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(54) **A REPLACEABLE COVER SYSTEM DEVELOPED FOR WOODEN SLATTED FURNITURES WITH A METAL FRAME**

(57) This invention relates to a replaceable cover system consisting of a hook-and-tube embodiment, a hook and pile embodiment attached to the slats, and an elastic band embodiment, to be adapted to a sofa design depending on whether a metal frame applied to wooden slatted metal frames in furniture sector have a mechanism or not, or on the mechanism used. The hook-and tube embodiment consists of at least two interlining pieces (2) stitched to the joint of two cushions (5); a metal tube (1) passed through a hole on the interlining piece (2) and hooks (3) which holds the metal tube (1) and fixes it to the sofa and also cover cavities (17) which allow the metal tube (1) to be attached to the hooks (3). The hook and pile embodiment attached to the slats consists of a

left slat soft hook and pile (6) which is stitched to the slats (4) and wound around the slats (4) by overlapping, a right slat hard hook and pile (7), an interlining (9) stitched to the rear side of the cover (8) and on which a soft hook and pile (10) is present, a hard hook and pile (11) on the front inner side of the cover (8) by wounding around the metal frame (12). The elastic band embodiment consists of elastic bands (14) stitched to the rear face of the cushions (5), bridges (13) through which the elastic bands (14) are passed and by means of which the cushion (5) is attached to the slats (4), a female belt buckle (15) and a male belt buckle (16), which are located at the end of the elastic bands (14) and engage the elastic bands (14).

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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	US 5 911 654 A (WEBB VERNELL [US]) 15 June 1999 (1999-06-15) * column 3, line 13 - column 7, line 26; figures 1-7 *	1,2	INV. A47C31/10 A47C21/02
X	US 5 105 492 A (KARPINSKI VIVIAN L [US]) 21 April 1992 (1992-04-21) * column 4, line 24 - column 7, line 15; figures 1-5 *	1,2	
X	US 4 860 398 A (KARPINSKI VIVIAN L [US]) 29 August 1989 (1989-08-29) * column 4, line 15 - column 6, line 3; figures 1-5 *	1,2	
A	US 2004/155497 A1 (RILEY PAULA [US] ET AL) 12 August 2004 (2004-08-12) * paragraph [0040] - paragraph [0066]; figures 1-13 *	1,2	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A47C

INCOMPLETE SEARCH

The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.

Claims searched completely :

Claims searched incompletely :

Claims not searched :

Reason for the limitation of the search:

see sheet C

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Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	21 August 2018	Lehe, Jörn
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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INCOMPLETE SEARCH SHEET C

Application Number

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Claim(s) completely searchable:

3, 4

Claim(s) searched incompletely:

1, 2

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Claims 1 and 2 have been partially searched.

The applicant did not reply to the invitation under Rule 63(1) EPC. The search division therefore determines that claim 1 is interpreted in the following way (Rule 63(2) EPC):

A replaceable cover system to be adapted to a sofa design depending on whether a metal frame applied to wooden slatted metal frames in furniture sector have a mechanism or not, or on the mechanism used, characterized in that sofas with a metal frame have a hook-and-tube arrangement which prevents the sofa cushions from moving excessively during the opening-closing operation of the sofas with a metal frame; and a hook and pile arrangement used to fully cover the metal frame (12) with the cover (8), or to restrict the movement area of the cushion (5); and an elastic band arrangement which allows the back and seat cushions (5) to slip back and forth while preventing the same from slipping to the left or right.

The search division therefore determines that claim 2 is interpreted in the following way:

- A replaceable cover system in combination with a Sofa having sofa cushions;
- the cover system to be adapted to a sofa design depending on whether a metal frame applied to wooden slatted metal frames in furniture sector have a mechanism or not, or on the mechanism used,
- characterized in that said sofa with said metal frame has a hook-and-tube arrangement which prevents the sofa cushions from moving excessively during the opening-closing operation of said sofas with said metal frame;
- the hook-and-tube arrangement further comprising at least two interlining pieces (20) stitched to the joint of two cushions (5); a metal tube (1) passed through a hole on the interlining piece (2); and hooks (3) which holds the metal tube (1) and fixes it to the sofa; and also cover cavities (17) which allow the metal tube (1) to be attached to the hooks (3).



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1, 2

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1, 2

hook-and-tube

2. claim: 3

hook-and-pile

3. claim: 4

elastic band

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

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

21-08-2018

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5911654 A	15-06-1999	NONE	
US 5105492 A	21-04-1992	NONE	
US 4860398 A	29-08-1989	NONE	
US 2004155497 A1	12-08-2004	US 2003137170 A1 US 2004155497 A1	24-07-2003 12-08-2004

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