

(19)



(11)

EP 3 329 807 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
06.06.2018 Bulletin 2018/23

(51) Int Cl.:
A47G 7/06 ^(2006.01) **A45C 11/34** ^(2006.01)
A47G 29/08 ^(2006.01)

(21) Application number: **17203424.1**

(22) Date of filing: **23.11.2017**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB
GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO
PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**
Designated Extension States:
BA ME
Designated Validation States:
MA MD

(71) Applicant: **Intentions S.R.L.**
41126 Modena (IT)

(72) Inventor: **DAVIDOVICH, Bar**
41126 Modena (IT)

(74) Representative: **Brunacci, Marco**
BRUNACCI & PARTNERS S.r.l.
Via Scaglia Est, 19-31
41126 Modena (IT)

(30) Priority: **23.11.2016 IT 201600118804 U**

(54) **CONTAINING DEVICE FOR MONITOR**

(57) The containing device (1) comprises:
- at least one containment portion (4) provided with an access opening;
- at least one plastically deformable fastening portion (2),

associated with the containment portion and adapted to engage with a monitor (5) for the positioning of the device (1) on the same monitor.

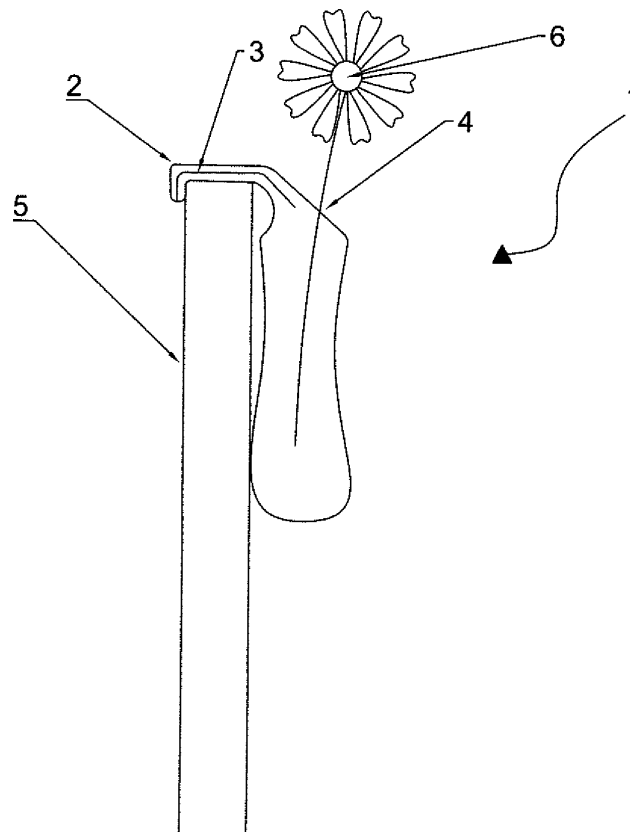


Fig.2

EP 3 329 807 A1

Description

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to a containing device for monitor, e.g. computer monitors and televisions.

Background Art

[0002] Nowadays, in almost all workplaces and in many cases even in the home, there are computers with related monitors.

[0003] During work breaks, users allow their computer to automatically project images such as flowers, plants and animals, which help them to relax from the stress of working, especially visual stress caused by sedentary work.

[0004] The projection of the above images also has the function of limiting the consumption and wear of the monitors themselves, which is why these images are called screensaver images.

[0005] Furthermore, there are special work environments, such as video surveillance stations, where the user cannot project any images onto the screens even during breaks for technical and security reasons.

[0006] In cases where it is not possible to project images onto the screens for technical reasons or for reasons of pleasure, the user uses portrait holders, vases containing flowers or small plants and other decorative objects placed on the surface of his/her desk to make his/her workstation more appealing and comfortable.

[0007] The need is therefore known to customize both work and non-work environments.

[0008] In particular, the need is known to intervene on the monitors in order to customize them and to improve the quality of the environment, both from the point of view of visual comfort and from the point of view of revival of the environment itself.

[0009] The screensaver images, in fact, even if they represent reality, can never have the same effects as the presence of real objects.

[0010] For example, images of flowers do not allow the user to smell their fragrance and perceive three-dimensional reality.

[0011] In domestic environments, in addition to computers, there are also televisions that cannot project screensaver images and which, when they are turned off, have a completely black screen that very often does not suit the environment in which it is installed.

[0012] Objects such as flower vases, portrait holders, pencil-holders and other containers are bulky and occupy space on desks, conflicting with work tools such as mice, keyboards, graphics tablets, etc. In addition, flower vases containing water, in the event of an accidental fall, can damage work tools and create potential hazards for the user.

Disclosure of the Invention

[0013] The main aim of the present invention is to provide a containing device for monitors, which allows to be universally applied to the profile of television and monitor screens available on the market.

[0014] One object of the present invention is to provide a containing device for monitors, which allows keeping free the surfaces on which monitors and televisions are installed.

[0015] Another object of the present invention is to provide a containing device that allows overcoming the aforementioned drawbacks of the prior art within the scope of a simple, rational, easy, efficient to use and cost-effective solution. The aforementioned objects are achieved by the present invention according to claim 1.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0016] Other characteristics and advantages of the present invention will become more evident from the description of a preferred, but not exclusive embodiment of a container used as a vase, illustrated by way of an indicative, but non-limiting example, in the attached drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a side view of the device according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a side view of a form of use of the device according to the invention.

Embodiments of the Invention

[0017] With particular reference to these figures, reference numeral 1 globally indicates a containing device for monitors, e.g. for a monitor 5 of a computer. According to the invention, the device 1 comprises a containment portion 4 provided with an access opening.

[0018] The access opening, not indicated in the illustrations, is obtained on the top portion of the containment portion 4 and allows access to the inside of the portion itself, e.g. to position the flowers 6, or other furnishing or functional items.

[0019] Solutions that provide for a plurality of access openings or access openings obtained in different positions, e.g. in a lateral position to the top, cannot be ruled out.

[0020] In particular, the containment portion 4 comprises at least one cavity accessible from the access opening and into which flowers 6 can be inserted.

[0021] Usefully, the containment portion 4 has an elongated conformation which extends parallel to the plane of the monitor 5.

[0022] Different solutions involving several cavities or stocky configurations cannot be ruled out.

[0023] Furthermore, according to the invention, the device 1 comprises a plastically deformable fastening portion 2.

[0024] In the present treatise, by the term "plastically deformable" is meant the condition whereby a body subjected to a deforming action is transformed from an initial configuration to a final configuration and maintains its final configuration even after the deforming action has ceased.

[0025] The fastening portion 2 is associated with the containment portion 4 and is adapted to engage with the monitor 5 for the positioning of the device 1 on the same monitor.

[0026] Being plastically deformable, in fact, the fastening portion 2 can be modeled in such a way as to adapt its shape to the profile of the monitor 5 in order to create a fastening on it, allowing the hanging positioning of the device 1.

[0027] Usefully, the fastening portion 2 extends continuously from the containment portion 4.

[0028] Preferably, the fastening portion 2 is placed at the access opening.

[0029] Alternative solutions cannot be ruled out that provide for several fastening portions 2, or which provide for different positionings of the fastening portion 2 with respect to the containment portion 4.

[0030] Advantageously, the device 1 comprises a flexible reinforcement 3 which is at least partly inserted in the fastening portion 2.

[0031] In the present embodiment, the flexible reinforcement 3 is of the type of a deformable metal wire.

[0032] Solutions cannot be ruled out wherein the flexible reinforcement 3 is of the type of a flat ring, or has other conformation with respect to that shown.

[0033] Advantageously, the device 1 is made of polymer material.

[0034] This way, the device 1 can be made in different colors, by means of a polymer material injection and molding procedure.

[0035] In particular, the fastening portion 2 is made of polymer material.

[0036] Usefully, the polymer material comprises at least partially silicone.

[0037] In the present embodiment, the device 1 is made entirely of silicone, but solutions in which a different material is used, e.g. rubber or other plastic materials, cannot be ruled out.

[0038] This way, the fastening portion 2 can be manually adapted to the monitor 5 without damaging the surface.

[0039] Furthermore, the use of silicone makes the device 1 lightweight so as not to unbalance the monitor 5.

[0040] Solutions cannot also be ruled out that provide for the realization of the device 1 with several different materials, in which, for example, the fastening portion 2 is made of deformable polymer materials and in which the containment portion 4 is made of rigid polymer materials, or wood.

[0041] The operation of the present invention is as follows.

[0042] The fastening portion 2 can be manually formed

and adapted to the profile of the monitor 5 or, universally, to the profile of other screens and televisions.

[0043] The fastening portion 2 permits keeping the device 1 fastened to the monitor 5, in suspension.

[0044] The access opening permits inserting flowers 6 and, if necessary, also water, inside the device 1, especially in the containment portion 4.

[0045] The metal reinforcement 3, thanks to its mechanical properties, allows the fastening portion 2 to be manually formed and adapted to the monitor 5.

[0046] It has, in practice, been ascertained that the described invention achieves the intended objects and, in particular, the fact is underlined that the containing device for monitor can be universally applied to the profile of monitor and television screens available on the market.

[0047] In particular, thanks to the fastening portion devised, it is possible to adapt the device to all types of monitor.

[0048] Furthermore, the device devised also permits keeping the surfaces free on which monitors and televisions are installed.

[0049] In fact, the fastening portion can be shaped in such a way as to allow the device to be hung from the monitor, leaving the surfaces on which the monitor rests free.

[0050] The use of polymer materials and, in particular, silicone, allows the safe use of the device, without damaging the surface of the monitor.

[0051] Silicone, in particular, makes the container lightweight so that it does not unbalance the monitor.

[0052] Furthermore, the device is also able to make the place where it is used pleasant and welcoming.

[0053] For example, in work environments, when used as a flower vase, thanks to the colors of the container itself and the colors and fragrance of the flowers, it has a positive impact on the user as well as being a valid decorative element which does not occupy the work surfaces.

[0054] Different embodiments cannot be ruled out, in fact, the devised container can be usefully used as an object holder, for example, for pencils, keys, coins, etc. or also as an device holder for computers and televisions such as, e.g., webcams, microphones etc.

Claims

1. Containing device (1) **characterized by** the fact that it comprises:

- at least one containment portion (4) provided with an access opening;
- at least one plastically deformable fastening portion (2), associated with said containment portion and adapted to engage with a monitor (5) for the positioning of the device (1) on the same monitor.

2. Device (1) according to claim 1, **characterized by** the fact that said fastening portion (2) extends continuously from said containment portion (4).
3. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that said fastening portion (2) is placed at said access opening. 5
4. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that it comprises a flexible reinforcement (3) which is at least partly inserted in said fastening portion (2). 10
5. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that said containment portion (4) has an elongated conformation which extends parallel to the plane of said monitor (5). 15
6. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that said containment portion (4) comprises at least one cavity accessible from said access opening. 20
7. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that it is made at least partly of polymer material. 25
8. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that at least said fastening portion (2) comprises polymer material. 30
9. Device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, **characterized by** the fact that said polymer material is of the type of silicone. 35

40

45

50

55

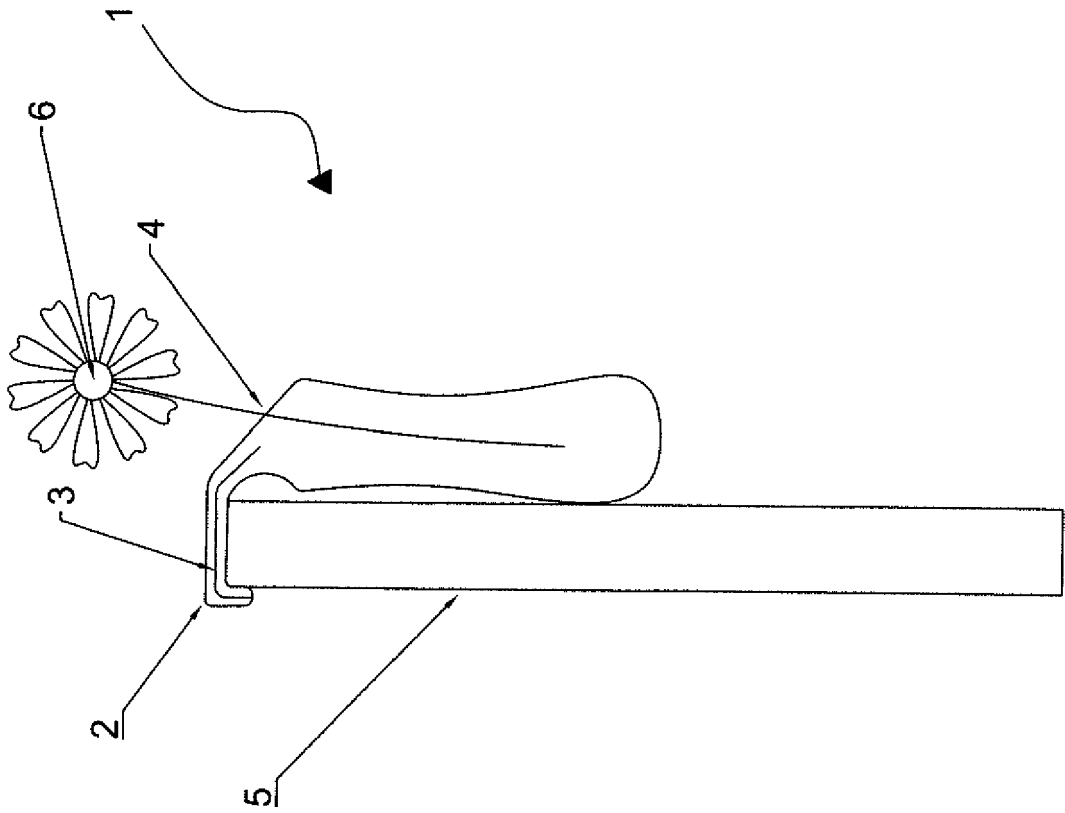


Fig. 2

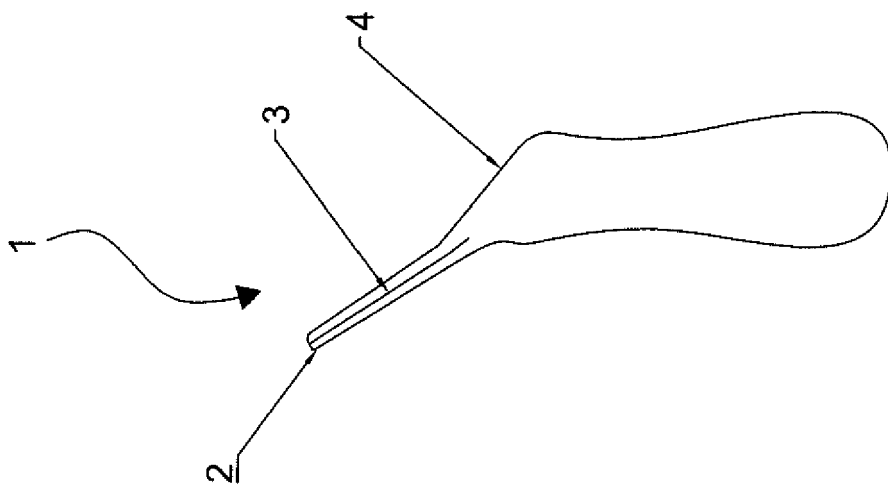


Fig. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

 Application Number
 EP 17 20 3424

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

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	US 6 455 117 B1 (MARGUCCI) 24 September 2002 (2002-09-24) * column 6, lines 12-31; figure 5 *	1-9	INV. A47G7/06
X	US 2013/048587 A1 (GALLUP) 28 February 2013 (2013-02-28) * paragraphs [0021], [0027]; figures 4, 5 *	1-9	ADD. A45C11/34 A47G29/08
X,P	US 2017/105362 A1 (IRVING, JR) 20 April 2017 (2017-04-20) * paragraph [0027]; figure 2 *	1-3,6,7	
A	WO 02/15671 A1 (INFINITY BEAUTIFICATION ENTPRISES) 28 February 2002 (2002-02-28) * figures 1-4 *	1-3,5-8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A47G A45C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 26 April 2018	Examiner Beugeling, Leo
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 17 20 3424

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

26-04-2018

10

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6455117	B1	24-09-2002	NONE
US 2013048587	A1	28-02-2013	NONE
US 2017105362	A1	20-04-2017	NONE
WO 0215671	A1	28-02-2002	NONE

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82