

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(54) METHOD OF APPLYING SELF-ADHESIVE SYMBOLS ON A SUPPORT AND MEANS FOR USE IN PERFORMING THE METHOD

(71) We, VAN DEN BERG EN SLOTHOUBER B.V., (formerly known as Van den Berg en Slothouber N.V.), a Dutch Corporate Body of Postbus 35, Deldemsvaart, the Netherlands, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to means for and a method of applying self-adhesive symbols, or more particularly letters or numbers, on a surface. In the prior-art method of applying such self-adhesive symbols, one of the problems is that a great deal of care is required to place the symbols in the correct position. If a mistake is made in doing this, it is impossible to remove and re-apply a symbol without damaging it. If, for example, a number of words have been applied and then the space between the letters is subsequently found to be unsatisfactory, it is impossible to move the letters without damaging them. The object of the invention is to provide a method without the above-mentioned problems.

According to the invention, there is provided means for use in applying self-adhesive symbols on a surface, comprising a plurality of self-adhesive symbols stuck on a support, and a mounting sheet provided with ruling and a release layer, whereby symbols can be removed successively from the support and temporarily stuck on the release layer on the ruled mounting sheet in a predetermined arrangement before transfer of the arrangement as a whole to the said surface.

The invention also provides a method of applying on a surface self-adhesive symbols which are initially stuck on a support, in which the symbols to be applied are removed from the support and first stuck in the required position with respect to one

another on a ruled mounting sheet which has a release layer on the mounting side, an adhesive tape is then stuck over the symbols, the adhesion of said tape to the symbols being greater than the adhesion between the symbols and the mounting sheet and less than the adhesion between the symbols and the surface to which they are to be finally applied, the adhesive tape is then pulled away from the mounting sheet and the adhesive tape together with the symbols is stuck in the correct position on the surface which is to receive the symbols, and finally the adhesive tape is removed.

If, for example, a sign is to be made, the letters can readily be moved with respect to one another on the mounting sheet, the ruling facilitating the correct positioning of the letters. When the sign is completed, the overall appearance can be judged and when it is satisfactory the sign is transferred as described to the required place. During this transfer of the sign, the position of the letters with respect to one another is exactly the same. With the method according to the invention it is a very simple and rapid procedure to apply a sign, the latter having exactly the required form. None of the letters is lost during attempts to bring the letters into the correct relative positions.

According to a preferred form of the invention, the mounting sheet is transparent and the ruling is provided at the back.

Preferably, the mounting sheet is provided at the back with a layer disposed over the ruling and of a contrasting colour to the ruling and to the symbols which are to be applied. As a result of this contrasting layer, the ruling and the symbols which are to be applied are readily visible under all conditions without a special background being necessary.

The release layer is preferably formed by

silicones. A layer of this kind is very favourable for use with the method.

The invention will be explained in detail in the following description of one exemplified embodiment with reference to the drawing wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates a support with self-adhesive letters.

Figure 2 shows a mounting sheet according to the invention.

Figure 3 is a section on the line III-III in Figure 2.

Figure 4 shows an adhesive tape with the letters requiring to be transferred.

Figure 5 shows the adhesive tape from Figure 4 during the mounting of the letters at the final place.

Figure 1 shows a support 1 for a large number of letters. A number of letters 2 have already been removed, and these can be seen in the drawing. Figures 2 and 3 show a mounting sheet 3 which is ruled as at 4. The top surface of the mounting sheet 3 has a silicone layer 5, while the underside of the sheet has a layer 6 of a contrasting colour to the ruling 4 and to the letters which are to be mounted. The mounting sheet 3 is transparent, so that the lines 4 can be disposed at the back of the sheet 3. A number of letters 2 have been removed from the support and disposed on the mounting sheet. These letters are denoted by reference 7. As a result of the silicone layer 5, the letters 7 adhere only slightly to the mounting sheet 3, so that they can be easily moved and be brought into the correct position with respect to one another. When the mounting sign is considered to be correct, an adhesive tape 8 is placed over the sign. Figure 3 shows the adhesive tape 8 some distance above the mounting sheet 3. The adhesive tape can be pressed slightly with the finger so that it adheres satisfactorily to the letters 7. The adhesive tape 8 is then removed, the letters 7 coming with it, because they are readily detached from the mounting sheet 3 provided with the silicone layer 5. The adhesive tape 8 together with the letters 7 is then placed on the surface 9 which is to be provided with the sign. The adhesive tape is pressed firmly on to the surface 9 by the finger. When the adhesive tape 8 is removed, the letters 7 remain on the surface 9. They now occupy exactly the same position with respect to one another as on the mounting sheet 3.

With the above described method, the letters can be conveniently brought into the correct position with respect to one another and any alterations can be made as required. When the result is completely satis-

factory, the sign is transferred to the surface 9. This means that none of the letters are lost and the result satisfies the most stringent requirements.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Means for use in applying self-adhesive symbols on a surface, comprising a plurality of self-adhesive symbols stuck on a support, and a mounting sheet provided with ruling and a release layer, whereby symbols can be removed successively from the support and temporarily stuck on the release layer on the ruled mounting sheet in a predetermined arrangement before transfer of the arrangement as a whole to the said surface.

2. Means according to claim 1, in which the mounting sheet is transparent and the ruling is provided at the back.

3. Means according to claim 2, in which the mounting sheet is provided at the back with a layer disposed over the ruling and of a contrasting colour to the ruling and to the symbols which are to be applied.

4. Means according to any preceding claim in which the release layer is formed by silicones.

5. Means for use in applying self-adhesive symbols substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

6. A method of applying on a surface self-adhesive symbols which are initially stuck on a support, in which the symbols to be applied are removed from the support and first stuck in the required position with respect to one another on a ruled mounting sheet which has a release layer on the mounting side, an adhesive tape is then stuck over the symbols, the adhesion of said tape to the symbols being greater than the adhesion between the symbols and the mounting sheet and less than the adhesion between the symbols and the surface to which they are to be finally applied, the adhesive tape is then pulled away from the mounting sheet and the adhesive tape together with the symbols is stuck in the correct position on the surface which is to receive the symbols, and finally the adhesive tape is removed.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein means according to any of claims 2 to 5 are employed.

8. A method of applying self-adhesive symbols substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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The invention will be explained in detail in the following description of one exemplified embodiment with reference to the drawing wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates a support with self-adhesive letters.

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With the above described method, the letters can be conveniently brought into the correct position with respect to one another and any alterations can be made as required. When the result is completely satis-

factory, the sign is transferred to the surface 9. This means that none of the letters are lost and the result satisfies the most stringent requirements.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Means for use in applying self-adhesive symbols on a surface, comprising a plurality of self-adhesive symbols stuck on a support, and a mounting sheet provided with ruling and a release layer, whereby symbols can be removed successively from the support and temporarily stuck on the release layer on the ruled mounting sheet in a predetermined arrangement before transfer of the arrangement as a whole to the said surface.

2. Means according to claim 1, in which the mounting sheet is transparent and the ruling is provided at the back.

3. Means according to claim 2, in which the mounting sheet is provided at the back with a layer disposed over the ruling and of a contrasting colour to the ruling and to the symbols which are to be applied.

4. Means according to any preceding claim in which the release layer is formed by silicones.

5. Means for use in applying self-adhesive symbols substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

6. A method of applying on a surface self-adhesive symbols which are initially stuck on a support, in which the symbols to be applied are removed from the support and first stuck in the required position with respect to one another on a ruled mounting sheet which has a release layer on the mounting side, an adhesive tape is then stuck over the symbols, the adhesion of said tape to the symbols being greater than the adhesion between the symbols and the mounting sheet and less than the adhesion between the symbols and the surface to which they are to be finally applied, the adhesive tape is then pulled away from the mounting sheet and the adhesive tape together with the symbols is stuck in the correct position on the surface which is to receive the symbols, and finally the adhesive tape is removed.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein means according to any of claims 2 to 5 are employed.

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