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(54) **Fabric holder for roller blinds**

(57) Fabric holder for roller blinds which can be applied on a fabric (17) and which can work in conjunction with a roller tube (19) whose tube sleeve (20) is provided with a groove or the like (21), whereby the fabric holder (1) comprises elastically compressible clamping means (4,5) having such a geometry and compressibility that they can be fed through the groove or the like (21) by compressing them, followed by a release by which is accomplished a connection of the fabric holder (1) to the roller tube (19).

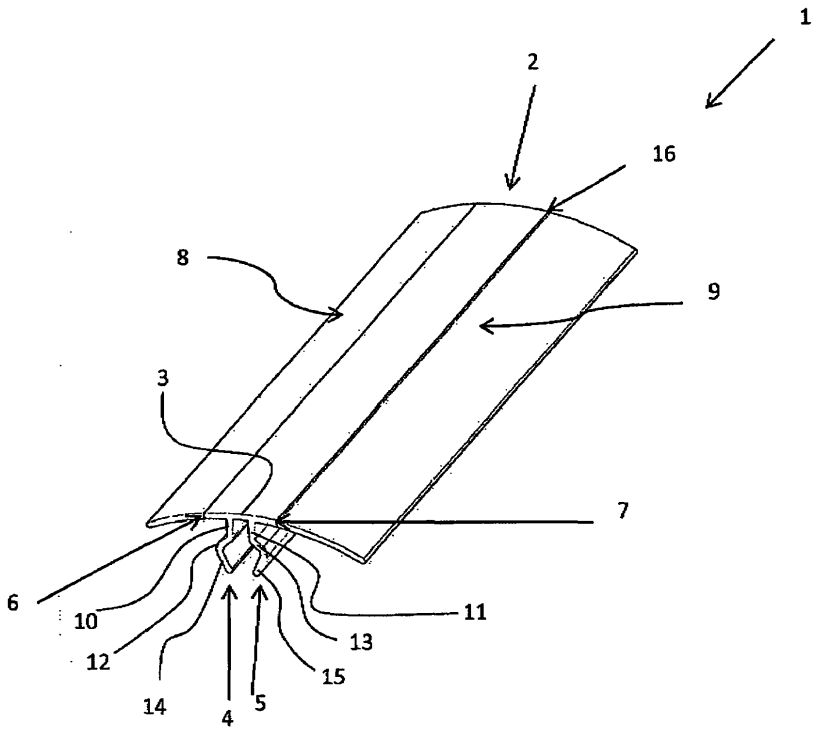


Fig 1

EP 2 426 287 A2

## Description

**[0001]** The present invention concerns a fabric holder for roller blinds.

**[0002]** By the term roller blinds are understood blinds which can be rolled on a roller tube and unrolled from it again. They are fit for indoor as well as outdoor applications.

**[0003]** However, in this context the term blind should be understood in its broadest sense, comprising cloths, fabrics, foils, films or combinations thereof, as well as other leaf-shaped materials which can be easily rolled up.

**[0004]** The roller blind is rolled up by making the roller tube onto which the blind is fixed rotate around its axis, whereby the blind is rolled up further on the roller tube with each rotation. When rotating in the opposite sense, the roller blind is unrolled.

**[0005]** To this end, the roller tube is traditionally provided with an operating mechanism and axle plugs on both far ends which are fed in a rotating manner in appropriate bearing and mounting supports, which are usually provided in the appropriate place or near the ceiling or near a window's reveals.

**[0006]** It is also customary, at least for roller blinds applied indoors, to provide a torsion spring which is permanently under tension inside the roller tube and to provide the roller tube with a locking mechanism with which the blind can be fixed in any desired position, for example by means of a mechanism provided with drawing pawls.

**[0007]** The rotating movement of the roller tube is usually brought about motorially or manually, and an electric motor can be provided to this end, or a continuous bead chain, tumble chain or crank handle respectively.

**[0008]** Generally we can say that a roller blind, as the name indicates, has the necessary provisions to roll the fabric around the roller when the blind is to be opened, whereby a first extreme position is obtained.

**[0009]** In a second extreme position, the roller blind can be lowered completely by unrolling it entirely from the roller tube, among others to reduce incident light, heat development or a view through a window, for example.

**[0010]** Intermediate positions whereby the roller blind is only rolled up or down to a certain height are possible as well, of course.

**[0011]** The problem arising hereby has to do with the fastening of the fabric on the roller tube.

**[0012]** Said fastening must not only be reliable under all conditions of use, but preferably it must also be possible to easily provide and/or replace it, and it should prevent or restrict any unevenness or sudden transition between the roller tube, fabric holder and cloth.

**[0013]** Moreover, the objectives are closely linked. Below we will first look at the aimed absence or restriction of unevenness.

**[0014]** Every unevenness or sudden transition results in local deformations of the canvas.

**[0015]** Such deformations are well known in the shape of regularly recurring horizontal strips, folds or discolorations, which become visible as the roller blind is unrolled.

**[0016]** These deformations usually have a negative effect on the useful life of the blind as well: due to the recurring local load, the cloth will often show signs of accelerated aging, often in the form of loss of elasticity, sagging, the occurrence of microcracks, material fatigue, stress cracking or the like.

**[0017]** Another negative result is the local accumulation of dust, dirt and micro-organisms, especially in a damp environment such as a kitchen or bathroom or with vertical outdoor blinds. Once the dirt settles, it becomes difficult or impossible to remove, apart from the aesthetic objections.

**[0018]** In order to prevent these problems, fabric holders are known whereby the fabric is provided, on the fixing side of the fabric over the entire width, with a border in the shape of a hem in which what is called a string is inserted.

**[0019]** In combination with the latter, a roller tube is used which has a channel-shaped recessed area. Such a roller tube differs from an entirely round tube in that the wall is provided with a groove over its entire length, whereby a channel-shaped space is typically defined near this groove by providing an appropriately profiled wall part on the inside of the interrupted tube sleeve.

**[0020]** The groove width is hereby selected such that the border or the hem with the inserted string can be fed in the channel-shaped space via the opening on the crosscut end of the roller tube.

**[0021]** The double-folded fabric reaches over a certain distance outside the channel-shaped space, whereas the jammed-open part which is filled with the string is maintained on the inside of the groove, i.e. in the channel-shaped space.

**[0022]** A major disadvantage thereof is that the fabric must be folded double so as to form the border or the hem and thus has a double thickness extending outside the perimeter of the roller tube and causes a regularly recurring horizontal deformation of the fabric as the blind is being rolled up, with all the ensuing negative consequences and disadvantages as discussed above.

**[0023]** The aim related to the simple application and/or replacement of the fabric is illustrated below.

**[0024]** With the existing roller blinds, for example those as discussed above which provide for a hem and an inserted string on the one hand, and a roller tube with a groove having access to an inner channel-shaped space on the other hand, a fabric can only be inserted when the roller tube is removed from the bearing and mounting supports and when the access to the inner channel-shaped space provided to that end is made available along at least one crosscut side.

**[0025]** Also when replacing the fabric, the corresponding bearing support must be removed to that end and any torsion spring which might be present, especially used for in-house applications, must be released.

**[0026]** Embodiments whereby the fabric holder con-

sists of a flat plastic lath onto which the fabric is stitched or glued are known as well.

**[0027]** Although the local thickening problem is thus reduced, i.e. as the double fabric layer is replaced by a single fabric layer, the sudden transition will still cause deformations and it will still be necessary to provide for a feed via the crosscut side.

**[0028]** The present invention aims to remedy the above-mentioned and other disadvantages by providing a fabric holder for roller blinds which is easy to use and easy to handle.

**[0029]** The present invention aims a reliable connection between a fabric or the like and a roller tube, preferably a conventional roller tube regardless of its diameter.

**[0030]** The specific aim hereby is to simplify the mounting of the roller blind and also the replacement of the fabric, and to simultaneously prevent or restrict to a minimum any sudden transition between the roller tube, the fabric holder and the fabric.

**[0031]** To this end, the invention concerns a fabric holder for roller blinds which can be applied on a fabric and which can work in conjunction with a roller tube whose tube sleeve is provided with a groove or the like, whereby the fabric holder comprises elastically compressible clamping means having such a geometry and compressibility that they can be fed through the groove by compressing them, followed by a release by which is accomplished a connection of the fabric holder to the roller tube.

**[0032]** The elastically compressible clamping means form what is called a snap-in connection, i.e. a snap-in connection with special qualities as will be explained below.

**[0033]** A major advantage which is thus obtained is that the fabric holder can be reliably provided on the roller tube in a fast, simple and efficient manner, or where appropriate, can be removed from the latter.

**[0034]** Moreover, this is possible without first having to remove the roller tube, or without having to dismount any components such as for example protective caps, axle plugs, a torsion spring, a crank mechanism, a motor, a bead chain, etc.

**[0035]** In the case of roller blinds for outdoor application, for which the present invention is particularly useful, a roller blind is usually only provided with a bearing support and an operating mechanism, but it is known that preventing any disassembly saves many working hours.

**[0036]** An additional advantage offered by the present invention is that the fabric holder can be mounted and dismounted without necessarily calling in a professional, or without any special tools or additional means being required.

**[0037]** Assuming that the groove or the like has a groove width S and provides access to an inner channel-shaped space which is defined by an appropriately profiled chamber wall on the inside of the interrupted tube sleeve, the fabric holder according to a preferred variant of the embodiment comprises a central profile provided with a strip-shaped back onto which the elastically compressible clamping means are provided, whereby the back has a width b which is at least five times bigger than its thickness d, and thus comprises an outer side, an inner side and two side edges, whereby the width b is larger than the groove's width S, such that the back can be placed over the groove and on the adjacent parts of the tube sleeve of the roller tube.

**[0038]** Preferably, the elastic release causes the clamping means to clamp against at least parts of the chamber wall on the inside of the interrupted tube sleeve.

**[0039]** Thus, the connection between the fabric holder and the roller tube remains at all times guaranteed, also in case the fabric should be released, which might occur for example when an entirely unrolled roller blind is lifted by children playing or by a dog.

**[0040]** The back of the central profile covers the groove and preferably has a slightly bent outer side.

**[0041]** According to a special variant of the embodiment, the back on both side edges is made thinner than in the centre.

**[0042]** According to a preferred embodiment, the back is provided with an extension piece on both side edges, further called the flag.

**[0043]** Such a flag is preferably made of another and softer material than that out of which the compressible clamping means and possibly the back and/or the central profile are made.

**[0044]** Both flags may be different. One of the flags is indeed designed as a basis for the connection with the fabric and is frequently called the connecting flag below, whereas the other flag is designed to obtain a gradual transition between the roller tube and the back, further often called the overrun flag.

**[0045]** The connecting flag may have another, for example larger length than the overrun flag.

**[0046]** The overrun flag can be made of another material than the connecting flag.

**[0047]** The flags may have variable thicknesses which preferably decrease in the direction of their free ends.

**[0048]** Such laterally extending flags allow for a soft, gradual transition between the roller tube, fabric holder and fabric.

**[0049]** Thus, any horizontal strip formation or discoloration or damage of the fabric is prevented or restricted to a minimum.

**[0050]** If the central profile and/or the compressible clamping means for forming the snap-in connection on the one hand, and both flags on the other hand are made of different synthetic materials, such a fabric holder can be made by means of co-extrusion.

**[0051]** This provides a major advantage in that the flags and the central profile can be simultaneously made in one and the same production stage, in an efficient, simple, inexpensive, energy-saving and environment-friendly manner.

**[0052]** In particular, the flags can be fixed on the central profile without any additional steps, processing or fas-

tening means being required, as would be the case for example when using adhesive bonding or mechanical fasteners.

**[0053]** A further advantage is that the synthetic material for the central profile and the synthetic for the flags can be selected such that they best meet the demands for each separate part.

**[0054]** According to a preferred embodiment, the central profile including the compressible clamping means are made of a hard, resilient synthetic, and the flags are made of a soft, easily deformable material.

**[0055]** A major advantage is that, in this way, a reliable connection with the roller tube can be provided for with a long useful life.

**[0056]** On the other hand, optimal compressibility and deformability can be simultaneously provided where it is most required, namely where there is a transition between the roller tube, fabric holder and rolled fabric, i.e. in the laterally protruding flags.

**[0057]** In a preferred embodiment, the central profile including the elastically compressible clamping means are made of rigid PVC or one of its compounds, mixtures or derivatives, whereas the flags are made of soft PVC, or one of its compounds, mixtures or derivatives.

**[0058]** An additional advantage is that the fabric holder also has fire-retardant properties, and the materials used are in this case easily and hence environmentally friendly recyclable.

**[0059]** In a further preferred embodiment, the elastically compressible clamping means consists of two identical, mirror-symmetrically spaced legs which, once they have been provided through the groove in the interrupted tube sleeve of the roller tube into the inner channel-shaped space, co-operate with the chamber wall of the latter, whereas the possible back co-operates with the outside of the roller tube, in view of an appropriate connection between the fabric holder and roller tube.

**[0060]** A major advantage is that both legs exerting an equal spring force in opposite directions on the designated places on the inside of the channel-shaped space form a fast, easy and reliable snap-in connection under all circumstances.

**[0061]** This is not only the case when the fabric is unilaterally subjected to the usual tensile force, but in particular also when said unilaterally directed tensile force suddenly falls away or changes direction.

**[0062]** The latter occurs for example when children at play would suddenly let go of the blind or when the blind would be exposed to gusts of wind, flapping or the like.

**[0063]** In another preferred embodiment, the shape of the legs has been selected such that what is called the snap-in connection with the roller tube can be easily detached in a simple manner.

**[0064]** This offers a major advantage in that the blind can be quickly and easily replaced or detached should it be necessary, for example in order to clean, repair or replace it.

**[0065]** A further advantage is that the different components, such as for example the metal roller tube and the synthetic parts can be easily separated so as to be recycled separately.

**[0066]** In a further preferred embodiment, the thickness of the legs is situated between 0.75 and 0.85 mm, better still between 0.78 and 0.82 mm, and preferably its nominal size is 0.8 mm.

**[0067]** In a yet further preferred embodiment, the shape of the legs is such that they can form a reliable snap-in connection with usual roller tubes having different outer diameters and various groove widths.

**[0068]** This offers a major advantage in that one and the same fabric holder can be universally applied on a large series of standard roller tubes having different groove widths without any additional adjustments or special provisions being required.

**[0069]** Thus, the fabric holder can be produced on a large scale and more cost-effectively, whereby the number of parts required to apply roller blinds of different sizes on roller tubes having different outer diameters is reduced.

**[0070]** This reduces the risk of mistakes, and the costs for storage, administration, handling, transport, installation and the like are simultaneously reduced.

**[0071]** In a preferred embodiment, the roller tubes on which one and the same fabric holder can be fixed have an outer diameter of 63 mm, 70 mm, 78 mm, 80 mm, 85 mm or 100 mm respectively, and a groove width varying between 4.10 mm, 4.80 mm or 5.10 mm.

**[0072]** In yet a further preferred embodiment, the fabric is fixed on the flag provided to that end by means of a weld formed by fusing the two materials together.

**[0073]** A major advantage thereof is that the weld can be made in a simple, inexpensive and very reliable way and that no additional materials or time-consuming or complicated additional production steps are required.

**[0074]** The latter is required if for example adhesives would be used or mechanical fasteners, for example in the shape of seams or the like.

**[0075]** In yet a further preferred embodiment, shortly after or during the fusing of both materials and when the cooling material is still deformable, the weld can be brought to the required thickness by pushing, rolling, pressing or a similar treatment.

**[0076]** In particular, the combined thickness of the flag and fabric at the weld is reduced in the manner described above to between 0.7 mm and 0.9 mm, better still between 0.75 mm and 0.85 mm, and preferably until it amounts to some 0.8 mm.

**[0077]** In general, the combined thickness of the flag and fabric is reduced at the weld to a thickness which is at the most a fraction larger than the thickness of the fabric itself, and the thickness of the back is designed in accordance with said combined thickness of the flag and fabric.

**[0078]** A major advantage thereof is that the transition between the roller tube, fabric holder and welded fabric is as smooth as possible and essentially has the same

thickness as that of the central profile on which said flag with the welded fabric is laterally fixed.

**[0079]** In a further preferred embodiment, the thickness of the overrun flag is adjusted such that it gradually decreases as of the central profile to the laterally protruding edge.

**[0080]** In particular, the thickness in the place where the overrun flag is connected to the central profile equals the thickness of this profile, which may be nominally 0.8 mm, whereas the thickness at the laterally protruding edge is situated between 0.5 mm and 0.7 mm, and preferably amounts to 0.6 mm or even 0.3 mm or less.

**[0081]** Before the connection is made, the connecting flag preferably has a constant thickness of for example 0.7 mm, such that the thickness in the place where the connecting flag is connected to the central profile is somewhat smaller than the thickness of this profile, which in this case nominally amounts to 0.8 mm.

**[0082]** A major advantage of such a design is that, combined with the softness and compressibility of the material out of which the flags are made, a transition which is as smooth as possible can be guaranteed between the outside of the roller tube, the fabric holder and the rolled fabric.

**[0083]** In order to better explain the characteristics of the invention, the following preferred embodiments of a fabric holder for roller blinds according to the invention are described, by way of example only without being limitative in any way, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

figure 1 schematically and in perspective shows a fabric holder according to the invention;

figure 2 schematically and in perspective shows the fabric holder from figure 1, but fitted with fabric ready for use;

figure 3 shows a section of the fabric holder in figure 2 to a larger scale, according to line III—III, but fitted on a roller tube.

**[0084]** Figure 1 shows a fabric holder 1 according to the invention consisting of a central profile 2 comprising a strip-shaped back 3 and two legs 4 and 5 which are mirror-symmetrical in this case.

**[0085]** The strip-shaped back 3 has an inner side and an outer side, a first side edge 6 and a second side edge 7.

**[0086]** The back 3 has a width b, in this case 10 mm, which is at least five times larger than its thickness d, in this case 0.8 mm.

**[0087]** The inner side and the outer side have a slightly bent shape.

**[0088]** The legs 4 and 5 are provided at a distance from the side edges 6 and 7 on the inner side 6.

**[0089]** On each of these side edges 6 and 7 is each time provided an extension, hereafter called a first flag 8 and a second flag 9.

**[0090]** The legs 4 and 5 are "S"-shaped in this case and together form the elastically compressible clamping means to form an elastic snap-in connection as will be further explained.

**[0091]** To this end, both legs 4 and 5, seen as of the connection to the back 3 towards their free ends, are provided with mainly parallel leg parts 10 and 11, first bevels 12 and 13 moving apart from one another, and second bevels 14 and 15 moving towards one another.

**[0092]** The second flag 9 is provided on the second side edge 7 in such a manner that a small step 16 is created, formed as the thickness of this second flag 9 is smaller than the thickness of the back 3 at the second side edge 7 on which said flag 9 is fixed.

**[0093]** The thickness of the second flag 9 is in this case 0.7 mm, whereas the thickness of the back 3 at the second side edge 7 as well as the thickness of the entire back 3 is equal to 0.8 mm.

**[0094]** The first flag 8 connects in a continuous manner or without any sudden or abrupt transition to the first side edge 6, whereas its thickness decreases towards the free end.

**[0095]** The thickness of the first flag 8 at the connection to the first side edge 7 amounts to 0.8 mm here, in accordance with the thickness of the back 3, whereas the thickness of the first flag 8 gradually decreases to 0.6 mm at its free end.

**[0096]** The second flag 9 has a length of 12 mm here, whereas the first flag 8 has a length of 8 mm. The larger length of the second flag 9 provides for an appropriate fastening.

**[0097]** The two flags 8 and 9 are hereby made of a softer or more compressible synthetic than the central profile 2.

**[0098]** Figure 2 schematically and in perspective shows the fabric holder 1 from figure 1, but the fabric holder is now provided with a fabric 17.

**[0099]** The fabric 17 is fixed by means of a permanent weld 18 to the appropriate second flag 9 and thereby connects onto the aforesaid step 16. Hence, as explained above, the second flag 9 is also called the connecting flag.

**[0100]** The maximal combined thickness D after completion of the weld 18, for clarity's sake indicated only in figure 3, formed of the fabric 17 and the flag 9 after completion of the weld 18 in combination with a pushing or pressing action, thereby mainly corresponds to the thickness of the back 3 at the second side edge 7 of the central profile 2 onto which the flag 9 has been provided.

**[0101]** Figure 3 represents a section of the fabric holder 1 according to line III-III in figure 2, but mounted on a standard roller tube 19 now, which is only partly represented for clarity's sake.

**[0102]** This roller tube 19 comprises a tube sleeve 20 which is interrupted by a groove 21 having a groove width S.

**[0103]** Further, the roller tube 19 is provided with an inner channel-shaped space 22 which is accessible via

the groove 21.

**[0104]** The inner channel-shaped space 22 is defined by an appropriately profiled chamber wall 23 on the inside of the interrupted tube sleeve 20.

**[0105]** This chamber wall 23 comprises two slanting chamber wall sections 24 and 25 working in conjunction with the first bevels 12 and 13 of the legs 4 and 5 so as to form a tight snap-in connection between the roller tube 19 and the fabric holder 1.

**[0106]** Installing or dismounting the fabric holder 1 according to the invention is simple and as follows.

**[0107]** In order to install the fabric holder 1, the roller tube 19 is presented with the groove 21 turned towards the installer.

**[0108]** Next, the fabric holder 1 provided with the fabric 17 is placed with the second bevels 14 and 15 of the legs 4 and 5 on the groove 21, such that it is placed centrally in a favourable starting position.

**[0109]** By subsequently exerting a local, radially directed pressure on the back 3 of the central profile 2 of the fabric holder 1, the legs 4 and 5 are pressed together and moved further in the groove 21 whereby, as the groove 21 co-operates with the second bevels 14 and 15 of the legs 4 and 5, both are equally and elastically bent towards one another, until they are so much pressed together that their maximal span B is mainly equal to or somewhat smaller than the groove width S.

**[0110]** In other words, the maximal span B depends on the legs 4 and 5 being pressed together.

**[0111]** At that moment, by exerting further radial pressure on the back 3 of the central profile 2, they can penetrate inside the inner channel-shaped space 22, where they can bounce away from one another again into the position which the slanting chamber wall sections 24 and 25 allow.

**[0112]** As the first bevels 12 and 13 of the legs 4 and 5, and the corresponding slanting chamber wall sections 24 and 25 of the chamber wall 23 co-operate, a reliable clamped connection is formed between the fabric holder 1 on the one hand and the roller tube 19 on the other hand.

**[0113]** This clamped connection can be realised with one type of fabric holder 1 according to the invention in combination with various types of roller tubes in various dimensions.

**[0114]** In other words, the legs 4 and 5 form elastically compressible clamping means, to be fed along the groove 21 in the channel-shaped space 22, to form an elastic snap-in connection between the fabric holder 1 and the roller tube 19.

**[0115]** In this manner, the fabric holder 1 can be applied simply and efficiently without any intervention of an expert or any special tools being required or without any special additional provisions having to be made.

**[0116]** If one wishes to take the fabric holder 1 from the roller tube 19 again, for example in order to clean, repair or replace the blind, one only has to exert a large enough force radially outward on the snap-in connection, whereby the previous steps can be taken in reverse order.

**[0117]** The first bevels 12 and 13 of the legs 4 and 5 hereby co-operate with the corresponding slanting wall 24 and 25, so that both legs 4 and 5 can be bent towards one another, such that the elastically compressible clamping means can be brought out unhindered through the groove 21, as a result of which the snap-in connection ceases to exist.

**[0118]** It should be noted that the elastically compressible clamping means may take different forms.

**[0119]** The legs 4 and 5 could for example be connected near their free ends and/or in intermediate positions.

**[0120]** It is clear that the elastically compressible clamping means must not necessarily be made continuous but, in contrast, could be made for example in the shape of studs or the like.

**[0121]** Note, however, that the continuous embodiment is easy to produce by means of extrusion and can also reduce the risk of local deformations being formed.

**[0122]** In general, it suffices if the elastically compressible clamping means are compressible and have a maximal span B, in a relaxed state, which is larger than the groove width S, whereas in a compressed state the maximal span B should be smaller than or equal to said groove width S.

**[0123]** The first bevels 12 and 13, and also the second bevels 14 and 15 are optional but highly preferable, although they may have roundings and/or may be profiled differently.

**[0124]** As long as, seen as of the connection to the back 3 towards the free end of the elastically compressible clamping means, a widening part is provided for and further a narrowing part whereby the shape and dimensions are preferably adjusted to the shape of the chamber wall 23, the technical effects mentioned above can be counted on, which can be summarized as simple introduction, simple removal and self-fixture in the inner channel-shaped space 22.

**[0125]** Finally, it should also be noted that the elastically compressible clamping means must not necessarily be present to achieve the technical effect of the two flags 8 and 9.

**[0126]** That is why the invention also concerns a fabric holder 1 comprising a central profile 2 and two flags 8 and 9 as described. The central profile 2 must not necessarily be provided with the elastically compressible clamping means as described.

**[0127]** The working of the external parts of the fabric holder 1 is simple and as follows.

**[0128]** Starting from a fitted fabric holder 1 on which a fabric has been applied, the fabric is rolled up by rotating the roller tube 19.

**[0129]** After practically one rotation, the fabric 17 will approach the first flag 8.

**[0130]** Its free end has a minimal thickness, in this case 0.6 mm, in order to restrict the transition between the roller tube 17 and the fabric holder 1.

**[0131]** The soft and compressible material out of which

this first flag 8 is made makes it possible to additionally limit the transition as a result of its compression.

**[0132]** The thickness of the first flag 8 gradually increases towards the central profile 2, where it connects in a continuous manner or without any sudden or abrupt transition onto the first side edge 6.

**[0133]** Further in the direction of the second flag 9, the fabric holder 1 with the fitted fabric no longer shows any sudden transitions.

**[0134]** It is therefore important to carefully execute the weld 18 between the second flag 9 and the fabric.

**[0135]** The present invention is by no means restricted to the embodiments described by way of example and represented in the accompanying drawings; on the contrary, such a fabric holder 1 for roller blinds according to the invention can be made in all sorts of shapes and dimensions while still remaining within the scope of the invention.

## Claims

1. Fabric holder for roller blinds which can be applied on a fabric (17) and which can work in conjunction with a roller tube (19) whose tube sleeve (20) is provided with a groove or the like (21), whereby the fabric holder (1) comprises elastically compressible clamping means (4,5) having such a geometry and compressibility that they can be fed through the groove or the like (21) by compressing them, followed by a release by which is accomplished a connection of the fabric holder (1) to the roller tube (19), **characterised in that** the fabric holder (1) comprises a central profile (2) provided with a strip-shaped back (3), whereby the back (3) has a width (b) which is at least five times bigger than its thickness (d), and thus comprises an outer side, an inner side and two side edges (6,7), whereby the fabric holder (1) is provided with a first flag (8) at the first side edge (6) and with a second flag (9) at the second side edge (7).

2. Fabric holder for roller blinds according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the fabric holder can co-operate with a roller tube (19) whose groove or the like (21) has a groove width (S) which provides access to an inner space (22), whereby the elastically compressible clamping means (4,5) are provided on the inner side, whereby the width (b) is larger than the groove width (S), such that the back (3) can be placed over the groove (21) and on the adjacent parts of the tube sleeve (20) of the roller tube (19), whereas the elastically compressible clamping means (4,5) can be placed in the inner space (22).

3. Fabric holder according to claim 1 or 2, **characterised in that** the first flag (8) at the connection to the first side edge (6) has the same thickness as the back (3) there, whereby the thickness of the first flag (8) decreases towards its free end.

4. Fabric holder according to claim 1, 2 or 3, **characterised in that** the second flag (9) at the connection to the second side edge (7) has a thickness which is smaller than the thickness of the back (3) there, at least before the fabric (17) is applied.

5. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 4, **characterised in that** the combined thickness of the second flag (9) and the fabric (17), after a fabric (17) has been applied by means of welding, at the connection to the second side edge (7), has a thickness which mainly corresponds to the thickness of the back (3) there.

6. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 5, **characterised in that** the central profile (2) is made of a first synthetic material, and **in that** the first flag (8) and/or the second flag (9) is made of a second synthetic.

7. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 6, **characterised in that** the two flags are made of different synthetics.

8. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 7, **characterised in that** the fabric holder (1) is made by means of co-extrusion.

9. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 8, **characterised in that** the connection between the fabric (17) and the flag (9) is obtained by fusing the materials out of which the fabric (17) on the one hand and the flag on the other hand are made.

10. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 9, **characterised in that** the connection between the fabric (17) and the flag (9) is obtained by compressing, pressing or rolling the materials concerned or by subjecting them to a similar treatment.

11. Fabric holder according to one or several of claims 1 to 10, **characterised in that** the groove (21) provides access to an inner channel-shaped space (22) which is defined by an appropriately profiled chamber wall (23) on the inside of the interrupted tube sleeve (20), whereby the elastically compressible clamping means (4,5), seen as of the connection to the back (3) towards the free end of the elastically compressible clamping means, are provided with a widening part and further with a narrowing part.

12. Fabric holder according to claim 11, **characterised in that** elastically compressible clamping means (4,5) comprise a first leg (4) and a second leg (5),

whereby the legs (4,5), seen as of the connection to the back (3) towards their free ends, comprise first bevels (12,13) moving away from one another, and second bevels (14,15) moving towards one another.

**13.** Fabric holder according to claim 12, **characterised in that** the legs (4,5), between the connection to the back (3) and the above-mentioned first bevels (12,13) moving away from one another, are provided with mainly parallel leg parts (10,11).

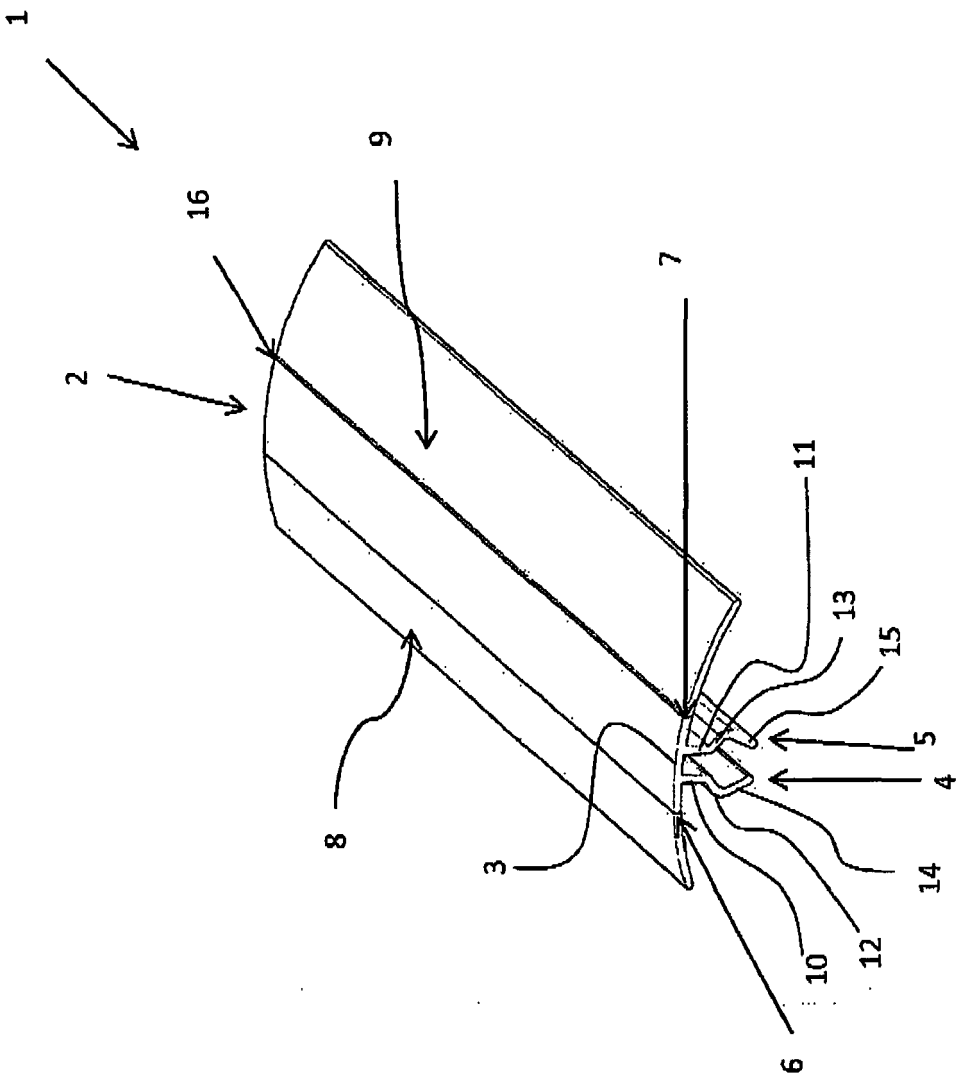


Fig 1

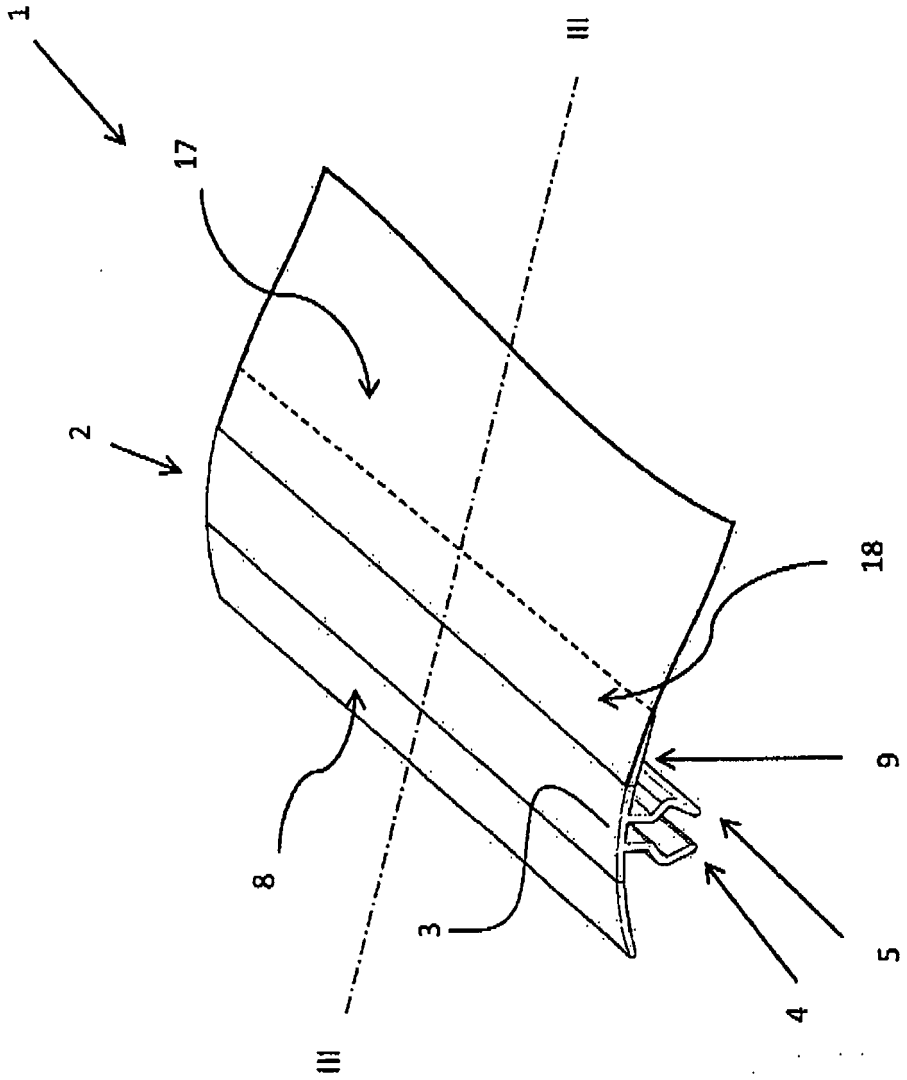


Fig 2

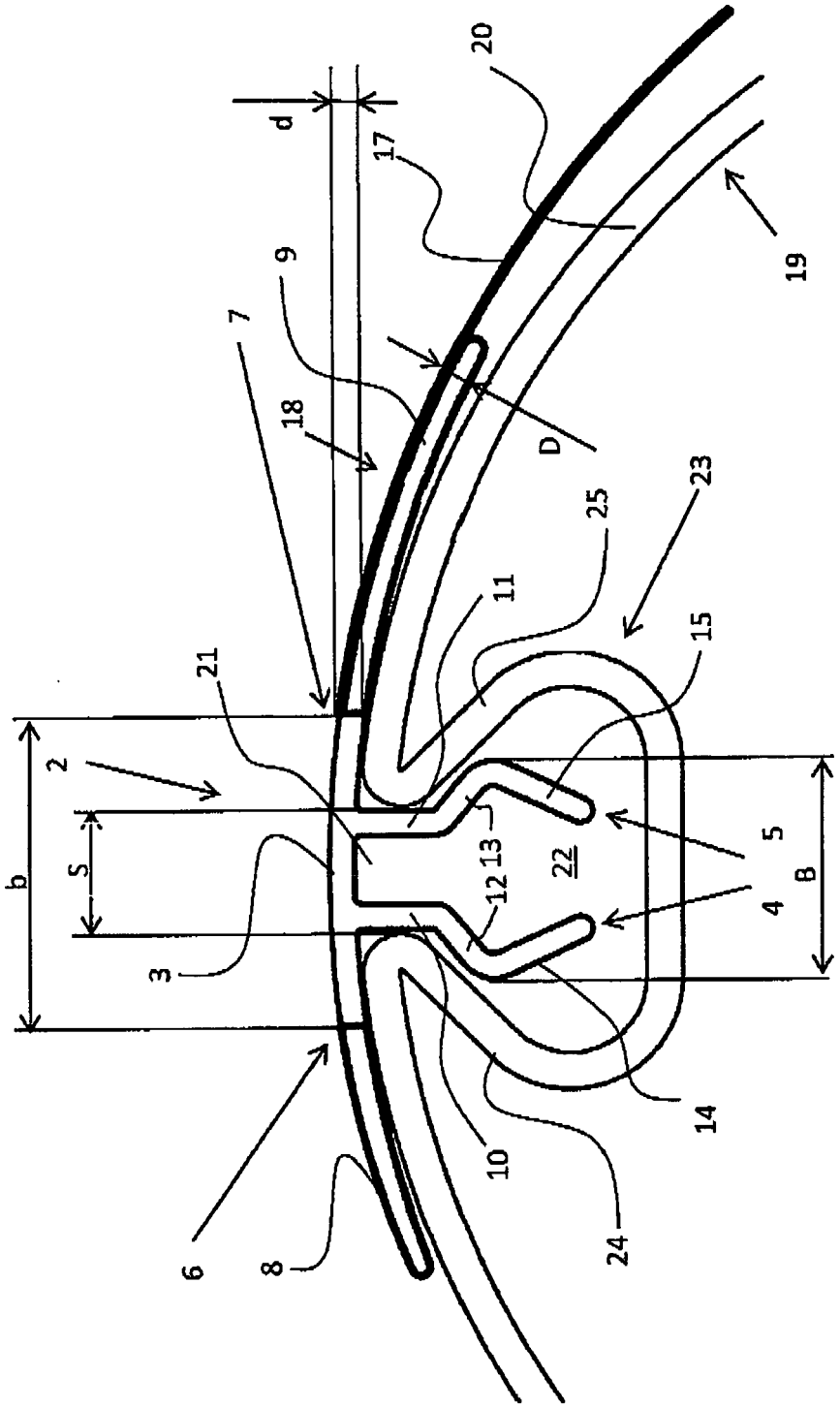


Fig 3