# (11) **EP 1 837 476 A2**

(12)

# **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:

26.09.2007 Bulletin 2007/39

(51) Int CI.:

E06B 3/30 (2006.01)

(21) Application number: 07005635.3

(22) Date of filing: 20.03.2007

(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 MT NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR

**Designated Extension States:** 

AL BA HR MK YU

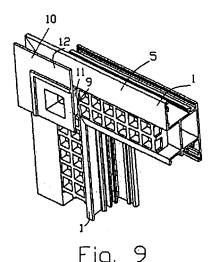
(30) Priority: 20.03.2006 IT CZ20060013

- (71) Applicant: Gargano, Gaetano 95047 Paterno (CT) (IT)
- (72) Inventor: Gargano, Gaetano 95047 Paterno (CT) (IT)

### (54) Modular system for decorating

(57) A modular system for decoration, constituted by a profile in aluminium, or PVC or another material, that forms a frame into which a decorative element is inserted, characterised by the fact that profile in aluminium or PVC or another material presents, in the anterior part, a groove

to receive, in the straight parts, a runner into which the ornamental decorative element is inserted, and in each corner an angular support with guiding wings that are inserted into the grooves of the profiles, and onto which a decorative angular fitting is mounted.



#### Technical field of the invention

**[0001]** The modular system for decorating, object of the present invention, regards a modular system for decorating any type of profile in extruded aluminium or in other materials that constitute an internal or external fixture, the frames for these or any type of fixture, shutters and framing for any object, allowing one to create interchangeable ornamental decorative elements from any type of material.

1

#### State of the Art

**[0002]** In the profiles used for being given ornamental decorative elements, grooves are foreseen where, in fact, the decorations are inserted. These decorations are not normally interchangeable and present the cuts at the angles that are necessary to create the corners.

**[0003]** The patent AT-B-397 279 describes one of these systems for decorating. The system disclosed presents the inconvenience that the cut corners are visible and anti-aesthetic.

**[0004]** Another similar system is described in the patent application EP-A-0482278. To avoid the problem of the cuts at the corners, the patent application EP-A-0425753 foresees the use of angular fittings. Said angular fittings are not better described and are not held in place by any guiding elements. Their fixing onto the profile is therefore not guaranteed.

**[0005]** The system proposed in the above described patent presents numerous disadvantages and inconveniences.

#### Advantages of the invention

**[0006]** The principal aim of the present invention is that of overcoming the difficulties present in the state of the art.

[0007] The difficulties present in the state of the art are overcome through the creation of a modular system for decorating, constituted by a profile in aluminium or PVC or another material that forms a frame or shutter in which a decorative element is inserted with any type of material, characterised by the fact that said profile in aluminium or PVC or another material has, in the lower part, a groove to receive, in the rectilinear parts, a runner into which the ornamental decorative element is inserted.

**[0008]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that in each angle is an angular support provided with guiding wings that are inserted into the grooves of the profiles, on which a decorative angular fitting is mounted.

**[0009]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said runner has staff bead elements to better hold the decoration or to avoid the evident corners of the decoration being seen.

[0010] Another characteristic is given by the fact that

said runner with the decoration is inserted into the groove of the profile by a snap or by a light pressure.

**[0011]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said angular support presents a joining element, other than the two guiding wings.

**[0012]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said joining element of said angular support is a bush into which the complementary joining element of the decorative angular fitting is inserted.

**[0013]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said joining element of said angular support is a male element that is inserted into the complementary joining element of the decorative angular fitting.

**[0014]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into the frame of a continuous facing.

**[0015]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into the frame or shutter of an internal door.

20 [0016] Another characteristic is given by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into the casing for a plasma/lcd/flat-screened television apparatus

**[0017]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into an external door in aluminium or in another material.

**[0018]** Another characteristic is given by the fact that said decoration inserted into an external door substitutes the rusticated ashlar-work.

30 [0019] Another characteristic is given by the fact that when one utilises plastic material, fibre optics or phosphorescent material that gives out light can be inserted inside the decoration, both in the frame and in the shutter.
[0020] Another characteristic is given by the fact that
35 said system can be used to insert a decoration into shut-

said system can be used to insert a decoration into shutters and frames in systems for thermal and non thermal wood-aluminium fixtures.

**[0021]** Other characteristics and advantages of the invention will appear clear from the description that hereby follows of some methods of constructing the invention, given as non-limiting examples by the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

#### **Brief Description of the Figures**

#### [0022]

45

50

Figure 1 is a section of a profile used for the system object of the present invention.

Figure 2 is an axonometric view of an angular support to be used in the system object of the present invention

Figure 3 is an axonometric view of a profile onto which an angular support to be used in the system object of the present invention is about to be mounted.

Figure 4 is an axonometric view of a profile on which an angular support to be used in the system object

2

20

40

of the present invention is mounted.

Figure 5 is an axonometric view of a runner onto which a decoration to be used in the system object of the present invention is about to be mounted.

Figure 6 is an axonometric view of a runner on which a decoration to be used in the system object of the present invention is mounted.

Figure 7 is an axonometric view of the system object of the present invention.

Figure 8 is an axonometric view of a decorative angular fitting to be used in the system object of the present invention.

Figure 9 is an axonometric view of a frame on which a decoration with a decorative angular fitting in the system object of the present invention is mounted. Figure 10 is a section of an application on a continuous wall of the system object of the present invention.

Figure 11 is a view of an application on an internal door-frame of the system object of the present invention.

Figure 12 is a view of an application on a TV casing of the system object of the present invention.

Figure 13 is an axonometric view of a runner for an external door onto which a decoration to be used in the system object of the present invention is about to be mounted.

Figure 14 is a view of an external door with a decoration that uses the system object of the present invention.

# <u>Detailed Description of an embodiment the Invention.</u>

**[0023]** The modular system for decorating, object of the present invention, is described in the figures.

**[0024]** With reference to figure 1, the system is constituted by a profile 1 for frames that presents a groove 2 to receive the interchangeable decoration. With reference to figures 2, 3 and 4, the system shows an angular support 3, that is inserted at the corners of the frame 5 in the grooves 2.

**[0025]** The angular support 3 is constituted by two guiding wings 6 and by a coupling element 7 that can be a bush or a male element. The guiding wings 6 and the coupling element 7 are inserted by a snap or by a light pressure into the groove 2 of the profile 1 at the corners of the frame 5.

[0026] With reference to the figures 5 and 6, the decoration 8 is inserted into the runner 9 which can have staff bead elements 10 to better hold the decoration 8 or to avoid the sharp angles of the decoration being visible.

[0027] Said runner 9 with the decoration 8 is inserted into the groove 2 by a snap or by a light pressure.

**[0028]** In figure 7 a corner of a frame 5 formed by two profiles 1 that present the grooves 2 is shown. In the corner of the frame 5 the angular support 3 with the guiding wings 6 is inserted, in the grooves 2 the runners 9

are inserted, into which the decorations 8 are placed in. The depth of the guiding wings 6 and of the runners 9 is the same, in order that the decoration rests on the same level formed by the guiding wings 6 and by the runners 9.

**[0029]** In figure 8 a decorative angular fitting 10 is represented, constituted by a complementary coupling element 11, that can be a male element or a bush for the coupling element 7, and of a decorative fitting plate 12 that serves to join the corner of the frame.

**[0030]** In figure 9 a corner of a frame 5, formed by two profiles 1 that present the grooves 2 is shown. In the corner of the frame 5 the angular support 3 is already inserted, and of which only the coupling element 9 is visible; in said coupling element 9 the decorative angular fitting is mounted by the complementary coupling element 11.

**[0031]** The modular system for decorating, object of the present invention, can be mounted onto any type of frame or shutter on which the profile presents a groove into which it is possible to insert the decoration.

**[0032]** The system allows one to cover and improve the aesthetic aspect of the corner without extra parts and without any difficulty whatsoever. The profiles can be in aluminium and in PVC or another material, with or without thermal cutting, both rounded and right-angled, coplanar or overlapping. Furthermore, the system can be advantageously mounted on continuous facings, both in aluminium and in PVC or other material, see figure 10, in which the decorative element can easily be inserted into the groove 2 of the profiles 1 of a continuous facing.

**[0033]** Furthermore, as shown in figure 11, the system can be used both to insert a decoration into the frame of an internal door, and to insert a decoration into the casing of a plasma/1cd/flat-screened television apparatus (see figure 12).

**[0034]** The decoration can be advantageously inserted into an external door in aluminium, see figures 13 and 14, utilising a runner or without one.

**[0035]** Furthermore, the material used for the construction of shutters and frames can be in thermal wood-aluminium or not.

**[0036]** Naturally the modular system for decoration, object of the present invention, can be used to decorate any other object not represented in the figures such as, for example, photograph frames etc.

[0037] Finally, the system allows one, as the modem market requests, to be able to substitute the decoration used, with ease and little cost, replacing it with another. The motives that lead to the substitution of the decoration may be very varied. For example, the decoration is ruined, the decoration is no longer fashionable, the decoration does not match with the colours of the walls, the decoration does not match with the furnishings, etc.

**[0038]** Prior to this system it was difficult and costly to substitute the decoration, today with the system object of the present invention not only is it possible, but it is also easy and costs much less than the substitution of all the frame or the fixture, which in many cases is em-

5

10

25

bedded in a wall.

[0039] The discovery, it should be noted, is not limited to the representations given by the figures, but can be perfected and modified by men skilled in the art, without, however, exceeding the parameters of the patent.

[0040] The present invention permits numerous advantages and to overcome difficulties that could not have been overcome with the systems on sale at present.

5

#### **Claims**

- Modular system for decorating, constituted by a profile in aluminium or PVC or another material, that forms a frame or shutter, into which a decorative element of any material is inserted, characterised by the fact that said profile in aluminium or PVC or another material presents, on the anterior part, a groove to receive, in the straight parts, a runner into which the ornamental, decorative element is inserted.
- 2. Modular system for decorating according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that in each corner there is an angular support, with guiding wings that are inserted into the grooves of the profile, onto which a decorative angular joining is mounted.
- 3. Modular system for decorating according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that said runner has staff beading elements in order to better hold the decoration or to avoid the evident sharp angles of the decoration being visible.
- 4. Modular system for decorating according to claims 1 or 3, characterised by the fact that said runner with the decoration is inserted into the groove of the profile by a snap or by a light pressure.
- 5. Modular system for decorating according to claim 2, characterised by the fact that said angular support, other than two guiding wings, presents a coupling element.
- 6. Modular system for decorating according to claim 5, characterised by the fact that said coupling element of said angular support is a bush into which the complementary coupling element of the decorative angular fitting is inserted.
- 7. Modular system for decorating according to claim 5, characterised by the fact that said coupling element of said angular support is a male element that is inserted into the complementary coupling element of the decorative angular fitting.
- **8.** Modular system for decorating according to any of the preceding claims, **characterised by** the fact that

said system can be used to insert a decoration into the frame of a continuous facing.

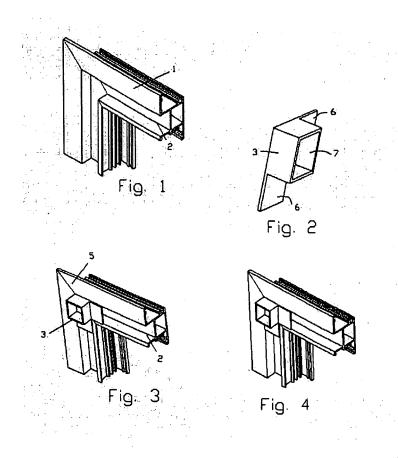
- 9. Modular system for decorating according to any of the preceding claims, characterised by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into the frame of an internal door.
- 10. Modular system for decorating according to any of the preceding claims, characterised by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into a casing of a plasma/lcd/flat-screened television apparatus.
- 11. Modular system for decorating according to any of the preceding claims, characterised by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into an aluminium external door.
- 12. Modular system for decorating according to any of the preceding claims, characterised by the fact that said system can be used to insert a decoration into shutters and frames in systems for fittings in thermal and non thermal wood-aluminium fixtures.

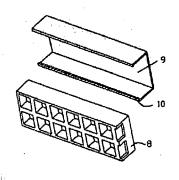
4

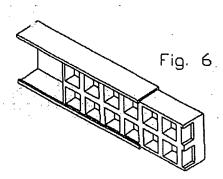
45

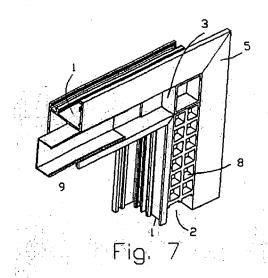
50

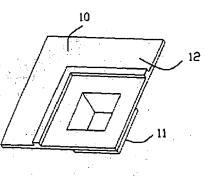
55



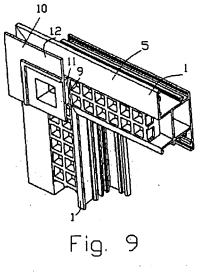


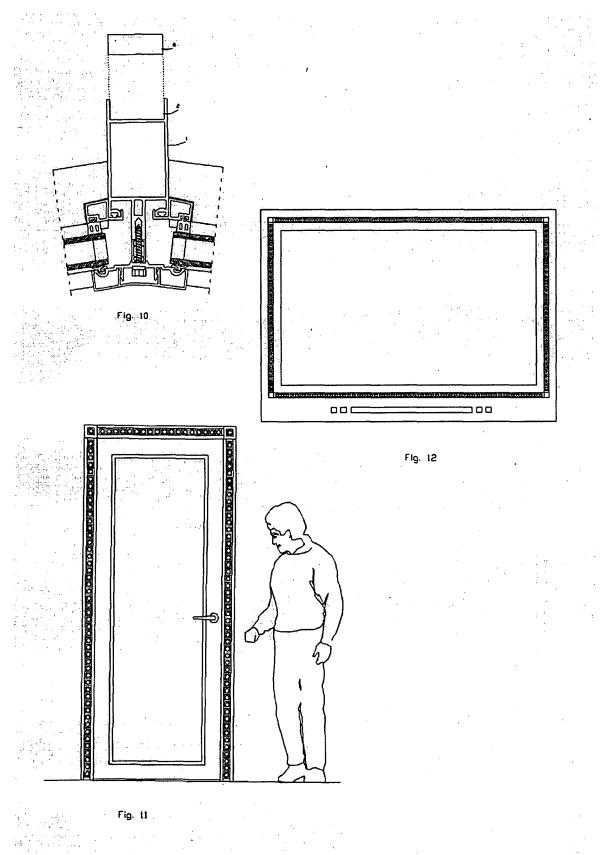


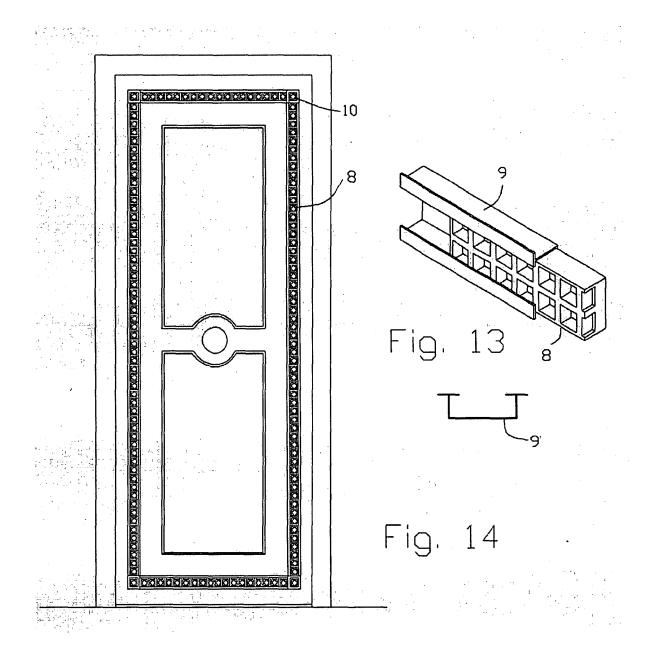












# EP 1 837 476 A2

#### REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

# Patent documents cited in the description

- AT 397279 B **[0003]**
- EP 0482278 A [0004]

• EP 0425753 A [0004]