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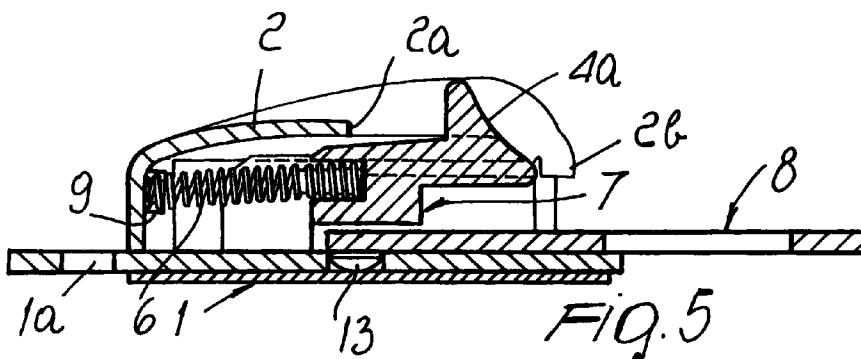
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(54) Quick-release buckle for straps of helmets for motorcyclists, cyclists and similar uses

(57) Quick-release buckle for straps of helmets for motorcyclists and the like, particularly for chin-straps, of the type comprising: a containment body; a metal plate (1) with an eyelet (1a) for coupling to a strap portion which is rigidly coupled to the helmet and with edges folded in the shape of the letter U; a bayonet (8) having, at one end, an eyelet and, at the opposite end, a slot (8b) for engaging a raised portion which protrudes from the plate (1); and a button (4), which is arranged in opposition to return springs (6); the buckle is constituted by a metal plate (1), with an eyelet (1a) which is rigidly coupled to the strap portion and with edges which are folded in the shape of the letter C and constitute two sliding guides (1b; 1c) for the release button (4) arranged in opposition to a return spring (6). The plate (1) is enclosed between a box-like body (2) and a lower

cover (3) which is open at the front and is provided with engagement means, constituted by a substantially arc-shaped raised portion (10) or by a through hole (14), which are arranged close to the fixed eyelet (1a) and are shaped so as to allow their stable coupling in corresponding arc-shaped means (8b; 13) formed at the end of a flat bayonet (8) after the insertion of the bayonet in the buckle body. The insertion of the bayonet (8) causes the movement of the button (4) and the loading of the spring (6) until the mutual engagement of the coupling means (8b; 10; 13, 14) is completed; the coupling is stabilized by the automatic return of the button (4) above the mutually coupled means, while release is achieved by simply retracting the button.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 97 11 6789

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)
X	US 3 399 431 A (SHANKLIN DONALD J ET AL) 3 September 1968 * column 1, line 10 - line 26 * * column 3, line 18 - line 35 * * column 6, line 4 - line 39 * * column 7, line 32 - column 8, line 46; figures 1,4,6 * ---	1,2	A44B11/25
Y	US 4 744 134 A (BETENCOURT JOSEPH) 17 May 1988 * column 3, line 43 - column 4, line 65; figures * ---	1-3,7-9	
Y	GB 2 287 745 A (TREBISACCE MARIO) 27 September 1995 * page 4, line 13 - page 5, line 27; claims 1-9; figure 2 * ---	1-3,7-9	
A	FR 1 294 259 A (MOSSALGUE) 22 October 1962 * page 1, column 2 - page 2, column 1; figures * ---	1,2	
A	US 3 127 655 A (CARTER) 7 April 1964 * column 1, line 48 - line 55 * * column 2, line 61 - column 3, line 29; figure 1 * ---	1,2	A44B A44C
A	DE 22 50 038 A (SITAM SOCIETA IND TELAI AUTOMA) 18 April 1974 * claims 1-3; figures 3-5 * -----	1,2	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		20 October 1998	Monné, E
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			