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(54) **Mooring line retaining mechanism**

(57) A mooring line retaining mechanism 10, mountable to a support, comprises a C-shaped retaining ring 12 provided with a deflectable gate 14, the gate 14 being biased to allow passage of a mooring line from an exterior to an interior 19 of the retaining ring 12 only. The gate 14 may comprise a single pivoting gate leaf or a pair of gate leaves 14a, 14b. One portion of a loop provided at an end of a mooring line is passed through the deflectable gate 14 and into an interior 19 of the retaining ring 12,

so that the retaining ring 12 and loop are interlocked. When the second portion of the loop is passed through the gate 14, the retaining ring 12 and loop are no longer interlocked and the mooring line is released. An alternative version of the mooring line retaining mechanism 20 also has a pair of horns 34a, 34b extending outwardly from its retaining ring 22 in opposite directions, allowing the mooring line to be wound around the horns 34a, 34b, for added security.

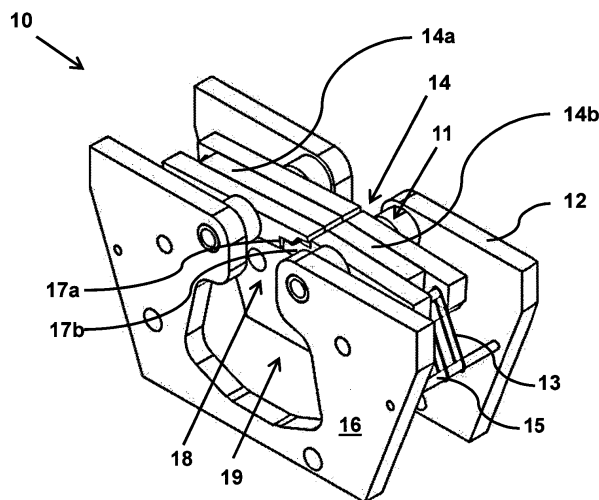


FIG. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 14 00 0965

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| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) |
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| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search The Hague | | Date of completion of the search 16 January 2018 | Examiner Gardel, Antony |
| 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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5 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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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82