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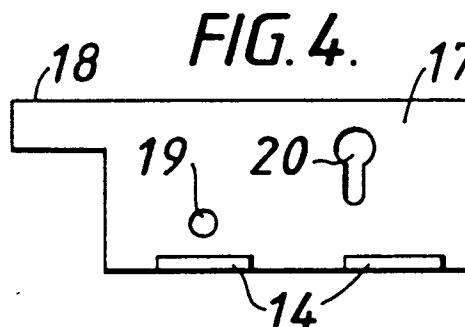
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(54) **Lockable linkage assembly.**

(57) A lockable linkage assembly comprises a first linkage member (1) having a slot into which can be inserted an end section of a second linkage member in the form of a tongue (9). The tongue includes a recess which engages an edge of the slot to retain the two together. A locking member in the form of a locking tongue (17) is insertable in the slot to thereby lock the tongue in the slot until the locking member is withdrawn.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 7745

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.6)
Y	EP-A-0 411 271 (K. FLIETHER) * column 13, line 40 - column 16, line 20; figures 20,21 *	1-5,10, 11	E04H17/14 E05B63/12 E01F13/02 E01F9/011
Y	US-A-1 381 395 (A. C. O. BOCK) * page 2, line 21 - line 29; figure 4 *	1-5,10, 11	
Y	US-A-4 050 401 (H.W. KELLY) * the whole document *	5,10,11	
Y	FR-A-2 669 951 (J. OLIVIER) * page 3, line 1 - line 11; figures 1,2 *	13	
Y	FR-A-2 613 393 (P. DERUDDER) * page 5, line 34 - page 6, line 16; figures 3,4 *	13	
A	DE-A-33 31 811 (G. REINHOLD) * abstract; figure 1 *	1,2,4-6	
A	EP-A-0 387 818 (W. JUNKER) * column 6, line 23 - column 9, line 9; figures 1-7 *	2,3,10	
A	US-A-4 176 869 (C.V. GILST) * column 4, line 12 - line 44; figure 3 *	1,6	
A	US-A-1 519 908 (P.J. ETUE) * the whole document *	1	
A	GB-A-1 457 500 (H.D. SHARMAN) * figure 2 *	7	
A	EP-A-0 134 607 (REHAU) * page 6, line 1 - line 19; figures *	13	
		-/--	
-The present search report has been drawn up for all claims-			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 4 May 1995	Examiner Verveer, D
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04C01)



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 7745

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.6)
A	GB-A-2 183 699 (GLASDON) * page 1, line 82 - page 2, line 12; figure 4 *	13	
A	US-A-3 700 020 (R.M. WALLACE) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		4 May 1995	Verveer, D
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid.
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,
namely:

see sheet 13

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid.
namely claims: 1-11 and 13
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.
namely claims:



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EP 94307745 -B-

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-11: Linkage assembly with autonomous locking means.
2. Claims 12: A sign/post connection.
3. Claims 13: A sign/base connection.