

Description

The present invention relates to a key holder for holding keys or the like articles in a bundled condition.

Various key holders are known, which comprise, as shown in Figure 51 of the accompanying drawings, a closure link 1 connected to an end of a resilient C-ring 2 and adapted to extend between opposite ends of the C-ring 2 for closing an opening of the C-ring 2, thereby holding a key (not shown) on the C-ring 2, and an ornamental tab 4 connected to the closure link 1 by means of a connector strap 3.

The C-ring 2 of the conventional key holder is formed of a resilient strip of metal and is not adjustable in shape and size to conform to the number of keys to be held on the C-ring 2 or to meet a variety of user's desires.

As a consequence of the fixed shape and size, a large C-ring is needed when a large number of keys are to be held on the C-ring. Such large C-ring is not handy to carry but unsightly in appearance.

With the foregoing difficulties in view, the present invention seeks to provide a key holder which is variable in size and shape with the number of keys to be held on the key holder or at the user's desire.

The present invention further seeks to provide a key holder which is handy to carry and slightly in appearance.

The present invention further seeks to provide a key holder having a unique and fashionable design which provides a sense of amusing for the user.

According to the present invention, there is provided a key holder comprising: a holding strap composed of a row of coupling elements attached to a flexible core cord, each of the coupling elements having a coupling head which is symmetric in shape about a longitudinal axis of the respective coupling element; an end stop mounted across opposite ends of the holding strap for connecting them while keeping the holding strap bent into a closed loop with the respective coupling heads of the coupling elements directed inwardly of the looped holding strap; and a slider slidably mounted on and movable along opposed ones of the coupling elements for taking them into and out of interdigitating engagement to contract and expand the loop of the holding strap.

When the number of keys to be held on the key holder is small, the slider is moved in a direction away from the end stop to contract the loop of the holding strap. Conversely, when the number of keys to be held on the key holder is increased, the loop of the holding strap is enlarged by moving the slider toward the end stop.

Many other advantages and features of the present invention will become manifest to those versed in the art upon making reference to the detailed description and the accompanying sheets of drawings in which preferred structural embodiments incorporat-

ing the principles of the present invention are shown by way of the illustrative example.

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a key holder according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a rear view of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a right side view of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a front elevational view of the key holder as it is in a releasing position;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the key holder as it is in a holding position;

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary front elevational view of a part of the key holder showing coupling elements;

Figure 7 is a side view of Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a view similar to Figure 6, but showing coiled filamentary coupling elements;

Figure 9 is a side view of Figure 8;

Figure 10 is a view similar to Figure 6, but showing zigzag filamentary coupling elements;

Figure 11 is a side view of Figure 10;

Figure 12 is a view similar to Figure 6, but showing coupling elements injection-molded of synthetic resin;

Figure 13 is a side view of Figure 12;

Figure 14 is a view similar to Figure 12, but showing coupling elements extrusion-molded of synthetic resin;

Figure 15 is a side view of Figure 14;

Figure 16 is a perspective view of a core cord of twisted yarn;

Figure 17 is a view similar to Figure 16, but showing a knit core cord;

Figure 18 is a view similar to Figure 16, but showing a core cord formed of a woven flexible wire;

Figure 19 is a view similar to Figure 16, but showing a woven fabric blade;

Figure 20 is a perspective view of a key holder according to another embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 21 is a cross-sectional view showing a locking mechanism associated with a slider of the key holder shown in Figure 20;

Figure 22 is a view similar to Figure 21, but showing the locking mechanism in a releasing or unlocking position;

Figure 23 is a front elevational view showing the manner in which the key holder operates;

Figure 24 is a perspective view of a key holder having a modified slider locking mechanism;

Figure 25 is a cross-sectional view illustrative of the manner in which the slider locking mechanism operates;

Figure 26 is a side view, partly in cross section, of a modified slider having a detachable pull tab, the view showing the pull tab detached from a slider body;

Figure 27 is a side view of the slider shown in Figure 26, the view showing the pull tab attached to

the slider body;

Figure 28 is a cross-sectional view of another slider locking mechanism with parts in a locking position;

Figure 29 is a view similar to Figure 28, but showing the locking mechanism with parts in an unlocking position;

Figure 30 is a perspective view of a slider having a modified locking mechanism;

Figure 31 is a cross-sectional view of the locking mechanism with parts in a locking position;

Figure 32 is a view similar to Figure 31, but showing the locking mechanism with parts in an unlocking position;

Figure 33 is a cross-sectional view of another slider in which the locking mechanism of Figure 30 is incorporated;

Figure 34 is a perspective view of a key holder having a modified end stop;

Figure 35 is an enlarged cross sectional view of a slider locking mechanism associated with a slider of the key holder shown in Figure 34;

Figure 36 is an enlarged front elevational view, with part in cross section, of the end stop shown in Figure 34;

Figure 37 is a cross-sectional view of a lockable slider forming a part of the modified end stop;

Figure 38 is a front elevational view of a key holder having a hinged separable end stop;

Figure 39 is an enlarged perspective view of the hinged separable end stop as it is in a separated condition;

Figure 40 is a front elevational view illustrative of the operation of the hinged separable end stop;

Figure 41 is a perspective view of a modified end stop having grip tabs;

Figure 42 is a view similar to Figure 41, showing the operation of the end stop;

Figure 43 is a perspective view of a modified key holder according to the present invention;

Figure 44 is a front elevational view of a key ring;

Figure 45 is a front elevational, partly cross-sectional view of a modified key ring;

Figure 46 is a modified key holder having a slider stopper according to the present invention;

Figure 47 is a fragmentary perspective view of a key holder having a modified slider stopper;

Figure 48 is a view similar to Figure 47, but showing another modified slider stopper;

Figures 49 and 50 are front elevational views illustrative of the operation of the key holder shown in Figure 46; and

Figure 51 is a perspective view of a conventional key holder.

The present invention will be described hereinbelow in greater detail with reference to certain preferred embodiments illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Like reference characters denote like or

corresponding parts throughout several views.

Figures 1 through 3 show a key holder 10 according to a first embodiment of the present invention. The key holder 10 generally comprises a key holding strap 11, a slider 13 having a pull tab 12, a separable end stop 14 for releasably connecting opposite ends of the holding strap 11.

The holding strap 11 is composed of a row of discrete coupling elements 15 attached to a flexible core cord 16 at equal intervals. Each of the coupling elements 15 has a coupling head (not designated) which is symmetric in shape about a longitudinal axis of the respective coupling element 15, as shown in Figure 6. Stated more specifically, the coupling head has a projection on each side of the coupling element 15. The coupling elements 15 are made of metal and attached by die-casting to the core cord 16 astride of the core cord 16, as shown in Figure 7. The coupling elements 15 may be replaced with a row of coiled coupling elements 15a formed from a continuous thermoplastic monofilament and attached to a core cord 16 by sewing stitches (not designated) with the core cord 16 extending through the coiled coupling elements 15a, as shown in Figures 8 and 9. Alternatively, it is possible to use a row of zigzag coupling elements 15b mounted astride the core cord 16 as shown in Figures 10 and 11, the zigzag coupling elements 15b being formed from a continuous thermoplastic monofilament and attached to a core cord 16 by sewing stitches. Figures 12 and 13 show a modified form of the coupling elements. The coupling elements 15c are formed of a synthetic resin injection-molded on a core cord 16. As a further alternative, a row of coupling elements 15d extrusion-molded of a synthetic resin can be used as shown in Figures 14 and 15.

Examples of the flexible core cord 16 may include a fabric cord 16a of twisted yarn (Figure 16), a knit fabric cord 16b (Figure 17), a flexible woven wire 16c (Figure 18) and a woven fabric blade 16d (Figure 19).

As shown in Figures 1 and 3, the slider 13 preferably has a lock mechanism 17 for locking the slider 13 in position against movement relative to the row of coupling elements 15, thereby protecting an accidental separation of the interengaged coupling elements 15. The slider lock mechanism 17 may be of the auto-lock type including a spring-biased locking prong normally urged into engagement with one of the coupling elements 15, the semi-autolock type including a locking element in the form of a cam or a pin which is movable into and out of interlocking engagement in response to an angular movement of the pull tab, or a notch lock slider. The structural details of the slider lock mechanism 17 will be described later on.

The separable end stop 14 is composed of a retainer pin 18 secured to one of opposite ends of the holding strap 11 and having a retainer box 19 connected thereto, and a separable pin 20 secured to the other end of the holding strap 11 and releasably

receivable in the retainer box 19 for detachably connecting the opposite ends of the holding strap 11 while the strap 11 is being bent into a closed loop 11a, with the coupling heads of the respective coupling elements 15 directed inwardly of the looped holding strap 11.

The individual coupling elements 15, the slider 13 and the separable end stop 14 are all made of metal and plated with a nickel or a material which provides a coated layer of gold color or silver color. The key holder 10 having such plated components 15, 13, 14 is attractive in appearance.

The key holder 10 of the foregoing construction operates as follows. The slider 13 is moved in a direction to disengage opposed ones of the coupling elements 15 on the looped holding strap 11 until it abuts on the retainer box 19. While keeping the slider 13 on the retainer box 19, the separable pin 20 is released from the retainer box 19 through the slider 13 to thereby disengage or separate the opposite ends of the holding strap 11. The holding strap 11 is thus allowed to extend linearly as shown in Figure 4. Then with the separable pin 20 directed forwardly, the holding strap 11 is threaded through a key hole 21 in a key K or through a split key ring 22 attached to the key K. The separable pin 20 is inserted through the slider 13 into the retainer pin 19 to connect the opposite ends of the holding strap 11 for completing the loop 11a of the holding strap 11. Then the slider 13 is moved away from the separable end stop 14 to a desired extent to thereby hold the key K on the holding strap 11 of the key holder 10, as shown in Figure 5. The degree to which the loop 11a of the holding strap 11 is enlarged or contracted can be adjusted depending upon the extent of movement of the slider 13 so as to conform to the number of keys to be held on the key holder 10 or to meet the user's desire. The key holder 10 is therefore handy to carry and slightly in appearance.

Figure 20 shows a modified form of the key holder according to the present invention. The modified key holder 30 is substantially the same as the key holder 10 shown in Figure 1, excepting that the slider lock mechanism 17 is of the key-lockable type. The key-lockable slider lock mechanism 17 includes a key 31, a cylinder 32 rotatably mounted on a body of the slider 13 and having a keyhole in which the key 31 is received, and a compression coil spring 33 disposed in the slider body and acting between the slider body and an end of an elongate locking strip 34 to urge the end of the locking strip 34 against a recessed cam surface of the cylinder 32, the locking strip 34 having a locking prong 35 at an opposite end thereof.

To lock the slider 13 in position against movement relative to the coupling elements 15, the key 31 is inserted into the keyhole in the cylinder 32 and then turned to rotate the cylinder in either direction, thus causing the locking strip 34 to be pivoted by the cam surface on the cylinder 32 in a direction to move the

locking prong 35 into interlocking engagement with one of the coupling elements 15, as shown in Figure 21. When the slider 13 is to be unlocked, the cylinder 32 is turned by the key 31 through an angle of 180° from the position shown in Figure 21 to a position shown in Figure 22 whereupon the locking strip 34 is pivoted upwardly about the cam surface on the cylinder 32 to thereby disengage the locking prong 35 from the coupling element 15. The slider 13 is thus allowed to move relative to the coupling element for contracting or expanding the loop 11a of a holding strap 11. The key 31 is connected with a key chain 36 adapted to be threaded over the loop 11a of the holding strap 11 so that the missing of the key 31 can be prevented.

A modified slider lock mechanism 17 shown in Figures 24 and 25 is disposed on the underside of a slider 13. As a result, the slider 13 includes an ornamental pull tab 12 pivotally connected to an arcuate support lug 37 disposed on the upper surface of a slider body. The slider lock mechanism 17 comprises a pivotable cover 38 pivotally mounted on the underside of the slider body and having a locking prong 39 at its one end, and a compression coil spring 40 disposed in the cover 38 and acting between the slider body and the cover 38 to urge the latter clockwise in Figure 25. Thus, the locking prong 39 is normally brought into interlocking engagement with one of the coupling elements 15 to thereby lock the slider 13 in position against movement relative to the coupling elements 15. To release or unlock the slider 13, the cover 38 is manually pressed by the user's finger to turn counterclockwise against the force of the spring 40 until the locking prong 39 is disengaged from the coupling element 15. While keeping the cover 38 and the locking prong 39 in the respective unlocking positions illustrated in the phantom lines in Figure 25, the pull tab 12 is pulled to move the slider 13 along opposed ones of the coupling elements 15 for expanding and contracting the loop 11a (Figure 24) of a holding strap 11.

The pull tab 12 connected to the arcuate support lug 37 is not detachable from the slider body. The pull tab may be detachable connected to a support lug of the slider body in which instance the support lug comprises an arch-shaped lug 37a extending from the front end toward the rear end of an upper plate of the slider body and terminating in a downwardly bent end which is spaced from the upper plate by a gap for the passage therethrough of a spindle of the pull tab when the pull tab 12 is attached to or detached from the slider body. The slider 13 includes a spring-loaded pull tab retainer 37a slidably mounted on the upper plate of the slider body. The pull tab retainer 37b is movable between a pull tab retaining position to substantially close the cap for preventing the detachment of the pull tab 12 from the lug 37a, and a pull tab releasing position to open the gap for allowing the detachment of the pull tab 12 from the lug 37a. The

pull tab retainer 37b is normally urged in the pull tab retaining position shown in Figure 26. The pull tab 12 may be replaced to another ornamental pull tab at the user's desire.

Figures 28 and 29 show a modified slider lock mechanism 17 of the autolock type. The slider lock mechanism 17 is similar to the lock mechanism shown in Figures 21 and 22 but differs therefrom in that it includes a manually operated unlock knob 42 instead of the rotatable cylinder 32. The unlock knob 42 is normally urged upwardly by a compression coil spring 33 with an end of an elongate locking strip 34 held between the unlock knob 42 and the spring 33 so that a locking prong 35 on an opposite end of the locking strip 34 projects into a space between two adjacent coupling elements 15 to thereby lock the slider 13 in position against movement relative to the coupling elements 15, as shown in Figure 21. To unlock the slider 13, the unlock knob 42 is depressed by the user's finger 41 to cause the locking strip 34 to turn clockwise about an intermediate portion thereof, thereby releasing the locking prong 35 from interlocking engagement with the coupling element 15, as shown in Figure 22. While keeping the unlock knob 42 in this depressed unlock position, the slider 13 is moved along opposed ones of the coupling elements 15.

Another modified slider lock mechanism 17 shown in Figures 30 through 32 is a semi-autolock type including a pivotable cam lock 43 pivotally connected at one end to the body of a slider 13 for resiliently deforming a resilient locking strip 45 to releasably lock the slider 13 in position against movement relative to the coupling elements 15. The locking strip 45 is resiliently deformably disposed in the slider body and has a downwardly projecting central locking prong 46. The cam lock 43 has an integral cam 44 engageable with the resilient locking strip 45 to move the locking prong 46 into and out of interlocking engagement with one of the coupling elements 15. The cam lock 43 is movable between a recumbent locking position shown in Figure 31 in which the cam 44 urges the resilient locking strip 45 to bent or flex downwardly to thereby move the locking prong 46 into interlocking engagement with the coupling element 15, and a tilted releasing position shown in Figure 32 in which the cam 44 allows the resilient locking strip 45 to unbent or restore its original shape to thereby disengage the locking prong 46 from the coupling element 15.

The cam lock mechanism 43 may be mounted on the underside of the slider body as shown in Figure 33. In this instance, an ornamental pull tab 12 is connected to the upper plate of the slider body.

Figure 34 shows a key holder which is substantially the same as the key holder 10 shown in Figure 1 but differs therefrom in that there is provided a modified form of the separable end stop. The modified

end stop 14 includes, as shown in Figure 36, an auxiliary slider 47 disposed in tail-to-tail confrontation with a main slider 13, a curved retainer pin 48 secured to one of opposite ends of a holding strap 11 and having a lateral projection (not designated) engageable with the auxiliary slider 47 to hold the same against detachment from the holding strap 11, and a curved separable pin 49 secured to the other end of the holding strap 11 and releasably receivable in the auxiliary slider 47. With the auxiliary slider 47 thus provided, the interengaged coupling elements 15 can be disengaged or separated from the separable end stop 14 by moving the auxiliary slider 47 in a direction toward the main slider 13. The main slider 13 may include a slider lock mechanism 17 of the autolock type which comprises, as shown in Figure 35, a pivotable cover 38 with a locking prong 39, and a leaf spring 40a acting between the slider body and the cover 38 to urge the latter in a direction to move the locking prong 39 into interlocking engagement with one of the coupling elements. The slider lock mechanism 17 of this type is disclosed in Japanese Utility Model Publication No. 49-43446. Likewise, the auxiliary slider 47 may include a slider lock mechanism of the manual type which comprises, as shown in Figure 37, an L-shaped locking bolt 51 having a presser head (not designated) at an outer end of one arm of the L-shaped locking bolt 51, and a locking prong 52 at an outer end of the other arm of the L-shaped locking bolt 51. The locking bolt 51 is reciprocally movable between a locking position in which the locking prong 52 projects into the slider 47 for interlocking engagement with the coupling element, and a releasing position in which the locking prong 52 is disengaged from the coupling element, thereby releasing the slider 47. The reciprocating movement of the locking bolt 51 is limited by a predetermined extent by a detent means composed of a spring-biased locking ball 53 releasably receivable in one of two spaced retainer recesses 54 formed in the locking bolt 51.

Another modified form of the end stop 14 illustrated in Figures 38 through 40 comprises a hinged separable end stop which is composed of a retainer pin 55 secured to one of opposite ends of a holding strap 11 and having a shape capable of retaining a slider 13, and a separable pin 56 secured to the other end of the holding strap 11 and detachably connected to the retainer pin 55 by means of a hinge. To this end, the retainer pin 55 has a retaining recess 57 opening laterally inwardly and the separable pin 56 includes a hinge pin 58 releasably receivable in the retainer recess 57.

Figures 41 and 42 show another end stop of the separable type which is substantially the same as the separable end stop 14 shown in Figure 1 with the exception that a pair of grip tabs 59, 60 is formed integrally with the retainer and separable pins 18, 20, respectively, for facilitating the handling of the key hol-

der. The grip tab 59 has a central hole 61 used when hanging the key holder on a hook, for example. The grip tabs 59, 60 may be replaced by a single grip tab 62 (indicated by phantom lines in Figure 41) formed integrally with the retainer box 19, the grip tab 62 having a central hole 63 provided for purposes of storage of the key holder.

A key holder 70 shown in Figure 43 is similar to the key holder shown in Figure 24 but differs therefrom in that the end stop 14 is composed of a one-piece end stop member 71 of a horizontal H-shape secured to a holding strap 11 across opposite end thereof to firmly connect the opposite ends of the holding strap 11. Another difference is that the keys K are threaded over a split key ring 22 which in turn is threaded over the holding strap 11. The split key ring 22 may be replaced with a card ring 22a (Figure 44) having a pair of hinged arcuate arms 72, 72 interlockingly engageable together to complete a circular shape. Another alternative form of the split key ring 22 comprises a bolt ring 22b (Figure 45) including a tube 74 of an interrupted circular shape, a tongue 75 movably disposed in an end of the tube 74, and a compression coil spring 76 disposed in the tube 74 and acting between the tube 74 and the tongue 75 for urging the latter to project into the opposite end of the tube 74.

Figure 46 shows a key holder 80 substantially the same as the key holder 10 of the foregoing embodiment shown in Figures 1 through 5, excepting that the movement of the slider 13 in a direction toward the separable end stop 14 is limited by a stopper 81 mounted on the end stop 14 astride the retainer and separable pins 18, 20. The stopper 81 is formed of a resilient strip of metal or synthetic resin and bent into a generally horizontal C-shape having a pair of laterally spaced resilient legs 82 each having a locking foot 83 projecting laterally inwardly toward the locking foot 83 on the opposite resilient leg 83.

In use, a holding strap 11 of the key holder 80 is threaded through the key holes in the respective keys K and through the split key ring 22 connected to keys K, as shown in Figure 49 and then bent into a closed loop 11a by inserting the separable pin 20 through the slider 13 into the retainer box 19 of the end stop 14. After the slider 13 is moved in a direction away from the end stop 14 for contracting or reducing the loop 11a of the holding strap 11, the stopper 81 is snap-fitted to the end stop 14 astride the retainer and separable pins 18, 20, as seen from Figure 46. With the stopper 81 thus provided, the movement of the slider 13 toward the end stop 14 terminates upon abutment with the stopper 81, as shown in Figure 50, so that an accidental removal of the separable pin 20 from the retainer box 19 can be prevented. Figure 47 shows a modified stopper 81a having a horizontal U-shape and adapted to be mounted on the end stop 14 by being fitted sideways successively over the retainer

pin 19 and over the separable pin 20 until the respective locking feet 83a lockingly engages the separable pin 20. As an alternative, the stopper may comprise a pivotable stopper 81b connected to the retainer box 19 by a pair of coaxial pivot pins 84 (only one shown). The pivotable stopper 81b is angularly movable about the pivot pins 84 between a horizontal working position to prevent movement of the slider 13 toward the end stop 14, and a tilted standby position to allow the slider 13 to engage the end stop 14.

Claims

1. A key holder (10; 30; 70; 80) comprising: a holding strap (11) composed of a row of coupling elements (15) attached to a flexible core cord (16), each of said coupling elements (15) having a coupling head which is symmetric in shape about a longitudinal axis of said coupling element (15); an end stop (14) mounted across opposite ends of said holding strap (11) for connecting them while keeping said holding strap (11) bent into a closed loop (11a) with the respective coupling heads of said coupling elements (15) directed inwardly of said looped holding strap (11); and a slider (13) slidably mounted on and movable along opposed ones of the coupling elements (15) for taking them into and out of interdigitating engagement to contract and expand said loop (11a) of the holding strap (11).

2. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the separable type comprising a retainer pin (18) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and having a retainer box (19) connected thereto, and a separable pin (20) secured to the other end of said holding strap (11) and releasably receivable in said box (19) for releasably connecting said opposite ends of the holding strap (11).

3. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the separable type comprising an auxiliary slider (47) slidably mounted on the opposed coupling elements (15) in tail-to-tail confrontation to said slider (13), a retainer pin (48) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and capable of retaining thereon said auxiliary slider (47), and a separable pin (49) secured to the other end of said holding strap (11) and releasably receivable in said auxiliary slider (47).

4. A key holder (10) according to claim 3, said auxiliary slider (47) including a lock mechanism (50) for releasably locking said auxiliary slider (47) in position against movement relative to said row of coupling elements (15).

5. A key holder (10) according to claim 4, said lock mechanism (50) comprising an L-shaped locking bolt (51) reciprocally mounted in a body of said slider (13) and having a locking prong (52) movable into and out of interlocking engagement with one of said coupling elements (15) in response to reciprocating movement



der. The grip tab 59 has a central hole 61 used when hanging the key holder on a hook, for example. The grip tabs 59, 60 may be replaced by a single grip tab 62 (indicated by phantom lines in Figure 41) formed integrally with the retainer box 19, the grip tab 62 having a central hole 63 provided for purposes of storage of the key holder.

A key holder 70 shown in Figure 43 is similar to the key holder shown in Figure 24 but differs therefrom in that the end stop 14 is composed of a one-piece end stop member 71 of a horizontal H-shape secured to a holding strap 11 across opposite end thereof to firmly connect the opposite ends of the holding strap 11. Another difference is that the keys K are threaded over a split key ring 22 which in turn is threaded over the holding strap 11. The split key ring 22 may be replaced with a card ring 22a (Figure 44) having a pair of hinged arcuate arms 72, 72 interlockingly engageable together to complete a circular shape. Another alternative form of the split key ring 22 comprises a bolt ring 22b (Figure 45) including a tube 74 of an interrupted circular shape, a tongue 75 movably disposed in an end of the tube 74, and a compression coil spring 76 disposed in the tube 74 and acting between the tube 74 and the tongue 75 for urging the latter to project into the opposite end of the tube 74.

Figure 46 shows a key holder 80 substantially the same as the key holder 10 of the foregoing embodiment shown in Figures 1 through 5, excepting that the movement of the slider 13 in a direction toward the separable end stop 14 is limited by a stopper 81 mounted on the end stop 14 astride the retainer and separable pins 18, 20. The stopper 81 is formed of a resilient strip of metal or synthetic resin and bent into a generally horizontal C-shape having a pair of laterally spaced resilient legs 82 each having a locking foot 83 projecting laterally inwardly toward the locking foot 83 on the opposite resilient leg 83.

In use, a holding strap 11 of the key holder 80 is threaded through the key holes in the respective keys K and through the split key ring 22 connected to keys K, as shown in Figure 49 and then bent into a closed loop 11a by inserting the separable pin 20 through the slider 13 into the retainer box 19 of the end stop 14. After the slider 13 is moved in a direction away from the end stop 14 for contracting or reducing the loop 11a of the holding strap 11, the stopper 81 is snap-fitted to the end stop 14 astride the retainer and separable pins 18, 20, as seen from Figure 46. With the stopper 81 thus provided, the movement of the slider 13 toward the end stop 14 terminates upon abutment with the stopper 81, as shown in Figure 50, so that an accidental removal of the separable pin 20 from the retainer box 19 can be prevented. Figure 47 shows a modified stopper 81a having a horizontal U-shape and adapted to be mounted on the end stop 14 by being fitted sideways successively over the retainer

pin 19 and over the separable pin 20 until the respective locking feet 83a lockingly engages the separable pin 20. As an alternative, the stopper may comprise a pivotable stopper 81b connected to the retainer box 19 by a pair of coaxial pivot pins 84 (only one shown). The pivotable stopper 81b is angularly movable about the pivot pins 84 between a horizontal working position to prevent movement of the slider 13 toward the end stop 14, and a tilted standby position to allow the slider 13 to engage the end stop 14.

Claims

1. A key holder (10; 30; 70; 80) comprising: a holding strap (11) composed of a row of coupling elements (15) attached to a flexible core cord (16), each of said coupling elements (15) having a coupling head which is symmetric in shape about a longitudinal axis of said coupling element (15); an end stop (14) mounted across opposite ends of said holding strap (11) for connecting them while keeping said holding strap (11) bent into a closed loop (11a) with the respective coupling heads of said coupling elements (15) directed inwardly of said looped holding strap (11); and a slider (13) slidably mounted on and movable along opposed ones of the coupling elements (15) for taking them into and out of interdigitating engagement to contract and expand said loop (11a) of the holding strap (11).

2. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the separable type comprising a retainer pin (18) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and having a retainer box (19) connected thereto, and a separable pin (20) secured to the other end of said holding strap (11) and releasably receivable in said box (19) for releasably connecting said opposite ends of the holding strap (11).

3. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the separable type comprising an auxiliary slider (47) slidably mounted on the opposed coupling elements (15) in tail-to-tail confrontation to said slider (13), a retainer pin (48) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and capable of retaining thereon said auxiliary slider (47), and a separable pin (49) secured to the other end of said holding strap (11) and releasably receivable in said auxiliary slider (47).

4. A key holder (10) according to claim 3, said auxiliary slider (47) including a lock mechanism (50) for releasably locking said auxiliary slider (47) in position against movement relative to said row of coupling elements (15).

5. A key holder (10) according to claim 4, said lock mechanism (50) comprising an L-shaped locking bolt (51) reciprocally mounted in a body of said slider (13) and having a locking prong (52) movable into and out of interlocking engagement with one of said coupling elements (15) in response to reciprocating movement



of said locking bolt (51), and detent means for limiting the reciprocating movement of said locking bolt (51) within a predetermined range.

6. A key holder (10) according to claim 4, said auxiliary slider (47) further including a pull tab (12) pivotally connected to a body of said auxiliary slider (47).

7. A key holder (10) according to claim 6, said pull tab (12) being disposed on a side which is opposite to the side on which said lock mechanism (50) is provided.

8. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said end stop being of the separable type comprising a retainer pin (55) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and capable of retaining thereon said slider (13), a separable pin (56) secured to the other end of said holding strap (11), and hinge means for detachably and pivotally connecting said retainer and separable pins (55, 56).

9. A key holder (10) according to claim 8, said hinge means comprising a recessed portion (57) of said retainer pin (55), and a hinge pin (58) mounted on said separable pin (56) and releasably receivable in said recessed portion (57) in said retainer pin (55).

10. A key holder (70) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the fixed type comprising a one-piece end stop member (71) firmly secured to said holding strap (11) across said opposite ends of the holding strap (11).

11. A key holder (80) according to claim 1, said end stop (14) being of the separable type, further including a stopper (81; 81a; 81b) detachable mounted on said separable end stop (14) for limiting the movement of said slider (13) toward said separable end stop (14).

12. A key holder (80) according to claim 11, said separable end stop (14) including a retainer pin (18) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and a separable pin (20) secured to the opposite end of said holding strap (11), said stopper (81) being formed of a strip of resilient material bent into a horizontal C-shape, said resilient stopper (81) being snap-fitted to said separable end stop (14) astride said retainer and separable pins (18, 20).

13. A key holder (80) according to claim 11, said separable end stop (14) including a retainer pin (18) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap (11) and a separable pin (20) secured to the opposite end of said holding strap (11), said stopper (81a) being formed of a strip of resilient material bent into a horizontal U-shape, said resilient stopper (81) being snappingly fitted sideways successively over one (18 or 29) of said retainer and separable pins (18, 20) and over the other (20 or 18) of said retainer and separable pins (18, 20).

14. A key holder (80) according to claim 11, said separable end stop (14) including a retainer pin (18) secured to one of opposite ends of said holding strap

(11) and having a retainer box (19) connected thereto, and a separable pin (20) secured to the opposite end of said holding strap (11) and releasably receivable in said retainer box (19), said stopper (81b) being formed of a strip of resilient material bent into a horizontal C-shape and pivotally connected to said retainer box (19), said stopper (81b) being movable between a horizontal position to snappingly fit with the retainer and separable pins (18, 20) to thereby prevent the movement of the slider (13) toward said retainer box (19), and a tilted position to allow said slider (13) to move into abutment with the retainer box (19).

15. A key holder (10) according to claim 1, said slider (13) including a lock mechanism (17) for releasably locking said slider (13) in position against movement relative to said row of coupling elements (15).

16. A key holder (10) according to claim 15, said lock mechanism (17) being of the key-lockable type comprising a key (31), a cylinder (32) rotatably mounted on said slider (13) and having a keyhole for receiving therein said key (31) and a cam surface, a locking strip (34) having a locking prong (35) at an end thereof, and a compression coil spring (33) acting between said slider (13) and an opposite end of said locking strip (34) for urging the latter against said cam surface, said cam surface, upon rotation of said cylinder (32), being operative to cause said locking strip (34) to pivot about said cam surface to thereby move said locking prong (35) into and out of interlocking engagement with said one coupling element (15), said key (31) being connected with a key chain (36) threaded over said holding strap (11).

17. A key holder (10) according to claim 15, said lock mechanism (17) being of the autolock type comprising a cover (38) pivotally mounted on said slider (13) and having a locking prong (39) at its one end, and a spring (40; 40a) acting between said slider (13) and said cover (38) for urging the latter in a direction to move said locking prong (39) into interlocking engagement with said one coupling element (15).

18. A key holder (10) according to claim 15, said lock mechanism (17) being of the autolock type comprising a manually operated unlock knob (42) reciprocally movably mounted on said slider (13), a locking strip (34) having a locking prong (35) at an end thereof, and a compression coil spring (33) acting between said slider (13) and an opposite end of said locking strip (34) to urge the latter against said unlock knob (42), said unlock knob (42) and said locking strip (34) being normally urged by said spring (33) in a direction to move said locking prong (35) into interlocking engagement with said one coupling element (15).

19. A key holder (10) according to claim 15, said lock mechanism (17) being of a semi-autolock type comprising a resilient locking strip (45) resiliently deformably disposed in said slider (13) and having a locking projection (46), and a cam lock (43) pivotally



connected to said slider (13) and having a cam (44) engageable with said locking strip (45) and resiliently flexing said locking strip (45) in a direction to urge said locking prong (46) into interlocking engagement with said one coupling element (15) in response to angular movement of said cam lock (43).

20. A key holder (10) according to claim 15, said lock mechanism (17) being disposed on one side of the slider (13), said pull tab (12) being disposed on an opposite side of said slider (13).

Revendications

1. Porte-clés (10; 30; 70; 80) comprenant: une bande de support (11) composée d'une rangée d'éléments d'accouplement (15) fixés à un cordon flexible (16) comportant une âme, chacun des éléments d'accouplement (15) comportant une tête d'accouplement dont la forme est symétrique par rapport à l'axe longitudinal de l'élément d'accouplement (15); une butée d'extrémité (14) montée en travers des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) pour relier ces extrémités tout en maintenant la bande de support (11) courbée sous la forme d'une boucle fermée (11a), les têtes d'accouplement respectives des éléments d'accouplement (15) étant dirigées vers l'intérieur de la bande de support (11) formant une boucle; et un curseur (13) monté de façon coulissante sur ceux des éléments d'accouplement (15) qui sont opposés et pouvant se déplacer le long de ces éléments d'accouplement pour les accoupler et les désaccoupler afin de contracter et de dilater ladite boucle (11a) de la bande de support (11).

2. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 1, ladite butée d'extrémité (14) étant du type séparable comprenant un tenon de retenue (18) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et comportant une pièce d'emboîtement (19) qui lui est accouplée, et un tenon séparable (20) fixé à l'autre extrémité de la bande de support (11) et lobé de façon libérable dans la pièce d'emboîtement (19) pour accoupler de façon libérable les extrémités opposées précitées de la bande de support (11).

3. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 1, ladite butée d'extrémité (14) étant du type séparable, comprenant un curseur auxiliaire (47) monté de façon coulissante bout à bout et en sens inverse par rapport au curseur (13) sur les éléments d'accouplement opposés (15), un tenon de retenue (48) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et pouvant retenir sur cette bande le curseur auxiliaire (47), et un tenon séparable (49) fixé à l'autre extrémité de la bande de support (11) et pouvant être logé de façon libérable dans le curseur auxiliaire (47).

4. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 3, ledit curseur auxiliaire (47) comprenant un mécanisme de verrouillage (50) pour verrouiller de façon libérable le

curseur auxiliaire (47) dans une position où il ne peut pas se déplacer par rapport à ladite rangée d'éléments d'accouplement (15).

5. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 4, ledit mécanisme de verrouillage (50) comprenant une pièce de verrouillage (51) en forme de L montée en vue d'un mouvement de va-et-vient dans le corps du curseur (13) et comportant une dent de verrouillage (52) pouvant être amenée en et hors de contact de verrouillage avec un premier des éléments d'accouplement (15) en réponse au déplacement de va-et-vient de la pièce de verrouillage (51), et un moyen d'arrêt pour limiter le déplacement de va-et-vient de la pièce de verrouillage (51) dans les limites d'une plage prédéterminée.

6. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 4, ledit curseur auxiliaire (47) comprenant, en outre, une tirette (12) articulée sur le corps du curseur auxiliaire (47).

7. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 6, ladite tirette (12) étant disposée sur un côté qui est opposé au côté sur lequel se trouve le mécanisme de verrouillage (50).

8. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 1, ladite butée d'extrémité étant du type séparable comprenant un tenon de retenue (55) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et apte à retenir pour cette dernière le curseur (13), un tenon séparable (56) fixé à l'autre extrémité de la bande de support (11), et un moyen d'articulation pour accoupler de façon démontable et pivotante le tenon de retenue (55) et le tenon séparable (56).

9. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 8, ledit moyen d'articulation comprenant une partie évidée (57) du tenon de retenue (55) et un axe d'articulation (58) monté sur le tenon séparable (56) et pouvant être logé de façon libérable dans la partie évasée (57) du tenon de retenue (55).

10. Porte-clés (70) selon la revendication 1, ladite butée d'extrémité (14) étant du type fixe, comprenant un élément d'arrêt terminal (71) formé d'une seule pièce et fixé fermement à la bande de support (11), en travers desdites extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11).

11. Porte-clés (80) selon la revendication 1, ladite butée d'extrémité (14) étant du type séparable, comprenant en outre un moyen d'arrêt (80; 81a; 81b) monté de façon amovible sur la butée d'extrémité séparable (14) pour limiter le déplacement du curseur (13) en direction de la butée séparable (14).

12. Porte-clés (80) selon la revendication 11, ladite butée d'extrémité séparable (14) comprenant un tenon de retenue (18) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et un tenon séparable (20) fixé à l'extrémité opposée de la bande de support (11), le moyen d'arrêt (81) étant formé d'une bande de matière élastique coudée de manière à présenter une forme en C horizontale, ledit moyen



d'arrêt élastique (81) étant enclenché sur la butée d'extrémité séparable (14) à cheval sur le tenon de retenue (18) et sur le tenon séparable (20).

13. Porte-clés (80) selon la revendication 11, ladite butée d'extrémité séparable (14) comprenant un tenon de retenue (18) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et un tenon séparable (20) fixé à l'extrémité opposée de la bande de support (11), le moyen d'arrêt (81a) étant formé d'une bande de matière élastique coudée de manière à présenter une forme en U horizontale, le moyen d'arrêt élastique (81) étant enclenché latéralement successivement sur un (18 ou 20) des tenons de retenue (18) et séparable (20) et sur l'autre (20 ou 18) des tenons de retenue (18) et séparable (20).

14. Porte-clés (80) selon la revendication 11, ladite butée d'extrémité séparable (14) comprenant un tenon de retenue (18) fixé à une des extrémités opposées de la bande de support (11) et comportant une pièce d'emboîtement (19) qui y est fixée et un tenon séparable (20) fixé à l'extrémité opposée de la bande de support (11) et pouvant être logé de façon libérable dans la pièce d'emboîtement (19), le moyen d'arrêt (81b) étant formé d'une bande de matière élastique coudée de manière à présenter une forme en C horizontale et étant articulé sur ladite pièce d'emboîtement (19), le moyen d'arrêt (81b) pouvant être déplacé entre une position horizontale de manière à s'enclencher sur le tenon de retenue (18) et sur le tenon séparable (20) afin d'empêcher de cette manière le déplacement du curseur (13) en direction de la pièce d'emboîtement (19) et une position inclinée pour permettre au curseur (13) de venir buter contre la pièce d'emboîtement (19).

15. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 1, ledit curseur (13) comprenant un mécanisme de verrouillage (17) pour verrouiller de façon libérable le curseur (13) dans une position où il ne peut pas se déplacer par rapport à la rangée d'éléments d'accouplement (15).

16. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 15, ledit mécanisme de verrouillage (17) étant du type verrouillable à l'aide d'une clé, comprenant une clé (31), un cylindre (32) monté de façon tournante sur ledit curseur (13) et comportant un trou de clé pour recevoir la clé (31) et une surface de poussée, une bande de verrouillage (34) comportant une dent de verrouillage (35) à une de ses extrémités, et un ressort hélicoïdal de compression (33) agissant entre le curseur (13) et l'extrémité opposée de la bande de verrouillage (34) pour pousser cette dernière contre la surface de poussée, ladite surface de poussée, lors de la rotation du cylindre (32), agissant de manière à faire pivoter la bande de verrouillage (34) autour de la surface de poussée afin de déplacer ainsi la dent de verrouillage (35) pour qu'elle vienne en ou hors de contact de verrouillage avec ledit premier élément d'accouplement (15), la clé (31) étant

reliée à une chaîne (36) de clé enfilée sur la bande de support (11).

17. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 15, ledit mécanisme de verrouillage (17) étant du type auto-verrouillable comprenant un couvercle (38) articulé sur le curseur (13) et comportant une dent de verrouillage (39) à une des extrémités, et un ressort (40;40a) agissant entre le curseur (13) et le couvercle (38) pour pousser ce dernier dans une direction où il déplace la dent de verrouillage (39) de manière à la faire venir en contact de verrouillage avec ledit premier élément d'accouplement (15).

18. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 15, mécanisme de verrouillage (17) étant du type auto-verrouillable comprenant un bouton de déverrouillage manuel (42) monté de façon mobile suivant un mouvement de va-et-vient sur le curseur (13) une bande de verrouillage (34) comportant une dent de verrouillage (35) à une de ses extrémités, et un ressort hélicoïdal de compression (33) agissant entre le curseur (13) et une extrémité opposée de la bande de verrouillage (34) pour pousser cette dernière contre le bouton de déverrouillage (42), ledit bouton de déverrouillage (42) et la bande de verrouillage (34) étant normalement poussés par le ressort (33) dans une direction où ils déplacent la dent de verrouillage (35) de manière à la faire venir en contact de verrouillage avec ledit premier élément d'accouplement (15).

19. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 15, ledit mécanisme de verrouillage (17) étant du type semi-autoverrouillable comprenant une bande de verrouillage élastique (45) disposée de façon déformable élastiquement dans le curseur (13) et comportant une saillie de verrouillage (46), et un verrou formant came (43) articulé sur le curseur (13) et comportant une came (44) pouvant venir en contact avec la bande de verrouillage (45) et faisant fléchir élastiquement la bande de verrouillage (45) dans une direction où elle pousse la dent de verrouillage (46) en contact de verrouillage avec ledit premier élément d'accouplement (15) en réponse au déplacement angulaire du verrou formant came (43).

20. Porte-clés (10) selon la revendication 15, le mécanisme de verrouillage (17) étant disposé sur un des côtés du curseur (13), la tirette (12) étant disposée sur le côté opposé du curseur (13).

Patentansprüche

1. Schlüsselhalter (10;30;70;80) umfassend: ein Halteband (11), das aus einer Reihe von an einer flexiblen Kernschnur (16) befestigten Kuppelgliedern (15) gebildet ist, wobei jedes Kuppelglied (15) einen Kupplungskopf hat, dessen Form zu einer Längsachse des Kuppelglieds (15) symmetrisch ist; ein Begrenzungsteil (14), das an gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) rittlings angeordnet ist, um die-



se zu verbinden während das Halteband (11) in einer geschlossenen Schlaufe (11a) gebogen gehalten wird, wobei die Kuppelköpfe der Kuppelglieder (15) von dem schlaufenförmigen Halteband (11) nach innen weisen; und einen Schieber (13), der längs der gegenüberliegenden Kuppelglieder (15) verschiebbar ist, um diese zu einer Verkleinerung und Vergrößerung der Schlaufe (11a) des Haltebandes (11) in und außer Kupplungseingriff zu bringen.

2. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Begrenzungsstück (14) von der teilbaren Bauart ist, umfassend einen Haltestift (18), der an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigt ist und der ein damit verbundenes Kastenteil (19) aufweist, und einen Teilbarkelstift (20), der an dem anderen Ende des Haltebandes (11) befestigt und in das Kastenteil (19) lösbar einführbar ist, um die gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) lösbar zu verbinden.

3. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Begrenzungsstück (14) von der teilbaren Bauart ist, umfassend einen Hilfsschieber (47), der auf den gegenüberliegenden Kuppelgliedern (15) angeordnet ist, wobei sein verjüngtes Ende dem verjüngten Ende des Schiebers (13) zugekehrt ist, einen Haltestift (48), der an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigt ist und der den Hilfsschieber (47) festhalten kann, und einen Teilbarkelstift (49), der an dem anderen Ende des Haltebandes (11) befestigt und in den Hilfsschieber (47) lösbar einführbar ist.

4. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 3, wobei der Hilfsschieber (47) einen Sperrmechanismus (50) aufweist, um den Hilfsschieber (47) gegen eine Relativbewegung auf der Kuppelgliederreihe (15) lösbar zu verriegeln.

5. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 4, wobei der Sperrmechanismus (50) einen L-förmigen Sperrbolzen (51) umfaßt, der in einem Körper des Schiebers (13) hin- und herbewegbar gelagert ist und eine Sperrklaue (52) aufweist, die entsprechend der hin- und hergehenden Bewegung des Sperrbolzens (51) mit einem der Kuppelglieder (15) in und außer Eingriff bringbar ist, und Rastmittel umfaßt, um die hin- und hergehende Bewegung des Sperrbolzens (51) auf einen bestimmten Bereich zu begrenzen.

6. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 4, wobei der Hilfsschieber (47) ferner einen Griff (12) aufweist, der mit einem Körper des Hilfsschiebers (47) schwenkbar verbunden ist.

7. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 6, wobei der Griff (12) auf einer Seite angeordnet ist, die derjenigen Seite gegenüberliegt, an der der Sperrmechanismus (50) angeordnet ist.

8. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Begrenzungsstück von der teilbaren Bauart ist, umfassend einen Haltestift (55), der an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigt

ist und der den Schieber (13) festhalten kann, einen abnehmbaren Stift (56), der an dem anderen Ende des Haltebandes (11) befestigt ist, und Gelenkmittel zum lösaren und schwenkbaren Verbinden des Haltestifts (55) und des abnehmbaren Stifts (56).

9. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 8, wobei die Gelenkmittel einen ausgesparten Bereich (57) des Haltestifts (55) und einen Gelenkzapfen (58) umfassen, der an dem abnehmbaren Stift (56) ausgebildet und in den ausgesparten Bereich (57) des Haltestifts (55) lösbar einsetzbar ist.

10. Schlüsselhalter (70) nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Begrenzungsstück (14) von der unteilbaren Bauart ist, umfassend ein einstückiges Begrenzungsstück (71), das an dem Halteband (11) rittlings zu den gegenüberliegenden Enden desselben befestigt ist.

11. Schlüsselhalter (80) nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Begrenzungsstück (14) von der teilbaren Bauart ist, ferner umfassend einen Anschlag (81; 81a; 81b), der an dem teilbaren Begrenzungsstück (14) lösbar angeordnet ist, um die Bewegung des Schiebers (13) zu dem teilbaren Begrenzungsstück (14) hin zu begrenzen.

12. Schlüsselhalter (80) nach Anspruch 11, wobei das teilbare Begrenzungsstück (14) einen an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigten Haltestift (18) und einen an dem gegenüberliegenden Ende des Haltebandes (11) befestigten abnehmbaren Stift (20) aufweist, wobei der Anschlag (81) aus einem Streifen aus elastischem Material gebildet ist, das horizontal C-förmig gebogen ist, wobei dieser elastische Anschlag (81) mit Federsitz rittlings auf den Haltestift und den abnehmbaren Stift (18, 20) lösbar aufgesteckt ist.

13. Schlüsselhalter (80) nach Anspruch 11, wobei das teilbare Begrenzungsstück (14) einen an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigten Haltestift (18) und einen an dem gegenüberliegenden Ende des Haltebandes (18) befestigten abnehmbaren Stift (20) aufweist, wobei der Anschlag (81a) aus einem Streifen aus elastischem Material gebildet ist, das horizontal U-förmig gebogen ist, wobei dieser federnde Anschlag (81) mit Federsitz seitlich nacheinander über einen (18 oder 20) der Halte- und Teilbarkelstifte (18, 20) und über den anderen (20 oder 18) der Halte- und Teilbarkelstifte (18, 20) aufgesteckt ist.

14. Schlüsselhalter (80) nach Anspruch 11, wobei das teilbare Begrenzungsstück (14) einen an einem der gegenüberliegenden Enden des Haltebandes (11) befestigten Haltestift (18) und ein damit verbundenes Kastenteil (19) sowie einen am gegenüberliegenden Ende des Haltebandes (11) befestigten abnehmbaren Stift (20) aufweist, der in das Kastenteil (19) lösbar einführt ist, wobei der Anschlag (81b) aus einem Streifen aus elastischem Material gebildet ist, das horizontal C-förmig gebogen und mit dem Kastenteil (19) schwenkbar verbunden ist, wobei der Anschlag (81b) zwischen einer horizontalen Stellung zum fe-



dernden Eingriff mit dem Halte- und dem Teilbarkelstift (18,20), um eine Bewegung des Schiebers (13) zum Kastenteil (19) hin zu verhindern, und einer geschwenkten Stellung bewegbar ist, damit der Schieber (13) zur Anlage an das Kastenteil (19) bewegbar ist.

15. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 1, wobei der Schieber (13) einen Sperrmechanismus (17) aufweist, um den Schieber (13) gegen eine Bewegung auf der Kuppelgliederreihe (15) lösbar zu verriegeln

16. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 15, wobei der Verriegelungsmechanismus (17) von der absperrbaren Bauart ist, umfassend einen Schlüssel (31), einen Zylinder (32) der auf dem Schieber (13) drehbar ist, und ein Schlüsselloch zur Aufnahme des Schlüssels (31) und eine Steuerkurve aufweist, einen Sperrstreifen (34), der an einem Ende eine Sperrklaue (35) aufweist, und eine Schraubendruckfeder (33), die sich an dem Schieber (13) und an einem gegenüberliegenden Ende des Sperrstreifens (34) abstützt, um letzteren gegen die Steuerkurve anzudrücken, wobei die Steuerkurve bei einer Verdrehung des Zylinders (32) wirksam ist, den Sperrstreifen (34) um diese Steuerkurve zu verschwenken, um dadurch die Sperrklaue (35) mit einem der Kuppelglieder (15) in und außer Eingriff zu bringen, wobei der Schlüssel (31) mit einer Schlüsselkette (36) verbunden ist, die um das Halteband (11) herumgeschlungen ist.

17. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 15, wobei der Sperrmechanismus (17) von der selbstsperrenden Bauart ist, umfassend eine Kappe (38), die auf dem Schieber (13) schwenkbar gelagert ist und an einem Ende eine Sperrklaue (39) aufweist, und eine Feder (40;40a), die sich an dem Schieber (13) und an der Kappe (38) abstützt, um letztere in eine Richtung zu belasten, damit die Sperrklaue (39) mit einem der Kuppelglieder (15) in Sperreingriff gelangt.

18. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 15, wobei der Sperrmechanismus (17) von der selbstsperrenden Bauart ist, umfassend einen manuell betätigbaren Entriegelungsknopf (42), der auf dem Schieber (13) hin- und herbewegbar gelagert ist, einen Sperrstreifen (34), der an einem Ende eine Sperrklaue (35) aufweist, und eine Schraubendruckfeder (33), die sich an dem Schieber (13) und an dem gegenüberliegenden Ende des Sperrstreifens (34) abstützt, um letzteren gegen den Entriegelungsknopf (42) zu belasten, wobei der Entriegelungsknopf (42) und der Sperrstreifen (34) von dieser Feder (33) normalerweise in einer Richtung vorgespannt sind, um die Sperrklaue (35) mit einem der Kuppelglieder (15) in Sperreingriff zu bringen.

19. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 15, wobei der Sperrmechanismus (17) von der halbautomatischen Bauart ist, umfassend einen elastischen Sperrstreifen (45), der in dem Schieber (13) elastisch verformbar angeordnet ist und einen Sperrvorrichtung (46) aufweist, und einen Nockensperrhebel

(43), der mit dem Schieber (13) schwenkbar verbunden ist und einen Nocken (44) aufweist, der bei einer Verschwenkung des Nockensperrhebels (43) mit dem Sperrstreifen (45) in Eingriff bringbar ist und diesen in eine Richtung auslenkt, um den Sperrvorsprung mit einem der Kuppelglieder (15) in Sperreingriff zu bringen.

20. Schlüsselhalter (10) nach Anspruch 15, wobei der Sperrmechanismus (17) an einer Seite des Schiebers (13) angeordnet ist und wobei der Griff (12) an der gegenüberliegenden Seite des Schiebers (13) angeordnet ist.