

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A connector bracket for connecting together adjacent panels or wall modules that each have at least one chamfered edge, the connector bracket comprising:

5 a mounting plate;

one or more receiving portions connected to the mounting plate, each of the one or more receiving portions including opposing hook-like protrusions that form one or more openings in the one or more receiving portions, the one or more openings being sized and configured to receive a coupling connector, and the one or more receiving portions being oriented at a predetermined angle relative to the mounting plate; and

10 one or more standoffs that connect the one or more receiving portions to the mounting plate,

wherein the coupling connector comprises a center portion that extends through a gap between adjacent edges of the panels or wall modules, such that the center portion extends from a first side of the panels or wall modules to a second side of the panels or wall modules,

15 wherein the coupling connector comprises a connection portion at a first end of the center portion, the connection portion being selectively securable in the common opening formed by the one or more receiving portions and on the first side of the panels or wall modules, and

20 wherein the coupling connector comprises a covering portion at a second end of the center portion, such that the covering portion is disposed on a second side of the panels or wall modules.

25 2. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, wherein the opposing hook-like protrusions are oriented at an angle of approximately 45° relative to the mounting plate.

30 3. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, wherein a first hook-like protrusion of the opposing hook-like protrusions is oriented at a first angle relative to the mounting plate and a second hook-like protrusion of the opposing hook-like protrusions is oriented at a second angle relative to the mounting plate, the second angle being different than the first angle.

4. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, further comprising one or more angled plates that connect the one or more receiving portions to the mounting plate.

5 5. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, further comprising a protrusion configured to engage a cutout in another connector bracket to facilitate alignment of the connector bracket with the another connector bracket.

10 6. The connector bracket as recited in claim 5, wherein the protrusion extends from one of the one or more receiving portions.

7. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, wherein the mounting plate comprises one or more mounting features that facilitate the connection of the connector bracket to a panel or wall module.

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8. The connector bracket as recited in claim 1, wherein the mounting plate comprises one or more clip portions that facilitate mounting of the connector bracket onto one or more rails.

9. Connection hardware for connecting adjacent panels or wall modules that each have at least one chamfered edge, the connection hardware comprising:

a coupling connector;

a first connector bracket including one or more first receiving portions sized and
5 configured to receive the coupling connector; and

a second, same connector bracket including one or more second receiving
portions sized and configured to receive the coupling connector, the one or more first and
second receiving portions being sized and configured to align relative to each other in a
manner that the coupling connector can connect together the first and second connector
10 brackets;

wherein the first and second connector brackets comprise corresponding
protrusions and cutouts that facilitate alignment of the first and second connector
brackets,

wherein the coupling connector comprises a center portion that extends through a
15 gap between adjacent edges of the panels or wall modules, such that the center portion
extends from a first side of the panels or wall modules to a second side of the panels or
wall modules,

wherein the coupling connector comprises a connection portion at a first end of
the center portion, the connection portion being selectively securable in the common
20 opening formed by the one or more receiving portions and on the first side of the panels
or wall modules, and

wherein the coupling connector comprises a covering portion at a second end of
the center portion, such that the covering portion is disposed on a second side of the
panels or wall modules.

25 10. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the connection portion is sized
and configured to be inserted into the one or more first and second receiving portions.

11. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the covering portion comprises
30 two protruding portions extending away from the center portion.

12. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the one or more first and second receiving portions cooperate to form a common opening that is sized and configured to receive the coupling connector therein.

5 13. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein each of the one or more first and second receiving portions comprises a set of opposing hook-like protrusions.

14. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the first connector bracket comprises a mounting plate.

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15. The connection hardware as recited in claim 14, wherein the mounting plate comprises one or more projections that facilitate the connection of the first connector bracket to a panel or wall module.

15 16. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the second connector bracket comprises a mounting plate having one or more clip portions that facilitate mounting of the second connector bracket onto one or more rails.

17. The connection hardware as recited in claim 9, wherein the center portion comprises one
20 or more point separators.

18. The connection hardware as recited in claim 17, wherein the one or more point separators comprise a semicircular cross-section.

19. A modular assembly for subdividing open space in a building into one or more individual spaces, the modular assembly comprising:

a first panel including one or more first connector brackets each including one or more first receiving portions;

a second panel including one or more second connector brackets each including one or more second receiving portions, the first and second receiving portions collectively forming a common opening; and

a coupling connector selectively securable in the common opening formed by the first and second receiving portions, thereby connecting together the first and second panels;

wherein the first panel and the second panel each comprise a chamfered edge,

wherein the coupling connector comprises a center portion that extends through a gap between adjacent edges of the first and second panels, such that the center portion extends from a first side of the first and second panels to a second side of the first and second panels,

wherein the coupling connector comprises a connection portion at a first end of the center portion, the connection portion being selectively securable in the common opening formed by the first and second receiving portions and on the first side of the first and second panels, and

wherein the coupling connector comprises a covering portion at a second end of the center portion, such that the covering portion is disposed on a second side of the first and second panels.

20. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein the first panel comprises a squared edge and the second panel comprises a chamfered edge.

21. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein the covering portion comprises two protruding portions that cover a gap formed between the adjacent edges of the first and second panels.

22. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein the one or more first receiving portions and the one or more second receiving portions comprise opposing hook-like protrusions oriented at an angle of approximately 45° relative to a mounting plate.

5 23. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, further comprising one or more angled plates that connect the one or more first receiving portions and the one or more second receiving portions to a mounting plate.

10 24. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein the one or more first connector brackets comprise a protrusion configured to engage a cutout in the one or more second connector brackets to facilitate alignment of the one or more first connector brackets with the one or more second connector brackets.

15 25. The modular assembly as recited in claim 24, wherein the protrusion extends from one of the one or more first receiving portions and one or more second receiving portions.

26. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein:

the one or more first receiving portions and the one or more second receiving portions extend from a mounting plate; and

20 the mounting plate comprises one or more mounting features that facilitate the connection of the one or more first connector brackets and the one or more second connector brackets to the first and second panels, respectively.

27. The modular assembly as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

25 a mounting plate;

wherein the mounting plate comprises one or more clip portions that facilitate mounting of the one or more first connector brackets and the one or more second connector brackets onto one or more rails.