

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Paper Clips

We, CONWAY STEWART & CO. LIMITED, a British Company of 196 Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

5 This invention relates to a paper clip and has for its object to provide an improved construction of such a clip which lends itself to mass production methods and consequently is cheap to manufacture.

10 This invention relates to a paper clip and has for its object to provide an improved construction of such a clip which lends itself to mass production methods and consequently is cheap to manufacture.

15 According to the invention the paper clip comprises a substantially cylindrical portion having a longitudinal slot to form co-operating paper-gripping jaws, a pair of lever members extending from said cylindrical portion to form spaced finger grips, which when pressed together effect opening of said jaws, said cylindrical portion and said lever members being formed in one single piece from a synthetic plastics material having sufficient resiliency to permit opening of said jaws

20 when said lever members are pressed together and to cause said jaws to close upon release of said lever members.

25 In order that the invention may be more clearly understood one particular embodiment thereof made in accordance with the invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the drawings accompanying the provisional specification in which:—

30 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a paper clip according to the invention,

Figure 2 is a cross-section of the clip according to Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of a detail, and

40 Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view on the line IV—IV of Figure 2.

Referring to these drawings the paper clip

[Price 4s. 6d.]

according to the invention comprises a substantially cylindrical portion 5, provided with a longitudinal slot to form co-operating jaws 5a, 5b between which paper can be gripped, and a pair of lever members 6 extending at right angles to said slot to form spaced finger grips by means of which the jaws 5a, 5b can be opened by pressing said finger grips together to permit papers to be placed between said jaws or removed therefrom. The cylindrical portion 5 and the finger grips 6 are formed as one integral piece from a suitable synthetic plastics material which has the sufficient resiliency to permit the jaws to be opened as above described and to cause the jaws 5 to close under their own resilient or spring action when, after having been opened by the finger grips 6, said finger grips are released. A suitable synthetic plastics material is that known under the Registered Trade Mark "DELRIN". The lever members 6 forming the finger grips are each preferably provided with a longitudinal reinforcing rib 6a.

Along the longitudinal edges of the longitudinal slot forming the co-operating jaws 5a, 5b is fitted a detachable jaw shoe 7, which may also be made from a suitable synthetic plastics material, each of said shoes having one serrated longitudinal paper-gripping edge 8, the arrangement being such that when the shoes 7 are fitted to the jaws 5a, 5b of the clip, said serrated edges co-operate as shown in Figure 1. Each shoe 7 is provided along the edge opposite to the serrated edge 8 with a longitudinal slot 9 by means of which said shoes are detachably secured to the corresponding edge of a jaw 5a or 5b of the clip as shown generally in Figure 2.

The shoes 7 are fitted onto the edges of the jaws 5a, 5b by sliding them onto said edges in the longitudinal direction. The

dimensions of the slots 9 in the shoes may be such that the corresponding longitudinal edges of the jaws 5a, 5b engage frictionally in said slots. Preferably, however, means are provided whereby the edges of each jaws 5a, 5b fit into the slot 9 of a shoe by snap action. For this purpose one longitudinal wall of the slot 9 is provided with an undulating surface 9a (Figure 4) which co-operates with a corresponding undulating surface 7a formed adjacent to and on one side of the longitudinal edge of the jaw 5b.

It will be understood that the invention is not limited to the particular embodiment herein described and shown. For example the shoe member 7 may be fitted to the jaws of the clip in any desired manner or may even be formed as integral parts of the clip.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A paper clip comprising a substantially cylindrical portion having a longitudinal slot to form co-operating paper-gripping jaws, a pair of lever members extending from said cylindrical portion to form spaced finger grips, which when pressed together effect opening of said jaws, said cylindrical portion and said lever members being formed in one single piece from a synthetic plastics material having sufficient resiliency to permit opening of said jaws when said lever members are pressed together and to cause said jaws to close upon release of said lever members.

2. A paper clip according to claim 1, wherein said lever members are provided with reinforcing ribs.

3. A paper clip according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein along each of

the longitudinal edges of the slot forming co-operating jaws is fitted a detachable jaw shoe.

4. A paper clip according to claim 3, wherein each of said jaw shoes is provided with a longitudinal serrated paper gripping edge.

5. A paper clip according to claim 4 or 5, wherein said jaw shoes are made of a suitable synthetic plastics material.

6. A paper clip according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein each of said jaw shoes is provided with a longitudinal slot along one edge for detachably securing said jaw shoe to the corresponding longitudinal edge of the slot forming the co-operating jaws of the clip.

7. A paper clip according to claim 7, wherein the dimensions of the longitudinal slot in the jaw shoe is such that the corresponding edge of the jaw engages frictionally in said slot.

8. A paper clip according to claim 7, wherein one longitudinal wall of the slot in the jaw shoe is provided with an undulating surface which co-operates with a corresponding undulating surface formed adjacent to and on one side of the longitudinal edge of the jaw.

9. A paper clip substantially as herein described with reference to the drawings accompanying the provisional specification.

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