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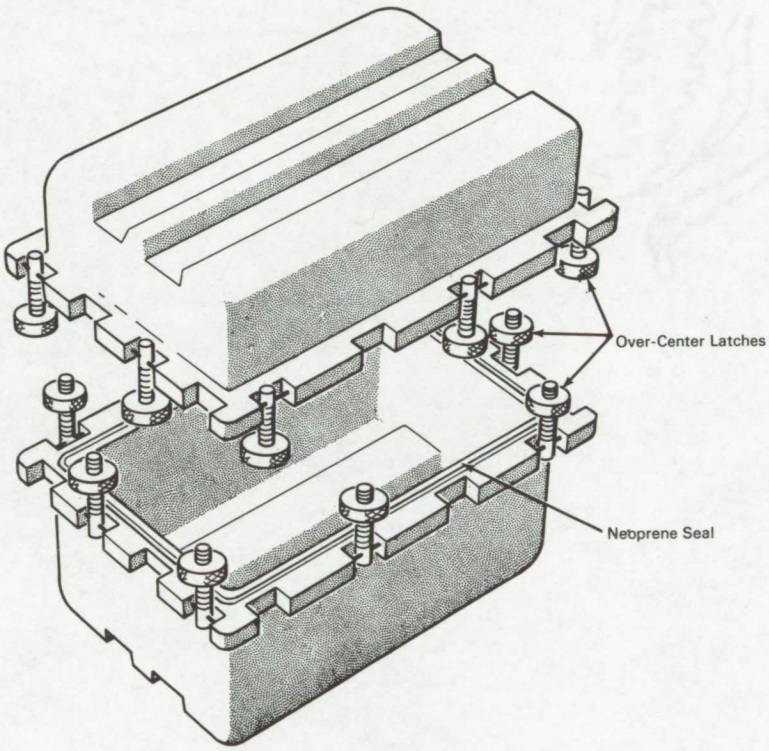
NASA TECH BRIEF

Fiberglass Container Shells Form Contamination-Free Storage Units



The problem:

To provide a set of container halves which can be joined to form storage units of various depths. The units should be easily transportable and protect contents from contamination.

The solution:

A series of interchangeable molded fiberglass shells which lock together to form contamination-proof storage units.

How it's done:

The rectangular shells are manufactured in four basic sizes ranging from 26 by 32 inches to 50 by 50 inches and varying in depth from 4 to 32 inches in 4-inch increments. Shells of the same size may be paired to form a container of the depth desired. There is no top or bottom component. Latches, of the over-center type, are inverted alternately so that all shells of a given size are interchangeable. A neoprene seal

(continued overleaf)

between the shells keeps the contents free of dirt, dust, water, and vapor. All shells have external configurations to accommodate forklift trucks, eliminating the need for separate lift pallets. The interior surfaces are smoothly finished and have contoured corners to permit thorough cleaning.

Notes:

1. The containers comply with clean room requirements and the materials from which they are built are compatible with clean room procedures.
2. Versions of this container could be used in hospitals to store or transport sterile equipment, clothing, or bedding.
3. The containers are capable of holding components weighing up to 1,500 pounds.
4. Inquiries concerning this innovation may be directed to:

   Technology Utilization Officer
   Western Operations Office
   150 Pico Boulevard
   Santa Monica, California, 90406
   Reference: B66-10217

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: Henry M. Kraus
of North American Aviation, Inc.
under contract to
Western Operations Office
(WOO-275)