Patent claims

1. A resilient fixing element (1) for releasingly connecting a skirting board with a floor covering, the fixing element (1) comprising a first arm (2) to be located under the floor covering, a second arm (3) to be located over the floor covering and to be engaged with the skirting board, and a connecting face (4) joining the first arm (2) with the second arm (3), the fixing element (1) further comprising at least one resilient abutment element (6, 6') located in an internal space between the arms (2, 3), **characterized in that** the at least one resilient abutment element (6, 6') may take a first position in which it is constrained and blocked lying along the connecting face (4) and a second position in which it is extended into said internal space, wherein the fixing element (1)is provided with at least one engagement means (7) enabling to block the abutment element (6, 6') in its first position and to release the abutment element (6, 6') into its second position.

2. The fixing element according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the abutment element (6) constitutes an integral part of the fixing element (1) and it is formed by cutting a strip of the material of the connecting face (4), wherein in the second position the abutment element (6) has a shape that is curved towards said internal space of the fixing element (1).

3. The fixing element according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the abutment element (6') constitutes a separate strip of material connected to the face (4).

4. The fixing element according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, **characterized in that** the engagement means (7) constitutes an integral part of the fixing element (1) and it is formed by cutting a strip of the material of the fixing element (1), wherein said strip of material has a curved shape so that its free end engages the abutment element (6, 6') in its first positon.

5. The fixing element according to claim 4, **characterized in that** the abutment element (6, 6') comprises a blocking detent (9) for retaining the engagement means (7).

6. The fixing element according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, **characterized in that** the engagement means (7) constitutes an integral part of the fixing element (1) and it is formed by cutting a strip of the material of the fixing element (1), the engagement means (7) comprising an additional blocking detent (10) for retaining the abutment element (6, 6').

7. The fixing element according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the engagement means (7) is a detent (7') extending into said internal space of the fixing element (1), the fixing element (1) comprising a cut out (12) enabling the abutment element (6, 6') to be released into its second position from the outside of the fixing element (1).

8. The fixing element according to claim 7, **characterized in that** the detent (7') is formed by a notch made in the material of the fixing element (1).

9. The fixing element according to claim 7 or 8, **characterized in that** it is further provided with a control

member (11) cooperating with the abutment element (6, 6’) in order to release it into its second position.

10. The fixing element according to claim 7, **characterized in that** the detent (7’) is a separate element connected to the fixing element (1).

11. The fixing element according to claim 1, **characterized in that** it comprises several spaced apart abutment elements (6, 6’) and several engagement means (7), each cooperating with a corresponding abutment element (6, 6’).

12. The fixing element according to claim 1 or 11, characterized **in that** it comprises at least one securing detent (13) for immobilizing the fixing element (1).

13. The fixing element according to claim 12, **characterized in that** the at least one securing detents (13) consists of outwardly bent angular notches made in the fixing element material.

14. A skirting board fixing system comprising a skirting board and the resilient fixing element according to any of claims 1-13, in which the skirting board consists of a wall abutting covering arm (11) and a floor abutting arm (12), the floor abutting arm (12) being engaged with the fixing element (1), **characterized in that** in an assembled state of the system, when the fixing element (1) connects the skirting board with the floor covering that is located by the wall, the abutment element (6, 6’) is in its second position and exerts pressure on the front side of the floor covering, the pressure being directed along the arms (2, 3) of the fixing element (1).