

12

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: **88307574.9**

51 Int. Cl.4: **A47G 25/32**

22 Date of filing: **16.08.88**

30 Priority: **08.10.87 GB 8723692**

43 Date of publication of application:
12.04.89 Bulletin 89/15

84 Designated Contracting States:
ES GR

71 Applicant: **Youseman, Leslie Adrian**
11 Park Road
Gravesend Kent DA11 7PR(GB)

72 Inventor: **Youseman, Leslie Adrian**
11 Park Road
Gravesend Kent DA11 7PR(GB)

74 Representative: **Matthews, Graham Farrah et al**
MATTHEWS, HADDAN & CO. Haddan House
33 Elmfield Road
Bromley Kent BR1 1SU(GB)

54 **Line hanger.**

57 A line hanger has an upper part 4 serving as a line head grip and a lower part 2 serving as a hanger grip body. The weight of the garment on the hanger will enable the line head grip 4 to grip the line and the hanger grip body 2 to secure the hanger head.

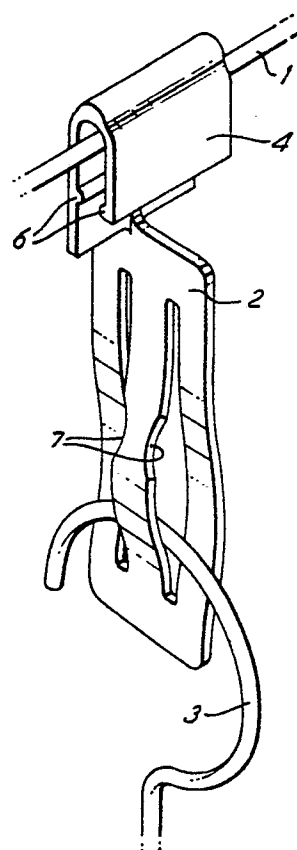


FIG.1

EP 0 311 241 A1

LINE HANGER

This invention relates to a line hanger for attaching a variety of garment ranges to a variety of line sizes.

Drying, airing and hanging garments on lines generally by present methods, without the use of hangers, has lead to the garments becoming unduly creased and sometimes out of shape. However, at present if hangers are employed as they are, they tend to rotate and/or slide along the line and come off easily. Any attempts to fix the hanger to the line have been ineffective, cumbersome and restricted in its ability to cope with variety.

According to the invention there is provided a line hanger device comprising an upper part for engaging a line and a lower part having means for the purpose of gripping garment hangers, characterized in that the upper part is adapted to grip a variety of line sizes to stop undue swinging movement relative to the line within normal use, and in that the lower part is adapted to grip a variety of clothes hanger sizes to stop undue swinging and pivoting of a clothes hanger relative to the hanger whilst in use.

The upper part can accommodate a variety of line sizes and the lower part can hold and grip virtually all domestic garment hangers, especially those made of wire. The hanger may be made of a flexible but firm plastics material with sufficient memory to ensure that it returns to shape for repeated use.

Specific embodiments of the invention will now be described by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:-

Figure 1 shows line and hanger connected in working position made in accordance with the invention,

Figure 2 shows the upper part of the hanger serving as a line grip head with a thick line located therein,

Figure 3 shows the upper part with a thin line located therein,

Figure 4 shows a lower part accommodating a thick headed hanger,

Figure 5 shows a lower part accommodating a thin headed hanger,

Figure 6 shows a modified form of hanger, and

Figure 7 illustrates the ability to hang several garments perpendicular to the line, increasing its capacity.

The hanger comprises an upper part (4) serving as a grip head, in the form of an elongate arch, inside which are two serrated or undulating projec-

tions (5) facing each other on the two limbs of the arch respectively. The line (1) will be pulled into the line grip head (4) by the weight of the garment. The flexibility of the line grip head (4) allows the correct grip depth. The upper part (4) has one limb shorter than the other, the longer limb being integral with the lower part (2) of the hanger which lower part serves as a hanger grip body. The limbs have two interface beads (6) facing each other at the lower end level of the shorter limb. The beads (6) ensure that the line does not readily spring back out of grip.

The lower part (2) consists of three vertical strips cross connected at both ends to form a plate-like structure with two vertical slots. The hanger head (3) is passed behind the middle section and out with the aid of curved indents (7) on the middle strip at each edge. The weight of the garment and the flexibility of the hanger grip body (2) ensures the hanger head (3) is pulled down into a sure grip.

Since the weight of the garment becomes the active gripping force, by removing the weight the device is easily disengaged by reverse sequence.

It may be required to transfer the garments to a second line of a different thickness, this may be done readily without adjustment and still ensure the same properties.

Dimensions for the invention are determined by the variety of line sizes being used and the hangers to be secured. It is therefore a result of relative proportion to the area of use.

Figure 6 shows a modification in which the upper part is provided with two serrated projections (10) facing each other on the two limbs of the arch respectively. Two flexible webs (11) are provided on the inner sides of the two limbs of the arch respectively, the webs facing each other so as to grip the line to prevent sliding of the hanger along the line. The webs (11) are integral with the projections (10) so that the latter come into operation as the webs (11) are bent back.

The arch serves to prevent undue swinging movement relative to the line in normal use. The length of the arch is suitably chosen so that when the arches of adjacent hangers engage each other the garments are suspended so they remain out of contact with each other when drying.

Claims

1. A line hanger comprising an upper part (4) for engaging a line and a lower part (2) having means for the purpose of gripping garment hangers, characterized in that the upper part (4) is

adapted to grip a variety of line sizes to stop undue swinging movement relative to the line within normal use, and in that the lower part (2) is adapted to grip a variety of hanger sizes to stop undue swinging and pivoting of the hanger relative to the hanger whilst in use. 5

2. A line hanger as claimed in claim 1, characterized in the upper part is in the form of an elongate arch.

3. A line hanger as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the facing inner surfaces forming the arch are symmetrical. 10

4. A line hanger as claimed in claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the elongate arch of the upper part (4) is connected to the lower part (8), in the form of a flat plate, perpendicular thereto. 15

5. A line hanger as claimed in claim 2, 3 or 4, characterized in that wherein the upper part (4) has two serrated projections (5) facing each other on the inner surfaces of the arch respectively. 20

6. A line hanger as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the upper part (4) has flexible webs (11) on the inner sides of the arch respectively, the webs facing each other so as to grip the line to prevent sliding of the hanger along the line. 25

7. A line hanger as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the upper part has one limb integral with the lower part, said limbs having two or more integral beads (6), facing each. 30

8. A line hanger as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the beads are provided respectively on the two limbs at the lower end level of the shorter limb.

9. A line hanger as claimed in any one of claims 1-8, characterized in that the lower part (2) consists of three vertical strips cross connected at both ends, and strips defining two slots through which a hook of a hanger may be passed for gripping. 35

10. A line hanger as claimed in claim 9 characterized in that the middle strip has a curved indent (7) in each edge. 40

45

50

55

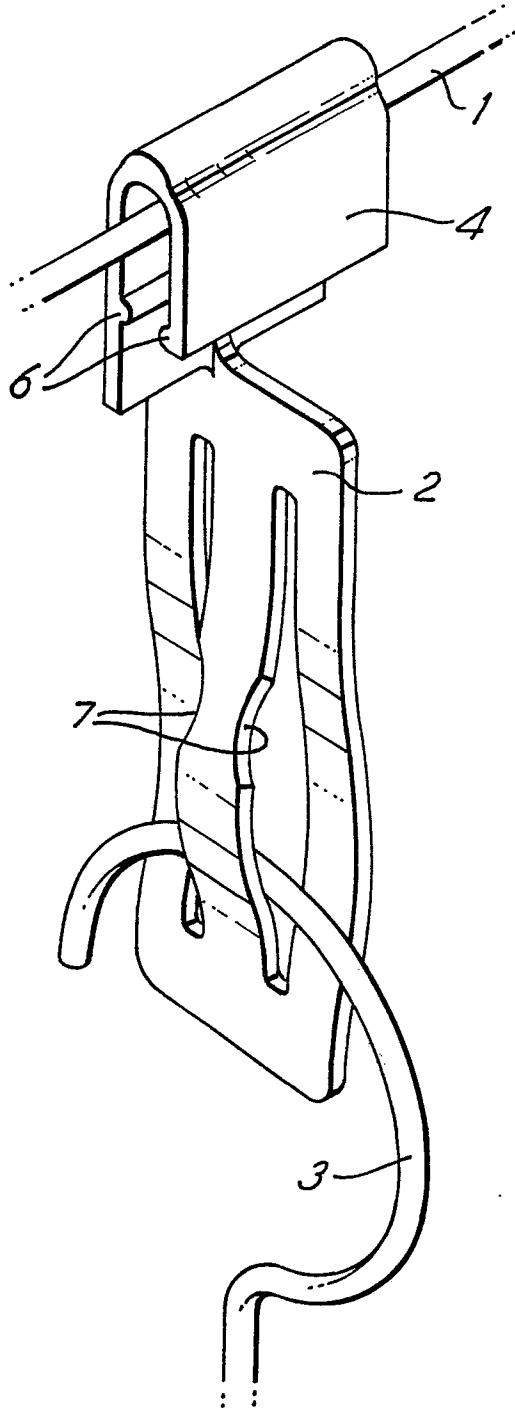


FIG. 1

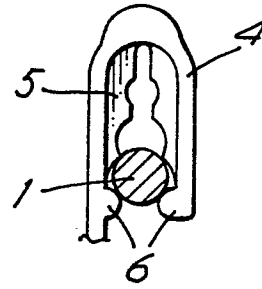


FIG. 2

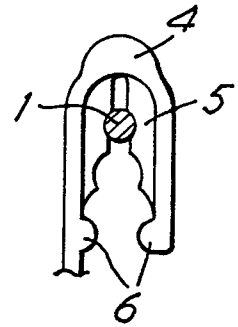


FIG. 3

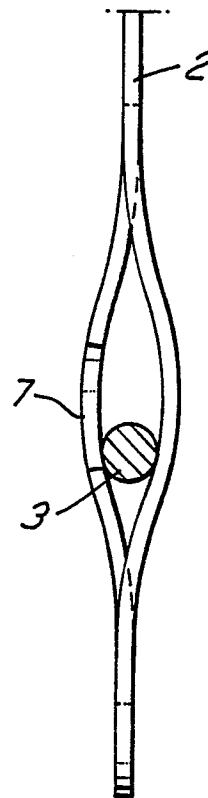


FIG. 4

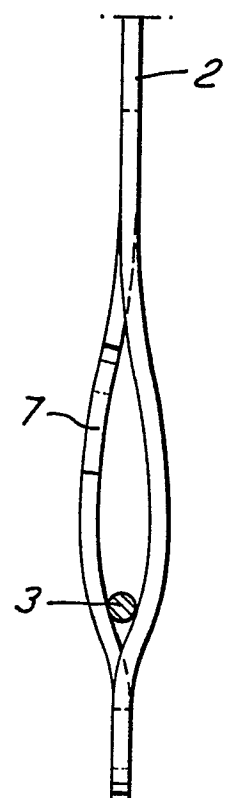
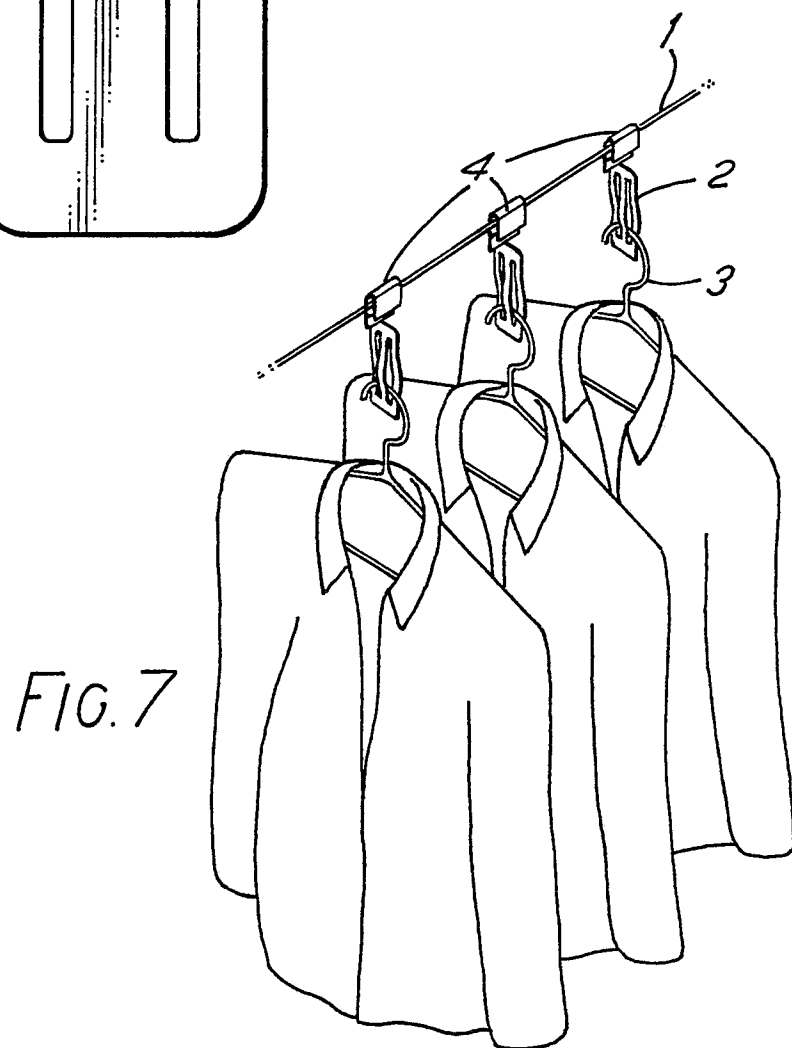
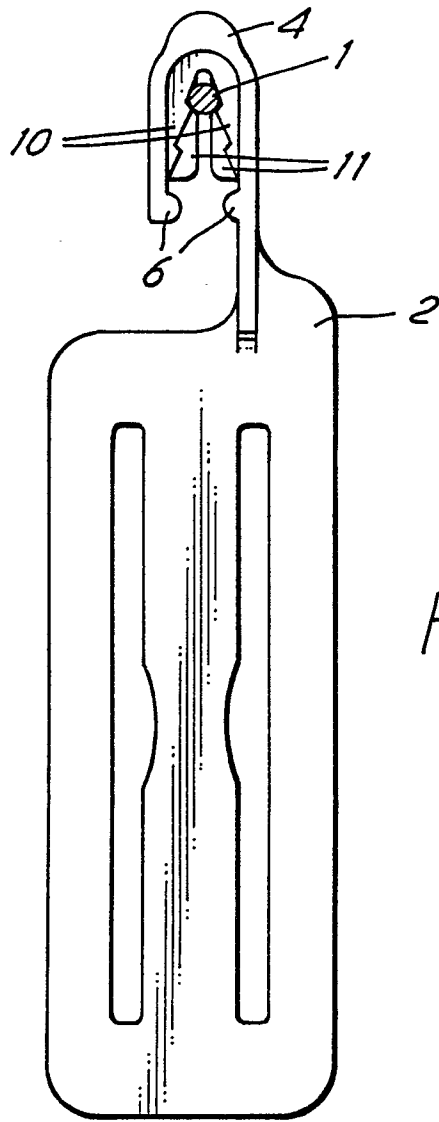


FIG. 5





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 88 30 7574

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)
X	US-A-2 092 121 (JOHNSON) * Figures 1-3 *	1-3	A 47 G 25/32
X	US-A-3 184 204 (DACHINGER) * Figure 2 *	1	
A	US-A-2 505 306 (SCHMIDT)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			A 47 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 07-10-1988	Examiner BEUGELING G.L.H.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			