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ABSTRACT

APPARATUS FOR INSPECTING TOP END STOPS
OF SLIDE FASTENER

An apparatus (13) for automatically inspecting top end stops (2) of a slide fastener (1) while the slide fastener (1) is fed by pulling it by grippers (9) toward a discharge station, with a slider (6) having a pull tab (7) and a bottom end stop (5) attached to the slide fastener (1), wherein an image sensor or camera (14) is disposed adjacent to the feed path on an upstream side of the discharge station to read an image of the top end stops (2) for inspecting an attached condition of the top end stops (2) effected on data of the image read by the camera (14) using an image-processing technique, and a fastener support unit (16) is disposed in the feed path upstream of the camera (14) for supporting a portion of the slide fastener (1) in the vicinity of the bottom end stop (5) to keep the slide fastener (1) stable while the image of the top end stops (2) is read by the camera (14).

(FIGURE 1)