

Abstract

MAGNETICALLY ACTUATED LOCKING MECHANISM

A magnetically actuated locking mechanism includes male and female sections releasably coupled together. The male section includes a male body, a projection extending from the male body and including a transverse bore, a locking element movable between an unlocked position wherein the locking element is received within the bore and a locked position wherein the locking element is partly extracted from the bore, and a first magnet embedded in the locking element. The female section includes a female body having a guide cavity dimensioned to receive the projection, a transverse locking recess dimensioned to lockingly receive part of the locking element as extracted, and a second magnet embedded in the female body adjacent the locking recess. The first and second magnets cooperate together to magnetically urge the locking element from its unlocked to locked position when the locking element is aligned with the locking recess.

Figure for Abstract: Fig. 3