Claims

1) A track segment comprising a segment body made of reinforced elastomeric material and comprising an outer ground-engaging surface, an inner wheel-engaging surface, a first lateral edge, a second lateral edge, a first extremity and a second extremity, the segment body comprising a plurality of laterally extending and substantially rigid lug-bearing sections which are interconnected by laterally extending and substantially flexible lug-less sections, each of the lug-bearing sections comprising, on the inner surface, at least one inner lug, and, on the outer surface, at least one outer lug, the segment body being respectively terminated, at the first and second extremities, by two of the lug-less sections, the track segment comprising a first joint element mounted at the first extremity of the segment body, and a second joint element mounted at the second extremity of the segment body, the first and second joint elements being configured to form a common substantially rigid joint section when connected together; the first joint element comprising a first anchoring portion and a first joint portion having a first dovetail configuration, and the second joint element comprising a second anchoring portion and a second joint portion having a second dovetail configuration which is complementary to the first dovetail configuration.

2) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the track segment comprises an inner plate assembly and an outer plate assembly configured to be secured to the first and second joint elements and to each other.

3) A track segment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inner plate assembly comprises a wheel-engaging surface which comprises at least one inner lug.

4) A track segment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the outer plate assembly comprises a ground-engaging surface which comprises at least one outer lug.

5) A track segment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first joint element and the second joint element are configured to be secured to the inner plate assembly, and wherein the inner plate assembly is configured to be secured to the outer plate assembly.

6) A track segment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inner and outer plate assemblies shield the first and second joint elements when the inner and outer plate assemblies are mounted to jointed first and second joint elements.

7) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the segment body comprises longitudinally extending reinforcing elements which are mounted to and extending between the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion.

8) A track segment as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion are substantially C-shaped, and wherein the reinforcing elements are terminated with first and second fittings which are respectively received into the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion.

9) A track segment as claimed in claim 3, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is shorter than the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections.

10) A track segment as claimed in claim 3, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is narrower than the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections.

11) A track segment as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is at least one drive lug, and wherein the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections is at least one drive lug.

12) A track segment as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is at least one guide lug, and wherein the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections is at least one guide lug.

13) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections comprises a plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs.

14) A track segment as claimed in claim 13, wherein some of the plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs define wheelpath therebetween.

15) A track segment as claimed in 13, wherein the plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs located on each of the lug-bearing sections comprises at least one drive lug and at least one guide lug.

16) A segmented track comprising a plurality of track segments as claimed in claim 1, connected end-to-end.

17) A vehicle having mounted thereto a segmented track as claimed in claim 16.

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Claims

1) A track segment comprising a segment body made of reinforced elastomeric material and comprising an outer ground-engaging surface, an inner wheel-engaging surface, a first lateral edge, a second lateral edge, a first extremity and a second extremity, the segment body comprising a plurality of laterally extending and substantially rigid lug-bearing sections which are interconnected by laterally extending and substantially flexible lug-less sections, each of the lug-bearing sections comprising, on the inner surface, at least one inner lug, and, on the outer surface, at least one outer lug, the segment body being respectively terminated, at the first and second extremities, by two of the lug-less sections, the track segment comprising a first joint element mounted at the first extremity of the segment body, and a second joint element mounted at the second extremity of the segment body, the first and second joint elements being configured to form a common substantially rigid joint section when connected together.

2) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the track segment comprises an inner plate assembly and an outer plate assembly configured to be secured to the first and second joint elements and to each other.

3) A track segment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inner plate assembly comprises a wheel-engaging surface which comprises at least one inner lug.

4) A track segment as claimed in claims 2 or 3, wherein the outer plate assembly comprises a ground-engaging surface which comprises at least one outer lug.

5) A track segment as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the first joint element and the second joint element are configured to be secured to the inner plate assembly, and wherein the inner plate assembly is configured to be secured to the outer plate assembly.

6) A track segment as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5, wherein the inner and outer plate assemblies shield the first and second joint elements when the inner

and outer plate assemblies are mounted to jointed first and second joint elements.

7) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first joint element comprises a first joint portion and a first anchoring portion, and wherein the second joint element comprises a second joint portion and a second anchoring portion.

8) A track segment as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first joint portion has a first dovetail configuration, and wherein the second joint portion has a second dovetail configuration which is complementary to the first dovetail configuration.

9) A track segment as claimed in claims 7 or 8, wherein the segment body comprises longitudinally extending reinforcing elements which are mounted to and extending between the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion.

10) A track segment as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion are substantially C-shaped, and wherein the reinforcing elements are terminated with first and second fittings which are respectively received into the first anchoring portion and the second anchoring portion.

11) A track segment as claimed in claim 3, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is shorter than the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections.

12) A track segment as claimed in claims 3 or 11, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is narrower than the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections.

13) A track segment as claimed in claims 11 or 12, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is at least one drive lug, and wherein

the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections is at least one drive lug.

14) A track segment as claimed in claims 11 or 12, wherein the at least one inner lug located on the inner plate assembly is at least one guide lug, and wherein the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections is at least one guide lug.

15) A track segment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one inner lug located on each of the lug-bearing sections comprises a plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs.

16) A track segment as claimed in claim 15, wherein some of the plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs define wheelpath therebetween.

17) A track segment as claimed in 15, wherein the plurality of laterally spaced-apart inner lugs located on each of the lug-bearing sections comprises at least one drive lug and at least one guide lug.

18) A segmented track comprising a plurality of track segments as claimed in anyone of claims 1 to 17, connected end-to-end.

19) A vehicle having mounted thereto a segmented track as claimed in claim 18.

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