RESERVE COPY

1,113,908

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

1,113,908

Date of Application and filing Complete Specification: 24 Oct., 1966.

No. 47713/66.

Application made in United States of America (No. 511,940) on 6 Dec., 1965.

Complete Specification Published: 15 May, 1968.

© Crown Copyright 1968.

Index at acceptance:—A3 H31; B8 F(34, 35)

Int. Cl.:—A 44 c 5/00

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Wrist Tabs

I, RAYMOND FRANCIS BECKER, of 127 West Walnut Street, Willows, California, United States of America, a citizen of the United States of America, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a tab for mounting upon wristbands, the tabs having indicia printed or otherwise applied on the face, the tab being formed with transversely-extending legs which are bendable around a wristband to affix the tab to the wristband so that the indicia on the front face of the tab can be readily viewed by the wearer of the wristband.

Wristbands of this kind have previously been made from multiple components or of rigid materials and, as a result, have been difficult to fabricate and are subject to destruction during normal usage. Other known devices for mounting indicia have been formed of materials having little or no body; for example, the formation of indicia-bearing paper which can be pasted on to a band is known.

In the tab device of the present invention, the entire structure is formed of a single semi-rigid and malleable member, with the indicia being printed or otherwise applied directly on the structure, so that the entire unit comprises a single integral member of sufficient body to maintain its shape during normal usage.

The curvature of a wristband varies with the size of the wrist of the wearer; thus, any device formed of rigid materials will have a curvature suitable for only one size wrist. In the present invention, the body of the tabular member is formed of malleable material which is bent upon installation to the wristband to a curvature conforming to the curvature of the band as it is worn by the wearer. By virtue of the aforesaid curvature, the indicia-bearing member lies flatly and smoothly along the outer face of the band in a more substantial abutment than heretofore obtainable with tabs formed of rigid materials.

Paper bearing printed indicia has been glued to the face of tabs analogous to the tab of the present invention; however, these composite structures have not had the adaptability of forming a bend corresponding to the curvature of the band with sufficient durability to render such structures practically usable. Thus, in the present invention, the completely integral structure incorporating the single, bendable body has the advantage of being freely bendable without risking severance of the indicia from the body during the bending phase of installation nor during conditions wherein the tab is further bent to conform to chaffing radii as may be required.

Also, the material forming the tab has sufficient rigidity to maintain its shape under normal wearing conditions, which renders it more stable and proof against destruction during normal use.

According to the invention, an indicia-bearing tab member for mounting upon a wristband comprises a main body having transversely extending legs projecting outwardly from each longitudinal edge of the main body and indicia applied directly on the outside face of the main body so that the tab member and indicia form an integral structure, the dimension of the main body between the longitudinal edges being approximately equal to the width of the wristband to which the tab is to be attached, and the tab being formed of a material which is sufficiently malleable to allow the legs to be folded about the wristband to affix the tab thereto and to allow the main body to be bendable arcuately along the longitudinal axis of the main body so as to conform the inside face of the main body to the exterior curvature of the wristband when the latter is mounted on a wearer's wrist.

In order that the invention may be readily and fully understood, a preferred embodiment

[*Price 4s. 6d.*]

Price 5s. 0d.

is described below, by way of illustration only, in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 shows a plan view of one form of the wrist tab of the present invention;

Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of the tab mounted on a wrist watch strap;

Fig. 3 shows a cross-sectional view taken at line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 shows an enlarged side elevation of the device mounted on a fragmentary portion of a strap.

The tab comprises a member of sheet metal, preferably aluminium, formed in a generally H-shaped configuration in which there is provided a main body 15 having legs 16 extending transversely from the ends of the longitudinal edges 18 of the main body 15.

The front face 20 of the main body 15 is imprinted with indicia, for example, a calendar representation. The indicia are directly printed on to the metal to maintain the tab as a one-piece unit.

The aluminium forming the tab has sufficient rigidity to normally maintain the tab in a semi-rigid condition under normal wearing conditions and sufficient malleability to allow the tab to be bent for mounting on a wristband 30, as appears in Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

In mounting the tab on the wristband 30, the rear face 32 of the main body 15 is mounted directly over the wristband. The legs 16 are then folded down and over the under-side of the wristband 30. Thereafter, the band is bent in a circular or arcuate configuration equal to the configuration encountered when the band is mounted on the wrist of a wearer. With the band bent to the aforesaid curvature, the main body 15 is bent so that the rear face 32 conforms with the exterior curvature of the wristband 30. In this condition, the combination of the band and tab is worn in the conventional wristband mode.

The spacing between the longitudinal edges 18 is equal to the width of the band upon which the tab is to be mounted.

While the principal embodiment of this invention has been described as being made of aluminium, other metals or plastics materials having similar characteristics of malleability and rigidity can equally well be employed. The important requirement, however, for any selected material from which the tab is formed is that it must have sufficient rigidity to maintain its shape when applied to the wristband, so as to resist normal wear for movement occasioned with wristbands. The material, at the same time, must be capable of receiving printed or other indicia directly on its face and have sufficient malleability to allow the legs to be bent in the manner described with reference to Figs. 2, 3 and 4, and to allow hand bending of the main body to conform with the curvature of the band.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. An indicia-bearing tab member for mounting upon a wristband, comprising a main body having transversely extending legs projecting outwardly from each longitudinal edge of the main body and indicia applied directly on the outside face of the main body so that the tab member and indicia form an integral structure, the dimension of the main body between the longitudinal edges being approximately equal to the width of the wristband to which the tab is to be attached, and the tab being formed of a material which is sufficiently malleable to allow the legs to be folded about the wristband to affix the tab thereto and to allow the main body to be bendable arcuately along the longitudinal axis of the main body so as to conform the inside face of the main body to the exterior curvature of the wristband when the latter is mounted on a wearer's wrist.

2. A tab member according to claim 1, formed of a malleable metal having sufficient rigidity to maintain its shape under normal conditions of wear when attached to a wristband.

3. A tab member according to claim 1 or 2 which is formed of aluminium.

4. A tab member according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the applied indicia represent a calendar.

5. A tab member according to claim 1, substantially as herebefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

6. A wristband carrying thereon a tab member according to any preceding claim.

POLLAK, MERCER & TENCH,
Chartered Patent Agents,
Audrey House, Ely Place,
London, E.C.1.,
Agents for the Applicants.

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by the Courier Press, Leamington Spa, 1968.
Published by the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2, from which copies may be obtained.

is described below, by way of illustration only, in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 shows a plan view of one form of the wrist tab of the present invention;

Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of the tab mounted on a wrist watch strap;

Fig. 3 shows a cross-sectional view taken at line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 shows an enlarged side elevation of the device mounted on a fragmentary portion of a strap.

The tab comprises a member of sheet metal, preferably aluminium, formed in a generally H-shaped configuration in which there is provided a main body 15 having legs 16 extending transversely from the ends of the longitudinal edges 18 of the main body 15.

The front face 20 of the main body 15 is imprinted with indicia, for example, a calendar representation. The indicia are directly printed on to the metal to maintain the tab as a one-piece unit.

The aluminium forming the tab has sufficient rigidity to normally maintain the tab in a semi-rigid condition under normal wearing conditions and sufficient malleability to allow the tab to be bent for mounting on a wristband 30, as appears in Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

In mounting the tab on the wristband 30, the rear face 32 of the main body 15 is mounted directly over the wristband. The legs 16 are then folded down and over the under-side of the wristband 30. Thereafter, the band is bent in a circular or arcuate configuration equal to the configuration encountered when the band is mounted on the wrist of a wearer. With the band bent to the aforesaid curvature, the main body 15 is bent so that the rear face 32 conforms with the exterior curvature of the wristband 30. In this condition, the combination of the band and tab is worn in the conventional wristband mode.

The spacing between the longitudinal edges 18 is equal to the width of the band upon which the tab is to be mounted.

While the principal embodiment of this invention has been described as being made of aluminium, other metals or plastics materials having similar characteristics of malleability and rigidity can equally well be employed. The important requirement, however, for any selected material from which the tab is formed is that it must have sufficient rigidity to maintain its shape when applied to the wristband, so as to resist normal wear for movement occasioned with wristbands. The material, at the same time, must be capable of receiving printed or other indicia directly on its face and have sufficient malleability to allow the legs to be bent in the manner described with reference to Figs. 2, 3 and 4, and to allow hand bending of the main body to conform with the curvature of the band.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. An indicia-bearing tab member for mounting upon a wristband, comprising a main body having transversely extending legs projecting outwardly from each longitudinal edge of the main body and indicia applied directly on the outside face of the main body so that the tab member and indicia form an integral structure, the dimension of the main body between the longitudinal edges being approximately equal to the width of the wristband to which the tab is to be attached, and the tab being formed of a material which is sufficiently malleable to allow the legs to be folded about the wristband to affix the tab thereto and to allow the main body to be bendable arcuately along the longitudinal axis of the main body so as to conform the inside face of the main body to the exterior curvature of the wristband when the latter is mounted on a wearer's wrist.

2. A tab member according to claim 1, formed of a malleable metal having sufficient rigidity to maintain its shape under normal conditions of wear when attached to a wristband.

3. A tab member according to claim 1 or 2 which is formed of aluminium.

4. A tab member according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the applied indicia represent a calendar.

5. A tab member according to claim 1, substantially as herebefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

6. A wristband carrying thereon a tab member according to any preceding claim.

POLLAK, MERCER & TENCH,
Chartered Patent Agents,
Audrey House, Ely Place,
London, E.C.1.,
Agents for the Applicants.

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by the Courier Press, Leamington Spa, 1968.
Published by the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2, from which copies may be obtained.

* C L M S *