

SECURABLE FASTENING DEVICE

Background of the Invention

[0001] The invention is directed to a clampable fastening device for mounting fittings or other objects in an opening or recess having opposite edges or walls, such as a rectangular opening or recess in a thin or thick wall such as sheet metal or a wooden board, comprising a head part which is to be arranged on the one, outer side of the thin or thick wall and which covers the outer rim of the opening or recess and from which there proceeds in the mounted position a foot part which penetrates through the opening or which projects into the recess, holding elements which are displaceable relative to one another against or with spring force in a channel formed in the foot part project from the foot part in direction of its outer surface, the free end of the holding elements having an inclined surface for supporting the foot part without play on the rim or edge of the opening of the other, inner side of the thin wall or obliquely arranged points for penetrating into the wall surface of the opening or recess of the thick wall, wherein the foot part and the holding element are two separate parts, wherein the holding elements are displaceable by means of a screw which is preferably conically shaped.

Prior Art

[0002] A clampable fastening device for mounting fittings or other objects in an opening having opposite edges in a thin wall such as sheet metal is already known from WO 2005/083209 A1, Figs. 26A and 26B and the accompanying description on page 22, paragraph 1. In the known arrangement, two holding elements 736 are pressed apart by a conical screw 98 resulting in a particularly strong holding force. However, the screw head is only accessible from the interior of the cabinet and a blind fastening is therefore out of the question. A similar arrangement is disclosed in WO 2005/071199 A1.

Object of the Invention

[0003] It is the object of the invention to further develop the known fastening device and to make it universally useable.

Summary of the Invention

[0004] The object is met in that the holding elements are plates which are arranged next to one another or, alternatively, one behind the other and are elongated in the direction of

displacement and which jointly or, alternatively, by themselves form with the channel walls a receiving space for receiving a compression spring, which receiving space extends in the direction of displacement and becomes smaller when the plates are displaced from their rest position and, as a result, compresses the spring, in that the conically shaped screw(s) has (have) a conically shaped foot, and in that the plates have, in the vicinity of one end of their longitudinal extension, first inner inclined surfaces which cooperate with the conical foot of the screw and which are offset with respect to one another in the rest position of the plates but move away from one another when the plates are displaced into the working position.

[0005] Due to the fact that the plates which are elongated in the direction of displacement in a thin wall jointly form a receiving space for receiving a spring, which receiving space extends in the direction of displacement and becomes smaller when the plates are displaced from their rest position, thereby compressing the spring, the fastening device can be mounted and removed in a simpler manner because, owing to the spring pressure, the elongated plates automatically retract or advance by loosening the screw without the need for any special steps. Further, the plates combined with the springs can be handled like an individual part which facilitates the mounting of the fastening device as such to form a unit.

[0006] Because the conical shape of the screw has a conically shaped foot, the screw is shorter overall and, therefore, the structural height of the clampable fastening device can be reduced.

[0007] A particularly stable connection and clamping of the fastening device with the thin or thick wall can be achieved through the force of the screw in that the plates have, in the vicinity of one end of their longitudinal extension, first inner inclined surfaces which cooperate with the conical foot of the screw and which are only slightly offset with respect to one another in the rest position of the plates but move away from one another when the plates are displaced into the working position. The fixed clamping also makes it possible to carry out adjustments in longitudinal direction or, if required, also in transverse direction with respect to the fitting as may be desirable, for example, with hinges. This is not provided in other fastening devices, e.g., those described in the above-cited reference, in which a play-free positive engagement is produced between the foot part and the opening that does not permit adjustability.

[0008] Further, the construction according to the invention provides for an arrangement in which blind mounting is possible.

[0009] Another advantage consists in that the arrangement according to the invention remains in the open position when, e.g., a plurality of hinges must be moved into the releasing position simultaneously so that the door leaf can be removed from the frame.

[0010] Finally, another advantage of the arrangement according to the invention consists in that grounding, i.e., a metal-to-metal connection between the metal hinge or other fitting parts and the metal wall, can be achieved automatically in a simple manner.

[0011] In a further development of the fastening device according to the invention in which a thin wall is provided, the plates have, respectively, in the vicinity of the other end of their longitudinal extension, outer inclined surfaces which cooperate with the edge of the opening in the thin wall and which lie within the foot part in the rest position of the plates relative to one another but which move out of the body part and away from one another when displaced into the working position. Alternatively, in case of the thick wall, the plates can have, at the respective other end of the longitudinal extension, outer inclined surfaces or teeth which cooperate with the wall of the opening or recess in the thick wall, and these plates lie inside the foot part when the plates are positioned in the rest position relative to one another but move out of the foot part and away from one another when displaced into the work position.

[0012] The plates can form second inner inclined surfaces, respectively, which adjoin the first inner inclined surfaces in such a way that they both form a free space receiving the conical region of the screw. A particularly simple and stable design is made possible in this way.

[0013] The screw can be a headless screw, which reduces the space requirement and permits particularly small embodiment forms for the fastening device.

[0014] The screw can be arranged in a threaded bore hole formed by the head part. Alternatively, the screw can be arranged in a threaded bore hole formed by the foot part.

[0015] According to a further development of the invention, it is advantageous when the end bevels of the holding elements are inclined with respect to the wall plane in such a way that when a force component perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter

the holding elements are displaced against spring force in a direction parallel to the wall plane, in which case the angle is approximately 45 degrees and no self-locking phenomena occur. Alternatively, the end bevels of the holding elements can be inclined with respect to the wall plane in such a way that when a force component perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements cannot be displaced against spring force, in which case the angle is substantially less than 45 degrees and self-locking phenomena play a part.

[0016] A rectangular auxiliary plate having a rectangular aperture that is somewhat smaller in longitudinal direction and/or in transverse direction than the aperture in the thin wall can be provided. This offers adjustment possibilities which can be advantageous particularly in hinge applications.

[0017] The inclined surfaces of the plates which are displaceable relative to one another, which inclined surfaces cooperate with the conical screw, can be arranged in such a way that when the conical screw is tightened the plates are moved away from one another against spring force, but when the conical screw is loosened the plates are moved toward one another with the spring force. This facilitates mounting and disassembly.

[0018] However, the inclined surfaces of the plates which are displaceable relative to one another, which inclined surfaces cooperate with the conical screw, can also be arranged in such a way that when the conical screw is tightened the plates are moved toward one another against spring force, but when the conical screw is loosened the plates are moved away from one another with the spring force. This represents an alternative.

[0019] The end bevels of the holding elements in a first region can be inclined with respect to the wall plane in such a way that when a force component perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements are displaced against spring force, in which case no self-locking occurs and the angle is approximately 45 degrees, but in a second region has a smaller angle which leads to self-locking. This again facilitates mounting because it affords a certain possibility of pre-mounting.

[0020] It may also be advantageous when the two end bevels of the holding elements with their different inclinations with respect to the wall plane are arranged in such a way that when the foot part is pulled out the region not having self-locking becomes operative first and the self-locking region becomes operative only afterward.

[0021] The fastening device can be part of a hinge for a thin-walled door such as a metal door or for a thick-walled door such as a wooden door. Alternatively, the fastening device can be part of a handle for a thin wall such as a metal wall or for a thick wall such as a wooden wall. Finally, it is also conceivable that the fastening device is part of a closure for a thin door such as a metal door or a thick door such as a wooden cabinet door.

[0022] Finally, it is possible that the fastening device is part of a device that is provided with a head and used for fastening a first wall to a second, thin (metal) wall or thick (wooden) wall. The bevels for fastening the body part to the thin wall can be roughened, scored or grooved to achieve a partial positive engagement or for purposes of grounding.

[0023] According to a further development of the fastening device, the edge of the opening of the thin wall that is struck by the inclined surface of the fastening element is beveled for adapting to the inclination of the inclined surface so as to reduce contact stress.

[0024] When the fastening elements are arranged one behind the other, the free space located between them can advantageously be used for arranging the fitting devices such as the actuating shaft of a sash fastener.

[0025] With self-locking fastening elements, a procedure is possible in which the screw with conically shaped region is screwed in only to release the fitting. In this case, the screw with conically shaped region can have the shape of a tool such as a simple screwdriver or (if forces are not too large) a screwdriver with a screw fitted thereto.

[0026] Instead of a screw with conically shaped region, a simple cylindrical screw can also sometimes be sufficient if the resulting higher contact stress does not interfere.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0027] The invention will be explained more fully with reference to embodiment examples shown in the drawings.

[0028] Fig. 1A shows a perspective view of a clampable fastening device in the form of a hinge prior to mounting in an opening in a thin wall;

[0029] Fig. 1B is an exploded view of the different component parts of the hinge arrangement shown in Fig. 1A;

[0030] Fig. 1C is a side view of the hinge arrangement according to Fig. 1A in which the plates are retracted;

[0031] Fig. 1D shows the arrangement according to Fig. 1C, but in axial section;

[0032] Fig. 1E is a side view of the arrangement according to Fig. 1A in which the plates are pushed out;

[0033] Fig. 1F shows the arrangement according to Fig. 1E, but in axial section;

[0034] Fig. 2 shows a top view of a thin wall with an opening in which an auxiliary plate makes it possible to carry out a transverse adjustment in the opening;

[0035] Fig. 3 shows a similar arrangement, but in which an auxiliary plate is used for longitudinal adjustment;

[0036] Fig. 4 shows an arrangement in which a transverse adjustment and a longitudinal adjustment is possible;

[0037] Fig. 5 shows a view illustrating the adjustability in longitudinal direction and transverse direction;

[0038] Fig. 6A is a side view of a hinge arrangement in which an auxiliary plate results in adjustability;

[0039] Fig. 6B shows an axial sectional view of the arrangement according to Fig. 6A;

[0040] Figs. 7 and 8 show a magnified view of the arrangement according to Fig. 6B for a closer explanation of their function, wherein the auxiliary plate is not clamped in Fig. 7, but is clamped in Fig. 8;

[0041] Figs. 9A and 9B show an arrangement in cross section in which spring-supported holding elements can be tightened against spring pressure by means of conical screws;

[0042] Figs. 10A, 10B, 10C and 10D show an arrangement in which a spring-supported group of holding elements or snap elements are provided for pre-mounting, wherein no self-locking forces occur, subsequent penetration of the conical screw clamps the elements and allows a greater loading such as, for example, in an automobile door;

[0043] Figs. 11A, 11B and 12A, 12B are side views and axial sectional views through an embodiment form in which the screw arrangement is carried out on the front side so that a blind mounting is possible;

[0044] Fig. 13 is a sectional view showing an embodiment form which is suitable for thick walls;

[0045] Fig. 14 shows the two associated plates which can be clamped by a screw against spring force;

[0046] Fig. 15 shows the unit formed of plates and spring after assembly;

[0047] Fig. 16 shows the associated fitting part, in this case a handle, for example, in a perspective view according to Figs. 14 to 16;

[0048] Fig. 17A shows an embodiment form of a fastening device in which (self-locking) fastening elements are arranged one behind the other and the free space located between them is used for the arrangement of an actuating shaft of a sash fastener; and

[0049] Figs. 17B and 17C show an embodiment form similar to Fig. 17A, but with fastening elements which are not self-locking, in the clamping position in Fig. 17B and in the releasing position in Fig. 17C.

Detailed Description of the Invention

[0050] Fig. 1A is a perspective view showing a clampable fastening device 10 according to the invention for mounting a fitting such as a hinge 12 in an opening 16 in a thin wall 18, which opening 16 has opposite edges or walls 14, or, alternatively (see Fig. 13), for mounting in a recess or opening 116 in a thick wall 118, which recess or opening 116 has opposite walls 114. The thick wall can be a wooden board, or the thin wall can be sheet metal. The fastening device comprises a head part 20, 120 which is to be arranged on the one, outer side

of the thick or thin wall 118, 18 and which covers the outer rim of the opening or recess 22, 122. Proceeding from the head part 20, 120 in the mounted position, a foot part 124, 24 projects into the recess or penetrates through the opening. Holding elements 30, 130, 31, 131 which are guided in a channel 26, 126 and displaceable relative to one another against or with spring force 28, 128 project from the foot part 24, 124. The free end 32, 132 of the holding elements 30, 130, 31, 131 has an inclined surface 34 or obliquely arranged points 134 for supporting the foot part 24 and, therefore, the head part 20 without play on the rim or edge 22, 14 of the opening 16 on the other, inner side 36 or for the penetration of the points 134 into the wall surface 136 of the recess in the thick wall 118. As can be seen, the foot part 24 or 124 and holding element 30 or 130 are separate parts. The holding elements 30, 130 are displaceable along the channel 26, 126 by means of a conically shaped screw 38, 138. As can be seen from the exploded view in Fig. 1B (see also the corresponding view in Fig. 14), the holding elements 30, 130 are plates which are arranged next to one another, elongated in the direction of displacement and jointly form a receiving space 38, 138 for a compression spring 28 or 128, which receiving space 38, 138 extends in the direction of displacement and becomes smaller when the plates 30, 130 are displaced from their rest position and, as a result, compresses the spring 28, 128 as can be seen from Figs. 1F and 13. The conically shaped screw 44, 144 has a conically shaped foot 40, 140. The cone angle is, for example, 2 x 45 or 90 degrees, but can also be a different angle if required. The plate-shaped holding elements 30, 130 have in the vicinity of their respective one end of the longitudinal extension (reference number 142) a first inner inclined surface 46, 146 cooperating with the conical foot 40, 140 of the screw 44, 144. These first inner inclined surfaces 46, 146 are only slightly offset relative to one another in the rest position of the plates 30, 130 but move away from one another by the action of the conical surface of the screw when displaced into the working position (compare Figs. 1D and 1F).

[0051] The plates have in the vicinity of their respective other end of the longitudinal extension 32 and 132 an outer inclined surface 34 which cooperates with the edge 14 of the thin wall 18. These outer inclined surfaces 34 lie within the channel 26 of the body part 24 (shown in Figs. 1C and 1D) when the plates 30, 130 are in their rest position relative to one another but move out of the channel 26 of the foot part 24 and away from one another (shown in Figs. 1E and 1F) when displaced into the working position. This movement compresses the spring 28 so that the movement back is carried out by spring force when the screw is

loosened, and the plates again disappear into the channel, which carries out a movement leading from the view shown in Fig. 1E or 1F to the position shown in Figs. 1C and 1D. When used as a hinge, for example, as is shown in the drawings, this has the advantage that the holding elements automatically retract by loosening the screw 44. Accordingly, no special steps need be undertaken to keep the holding elements in this retracted position and, therefore, to facilitate the removal of a door from its hinges.

[0052] The plates or holding elements 30, 130 also have a second inner inclined surface 48 and 148 which adjoins the first inner inclined surface 46, 146 in such a way that the two of them form a free space 50, 150 receiving the conical region, in this instance the conical foot 40, 140, of the screw 44, 144. The free space is advisably shaped in such a way that it can receive the cone region 40 of the screw 44 without play. The two openings 38 of the plates 30 lying next to one another are also arranged in such a way that, in the rest position, they leave a small common triangular region 52 for the two triangular notches 50, into which common triangular region 52 the point of the conical screw 40 can penetrate as is shown in Fig. 1D. When the screw is tightened further, it penetrates deeper and pushes the two holding elements apart until a clamping with the rim areas of the thin wall 36 takes place. Maximum displacement is achieved when the cone-shaped screw 40 has brought the two triangular notches into alignment.

[0053] A headless screw, as is designated in the drawings at 130, 30, requires the least space. In the embodiment forms shown in Fig. 1A, as in the embodiment form shown in Fig. 13, this headless screw is screwed into a threaded bore hole 52, 152 which is formed by the respective head part 20, 120 and which opens into the channel 26 of the foot part 226.

[0054] A blind mounting is possible with this arrangement. If this is not required, the screw can also be arranged in a threaded bore hole formed by the foot part. This possibility is indicated in Figs. 9A, 9B.

[0055] The end bevels 34 of the holding elements 30 can be arranged in such a way with respect to the wall plane (see the thin wall 36 and its contact surface) that no self-locking occurs. The end bevels 34 of the holding elements 30 are preferably inclined with respect to the wall plane 18 (see 54 in Fig. 1E) in such a way that when a force component 56 perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements 30 are displaced against spring force 28 in a direction parallel to the wall plane, i.e., they move back

from the position shown in Fig. 1E into the position shown in Fig. 1C. Accordingly, at the angle shown at 54, there is no self-locking of the holding elements within the channel as would be the case with substantially smaller angles. Such a case is shown in Figs. 9A and 9B. In this instance, end bevels 234 of the holding elements 230 are inclined with respect to the wall plane 18 (see angle 254) in such a way that when a force component 56 perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements 230 cannot be displaced against the spring force of the spring 228 because self-locking occurs, which is the case at an angle 254 of substantially less than 45 degrees, e.g., 30 degrees.

[0056] In Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5, a fastening device is provided with an opening 316 in a thin wall 318. There is an auxiliary plate 58 with a rectangular aperture 60 that is somewhat smaller in longitudinal direction (Fig. 3) or in transverse direction (Fig. 2) than the opening 316 in the thin wall 318. According to Fig. 4, the aperture 60 is somewhat smaller in both directions, in longitudinal direction as well as in transverse direction.

[0057] As can be seen in Fig. 6A, the thin wall 318 is clamped between the head of the fitting and the auxiliary plate so that the holding elements are not supported on the rims of the opening in the thin wall, but rather on those of the somewhat narrower opening in the auxiliary plate. This means that the fitting can be slid back and forth within the opening in the thin wall, for example, in order to provide possibilities for adjusting the hinge. These different displacement possibilities are shown in Fig. 5. The fitting is secured when the screw is tightened.

[0058] In the arrangement shown in Fig. 2, an adjustment transverse to the longitudinal extension of the opening is possible. In the arrangement shown in Fig. 3, an adjustment in the transverse direction is possible.

[0059] The inclined surfaces 346, 348 (see Fig. 6B) cooperating with the conical screw 344 with plates 330 which are displaceable with respect to one another are arranged in such a way that when the conical screw 344 is tightened the plates 330 are moved away from one another against spring force, but, when the conical screw is loosened, are moved toward one another with the spring force. Alternatively, the device can also be carried out in the reverse manner in such a way that the plates are moved toward each other against spring force when the conical screw is tightened and away from each other with the spring force when the conical screw is loosened.

[0060] In the embodiment form according to Figs. 10A, 10B, 10C and 10D, the end bevels of the holding elements 430 in a first region 62 are inclined with respect to the wall plane 436 (see reference number 454) in such a way that when a force component 56 perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements 430 can be displaced against the spring force of the spring 438, e.g., from the position shown in Fig. 10C to the position shown in Fig. 10B, and the edges of the opening in the thin wall 436 slide along the inclined surface and the holding elements press in against the force of the spring 438. Accordingly, having unscrewed the cone of a screw 444, the hinge can be loosened until a second region 64 of the inclined surface is reached, as is shown in Fig. 10B, this second region 64 having a smaller angle 554 leading to the self-locking, so that complete removal of the fitting part from the thin wall 436 is only possible when additional pressure is exerted on the holding elements 430 from the outside so that they enter entirely into their channel which is formed by the foot part of the fastening device.

[0061] This substantially facilitates mounting when the hinge is mounted in a thin wall, particularly when more than one hinge is mounted along a switch cabinet door where the hinge fittings are initially pre-mounted, i.e., inserted into corresponding openings along the stop edge of the door leaf, whereupon they no longer fall out through the region tending toward self-locking when the door is subsequently inserted into the cabinet frame which already has corresponding hinge parts. After the two hinge parts are connected, a clamping can be carried out subsequently through the penetration of the screw so that the holding elements are suitable for large loads, e.g., loading by an automobile door or the like.

[0062] By loosening a hinge through a conical screw according to the embodiment forms shown herein, it is possible for the snap-in elements which are to be retracted to be much narrower than in fastening parts that are opened by means of a key which must be pulled out as in the reference cited above in which a flat key is used. The solution using a flat key leads to appreciably broader plate parts.

[0063] The arrangement of a releasing key provided with a toothing has the disadvantage that no self-locking end position is achieved so that it is problematic to mount a plurality of fitting elements simultaneously.

[0064] The embodiment form according to Figs. 11A, 11B, 12A and 12B serves as a fastening element for fastening one thin wall to another; thin walls corresponding to the

required dimensions have rectangular openings. In the embodiment form, the conical screw is arranged in the head part so that a blind mounting according to Fig. 11A to Fig. 16 is possible.

[0065] According to a further development of the fastening device shown in Fig. 17B, the edge 614 of the opening 616 of the thin wall 618 struck by the inclined surface 634 of the holding element or fastening element 630 is beveled to adapt to the inclination of the inclined surface in order to reduce the contact stress.

[0066] By arranging the fastening elements 530 one behind the other (see Fig. 17A), the free space located between them can advantageously be used for arranging fitting devices such as an actuating shaft 68 of a sash fastener.

[0067] In the case of self-locking fastening elements, as in Fig. 17A, a procedure is possible whereby the screw 544 is screwed in by a conically shaped region 540 only for releasing the fitting. In this case, the screw with the conically shaped region can have the shape of a tool such as a screwdriver with attached screw with a conical tip 540.

[0068] On the other hand, a remaining screw 544 serves to prevent fastening elements 530 under pressure by the spring 528 supported at the rear end of the channel 576 from falling out of the channel 526.

[0069] In Fig. 17B and 17C, the spring is supported at a projection in the channel in the vicinity of its outlet, that is, it presses the fastening element inward.

[0070] The invention can also be used in fastening elements which generate a clamping action by means of oblique guidance, e.g., by means of pins which run in oblique grooves in the fastening elements (see Figs. 36A to 36E of the above-cited WO 2005/071199 A1).

Commercial Applicability

[0071] The invention is commercially applicable in switch cabinet construction.

Reference Numbers

10, 110, 510	fastening device
12, 112	fitting, hinge
14, 114, 514	edge, wall
16, 116, 316, 616	opening, recess
18, 118, 318, 618	thin wall, thick wall
20, 120, 620	head part
22, 122	outer edge of the opening or of the recess
24, 124, 224, 424	foot part
26, 126, 526	channel
28, 128, 228, 328, 438, 538, 638	spring (force)
30, 130, 230, 330, 430, 530, 630	holding element
32, 132	free end, other end of the longitudinal extension
34, 134, 234, 334, 534, 634	outer inclined surface; obliquely arranged points
36	inner side of the thin wall
38, 138	receiving space
40, 140, 540	conical foot
42, 142	end
44, 144, 344, 444, 544, 644	screw
46, 146, 346	first inner inclined surface
48, 148, 348	second inner inclined surface
50, 150	free space
52, 152, 252	threaded bore hole
54, 254	angle of inclination, end bevel
56	force component
58	auxiliary plate
60	aperture
62	first region
64	second region

66	second wall
68	actuation shaft

Claims:

1. Clampable fastening device (10, 110) for mounting fittings (12, 112) or other objects in an opening or recess (16, 116) having opposite edges (14, 114) or walls, such as a rectangular opening or recess (16, 116) in a thin or thick wall such as sheet metal or a wooden board (18, 118), comprising a head part (20, 120) which is to be arranged on the one, outer side of the thin or thick wall (18, 118) and which covers the outer rim (22, 122) of the opening or recess (16, 116) and from which there proceeds in the mounted position a foot part (24, 124) which penetrates through the opening (16) or which projects into the recess (116), holding elements (30, 130) which are displaceable relative to one another against or with spring force in a channel (26, 126) formed in the foot part (24, 124) project from the foot part (24, 124) in direction of its outer surface, the free end (32, 132) of the holding elements (30, 130) having an inclined surface (34) for supporting the foot part (24) without play on the rim or edge (14) of the opening (16) of the other, inner side (36) of the thin wall (14) or obliquely arranged points (134) for penetrating into the wall surface (114) of the opening or recess (116) of the thick wall (118), wherein the foot part (24, 124) and the holding element (30, 130) are separate parts, wherein the holding elements (30, 130) are displaceable along the channel (26, 126) by means of a screw (44, 144) which preferably has a conically shaped region, characterized in that the holding elements (30, 130) are plates which are arranged next to one another or, alternatively, one behind the other and are elongated in the direction of displacement and which jointly or, alternatively, by themselves form with the channel walls a receiving space (38, 138) for receiving a compression spring (28, 128), which receiving space (38, 138) extends in the direction of displacement and becomes smaller when the plates (30, 130) are displaced from their rest position and, as a result, compresses the spring (28, 128), in that the screw(s) (44, 144) having a conically shaped region has (have) a conically shaped foot (40, 140), and in that the plates (30, 130) have, in the vicinity of one end (34, 134), a first inner inclined surface (46, 146) which cooperates with the conical foot (40, 140), which first inner inclined surfaces (46, 146) are only slightly offset with respect to one another in the rest position of the plates but move away from one another when the plates are displaced into the working position.

2. Fastening device according to claim 1, characterized in that, with a thin wall (18), the plates (30) have, respectively, in the vicinity of the other end of their longitudinal

extension (32), outer inclined surfaces (34) which cooperate with the edge (14) of the opening (16) in the thin wall (18) and which lie within the channel (26) of the foot part (24) in the rest position of the plates (30) relative to one another but which move out of the channel (26) of the foot part (24) and away from one another when the plates are displaced into the working position.

3. Fastening device according to claim 1, characterized in that, with a thick wall (118), the plates (130) can have, at the respective other end of the longitudinal extension (132), one or more outer inclined surfaces or teeth (134) in the vicinity of the wall (114) or the opening or recess (116) which cooperate with the thick wall (118) and which lie inside the channel (126) the foot part (124) in the rest position of the plates relative to one another but move out of the channel (126) of the foot part (124) and away from one another when displaced into the work position.

4. Fastening device according to claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the plates (30, 130) form, respectively, second inner inclined surfaces (48, 148) which adjoin the first inner inclined surfaces (46, 146) in such a way that the two inclined surfaces (46, 48, 146, 148) form a free space (50, 150) receiving the conical region (40, 140) of the screw (44, 144).

5. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the screw (44, 144) is a headless screw.

6. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the screw, in particular the headless screw (44, 144), is arranged in a threaded bore hole (52, 152) formed by the head part (20, 120).

7. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the screw (344, 444) is arranged in a threaded bore hole (252) formed by the foot part.

8. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the end bevels (34, 334) of the holding elements (30, 330) are inclined (inclination angle 54, 454) with respect to the wall plane (18, 318, 418) in such a way that when a force component (56) perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements (30, 330, 430) are displaced against the spring force (28, 328, 428) in a direction parallel to the wall plane (no self-locking, angle approximately 45 degrees).

9. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the

end bevels (254, 554) of the holding elements (132, 430) are inclined with respect to the wall plane (18) in such a way that when a force component (56) perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements (230, 430) are not displaced parallel to the wall plane against spring force (228, 438) (self-locking, angle is substantially less than 45 degrees).

10. Fastening device (410) according to one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that a rectangular auxiliary plate (58) having a rectangular aperture (60) that is somewhat smaller in longitudinal direction and/or in transverse direction than the aperture (16, 116, 316, 416, 516) in the thin wall (18) is provided.

11. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the inclined surfaces of the plates which are displaceable relative to one another, which inclined surfaces cooperate with the conical screw (44, 144), are arranged in such a way that when the conical screw is tightened the plates are moved away from one another against spring force, but when the conical screw is loosened the plates are moved toward one another with the spring force.

12. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the inclined surfaces of the plates which are displaceable relative to one another, which inclined surfaces cooperate with the conical screw, are arranged in such a way that when the conical screw is tightened the plates are moved toward one another against spring force, but when the conical screw is loosened the plates are moved away from one another with the spring force.

13. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the end bevels (234) of the holding elements (230) in a first region (62) are inclined with respect to the wall plane (436) in such a way that when a force component (56) perpendicular to the wall plane is directed away from the latter the holding elements (34) are displaced against spring force (428), but in a second region (64) has a smaller angle (554) which results in self-locking.

14. Fastening device according to claim 13, characterized in that the two end bevels (62, 64) of the holding elements (34) with their different inclinations (454, 554) with respect to the wall plane (436) are arranged in such a way that when the foot part (424) is pulled out the region (62) which is not self-locking becomes operative first and the self-locking region (64) becomes operative only afterward.

15. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the fastening device is part of a hinge for a thin-walled door such as a metal door or for a thick-walled door such as a wooden cabinet door.

16. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the fastening device is part of a handle for a thin wall such as a metal wall or thick-walled door such as a wooden wall.

17. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the fastening device is part of a closure for a thin-walled door such as a metal door or a thick-walled door such as a wooden cabinet door.

18. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the fastening device is part of a device that is provided with a head (620) and used for fastening a first wall (660) to a second, thin wall such as a metal wall (618) or thick wall such as a wooden wall.

19. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the outer inclined surface (34) for fastening the fitting to the thin wall (18) is roughened, scored or grooved to achieve a partial positive engagement and, as the case may be, for grounding.

20. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 19, characterized in that the edge (614) of the opening (616) of the thin wall (618) that is struck by the inclined surface (634) of the fastening element is beveled for adapting to the inclination of the inclined surface (634) so as to reduce contact stress.

21. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 20, characterized in that when the fastening elements (530, 630) are arranged one behind the other, the free space located between them is used for arranging fitting devices such as the actuating shaft (68) of a sash fastener.

22. Fastening device according to one of claims 1 to 21, characterized in that with self-locking fastening elements (30, 530), the screw (44, 544) with conically shaped region (40, 540) is screwed in only to release the fitting.

23. Fastening device according to claim 22, characterized in that with self-locking fastening elements (30, 530) the screw (44, 544) with conically shaped region (40, 540) has the shape of a tool such as a simple screwdriver with or without a screw fitted thereto.