

Claims:

- 1 A container comprising a base and a continuous side wall extending substantially
perpendicular to the base with a peripheral flange formed along the upper, in use, edge of the
5 continuous side wall,
wherein the base and the continuous side wall consist essentially of polyethylene
terephthalate (PET)
wherein a layer of adhesive is located on an upper, in use, surface of the peripheral
flange and said layer of adhesive does not extend onto the vertical, in use, surfaces of the
10 continuous side wall and does not extend onto the base
wherein the container further comprises a lidding film which may be sealed to the
peripheral flange to create a sealed space between the base, continuous side wall and lidding
film; and
wherein the lidding film is a multi-layer film comprising a seal layer and the seal layer
15 comprises polypropylene (PP) and/or PE.
2. A container according to claim 1, wherein the base and the continuous side wall are
clear.
- 20 3. A container according to claim 2, wherein the base and the continuous side wall
consist essentially of recycled PET.
4. A container according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the adhesive is an adhesive based on
a polymeric substrate or a polyethylene(PE) or PE co-polymer based material.
25
5. A container according to any preceding claim, wherein the thickness of the layer of
adhesive is from 20 μm to 100 μm , preferably 50 μm .
- 30 6. A container according to any preceding claim, further comprising ~~at least one~~
~~denesting recess, free of adhesive, adjacent a corner of the container~~ **at least one denesting**
recess located in a denesting area, wherein the denesting area is relieved relative to the
upper surface of the peripheral flange so that the distance between the upper surface of

the relieved area and the base of the tray is shorter than the distance between the upper surface of the flange and the base, and the denesting area is devoid of adhesive.

5 | 7. A container according to ~~any preceding claim 6~~, further comprising a denesting area, free of adhesive, which extends partially or completely along the inner periphery of the flange. **wherein the relieved denesting area is located at the corners of the tray and the denesting recess is located in the relieved area.**

10 | 8. A container according to claim ~~7~~6, wherein the ~~distance between the upper surface of the denesting area and the base of the tray is shorter than the distance between the upper surface of the flange and the base.~~ **relieved denesting extends along the whole inner periphery of the peripheral flange so that the container comprises an outer peripheral flange devoid of adhesive.**

15 | ~~9. A container according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the at least one recess is located in the denesting area.~~

20 | ~~9~~10. A container according to any of claims 1 to ~~8~~9, wherein the lidding film is sealed thereto.

| ~~10~~11. A container according to claim ~~9~~10, wherein the atmosphere within the sealed container has been modified or controlled.

25 | ~~11~~12. A container according to claim ~~10~~11, wherein the modified atmosphere contains increased levels of oxygen or carbon dioxide.

| ~~12~~13. A container according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the seal layer is from 15 μm to 50 μm , preferably 20 μm .

30 | ~~13~~14. A container according to any of claims ~~9~~10 to ~~12~~14, wherein the thickness of the lidding film is from 20 μm to 60 μm .

1415. A process for making a container according to any of claims 1 to 89, wherein the process comprises:

5 a) providing a container comprising a base and a continuous side wall upstanding from the base with a peripheral flange formed along the upper, in use, edge of the continuous side wall, wherein said base and side wall essentially of polyethylene terephthalate (PET); and

b) applying a layer of adhesive to an upper, in use, surface of the peripheral flange to produce a sealable container and so that the layer of adhesive does not extend onto the vertical, in use, surfaces of the continuous side wall and does not extend onto the base

10 c) providing a multi-layer lidding film comprising a seal layer and the seal layer comprises polypropylene (PP) and/or PE.

15 1516. A process according to claim 1415, wherein the container is corona treated or plasma treated between steps a) and b).

1617. A process according to claim 1415 or 1516, wherein the layer of adhesive is applied to an upper surface of the peripheral flange by a roller, by spray coating, by a hot melt gun or by a printing technique.

20 1718. A process according to claim 1617, wherein the roller is a silicone roller or a heated chrome roller.

1819. A process according to any of claims 1415 to 1718, wherein the peripheral flange is supported during the application of the layer of adhesive.

25 1920. A process according to any of claims 1415 to 1819, wherein the process is a continuous process.

30 2021. A process for making a container according to any of claims 910 to 1314, wherein the process comprises:

a) providing a container prepared according to any of claims 1415 to 1920;

b) applying the lidding film to the peripheral flange of the container; and

c) applying pressure to the peripheral flange to seal the lidding film to the container.

- 5 | ~~2122~~. A process according to claim ~~2021~~, wherein pressure is applied to the peripheral flange at a pressure of from 30 psi to 180 psi for a period of time of from 0.5 seconds to 5 seconds, preferably 110 psi for 1 second.
- 10 | ~~2223~~. A process according to claim ~~2021~~ or ~~2122~~, wherein heat is applied simultaneously with pressure.
- 15 | ~~2324~~. A process according to claim ~~2223~~, wherein heat is applied to the peripheral flange at a temperature of from 105 °C to 170 °C, preferably at a temperature of 150 °C.
- 20 | ~~2425~~. A process according to any of claims ~~2021~~ to ~~2324~~, wherein a sealing shoe matching the shape of the peripheral flange is used to seal the lidding film to the sealable container.
- 25 | ~~2526~~. A process according to any of claims ~~2021~~ to ~~2425~~, wherein the process is a continuous process.
- 20 | ~~26.27~~ A container substantially as described herein.
- 25 | ~~2728~~. A sealed container substantially as described herein.
- 25 | ~~2829~~. A process for making a container as described herein.
- 25 | ~~2930~~. A process for making a sealed container as described herein.