



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
13.06.2007 Bulletin 2007/24

(51) Int Cl.:
A44B 11/26 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
25.04.2007 Bulletin 2007/17

(21) Application number: **06118078.2**

(22) Date of filing: **19.08.2006**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR
Designated Extension States:
AL BA HR MK YU

(71) Applicant: **Illinois Tool Works Inc.**
Glenview, IL 60026-1215 (US)

(72) Inventor: **Pontaoe, John S.**
Chicago, IL 60607 (US)

(74) Representative: **Meissner, Bolte & Partner**
Anwaltssozietät GbR
Postfach 10 26 05
86016 Augsburg (DE)

(30) Priority: **14.06.2006 US 452499**
24.10.2005 US 729599 P

(54) **Side-release buckle assembly**

(57) A buckle assembly (40,70) includes a female connection member (70) having open button areas (76), and a male connection member (40) configured to mate with the female connection member (70). The male con-

nection member (40) may include deflectable lateral arms (46) having buttons (48) that are configured to be positioned within the open button areas (76), and at least one flexible and resilient strut member (58) connecting the lateral arms (46) together.

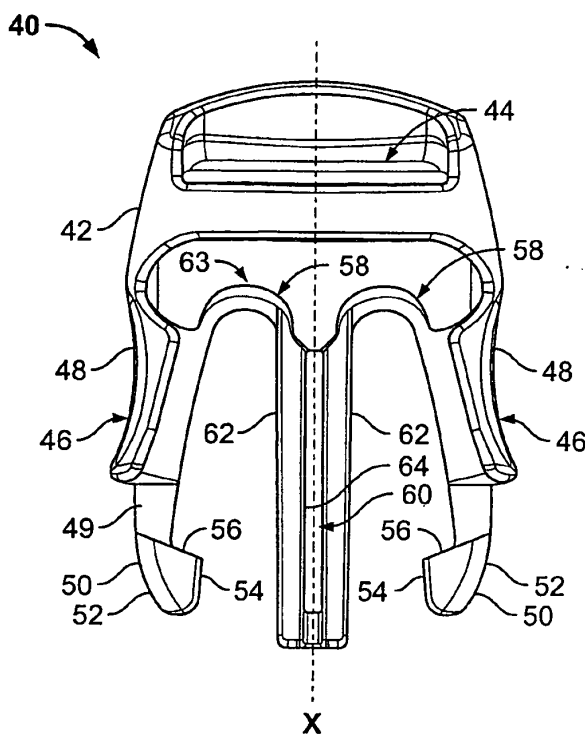


FIG. 3

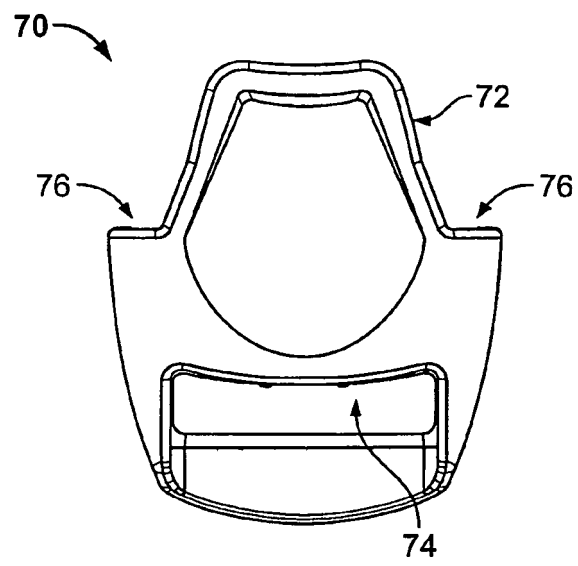


FIG. 5



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 11 8078

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	EP 1 466 537 A (YKK CORP [JP]) 13 October 2004 (2004-10-13) * paragraph [0045]; claim 1; figures 1,3 * -----	1-22	INV. A44B11/26
A	EP 0 466 446 A (ITW FASTEX ITALIA SPA [IT]) 15 January 1992 (1992-01-15) * claim 1; figures 4,5 * -----	1-22	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A44B B60R B64D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 4 May 2007	Examiner Westermayer, Wilhelm
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			

1
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

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

EP 06 11 8078

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.

04-05-2007

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1466537	A	13-10-2004	CN 1535634 A	13-10-2004
			HK 1066153 A1	29-12-2006
			JP 2004313268 A	11-11-2004
			KR 20040089500 A	21-10-2004
			TW 243031 B	11-11-2005
			US 2005091808 A1	05-05-2005

EP 0466446	A	15-01-1992	AU 8027191 A	16-01-1992
			IT 220554 Z2	04-10-1993
			JP 5111405 A	07-05-1993
