

CLAIMS

1. A holder for cards, comprising a housing (1) which preferably tightly fits around a stack of at least three cards
5 (2) and has at least one card opening (3) for locating and removing cards, while within the housing, preferably opposite the card opening (3), a card eject feature is provided such that the cards through the card opening (3) can be partly slid from the housing, which card eject feature comprises an ejector
10 arm which is preferably designed to rotate within the housing between a retracted and an extended position and during said movement ejects the cards by engaging and forcing the cards simultaneously to partly exit the housing, and the holder comprises an external actuating feature, e.g. finger button,
15 to provide the force to eject the cards by the card eject feature, which actuating feature is drivingly connected to the ejector arm through coupling means.

2. A holder according to claim 1, the ejector arm is designed
20 such that a distal part of it further away from its rotation point is at an initial distance to the cards stack while a proximal part of it closer to its rotation point engages the cards stack and by further rotation of the ejector arm to its extended position the distal part starts engaging the cards
25 stack due to cancelling of this distance.

3. Holder according to claim 1 or 2, the ejector arm comprises several distal parts spaced along its length and each keeping a different initial distance, which initial distance is larger
30 for a distal part closer to the free longitudinal end of the ejector arm.

4. Holder according to claim 2 or 3, wherein a or the initial distance measures at least 0.25 or 0.5 millimeter.

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5. Holder according to any of claims 1-4, the leading edge (6) tapers towards the trailing edge (7), preferably according

to a circular shape.

6. Holder according to any of claims 1-5, the arm (16) is designed such that at the start of ejecting the cards stack, 5 cards are pushed and engaged by a shared contact face (19) of the arm and, after some movement of the arm (16), said cards (2) are pushed further outward by a relevant private contact face (19), possibly after an intermediate period of arm eject movement during which the cards one by one become engaged and 10 pushed by a relevant private contact face (19).

7. Holder according to any of claims 1-6, wherein at the inner side of the housing a friction element is located which exerts a friction force to the side edge of each individual card within 15 the housing, which friction element is of sufficient width/dimension to simultaneously engage all cards in the stack and/or is not rigid.

8. Holder according to any of claims 1-7, having one or more 20 of the following features:

- the card eject feature comprises a stepped element (19), which can by the user be moved relative to the housing against the side of the within the housing present card stack, resulting that this stack in a stepped format partly moves outside the 25 housing;
- the cards receiving space is sleeve or shaft like;
- the receiving space is designed such that the cards through the card opening parallel to their top face must be slid from this space;
- 30 - in the receiving space a stack of at least three right angled cards, mutually registered, with substantially identical dimensions and each with a first side and an opposite second side, and the friction element in retaining engagement, in the direction of sliding out the card opening, with the to 35 the friction element facing side of each card and the card sideways preloading such that the second side of each card is pressed against and retained by the side of the receiving space,

while the distance between the first and second side of the one card is unequal to the same distance of a different card in the stack;

- a reset means, e.g. spring, biases the eject arm towards its retracted position.

9. Holder according to any of claims 1-8, wherein the part of the eject arm beyond the first location, viewed longitudinally along the eject arm from the pivot, comprises at least 50% of the eject arm length provided with the contact faces (19).

10. Holder according to any of claims 1-9, wherein the first location is provided at at least 25% of the eject arm length, measured from the pivot.

10. Holder according to any of claims 1-10, wherein the locations are provided on a curved line with a single radius, i.e. circle, of at least 150 millimeter, which line is provided by part of the leading edge of the eject arm, which is the edge that engages and pushes outward the cards stack, extends in longitudinal direction of the eject arm and nears toward the trailing edge of the eject arm viewed longitudinally from the pivot.

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11. Holder according to any of claims 1-10, wherein, viewed in the direction of pivoting of the arm from the retracted to the extended position, each next location or a group of locations or all locations is set back at least 0.05 or 0.075 millimeter relative to the adjacent location.

12. Holder according to any of claims 1-11, wherein the location (19) at the free end tip (5) is set back approximately 0.9 millimeter relative to the location (19) closest to the pivot (17).

13. Holder according to any of claims 1-12, wherein the eject

arm is designed such that starting from the completely retracted position and moving towards the completely extended position, first merely the location (19) closest to the pivot (17) comes in engagement with a card of the cards stack and during continued
5 movement towards the completely extended position the other locations (19) further away from the pivot, mutually spaced along the eject arm length, come in engagement with a card of the cards stack one after the other in the direction of the free longitudinal eject arm end (5) such that finally the
10 location (19) most distal from the pivot (17) comes in engagement with a card of the cards stack as soon as the eject arm has pivoted between 5 and 20 degrees.