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(54) POSITIONABLE OSCILLATING STIRRUP FASTENER FOR EQUESTRIAN SADDLES

(57) Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, composed of a main body (3) which is provided with a broad bonding surface to the frame (7) which covers a minimum of 30 % of the side length of said frame (7) of the saddle and also has a series of grooves (2), and through-holes (1), integral to said main body (3) which in its inner face has a moulded portion (4). The grooves (2) have an oval or other non-circular shape coinciding with the stub (6), and the hook (5) for securing the stirrup strap has in its upper part a stop (9) which is integral therewith, and from which the neck portion (10), terminating in the stub (6), emerges.

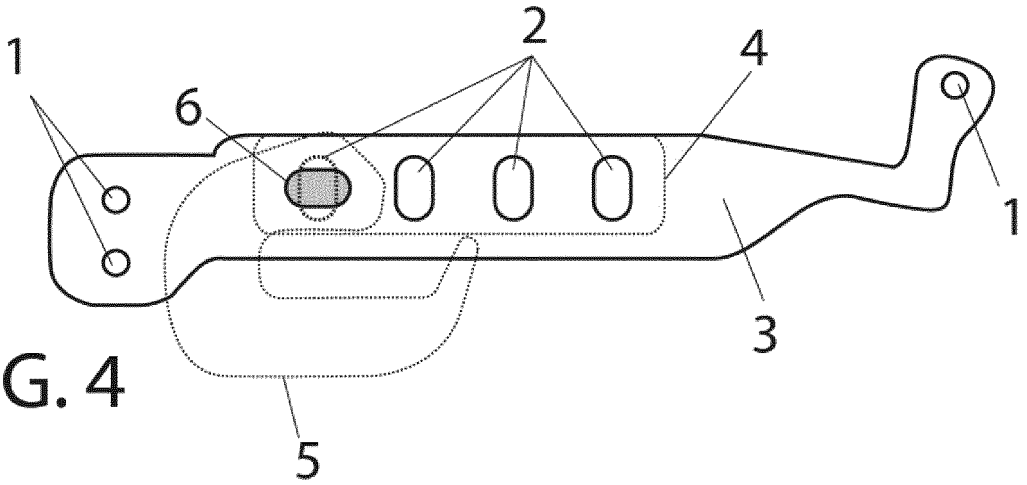

FIG. 4

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Description

Object of the invention

[0001] The object of the present patent invention is to present a new positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, which aims to provide a stirrup fastener with a hook for securing the stirrup strap that moves with a free and rotational movement on the main body of said stirrup fastener.

[0002] The hook for securing the stirrup strap can be placed in different positions on the main body of the stirrup fastener, which is integrally attached to the frame or structure of the saddle through different attachment points, distributing the weight of the rider, when he stands on the stirrup, over a broad surface of the saddle frame, so that the horse does not receive the weight of the rider on any particular point located on its back.

[0003] This new positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles is particularly applicable to the field of horseback riding where a stirrup fastener with such features is required.

Background of the invention

[0004] Nowadays, there are many different types of stirrup fasteners: fixed, with a security opening, with different positions.

[0005] Currently, there are many different types of stirrup fasteners: fixed, with a security opening, with different positions, rotating, but none of them has the advantage of enabling a change in the position of the hook, from which hangs the stirrup strap, so as to distribute the weight of the rider over a broad surface area of the saddle frame.

[0006] The utility model ES1077689, pertaining to the same applications, might be cited amongst those documents known about in the prior art. However, in addition to the limitation of not being able to distribute the rider's weight over a broad area of the saddle, it presents the disadvantage of the stirrup support coming out of position easily owing to the lack of the rider's weight.

[0007] The utility model ES-1065193-U has also the disadvantage that the stirrup leathers holding the stirrups, change position involuntarily when lunging the horse, in addition to not distributing efficiently the weight over the saddle frame.

[0008] In the current state of the art, there is no positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles having the technical features that are being reported in the present patent of invention.

Description of the invention

[0009] This new positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles is being provided in order to alleviate or as the case may be, eliminate the above-mentioned problems. Such stirrup fastener is basically composed of a hook for securing the stirrup strap, which exerts an oscillating movement, in addition to being positionable over the main body of said stirrup fastener in the various slots arranged at different positions.

[0010] The present positionable oscillating stirrup fastener assembly has the following advantages:

It is able to maintain the rider's leg perpendicular to the ground, irrespective of the horse movements.

It distributes the rider's weight, when the rider steps on the stirrup, over a broad surface of the saddle frame, thus avoiding pressure points at a specific spot of the horse's back.

It enables to move forward or backward the stirrup position and as a result the rider's leg, depending on the equestrian discipline or the rider's preferences, in an improved way when compared to existing stirrups.

[0011] Due to the oval shape of the slots when they are in a vertical position, and the oval shape or any other non-circular geometric shape of the stub and the stop of the hook that secures the stirrup strap, when they are in a horizontal position, it is possible to prevent the stirrup from coming out easily, since due to their oval shape, it is necessary to rotate them exactly 90 degrees to be able to disengage them from the main body.

Description of the drawings

[0012] To complete the present description and with the aim of facilitating a better understanding of the invention characteristics, below as an integral part of the present specification, is a set of figures in which, by way of non-limiting examples, the following has been represented:

- Figure 1: Represents an external side view, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 2: Represents an internal side view, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 3: Represents a detailed external side view, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 4: Represents a detailed external side view, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 5: Represents a detailed external side view, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 6: Represents a perspective and a side view of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 7: Represents an external side view of the

hook for securing the stirrup strap, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.

- Figure 8: Represents an internal side view of the hook for securing the stirrup strap, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 9: Represents a perspective view of the hook for securing the stirrup strap, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.
- Figure 10: Represents a rear view of the hook for securing the stirrup strap, of the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles.

Preferred embodiment of the invention

[0013] As it can be seen in the accompanying figures, the positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles is composed of a main body (3), which is provided with a broad bonding surface to the frame (7) which covers a minimum of 30% of the side length of said frame (7) of the saddle.

[0014] Said main body (3) has a series of slots (2) and through-holes (1), in addition to having in its inner face a moulded portion (4), which is thinner in thickness, where the stub (6) of the hook (5) for securing the stirrup strap, is housed. This moulded portion (4) thinner in thickness enables, once the hook (5) is in place, to prevent the stub from rubbing against the inner leather of the saddle skirt as is housed in that thinner portion (4).

[0015] In this preferred embodiment of the invention, the slots (2) are oval in shape when they are in the vertical position.

[0016] The hook for securing the stirrup strap (5) has in its upper part a stop (9) which is integral therewith, and from which the neck portion (10), terminating in the stub (6), emerges.

[0017] The through-holes (1), by means of attachment elements (8), are the points through which the main body (3) is fixed to the frame (7) of the saddle.

[0018] The hook for securing the stirrup strap (5) can be positioned in as many positions as there are slots (2) arranged.

[0019] The hook for securing the stirrup strap (5) exerts a free and oscillating movement on the slots.

[0020] In this preferred embodiment of the invention, both the stub (6) and the stop (9) are oval in shape when they are in a horizontal position.

[0021] Having described the nature of the present invention in sufficient detail, as well as the way it is put into practice, it only remains to add that said invention may undergo certain changes in form and materials, provided that such changes do not vary substantially the characteristics claimed below.

Claims

1. Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, **characterized in that** it is composed of a main body (3), which is provided with a broad bonding surface to the frame (7); said main body (3) has a series of grooves (2), and through-holes (1), said main body (3) has in its inner face a moulded portion (4), which is thinner in thickness, the grooves (2) are oval in shape when they are in the vertical position; the hook for securing the stirrup strap (5) has in its upper part a stop (9) which is integral therewith, and from which the neck portion (10), terminating in the stub (6), emerges.**

2. Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the hook for securing the stirrup strap (5), can be positioned in as many positions as there are slots (2) arranged.

3. Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, according to claim 1 and 2, **characterized in that** the hook for securing the stirrup strap (5) exerts a free and oscillating movement on the grooves.

4. Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, according to claim 1, **characterized in that** both the stub (6) and the stop (9) have an oval shape or any other non-circular geometric shape, which only enables them to be extracted after being rotated around the neck (10) and does not enable their extraction in a vertical position.

5. Positionable oscillating stirrup fastener for equestrian saddles, according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the through-bores (1), by means of attachment elements (8), are the points through which the main body (3) is fixed to the frame (7) of the saddle.

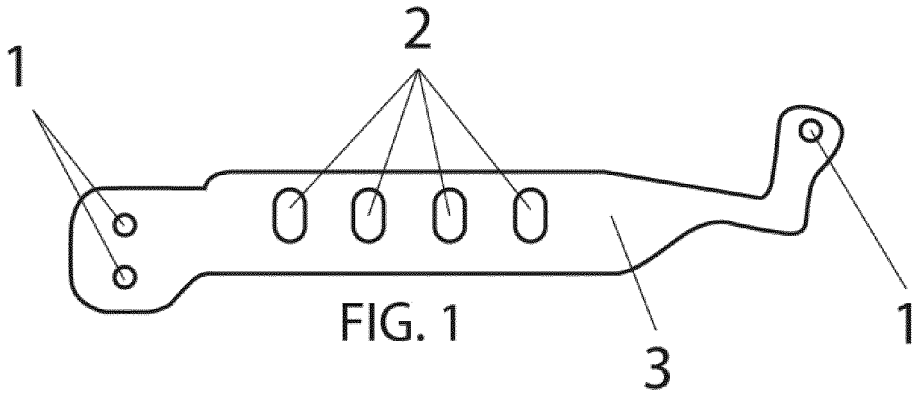

FIG. 1

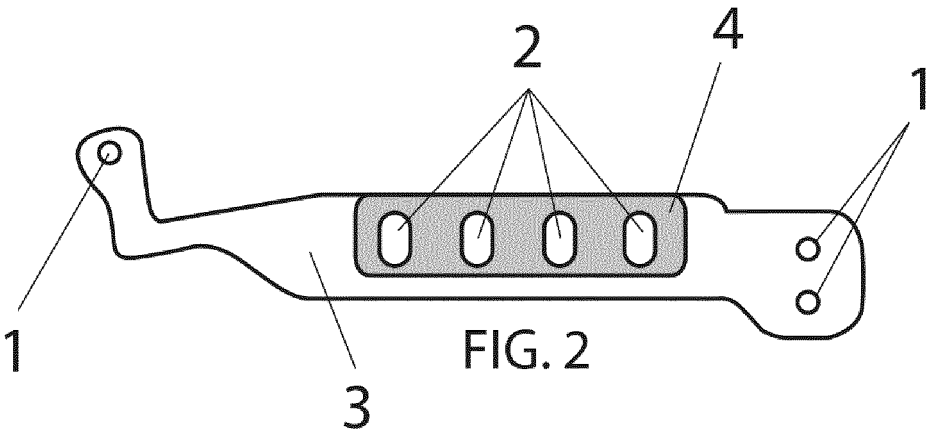

FIG. 2

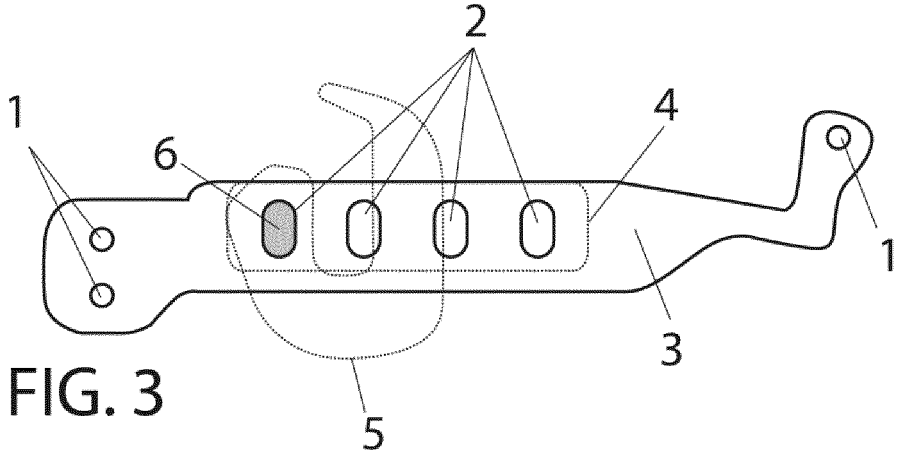

FIG. 3

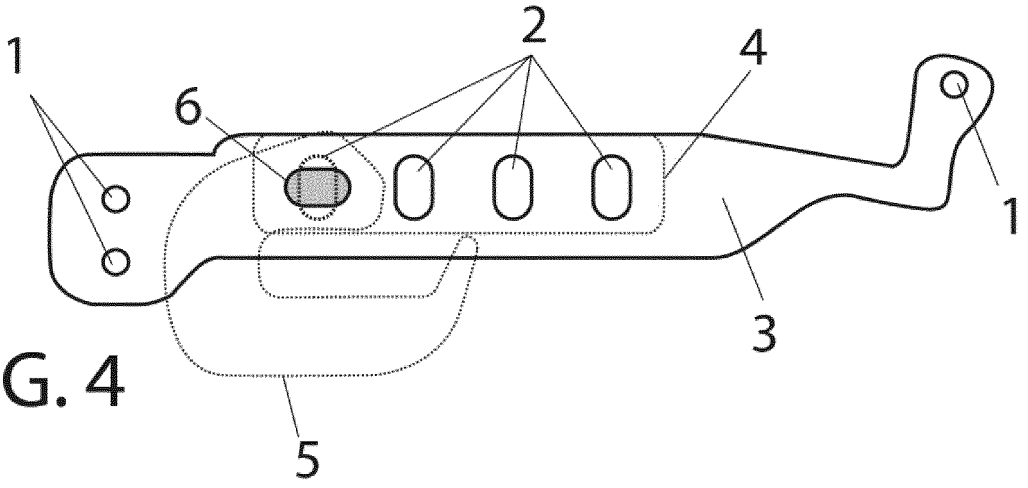

FIG. 4

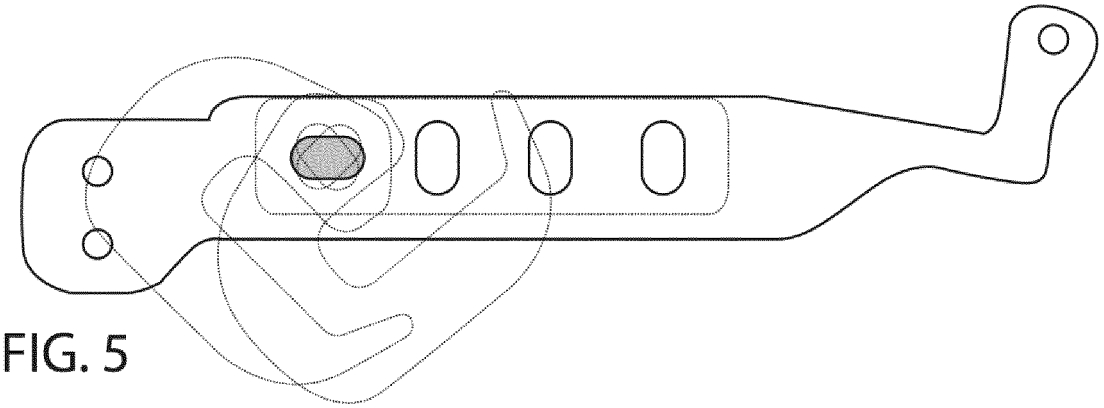

FIG. 5

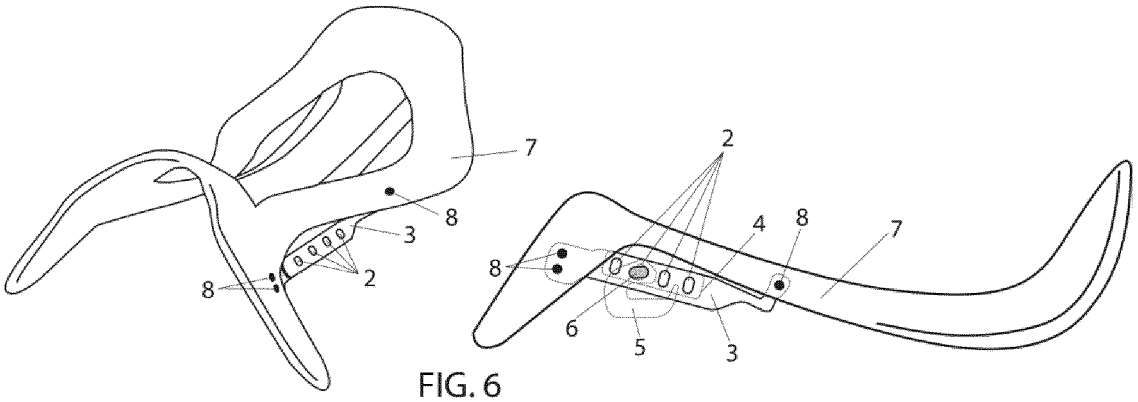

FIG. 6

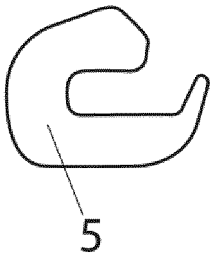

Fig.7

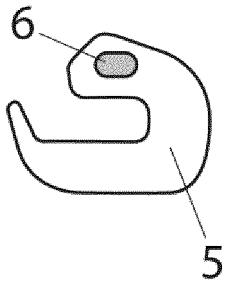

Fig.8

Fig.9

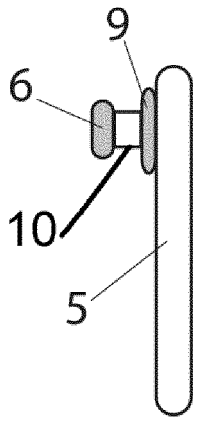

Fig.10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/ES2013/070609

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

B68C1/16 (2006.01)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
B68C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4782649 A (ZUBROD BRUCE R) 08/11/1988, column 2, line 59 - column 5, line 50; figures.	1-5
A	US 4924660 A (NORMAN DENNIS L ET AL.) 15/05/1990, column 2, line 51 - column 5, line 27; figures.	1-5
A	US 5261212 A (DEBORD JOHN R) 16/11/1993, column 3, line 18 - column 5, line 21; figures.	1-5
A	GB 2053647 A (EUROTREND LTD ET AL.) 11/02/1981, page 1, line 54 - page 2, line 12; figures.	1-5
A	US 2009044498 A1 (JAMES TREVOR GRAHAM) 19/02/2009, page 2, paragraph [33] - page 3, paragraph[45]; figures.	1-5

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
08/11/2013	**(11/11/2013)**
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ OFICINA ESPAÑOLA DE PATENTES Y MARCAS Paseo de la Castellana, 75 - 28071 Madrid (España) Facsimile No.: 91 349 53 04	Authorized officer M. Cuenca González Telephone No. 91 3493074

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/ES2013/070609

C (continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of documents, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	ES 1065193U U (ZALDI SILLAS DE MONTAR S A) 01/07/2007, column 2, lines 19 - 68; figures.	1-5
A	GB 1601936 A (WHITE POLYTECHNIQUES LTD) 04/11/1981, page 1, line 74 - page 2, line 50; figures.	1-5

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/ES2013/070609

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REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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- ES 1077689 **[0006]**
- ES 1065193 U **[0007]**