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(54) **Connection system for a skirting-board and skirting-board and connection profile for use therewith**

(57) Skirting system (1) comprising at least one connection profile (2) and at least one skirting-board (3), wherein the connection profile is adapted to arrange the skirting-board on a wall (5), wherein the skirting-board comprises at least one tongue (31a,31b) extending at

least substantially in perpendicular direction relative to the plane of the skirting-board, wherein the connection profile is provided with engaging means (23a,24a,23b, 24b) for engaging the tongue of the skirting-board for the purpose of clamping connection of the skirting-board.

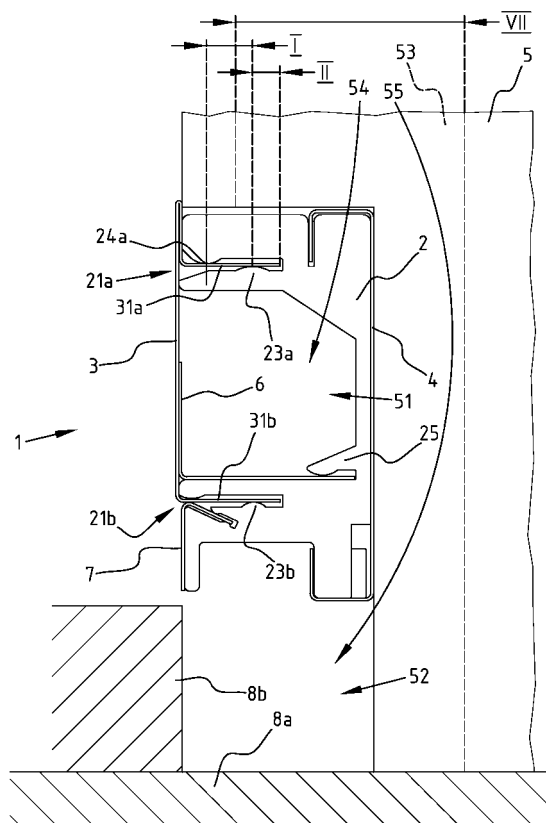


FIG. 1

Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a skirting system comprising at least one connection profile and at least one skirting-board, wherein the connection profile is adapted to arrange the skirting-board on a wall. The invention also relates to a skirting-board and a connection profile intended for the skirting system.

[0002] Such systems are generally known.

[0003] For the purpose of arranging a skirting-board on for instance the lower part of a wall, a skirting-board is generally connected to the wall or floor using nails or adhesive. However, when a skirting-board has to be arranged under a system wall or in front of a rebate, use is generally made of connection profiles for the purpose of connecting the skirting-board. Such profiles are situated for instance at the bottom of a system wall or are placed in the rebate.

[0004] The skirting-board can then be clicked onto the connection profile, a so-called snap connection, so that it is connected to the profile. Systems are also known wherein the skirting-board provided with a groove can be pushed over an upright tongue, so creating a firm connection.

[0005] The present invention has for its object to improve the existing systems and to provide a simple, efficient and/or flexible skirting system for connecting a skirting-board to a wall.

[0006] The skirting system of the type stated in the preamble has for this purpose the special feature that the skirting-board comprises at least one tongue extending at least substantially in perpendicular direction relative to the plane of the skirting-board, wherein the connection profile is provided with engaging means for engaging the tongue of the skirting-board for the purpose of clamping connection of the skirting-board. The engaging means can here engage on at least a part of the surface of the transversely extending tongue, so that the distance between the skirting-board and the connection profile is at least substantially continuously adjustable, wherein a very flexible skirting system is provided. Since the tongue preferably extends in the direction in which the skirting-board is arranged, i.e. transversely of the plane of the skirting-board or the visible surface, the position of the skirting-board is continuously adjustable in the connecting direction.

[0007] It will be apparent that this is highly advantageous when the system is for instance used under a wall system on which wall panels of varying thickness can be arranged. The system can moreover compensate for different types of wall finishing, for instance the difference in thickness between a wall finished with a paint layer of about 0.5 mm and a wall finished with textured plaster of a thickness of 3 mm. The system according to the invention then provides for a good fitting of the skirting-board to the wall, irrespective of the thickness of the wall finish.

[0008] In the case of the snap connection of the known systems the skirting-board must be arranged at a pre-

terminated distance relative to the connection profile in order to obtain this snap connection. Also in sliding systems the tongue over which the skirting-board must be pushed in vertical direction is situated at a predetermined distance. As the skilled person will appreciate, such systems do not provide any depth adjustment. In the present invention the tongue in the connection profile is engaged and clamped, wherein the relative position of the connection profile and the skirting-board is of secondary importance for the connection.

[0009] In a preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the tongue extends in connected position at least substantially in a horizontal plane. A skirting system is in this way obtained which is simple to arrange at the desired height relative to the connection profile. Furthermore, this horizontal orientation ensures an adjustable connection since the relative orientation of the engaging means and the tongue does not change when the skirting-board is displaced in the horizontal plane, whereby the adjustment in the connecting direction becomes possible. The tongue preferably has a length of between 0.25 and 5 cm, more preferably between 1 and 3 cm, and still more preferably about 2 cm.

[0010] It is moreover advantageous here that, in addition to an adjustment in depth, i.e. in a direction transversely of the plane of the skirting-board, a horizontal adjustment is also possible in the plane of the skirting-board. This can be particularly advantageous in the connecting of different skirting-boards, wherein the skirting-boards can simply be pushed against each other. It can moreover be possible to place a skirting-board at different distances from the connection profile, for instance under the influence of local variations in the wall. It will be apparent that the skirting system according to the invention provides a very variable skirting system.

[0011] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the engaging means are adapted to engage on the tongue at least at two locations. This provides a firm and stable clamping connection between the tongue and the connection profile. And the engaging means are preferably adapted to engage on each of the two sides of the tongue. It has been discovered that this results in a very strong clamping connection. It is advantageous here when the engaging means are adapted to cause the tongue to extend in at least substantially horizontal direction during clamping. In other embodiments engagement at three or four locations can for instance also be possible.

[0012] The engaging means are preferably adapted to engage on the tongue at a predetermined distance from each other as seen in the direction perpendicularly of the plane of the skirting-board. The engaging means are preferably adapted to engage at a mutual distance of at least 1 cm.

[0013] It is moreover advantageous that, in the situation where the skirting-board is situated in the closest position relative to the connection profile, i.e. the furthest pushed-in position, the engaging means engage at a pre-

determined distance from the outer end of the tongue. This distance preferably amounts to between 0.1 and 3 cm, more preferably about 1.5 cm. These distances can be modified to the desired degree of variation. It can for instance be possible here to make the distance of engagement between the engaging means smaller for the purpose of increasing the distance between the engagement and the outer end of the tongue, hereby increasing the degree of variation.

[0014] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the skirting-board is manufactured from a resilient material. The clamping action of the skirting-board is hereby improved. It can be advantageous here when engaging means are adapted to deform the tongue to some extent in the connected position for the purpose of obtaining a resilient, clamping connection.

[0015] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the engaging means comprise a groove for receiving the tongue. During connection the tongue is inserted into the groove, and there engaged. The walls of the groove are preferably provided with protrusions for engaging on the tongue. A connection is in this way provided in efficient manner. The groove more preferably comprises close to the opening thereof guide means for guiding the skirting-board in the groove during connection, for the purpose of simplifying arrangement of the tongue. The guide means preferably comprise a widening outer end of the groove, wherein the inclining surfaces can serve to direct and guide the skirting-board in the groove.

[0016] In a particular preferred embodiment of the skirting system according to the invention the connection profile comprises a groove with two protrusions which are arranged at a distance from each other and which are each situated on an opposite wall of the groove for the purpose of engaging the tongue on both sides. The engaging means in the form of the protrusions are here placed such that in the connected position the tongue extends at least substantially in a horizontal plane. It can also be possible to provide more than two protrusions, for instance three or four, which preferably engage the tongue at a distance from each other.

[0017] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention at least one of the engaging means and the tongue are provided with a surface structure for increasing the mutual clamping in the connected position. A strengthened connection is obtained by for instance roughening at least one of the contact surfaces of the tongue or the engaging means. It requires more effort here to take the tongue out of the connection profile, while the adjustability is retained. It can be advantageous here to provide both the tongue and the engaging means with a surface structure.

[0018] The surface structure preferably comprises at least one surface having a normal with a component in the connecting direction. This makes it possible to limit the movement of the tongue in the direction of the con-

necting direction, since engagement is possible on this surface lying at least partially perpendicularly of the connecting direction. The surface structure more preferably comprises a plurality of such surfaces.

[0019] The surface structure preferably comprises a serrated or ribbed surface, thereby providing in simple manner a surface which can for instance be engaged for at least partially limiting movement in the connecting direction, this enhancing the clamping properties. In this context serrated is understood to mean for instance the shape of a sawtooth or a ribbed form. The serrations more preferably extend at least substantially perpendicularly of the connecting direction.

[0020] In a further preferred embodiment the tongue is provided with a surface structure, wherein the engaging means are adapted to engage clampingly on the surface structure. The engaging means preferably comprise at least one protrusion adapted to engage on the surface structure of the tongue, for instance on a surface having a normal with a component in the connecting direction.

[0021] When the tongue is for instance provided with a serrated surface structure, a protrusion can engage on each of the descending or rising surfaces of the sawtooth form of the tongue subject to the depth adjustment of the skirting-board. When the tongue is displaced the protrusion then engages on a subsequent surface of the structure. During displacement the protrusion then engages on for instance a subsequent valley in the serrated structure. It can be advantageous here to give the protrusion a resilient form.

[0022] In a further preferred embodiment of the skirting system the engaging means and the tongue are provided with an at least substantially complementarily co-acting surface structure. The surface structures engage each other during connection in order to achieve a firm connection in at least the connecting direction. The surface structures here preferably comprise surface parts having a normal with a component in the connecting direction. In the horizontally extending tongue the surface structures then comprise at least partially vertically oriented surfaces. These surface parts of the tongue and the engaging means with preferably opposite normal then engage on each other and provide for a firm connection in the connecting direction.

[0023] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the skirting-board comprises two tongues, wherein the connection profile is adapted to engage on the two tongues. This enhances the stability of the connection between the skirting-board and the connection profile. The connection profile is preferably provided for this purpose with two grooves for receiving the tongues.

[0024] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the skirting-board is provided with a decorative finish, for instance a wooden decorative skirting which is arranged, for instance by sealing or screwing, on the skirting-board according to the invention.

[0025] In another embodiment it can be possible to arrange only the skirting-board provided with the tongues under a wall.

[0026] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention a plurality of connection profiles are provided, wherein the tongue of the skirting-board is engaged by a plurality of connection profiles. The connection profiles are here placed at a distance from each other, for instance in a rebate under a wall, and a skirting-board can then be arranged. It is particularly advantageous that the connection profiles are arranged at heights differing to some extent, for instance under the influence of an uneven floor or rebate. Since the tongue is received by each of the placed connection profiles, the skirting-board will level out the different heights due to the tongue of the skirting-board yielding in different vertical directions.

[0027] In a further preferred embodiment of the skirting system according to the invention a wall mounting profile is provided for mounting on the wall, wherein the wall mounting profile and the connection profile are provided with co-acting connecting means for connecting the connection profiles at mutual distances in the wall mounting profile. The wall mounting profile is preferably arranged at least substantially level on the wall, for instance in a rebate, this providing a horizontal relative orientation of the connection profiles, and thereby of the skirting-board. The wall mounting profile moreover provides a simple and rapid connection of the connection profiles. The wall mounting profile preferably comprises an at least substantially C-shaped profile beam, wherein the connection profile is adapted so that it can be arranged clampingly between the legs of the C-profile. The connection profile is preferably provided for this purpose with aligning means for aligning and/or adjusting the connection profile in the wall mounting profile. Such aligning means can comprise a tongue extending transversely of the connection profile.

[0028] In a further preferred embodiment of a skirting system according to the invention the connection profile comprises an internal cable duct, for instance for receiving cabling. Electricity or data cables can for instance in this way be arranged behind the skirting-board. The cable duct can preferably be connected releasably to the connection profile. This is particularly advantageous when a plurality of connection profiles are provided, wherein the cable duct extends between the connection profiles. The skirting-board more preferably comprises at least two tongues, wherein the connection profile is adapted to engage on the two tongues, and wherein in the connected position a tongue extends at least partially under the cable duct and a tongue extends at least partially above the cable duct. The tongue here as it were covers the cable duct.

[0029] It is furthermore advantageous that, although a firm connection is provided between the skirting-board and the connection profile, the skirting-board can nevertheless be simply removed from the connection profile,

for instance for the purpose of accessing the cabling held in the connection profile.

[0030] In a further preferred embodiment of the skirting system according to the invention the connection profile comprises a plurality of grooves for receiving the tongue of the skirting-board. In this embodiment the connection profile takes a continuous form as a profile beam, wherein the skirting-board engages into a plurality of grooves of the connection profile. The connection profile is preferably adapted in this embodiment for connection to a wall, for instance in a rebate.

[0031] In a further preferred embodiment of the skirting system according to the invention the groove is formed by pressing out a wall of the connection profile. A groove is formed in efficient manner by preferably cutting out and pressing out, for instance by punching, for instance a strip of material from the connection profile. This can be particularly advantageous in combination with the connection profile embodied as connection profile beam, since a plurality of grooves can be formed in simple manner from the walls of the profile beam.

[0032] It can also be possible for the wall mounting profile or the connection profile to be mounted some distance from the sub-floor, wherein a second space is created under the connection profile for holding cables. It is advantageous here when the cable duct can be taken out of the connection profiles in order to make the space under this cable duct accessible. Preferably provided here is a cover profile which can be received clampingly in the connection profile for the purpose of closing the space between the connection profile and for instance a covering floor. This system then provides a separated guiding system, for instance for data and electricity cables.

[0033] The invention further relates to a skirting-board intended for use in a skirting system, comprising a visible surface and a tongue extending at least substantially perpendicularly of the visible surface of the skirting-board. The skirting-board preferably comprises two tongues, wherein each of the tongues extends at least substantially perpendicularly of the plane of the skirting-board, and preferably horizontally in the connected position.

[0034] The invention also relates to a connection profile and a wall mounting profile intended for the skirting system according to the invention.

[0035] The skirting-board, the connection profile, the cover profile and/or the wall mounting profile are preferably manufactured from at least one material chosen from the group of metal, plastic and wood. In a preferred embodiment of the skirting-board according to the invention a tongue is formed by rolling plate material. It can also be possible to form the skirting-board by bending plate material. It is moreover also possible to manufacture the skirting-board, or for instance the connection profile and/or the wall mounting profile, from pre-shaped plastic, for instance by extrusion.

[0036] It can further be possible to form for instance the connection profiles and the wall mounting profile in-

tegrally, wherein the skirting-board can be arranged in the integral system.

The invention will be further elucidated with reference to the figures of a preferred embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing, in which:

- Figure 1 shows a schematic cross-section of the skirting system according to the invention in a first position;
- Figure 2 shows the skirting system of figure 1 in a second position;
- Figure 3 shows a schematic perspective view of the skirting system according to the invention;
- Figure 4 show schematically a detail of the engaging means provided with a surface structure;
- Figure 5 shows schematically the skirting system arranged in an uneven rebate; and
- Figure 6 shows schematically a subsequent variant of the skirting system according to the invention.

[0037] Figure 1 shows skirting system 1 according to the invention. Skirting system 1 comprises a skirting-board 3 which can be received clampingly in a connection profile 2. Connection profile 2 is provided with grooves 21a and 21b for receiving tongues 31a, 31b respectively of skirting-board 3. As shown, tongues 31a and 31b extend horizontally perpendicularly of the plane of skirting-board 3. In order to simplify arranging of skirting-board 3 in groove 21a, groove 21a is provided in the direction of skirting-board 3 with guide means in the form of a widening opening. The inclining surfaces of the opening can guide tongue 31a into groove 21a.

[0038] Connection profile 2 is provided with engaging means in the form of protrusions 23a, 24a, 23b and 24b arranged in grooves 21a and 21b. Protrusion 23a is arranged on the lower side of groove 21a and protrusion 24a is arranged on the upper side of groove 21a. The engaging means in the form of protrusions 23a, 24a are hereby adapted to engage on both sides, i.e. the upper and lower sides, of tongue 31a. Protrusion 23a herein exerts an at least substantially vertically upward directed force on tongue 31a, and protrusion 24a exerts a downward force on tongue 31a. This creates an arm with which a firm clamping connection is obtained. It can even be possible here for tongue 31a to be elastically deformed to some extent.

[0039] Protrusions 23a and 23b moreover engage on tongue 31a at locations at a distance I as seen in the direction transversely of the plane of skirting-board 3. In order to make it possible to adjust the position of skirting-board 3 relative to connection profile 2, protrusion 23a engages at a distance II from the outer end of tongue 31a. The protrusions in lower groove 21b extend in cor-

responding manner relative to second tongue 31b.

[0040] Skirting-board 3 is formed by rolling or bending of a metal plate. It can however also be advantageous to manufacture skirting-board 3 from pre-shaped plastic.

5 The upper tongue 31a is formed by bending this plate twice. The plate is first folded double, and this end is subsequently bent again at an angle of 90°, thereby forming tongue 31a. Lower tongue 31b is formed by once-only transverse bending of the bottom end of the starting plate.

10 **[0041]** As shown in figure 1, skirting system 1 is placed in a rebate 51, 52 of a wall 5. Provided for this purpose is a wall mounting profile in the form of a mounting bracket 4 fixed to wall 5. Bracket 4 has an at least substantially C-shaped cross-section, wherein parts 26a and 26b of profile 2, see figure 2, can be accommodated between legs 41a and 41b of bracket 4. Parts 26a and 26b are formed for two grooves arranged in profile 2 in which the legs of the C-profile of bracket 4 are received during connection.

20 **[0042]** In order to enable guiding of cables in connection profile 2, a cable duct 6 is provided which can be arranged in connection profile 2 with a clamp 25. As shown, tongues 31a and 31b extend at the top and bottom of cable duct 6 so that this latter is as it were closed by skirting-board 3.

30 **[0043]** Since bracket 4 is arranged at some height above sub-floor 8a, a space 52 is created under connection profile 2 in addition to space 51 at the position of connection profile 2. This space 52 can also be used for leading cables, whereby separate throughfeed of for instance electricity and data cables is possible. In order to cover the space between skirting-board 3 and a floor covering (not shown) arranged on a covering floor 8b, a covering profile is provided in the form of a covering strip 7 which can be received clampingly in a groove 21c. The tongue of covering strip 7 received clampingly in groove 21c extends obliquely so that the contact surface between covering strip 7 and skirting-board 3 is as small as possible, so that covering strip 7 is not displaced as well when skirting-board 3 is adjusted.

40 **[0044]** Also shown in figure 1 is a recess 53 in the form of for instance a cylinder arranged in wall 5. In this recess a wall socket can for instance be arranged at a determined height in wall 5, wherein it can be connected to the cables held in space 51 via 54, or can be connected to cables held in space 52 via 55. Recess 53 has for this purpose a depth VII so that it extends behind connection profile 2.

50 **[0045]** An advantage of the tongues 31a and 31b extending in the connecting direction, i.e. from left to right in figures 1 and 2, is that the position of skirting-board 3 relative to connection profile 2, and thereby wall 5, is adjustable. In figure 2 a wall panel 51 with a thickness III is for instance arranged on a wall 5. In another case the distance III can for instance result from an applied wall finish. Using skirting system 1 according to the invention it is possible to displace skirting-board 3 in a direction V,

wherein skirting-board 3 lies at a distance III from the connection profile. As shown in figure 2, a firm clamping connection is still provided since protrusion 23a still engages on tongue 31a at a location indicated with IV. The distance II as indicated in figure 1 therefore determines to a large extent the possible adjustment of skirting-board 3 in the direction V. It would also be possible to move skirting-board 3 even further in a direction V, wherein a clamping force would still be exerted by protrusion 24a. It will be apparent that lower groove 21b is constructed in similar manner.

[0046] The top side of skirting-board 3 rests against wall 5 as shown, and can optionally be provided on the bottom side with spacing means, for instance a rubber stop.

[0047] It will be understood that the position of skirting-board 3 relative to connection profile 2 is not limited to the two shown positions. This is because tongues 31a and 31b can be displaced between the positions indicated in figures 1 and 2, in which they are still engaged by the engaging means for the purpose of obtaining a clamping connection. As already discussed above, the degree of variation can be determined by varying the distances between the engaging means in the form of protrusions 23 and 24. Grooves 21 can for instance also be given a deeper form here for the purpose of modifying the variation options.

[0048] It should moreover be noted that skirting-board 3 is also movable in the plane of skirting-board 3 transversely of the plane of figures 1 and 2. Tongues 31a and 31b do after all also extend in this plane, and a firm connection hereby remains ensured. Such an adjustment is particularly advantageous when for instance two skirting-boards 3 must be connected to each other. Skirting-boards 3 can then be pushed toward or away from each other as required. The combination of the possibility of adjusting skirting-board 3 transversely of the plane of skirting-board 3, the connecting direction, and in a direction in the plane of skirting-board 3 as discussed above thus provides the possibility of diagonal adjustment of skirting-board 3 relative to wall 5.

[0049] Figure 3 shows a perspective view of skirting system 1. During attachment the mounting bracket 4 is first of all arranged on wall 5 (not shown in figure 3). Connecting holes 43 are for instance arranged for this purpose. Parts 26a and 26b of connection profile 2 are adapted to fit closely into legs 41a, 41b respectively, which themselves form a U-shaped channel. For this purpose profiles 2 are first inserted in transverse orientation, after which they can be rotated upright in a direction VI, after which they are fixed clampingly in the C-profile of bracket 4. Connection profiles 2 are provided for this purpose with aligning means in the form of a tongue 28 extending perpendicularly of the body of connection profile 2. During connection the tongue 28 will extend against the underside of mounting bracket 4 between legs 41b. A simple placing is in this way provided, wherein a correct orientation of connection profiles 2 is nevertheless

achieved. Covering strip 7 can then be arranged clampingly in groove 21c, and cable duct 6 can also be arranged by clamping the tongue 61 of duct 6 in clamps 25. Cable duct 6 then provides a continuous guiding for cables between connection profiles 2. Skirting-board 3 can then be arranged on connection profiles 2, wherein tongues 31a and 31b are received in grooves 21a and 21b.

[0050] Figure 4 shows a detail of an embodiment of the engaging means of connection profile 2 other than in figures 1-3. Groove 21a is provided in this embodiment with engaging means in the form of protrusions 23a and 24a provided with a surface structure in the form of serrations or ribs 29. Tongue 31a is also provided, at least at the position of engagement with the engaging means, with a surface structure in the form of serrations or ribs 39a.

[0051] As shown, surface structures 29 and 39a have at least substantially complementary forms which fit into each other during connection. The inclining surfaces of the structures which lie against each other herein provide a resistance to displacement of tongue 31a relative to protrusions 23a and 24a in the direction of tongue 31a. It is particularly advantageous in this embodiment when tongue 31a is elastically deformable to some extent.

[0052] Figure 5 shows another embodiment of skirting system 1 according to the invention. Instead of arranging connection profiles 2 in a bracket 4 as described above, profiles 2 are for instance placed directly in a rebate in a wall 5, which in this case is uneven. Since the rebate is to some extent uneven, the individual profiles 2a, 2b and 2c can also lie at different heights from each other. When however a skirting-board 3 is now arranged, tongues 31a and 31b will be forced to move so as to adjust to the height differences in profiles 2a, 2b and 2c. The resilient tongues 31a and 31b thus have a levelling effect, whereby skirting-board 3 extends at least substantially horizontally irrespective of the placing of profiles 2. It will be apparent that the guide means close to skirting-board 3 in groove 21a as shown in figure 1 simplify the arranging of skirting-board 3 on profiles 2a, 2b and 2c.

[0053] Such a levelling effect has also been found to be particularly useful when the skirting system according to the invention is used for instance in a wall system wherein connection profiles 2 are for instance formed integrally with the supports for a wall fixed to an uneven floor.

[0054] Figure 6 shows another variant of a skirting system 1 according to the invention arranged in a rebate under a wall 5. In this variant the connection profile is embodied as a continuous wall profile 9. Wall profile 9 has an at least substantially C-shaped cross-section and has for instance a length of several metres.

[0055] In order to form the grooves according to the invention a part of upper wall 92a of wall profile 9 is pressed out to form a lower part 98a of groove 91a. The pressed-out parts of wall profile 9 are shown without hatching. On lower part 98a is arranged a protrusion 93a for engaging on the surface structure 39a of tongue 31a

of skirting-board 3. The upper side of groove 91a is formed in this embodiment by upper wall 92a at a location in the direction transversely of the plane of the figure, where upper wall 92a has not been pressed out to form a groove 91a.

[0056] Guide means 99a are moreover provided by bending at an angle the part of lower part 98a directed toward skirting-board 3. In similar manner the second groove 91b for receiving second tongue 31b is formed by pressing out lower wall 92b.

[0057] Provided on the underside of profile 9 is a cover part 95 which covers the space between profile 9 and floor 8a. In this embodiment cover part 95 is embodied integrally with profile 9. In another embodiment it can however be possible for cover part 95 to be embodied as an L-shaped cover strip, such as strip 7 shown in figure 1. Lower wall 92b can be provided for this purpose with a tongue, for instance by pressing out part 93b in downward direction. The tongue of the cover strip which can be received clampingly in this groove then preferably extends horizontally. It will be apparent that the groove for receiving the releasable cover part is then situated at a location, as seen transversely of the plane of the figure, other than groove 91b for receiving tongue 31b.

[0058] Tongues 31a and 31b take a serrated form in this embodiment. The serration provides surfaces with a normal having a component in the connecting direction. In other words, the surfaces lie at least partially vertically, whereby it is possible that protrusions 93a and 93b can engage on each of the surfaces of surface structures 39a and 39b for the purpose of adjusting skirting-board 3 in the connecting direction.

[0059] Since the combination of lower part 99a and protrusion 93a is to some extent resilient, during displacement of tongue 3 the protrusion 93a can be displaced in the connecting direction relative to surface structure 39a, wherein the protrusion engages on a following surface, as it were in a following valley of the surface structure. A firm connection is herein provided at each position of tongue 3.

[0060] Cable duct 96 is formed in similar manner in this embodiment by pressing out the rear wall 94 of wall profile 9. Wall profile 9 comprises a plurality of grooves 91a, 91b by parts 98a and 98b being pressed out at predetermined distances from each other. The connection profile in the form of wall profile 9 herein engages with a plurality of grooves 91a, 91b on tongues 31a and 31b.

[0061] Although the skirting-board is shown in the figures as being manufactured by folding plate material, it is for instance possible to connect a wooden decorative skirting to skirting-board 3 as shown in the figures, for instance by sealing or screwing. It can be advantageous here to give the decorative skirting a somewhat larger form than skirting-board 3, whereby for instance cover strip 7 is no longer necessary.

[0062] It is noted that the invention is not limited to the shown embodiments but also extends to other preferred variants falling within the scope of the appended claims.

It is thus possible to use the skirting system according to the invention in combination with a wall system, for instance a system wall. The connection profiles can then for instance be integrated into the support profiles of the wall system. It is moreover also possible to use the system in other than vertically extending walls.

Claims

1. Skirting system, comprising at least one connection profile and at least one skirting-board, wherein the connection profile is adapted to arrange the skirting-board on a wall, **characterized in that** the skirting-board comprises at least one tongue extending at least substantially in perpendicular direction relative to the plane of the skirting-board, wherein the connection profile is provided with engaging means for engaging the tongue of the skirting-board for the purpose of clamping connection of the skirting-board.
2. Skirting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tongue extends in connected position at least substantially in a horizontal plane.
3. Skirting system as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the engaging means are adapted to engage on the tongue at least at two locations, preferably on each of the two sides of the tongue.
4. Skirting system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the engaging means are adapted to engage on the tongue at a predetermined distance from each other as seen in the direction perpendicularly of the plane of the skirting-board.
5. Skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-4, wherein the engaging means comprise a groove for receiving the tongue.
6. Skirting system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the walls of the groove are provided with protrusions for engaging on the tongue.
7. Skirting system as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the groove comprises close to the opening thereof guide means for guiding the skirting-board in the groove during connection.
8. Skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-7, wherein at least one of the engaging means and the tongue is provided with a surface structure for increasing the mutual clamping in the connected position.
9. Skirting system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the surface structure comprises at least one surface having a normal with a component in the connecting

direction, preferably a serrated or ribbed surface.

10. Skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-9, wherein the engaging means and the tongue are provided with at least substantially complementarily co-acting surface structures. 5
11. Skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-10, wherein a plurality of connection profiles are provided, and wherein the tongue of the skirting-board is engaged by a plurality of connection profiles. 10
12. Skirting system as claimed in claim 11, wherein a wall mounting profile is provided for mounting on the wall, wherein the wall mounting profile and the connection profile are provided with co-acting connecting means for connecting the connection profiles at mutual distances in the wall mounting profile. 15
13. Skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-12, wherein the groove is formed by pressing out a wall of the connection profile. 20
14. Skirting-board intended for use in a skirting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-13, comprising a visible surface and a tongue extending at least substantially perpendicularly of the visible surface of the skirting-board. 25
15. Connection profile for use in the connecting system as claimed in any of the foregoing claims 1-13. 30

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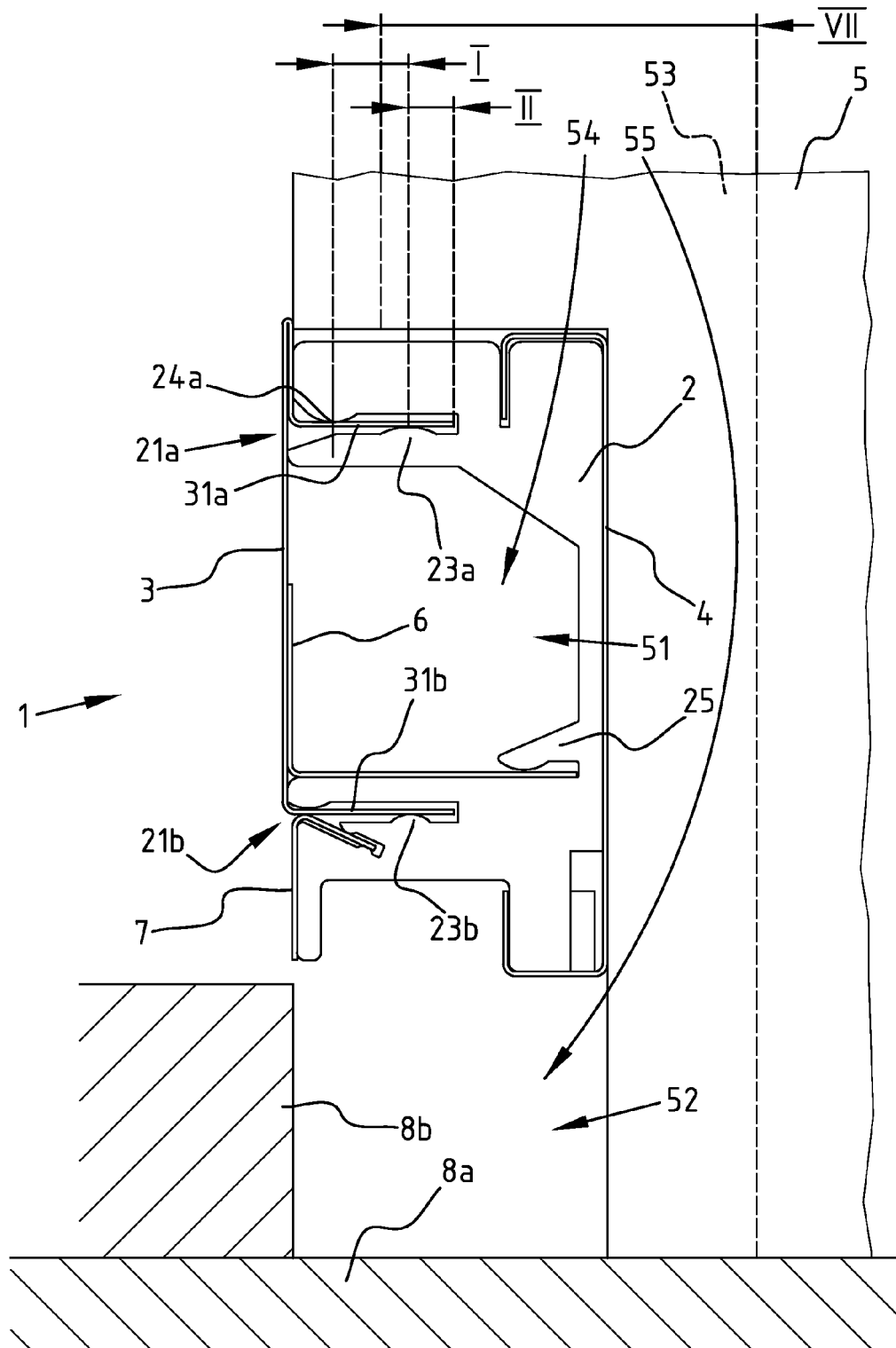


FIG. 1

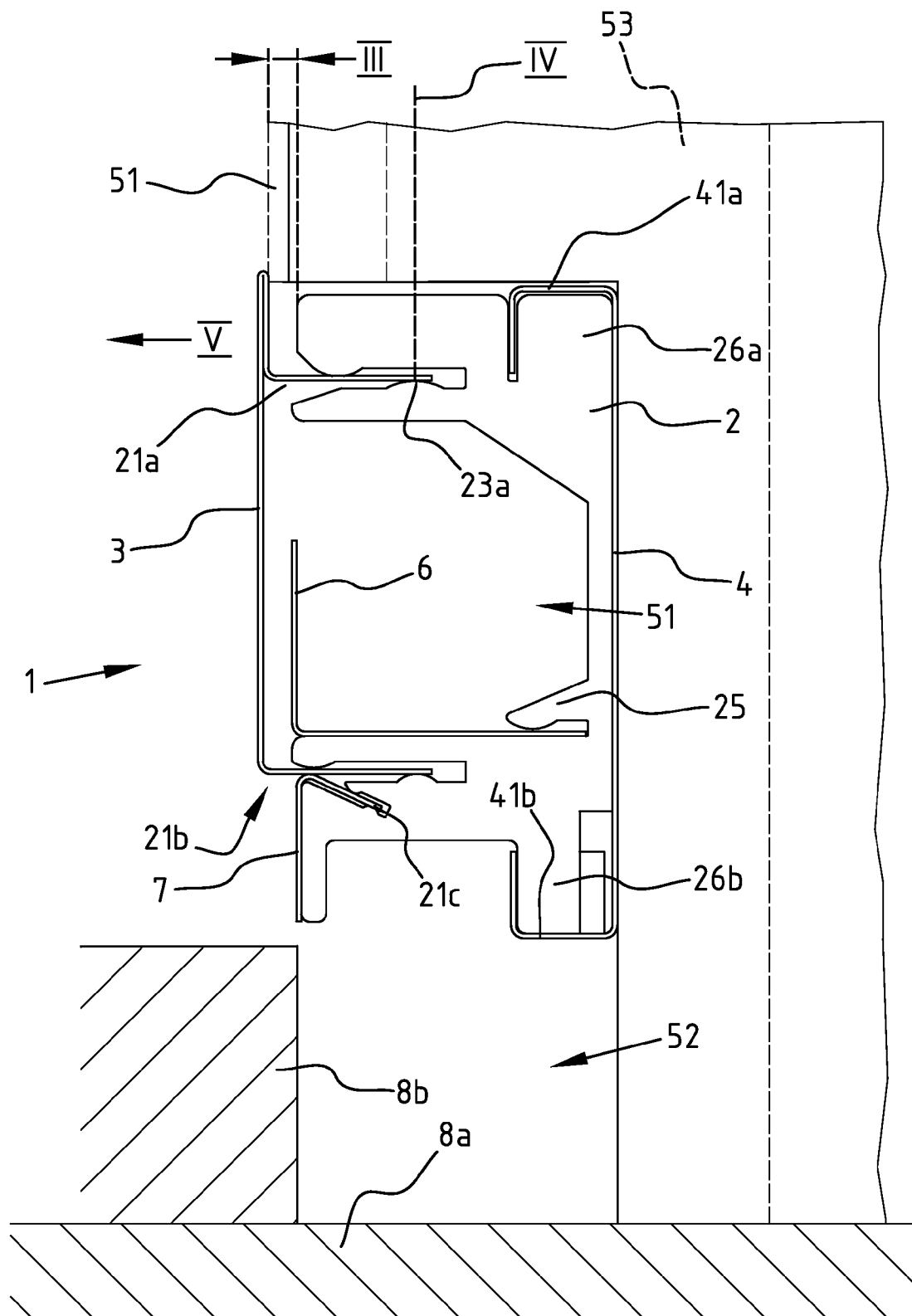


FIG. 2

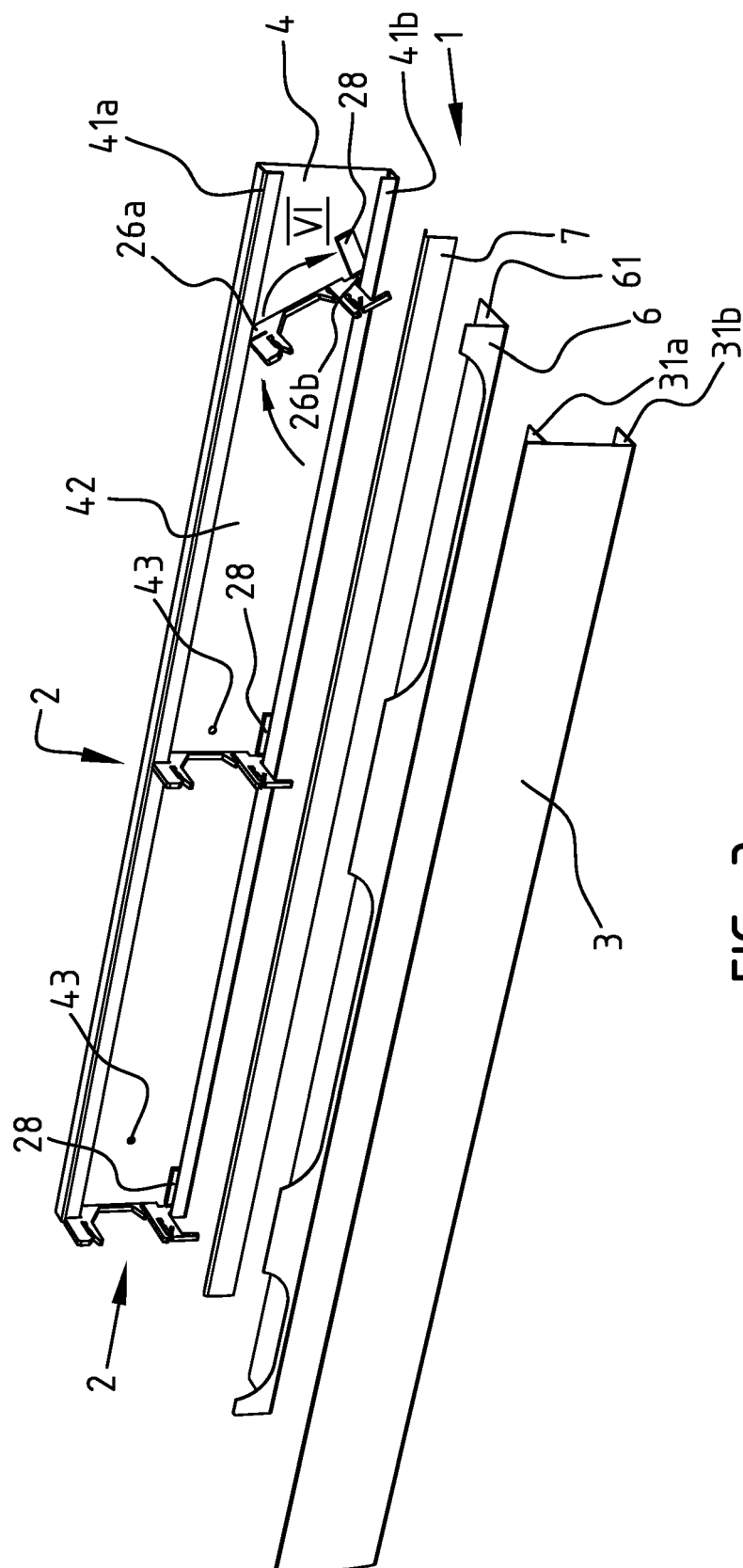


FIG. 3

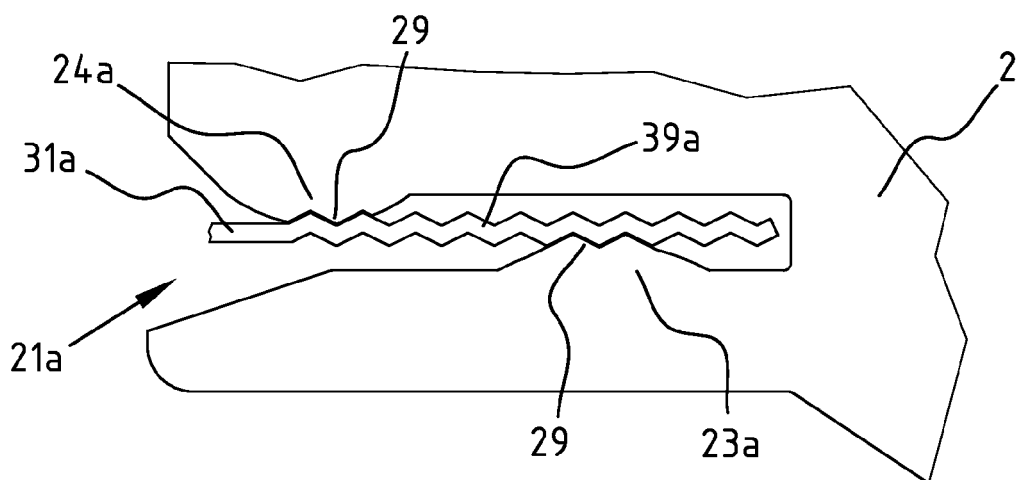


FIG. 4

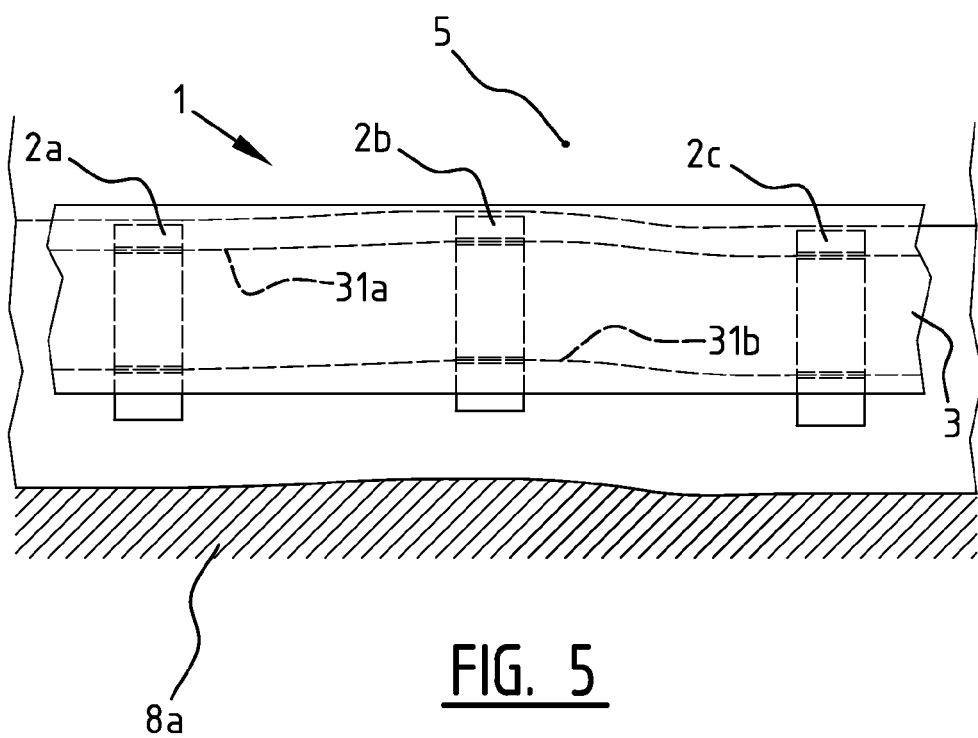


FIG. 5

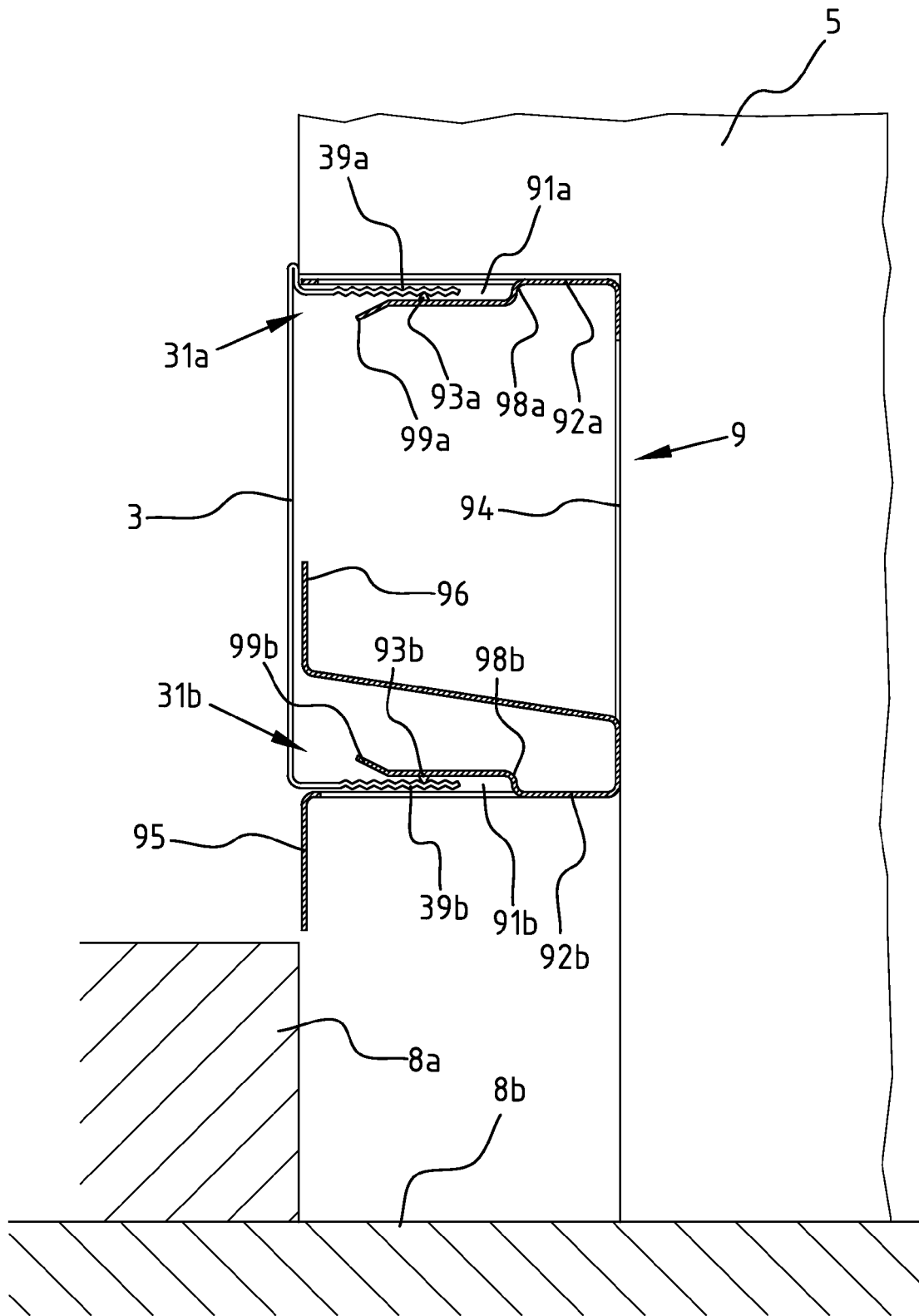


FIG. 6



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 16 4568

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E04F H02G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 2 December 2009	Examiner Severens, Gert
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			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 09 16 4568

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
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02-12-2009

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