CLAIMS

1. Coupling device (1) for a pipe (2), comprising a sleeve (13) for receiving the pipe (2) and at least one sealing member (5) to provide a seal between the sleeve (13) and the pipe (2), a pressure member (6) for applying a pressure to the sleeve (13) and to the pipe (2), and a grip element (4) extending along at least a part of the perimeter of the pipe (2), wherein the grip element (4) is provided with dents (9) pressed out of the plane of the grip element (4) adjacent to slit like openings (8) punched out of the grip element (4), **characterized in that** edges (8') of the slit like openings (8) are subjected to a peening operation.

2. Coupling device according to claim 1, **characterized in that** a frontal surface (9') of a top of each dent (9) is at an angle of approximately 90° with reference to the plane of the grip element (4).

3. Method for fabricating a grip element (4) to be used in a coupling device (1) for a pipe (2), wherein slit like openings (8) are punched in a plate (7) and that in a forming process dents (9) are pressed out of the plane of the plate (7) adjacent to the openings (8), **characterized in that** prior to pressing the dents (9) out of the plane of the plate (7) edges (8') of the slit like openings (8) are subjected to a peening operation.

4. Grip element (4) to be used in a coupling device for a pipe provided with dents (9) pressed out of the plane of the grip element (4) adjacent to slit like openings (8) punched out of the grip element (4), **characterized in that** edges (8') of the slit like openings (8) are subjected to a peening operation.

5. Grip element (4) according to claim 4, **characterized in that** a frontal surface (9') of a top of the dent (9) is at an angle of approximately 90° with reference to the plane of the grip element (4).