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The invention concerns an articulation means designed to provide a link between at least one end of a holding component such as a handle and a handbag or similar item of luggage, by means of a ring connecting the said wall of the bag, an eyelet wherein it is able to move freely so as to rotate.

The main inconvenience of this type of arrangement lies in the fact that the ring is closed upon itself in a known manner and is arranged to move freely and in all directions within the eyelet in the manner of two links of a chain. A rapid deterioration of the two contact surfaces of the ring and of the eyelet ensue leading not only to the esthetic deterioration of the assembly, but in the event of intense use sometimes leading to the ring breaking as a result of wear.

Such an inconvenience is understandably not tolerated by the manufacturers of that type of article and more particularly when dealing with luxury articles such as top of the range handbags for instance, which owe to themselves a particular performance in time to the satisfaction of the customer and at the same time to the brand image of the creator and manufacturer.

The aim of the present invention is to achieve this objective by finding a solution to the aforementioned problem.

For the purpose it concerns an articulation arrangement intended to ensure the link between at least one end of a prehension means such as a handle or the like and a hand-bag or similar item of baggage, by means of an eyelet linking the said wall of the bag, wherein it can freely move in rotation, characterised in that the connecting ring is initially open and has a means of subsequent closure consisting of a removable articulation pin allowing prior free insertion into a matching sheath which is secured inside the eyelet, for the purpose of the cooperation of its free ends with the corresponding ends of the open ring, after it has been placed as a rider on the edge of the wall of the bag opposite the eyelet.

In that way it will be easily understood that the articulation pin, is freely movable in an transverse direction only and no longer in all directions as previously known, thereby limiting the aforementioned deterioration. These will only occur inside the sheath in any case, thus being hence invisible and ineffective with regard to the outer appearance of the eyelet and of the ring. —

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REPLACEMENT SHEETS SG

- ☒ Description : paged 1 to paged 3
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— This is of a nature likely to preserve in time the good appearance of the bag.

In addition the removable pin serves as a wear component in itself and may be easily replaced if necessary without intervention regarding the other components.

5 The invention also concerns the characteristics which will appear during the course of the description which follows, and which must be considered alone or according to their possible technical combinations.

The description given as a non-restrictive example will allow a better understanding of the manner in which it is possible to achieve the invention
10 referred to in the appended drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of an articulation arrangement in position on a piece of luggage according to the invention.

Figure 2 shows a transverse section exploded view of the articulation arrangement in according to figure 1, forming a general assembly view of its
15 affixing to the bag.

Figure 3 shows a front view of part of the bag according to figure 2 before the fitting of the articulation arrangement.

Figure 4 shows a transverse sectional view of an articulation arrangement according to figure 2, after the affixing to the bag.

20 The hand-bag partly illustrated in the figures comprises at least a wall 1 on which a prehension component is intended to be fitted, in this case a handle 3, by means of an articulation arrangement 3 designed overall to cooperate with an eyelet 4 affixed to a wall 1 of the bag.

The articulation arrangement 3 comprises a ring 5 connecting the free end
25 of the handle 2 to the eyelet 4 in which it freely moves.

According to the invention the connection ring 5 is initially open 0 and has a means of subsequent closure which consists of a removable means of movement 6 which can previously be freely inserted into a matching sheath 7, affixed to the inside of the eyelet 4, with a view to cooperation of its free ends 6a, 6b with the
30 corresponding ends 5a, 5b of the open ring 5, after the latter has been placed as a rider on the edge of the wall of the bag opposite the eyelet 4.

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Preferably the pin 6 allowing movement and closure of the ring 5 upon itself is a pump shaft consisting of a tubular body 6c, of a length L effectively corresponding with that L' of the opening O of the ring 5 and inside which body is located a compression spring 8 having a push action F upon two opposing pins 6a and 6. These are located at each of its ends, and slide freely within the hollow body 6C, so that they may be collapsed inside it 6c to allow the insertion of the moving pin 6 in the aperture O of the open ring 5 after passing through the sheath 7 integral with an inner part 4a of the eyelet 4, to anchor in two matching housings 9 and 10 provided at the ends 5a, 5b of the said open ring 5, to assume their initial position once more.

To facilitate the rotation of the pin 6 upon itself inside the sheath 7 this is a length of cylindrical tubing having an internal diameter greater than the external diameter of the movement pin 6 it receives.

As shown in the illustrations and more particularly in figure 4 the sheath 7 is secured inside the eyelet 4 in an eccentric manner in the upper part.

The sheath 7 is secured to the eyelet 4 by means of spot welding 11. Obviously all other means such as bonding, or simultaneous forming of the sheath 7 by moulding, could be considered.

According to the present example of implementation the eyelet 4 consists of two parallel disks 4b, 4c clamping the wall 1 of the bag on each of its faces 1a, 1b and connected together by means of a central hollow cylindrical hub 4d of which the outer periphery 4e is intended to pass through a hole made in the wall 1 of the bag and of which the inner periphery 4f matches that of the eyelet 4a of the eyelet 4 on which the sheath is affixed.

Finally the total thickness L" of the eyelet 4, the length L" of the sheath 7 fitted therein, the length L of the movement pin 6 and the length L' of the opening O of the ring 5 are practically identical while allowing for the necessary clearance.

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CLAIMS

- 1) Articulation movement arrangement intended to ensure the link between at least one end of a prehension component such as a handle or the like (2) and a hand-bag or similar item of baggage, by way of a ring (5) connecting the said free end of the prehension component (2) with an eyelet (4) produced or affixed on a wall (1) of a bag, within which eyelet (4) it is able to move freely in rotation, characterised in that the linking ring (5) is initially open (0) and has a component for subsequent closure which consists of a removable movement pin (6) designed to be previously freely inserted in a matching sheath (7), affixed to the inside of the eyelet (4) so as that its free ends (6a, 6b) may cooperate with the matching ends (5a, 5b) of the open ring (5), after the latter has been placed as a rider on the edge of the wall (1) of the bag opposite the eyelet (4).
- 2) Articulation movement arrangement according to claim 1, characterised in that the articulation and closure pin (6) of the ring upon itself is a pump type pin consisting of a tubular body (6c) of length (L) effectively matching that (L') of the opening (0) of the ring (5), and within which body is located a compression spring (8) acting under compression (F) upon two opposing pins (6a, 6b) located at each of its ends and freely sliding within the hollow body (6c) in the opening (0) of the open ring (5), after having passed through the sheath (7) integral with an internal part (4q) of the eyelet (4) so as to anchor within two corresponding housings (9 & 10) provided in the ends (5a, 5b) of the said open ring (5), then resuming their initial position.
- 3) Articulation movement arrangement according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the sheath (7) is a length of cylindrical tube of which the internal diameter is greater than the external diameter of the articulation pin (6) it receives.

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- 4) Articulation movement arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the sheath (7) is secured inside the eyelet (4) in an eccentric manner, in the upper part thereof.
- 5) Articulation movement arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 4,
5 characterised in that the sheath (7) is secured inside the eyelet by welding (11).
- 6) Articulation movement arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the eyelet (4) consists of two parallel disks (4b, 4c) clamping the wall (1) of the bag on either face (1a, 1b) and connected together by means of a cylindrical central hub (4d) of which the external periphery (4e) is designed
10 to pass through a hole made in the wall (1) of the bag and of which the inner periphery (4f) matches that of (4a) of the eyelet (4) on which is located the sheath.
- 7) Articulation movement arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the total thickness (L'') of the eyelet (4), the length (L''')
15 of the sheath 7 housed therein, the length L of the articulation pin (6) and the length (L') of the opening (0) of the ring are practically identical which allowing for the necessary clearance.

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