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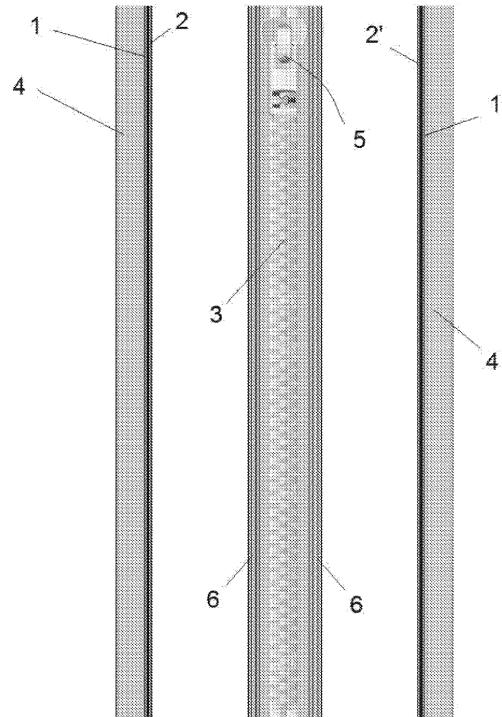
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**(54) ZIP WITH AUTOMATIC COUPLING**

(57) The invention relates to a zip with automatic coupling, which comprises a part fixed to the clothing (1, 1'), 4 and an exchangeable part (2, 2', 3), the fixed part comprising first joining elements (1, 1') solidly joined to a garment (4) by one of the sides thereof and which can be joined on the opposite side to the exchangeable part. According to the invention, the exchangeable part comprises second joining elements (2, 2') disposed longitudinally, in parallel with respect to a zip closure (3) and fixed to said zip closure (3), the first joining elements (1, 1') and the second joining elements (2, 2') together forming a male-female joint or clip joint.

**FIG.1**

**Description****Object of the invention**

**[0001]** The object of the present invention is a zip with automatic coupling that is easy to use, versatile and especially useful for repairing damaged zips or for modifying the appearance of a garment, which makes it possible to mix and match different types of zips for the same garment or accessory.

**State of the art**

**[0002]** Zip closure systems are commonly used in clothing and accessories. However, they tend to deteriorate with continued use, which requires a device or mechanism to solve this problem. For this reason, there is a need to provide a zip which precludes the need to send the zips to dressmakers for repairs when the closures have deteriorated.

**Description of the invention**

**[0003]** An object of the present invention is a zip closure comprising an automatic coupling to the clothing based on a male-female joint or clip joint on both sides of the zip to make it easier to change it once the closure itself has deteriorated. More specifically, the zip closure object of the present invention comprises a part fixed to the clothing and an exchangeable part; the fixed part comprising first joining elements solidly joined to a garment by one of the sides thereof and which can be joined on the opposite side to the exchangeable part, which comprises second joining elements disposed longitudinally, in parallel with respect to a zip closure and fixed to said zip closure, the first joining elements and the second joining elements together forming a male-female joint or clip joint.

**[0004]** The use of the present invention avoids damaging garments during repair, since the zip closure does not have to be sewn or unsewn since it is only necessary to unhook the exchangeable part (comprising the zip itself) from the fixed part and placing a new one, joined by means of a clip joint or a male-female joint. Furthermore, due to its small size, it is possible to always travel with a spare.

**[0005]** Throughout the description and the claims, the word "comprises" and its variants do not intend to exclude other technical characteristics, additives, components or steps. For experts in the art, other objects, advantages and characteristics of the invention will become apparent in part from the description and in part from the practice of the invention. The following examples and drawings are provided by way of illustration and are not intended to restrict the present invention. In addition, the present invention covers all possible combinations of particular and preferred embodiments herein indicated.

**Brief description of the drawings**

**[0006]** Below is a very brief description of a series of drawings that aid a better understanding of the invention and that are expressly related to an embodiment of said invention presented as a non-limiting example thereof.

**[0007]** FIG.1 shows a schematic frontal view of the zip object of the invention.

**10 Description of a detailed embodiment of the invention**

**[0008]** As provided in the figure attached herein, the zip comprises a part fixed to a garment (4) comprising a first joining element (1, 1') fixed on both sides of an opening of the garment (4) and logically facing each other. That is to say, each first joining element (1, 1') has one side fixed to opposite sides in the opening of the garment (4), while the other side can be solidly joined in an exchangeable manner with second joining means (2, 2') which, together with the zip (3) itself, form an exchangeable part if the zip breaks, since the second joining elements (2, 2') are disposed longitudinally and in parallel with respect to the zip closure (3) itself and are fixed to said zip closure (3).

**[0009]** In a particular embodiment, the first joining elements (1, 1') and the second joining elements (2, 2') joined one by one together form a male-female joint or clip joint.

**[0010]** Thus, thanks to the invention so described, it will be possible to prevent burst seams, which lead to defects in the garments, to the extent repairing the entire zip will not be necessary. Furthermore, repair costs go down, since at present the garment has to be unsewn and the zip must be resewn, while with the device of the invention this task will be as simple as unhooking the replaceable part from the fixed part of the zip and placing a new one. Furthermore, repair times are much shorter.

**[0011]** On the other hand, the invention makes it possible to adapt different zip models to the garment or accessory depending on the consumer's tastes, which leads to innovations in the appearance of the garments at a low price.

**[0012]** The proposed invention, moreover, prevents the zips from coupling to the textile part of the garments. The reason for this is because the zip (3) has a (male-female) guide (6) on the inside of the zip (3), which prevents it from entering into contact with the garment (4) and makes it possible to unhook the male from the female if the slider (5) were to break. This makes it easier to separate the zip (3) from the garment (4) without having to force the zip (3) and avoid major tears in the garment (4).

**[0013]** The term garment (4) in this description does not only mean clothing, but also accessories (such as, for example, handbags or purses) and footwear, to the extent the invention can be directly used in any item that needs or uses a zip closure.

**Claims**

1. A zip with automatic coupling, **characterized in that** it comprises a part fixed to the clothing (1, 1', 4) and an exchangeable part (2, 2', 3), the fixed part comprising first joining elements (1, 1') solidly joined to a garment (4) by one of the sides thereof and which can be joined on the opposite side to the exchangeable part, and second joining elements (2, 2') disposed longitudinally, in parallel with respect to a zip closure (3) and fixed to said zip closure (3), the first joining elements (1, 1') and the second joining elements (2, 2') together forming a male-female joint or clip joint.

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2. The zip according to claim 1, wherein the zip closure (3) is a double slider zip.

3. The zip according to any one of the claims 1-2, wherein the zip (3) has a male-female guide (6) inside the zip (3), which prevents it from entering into contact with the garment (4).

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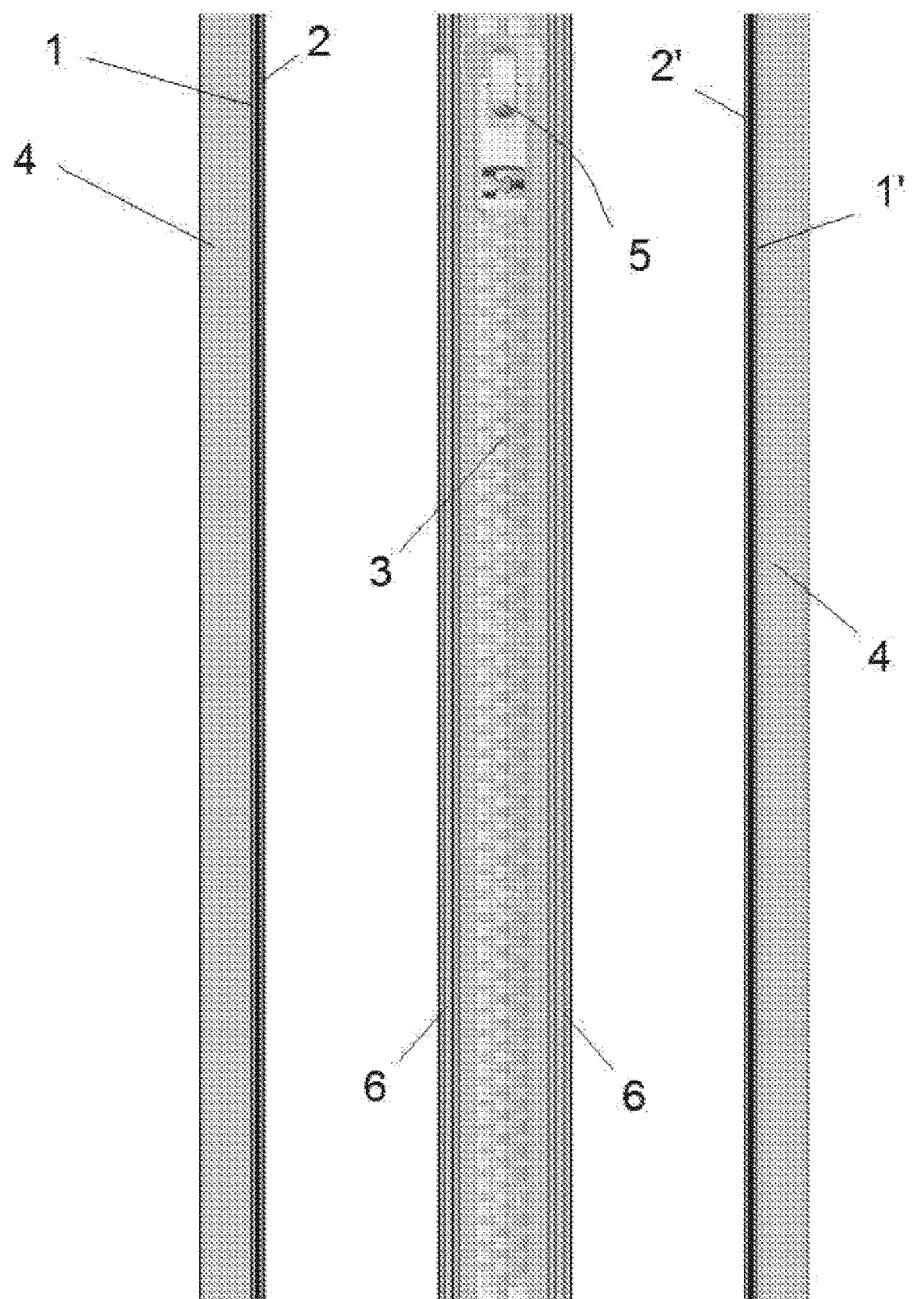


FIG.1

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5	A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
	A44B19/00 (2006.01)		
	According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
10	B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
	Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
	A44B		
15	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)		
	EPODOC, INVENES, WPI		
20	C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
	Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
25	A	NL 1028684C C1 (FRITZ RICHARD) 09/10/2006, Abstract from DataBase WPI. Retrieved of EPOQUE, AN:2007-250498; figures 1-3.	1-3
	A	US 5813094 A (PEREZ II RAUL MARQUEZ) 29/09/1998, the whole document.	1-3
30	A	US 3112545 A (LUTHER WILLIAMS) 03/12/1963, the whole document.	1-3
	A	US 2015216267 A1 (BURKHART-DAY ERIC EDGAR) 06/08/2015, the whole document.	1-3
35			
40	<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.
45	<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure use, exhibition, or other means.</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>		
50	Date of the actual completion of the international search 30/11/2017	Date of mailing of the international search report <b>(04/12/2017)</b>	
55	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 C. Marín Calvo  Telephone No. 91 3495594	

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Information on patent family members		International application No.	
		PCT/ES2017/070556	
5	Patent document cited in the search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)
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15	US3112545 A	03.12.1963	NONE
20	US2015216267 A1	06.08.2015	US2017181506 A1
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