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(21) International Application Number: PCT/BE96/00074 (22) International Filing Date: 9 July 1996 (09.07.96) (30) Priority Data: 9500614 11 July 1995 (11.07.95) BE (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): ADVANCED MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES, afgekort "A.M.T.", NAAMLOZE VENNOOTSCHAP [BE/BE]; Industrieweg 43, B-3540 Herk-de-Stad (BE). GAY FRERES VENTE ET EXPORTATION S.A. [CH/CH]; 12, rue des Glacis de Rive, Case postale 267, CH-1211 Genève 3 (CH). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): TURLER, Willy, A. [CH/CH]; 22, rue des Alpes, CH-1200 Genève (CH). SCHWOB, Jean [CH/CH]; Pervanches, CH-1361 Bassins (CH). VAN MOORLEGHEM, Wilfried [BE/BE]; Roth 21, B-3210 Lubbeek (BE). (74) Agent: DEBRABANDERE, R.; Bureau De Rycker N.V., Arenbergstraat 13, B-2000 Antwerpen (BE).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Dutch).</i>
(54) Title: METHOD FOR FIXING TWO ELEMENTS TOGETHER, IN PARTICULAR LINKS OF A METAL WRISTWATCH STRAP		
(57) Abstract Method for fixing two elements together, in particular links (1) of a metal wristwatch strap, according to which a metal pin (2) made of a moulding memory alloy with large hysteresis - programmed such that it turns from the martensitic structure to the austenitic structure in a first temperature range which is situated above the service temperature of the elements and whereby its thickness increases, and such that it turns back from the austenitic structure to the martensitic structure in a second temperature range which is situated under the above-mentioned service temperature - is clamped in the martensitic structure in at least one either or not blind hole (3) in at least one of the elements to be linked; the pin (2) is subsequently heated to a temperature higher than the first temperature range, such that the thickness of the pin (2) is increased, whereby the clamping force of the pin (2) in the hole (3) becomes very large; and the pin (2) is finally cooled down to service temperature, characterized in that a pin (2) with a martensitic structure is put in at least one hole (3) having a thickness which is slightly larger than the width of the hole (3).		