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(54) **METHOD FOR ASSEMBLING A JOINT WITH A DECORATIVE PROFILE**

VERFAHREN ZUM BEFESTIGEN EINER EIN ZIERPROFIL AUFWEISENDEN VERBINDUNG

METHODE DE FIXATION D'UN JOINT COMPRENANT UN PROFIL DE FINITION

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(73) Proprietor: **Carvalhais, Rodrigues Fernando**
P-2840-409 Amora (PT)

(72) Inventor: **Carvalhais, Rodrigues Fernando**
P-2840-409 Amora (PT)

(74) Representative: **Pereira da Cruz, Joao et al**
J. Pereira da Cruz, S.A.
Rua Vitor Cordon, 14
1249-103 Lisboa (PT)

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a *method for assembling* a joint comprising a finishing profile or decorative profile. It can be applied in the fixing of finishing profiles, decorative profiles or expansion joints for use with wall coverings, ceilings, partitions or floor panels, and in the case of the latter whether they are stratified, ceramic, or made of natural stone or parquet.

Prior art

[0002] *Many known* fixing systems that exist on the market are always manufactured jointly with the profiles, as part of a complete set. This type of system uses a base or fixing profile, to which the decorative or finishing profile is subsequently applied. The two profiles fit into each other in a fixed position, without the possibility of adjustments or movements.

[0003] The female element is the part of the profile that is screwed or glued to the surface that is going to be covered. It is composed of an open rectangular gutter whose internal walls or sides are covered with triangular furrows or ridges, which are slightly rounded or serrated. This female part is rigid, with sides that have little or no elasticity. This means that the fitting of the upper or male part, which has the same width or may be wider, has to be carried out by means of a sharp blow, with the aid of a plastic or rubber hammer. Sometimes, during the positioning of the male part, one of the sides of the female part cracks, due to the fact that the parts were not correctly aligned. The part designated as the male, which is an integral part of the upper profile, has a solid rectangular cross-section with the whole length of both of its sides covered in the same type of ridges as those covering the internal walls of the female part. This solid fixing system is clearly incompatible with modern decorative profiles, which have increasingly more diverse formats with lighter and more versatile applications. Examples of fixing systems in prior art are mentioned in patents GB 2238557 and US 3667177. Patent GB 2238557 refers to sealing members that form joints between adjacent sheets of hygienic wall cladding material, and comprise first and second longitudinally extending components with means for securing them together at an adjustable spacing, so that marginal positions of one component urge the sheets against margins of the other component. A member sealing a panel against a floor/ceiling comprises spaced components and another at right angles is also described. Patent US 3667177 refers to a moulding joint for thin wall panelling and moulding members therefor. A retainer is positioned with a base flange behind a panelling member as it is being installed. The retainer has a receiving area formed from upstanding arms to receive and engage a tongue of a T-shaped moulding cap which is applied after the work is completed. The two piece moulding combination can be used for all types of panel joints including inside and outside corners, butt joints, joints between wall and ceiling and wall and floor, and joints between the edge of panelling members and the wall surfaces to which they are attached. Neither of the abovementioned patents allows the positioning and fitting together of two parts axially and obliquely in relation to each other. On the other hand, patent EP 1176268 of the applicant provides the fitting together of the base part or female part with the decorative or finishing profile, with the possibility of placing the parts obliquely in relation to each other. This fixing system is essentially characterised in that it consists of fitting the male part or element into the female part or element in such a way as to allow the two parts to be fitted together coaxially or obliquely to one another.

[0004] The abovementioned prior art does not provide the use of a third part which simultaneously ensures a perfect fit between the decorative profile and the base part without any risk of breaking or undesired torsion. EP1493880 describes the use of a third part which fits by pressure into a cavity on the underside of the decorative or finishing profile.

Summary of the invention

[0005] The present invention provides *a method for assembling a joint comprising a finishing profile or a decorative profile in accordance with claim 1*.

Brief description of the figures and Detailed description of the Invention

[0006] The description that follows is based on the drawings attached hereto, which represent without any restrictive character the method that is the subject of the invention.

[0007] As may be observed from the drawings attached hereto, the fixing system of the invention consists of three separate parts, the finishing or decorative profile 5, the male or intermediate part 1 and the female or base part 8.

[0008] The male or intermediate part 1 comprises an upper element or head 2 with a central indentation 3 for fitting into a cavity 11 which extends below the decorative or finishing profile 5; a lower element 6 with peripheral ridges 7 for fitting into the corresponding ridges of the base part 8; a shaft 10 which connects the two aforementioned elements. The said indentation 3 *has* a narrowing, as in figures *1 to 4* .

[0009] The female part or base part 8 is screwed or glued to the surface that is going to be covered and it is composed of an open rectangular gutter whose internal walls or sides are covered with ridges or furrows 9.

[0010] The finishing or decorative profile 5 has on its underside a channel shaped cavity 11, into which is fitted the upper element of the male part 1. These parts are fitted together by applying pressure to the said element.

[0011] As may be observed from the figures attached hereto, the finishing or decorative profile 5 and the base

part 8 are fitted together as soon as the intermediate or male part 1 has been duly positioned into part 8. The fitting of the intermediate or male part 1 into the base part does not require great force or blows which could cause breaking or create torsion in any of the parts. In turn, the positioning of the head 2 of part 1 is effected by applying pressure. For this purpose, as shown in the figures, the head 2 has an indentation 3 which will facilitate and permit the elastic deformation of the sides of the head 2. The configuration of the cavity 11. namely its outside surface 4, and of the head 2, is such as to facilitate the fitting together of the parts.

[0012] Figures 1 to 4 *show that* the head 2 is not fitted vertically in place, but by rotation to either side. Figure 4 represents an intermediate part of longer length which, together with the fact that part 1 can be positioned obliquely into part 8, makes it possible to resolve certain situations of differences in level between the two edges of the joint.

Claims

1. *Method for assembling a joint* comprising a finishing or decorative profile (5) wherein a female part or base part (8) is screwed or glued to the surface to be covered and is omposed of an open rectangular gutter which has its internal walls or sides covered with ridges or furrows (9) and onto which are fitted the other elements having appropriate means for this purpose, *wherein* a third intermediate part (1) is placed between the finishing or decorative profile (5) and the base part (8), thus making it possible to independently assemble the finishing or decorative profile (5) onto the base part (8), *wherein*
   the intermediate part (1) comprises an upper element or head (2) with a central indentation (3) for fitting into a cavity (11) which extends below the decorative or finishing profile (5); a lower element (6) with peripheral ridges (7) for fitting into the corresponding ridges of the base part (8); and a shaft (10) which connects the two aforesaid elements, ***characterised in that*** *a first hook-shaped side of the upper element or head (2) is first positioned in a first side of the cavity (11) and then the second hook-shaped side of the upper element or head is inserted into a second side of the cavity (11) by rotation of the intermediate part (1) into the finishing or decorative profile (5), wherein* the central indentation (3) guarantees the flexibility necessary for inserting the male or intermediate part (1) into the finishing or decorative profile (5) by rotation, *wherein*
   indentation (3) *has* narrowing which gives it a rounded configuration.

2. *Method* according to the previous claims, **characterised in that** *said* shaft (10) which connects the two aforesaid elements can be of varying heights in order to enable the finishing or decorative profile (1) to be positioned in different situations.

3. *Method* according to the previous claims, **characterised in that** the head (2) of the male or intermediate part (1) and the cavity (11) of the finishing or decorative profile (5) are of such dimensions as to ensure a slight clearance between the surfaces that are in contact in order to allow said intermediate part (1) to be positioned obliquely.

Patentansprüche

1. Verfahren zum zusammenbau einer Verbindung bestehend aus einem lackierten oder dekorative Profil (5), wobei eine weiblicher Teil oder Basisteil (8) an eine zu bedecken Oberfläche geschraubt oder geklebt wird, und sie besteht aus einer rechteckigen offenen Rinne, deren interne Wände oder Seiten abgedeckt sind mit Graten oder Furchen (9) und auf denen die anderen Elemente mit geeigneten Mitteln für diesen Zweck angebracht sind, wobei ein drittes Zwischenteil (1) zwischen dem lackiertem oder dekorativen Profil (5) und dem Basisteil (8) angeordnet ist, wodurch es möglich ist, das lackierte oder dekorative Profil (5) unabhängig auf das Basisteil (8) anzubringen; wobei das Zwischenteil (1) besteht aus einem oberen Element oder Kopf (2) mit einer zentralen Vertiefung (3) zum Einsetzen in einen Hohlraum (11), welcher sich tiefer als das Dekor-bzw. lackierte-Profil (5) erstreckt; einem unteren Element (6) mit peripheren Rippen (7) zum Einpassen in die entsprechenden Rippen des Basisteils (8); und eine Welle (10), die die beiden vorher genannten Elemente miteinander verbindet, und **dadurch gekennzeichnet daß** zuerst die erste hakenförmige Seite des oberen Elements oder Kopfes (2) in eine ersten Seite des Hohlraums (11) positioniert wird und dann die zweite hakenförmige Seite des oberen Elements oder Kopfes in eine zweite Seite des Hohlraums (11) eingeführt wird durch Drehung des Zwischenteils (1) in das lackierte oder dekorative Profil (5), wobei die zentrale Vertiefung (3) die notwendige Flexibilität zum Einsetzen des männlichen oder Zwischenteils (1) in das lakkierte oder dekorative Profil (5) gewährleistet durch Rotation, wobei die erwähnte Vertiefung (3) eine Verengung hat, welche eine abgerundete Konfiguration ergibt.

2. Verfahren nach den vorhergehenden Ansprüchen, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß** die erwähnte Welle (10), die die beiden vorher genannten Elemente verbindet, unterschiedlichen Höhen sich befinden kann, damit das lakkierte oder dekorative Profil (1) in verschiedenen Situationen positioniert werden kann.

3. Verfahren nach den vorhergehenden Ansprüchen,

dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß der Kopf (2) des männlichen oder Zwischenteils (1) und dem Hohlraum (11) des lackierten oder dekorative Profils (5) so dimensionert sind, um ein geringes Spiel zwischen den berührenden Oberflächen zu gewährleisten, damit das erwähnte Zwischenteil schräg positioniert werden kann.

Revendications

1. Une méthode d'assemblage de joints comprenant un profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5), où un élément femelle ou de base (8) est vissé ou collé à la surface à être revêtue et est constitué d'une rainure rectangulaire ouverte dont les parois ou côtés intérieurs sont dotés d'arêtes ou de cannelures (9) et dans lequel sont encastrés les autres éléments ayant des moyens appropriés à cette fin, où un troisième élément intermédiaire (1) est placé entre le profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5) et l'élément de base (8), permettant ainsi l'assemblage indépendant du profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5) sur l'élément de base (8), où l'élément intermédiaire (1) est constitué d'un élément supérieur ou tête (2) avec une découpe centrale (3) pour encastrement dans une cavité (11) qui s'étend au-dessous du profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5) ; un élément inférieur (6) avec des arêtes périphériques (7) pour encastrement dans les arêtes correspondantes de l'élément de base (8) ; et un arbre (10) qui relie lesdits deux éléments, **caractérisée en ce qu'**un premier côté en forme de crochet de l'élément supérieur ou tête (2) est inséré premièrement dans un premier côté de la cavité (11) et ensuite le deuxième côté en forme de crochet de l'élément supérieur ou tête est inséré dans un deuxième côté de la cavité (11) par rotation de l'élément intermédiaire (1) dans le profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5), où la découpe centrale (3) assure la flexibilité nécessaire pour insérer l'élément mâle ou intermédiaire (1) dans le profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5) par rotation, où ladite découpe (3) présente un rétrécissement qui lui confère une configuration arrondie.

2. Une méthode selon la revendication précédente, **caractérisée en ce que** ledit arbre (10) qui relie lesdits deux éléments peut avoir des hauteurs variables afin de permettre que le profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (1) puisse être positionné dans des situations diverses.

3. Une méthode selon les revendications précédentes, **caractérisée en ce que** la tête (2) de l'élément mâle ou intermédiaire (1) et la cavité (11) du profilé de terminaison ou de décoration (5) présentent des dimensions aptes à prévoir un léger espace entre les surfaces qui sont en contact afin de permettre le positionnement oblique dudit élément intermédiaire (1).

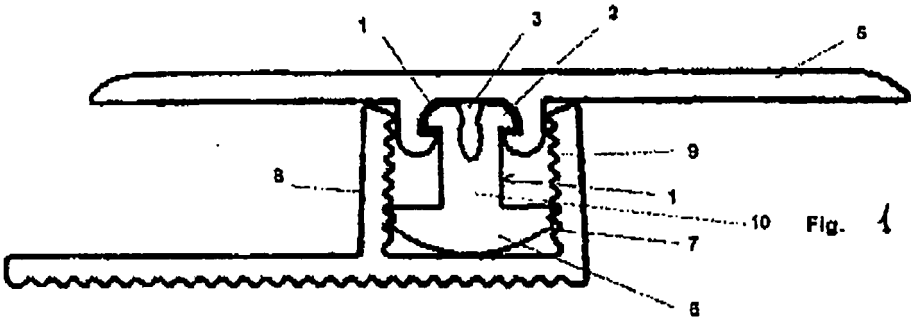

Fig. 1

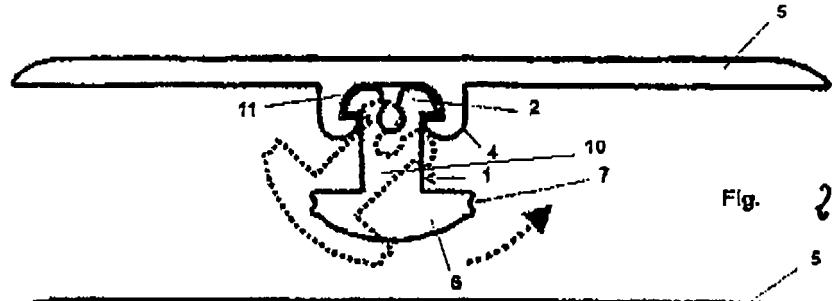

Fig. 2

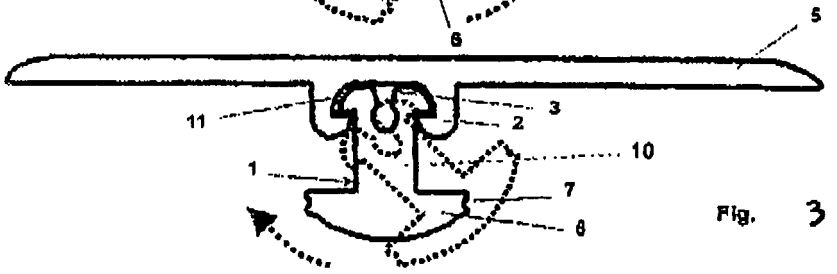

Fig. 3

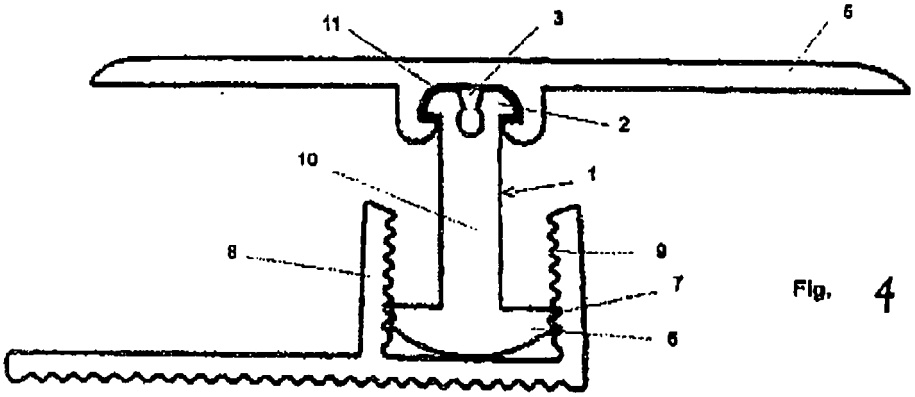

Fig. 4

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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