

Description

This invention relates generally to a card-operated lock apparatus, and more particularly, to a lock apparatus operated by a magnetic card-key for controlling or enabling e.g. an electric switch, a door lock, etc.

This invention also relates to a module as a sub-assembly for such a card-operated lock apparatus.

For the purpose of the instant disclosure, it is meant that a "lock-mechanism" or "locking mechanism" is an assembly at least comprising a "bolt mechanism" or a "latch mechanism" and a "lock apparatus" controlling or allowing operation of the bolt or latch mechanism.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A well-received magnetic key operated lock apparatus used in conjunction with a door latch mechanism is that described in US-A-4,133,194. In the known device, a magnetic card key operates a conventional cylindrical door latch mechanism with substantially no modification required of the latch mechanism, in that a housing for the door latch mechanism contains magnetically operated elements mounted on the conventional spindle of the locking mechanism, forming what is called a "lockset". In use, a properly coded card key is inserted into a slot in the outer rim of the door knob which effects interconnection between the door knob with a conventional driver bar for opening the lockset parts.

Although the known device is satisfactory for most purposes, several disadvantages in use make improvement desirable. The necessary diameter of the knob used in the known device is substantially larger than that of most door knobs which makes rotation awkward when a short backset is used. The latter aspect makes the known device somewhat impractical for narrow stile doors of the aluminium and glass type which often utilize very short backsets.

Furthermore, the known apparatus was designed contemplating mainly doorknob-type locksets and therefore could not easily be adapted for lever or handle operation now being specified in many construction projects to meet handicapped person codes.

Still further, the known lock requires complete disassembly to change internal magnet pins for changing the lock code.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is a primary object and aim of both a first and a second aspect of the present invention to

provide a magnetic key operated lock apparatus which can activate various devices such as a door latch mechanism in which the lock apparatus is incorporated within a housing mounted directly on the outer surface of the door with an access slot for the card key extending downwardly and generally parallel to the major surface of the door.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a magnetic key operated locking mechanism which can utilize either a conventional knob or lever arm handle.

Yet another object is to provide a lock apparatus which may be fixedly mounted for key insertion either from top, bottom or either side for shielding the slot from the entry of foreign elements, dirt and water (if mounted outside) and/or for the convenient access of the user.

A further object is to provide a card key operated lock apparatus of small width for use on doors with short backsets.

A further object of the second aspect of the invention is the provision of a magnetic key operated lock apparatus which can be quickly and simply modified for changing a lock code.

According to the first aspect of the invention, the card-operated lock apparatus having a locking plate with a plurality of openings therethrough in a predetermined arrangement, a core located adjacent the locking plate including a plurality of openings therein in said predetermined arrangement, magnetizable pins located within at least certain of the core openings and having parts magnetically biased to extend into the locking plate openings preventing relative movement between the core and locking plate, wherein said pins are moved out of the locking plate openings on a card having coded magnetic areas being inserted on a first amount into alignment with the core, movement of the core into an unlock position corresponding to further card movement, is characterized by comprising :

- leaf spring means having a part thereof for contacting the core ; and
- impeller means carried by said core for contacting said leaf spring means for movement of the leaf spring means on movement of the core, said movement of said leaf spring means causing or allowing activation of an apparatus controlled by said lock-apparatus.

Thus, the core actuates or allows activation of the controlled apparatus, e.g. a switch or a door-latch mechanism, through the leaf-spring means acting as a transmission means. For example, insertion of a properly coded magnetic key performs interconnection of a door knob or handle with the door latch mechanism, and removal of the key allows or controls disconnection of the knob or handle from the latch mechanism.

The core no longer needs to actuate directly the controlled apparatus. This gives much more freedom in the design of the lock apparatus-controlled apparatus combination. Thus, there is also provided more freedom as to what kind of apparatus is controlled by the lock-apparatus. If the controlled apparatus is a door-latch or bolt mechanism, the card operated lock apparatus no longer needs to be integral with the door-knob and to rotate therewith. This is much more convenient.

Furthermore, the leaf-spring means limits the efforts to which the card-operated lock-apparatus may be subjected in use.

One example of the practice of the present invention as relating to a door locking mechanism is as follows : a housing is affixed to the door and includes a slot in top wall portion via which a coded card key can be inserted to bring into alignment coded magnetic areas on the card with magnetically responsive elements of the internal lock-apparatus in order to unlock the lock-apparatus and enable rotation of either a knob or lever arm to retract a latch or bolt to open the door. More particularly, on a properly coded card key being received within the housing slot, the card can then be moved further into the slot moving the leaf spring-means against a spline coupling to engage it with a spindle spline carried by a shaft interconnected with the knob or lever arm handle. The sliding spline coupling is integral with parts which interrelate with the door locking mechanism such that rotation of the knob or lever arm will now effect retraction of the door latching mechanism, e.g. a latch retractor. Spring-loaded members separate the spline coupling and spindle spline when the magnetic card key is withdrawn from the housing slot thus disengaging the handle or knob from the latch or bolt retractor.

According to the second aspect of the invention, there is provided a module for a card operated lock-apparatus according to the first aspect, said module comprising, unitarily assembled to form a sub-assembly for the lock apparatus :

- a locking plate including a plurality of openings therethrough in a predetermined arrangement ;
- a core located adjacent the locking plate and having a plurality of openings therein, said openings being in said predetermined arrangement ;
- magnetizable pins located within at least certain of the core openings, said pins being movable, in use, into and out of said locking plate openings to prevent and allow, respectively, movement of said core relative to said locking plate, said pins being moved out of said locking plate openings on insertion by a first amount of a card having coded magnetic

areas into a said lock apparatus, further movement of said card causing movement of said core to an unlock position ;

- leaf spring means mounted adjacent said core and impeller means carried by said core for causing movement of said leaf spring means when said core is moved relative to said locking plate ; and
- cam means pivotably mounted onto said core and having a first cam part for engagement by said card to releasably lock a second cam part against limit spring means for maintaining the core in said unlock position.

The lock-apparatus provided with such a module is more easily manufactured and allows quick and easy change of the lock code, because the code elements are contained in the removable module that can easily be replaced in the field by an unskilled person. Such coded modules can be mailed from manufacturer to user for quick replacement.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a complete coded card key locking mechanism and associated door latch hardware shown receiving a card key therein.

Figure 2 is a side elevational, sectional view, taken along the line 2-2 of Figure 1 showing the internal locking mechanism in the locked mode.

Figure 3 is a rear elevational, sectional view taken along the line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view similar to Figure 2 showing the locking mechanism in the unlocked mode.

Figure 5 is an enlarged sectional view of the means for maintaining unlocked condition of the locking mechanism before the card is inserted.

Figure 6 is a sectional view similar to figure 5 showing changes as the card is inserted.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the locking mechanism module shown removed from the lock mechanism housing.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Turning now to the drawing and particularly Figure 1, there is shown a magnetic coded card key operated locking mechanism to be described herein for mounting onto a door and enumerated generally as 10. More particularly, from the exterior the locking mechanism is seen to include a generally rectangular shaped housing 11 having a back surface for mounting flush to the door surface. The locking mechanism may be used with either a lever handle 12, or, optionally, a conventional knob shown schematically at 13.

As is more specifically described in U.S. Patent 4,077,242, METAL MAGNETIC KEY, by Bruce S. Sedley, the key, which is in the general form of a

card, has a predetermined arrangement of magnetic spots throughout its major area of a coded character which coact with apparatus in the internal locking mechanism for unlocking or releasing the locked condition of the door lockset.

An initial and important aspect of the described invention is that the card key 14 for unlocking the door is inserted through a slot 15 in a top wall of the housing 11 and that the key conveniently remains in this upright position throughout use so it cannot be easily inadvertently removed or displaced as can happen in certain known card operated devices where the cards are inserted through slotted knobs that are also turned. Although the housing is depicted and described as being located with slot at the top thereof, and there are certain advantages to such a location, the housing can readily be located to have the slot on a side, at the top or at the bottom. Also, as will be described, means are provided for maintaining the locking mechanism in unlocked mode once it has been unlocked and as long as the card remains inserted in the lock housing slot 15. These two features enable the entire apparatus to be handled by one hand since once the proper card is fully inserted, the same hand is then free to manipulate the knob or handle to open the door.

A still further advantageous feature of the present lock mechanism is that when it is in the locked mode, there are no mechanical linkages and interconnection between the door latch 16 and handle 12 so that even if the handle were severed from the front of the housing 11, the latch mechanism cannot be rotated from the front of the door. This provides what is termed a "high security" lock as opposed to the less secure "door knob" locks, for example. Although a latch 16 is shown, the mechanism operates with bolts and other locking devices in similar manner.

Turning now to Figure 2 showing a side elevational, sectional view of Figure 1, the housing 11 is seen to have a unitary front wall 17 and two side walls with an open back which is enclosed by rear plate 18. At what is the lower end of the lock housing when mounted on a door, there is a hollow cylindrical member 18' extending outwardly and inwardly of the housing front wall 17 and through which the handle spindle 39 and associated parts are mounted.

A magnetic card key 14 on being inserted through slot 15 passes between a pair of plates 19 and 20 arranged in facing relation. More particularly, the cover plate 20 is fixedly located over a so-called lock plate 21 to present a substantially flat surface along which one major surface of the card 14 can slide during card insertion. The shield plate 19 is resiliently urged toward the cover plate 20 by a leaf spring 22 located between a front

module cover 23 and the shield plate.

An elongated platelike actuator or core 24 is slidably mounted onto a module back plate 25 enabling movement of the core from an uppermost position in which a flange 26 abuts against the lower end of the plates 20 and 21, to a second or lower position in which the flange is substantially spaced from the lower end of the plates (Figure 4). The core has a plurality of openings 27 extending transversely into the core and at substantially 90 degrees to plate 21, which openings receive magnetically movable pins 28 in an arrangement and number depending upon the particular code of the lock. In the locked mode, the pins 28 extend into openings 29 in the lock plate 21 which prevents relative movement of the core with respect to the lock plate. When the properly coded card 14 is fully inserted between the plates 19 and 20, magnetic areas on the card cause those pins 28 in registry with the card magnetic areas to move axially to the bottom of the receiving openings 27 (i.e., in a direction away from plates 20 and 21) and out of corresponding openings in the lock plate 21 permitting the core to move from its upper position to its lower or released position. A coil spring 29' interconnected between the module back plate 25 and the core 24 tends to resiliently urge the core to its uppermost position or locked position acting in use to reset the locking mechanism to the locked mode upon removal of the card.

An impeller 30 on the rear surface of the core 24 (facing plate 18) has a downwardly directed beveled cam surface 31 which continuously engages an end portion 32 of a leaf spring 33. As can be seen best on comparison of Figures 2 and 3, the spring 33 is elongate with its lower edge formed into a yoke 34. The central part of the spring has an opening 35 through which the spring 29' extends, the lower edge of the opening being bent to form the end portion 32 which lies flat against the cam surface 31. Two elongated limit spring portions 36 and 37 extend downwardly from the top edge of spring 33, one at each side of the spring central portion and each terminating in a flanged end 36 (Figures 5 and 6). The upper edge of spring 33 is notched and secured to module back plate 25 by threaded means 38 so as to extend generally parallel to the back plate and core.

Again referring to Figure 2, the door handle 12 is secured to a hollow cylindrical spindle 39 by an internal bolt 40 and external nut 41, the spindle being rotatively journaled within the housing cylindrical fitting 18'. A spindle spline 42 having longitudinally extending splines on its outer surface is press fit within a receiving opening in and axially aligned with spindle 39 while leaving a substantial end portion of the spline extending outwardly there-

from. An alignment rod 43 extends from the outer end of spline 42 along the spline cylindrical axis and is received within an axial opening of lock spline driver 44, the outer end of the latter identified as at 45 interconnecting with the door latch-retractor (not shown). The rod 43 rotates freely in the lock spline driver 44 and does not transfer an actuating force to the door latch mechanism.

A hollow coupling spindle 46 has an internal set of longitudinally extending splines which can mesh with the splines of the spindle 42. The outer end of the coupling 46 is formed to a reduced diametral portion of such dimensions as to enable receipt of the leaf spring yoke 34 thereabout. A compression spring 47 located within a guide tube 48 received about the coupling 46 urges the two apart in a direction generally along their common cylindrical axis.

A torsion spring 49 received on guide tube 48 acts to return the handle 12 to a predetermined initial position after the handle has been rotated to open the door, for example.

The outward end 63 of the spring 49 is fixed to the upper flange of guide tube 48 in hole 64. The flange can be rotatably fixed in various positions to bias the spring 49 either right or left. The opposite end 62 of spring 49 is fixed to the stop washer 61 in hole 65. The stop washer limits the rotation of handle spindle 39 and is fixed to it. Limit stop post 66 is affixed to housing 11.

With reference now to both Figures 2 and 4, it is seen that movement of the core 24 to its lowermost (released position) moves the cam surface 31 against the leaf spring end portion 32 causing spring yoke 34 to drive the coupling spline 46 into meshing engagement with the spindle spline 42. Now, there is a direct driving relationship between the handle 12 and the lock spline driver 44 enabling actuation of the door latch mechanism to open the door.

On the core moving upwardly again from the Figure 4 position to that of Figure 2, as happens when the card is removed, the reaction of the compression spring 47 moves the coupling spline out of engagement with the spindle spline which once again institutes the locked mode. The handle 12 is free to rotate, returning to its first position by spring 49. If knob 13 is installed instead of a handle, spring 49 is not used, stop washer 61 is replaced with a spacer washer without stop and the knob freely spins in either direction.

By the use of a leaf spring as the drive linkage between core movement and the coupling spline 46, in the event that the splines on the coupling do not mesh with the splines on the spindle 42 (i.e., the splines bottom on each other), the leaf spring deforms a slight amount but maintains pressure so that even a very slight movement of the handle will

quickly establish meshing between the two splines. The leaf spring does not retain a set even though held in stressed position.

For the ensuing description of the means for maintaining the internal mechanism in the unlocked or released mode as long as the card 14 is in slot 15, reference is additionally made to Figure 3 which is a rear elevational, sectional view of the apparatus of Figure 2 and detail Figures 5 and 6. First and second stub shafts 50 and 51 are affixed to the sidewalls of the core 24 to extend generally parallel to plates 20 and 21. Each of the stub shafts has a pivotally mounted cam 52 and 53 respectively mounted thereon, each of which includes a camming surface 54 and a hook-like locking portion 55. Openings in plates 19, 20 and 21 admit the camming surface 54 therethrough for contacting engagement with a card 14 inserted between plates 19 and 20 which serves to move the two hooked end portions 55 toward leaf spring arms 36 and 37 for a purpose to be described.

As the card 14 moves through the slot 15 and between the plates 19 and 20, it engages the camming surfaces 54 of cams 52 and 53 moving the hook ends 55 toward the limit springs 36 and 37 as seen best in Figure 6 for example. When the card abuts the core flange 26 and moves it downward, the core and cams are carried under the flanged ends 56 of limit springs 36 and 37 deflecting these springs a certain amount as indicated by the dash lines in Figure 6. When the core flange 26 is bottomed in the lock mechanism the cam hook ends 55 engage the flanged ends 56 of the limit springs. As long as the proper card has been inserted to unlock the mechanism and it remains in place between the plates 19 and 20, the cams are held in position due to the thickness of the card blocking the cam slots in plates 19, 20 and 21. The core is therefore locked in the position which holds the splines 42 and 46 meshed with one another and, therefore, the door remains unlocked. When the card is withdrawn out of engagement with the cam surfaces 54, the core return spring 29' which has been exerting a pull on the core can now begin to retract the core back to locked position. In so moving, the cams are forced by the limit spring arms 36 and 37 to rotate once more into the space between the plates 19, 20 and 21 which releases the cam hook ends 55 from engagement with the flanged ends 56 of the limit springs. Now, the spring 29' continues to move the core upwardly which, in turn, pulls the beveled impeller 30 and cam surface 31 away from end portion 32 of leaf spring 33. Yoke 34 rises allowing coil spring 47 to push coupling spline 46 out of engagement with spindle spline 42 establishing the locking mode of the lock mechanism once again.

The various parts of the card lock mechanism

including leaf spring and cams utilized for meshing the splines 42 and 46 to establish the released and locked modes, respectively, are assembled into a unitary module 57 as shown in Figure 7. This module includes a module front cover 23, spring 22, plates 19, 20, 21, core 24 carrying code magnets 28 in recesses 27, side cams 52 and 53, module back plate 25, leaf spring 33 and coil spring 29, all held together by threaded means 38 and 58 (Figure 2). Moreover, the module is so dimensioned as to fit snugly within housing 11 with the slot 15 aligned with the space between plates 19 and 20. The module 57 is retained in position in the housing 11 by registration pins 59 in aligned holes 60 in module front cover 23, and by the rear plate 18. The modular construction not only makes manufacturing assembly easier but also permits ready replacement in the field of the coded device.

A desirable feature of the module 57 is that by removing the leaf spring 33, core spring 29 and two screws 58, the coded core 24 can be removed for replacement of magnetic locking pins 28 without further disassembly of the remaining parts of the module 57.

The example described of the module 57 interacting with other components to function with door locking devices is just one embodiment of the use of the module. Equally useful is the modules' ability to actuate electric switch means as depicted in Figure 7 wherein the leaf spring 33 is directly in contact with electric switch means 66 to actuate the same. The module's ability to retain either locked or unlocked modes provides both "ON" and "OFF" switch functions depending on the card key's presence in the module.

It is therefore within the scope of this invention that its utility is not limited to door locks but to other mechanical and electrical devices requiring a card key operated actuation where such actuation is to continue as long as the card key remains in the module.

Claims

1. A card-operated lock apparatus having a locking plate (21) with a plurality of openings (29) therethrough in a predetermined arrangement, a core (24) located adjacent the locking plate (21) including a plurality of openings (27) therein in said predetermined arrangement, magnetizable pins (28) located within at least certain of the core openings (27) and having parts magnetically biased to extend into the locking plate openings (29) preventing relative movement between the core (24) and locking plate (21), wherein said pins (28) are moved out of the locking plate openings (29) on a card (14) having coded magnetic areas being inserted on a first amount into alignment with the core (24), movement of the core (24) into an unlock position corresponding to further card movement, characterized by comprising :
 - leaf spring means (33) having a part (32) thereof for contacting the core (24) ; and
 - impeller means (30) carried by said core (24) for contacting said leaf spring means for movement of the leaf spring means on movement of the core, said movement of said leaf spring means causing or allowing activation of an apparatus controlled by said lock-apparatus.
2. Apparatus as in claim 1, in which there is further provided cam means (52, 53) pivotally mounted onto said core (24) and having a first cam part (54) for engagement by said card (14) to releasably lock a second cam part (55) against limit spring means (36, 37) for maintaining the core (24) in the unlock position until the card (14) is being withdrawn from the apparatus.
3. Apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the controlled apparatus includes an actuator spindle-spline (42) selectively meshing with a coupling spline (46) and wherein said leaf spring means (33) is a transmission means between said impeller means (30) and said coupling spline (46) to effect meshing and unmeshing of the coupling spline (46) with the actuator spindle spline (42) depending upon the direction of core (24) movement.
4. Apparatus as in claim 3, in which the leaf spring means includes a yoke (24) that is received about the coupling spline (46).
5. Apparatus as in claim 3 or 4, in which the leaf spring means (33) resiliently urges the coupling spline (46) toward the spindle spline (42) enabling limited rotation of said spindle spline (42) about the spline axis to aid meshing.
6. Apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the controlled apparatus comprises electric switch means (67) actuated to a first connective aspect on said card (14) further movement and actuated to a second connective aspect when the card (14) is removed from the lock apparatus.
7. Apparatus as in anyone of claims 1 - 5, in which the impeller means (30) moves the leaf spring means (33) transversely of the core movement direction relative to the locking plate (21).

including leaf spring and cams utilized for meshing the splines 42 and 46 to establish the released and locked modes, respectively, are assembled into a unitary module 57 as shown in Figure 7. This module includes a module front cover 23, spring 22, plates 19, 20, 21, core 24 carrying code magnets 28 in recesses 27, side cams 52 and 53, module back plate 25, leaf spring 33 and coil spring 29', all held together by threaded means 38 and 58 (Figure 2). Moreover, the module is so dimensioned as to fit snugly within housing 11 with the slot 15 aligned with the space between plates 19 and 20. The module 57 is retained in position in the housing 11 by registration pins 59 in aligned holes 60 in module front cover 23, and by the rear plate 18. The modular construction not only makes manufacturing assembly easier but also permits ready replacement in the field of the coded device.

A desirable feature of the module 57 is that by moving the leaf spring 33, core spring 29' and two screws 58, the coded core 24 can be removed for replacement of magnetic locking pins 28 without further disassembly of the remaining parts of the module 57.

The example described of the module 57 interacting with other components to function with door locking devices is just one embodiment of the use of the module. Equally useful is the modules' ability to actuate electric switch means as depicted in Figure 7 wherein the leaf spring 33 is directly in contact with electric switch means 66 to actuate the same. The module's ability to retain either locked or unlocked modes provides both "ON" and "OFF" switch functions depending on the card key's presence in the module.

It is therefore within the scope of this invention that its utility is not limited to door locks but to other mechanical and electrical devices requiring a card key operated actuation where such actuation is to continue as long as the card key remains in the module.

Claims

1. A card-operated lock apparatus having a locking plate (21) with a plurality of openings (29) therethrough in a predetermined arrangement, a core (24) located adjacent the locking plate (21) including a plurality of openings (27) therein in said predetermined arrangement, magnetizable pins (28) located within at least certain of the core openings (27) and having parts magnetically biased to extend into the locking plate openings (29) preventing relative movement between the core (24) and locking plate (21), wherein said pins (28) are moved out of the locking plate openings (29) on a card (14) having coded magnetic areas being

inserted on a first amount into alignment with the core (24), movement of the core (24) into an unlock position corresponding to further card movement, characterized by comprising :

- leaf spring means (33) having a part (32) thereof for contacting the core (24) ; and
- impeller means (30) carried by said core (24) for contacting said leaf spring means for movement of the leaf spring means on movement of the core, said movement of said leaf spring means causing or allowing activation of an apparatus controlled by said lock-apparatus.

2. Apparatus as in claim 1, in which there is further provided cam means (52, 53) pivotally mounted onto said core (24) and having a first cam part (54) for engagement by said card (14) to releasably lock a second cam part (55) against limit spring means (36, 37) for maintaining the core (24) in the unlock position until the card (14) is being withdrawn from the apparatus.
3. Apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the controlled apparatus includes an actuator spindle-spline (42) selectively meshing with a coupling spline (46) and wherein said leaf spring means (33) is a transmission means between said impeller means (30) and said coupling spline (46) to effect meshing and unmeshing of the coupling spline (46) with the actuator spindle spline (42) depending upon the direction of core (24) movement.
4. Apparatus as in claim 3, in which the leaf spring means includes a yoke (24) that is received about the coupling spline (46).
5. Apparatus as in claim 3 or 4, in which the leaf spring means (33) resiliently urges the coupling spline (46) toward the spindle spline (42) enabling limited rotation of said spindle spline (42) about the spline axis to aid meshing.
6. Apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the controlled apparatus comprises electric switch means (67) actuated to a first connective aspect on said card (14) further movement and actuated to a second connective aspect when the card (14) is removed from the lock apparatus.
7. Apparatus as in anyone of claims 1 - 5, in which the impeller means (30) moves the leaf spring means (33) transversely of the core movement direction relative to the locking plate (21).



8. Apparatus as in claim 7, in which the impeller means (30) includes a beveled surface (31) which contacts the leaf spring means (33) for moving said leaf spring means.
9. Apparatus as in claim 2, in which the limit spring means (36, 37) is integral with said leaf spring means (33).
10. Apparatus as in claim 2 or 9 in which the locking plate (21), core (24), cam means (52, 53), magnetizable pins (28), leaf spring means (33), limit spring means (36, 37), and impeller means (30) are unitarily assembled to form a module.
11. Apparatus as in claim 10 in which said module further includes a front plate (23) and a backplate (25) and said leaf spring means (33) are secured to the backplate (25).
12. Apparatus as in claim 11, in which there is further provided coil spring means (29') interconnecting the core (24) and backplate (25) for resiliently urging the core (24) and impeller means (30) in a direction to return the core (24) away from the unlock position.
13. Apparatus as in any of claims 10 - 12, in which the leaf spring means (33), limit spring means (36, 37), coil spring means, cam means (52, 53) and core (24) are removable from the module without disassembling remaining module parts.
14. Apparatus as in any of claims 3 - 5 in which unmeshing of the coupling spline (46) and spindle spline (42) is effected by reactive force of a spring means (47).
15. Apparatus as in any of claims 3 - 5 and 14 in which a further spring (49) is connected to the spindle spline (42) continuously urging said spindle spline (42) to a predetermined angular position.
16. Apparatus as in claim 15, in which a stop washer (61) on the spindle spline (42) limits angular travel of the spindle spline (42) responsive to spring urging.
17. Apparatus as in any of claims 1, 3 - 5 and 14 - 16, in which the spindle spline (42) is free from mechanical connection with the coupling spline (46) when the card (14) is removed from the lock apparatus.
18. Apparatus as in any of claims 1 - 17, wherein

the controlled apparatus is a door release mechanism, said apparatus including a housing (11) for mounting on the door outer surface, said housing (11) having a slot (15) for insertion of said card (14).

19. Apparatus as in claim 18, in which the housing slot (15) is located so that the card (14) on being inserted therein moves generally downwardly.
20. Apparatus as in claim 18 or 19, in which the slot (15) and core (24) are so arranged that when the card (14) is inserted in said slot (15) the card major surface is substantially parallel to the door major surface.
21. A module for a card operated lock apparatus as in claim 2 or 9, said module comprising, unitarily assembled to form a sub-assembly for the lock apparatus :
 - a locking plate (21) including a plurality of openings (29) therethrough in a predetermined arrangement ;
 - a core (24) located adjacent the locking plate (21) and having a plurality of openings (27) therein, said openings (27) being in said predetermined arrangement ;
 - magnetizable pins (28) located within at least certain of the core openings (27), said pins (28) being movable, in use, into and out of said locking plate openings (29) to prevent and allow, respectively, movement of said core (24) relative to said locking plate (21), said pins (28) being moved out of said locking plate openings (29) on insertion by a first amount of a card (14) having coded magnetic areas into a said lock apparatus, further movement of said card causing movement of said core (24) to an unlock position ;
 - leaf spring means (33) mounted adjacent said core (24) and impeller means (30) carried by said core (24) for causing movement of said leaf spring means (33) when said core (24) is moved relative to said locking plate (21) ; and
 - cam means (52, 53) pivotably mounted onto said core (24) and having a first cam part (54) for engagement by said card (14) to releasably lock a second cam part (55) against limit spring means (36, 37) for maintaining the core in said unlock position.
22. Module as in claim 21 in which said module further includes a front plate (23) and a back-



plate (25) and said leaf spring means (33) are secured to the backplate (25).

23. Module as in claim 22, in which there is further provided coil spring means (29') interconnecting the core (24) and backplate (25) for resiliently urging the core (24) and impeller means (30) in a direction to return the core (24) away from the unlock position.

24. Module as in any of claims 21 - 23, in which the leaf spring means (33), limit spring means (36, 37), coil spring means, cam means (52, 53) and core (24) are removable from the module without disassembling remaining module parts.

Patentansprüche

Mit einer Karte betätigbare Schließvorrichtung mit einem Schließblech (21), durch das in einer vorbestimmten Anordnung mehrere Öffnungen (29) hindurchführen, einem Kern (24), der angrenzend an das Schließblech (21) angeordnet ist und mehrere Öffnungen (27) in der vorbestimmten Anordnung aufweist, magnetisierbaren Stiften (28), die in mindestens einigen Kernöffnungen (27) angeordnet sind und Teile aufweisen, die so vormagnetisiert sind, daß sie sich in die Schließblechöffnungen (29) erstrecken und eine relative Bewegung zwischen dem Kern (24) und dem Schließblech (21) verhindern, wobei die Stifte (28) von einer kodierten magnetische Bereiche aufweisenden Karte (14), die um eine erste Strecke in Ausrichtung auf den Kern (24) eingeschoben wird, aus den Schließblechöffnungen (29) bewegt werden, wobei eine Bewegung des Kerns (24) in eine aufgeschlossene Position einer weiteren Kartenbewegung entspricht, gekennzeichnet durch

- ein Blattfedermittel (33), das mit einem Teil (32) zum Berühren des Kerns (24) versehen ist, und
- ein von dem Kern (24) gehaltenes Antriebsmittel (30) zum Berühren des Blattfedermittels zu dessen Bewegen bei einem Bewegen des Kerns, wobei das Bewegen des Blattfedermittels die Aktivierung eines von der Schließvorrichtung gesteuerten Geräts verursacht oder ermöglicht.

2. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, in der ferner schwenkbar auf den Kern (24) zungelagerte Nockenmittel (52, 53) vorgesehen sind, die einen ersten Nockenteil (54) zur Einwirkung durch die Karte (14) enthalten, damit ein zweiter Nockenteil (55) gegen Begrenzungsfeder-

mittel (36, 37) lösbar verrastet, um den Kern (24) in der aufgeschlossenen Position zu halten, bis die Karte (14) auf dem Gerät herausgezogen wird.

3. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, bei welcher das gesteuerte Gerät eine Antriebskeilwelle (42) enthält, die in ausgewählter Weise mit einer Kupplungskeilnabe (46) in Eingriff steht, und bei welcher das Blattfedermittel (33) ein Übertragungsmittel zwischen dem Antriebsmittel (30) und der Kupplungskeilnabe (46) ist, um das Ineingriffkommen und das Außereingriffkommen der Kupplungskeilnabe (46) mit der Antriebskeilwelle (42) in Abhängigkeit von der Bewegungsrichtung des Kerns (24) zu bewirken.

4. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 3, bei welcher das Blattfedermittel einen Bügel (24) enthält, der von der Kupplungskeilnabe (46) aufgenommen ist.

5. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 3 oder 4, bei welcher das Blattfedermittel (33) die Kupplungskeilnabe (46) elastisch gegen die Keilwelle (42) drückt, wobei eine begrenzte Drehung der Keilwelle (42) um die Keilwellenachse zur Unterstützung des Ineingriffkommens ermöglicht wird.

6. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, bei welcher das gesteuerte Gerät elektrische Schaltmittel (67) enthält, die bei der weiteren Bewegung der Karte (14) in einen ersten Verbindungsaspekt und bei einem Entfernen der Karte (14) aus der Schließvorrichtung in einen zweiten Verbindungsaspekt betätigbar sind.

7. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, bei welcher das Antriebsmittel (30) das Blattfedermittel (33) quer zur Kernbewegungsrichtung relativ zu dem Schließblech (21) bewegt.

8. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 7, bei welcher das Antriebsmittel (30) eine abgeschrägte Fläche (31) aufweist, die das Blattfedermittel (33) berührt, um es zu bewegen.

9. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 2, bei welcher die Begrenzungsfedermittel (36, 37) einstückig mit dem Blattfedermittel (33) verbunden sind.

10. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 2 oder 9, bei welcher das Schließblech (21), der Kern (24), die Nockenmittel (52, 53), die magnetisierbaren Stifte (28), das Blattfedermittel (33), die Be-



begrenzungsfedermittel (36, 37) und das Antriebsmittel (30) zu einer Einheit zusammengefügt sind, die ein Modul bildet.

11. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 10, bei welcher das Modul außerdem eine vordere Platte (23) und eine hintere Platte (25) aufweist, wobei das Blattfedermittel (33) an der hinteren Platte (25) befestigt ist.

12. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 11, bei welcher außerdem ein Schraubenfedermittel (29') vorgesehen ist, das den Kern (24) und die hintere Platte (25) miteinander verbindet, um den Kern (24) und das Antriebsmittel (30) elastisch in eine Richtung zum Zurückführen des Kerns (24) weg von der aufgeschlossenen Stellung zu drücken.

13. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 10 bis 12, bei welcher das Blattfedermittel (33), die Begrenzungsfedermittel (36, 37), das Schraubenfedermittel, die Nockenmittel (52, 53) und der Kern (24) aus dem Modul ohne Zerlegen der übrigen Modulteile entnehmbar sind.

14. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 3 bis 5, bei welcher das Außereingriffkommen der Kupplungskeilnabe (46) und der Keilwelle (42) durch die Reaktionskraft eines Federmittels (47) bewirkt wird.

15. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 3 bis 5 und 14, bei welcher eine weitere Feder (49) mit der Keilwelle (42) verbunden ist und diese ständig in eine vorbestimmte Winkelposition drückt.

16. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 15, bei welcher auf der Keilwelle (42) eine Anschlagscheibe (61) angebracht ist, die die durch die Federbeaufschlagung hervorgerufene Winkelbewegung der Keilwelle (42) begrenzt.

17. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 1, 3 bis 5 und 14 bis 16, bei welcher die Keilwelle (42) keine mechanische Verbindung mit der Kupplungskeilnabe (46) aufweist, wenn die Karte (14) aus der Schließvorrichtung herausgenommen ist.

18. Vorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 17, bei welcher das gesteuerte Gerät ein Türfreigabemechanismus ist, der ein Gehäuse (11) zum Befestigen an der Türaußenfläche aufweist, wobei das Gehäuse (11) einen Schlitz (15) zum Einschleiben der Karte (14) aufweist.

19. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 18, bei welcher der Gehäuseschlitz (15) so angeordnet ist, daß sich die Karte (14) beim Einschleiben allgemein in Abwärtsrichtung bewegt.

20. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 18 oder 19, bei welcher der Schlitz (15) und der Kern (24) so angeordnet sind, daß die Hauptfläche der Karte im wesentlichen parallel zur Hauptfläche der Tür verläuft, wenn die Karte (14) in den Schlitz (15) eingeschoben wird.

21. Modul für eine kartenbetätigte Schließvorrichtung nach Anspruch 2 oder 9, wobei das Modul in einheitlichem Zusammenbau zur Bildung einer Teilbaugruppe der Schließvorrichtung folgendes enthält;

- ein schließblech (21), durch das mehrere Öffnungen (29) in einer vorbestimmten Anordnung hindurchführen;
- einen angrenzend an das Schließblech (21) angeordneten Kern (24), der mehrere Öffnungen (27) aufweist, die in der vorbestimmten Anordnung angebracht sind;
- magnetisierbare Stifte (28), die in mindestens einigen Kernöffnungen (27) angebracht sind, wobei diese Stifte (28) bei der Anwendung in die und aus den Schließblechöffnungen (29) beweglich sind, damit eine Bewegung des Kerns (24) relativ zu dem Schließblech (21) verhindert bzw. erlaubt wird, wobei die Stifte (28) aus den Schließblechöffnungen (29) bewegt werden, wenn eine Karte (14), die kodierte magnetische Bereiche aufweist, um eine erste Strecke in die Schließvorrichtung eingeschoben wird, wobei eine weitere Bewegung der Karte ein Bewegen des Kerns (24) in eine offene Stellung verursacht;
- ein angrenzend an den Kern (24) angebrachtes Blattfedermittel (33) und ein von dem Kern (24) gehaltenes Antriebsmittel (30) zur Verursachung einer Bewegung des Blattfedermittels (33), wenn der Kern (24) relativ zu dem Schließblech (21) bewegt wird;
- Nockenmittel (52, 53), die schwenkbar auf den Kern (24) gelagert sind und einen ersten Nockenteil (54) zur Einwirkung durch die Karte (14) aufweisen, damit ein zweiter Nockenteil (55) gegen Begrenzungsfedermittel (36, 37) lösbar verrastet wird, um den Kern in der offenen Stellung zu halten.

22. Modul nach Anspruch 21, das ferner eine vor-



dere Platte (23) und eine hintere Platte (25) aufweist, wobei das Blattfedermittel (33) an der hinteren Platte (25) befestigt ist.

23. Modul nach Anspruch 22, welches ferner ein Schraubenfedermittel (29') enthält, das den Kern (24) und die hintere Platte (25) miteinander verbindet, den Kern (24) und das Antriebsmittel (30) elastisch in eine Richtung zum Zurückführen des Kerns (24) weg von der offenen Stellung zu drücken.

24. Modul nach einem der Ansprüche 21 bis 23, in welchem das Blattfedermittel (33), die Begrenzungsfedermittel (36, 37), das Schraubenfedermittel, die Nockenmittel (52, 53) und der Kern (24) ohne zerlegen der übrigen Modulteile aus dem Modul entnommen werden können.

Revendications

1. Appareil de verrouillage manoeuvré par une carte, comportant une plaque de verrouillage (21) qui présente une pluralité d'ouvertures (29) qui la traversent dans une disposition prédéterminée, un noyau (24) qui est situé près de la plaque de verrouillage (21) et présente une pluralité d'ouvertures (27) qui sont dans ladite disposition prédéterminée, des goupilles magnétisables (28) qui sont situées dans au moins certaines des ouvertures (27) du noyau et qui présentent des parties magnétiquement contraintes à s'étendre dans les ouvertures (29) de la plaque de verrouillage, empêchant ainsi le mouvement relatif entre le noyau (24) et la plaque de verrouillage (21), lesdites goupilles (28) étant extraites hors des ouvertures (29) de la plaque de verrouillage lorsque l'on insère une carte (14), qui présente des zones magnétiques codées, pour qu'elle vienne, dans une première étape, en alignement avec le noyau (24), le mouvement effectué par le noyau (24) dans une position déverrouillée correspondant à la suite du mouvement de la carte, caractérisé en ce qu'il comporte :

- un moyen formant ressort à lame (33) dont une partie (32) vient en contact avec le noyau (24) ; et
- un moyen formant poussoir (30) porté par ledit noyau (24) pour venir en prise avec ledit moyen formant ressort à lame pour déplacer le moyen formant ressort à lame d'après le mouvement du noyau, ledit mouvement dudit moyen formant ressort à lame entraînant ou permettant l'actionnement d'un appareil contrôlé par ledit appareil de verrouillage.

2. Appareil selon la revendication 1, dans lequel sont en outre prévus des moyens formant came (52, 53) montés, avec possibilité de pivotement, sur ledit noyau (24) et présentant une première partie formant came (54) sur laquelle vient en prise ladite carte (14) pour bloquer, avec possibilité de déblocage, une seconde partie formant came (55) contre des moyens formant ressort de butée (36, 37) pour maintenir le noyau (24) dans sa position déverrouillée aussi longtemps que la carte (14) se trouve dans l'appareil.

3. Appareil selon les revendications 1 ou 2, dans lequel l'appareil contrôlé comporte un ténon cannelé de commande (42) s'engrenant sélectivement avec les cannelures d'une broche d'accouplement (46) et dans lequel ledit moyen formant ressort à lame (33) est un moyen de transmission entre le moyen formant poussoir (30) et la broche d'accouplement (46) pour réaliser l'engrènement et le désengrènement de la broche d'accouplement (46) avec le tenon cannelé de commande (42) selon le sens du mouvement du noyau (24).

4. Appareil selon la revendication 3, dans lequel le moyen formant ressort à lame présente une chape (24) qui vient se loger autour de la broche d'accouplement (46).

5. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 3 ou 4, dans lequel le moyen formant ressort à lame (33) pousse élastiquement la broche d'accouplement (46) en direction du tenon (42), permettant ainsi une rotation limitée de ladite broche d'accouplement (42) autour de l'axe de tenon pour faciliter l'engrènement.

6. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 1 ou 2, dans lequel l'appareil contrôlé comporte un moyen de commutation électrique (67) manoeuvré lors de la poursuite du mouvement de la carte (14) pour prendre un premier aspect de commutation et manoeuvré pour prendre un second aspect de commutation, lorsque l'on sort la carte (14) hors de l'appareil.

7. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 1 à 5, dans lequel le moyen formant poussoir (30) déplace le moyen formant ressort (33) dans la direction transversale à la direction du mouvement du noyau par rapport à la plaque de verrouillage (21).

8. Appareil selon la revendication 7, dans lequel le moyen formant poussoir (30) présente une surface chanfreinée (31) qui vient en contact



avec le moyen formant ressort à lame (33) pour déplacer ledit moyen formant ressort à lame.

9. Appareil selon la revendication 2, dans lequel les moyens formant ressort de butée (36, 37) sont solidarisés avec les moyens formant ressort à lame (33). 5
10. Appareil selon les revendications 2 ou 9, dans lequel la plaque de verrouillage (21), le noyau (24), les moyens formant came (52, 53), les goupilles magnétisables (28), le moyen formant ressort à lame (33), les moyens formant ressort de butée (36, 37) et le moyen formant poussoir (30) sont assemblés unitairement pour former un module. 10
11. Appareil selon la revendication 10, dans lequel ledit module comporte de plus une plaque avant (23) et une plaque arrière (25) et dans lequel ledit moyen formant ressort à lame (33) est fixé à la plaque arrière (25). 15
12. Appareil selon la revendication 11, dans lequel il est en outre prévu un moyen formant ressort hélicoïdal (29) interconnectant le noyau (24) de la plaque arrière (25) pour pousser élastiquement le noyau (24) et le moyen formant poussoir (30) dans la direction qui rappelle le noyau (24) à sa position verrouillée. 20
13. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 10 à 12 dans lequel on peut sortir hors du module le moyen formant ressort à lame (33), les moyens formant ressort de butée (36, 37), le moyen formant ressort hélicoïdal, les moyens de came (52, 53) et le noyau (24) sans démonter les autres pièces du module. 25
14. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 3 à 5, dans lequel le désengrènement de la broche d'accouplement (46) et du tenon (42) se fait sous l'action de la force de rappel d'un moyen formant ressort (47). 30
15. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 3 à 5 et 14 dans lequel un autre ressort (49) est connecté au tenon (42) et pousse continuellement ledit tenon (42) dans une direction angulaire prédéterminée. 35
16. Appareil selon la revendication 15, dans lequel une rondelle de butée (61) placée sur le tenon (42) limite le déplacement du tenon (42) sous la contrainte du ressort. 40
17. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 1, 3 à 45

5 et 14 à 16 dans lequel le tenon (42) est libéré de toute connexion mécanique avec la broche d'accouplement (46) lorsque la carte (14) est sortie hors de l'appareil de verrouillage.

18. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 1 à 17, dans lequel l'appareil contrôlé est un mécanisme de déblocage d'une porte, ledit appareil comportant un boîtier (11) pour le montage sur la surface extérieure de la porte, ledit boîtier (11) ayant une fente (15) pour insérer ladite carte (14). 50
19. Appareil selon la revendication 18, dans lequel la fente du boîtier (15) est placée de façon telle que, lorsque l'on y insère la carte (14), elle se déplace généralement vers le bas. 55
20. Appareil selon l'une des revendications 18 ou 19, dans lequel la fente (15) et le noyau (24) sont disposés de façon telle que, lorsque la carte (14) est insérée dans ladite fente (15), la surface principale de la carte est sensiblement parallèle à la surface principale de la porte.
21. Module pour un appareil de verrouillage manœuvré par une carte selon l'une des revendications 2 ou 9, ledit module comprenant, assemblés unitairement pour former un sous-ensemble de l'appareil de verrouillage :
 - une plaque de verrouillage (21) qui présente une pluralité d'ouvertures (29) qui la traversent dans une disposition prédéterminée,
 - un noyau (24) qui est situé près de la plaque de verrouillage (21) et présente une pluralité d'ouvertures (27) qui y sont dans ladite disposition prédéterminée ;
 - des goupilles magnétisables (28) situées dans au moins certaines des ouvertures (27) du noyau, lesdites goupilles (28), lors de l'utilisation, pouvant entrer et sortir des ouvertures (29) de la plaque de verrouillage pour empêcher ou permettre respectivement, le mouvement du noyau (24) par rapport à ladite plaque de verrouillage (21), lesdites goupilles (28) étant sorties des ouvertures (29) de la plaque de verrouillage par l'insertion, dans une première étape, de la carte (14), possédant des zones magnétiques codées, dans ledit appareil de verrouillage, la suite du mouvement de la carte provoquant le mouvement du noyau (24) dans une position déverrouillée ;
 - un moyen formant ressort à lame (33) monté en contact avec le noyau (24) et



un moyen formant poussoir (30) porté par ledit noyau (24) pour provoquer le mouvement dudit moyen formant ressort à lame (33) quand le noyau (24) se déplace par rapport à la plaque de verrouillage (21) ; et

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- des moyens formant came (52, 53) montés, avec possibilité de pivotement, sur ledit noyau (24) et présentant une première partie formant came (54) pour venir en prise avec ladite carte (14) pour bloquer, avec possibilité de déblocage, une seconde partie formant came (55) contre le moyen formant ressort de butée (36, 37) pour maintenir le noyau (24) en position déverrouillée.

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22. Module selon la revendication 21, dans lequel ledit module comporte de plus une plaque avant (23) et une plaque arrière (25) et dans lequel ledit moyen formant ressort à lame (33) est fixé à la plaque arrière (25).

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23. Module selon la revendication 22, dans lequel il est en outre prévu un moyen formant ressort hélicoïdal (29') interconnectant le noyau (24) et la plaque arrière (25) pour pousser élastiquement le noyau (24) et le moyen formant poussoir (30) dans une direction qui rappelle le noyau (24) à sa position verrouillée.

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24. Module selon les revendications 21 à 23 dans lequel on peut sortir hors du module le moyen formant ressort à lame (33), les moyens formant ressort de butée (36, 37), le moyen formant ressort hélicoïdal, les moyens formant came (52, 53) et le noyau (24) sans démonter les autres pièces du module.

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