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(54) **Buckle.**

(57) A molded plastic buckle (10) is formed with a male member (11) having two opposed flexible arms (15) which are self-guiding upon insertion into sized channels (61) formed in the female member (12), whereupon insertion, the self-guided arms (15) lock into the female member (12). A novel elliptical web adjustment and securing bar (32) is provided on the male member (11). The present buckle construction eliminates the guide bar of the prior art construction, improves web holding, and reduces the overall weight of the buckle, while maintaining desired strength characteristics.

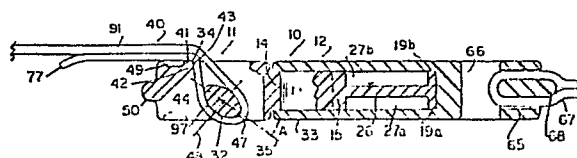


FIG. 5



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0172585  
Application number

EP 85 11 2255

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
D,Y	US-A-3 465 393 (FISHER) * Figures 3-5 *	1-5	A 44 B 11/25 A 44 B 11/04
D,Y	US-A-4 171 555 (BAKKER et al.) * Column 2, lines 47-63; column 3, lines 1-37, 64-68; column 4, lines 1-12; figures 3-5, 8-10 *	1-5	
A	GB-A- 970 611 (RALEIGH)		
P,X	GB-A-2 096 231 (AMERICAN CORD AND WEBBING) * Page 1, lines 44-108; figures *	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			A 44 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 05-12-1986	Examiner BOURSEAU A.M.
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

