

"FURNITURE HINGE"

The present invention relates to a hinge intended for the articulated mounting of a door on a fixed part of a piece of furniture.

More specifically, the invention relates to a hinge of the so-called double-articulation type in which a flange is recessed within a seating in the door of the piece of furniture and a wing of the hinge connected to the flange by means of the aforesaid double articulation is mounted on to a base previously secured to the fixed part (side) of the piece of furniture.

Between the said wing and the said base provision is also made for screws, generally two in number, for the securing of the wing to the base, with the possibility of position adjustment.

In such hinges there extends from the base a first lateral-adjustment and securing screw which is inserted within a longitudinal dimple in the front part of the wing; a second screw, relatively very far from the first, is provided directly on the wing so as to cooperate with the underlying base for the depth-wise adjustment of the hinge.

Between the said dimple where the first screw and the second screw are inserted, the wing also features an opening which allows access to a third adjustment screw provided on the pre-mounting base, which can thus be

height-wise adjusted, as is known.

It is in this manner possible to mount the hinges on the base with the first screw secured slackly within the opening in the wing. This makes it possible to adjust the height-wise, lateral and depth-wise position on the hinge, and then to tighten the securing screw right down so as stably to restrain each hinge to its respective base.

Hinges of the aforesaid type allow the aforesaid adjustment operations to be performed, and are for this reason appreciated.

However, the possibility of adjustment that they allow cannot be exploited to the full when the wing of the hinge has to be mounted in areas that become difficult to have access to, as for example in the case of refrigerators and similar electrical household apparatus incorporated within a piece of kitchen furniture.

For in such embodiments the presence of the refrigerator, the door of which has to be restrained to the door of the piece of furniture which conceals it, makes it difficult if not impossible to reach the aforesaid adjustment and securing screws with a screwdriver once the refrigerator has been placed inside the piece of kitchen furniture, whereas for a rapid and accurate mounting it is desirable to reach the screws easily with a screwdriver.

The object of the present invention is to obviate the above mentioned drawback by embodying a hinge so devised that the adjustment screws provided are accessible in all

cases.

The present invention provides a furniture hinge for connecting together two components, the hinge including a member adapted to be mounted on to a base which is connected to one of the components, first securing and adjustment means extending from the base, and second adjustment means being provided on the hinge member, the first securing and adjustment means extending through an open ended longitudinal slot provided at one end of the hinge member and terminating adjacent to the second adjustment means, the slot being so shaped as to slidably mate with guides on the base, so that relative movement therebetween is only possible along a substantially single linear direction.

An embodiment of the present invention will now be described by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings in which;

Figure 1 is an enlarged front elevation view of a hinge according to the invention in an inverted position on a relative base, where the hinge is secured to a door of a piece of furniture while the base is fixed to a side of the piece of furniture;

Figure 2 is a sectional view of the hinge in Figure 1 inserted in and restrained to the respective base.

The drawings show a hinge and a respective base 11.

The hinge 10 comprises a drawn flange 12, intended to be recessed within a matching seat of a door 13, and a wing 14 intended to be restrained to the base 11, which is secured to the side 9 of the piece of furniture.

The flange 12 and the wing 14 are interconnected in a manner per se known to persons with ordinary skill in the art, through the intermediary of a sprung double-joint articulation 15, which is therefore not herein described in greater detail.

According to the invention, the wing 14 features a longitudinal slot 16, terminating in its front portion in an opening 17 so shaped that the wing 14 can mate up perfectly, by free telescoping, with the guides 18, passing either side of the shank of a securing screw 19, normally provided in known manner on the base 11.

The wing 14 is also provided with a screw 20 which cooperates with the surface 21 of the base 11, so as to adjust the depth of mounting of the hinge prior to the definitive screwing down of the screw 19 - which serves for adjusting the hinge laterally by means of lateral moving along it of the wing 14. The Figures clearly show that the slot 16 terminates proximally to the screw 19.

It is thus evident that, with a hinge embodied according to the invention, it is possible to mount simply and rapidly the doors of pieces of furniture in general, and in particular the doors of furniture items for housing refrigerators, the doors of which must always be made solid with the doors of the furniture items which house them.

This is made possible by the fact that the screw 19 can be positioned in a large range of longitudinal positions along the slot 16, and can in fact be disposed closely adjacent to the screw 20.

In consequence, the screws 19, 20 require only a minimal space for them to prove accessible in particular mounting conditions, such as the aforementioned case of refrigerators housed within furniture items.

Claims :

1. A Furniture hinge for connecting together two components, the hinge including a member adapted to be mounted on a base which is connected to one of the components, first securing and adjustment means extending from the base, and second adjustment means being provided on the hinge member, the first securing and adjustment means extending through an open ended longitudinal slot provided at one end of the hinge member and terminating adjacent the second adjustment means, the slot being so shaped as to slidably mate with guides on the base, so that relative movement therebetween is only possible along a substantially single linear direction.

2. A furniture hinge according to claim 1, wherein each of the first securing and adjustment means and the second adjustment means comprises a screw engaging in a respective threaded aperture.

3. A furniture hinge substantially as described above with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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