tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the third collapsible leg is substantially parallel to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and substantially diagonal to the outer edge of the second tabletop half; and

at least a fourth collapsible leg attached to the second tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the second tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the fourth collapsible leg is substantially parallel to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and substantially parallel to the outer edge of the second tabletop half.

7. The collapsible table of claim **1** where in the fully collapsed position the first collapsible leg is at substantially a 30 degree angle to the outer edge of the first tabletop half.

8. The collapsible table of claim **1** where in the fully collapsed position the first collapsible leg is at substantially a 45 degree angle to the outer edge of the first tabletop half.

9. The collapsible table of claim **1** wherein the bottom surface of the first tabletop half includes a plurality of receiving channels therein, and the first collapsible leg is operable to collapse at least partially into one of the plurality of receiving channels and the second collapsible leg is operable to collapse at least partially into another of the plurality of receiving channels.

10. A collapsible table comprising:

a tabletop comprising a first tabletop half and a second tabletop half, the first and second tabletop halves each having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface and having a plurality of receiving channels therein, an inner edge, an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge, a first side edge, and an opposing second side edge which is substantially parallel to the first side edge;

a first continuous U-shaped support frame attached to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and disposed at least partially within the plurality of receiving channels of the first tabletop half, the first U-shaped support frame having a first side frame portion disposed adjacent the first side edge of the first tabletop half, an outer frame portion disposed adjacent the outer edge of the first tabletop half, and a second side frame portion disposed adjacent the second side edge of the first tabletop half;

a second continuous U-shaped support frame attached to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and disposed at least partially within the plurality of receiving channels of the second tabletop half, the second U-shaped support frame having a first side frame portion disposed adjacent the first side edge of the second tabletop half, an outer frame portion disposed adjacent the outer edge of the second tabletop half, and a second side frame portion disposed adjacent the second side edge of the second tabletop half;

a hinge assembly disposed adjacent the inner edges of the first and second tabletop halves, the hinge assembly for pivotally connecting the first side frame portion of the first continuous U-shaped support frame to the first side frame portion of the second continuous U-shaped support frame and for pivotally connecting the second side frame portion of the first continuous U-shaped support frame to the second side frame portion of the second continuous U-shaped support frame; and

at least four collapsible legs attached to the first and second U-shaped support frames, wherein each leg is operable to collapse independently of any of the other legs at least partially into the plurality of receiving channels of the bottom surface of the tabletop half to which the U-shaped support frame is attached, wherein the collapsible legs comprise:

a first pair of legs that collapse to fully collapsed positions in which the first pair of legs are parallel to the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames and parallel to the bottom surfaces of to first and second tabletop halves; and

a second pair of legs that collapse to fully collapsed positions in which the second pair of legs are diagonal to the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames and parallel to bottom surfaces of the first and second tabletop halves.

11. The collapsible table of claim **10** where in the fully collapsed position the second pair of legs are at substantially 30 degree angles from the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames.

12. The collapsible table of claim **10** where in the frilly collapsed position the second pair of legs are at substantially 45 degree angles from the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames.

13. A collapsible table comprising:

a substantially square tabletop comprising a first tabletop half and a second tabletop half, the first and second tabletop halves each formed from blow-molded plastic and having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface and having a plurality of receiving channels therein, an inner edge, an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge, a first side edge, and an opposing second side edge which is substantially parallel to the first side edge;

a first continuous U-shaped support frame attached to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and disposed at least partially within the plurality of receiving channels of the first tabletop half, the first U-shaped support frame having a first side frame portion disposed adjacent the first side edge of the first tabletop half, an outer frame portion disposed adjacent the outer edge of the first tabletop half, and a second side frame portion disposed adjacent the second side edge of the first tabletop half;

a second continuous U-shaped support frame attached to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and disposed at least partially within the plurality of receiving channels of the second tabletop half, the second U-shaped support frame having a first side frame portion disposed adjacent the first side edge of the second tabletop half, an outer frame portion disposed adjacent the outer edge of the second tabletop half, and a second side frame portion disposed adjacent the second side edge of the second tabletop half;

a latching hinge assembly disposed adjacent the inner edges of the first and second tabletop halves, the hinge assembly for pivotally connecting the first side frame portion of the first continuous U-shaped support frame to the first side frame portion of the second continuous U-shaped support frame and for pivotally connecting the second side frame portion of the first continuous U-shaped support frame to the second side frame portion of the second continuous U-shaped support frame, the latching hinge assembly including a latch member for locking the tabletop halves into an unfolded position and for unlocking the tabletop halves from the unfolded

position to allow the first and second tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position; and

at least for collapsible legs attached to the first and second U-shaped support frames, wherein each leg is operable to collapse independently of any of the other legs at least partially into the plurality of receiving channels of the bottom surface of the tabletop half to which the U-shaped support frame is attached, the collapsible legs comprising:

a first pair of legs operable to collapse to fully collapsed positions in which the first pair of legs are parallel to the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames and parallel to the bottom surfaces of the first and second tabletop halves; and

a second pair of legs operable to collapse to fully collapsed positions in which the second pair of legs are diagonal to the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames and parallel to the bottom surfaces of the first and second tabletop halves.

14. The collapsible table of claim **13** where in the frilly collapsed position the second pair of legs are at substantially 30 degree angles from the outer frame portions of the continuous U-shaped support frames.

15. A collapsible table comprising:

a tabletop comprising a first tabletop half and a second tabletop half, the first and second tabletop halves each having a substantially planar top surface, a bottom surface opposite the top surface, an inner edge, an opposing outer edge which is substantially parallel to the inner edge, a first side edge, and an opposing second side edge which is substantially parallel to the first side edge, the bottom surfaces of the first and second tabletop halves each having at least one receiving channel therein;

a hinge assembly for pivotally connecting the first and second tabletop halves at the inner edges, thereby allowing the first and second tabletop halves to be folded together into a storage position; and

four collapsible legs attached to the tabletop, the four collapsible legs consisting of:

a first collapsible leg attached to the first tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the first tabletop half to a frilly collapsed position in which the first collapsible leg is substantially parallel to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and substantially diagonal to the outer edge of the first tabletop half;

a second collapsible leg attached to the first tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the first tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the second collapsible leg is parallel to the bottom surface of the first tabletop half and parallel to the outer edge of the first tabletop half;

a third collapsible leg attached to the second tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the second tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the third collapsible leg is parallel to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and diagonal to the outer edge of the second tabletop half; and

a fourth collapsible leg attached to the second tabletop half which is operable to collapse at least partially into the at least one receiving channel in the bottom surface of the second tabletop half to a fully collapsed position in which the fourth collapsible leg is parallel to the bottom surface of the second tabletop half and parallel to the outer edge of the second tabletop half.

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