

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 154 392 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
02.01.2002 Bulletin 2002/01

(51) Int Cl. 7: **G09F 3/03, F16B 41/00**

(43) Date of publication A2:
14.11.2001 Bulletin 2001/46

(21) Application number: **01201632.5**

(22) Date of filing: **03.05.2001**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR**

Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **06.05.2000 GB 0010865**

(71) Applicant: **Siemens Metering Limited
Oldbury, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 8FZ (GB)**

(72) Inventor: **Hampson, Stephen
Oldham, OL4 4NW (GB)**

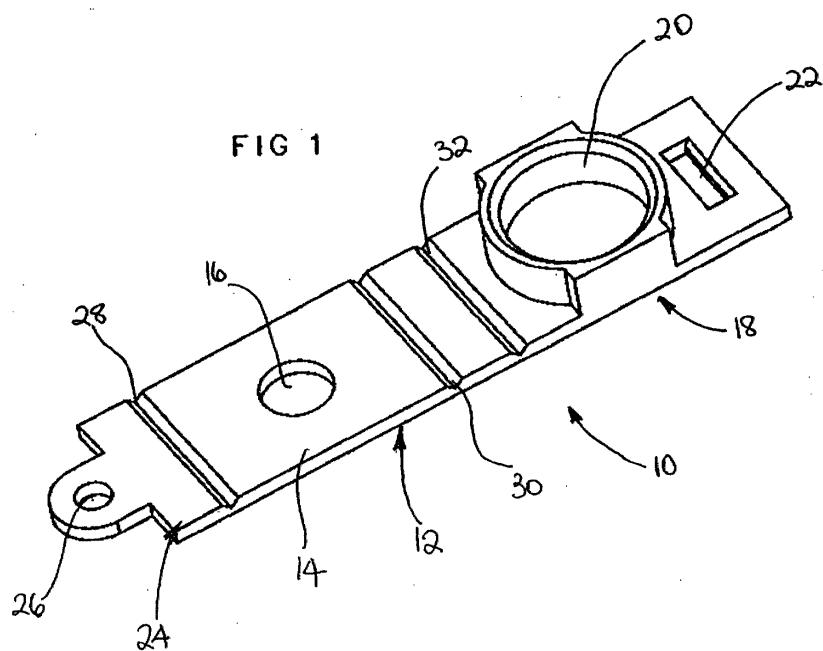
(74) Representative:
**Humphrey-Evans, Edward John et al
Siemens Shared Services Limited, I.P.D.,
Siemens House, Oldbury
Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 8FZ (GB)**

(54) Security seals

(57) Described herein is a security seal (10) for sealing covers and/or doors. The seal (10) comprises a substantially flat strip of material which has a first hole (16) for receiving a screw for attaching the seal to a recess formed in a cover or door, a cap (20) for covering the head of the screw, a tab portion (24) having a second hole (26) formed therein and a slot (22) adjacent the cap (20). A hinge (28) is provided between the first hole (16)

and the tab portion (24) to allow the tab portion (24) to fold to a position to engage the slot (22). Two further hinges (30, 32) are provided between the first hole (16) and the cap (20) to allow the cap (20) to be folded over to cover the head of the screw and to allow the slot (22) to engage the tab portion (24). A sealing wire can then be passed through the second hole (26) to close the seal (10) in a tamper evident condition.

FIG 1





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 20 1632

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	FR 2 216 802 A (LANDIS & GYR AG) 30 August 1974 (1974-08-30) * page 1, line 31 - line 37 * * page 2, line 4 - line 12 * * figures 1,2 *	1,3,5,7, 8,10,11	G09F3/03 F16B41/00
A	DE 78 23 456 U (SIEMENS AG) 16 November 1978 (1978-11-16) * the whole document *	1-11	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1999, no. 03, 31 March 1999 (1999-03-31) & JP 10 333575 A (TATSUNO CO LTD), 18 December 1998 (1998-12-18) * abstract *	1-11	
A	DE 30 19 581 A (TELEFONGYAR) 18 December 1980 (1980-12-18) * page 9, line 9 - line 19 * * figure 1 *	1-11	
A	CH 403 917 A (BAECHLI THEODOR) 15 December 1965 (1965-12-15) * the whole document *	12,13	F16B G09F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	12 October 2001	Pantoja Conde, A	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention		
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date		
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application		
O : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons		
P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 20 1632

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

12-10-2001

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
FR 2216802	A	30-08-1974	CH ES FR	554129 A 199106 Y 2216802 A7	13-09-1974 01-12-1975 30-08-1974	
DE 7823456	U			NONE		
JP 10333575	A	18-12-1998		NONE		
DE 3019581	A	18-12-1980	HU CS DD DE PL SU	181972 B 226720 B2 151236 A5 3019581 A1 224698 A1 1175366 A3	28-11-1983 16-04-1984 08-10-1981 18-12-1980 10-04-1981 23-08-1985	
CH 403917	A	15-12-1965		NONE		