

⑫

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

- ⑬ Date of publication of patent specification: **30.12.86** ⑮ Int. Cl.⁴: **G 07 C 9/00**
⑰ Application number: **83900909.9**
⑲ Date of filing: **08.03.83**
⑳ International application number:
PCT/DK83/00027
㉑ International publication number:
WO 83/03151 15.09.83 Gazette 83/21

① A METHOD OF SUPERVISING THE ADMISSION CONTROL TO DANCING HALLS ETC. AND A SYSTEM FOR PERFORMING THE METHOD.

② Priority: **08.03.82 DK 990/82**

③ Date of publication of application:
14.03.84 Bulletin 84/11

④ Publication of the grant of the patent:
30.12.86 Bulletin 86/52

⑤ Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB LI LU NL SE

⑥ References cited:
NO-C- 72 297
SE-C- 144 919
US-A-1 405 434

⑦ Proprietor: **JENSEN, Karl Peter**
Hobrovej 65
DK-8900 Randers (DK)

⑧ Inventor: **JENSEN, Karl Peter**
Hobrovej 65
DK-8900 Randers (DK)

⑨ Representative: **Urbanus, Henricus Maria, Ir.**
et al
c/o Vereenigde Octrooibureaux Nieuwe
Parklaan 107
NL-2587 BP 's-Gravenhage (NL)

EP 0 102 376 B1

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European patent convention).

Description

The present invention relates to a handheld admission order marking device for supervising the control of the admission right of persons to dancing halls and similar establishments with controlled admission, said device comprising a signal generator operable by each marking operation thereof to generate an actuator signal, which is recorded by a recorder or counter unit belonging to said device.

Such a marking device is known from US—A—1,405,434. This publication discloses a railway-ticket punch. The punch comprises two jaws for punching or cutting out a ticket receipt and a register which is provided on the top of the jaw. The register records automatically the number of fares, whether cash or ticket fares are received by the conductor.

The use of the known device for the admission control of persons with a valid admission order in the form of a ticket to dancing halls and similar establishments opens up the possibility of irregularities. For example the personnel at the entrance can manipulate with the tickets to cheat the owner or the personnel can be cheated by the guests so that the cash box shows a deficit. A further disadvantage of the known device in that is relatively heavy to handle due to the mechanical system and the way of receiving the receipt.

It is known to use stamp marks which are only visible by lighting with ultra-violet light. This admission control method renders it considerably more difficult for the guests to cheat the personnel but the problem of the personnel cheating the holder or owner still is unsolved.

It is the purpose of the invention to provide a method and a device for the supervision of the admission control of persons to dancing halls and similar establishments with paid admission right and by which it should be possible to avoid cheating of the owner by the guests as well as by the personnel.

The invention therefor provides a device of the above-mentioned kind characterized in that said marking device is constituted by a stamping unit which at least from time to time requires to be supplied with a marking agent as supplied from an associated marking agent source by a recharging operation of the stamping unit similar to said marking operation thereof, in that sensing means are provided for sensing the operation of the stamping unit as being said recharging operation, and in that said sensing means are operatively connected with said signal generator or said recorder unit so that said recharging operation can be effected without being recorded as a marking operation.

The method according to the invention is characterized in that the marking device is caused to generate an actuator signal to a recorder unit by each marking operation thereof. Hereby is obtained a simple device and a safe and just method which renders it possible to supervise the admission control of guests to dancing halls and

other establishments with paid admission as each order giving operation of the admission order giving device automatically may be registered in a recorder unit, e.g. at the entrance or in another suitable place of the establishment, such as the office, the bar or the buffet while the recharging operation of the marking device does not affect the count of the admissions. Only the holder or the owner has access to read out the counter of the recorder unit e.g. by means of a master key. Preferably the counter is read out by the owner supervised by the entrance controller having the responsibility of the operation of the admission order giving device. In other words there is obtained a safe and just method of supervising the admission control for establishments with controlled admission, e.g. for payment. Preferably, the marker agent source is a marker pad in association with which said sensor means are provided so as to block up the recorder unit for receiving any signal from the signal generator preferably in the form of a sensor having an actuator located immediately adjacent the active stamp surface of the admission order giving device in the form of said stamp unit.

The invention is described in more detail in the following reference being made to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing an embodiment of an admission control system according to the invention, while

Fig. 2 is a view partly in section of a stamp unit of the system according to the invention.

The system shown in Fig. 1 comprises a housing 2 adapted to be placed e.g. on a table, near the entrance of an establishment such as a dancing hall. The housing contains the necessary electronic circuit elements of the system including an electronic counter of which a display 4 is placed in an inclined front of the housing 2. On a lower top side 6 of the housing in front of the display a holder 8 for a marker stamp unit 10 is built in, said unit 10 being connected to the circuit elements inside the housing 2 by means of a flexible wire 12. Furthermore, the inclined front of the housing is provided with a master key operated switch 14 by means of which the counter may be read out through the display 4 or the key switch 14 may be turned into a position enabling the counter and the display 4 to be reset by means of a reset push-button 16. At the left hand side of the holder 8 another key operated switch 18 is placed adapted for the use of the entrance controller in charge of controlling the status of the counter via the display 4.

At the right hand side of the holder 8 is arranged a key operated lock 20 for the marker stamp unit 10 when said unit is positioned in the holder 8 (Fig. 2).

The marker stamp unit 10 is shown in more detail in Fig. 2 where the stamp unit 10 furthermore is locked up in the holder 8 by means of a locking bolt 22 of a key operated lock 20 cooperating with a side recess 24 of the stamp unit 10 through a side opening 26 of a cup-shaped por-

tion 28 of the holder 8. In the bottom of the cup portion 28 a soft marker pad 30 is positioned, said pad being moistened by marker fluid, e.g. of the type used for marking stamp mark which is only visually controllable under ultra-violet lighting. The stamp unit 10 is provided with a rubber stamp surface 32, the center area of which being exposed to a downwardly directed press by means of a spring loaded actuator pin 34, the upper opposite end of which cooperates with a signal generator in the form of a microswitch 36 which during normal operation communicates with the counter circuit of the recorder of the admission control system.

In normal operation according to the method of the invention the stamp unit 10 is released from the holder 8 and used as a handheld stamp unit 10, each admission order giving operation thereof effects the micro switch 36 by the pressure on the stamp surface 32 and the actuator pin 34 to generate a signal to the recorder or counter of the system. Each time the stamp surface 32 is exposed to the pressure of the giving of an admission order in the form of a stamp mark, e.g. on the back of a hand, this is registered as an admission order giving operation in the recorder unit. However, from time to time the stamp surface 32 of the stamp unit 10 has to be remoistened with marker fluid from the marker pad 30 in the bottom of the cup-shaped portion 28 of the holder 8 and as this recharging operation is almost similar to the admission order giving operation of the stamp unit 10, the holder 8 or the cup-shaped portion 28 is provided with a sensor coil 38 communicating with a metal ring member 40 positioned around the lower end of the stamp unit 10 so as to enable the recharging operation to be effected without being recorded as an admission order giving operation of the stamp unit 10. In other words, the ring member 40 of the stamp unit 10 and the sensor coil 38 of the holder 8 belong to a blocking circuit for blocking up the recorder unit from receiving any counting signal from the stamp unit 10 when this is inserted into the holder 8. Of course the active sensor portion, i.e. the coil 38, may also be a part of the stamp unit while in this case the ring member 40 should be positioned in connection with the holder 8. Other suitable sensor means may be used for sensing the recharging operation of the stamp unit 10 as being not an admission order giving operation thereof.

The key operated lock 20 is adapted to lock up the stamp unit 10 in the holder 8 if the entrance controller using the stamp unit 10 has an errand and therefore wants to block up the counting of the admission order giving as he alone carries the responsibility for the contents of the entrance cash box corresponding to the figures of the counter.

In order to prevent any possibility of irregularities of the recorder unit said unit comprises an internal energy source in the form of a rechargeable electric battery which is automatically switched on in case the external electric power supply should be interrupted. Also the wire connection between the stamp unit 10 and the recorder unit forms part of a security circuit for the

said blocking up circuit of the counter. Therefore, if the wire connection between the stamp unit 10 and the recorder unit inside the housing 2 is interrupted, e.g. by removal of the stamp unit by force, the blocking up circuit will immediately be activated to block the receiving of further signals of the counter.

The display 4 of the counter is controlled in such a manner that it shows a row of pure zeros after resetting the counter by activating the master key operated key switch 14 and the reset pushbutton 16. When the entrance controller then activates the stamp unit 10 by the very first admission order giving operation, the display 4 is switched off and the entrance controller operating the stamp unit can only once call for the contents of the counter via the display by means of his own key switch 18. Otherwise the master key operated key switch 14 any time may be used to call for the actual contents of the counter via the display 4.

Preferably, the main unit of the housing 2 is connected to one or more remote control units with a display similar to the display 4 and with a master key operated key switch also. The remote control units operates of course parallel to the main unit and they may be positioned in any suitable place in the establishment, e.g. in the office, the bar or the buffet.

Claims

1. A handheld admission order marking device (10) for supervising the control of the admission right of persons to dancing halls and similar establishments with controlled admission, said device (10) comprising a signal generator (36) operable by each marking operation thereof to generate an actuator signal, which is recorded by a recorder or counter unit belonging to said device, characterized in that said marking device is constituted by a stamping unit (10) which at least from time to time requires to be supplied with a marking agent as supplied from an associated marking agent source (30) by a recharging operation of the stamping unit (10) similar to said marking operation thereof, in that sensing means (38, 40) are provided for sensing the operation of the stamping unit (10) as being said recharging operation, and in that said sensing means are operatively connected with said signal generator (36) or said recorder unit so that said recharging operation can be effected without being recorded as a marking operation.

2. A device according to claim 1, in which the marking agent source is a marker pad (30), characterized in that the sensing means (38, 40) are provided in association with the marker pad (30).

3. A system according to claim 1 or 2, in which the admission order giving device is a stamp unit (10), characterized in that the signal generator is a sensor (36) having an actuator (34) located immediately adjacent the active stamp surface (32).

4. A method of supervising the control of the admission right of persons to dancing halls and similar establishments with controlled admission and by which the persons are given a verifiable

admission order by means of a handheld admission order marking device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the marking device is caused to generate an actuator signal to a recorder unit by each marking operation thereof.

Revendications

1. Un dispositif manuel (10) de marquage d'un laissez-passer pour surveiller le contrôle du droit d'entrée de personnes aux dancings et aux établissements similaires avec entrée contrôlée, ledit dispositif (10) comprenant un générateur de signaux (36) utilisable par chaque, opération de marquage pour générer un signal de commande qui est enregistré par une unité d'enregistrement ou de comptage associée audit dispositif, caractérisé en ce que ledit dispositif de marquage est constitué par une unité d'estampage (10) nécessitant au moins de temps en temps d'être alimentée avec un agent de marquage comme alimenté par une source d'agent de marquage (30) y associée par une opération de recharge de l'unité d'estampage (10) semblable à ladite opération de marquage, en ce qu'on a prévu des détecteurs (38, 40) pour détecter l'opération de l'unité d'estampage (10) comme étant ladite opération de recharge, et en ce que lesdits détecteurs sont connectés opérativement audit générateur de signaux (36) ou à ladite unité d'enregistrement, ainsi permettant d'effectuer ladite opération de recharge sans être enregistrée comme une opération de marquage.

2. Un dispositif selon la revendication 1, dans lequel la source d'agent de marquage est un tampon de marquage (30), caractérisé en ce que les détecteurs (38, 40) sont prévus en association avec le tampon de marquage (30).

3. Un système selon la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel le dispositif de marquage d'un laissez-passer est une unité d'estampage (10), caractérisé en ce que le générateur de signaux est un détecteur (36) ayant un dispositif de commande (34) situé immédiatement contigu à la surface d'estampage active (32).

4. Une méthode de surveiller le contrôle du droit d'entrée de personnes aux dancings et aux établissements similaires avec entrée contrôlée, ainsi donnant aux personnes un laissez-passer vérifiable à l'aide d'un dispositif manuel de marquage d'un laissez-passer selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1—3, caractérisée en ce qu'on assure que le dispositif de marquage produise un

signal de commande à une unité d'enregistrement par chaque opération de marquage.

Patentansprüche

1. Handgehaltener Einlasszeichenmarkierapparat (10) zur Ueberwachung der Kontrolle über das Recht von Personen, in Tanzlokale und ähnliche Vergnügungsstätten mit kontrolliertem Zutritt hereingelassen zu werden, welcher Apparat (10) einen Signalerzeuger (36) enthält, der bei jedem Markiervorgang dieses Apparats wirksam ist, um ein Betätigungssignal zu erzeugen, das von einer dem genannten Apparat zugeordneten Aufzeichnungs- oder Zähleinheit aufgezeichnet wird, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass der genannte Markierapparat durch eine Stempereinheit (10) gebildet ist, die mindestens von Zeit zu Zeit mit einem Markiermittel versehen werden muss, das von einer zugeordneten Markiermittelquelle (30) durch einen dem genannten Markiervorgang ähnlichen Nachladevorgang der Stempereinheit (10) geliefert wird, dass Fühler (38, 40) vorgesehen sind, mit denen die Betätigung der Stempereinheit (10) als der genannte Nachladevorgang wahrgenommen wird, und dass die genannten Fühler wirksam mit dem genannten Signalerzeuger (36) oder der genannten Aufzeichnungseinheit verbunden sind, so dass der genannte Nachladevorgang durchgeführt werden kann, ohne als Markiervorgang aufgezeichnet zu werden.

2. Apparat nach Anspruch 1, in dem die Markiermittelquelle ein Markiermittelskissen (30) ist, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Fühler (38, 40) in Verbindung mit dem Markiermittelskissen (30) vorgesehen sind.

3. System nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, in dem der Einlasszeichenmarkierapparat eine Stempereinheit (10) ist, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass der Signalerzeuger ein Fühler (36) mit einem Betätigungselement (34) ist, das der wirksamen Stempelfläche (32) unmittelbar benachbart ist.

4. Verfahren zur Ueberwachung der Kontrolle über das Recht von Personen, in Tanzlokale und ähnliche Vergnügungsstätten mit kontrolliertem Zutritt hereingelassen zu werden, wobei den Personen durch einen handgehaltenen Einlasszeichenmarkierapparat nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3 ein kontrollierbares Einlasszeichen vermittelt wird, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass man den Markierapparat bei jedem Markiervorgang ein Betätigungssignal an eine Aufzeichnungseinheit abgeben lässt.

