CLAIMS

1. A door unit for a display cabinet, the door unit comprising:
a frame for holding, in use, at least an upper and a lower sliding door; and linking means for selectively linking the two doors such that when a first one of the doors is opened the linking means engages with the second one of the doors to pull it open also and when the second one of the doors is opened the linking means disengages such that the first door remains closed, wherein the linking means is configured to be concealed from a user.

2. The unit of claim 1 wherein the doors are arranged such that they slide in the same direction.

3. The unit of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein at least the upper and lower sliding doors are configured to slide within the same vertical plane .

4. The unit of claim 3, wherein the linking means also engages in the same vertical plane as the sliding plane of the doors.

5. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the linking means is mounted to a back side or fixed into a longitudinal cross section of the upper and lower sliding doors respectively such that they are concealed from a user when the door unit is mounted onto a cabinet.

6. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the linking means comprise abutting members configured to engage in abutment with each other when the first one of the sliding doors is opened to open the second one of the sliding doors simultaneously and not to engage when the second one of the sliding doors is opened to leave the first one of the sliding doors closed..

7. The unit of claim 6, wherein the abutting members are integral with at least a first runner unit attached to the first one of the sliding doors and slidably

mounted to the frame and at least a second runner unit attached to the second one of the sliding doors and slidably mounted to the frame.

8. The unit of claim 7, wherein the runner units comprise rollers or wheels mounted to a common rail in the frame, preferably located between the upper and lower doors.

9. The unit of claim 8, wherein the rollers or wheels of each of the runner units are mounted into a same track of the rail, the rail preferably having a substantially C-shaped cross-section.

10. The unit of claim 9, wherein the rail is provided within a transverse rail member of the frame located between the at least upper and lower sliding doors and within the same vertical sliding plane as the two sliding doors.

11. The unit of any of claims 7 to 10, wherein the abutting members of the linking means comprise dampening means to absorb shocks and noise upon engagement.

12. The unit of claim 11, wherein the dampening means preferably comprise rubber or silicon gaskets, pieces or sleeves or any other soft plastic element.

13. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the frame is arranged such that it can be retro-fitted over a standard display cabinet.

14. The unit of any preceding claim, further comprising one or more door closing mechanisms to enable automatic closing of one or more of the doors.

15. A display cabinet comprising a housing containing one or more shelves and further comprising a unit of any preceding claim retained on the housing.

CLAIMS

1. A door unit for a display cabinet, the door unit comprising:

a frame for holding, in use, at least an upper and a lower sliding door; and linking means for selectively linking the two doors such that when a first one of the doors is opened the linking means engages with the second one of the doors to pull it open also and when the second one of the doors is opened the linking means disengages such that the first door remains closed, wherein the linking means is configured to be concealed from a user, wherein the linking means comprise abutting members configured to engage in abutment with each other when the first one of the sliding doors is opened to open the second one of the sliding doors simultaneously and not to engage when the second one of the sliding doors is opened to leave the first one of the sliding doors closed, characterized in that the abutting members are integral with at least a first runner unit attached to the first one of the sliding doors and slidably mounted to the frame and at least a second runner unit attached to the second one of the sliding doors and slidably mounted to the frame.

2. The unit of claim 1 wherein the doors are arranged such that they slide in the same direction.

3. The unit of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein at least the upper and lower sliding doors are configured to slide within the same vertical plane .

4. The unit of claim 3, wherein the linking means also engages in the same vertical plane as the sliding plane of the doors.

5. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the linking means is mounted to a back side or fixed into a longitudinal cross section of the upper and lower sliding doors respectively such that they are concealed from a user when the door unit is mounted onto a cabinet.

6. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the runner units comprise rollers or wheels mounted to a common rail in the frame, preferably located between the upper and lower doors.

7. The unit of claim 6, wherein the rollers or wheels of each of the runner units are mounted into a same track of the rail, the rail preferably having a substantially C-shaped cross-section.

8. The unit of claim 7, wherein the rail is provided within a transverse rail member of the frame located between the at least upper and lower sliding doors and within the same vertical sliding plane as the two sliding doors.

9. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the abutting members of the linking means comprise dampening means to absorb shocks and noise upon engagement.

10. The unit of claim 9, wherein the dampening means preferably comprise rubber or silicon gaskets, pieces or sleeves or any other soft plastic element.

11. The unit of any preceding claim, wherein the frame is arranged such that it can be retro-fitted over a standard display cabinet.

12. The unit of any preceding claim, further comprising one or more door closing mechanisms to enable automatic closing of one or more of the doors.

13. A display cabinet comprising a housing containing one or more shelves and further comprising a unit of any preceding claim retained on the housing.