

**Procedure and device for attaching a guide rail**

The invention refers to a procedure and a device for
attaching a guide rail according to the definitions of the
5 claims.

Guide rails are used for guiding objects, i.e. for guiding
lift cars. Generally, several guide rails are connected to
form a longitudinal rail section, with the guide rails
10 being individually installed on the base using fixing
devices. The lift cars are moved hanging from cables and
are guided along the rail section, using guide wheels. The
straightness of the guide rails is important for ensuring a
comfortable ride. Where the guide rails are not absolutely
15 straight this will lead to vibrations in the lift car.
These vibrations are particularly noticeable in case of
long rail sections and fast lift cars, as used, for
instance, in high buildings, where these vibrations are
perceived as disadvantageous by passengers.

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The straightness of the rail section is influenced by a
variety of interfering forces, such as the contraction of
the building in which the rail section is installed,
compression or deformation of the rail section by the
25 operating load, deformation of the rail section by wind
load, thermal expansion of the rail section or of the
fixing devices, etc.

In order to eliminate these adverse effects, efforts are
30 made to install the guide rails in such a way that only



movement in the longitudinal direction of the rail section is possible between the guide rails and the fixing devices, whilst any movement in transverse direction to the rail section is prevented.

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Document EP 0 448 839 discloses in this respect a device for attaching a guide rail, in which the guide rail with a rail base is positioned laterally against brackets, with the brackets protruding partially over the rail base and
10 pressing the guide rail onto the substrate with the back of the rail base. The brackets also contain spring assemblies, radially pressing the pretensioned guide rail, i.e. on one plane perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the guide rail, onto the substrate. The pretensioning force is
15 set with interchangeable spacer blocks in the brackets and an interchangeable support lining between the back of the rail base and the substrate.

As another prior art, document EP 0 763 494 discloses a
20 procedure and a device for attaching a guide rail, in which the rail base is laterally held by holding elements, whilst clamping elements, partially projecting over the rail base, radially guide the guide rail with a predetermined play, i.e. on a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal direction
25 of the guide rail in relation to the substrate, to prevent the guide rail from lifting off the substrate. The play between the clamping elements and the top of the rail base is adjusted with adjusting nuts. The adjusting nuts are screwed onto threaded bolts of the holding elements and are
30 adjustable on the thread sections of the threaded bolts.

The thus set and predetermined play is secured with a securing means.

One of the first tasks of the invention is thus to provide
5 a procedure and a device for attaching a guide rail that provides an improved ride due to the rail section being straighter. A further task of the invention is to provide a procedure and a device for attaching a guide rail, allowing a simple, secure, rapid and precise installation of the
10 guide rail. A further task of the invention is to provide a procedure and a device for attaching a guide rail that is compatible with proven mechanical engineering techniques and standards.

15 These tasks are solved by the invention in accordance with the definition of the claims.

The invention is based on the idea of providing a floating mount for the guide rail. A floating mount is a mount
20 compensating a radial offset as well as an angular offset between the guide rail and the fixing device. A radial offset is an offset on a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the guide rail. An angular offset is an offset on a plane with an angle other than zero from
25 the longitudinal direction of the guide rail. The radial offset as well as the angular offset are a consequence of temporary - or permanent interfering forces and installation inaccuracies.

Contrary to the prior art, in which the guide rail is spring mounted or attached with a certain play and where only a radial offset is compensated for via radially arranged spring assemblies or by a radial play between clamping elements and the guide rail, the invention thus provides attachment of the guide rail on the substrate via a floating mount, with the floating mount absorbing radial as well as angular interfering forces. The floating mount provides a more comfortable ride, as such a soft mounting of the guide rail cushions any unevenness of the guide rail when the lift car passes. The springy rigidity of the guide rail in the fixing plane is reduced so that any momentum exerted by the passing lift car is only noticed to a limited extent as vibrations in the lift car.

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In an advantageous embodiment of a device for attaching a guide rail, the floating mount contains at least one side support with at least one flexible sleeve element or at least one base support with at least one flexible strip unit or at least a backside support with at least one flexible disc element. The floating mount thus absorbs selected or successive interfering forces at various points. The flexible sleeve element is laterally mounted on a side of the rail base of the guide rail, compensating for any interfering forces acting at this contact point. The flexible strip unit is mounted between the guide rail and the substrate, compensating for any interfering forces acting at this contact point. The flexible disc element is mounted on the back of a rail base of the guide rail, compensating for any interfering forces acting at this contact point. Preferably, the flexible sleeve element or the flexible disc element and the flexible strip unit are

mounted on the guide rail whilst pretensioned, permitting a simple, quick, secure and accurate adjustment of the mounting of the guide rail without the overall pretensioning force, applied to the rail base, exceeding a
5 predetermined limit.

Below, an exemplary embodiment of a device for attaching a guide rail according to the invention is explained in detail with reference to figures 1 to 5, in which:

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Fig. 1 represents a radial section through a part of an exemplary embodiment of a device for attaching a guide rail,

15 Fig. 2 represents a diagrammatic view of the positioning of a guide rail against a side support of the device according to Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 represents a perspective view as well as a radial section through a part of an embodiment of a base support of the device according to Fig. 1,

20 Fig. 4 represents an exploded view of a part of an embodiment of a backside support of the device according to Fig. 1 and

25 Fig. 5 represents a perspective view of a part of an embodiment of a securing means of the device according to Fig. 1.

Fig. 1 shows part of an exemplary embodiment of a device for attaching a guide rail 1. The guide rail 1 is, for instance, a guide rail with a lift car. Experts are

familiar with such guide rails and such guide rails are, for instance, made from metal, i.e., steel, stainless steel, etc. and are shaped like a T-section. When looking along a height axis ZZ' , the bottom part of the T-section is referred to as the rail base 11, a top side of the rail base 11 is referred to as rail base back 12 and left and right sides of the rail base 11 are referred to as side of the rail base 13, 13'.

10 The guide rail 1 is held on a substrate 3. The substrate 3 is, for instance, a rail square - not shown in detail - made from metal such as steel or stainless steel, etc. and fixed in a lift shaft of a lift car in a manner familiar to experts. The guide rail 1 is mechanically fixed against
15 lateral movement (along a lateral axis YY') in relation to its longitudinal extension and is mechanically fixed to prevent lifting-off from the substrate 3 (along the height axis ZZ'). Mechanical fixing refers to a reversible, positive or non-positive fixing. The guide rail 1 is
20 retained in such a way that movement in the longitudinal direction of the rail section is possible.

Although not mandatory, the device preferably contains at least one side support 6, 6'. The side support 6, 6' can,
25 for instance comprise a pin body 60, 60' and at least one sleeve 61, 61'. The sleeve 61, 61' can, for instance sit tightly against the pin body 60, 60'. The pin body 60, 60' and the sleeve 61, 61' are, at least partially, made from metal, i.e. steel, stainless steel, etc. or from plastic.
30 The side support 6, 6' is fixed at at least two physically separated points:

At a first point, the side support 6, 6' is mechanically fixed to the substrate 3. The pin body 60, 60' protrudes through the hole 31 of the substrate 3 and the sleeve 61, 61' sits against one side of the substrate 3. One underside of the sleeve 61, 61' can, for instance, sit indirectly against the first side of the substrate 3 via an optional base support 2. A first end of the pin body 60, 60' contains, for instance, a thread for securing at least one nut 4, 4' on a section. At least one washer 5, 5' and the nut 4, 4' are, for instance, placed on the first end of the pin body 60, 60'. An underside of the washer 5, 5' sits against a second side of the substrate 3. By tightening the nut 4, 4', the side support 6, 6' is mechanically fixed to the substrate 3. With knowledge of the present invention, experts can, of course, implement other positive or non-positive connections of the side support to the substrate.

At a second point, the side support 6, 6' is mechanically fixed with a side of the rail base 13, 13' of the guide rail 1. The hole 31 in the substrate 3 is, for example, an oblong hole along the lateral axis YY', allowing alignment of the side support 6, 6' in relation to the side of the rail base 13, 13' of the guide rail 1. The guide rail 1 laterally lies against the sleeve 61, 61'. As a result of lying laterally against the side support 6, 6', all lateral movements of the guide rail 1 in relation to its longitudinal alignment are limited to the extent that the design of the side support permits such a lateral movement. Although not mandatory, such side supports 6, 6' are preferably mounted in pairs and/or on both sides at the

same height in relation to their longitudinal alignment on guide rail 1.

Details of how the guide rail 1 sits laterally against a side support 6, 6' are shown in the diagrammatic positioning sequence of a guide rail on a side support in the exemplary embodiment shown in Fig. 2. Figs. 2a to 2c represent a top view of a section of a side support 6, with the side support 6 being positioned on a side of a rail base 13 of the guide rail 1. The sleeve 61 of the side support 6 comprises at least one inner sleeve element 62, as well as at least one flexible sleeve element 63, 63' and at least one outer sleeve element 64. The inner sleeve element 62 as well as the outer sleeve element 64 are at least partially made from metal, i.e. from steel, stainless steel, etc. or from plastic. The flexible sleeve element 63, 63' is preferably made from flexible material such as plastic, rubber, metal, etc. The flexible sleeve element 63, 63' is preferably made from elastomer material with a long life of, for instance, 20 years. It is also possible to use a flexible sleeve element 63, 63' made from spring steel, for example, in form of a spring assembly or a spring disc.

The flexible sleeve element 63, 63' can, for instance, be arranged to be in contact with the inner sleeve element 62 and the outer sleeve element 64 and can be vulcanised together, as shown. Alternative, the parts can be joined using a two-component plastic. Two rectangular or circular flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' can, for instance, be arranged on a plane between the inner sleeve element 62 and

the outer sleeve element 64. The two flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' can, for instance, be arranged on a plane perpendicular to the height axis ZZ' and on this plane, the individual flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' are arranged
5 opposite each other. The outer sleeve element 64 comprises, for instance, a mainly circular outer diameter with at least one flat-topped support 65, 65' on an outer side. Two supports 65, 65' can, for instance, be arranged on one plane perpendicular to the height axis ZZ' and on this
10 plane, the supports 65, 65' are arranged perpendicularly to each other. Optionally, the outer sleeve element 64 can also contain at least one knop 66, 66'. Two knops 66, 66' can, for instance be arranged on an underside and near to the outer side of the outer sleeve element 64. For
15 detachable engagement, the knops 66, 66' require respective knop openings. Such knop openings are, for instance, provided in base support 2. The use of knops 66, 66' is thus optional and makes sense when respective knop openings, i.e. in base support 2, are used. Preferably, two
20 flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' and a support 65 are arranged along a first line - defining a positioning direction - whilst perpendicular to the line and along a second line - defining a fixing direction - a support 65' and two knops 66, 66' are arranged.

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The flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' form compressible bodies that can only be compressed or expanded under the influence of an interfering force, i.e. under the influence of an interfering force along the lateral axis YY' (Fig.
30 2c). Such a compression or expansion also allows pre-tensioning of the side support 6 against the side of the rail base 13. The length of compression or extension as

well as the characteristics of the compression or expansion of these flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' can be freely adjustable.

- 5 The installation of the side support 6 on the side of the rail base 13 is preferably carried out in two steps:

In a first step as shown in Fig. 2a and 2b, the side support 6 along the lateral axis YY' is moved against the
10 side of the rail base 13 (indicated by the longitudinal movement arrow). Preferably, the side support 6 are guided in a hole 31 in form of an elongated hole in the substrate 3 and in the base support 2. By advantageously fully tightening the nut 4, 4' on the pin body 60, 60', the side
15 support 6, 6' is mechanically fixed on the substrate 3 via the bottom strip unit 22. Using a support 65, the side support 6 is rested predominantly stressfree against the side of the rail base 13 along the positioning direction. In this positioning direction, two flexible sleeve elements
20 63, 63' are, for instance, slightly compressed along lateral axis YY'.

In a second step, as shown in Fig. 2c, the side support 6 is turned by 90° from the positioning direction into the
25 fixing direction (indicated by the circular movement arrow). Using a support 65', the side support 6 is moved into the pre-tensioned position against the side of the rail base 13 along the fixing direction and is mechanically fixed by engaging the knops 66, 66' in the respective knop
30 openings of the base support 2. The amount of pre-

tensioning generated by the flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' during the turning of the fixing 6 can be accurately determined by selecting the suitable distances of the supports 65, 65' from the pivot point of the fixing 6. The
5 outer sleeve element 64 can, for instance, comprise at least one opening, accommodating a rod-like tool for turning the side support 6 by 90°. A flexible sleeve element 63' is, for instance, more heavily compressed along the lateral axis YY' in this fixing direction.

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This pre-tensioned fixing of the guide rail 1 by the side support 6, 6' forms part of a floating mount for the guide rail 1. By compressing or expanding the flexible sleeve element 63, 63', the influence of an interfering force,
15 i.e. the influence of an interfering force along the lateral axis YY', can be absorbed. A radial offset and an angular offset between the guide rail 1 and the floating mount, implemented with the device, can thus be compensated for.

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Upon movement of a lift car along the guide rail 1, temporary interfering forces act on the guide rail 1, in particular, transversely to its longitudinal direction. As soon as such interfering forces are generated, the outer
25 sleeve element 64 is displaced in relation to the inner sleeve element 62 and the flexible sleeve elements 63, 63' along the lateral axis YY' are stressed or relieved. The distance by which the guide rail can move transversely to its longitudinal direction under the influence of a
30 temporary interfering force is limited by the fact that a lateral face 68 of the inner sleeve element 62, facing the

guide rail 1 forms a mechanical stop for the outer sleeve element 64. If the strength of the temporary interference is such that the outer sleeve element 64 rests against the lateral face 68, the entire interfering force can be
5 directly absorbed by the side support 6 and transferred to the substrate 3 via the pin body 60, 60'.

This installation of the side support in the substrate and laterally at a guide rail can be simply, securely and
10 accurately implemented. These embodiments of a side support, the fixing of the side support in the substrate and the positioning of the guide rail on a side support serve only as examples. With knowledge of the present invention, experts can implement lateral guide rail fixings
15 and positioning procedures not shown in this disclosure. A side support can, i.e. be used with any number of flexible sleeve elements. A side support can also be used with any size of flexible sleeve elements. Also, a side support with randomly spaced flexible sleeve elements can be used.

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Although not mandatory, the device preferably contains at least one base support 2, installed between guide rail 1 and the substrate 3. Details about the base support 2 are shown in the exemplary embodiment of a base support 2 in
25 Figs. 1 and 3. The base support 2 contains, for instance, a bottom strip unit 22, extending at least partially around a top strip unit 20 and holding the latter. Two ends 2220, 2220' of the bottom strip unit 22 can, for instance, extend around two lateral ends of the top strip unit 20, clamping
30 the top strip unit 20. The bottom and top strip unit can,

for instance, be made from metal, i.e. from steel, stainless steel, etc. or plastic.

The base support 2 can be easily, securely, quickly and accurately installed. It can, for instance, comprise at least one opening 23, 23', through which the pin body 60, 60' of the side support 6, 6' extends. During installation of the side support 6, 6', the base support 2 is secured between the guide rail 1 and the substrate 3. The base support 2 allows the pre-tensioning of the side support 6, 6' to be fixed. For this purpose, the opening 23, 23' can, for instance, comprise at least one laterally formed knop opening 2366, 2366' to mechanically fix knops 66, 66' of the base support 2.

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The base support 2 can, for instance comprise at least one flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21'''. In each case, two flexible strip units 21, 21', 21'', 21''' can, for instance, be arranged at a distance next to an opening 23, 23'. The flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' is advantageously made from a flexible material such as plastic, rubber, metal, etc. Preferably, the flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' is made from elastomer material with a long life of, for instance, 20 years. It is also possible to use a flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' made from spring steel, for example, in form of a spring assembly or of a spring disc. The flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' can, for instance, be at least partially embedded in a recess in the base support 2. Preferably, the strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' is embedded in at least one recess of the top strip unit 20, protruding with one end

2122 from this recess along the height axis ZZ' and resting with this end 2122 against the bottom strip unit 22. In the embodiment acc. to Fig. 1 four, i.e., circular flexible strip units 21, 21', 21'', 21''', protrude advantageously from recesses in a base area 200 of top strip unit 20, rest against the bottom strip unit 22 and form a part of the floating mount of guide rail 1.

The flexible strip units 21, 21', 21'', 21''' form pressure stages, i.e. compressible bodies that can be compressed or extended under the influence of an interfering force, i.e., the influence of an interfering force along height axis ZZ'. As a result of such a compression or expansion of the flexible strip units 21, 21', 21'', 21''', the interfering force is absorbed. The length of compression or extension as well as the characteristics of the compression or extension of these flexible strip units 21, 21', 21'', 21''' can be freely adjustable. With knowledge of the present invention, experts can use many variations of base supports. A base support can, i.e., be used with any number of flexible strip units. A base support can also be used with any size of flexible strip units, such as oblong rectangular flexible strip units. Also, a base support with randomly spaced flexible strip units can be used. It is also possible to use a base support containing a tensioning as well as a compression stage.

By using the base support 2, it is thus possible to compensate for positional angular deviations of the guide rail 1 or of the substrate 3 due to building conditions or the installation. Such positional deviations can be caused

by thermal expansion of the guide rail or of the device for attaching the guide rail or of the base or can be caused by the wind load of the building in which the lift system is installed or it can be caused by traffic load, i.e. impacts
5 or compression caused by the passing lift car. This compensation of the positional deviation is automatic, i.e. due to the dimension and characteristic of the compression of the used flexible strip units. The radial offset and the angular offset between the guide rail 1 and the floating
10 mount, provided by the device, can thus be compensated for.

The base support 2 comprises, for instance, a top strip unit 20 with a crescent-shaped cross section. Preferably, the top strip unit 20 comprises an apex line 2001 and a
15 base area 200. The apex line serves as a support for the guide rail 1, if the base support is arranged without angular offset in relation to the guide rail 1. The crescent-shaped cross section of the top strip unit 20 ensures that even if the base area 200 is not parallel to
20 the rail base 11, i.e., contains an angular offset in relation to the guide rail 1, the guide rail 1 still only rests on the top strip unit along one line. The fact that the guide rail 1 rests along one line on the base support 2 provides the prerequisite for attaching the guide rail
25 without forcing a mechanical moment onto the guide rail 1, thus leading - compared to the prior art- to a reduction of positional deviation, even during continuous operation.

In case of a temporary interfering force arising during the
30 operation, the flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' is stressed or relieved. Under the influence of such an

interfering force, the top strip unit 20 and thus the guide rail 1 can, for instance, be moved perpendicular to the bottom strip unit 22. The movement of the top strip unit 20 towards the bottom strip unit 22 is limited, as the bottom strip unit 22 forms a mechanical stop for the top strip unit 20. As the flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' is embedded in a recess in the top strip unit, the flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' only has to be compressed by a fraction of its extension to make the top strip unit 20 rest against the bottom strip unit. If the strength of the temporary interference is such that the top strip unit 20 pushes against the bottom strip unit 22, these interfering forces are directly absorbed by the bottom strip unit 22 or the substrate 3.

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Although not mandatory, the device preferably contains at least one backside support 9, 9' and at least one claw 8, 8'. The backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are, at least partially, made from metal, i.e., steel, stainless steel, etc. The backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are fixed on at least two physically separated points:

At a first point, the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are mechanically fixed with a side support 6, 6'. For installation, the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are positioned on the pin body 60, 60'. The backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' can, i.e. contain central openings accommodating a second end of the pin body 60, 60' of the side support 6, 6'. The pin body 60, 60' protrudes through the central openings of the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8'. The second end of the pin body 60, 60'

can, for instance, contain a thread accommodating at least one set nut 7, 7' on a section. The set nut 7, 7' is placed on the pin body 60, 60'. By tightening the set nut 7, 7', the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are
5 mechanically fixed with the side support 6, 6'. With knowledge of the present invention, experts can, of course, implement other positive or non-positive connections of the pin body and set nut.

10 At a second point, the claw 8, 8' is mechanically fixed with a rail base back 12 of the guide rail 1. A first underside of the claw 8, 8' can, for instance, rest on the rail base back 12 of the guide rail 1. As a result of the claw 8, 8' resting on the rail base back 12, the guide rail
15 1 does not lift off the base support 2. Although not mandatory, backside supports 9, 9' and claws 8, 8' are preferably mounted in pairs and/or on both sides at the same height in relation to the longitudinal alignment of the guide rail 1.

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Optionally and at a third point, the claw 8, 8' is mechanically fixed with the base support 2. A second underside of the claw 8, 8' can, for instance, rest on one upper side of the base support 2. In this way, interfering
25 forces, transferred from the guide rail 1 to the first underside of claw 8, 8', can be transferred to the base support 2 via claw 8.

Details showing the backside support 9, 9' and a claw 8, 8'
30 resting on a guide rail 1 are shown in the exemplary

embodiment of a backside support 9 and of a claw 8, 8' according to Fig. 4. In this exploded view, a backside support 9 comprises at least one bottom disc element 90, at least one flexible disc element 91 and at least one top disc element 92. The bottom disc element 90 as well as the top disc element 92 are, at least partially, made from metal, i.e. steel, stainless steel, brass, etc. The flexible disc element 91 is advantageously made from a flexible material such as plastic, rubber, metal, etc.

10 Preferably, the flexible disc element 91 is made from an elastomer material with a long life of, for instance 20 years. It is also possible to use a flexible disc element 91 made from spring steel, for example, in form of a spring assembly or of a spring disc.

15 The flexible disc element 91 can, for instance, be arranged in close contact with the bottom disc element 90 and the top disc element 92. A closed annular flexible disc element 91 can, for instance, be arranged on a plane between the bottom disc element 90 and the top disc element 92. The bottom disc element 90, the flexible disc element 91 and the top disc element 92 can, for instance, be positively or non-positively connected. The flexible disc element 91 can, for instance, be arranged on a plane perpendicular to the height axis ZZ' and parallel to the lateral axis YY'. The bottom disc element 90 can, for instance, comprise a mostly concave underside and lies in a respective convexly formed inner surface of the claw 8 with this concave underside. The top disc element 92 can, for instance, contain a mostly flat upper side.

By tightening the set nut 7, 7', the bottom disc element 90 and the top disc element 92 are moved towards each other and the flexible disc element 91 is compressed along the height axis ZZ'. The flexible disc element 91 forms a
5 pressure stage, i.e., a compressible body, compressible or extendable under the influence of an interfering force, i.e. under the influence of an interfering force along the height axis ZZ'. As a result of such a compression or extension of the elastic disc element 91, the interfering
10 force is absorbed. The length of compression or extension as well as the characteristics of the compression or extension of the elastic disc element 91 can be freely adjustable. The disc element 91 is embedded in a recess in the bottom disc element 90. In case of a temporary
15 interference acting on the guide rail 1 in the direction of the backside support 9, 9' the guide rail 1 or the bottom disc element 90 can be moved towards the top disc element 92 to such an extent that the bottom disc element 90 makes contact with the top disc element 92. The top disc element
20 92 thus has the function of a mechanical stop. In order to be able to move the bottom disc element 90 against the top disc element 92, the flexible disc element 91 must only be compressed along part of its extension. If the temporary forces are such that the bottom disc element 90 comes into
25 contact with the top disc element 92, these interfering forces are directly absorbed by the top disc element 92 and diverted into the substrate 3 via the side support 6, 6'.

As apparent from Fig. 1, the area of the claw 8, 8' resting
30 on the back of the rail base 12, is designed as an arched surface. In this way, a line support is implemented between the claw 8, 8' and the back of the rail base 12, in order

to retain the guide rail 1 and the claw 8, 8' without a mechanical moment, where at all possible.

In this way, the radial offset and the angular offset
5 between the guide rail 1 and the floating mount implemented with the device can thus be compensated for. Any existing angular offset, caused for instance by an inaccurate position of the, pin body 60,60' or the substrate 3 in relation to the guide rail 1, is compensated for by a
10 respective relative position of the bottom disc element 92 to the complementary inner surface of the claw 8. Consequently, an angular offset in wide areas has no effect on the force with which the claw 8 is tensioned against the back of the rail base 12. In this way it will be possible
15 to retain the guide rail 1 without the need for a mechanical moment.

In this way, the backside support 9, 9' can also be installed on the back of the rail base 12 whilst being
20 pretensioned. Although not mandatory, the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' are preferably mounted in pairs and/or on both sides at the same height in relation to their longitudinal alignment of the guide rail 1. This pretensioned fixing of the guide rail 1 by the backside
25 support 9, 9' forms part of a floating mount of the guide rail 1. The pretensioning of the fixing of the guide rail 1 can, for instance, be adjusted and corrected by simply turning the set nut 7, 7' if the guide rail 1 is no longer fully resting on the substrate 3 or on the base support 2.
30 In particular, where the guide rail 1 only rests with one side, i.e. only with its left or right side on the

crescent-shaped top strip unit 20 of the base support 2, the fixing of the guide rail 1 can be easily, quickly, securely and accurately adjusted by opening and/or closing the set nut(s) 7, 7'.

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With knowledge of the present invention, numerous backside support variations are available to experts. A backside support can, i.e. be used with any number of flexible disc elements. A backside support can also be used with any size
10 of flexible disc elements, such as oblong rectangular flexible disc elements. Also, a backside support with randomly spaced flexible disc elements can be used. It is also possible to use a backside support containing a tensioning as well as a compression stage.

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A preferred combination of side support 6, 6', base support 2 and backside support 9, 9' combined with the claw 8, 8' forms a floating mount, absorbing radial and angular interfering forces. The side support 6, 6' and the backside
20 support 9, 9' as well as the claw 8, 8' can, for instance, be installed on the base support 2. As a result, interfering forces are transferred from the side support 6, 6' and the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' to the base support 2. The pretensioning of the side support 6, 6'
25 can, for instance, be mechanically fixed on the base support 2. The pretensioning of the backside support 9, 9' and the claw 8, 8' can, for instance, be mechanically fixed on the side support 6, 6'.

Although not mandatory, the device preferably contains at least one securing means 10, 10'. Fig. 1 and 5 show an exemplary embodiment of the securing means 10, 10'. The securing means 10, 10' is at least partially made from metal, i.e. steel, stainless steel, etc. The securing means 10, 10' serves to secure the setting of the backside support 9, 9' by screwing the set nut 7, 7' onto the pin body 60, 60'. For this purpose, the securing means 10, 10' contains locking retention means, which upon placing the securing means 10, 10' onto the set nut 7, 7' extend through at least one passage 77, 77' of the pin body 60, 60' screwed onto the set nut 7, 7' and positively engage into at least one recess 67, 67' of the pin body 60, 60'. This method for securing the backside support serves as an example. With knowledge of the present invention, numerous variation options of such a securing means are available to experts.

The embodiments for the base support 2 or side support 6, 6' or backside support 9, 9' shown in Figs. 1-4 have a common feature: they all comprise a flexible element (in form of the flexible strip unit 21, 21', 21'', 21''' or the flexible sleeve element 63, 63' or the flexible disc element 91) and a device (in form of the bottom strip unit 22 or the lateral face 68 of the inner sleeve elements 62 of the side support or the top disc element 92), each serving as a mechanical stop for a moveable mechanical part (in form of the top strip unit 20 or the outer sleeve element 64 or the bottom disc element 90), floatingly supported with the aid of the respective flexible part. The splitting of the respective fixing into a flexible element and a mechanical element, serving as a mechanical stop,

allows optimisation options, offering advantages. The material parameter and/or the form and/or the arrangement of the flexible element and the mechanical element serving as a stop can, for instance, be matched in such a way that

5 (i) the fixings exert an as low as possible force on the installed guide rail 1 and that (ii) high temporary interfering forces that can momentarily stress the guide rail or the respective fixing during operation, are absorbed by an element acting as a mechanical stop, if the

10 extent of the temporary interfering force exceeds a predetermined limit. Optimised fixings thus facilitate a floating mount of the guide rail 1 in such a way that, on one hand, the guide rail 1 can be highly stressed during operation but, on the other hand, is only subjected to low

15 holding forces in its basic state after installation. With the aid of the fixings of the present invention, these holding forces can be reduced to a considerably lower level than when using conventional prior art fixings. As, in addition, the guide rail 1 can be installed with the

20 fixings of the invention in such a way that no mechanical moment is exerted onto the guide rail, this provides the prerequisite for a particularly low resistance between the guide rail 1 and the fixings in the longitudinal direction of the guide rail. Such a fixing of the guide rail reduces

25 the danger of the guide rail being bent, when the point of the substrate 3 on which the guide rail 1 is fixed, is subjected to a change during continuous operation.

Obviously, embodiments of the fixings, in which the respective flexible are directly in contact with the guide

30 rail 1, are also possible. Modifications, in which the pressure and/or tension load of the respective flexible

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elements is limited by respectively arranged stop elements
are also feasible.

Claims

1. Procedure for attaching a guide rail (1),
characterised in that,
5 the guide rail (1) is attached to the substrate (3) via
a floating mount.
2. Procedure according to claim 1, characterised in that
the floating mount comprises at least one flexible
10 element (21, 21', 21'', 21''', 63, 63', 91) which is
deformed when the guide rail (1) is temporarily
subjected to an interfering force, and that at least one
mechanical stop (22, 68, 92) is arranged in such a way
that the movement of the guide rail is limited by the
15 stop, if the extent of the interfering force exceeds a
predetermined limit.
3. Procedure according to one of the claims 1 or 2,
characterised in that,
20 the guide rail (1) is installed at at least one base
support (2) with at least one flexible strip unit (21,
21', 21'', 21''')
- and/or
that a side of the rail base (13, 13') of the guide rail
25 (1) is mechanically fixed by at least one side support
(6, 6') with at least one flexible sleeve element (63,
63', ~~63''~~)
- and/or

that a rail back (12) of the guide rail (1) is mechanically fixed by at least one backside support (9, 9') with at least one flexible disc element (91) and at least one claw (8, 8').

5

4. Procedure according to claim 3, characterised in that the base support (2) is installed between the guide rail (1) and the substrate (3)

and/or

10 that the side support (6, 6') or the backside support (9, 9') or the claw (8, 8') is (are) installed on both sides in relation to the longitudinal extension of the guide rail (1).

15 5. Procedure according to claim 3 or 4, characterised in that

the guide rail (1) is positioned on an apex line of at least one top strip unit (20) with a crescent-shaped cross section

20 and/or

the side support (6, 6') is rested against the side of the rail base (13, 13') of the guide rail (1) in a pretensioned condition

and/or

25 that the backside support (9, 9') and the claw (8, 8') are placed on the rail back (12) of the guide rail (1) in a pretensioned condition.

6. Procedure according to one of the claims 3 to 5 ,
characterised in that a radial offset and angular offset
between the guide rail (1) and the floating mount are
compensated for or adjusted by compression or extension
5 of the flexible strip unit (21, 21', 21'', 21''') and/or
the flexible sleeve element (63, 63') and/or the
flexible disc element (91).

7. Device for attaching a guide rail (1),
10 characterised in that,
the guide rail (1) is secured to the base (3) via a
floating mount.

8. Device according to claim 7, characterised in that the
15 floating mount comprises the following:
(i) at least one flexible element (21, 21', 21'',
21''', 63, 63', 91), which is deformed if the guide
rail (1) is stressed by temporary interfering force
(ii) a mechanical stop (22, 68, 92) for limiting the
20 movement of the guide rail if the extent of the
interfering force exceeds a predetermined limit.

9. Device according to claim 7 or 8, characterised in that,
the device comprises at least one base support (2) with
25 at least one flexible strip unit (21, 21', 21'', 21'''),
and/or
that the device comprises at least one side support (6,
6') with at least one flexible sleeve element (63, 63')

and/or

that the device comprises at least one backside support (9, 9') with at least one flexible disc element (91) and at least one claw (8, 8').

5

10. Device according to one of the claims 7-9, characterised in that

the guide rail (1) is arranged on an apex line of at least one top strip unit (20) with a crescent-shaped cross section

10

and/or

the side support (6, 6') rests against the side of the rail base (13, 13') of the guide rail (1) in a pre-tensioned state

15

and/or

that the backside support (9, 9') and the claw (8, 8') rests on the rail back (12) of the guide rail (1) in a pre-tensioned state.

20 11. Device according to one of the claims 9-10, characterised in that the flexible strip unit (21, 21', 21'', 21''') and/or the flexible sleeve element (63, 63') and/or the flexible disc element (91) are compressible or extendible and compensate for and adjust any radial offset and angular offset between the guide rail (1) and the floating mount.

25

12. Device according to one of the claims 9 to 11, characterised in that the flexible strip unit (21, 21',

21'', 21''') and/or the flexible sleeve element (63, 63') and/or the flexible disc element (91) are made from flexible plastic or flexible rubber or flexible metal.