

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
18 November 2021 (18.11.2021)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2021/228214 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
F16B 45/04 (2006.01) *A45C 13/18* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/CN2021/093774

(22) International Filing Date:
14 May 2021 (14.05.2021)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
32020007529.1 14 May 2020 (14.05.2020) HK

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(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,
HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN,
KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD,
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO,
NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW,
SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,

(54) Title: FASTENER

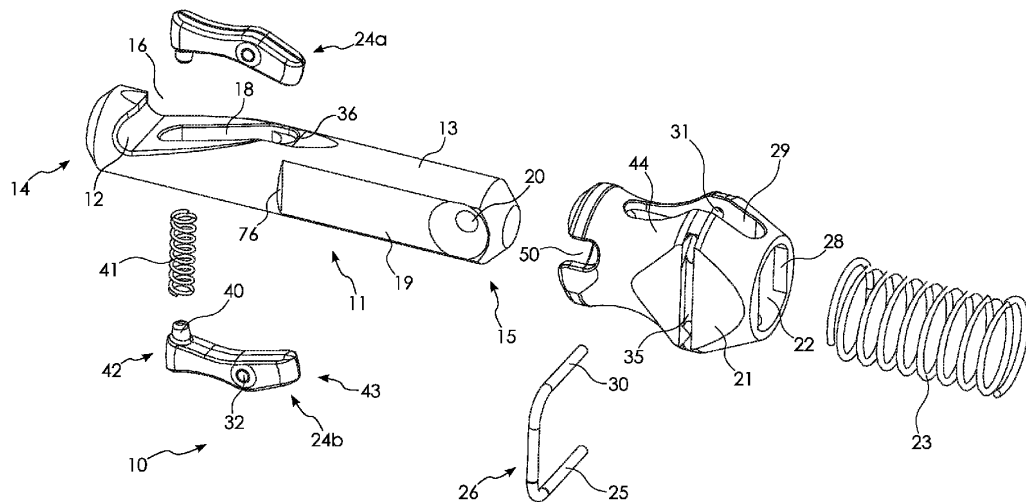


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A fastener (10) for releasably securing a member comprises a body (11) including a shank (13) and a recess (12), the recess (12) configured for receiving the member. A gate (21) is mounted to slide axially on the shank (13) between a closed position closing a mouth of the recess (12) for retaining the member, and an open position. Resilient means engaging the gate (21) and the shank (13) to urge the gate (21) to the closed position, and latches (24) mounted on opposing sides of the gate (21), wherein each latch is self-closing and engages the body for holding the gate in the closed position providing an auto-locking fasteners that for greater security requires three independent actions for release.

[Continued on next page]

MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*