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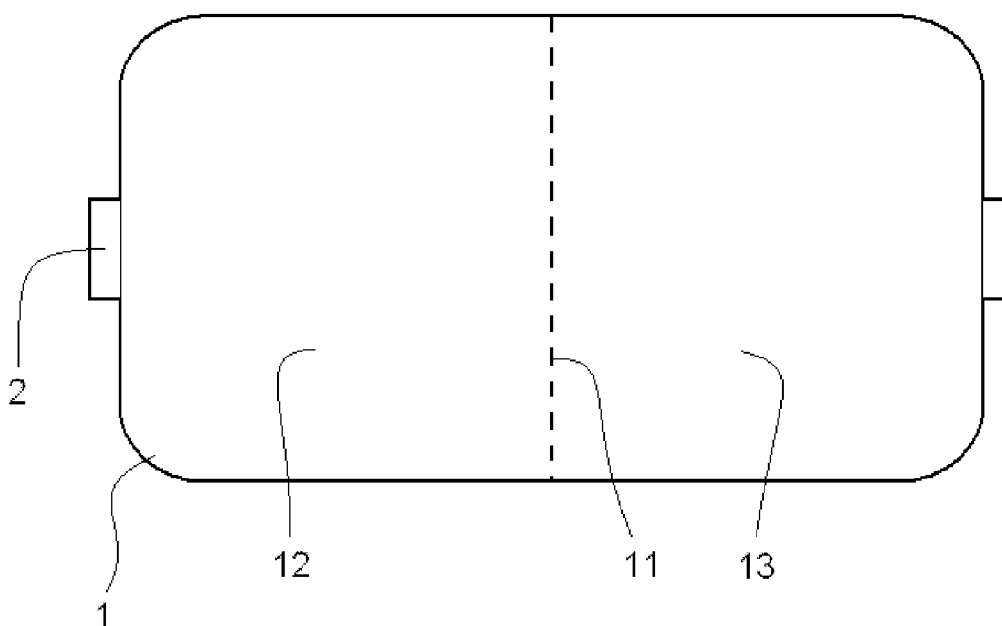
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(54) **Protector for palette knives**

(57) The present invention relates to a protector for palette knives which consists of a sheet (1) which is folded in half into two portions (12-13) according to the surface of the palette knife (3), on which they are adhered protecting both its planar surfaces and the cutting edge

during the work, being removed once the palette knife is used, stained with paint, glue or adhesive. This protective sheet (1) is initially protected by a sheet (2) of paper or cardboard, on which it is adhered through its inner adhesive face (1b) until the time it is placed on the palette knife (3).

Fig. 1



Description

Object of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to an element for protecting palette knives which are used during painting operations, particularly in the automotive sector, as well as in that of decorative painting, where these elements are used for spreading putties, or adhesives with two components which are mixed on metal palette knives for their subsequent application on the different surfaces to be repaired or decorated.

[0002] This type of compound hardens quickly and is furthermore easily adhered to the metal surfaces, for which reason it is necessary to thoroughly clean the palette knife after each application, with solvents and other aggressive chemical products so that it is in optimal conditions. When a part of the product is forgotten on the palette knife for a certain time, its total elimination is virtually impossible and forces the replacement of this tool.

Background of the Invention

[0003] No element with these features, which allows protecting the active surface of the palette knife during its use and in which, once the product is applied, this protection can be easily removed, the tool being completely clean, without any type of paint or adhesive remains, ready for a new use, is currently known.

Description of the Invention

[0004] The protective element for palette knives, object of the invention, consists of a sheet which is folded in half into two portions according to the surface of the palette knife, which parts can be positioned on both faces of the tool, with the different measurements existing in the market, protecting both its planar surfaces and the cutting edge. The inner face of this sheet, which faces the tool, has a mild adhesive allowing its adherence to the surface thereof but also its easy removal once used, stained with paint, glue or adhesive.

[0005] The material in which this protection is made can be any material allowing its manufacture in sheets. Several types of paper or plastic are generally preferred materials for manufacturing this sheet.

[0006] The protective sheet for the palette knife is accompanied by a second sheet of paper or cardboard, on which it is adhered through its adhesive inner face for its distribution and storage, until the time it is placed on the palette knife, for which it will be necessary to detach it from this temporary protection.

[0007] The presentation can be unitary, either packaged in separate units or in several units stacked in a unitary dispenser; or it can also be distributed in a roll in which the base sheet protecting the sheet object of this invention, is perforated at regular intervals, between which there is located thereon the corresponding ad-

hered sheet which, once cut from the roll, is separated from the base and placed on the palette knife to achieve the desired protection effect.

[0008] With this protective element the tedious task of cleaning the palette knives every time they are used with products which are aggressive for the hands and for the environment is prevented. Once used and before or after drying the excess product, it is enough to remove this protective element to leave the palette knife in a perfect state and in a condition to again place another protector when it is necessary to use it with aggressive products or fast-acting adhesives.

Description of the Drawings

[0009] To complement the description which is being made and for the purpose of facilitating the understanding of the features of the invention, a set of drawings is attached to the present specification in which the following has been depicted with an illustrative and non-limiting character,:

Figure 1 shows a plan view of a protective element having these features.

Figure 2 shows a plan view of the protector (1) in a phase of extraction from the support sheet (2), in which it is supplied in an adhered manner.

Figure 3 depicts a palette knife (3) in which the protector (1) is in a phase of placement or of extraction of the tool.

Preferred Embodiment of the Invention

[0010] As can be seen in the indicated figures, the protective element for palette knives of the invention comprises a sheet (1) having a configuration and measurements according to each palette knife model. Transversely, it has a central dividing line (11) indicating the position in which the edge of the palette knife (3) has to be when it is placed thereon in an operative position. Two identical areas (12-13) are demarcated on each side of this dividing line (11), which areas correspond with the surfaces of the two faces of the palette knife.

[0011] This sheet (1) is placed on a second sheet (2) of paper or cardboard, adhered at its inner face (1b), in which there is provided a mild adhesive which allows maintaining it in a storage position on said second sheet (2) or, in an operative position, fixed in the palette knife (3), covering its entire useful surface, so that the paint or adhesives with which work is done do not come into contact with the metal and are not fixed therein, being deposited on the outer face (1a) of said sheet, which is discarded once used.

[0012] The manufacture of this product is simple, it relates to manufacturing sheets (1) which are adhesive at a single face on a continuous sheet (2) having higher grammage or rigidity; the latter in separate units or in a roll in which the units are individualized by perforation

lines. The placement of the sheet (1) in an operative position on the tool or implement like a palette knife (3) is not very difficult either, it is enough to separate the sheet (1) from its support (2) and place it on the tool (3) in the position marked by the dividing line (11) . Once the use of the palette knife (3) has caused several particles, paint or adhesive type remains to be fixed in this protection (1), it is peeled off, thrown away and replaced with another new one, if necessary.

[0013] Having sufficiently described the nature of the invention as well as a preferred embodiment, it is stated for the relevant purposes that the materials, shape, size and arrangement of the elements described can be modified provided that it does not involve an alteration of the essential features of the invention which are claimed below:

Claims

1. A protector for palette knives, **characterized in that** it consists of a sheet (1) which is folded in half into two portions (12-13) according to the surface of the palette knife (3), which in an operative position are adhered on both faces of the tool, both protecting its planar surfaces and the cutting edge, the inner face (1b) of this sheet (1) having for this purpose a mild adhesive allowing its adherence to the surface thereof and its removal once the palette knife is used, stained with paint, glue or adhesive.
2. The protector for palette knives according to the previous claim, **characterized in that** the protective sheet (1), for its distribution and storage, is initially protected by a sheet (2) of paper or cardboard, on which it is adhered on it through its inner adhesive face (1b) until it the time it is placed on the palette knife (3), regardless of whether its presentation is unitary or in a roll in which the different units are attached by a perforation line existing in said protective sheet (2), or with any semiautomatic device.
3. The protector for palette knives according to the previous claims, **characterized in that** this element is made in paper, plastic or any other material allowing the manufacture in flexible sheets with a small thickness.

Fig. 1

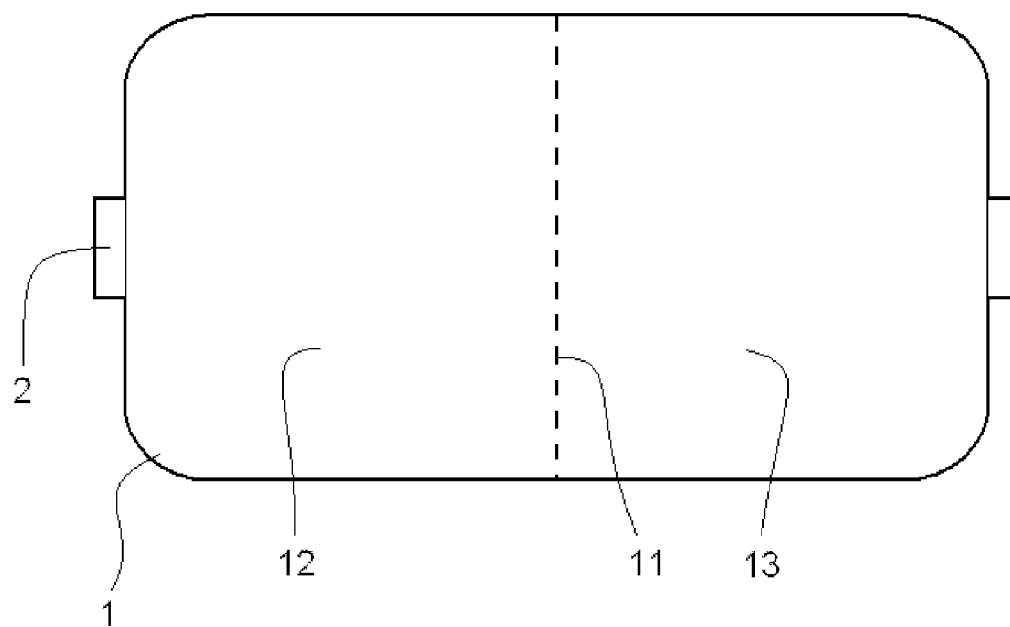
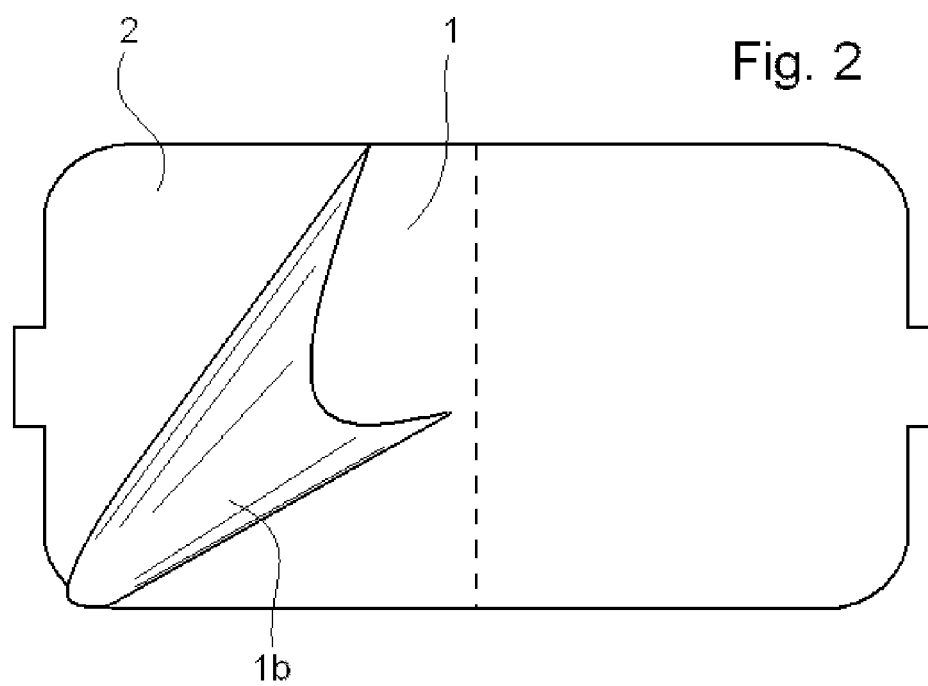
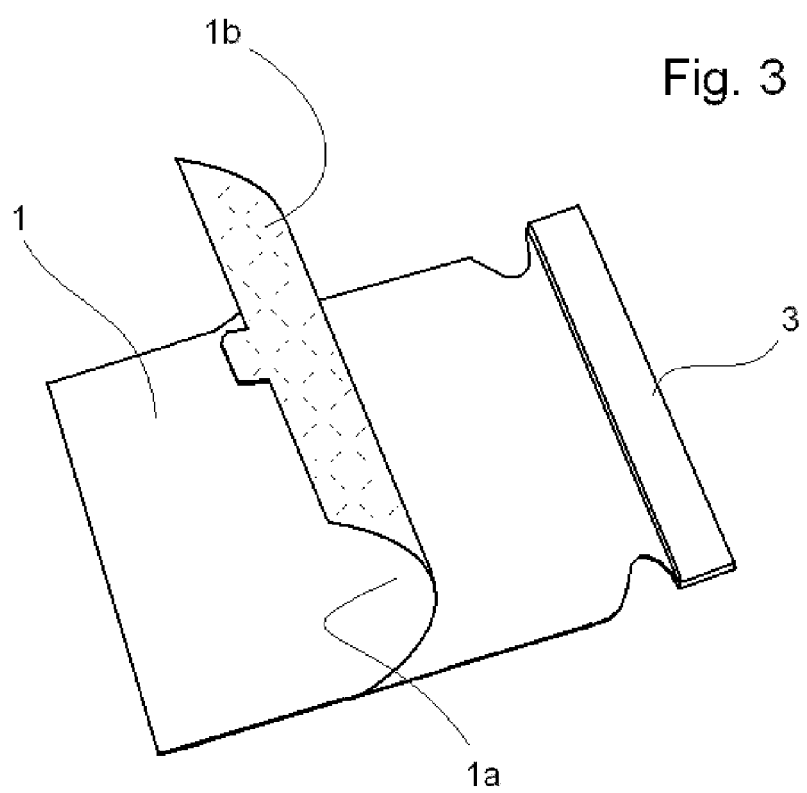


Fig. 2







EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 10 38 2049

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	DE 299 09 910 U1 (VICTORINOX AG [CH]) 9 September 1999 (1999-09-09) * page 5 - page 6; figures 1-3 * -----	1-3	INV. B44D3/00 E04F21/06
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B44D E04F B05C B26B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 10 August 2010	Examiner Björklund, Sofie
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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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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