CLAIMS

1. Method for the rigid connection ~~, via the opposing edges thereof,~~ of two thin elements (6, 7)~~, characterised in that:~~ comprising the steps of:

- preparing a flange (1) ~~is prepared~~ which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section ~~which is at least approximately trapezoidal~~;

- preparing a counter-flange (3) ~~is prepared~~ which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section ~~which is at least approximately trapezoidal~~ and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1);

-forming a part of one of said elements at least partially to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) and

-moving closer to each other and clamping in the direction of each other the flange (1) and counter-flange (3) with said part of one of said elements interposed therebetween,

wherein, in order to rigidly connect the two thin elements via the opposing edges (6A,7A) thereof:

-the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) are prepared with a cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;

- ~~the~~ said opposing edges (6A, 7A) of the two thin elements (6, 7) are at least partially formed to the trapezoidal shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3); and

~~- the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) are moved closer to each other with the formed edges (6A, 7A) being interposed between the cavity of the flange and the protrusion of the counter-flange; and~~

said opposing edges (6A, 7A) are both interposed between the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) being pressed between them, the depth of the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the thickness of the opposing edges (6A, 7A) of the elements

(6, 7) being selected so that, at the end of clamping of the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3), there is a gap (10) between the base (2A) of the cavity (2) and the opposing edges (6A, 7A.

~~- the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) are clamped in the direction of each other so that they press between them the formed edges (6A, 7A) of the elements (6, 7), the depth of the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the thickness of the edges (6A, 7A) of the elements (6, 7) being selected so that, at the end of clamping of the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3), there is a gap (10) between the base (2A) of the cavity and the edges.~~

2. Device for implementing the method of claim 1,

characterised in that it comprises:

- a flange (1) which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;

- a counter-flange (3) which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1); and

- clamping means (5) for clamping the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) in the direction of each other so that they can press, between the cavity of the flange and the protrusion of the counter-flange, the edges (6A, 7A) of the elements which are at least partially formed to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3).

3. Device according to claim 2,

Characterised in that the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) comprises an abutment face (4A) at the side of the small base of the convergent, at least approximately trapezoidal cross-section.

4. Device according to either claim 2 or claim 3,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements.

5. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the counter-flange (3) and screwed into the flange (1).

6. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the flange (1) and screwed into the counter-flange (3).

7. Device according to either claim 5 or claim 6,

characterised in that the screws (5) comprise heads (5A) which are accommodated in recesses (8, 9) on which they are supported.

8. Device according to claim 4,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) which is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements comprises a partial housing (11) for the flange (1).

9. Container comprising at least two cylindrical portions which are assembled end-to-end,

characterised in that the portions are assembled using the connection device which is specified in any of claims 2 to 8.

CLAIMS

1. Method for the rigid connection, via the opposing edges thereof, of two thin elements (6, 7), characterised in that:

- a flange (1) is prepared which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;

- a counter-flange (3) is prepared which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1);

- the edges (6A, 7A) of the thin elements (6, 7) are at least partially formed to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3);

- the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) are moved closer to each other with the formed edges (6A, 7A) being interposed between the cavity of the flange and the protrusion of the counter-flange; and

- the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) are clamped in the direction of each other so that they press between them the formed edges (6A, 7A) of the elements (6, 7), the depth of the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the thickness of the edges (6A, 7A) of the elements (6, 7) being selected so that, at the end of clamping of the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3), there is a gap (10) between the base (2A) of the cavity and the edges.

2. Device for implementing the method of claim 1,

characterised in that it comprises:

- a flange (1) which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;

- a counter-flange (3) which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1); and

- clamping means (5) for clamping the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) in the direction of each other so that they can press, between the cavity of the flange and the protrusion of the counter-flange, the edges (6A, 7A) of the elements which are at least partially formed to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3).

3. Device according to claim 2,

Characterised in that the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) comprises an abutment face (4A) at the side of the small base of the convergent, at least approximately trapezoidal cross-section.

4. Device according to either claim 2 or claim 3,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements.

5. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the counter-flange (3) and screwed into the flange (1).

6. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the flange (1) and screwed into the counter-flange (3).

7. Device according to either claim 5 or claim 6,

characterised in that the screws (5) comprise heads (5A) which are accommodated in recesses (8, 9) on which they are supported.

8. Device according to claim 4,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) which is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements comprises a partial housing (11) for the flange (1).

9. Container comprising at least two cylindrical portions which are assembled end-to-end,

characterised in that the portions are assembled using the connection device which is specified in any of claims 2 to 8.

CLAIMS

1. Method for the rigid connection of two thin elements (6, 7) comprising the steps of:

- preparing a flange (1) which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section;

- preparing a counter-flange (3) which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1);

-forming a part of one of said elements at least partially to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) and

-moving closer to each other and clamping in the direction of each other the flange (1) and counter-flange (3) with said part of one of said elements interposed therebetween,

wherein, in order to rigidly connect the two thin elements via the opposing edges (6A,7A) thereof:

-the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) are prepared with a cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;

- said opposing edges (6A, 7A) of the two thin elements (6, 7) are at least partially formed to the trapezoidal shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3); and

said opposing edges (6A, 7A) are both interposed between the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) being pressed between them, the depth of the cavity (2) of the flange (1) and the thickness of the opposing edges (6A, 7A) of the elements (6, 7) being selected so that, at the end of clamping of the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3), there is a gap (10) between the base (2A) of the cavity (2) and the opposing edges (6A, 7A.

2. Device for implementing the method of claim 1,

characterised in that it comprises:

- a flange (1) which has a cavity (2) having a flared cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal;
- a counter-flange (3) which has a protrusion (4) which has a convergent cross-section which is at least approximately trapezoidal and which has a shape which complements that of the cavity (2) of the flange (1); and
- clamping means (5) for clamping the flange (1) and the counter-flange (3) in the direction of each other so that they can press, between the cavity of the flange and the protrusion of the counter-flange, the edges (6A, 7A) of the elements which are at least partially formed to the shape of the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3).

3. Device according to claim 2,

Characterised in that the protrusion (4) of the counter-flange (3) comprises an abutment face (4A) at the side of the small base of the convergent, at least approximately trapezoidal cross-section.

4. Device according to either claim 2 or claim 3,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements.

5. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the counter-flange (3) and screwed into the flange (1).

6. Device according to any of claims 2 to 4,

characterised in that the clamping means (5) are screws which are supported on the flange (1) and screwed into the counter-flange (3).

7. Device according to either claim 5 or claim 6,

characterised in that the screws (5) comprise heads (5A) which are accommodated in recesses (8, 9) on which they are supported.

8. Device according to claim 4,

characterised in that the counter-flange (3) which is an integral portion of the edge (7A) of one of the elements comprises a partial housing (11) for the flange (1).

9. Container comprising at least two cylindrical portions which are assembled end-to-end,

characterised in that the portions are assembled using the connection device which is specified in any of claims 2 to 8.