

TO: Mail Stop 8 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK
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In Compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 290 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1116 you are hereby advised that a court action has been filed in the U.S. District Court CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA on the following

☐ Trademarks or ☒ Patents. (☐ the patent action involves 35 U.S.C. § 292.);

DOCKET NO. 8:23-cv-02047-JVS-JD	DATE FILED 11/7/2023	U.S. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
PLAINTIFF Shenzhen City Sanhu Technology Co., Ltd.		DEFENDANT Lindsay Albanese, and Hats On LLC, d.b.a. TopTote
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1 10,413,047	9/17/2019	Lindsay Albanese
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following patent(s)/ trademark(s) have been included:

DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY	
	☐ Amendment ☐ Answer ☐ Cross Bill ☐ Other Pleading	
PATENT OR TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK	HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In the above—entitled case, the following decision has been rendered or judgement issued:

DECISION/JUDGEMENT		
CLERK	(BY) DEPUTY CLERK	DATE

Copy 1—Upon initiation of action, mail this copy to Director Copy 3—Upon termination of action, mail this copy to Director
 Copy 2—Upon filing document adding patent(s), mail this copy to Director Copy 4—Case file copy



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	09/17/2019	10413047	BM-U-024	4790

16461 7590 08/28/2019
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.
888 N. Quincy Street
Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22203

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Application Assistance Unit (AAU) of the Office of Data Management (ODM) at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site <http://pair.uspto.gov> for additional applicants):

Lindsay ALBANESE, Venice, CA;

The United States represents the largest, most dynamic marketplace in the world and is an unparalleled location for business investment, innovation, and commercialization of new technologies. The USA offers tremendous resources and advantages for those who invest and manufacture goods here. Through SelectUSA, our nation works to encourage and facilitate business investment. To learn more about why the USA is the best country in the world to develop technology, manufacture products, and grow your business, visit SelectUSA.gov.

FEE ADDRESS INDICATION FORM

Application Number	15939549	Art Unit	3677
Filing Date	29-Mar-2018	Examiner Name	ABIGAIL TROY
First Name Inventor	Lindsay ALBANESE	Attorney Doc. Number	BM-U-024

INSTRUCTIONS: In order for the fee address identified on this form to be effective, the issue fee must have been paid for the application listed on this form. Only an address represented by a customer number can be established as the fee address for maintenance fee purposes (hereafter, fee address). A fee address should be established when correspondence related to maintenance fees should be mailed to a different address than the correspondence address for the application. For more information on customer numbers, see the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 403.

Please recognize as the Fee Address under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.363 the address associated with:

Customer Number:	16461
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Signature :

I certify, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4(d)(4) that I am an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office who has filed and has been granted power of attorney in this application.

Signature	/Benjamin E. Maskell/	Date	08-05-2019
Name	Benjamin Edwards Maskell	Registration Number	64785

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:	15939549			
Filing Date:	29-Mar-2018			
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder			
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE			
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell			
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024			
Filed as Small Entity				
Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)				
Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:				
UTILITY APPL ISSUE FEE	2501	1	500	500
PUBL. FEE- EARLY, VOLUNTARY, OR NORMAL	1504	1	0	0
Pages:				
Claims:				
Miscellaneous-Filing:				
Petition:				
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)				500

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	36782082
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	05-AUG-2019
Filing Date:	29-MAR-2018
Time Stamp:	14:24:01
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$ 500
RAM confirmation Number	E201985E23599595
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	Web85b.pdf	45652	no	2
			a9f79ef84f53a786349bd3e22189f7c163e53d3c		

Warnings:

Information:

2	Maintenance Fee Address Change	web85feeaddress.pdf	32487	no	1
			f12b0bc8251b80b7e69b49f5e143d822424d60d3		

Warnings:

Information:

3	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	31403	no	2
			d31d20415f3048e47fea1ded8116d95566248d5c		

Warnings:

Information:

Total Files Size (in bytes):			109542
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This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

Document Description: Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)

Issue Fee Transmittal Form

Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Atty. Docket No.	Confirmation No.
15939549	29-Mar-2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790

TITLE OF INVENTION :

Hat Holder

Entity Status	Application Type	Art Unit	Class - Subclass	EXAMINER
Small	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)	3677	302000	ABIGAIL TROY
Issue Fee Due	Publication Due	Total Fee(s) Due	Date Due	Prev. Paid Fee
\$500	\$0	\$500	29-Oct-2019	\$0

1.Change of Correspondence Address and/or Indication Of Fee Address (37 CFR 1.33 & 1.363)

Current Correspondence Address:	Current Indicated Fee Address :
16461 Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq. 888 N. Quincy Street Suite 701 Arlington VA 22203 UNITED STATES 703-568-4523 ~~ben.maskell@gmail.com~~	
☐ Change of correspondence address requested, system generated AIA/122-EFS form attached	☒ Fee Address indication requested, system generated SB/47-EFS form attached

2.Entity Status**Change in Entity Status**

- ☐ Applicant certifying micro entity status; system generated Micro Entity certification form attached. See 37 CFR 1.29.
Note: Absent a valid certification of micro entity status, issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.
If this box is checked, you will be prompted to choose a micro entity status on the gross income basis (37 CFR 1.29(a)) or the institution of higher education basis (37 CFR 1.29(d)), and make the applicable certification online.
- ☒ Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
Note: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.
- ☐ Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.
Note: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

Document Description: Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)

3.The Following Fee(s) Are Submitted:

☒ Issue Fee

☐ I authorize USPTO to apply my previously paid issue fee to the current fees due

☐ Publication Fee

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to apply my previously paid issue fee to the current fee due and to charge deficient fees to Deposit Account Number _____

☐ Advance Order - # of copies _____

☐ If in **addition** to the payment of the issue fee amount submitted with this form, there are any discrepancies in any amount(s) due, the Director is authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____.
The **issue fee must be submitted** with this form. **If payment of the issue fee does not accompany this form, checking this box and providing a deposit account number will NOT be effective to satisfy full payment of the fee(s) due.**

4.Firm and/or Attorney Names To Be Printed

NOTE: If no name is listed, no name will be printed
For printing on the patent front page, list to be displayed as entered

1. MASKELL LAW PLLC
2. Benjamin E. Maskell
3.

5.Assignee Name(s) and Residence Data To Be Printed

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

Name	City	State	Country	Category

6.Signature

I certify, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4(d)(4) that I am an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office who has filed and has been granted power of attorney in this application. I also certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal form is being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-WEB on the date indicated below.

Signature	/Benjamin E. Maskell/	Date	08-05-2019
Name	Benjamin Edwards Maskell	Registration Number	64785



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

16461 7590 07/29/2019
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.
888 N. Quincy Street
Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22203

EXAMINER

TROY, ABIGAIL E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3677

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2019

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790

TITLE OF INVENTION: Hat Holder

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	SMALL	\$500	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500	10/29/2019

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the ENTITY STATUS shown above. If the ENTITY STATUS is shown as SMALL or MICRO, verify whether entitlement to that entity status still applies.

If the ENTITY STATUS is the same as shown above, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the ENTITY STATUS is changed from that shown above, on PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, complete section number 5 titled "Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)".

For purposes of this notice, small entity fees are 1/2 the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 1/2 the amount of small entity fees.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Maintenance fees are due in utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due. More information is available at www.uspto.gov/PatentMaintenanceFees.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via EFS-Web.

By mail, send to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

By fax, send to: (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

16461 7590 07/29/2019
 Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.
 888 N. Quincy Street
 Suite 701
 Arlington, VA 22203

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

(Typed or printed name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790

TITLE OF INVENTION: Hat Holder

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	SMALL	\$500	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500	10/29/2019

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
TROY, ABIGAIL E	3677	024-302000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-09 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) The names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

1 _____

(2) The name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

2 _____

3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document must have been previously recorded, or filed for recordation, as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11 and 37 CFR 3.81(a). Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. Fees submitted: ☐ Issue Fee ☐ Publication Fee (if required) ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Method of Payment: (Please first reapply any previously paid fee shown above)

☐ Electronic Payment via EFS-Web ☐ Enclosed check ☐ Non-electronic payment by credit card (Attach form PTO-2038)

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

☐ Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29

☐ Applicant asserting small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

☐ Applicant changing to regular undiscounted fee status.

NOTE: Absent a valid certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), issue fee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandonment.

NOTE: If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.

NOTE: Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790
16461	7590	07/29/2019	EXAMINER	
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq. 888 N. Quincy Street Suite 701 Arlington, VA 22203			TROY, ABIGAIL E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2019

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (Applications filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Office has discontinued providing a Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) calculation with the Notice of Allowance.

Section 1(h)(2) of the AIA Technical Corrections Act amended 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B)(i) to eliminate the requirement that the Office provide a patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. See Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment, 78 Fed. Reg. 19416, 19417 (Apr. 1, 2013). Therefore, the Office is no longer providing an initial patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. The Office will continue to provide a patent term adjustment determination with the Issue Notification Letter that is mailed to applicant approximately three weeks prior to the issue date of the patent, and will include the patent term adjustment on the patent. Any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment determination (or reinstatement of patent term adjustment) should follow the process outlined in 37 CFR 1.705.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

OMB Clearance and PRA Burden Statement for PTOL-85 Part B

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval before requesting most types of information from the public. When OMB approves an agency request to collect information from the public, OMB (i) provides a valid OMB Control Number and expiration date for the agency to display on the instrument that will be used to collect the information and (ii) requires the agency to inform the public about the OMB Control Number's legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

The information collected by PTOL-85 Part B is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s) ALBANESE, Lindsay	
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677	AIA (FITF) Status Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4/23/2019.
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on _____.

2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-19. As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some *c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
2. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.	6. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
3. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.	7. ☐ Other _____.
4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.	

/ABIGAIL E TROY/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677	
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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 12-17, and 19 are allowable. The restriction requirement, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 1/10/2019, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). **The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.** Specifically, claims 4, 11, and 18 are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim. However, claim 20 remains withdrawn from consideration because it does not require all the limitations of an allowable claim.

2. In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

3. Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*,

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443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

5. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with Benjamin Maskell on 7/25/2019.

6. The application has been amended as follows:

a. Claim 1, line 1. The limitation "A system for holding a hat" has been replaced with "A system for holding a hat, the system comprising:".

b. Claim 1, line 2. The limitation "a hat" has been replaced with "the hat".

c. Claim 3, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

d. Claim 4, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

e. Claim 5, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

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f. Claim 6, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

g. Claim 7, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

h. Claim 8, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

i. Claim 9, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

j. Claim 10, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

k. Claim 11, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

l. Claim 12, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

m. Claim 13, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

n. Claim 14, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

o. Claim 15, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

p. Claim 16, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

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q. Claim 17, line 1. The limitation "A system for holding a hat" has been replaced with "A system for holding a hat, the system comprising:".

r. Claim 17, line 2. The limitation "a hat" has been replaced with "the hat".

s. Claim 17, line 9. The limitation "the magnet member" has been replaced with "the magnet".

t. Claim 18, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

u. Claim 19, line 1. The limitation "The hat holder" has been replaced with "The system".

v. Claim 20 has been cancelled.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABIGAIL E TROY whose telephone number is (571)270-7270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm.

8. Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

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9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VICTOR BATSON can be reached on (571)272-6987. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ABIGAIL E TROY/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677

<i>Notice of References Cited</i>	Application/Control No. 15/939,549		Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay	
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY		Art Unit 3677	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-2771230-A	11-1956	HENRY FITZPATRICK	A42B1/248	224/254
*	B	US-5890638-A	04-1999	Woloshen; B. Jim	A45F5/02	224/191
*	C	US-20150115008-A1	04-2015	Griffith; James Stewart	A45F5/06	224/269
	D					
	E					
	F					
	G					
	H					
	I					
	J					
	K					
	L					
	M					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	CPC Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Issue Classification 	Application/Control No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay	
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677	

CPC						
Symbol					Type	Version
A45F	/	5	/	06	F	2013-01-01
A47G	/	25	/	10	I	2013-01-01
A45F	/	5	/	00	I	2013-01-01
A44B	/	99	/	00	I	2013-01-01
A44B	/	13	/	02	I	2013-01-01
A42B	/	7	/	00	I	2013-01-01
A45F	/	5	/	021	I	2013-01-01
A45C	/	13	/	1069	I	2013-01-01
A45C	/	13	/	30	I	2013-01-01
A45C	/	13	/	40	I	2013-01-01
F16B	/	45	/	02	A	2013-01-01
A42B	/	1	/	00	A	2013-01-01
A44D	/	2203	/	00	A	2013-01-01
A45C	/	2013	/	306	A	2013-01-01
F16B	/	2001	/	0035	A	2013-01-01

CPC Combination Sets				
Symbol	Type	Set	Ranking	Version
/				

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18	
/ABIGAIL E TROY/	25 July 2019	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1	1a

<i>Issue Classification</i> 	Application/Control No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION			
CLAIMED			
A45F	/	5	/ 06
NON-CLAIMED			
	/		/

US ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION	
CLASS	SUBCLASS

CROSS REFERENCES(S)						
CLASS	SUBCLASS (ONE SUBCLASS PER BLOCK)					

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18	
/ABIGAIL E TROY/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677	25 July 2019	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1	1a

Issue Classification 	Application/Control No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47															
CLAIMS															
Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original	Final	Original
1	1	9	10	18	19										
	2	10	11		20										
2	3	11	12												
3	4	12	13												
4	5	13	14												
5	6	14	15												
6	7	15	16												
7	8	16	17												
8	9	17	18												

NONE (Assistant Examiner) _____ (Date) _____		Total Claims Allowed: 18	
/ABIGAIL E TROY/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677 (Primary Examiner) _____ (Date) _____		25 July 2019 O.G. Print Claim(s) 1	O.G. Print Figure 1a

<i>Search Notes</i> 	Application/Control No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
A47G 25/10	03/31/2019	aet
A45F 5/00, 06, 021	07/25/2019	aet
A45C 13/40, 30, 1069	07/25/2019	aet

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
24	3.13, 303	03/30/2019	aet
224	269		

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

Search Notes		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
Inventor name searched	03/30/2019	aet
Searched EAST (see search history)	03/30/2019	aet
Updated 3/30/2019 search (see search history)	07/25/2019	aet

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	US Subclass/CPC Group	Date	Examiner
A45F	5/06	07/25/2019	aet

/ABIGAIL E TROY/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677	
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Bibliographic Data

Application No: 15/939,549

Foreign Priority claimed: ☐ Yes ☒ No

35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Met After Allowance

Verified and Acknowledged: /ABIGAIL E TROY/

Examiner's Signature

Initials

Title: Hat Holder

FILING or 371(c) DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
03/29/2018	024	3677	BM-U-024
RULE			

APPLICANTS

INVENTORS

Lindsay ALBANESE Venice, CA, UNITED STATES

CONTINUING DATA

This application has PRO of 62525431 06/27/2017

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS

IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN LICENSE GRANTED**

04/23/2018

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

STATE OR COUNTRY

UNITED STATES

ADDRESS

Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.

888 N. Quincy Street

Suite 701

Arlington, VA 22203

UNITED STATES

FILING FEE RECEIVED

\$785

EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L1	2722	hat with magnet\$5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:13
L2	29	hat with magnet\$5 with (strap webbing band) with (hold\$4 grip\$4 retain\$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:15
L5	4	24/.clas. and hat with magnet\$5 same (strap webbing band)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:18
L4	2	248/.clas. and hat with magnet\$5 same (strap webbing band)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:18
L3	1	248/.clas. and hat with magnet\$5 with (strap webbing band)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:18
L6	23	24/.clas. and hat with magnet\$5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:20
L7	38	24/303.ccls. and hat	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	ON	2019/07/25 13:24
L11	257	224/.clas. and hat	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:29
L12	48	224/.clas. and hat and magnet\$4	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:37
L14	120	2/209.13.ccls. and magnet\$4	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:42
L13	4	211/30-33.ccls. and magnet\$4	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:42
L15	675	224/269.ccls.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:50
L17	180	a45f5/06.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:52
L16	13844	a45f5/00,06,021.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 13:52
L18	1567	a45f5/00,06,021.cpc. and magnet\$5	US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 14:24
L19	6002	a45c13/40,30,1069.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 14:32

EAST Search History (Interference)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L20	78	a45f5/06.cpc.	US-PGPUB;	OR	OFF	2019/07/25

			USPAT			14:41
L21	24	(hat and strap and (magnet\$2 ferromagnetic) and (clip hook clasp)).clm.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/07/25 14:42

7/ 25/ 2019 2:43:07 PM
C:\ Users\ amorrell\ Documents\ EAST\ Workspaces\ 15939549.wsp

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875				Application or Docket Number 15/939,549		Filing Date 03/29/2018		☐ To be Mailed	
ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☒ SMALL ☐ MICRO									
APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I									
		(Column 1)	(Column 2)						
FOR		NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA		RATE (\$)		FEE (\$)		
☐ BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))		N/A	N/A		N/A				
☐ SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))		N/A	N/A		N/A				
☐ EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))		N/A	N/A		N/A				
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))		minus 20 = *		x \$50 =					
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))		minus 3 = *		x \$230 =					
☐ APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))		If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$310 (\$155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).							
☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))									
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.					TOTAL				
APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II									
		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)				
AMENDMENT	04/23/2019	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE (\$)		ADDITIONAL FEE (\$)	
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 20	Minus	** 20	= 0	x \$50 =		0	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 3	Minus	*** 3	= 0	x \$230 =		0	
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))								
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))								
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		0	
		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)				
AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE (\$)		ADDITIONAL FEE (\$)	
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x \$0 =			
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x \$0 =			
	☐ Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))								
	☐ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))								
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE			
* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.						LIE			
** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".						/MARGARET R BYARS/			
*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".									
The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.									

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Lindsay ALBANESE

Atty Dkt. No. BM-U-024

Application No.: 15/939,549

Confirmation No.: 4790

Filed: March 29, 2018

Art Unit: 3677

For: HAT HOLDER

Examiner: TROY, ABIGAIL E

MS AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO A NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Non-Final Office Action dated April 1, 2019, the period for response to which extends through July 1, 2019 without payment of fees for extension of time, Applicant requests reconsideration for the following reasons.

Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Listing of Claims

Please replace all prior versions and/or listing of claims with the listing of claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A system for holding a hat~~A hat holder comprising:~~
a hat;
a first strap having a first end and a second end;
a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap;
a first ferromagnetic member disposed at the first end of the first strap;
a second ferromagnetic member disposed at the first end of the second strap;
a hook coupled to the first strap; ~~and~~
wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a force of magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member; ~~and member.~~
wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to retain a portion of the hat therebetween.
2. (cancelled).
3. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is disposed at the second end of the first strap.
4. (withdrawn) The hat holder of claim 1 further comprising:
an extension member disposed between the second end of the first strap and the hook.

5. (currently amended) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the second end of the first strap is joined to the second end of the second ~~strap~~strap;
6. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 further comprising:
a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap.
7. (original) The hat holder of claim 6 further comprising:
a second gripping member at the first end of the second strap.
8. (original) The hat holder of claim 6 wherein the first gripping member is an abrasive material.
9. (original) The hat holder of claim 6 wherein the first gripping member is a spike.
10. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is a rigid loop having a gate.
11. (withdrawn) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is flexible strap having a closure.
12. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic material is disposed in the first end of the first strap.
13. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic material is sewn into the first end of the first strap.
14. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first strap and the second strap are formed from a single folded strap.
15. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic member is a permanent magnet.
16. (original) The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic member is a first permanent magnet having a first magnetic pole and the second ferromagnetic member is a

second permanent magnet having a second magnetic pole; wherein the first permanent magnet is positioned on the first strap to face the second permanent magnet on the second strap; and wherein the first magnetic pole is an opposite pole of the second magnetic pole.

17. (currently amended) A system for holding a hat~~A hat holder comprising:~~

a hat;

a first strap having a first end and a second end;

a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap at their respective second ends;

a magnet coupled to the first end of the first strap;

a ferromagnetic member coupled to the first end of the second strap; ~~and~~

wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a force of magnetic attraction between the magnet member and the ferromagnetic member; ~~and member~~.

wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to retain a portion of the hat therebetween.

18. (withdrawn) The hat holder of claim 17 wherein the first and second straps are coupled to an interior of a bag.

19. (original) The hat holder of claim 17 further comprising:

a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap;

a second gripping member at the first end of the second strap.

20. (withdrawn) A hat holder comprising:

a first strap having a first end and a second end;

a hook coupled to the first end of the first strap; and

a clip coupled to second end of the strap, the clip configured to retain a portion of a hat therein.

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17, and 19 are pending reconsideration on the merits.

Summary of the Non-Final Office Action

Claims 1 and 5 are objected to.

Claims 2, 12-13, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(b) as being indefinite.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 14-17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2009/1016944 of Hsu (“**Hsu**”).

Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over **Hsu**, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 2,615,227 to Hornik (“**Hornik**”).

Claims 12-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over **Hsu**, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 9,408,992 to Smith-Reynolds (“**Smith-Reynolds**”).

I. Preliminary Matters and Formalities

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to address the objections raised in the Office Action.

Claims 12, 13, and 17 have been amended to address antecedent basis rejections raised in the Office Action.

The Office Action indicated that claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(b) as being indefinite but did not recite a basis for that rejection. See Office Action at 3-4. Applicant has reviewed the claim and states it complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112(b).

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant requests that the foregoing grounds of objection and rejection be withdrawn.

II. The term “magnetic attraction” is not a “double positive”

According to the Office Action, dependent claim 2 was objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112(b) because the term “magnetic attraction” is a double positive.¹

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant responds that the term “magnetic attraction” is used in the art to describe a magnetic force that pulls two objects together. This is not a “double positive” but instead describes the type of magnetic force in play (“attraction”). This is contrasted by the term “magnetic repulsion” which refers generally to a magnetic force that pushes two objects apart.

Applicant respectfully requests these grounds of objection be withdrawn.

III. Independent Claim 1 is Allowable over Hsu

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. As amended, independent claim 1 now recites, among other novel features, “a hat” and that “wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to retain a portion of the hat therebetween” These novel features are not disclosed by **Hsu**.

Hsu relates to a lanyard for holding an ID card where the lanyard has a magnetic coupling. The magnetic coupling allows the lanyard to harmlessly break away if caught in machinery. *See, e.g. Hsu*, Fig. 5.

Hsu however, does not disclose “a hat”, nor does it disclose that the lanyard’s magnetic coupling is “configured to retain a portion of the hat therebetween” as recited in amended

¹ Dependent claim 2 was cancelled. The term “magnetic attraction” is also used in claim 1 and claim 17.

Nor would the **Hsu** Lanyard be suitable to retain a hat in the magnetic coupling. The straps of the **Hsu** lanyard are abutted linearly at the magnetic closure. *See, e.g.* FIG. 2. If a hat were disposed in the magnetic coupling the force of gravity exerted by the hat would pull orthogonally on the magnetic closure thereby prying it apart. **Hsu** therefore could not retain a hat nor is it “configured to retain” a hat as now recited in independent claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing amendments distinguish claim 1 from the art of record and it is requested that these grounds of rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

IV. Claims 2-3, 5-10, 12-17, and 19 are Allowable.

Independent claims 17 recites features that are the same as, or coextensive with, independent claim 1 and is therefore allowable for the same reasons as discussed in section III, *supra*. Dependent claims 2-3, 5-10, 12-16, and 19 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on allowable independent claims 1 and 17, respectively, and for the additional features they recite. Applicant respectfully requests these grounds of rejection be withdrawn.

(continued)

V. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully request timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

Dated: April 23, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Benjamin E. Maskell/
Benjamin E. Maskell
Registration No.: 64,785

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Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	35802664
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	23-APR-2019
Filing Date:	29-MAR-2018
Time Stamp:	13:31:57
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		BM-U-024-Response_to_OA. pdf	164121	yes	9
			e72782889a34cf57bb055c5938aede9e0cfff c376		

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description		
	Document Description	Start	End
	Amendment/Req. Reconsideration-After Non-Final Reject	1	1
	Claims	2	5
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment	6	9

Warnings:

Information:

Total Files Size (in bytes):	164121
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This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790
16461	7590	04/01/2019		
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq. 888 N. Quincy Street Suite 701 Arlington, VA 22203			EXAMINER TROY, ABIGAIL E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/01/2019	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

15/939,549

Applicant(s)

ALBANESE, Lindsay

Examiner

ABIGAIL E TROY

Art Unit

3677

AIA (FITF) Status

Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/29/2019.
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims*

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
5a) Of the above claim(s) 4,11,18 and 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-10,12-17 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some** c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

** See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED CORRESPONDENCE***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Species 1 (Figs. 1A-C) in the reply filed on 2/16/2019 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground that "the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions." This is not found persuasive because each of the designated inventions has structural and functional differences that result in different classifications and fields of search. The field of search for even a single species in this case is extensive; the field of search for all species in this case is highly burdensome.
2. Accordingly, Claims 4, 11, 18 and 20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. The examiner notes that claim 18 is withdrawn from further consideration because it is drawn to a nonelected embodiment (not shown) in which the hat holder does not include a hook.¹

¹The examiner notes that claim 18, if examined, would be objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the subject matter has not been shown in

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3. The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1 and 5 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- a. Regarding claim 1, please replace "disposed the first end" (line 6) with "disposed at the first end".
- b. Regarding claim 5, please replace the semi-colon at the end of the claim with a period.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):

(b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 2, 12-13, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly

the drawings. It would further be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(a) as failing to meet the written description requirement.

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claim the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor, or for pre-AIA the applicant regards as the invention.

7. Regarding claim 2, the limitation "wherein the force of magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member substantially retains a portion of a hat therebetween" (lines 1-3) renders the claim indefinite because "magnetic attraction" is a double positive recitation. Additionally, it is unclear whether or not the hat is required. As best understood, the limitation is intended use. Please clarify.

8. Regarding claims 12-13, the limitation "the first ferromagnetic material" (line 1 of each claim) lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Please replace the limitation with "the first ferromagnetic member".

9. Regarding claim 17, the limitation "the magnet member" (line 8) lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Please replace the limitation with "the magnet".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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(a)(1) the claimed invention was patented, described in a printed publication, or in public use, on sale or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed invention.

11. **Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 14-17, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.**

102(a)(1) as being anticipated by Hsu (U.S. Pub. 2009/0106944).

12. Regarding claim 1, Hsu discloses a [hat]* holder (Figs. 1-5) comprising:

- a. A first strap (left portion of 10) having a first end (100) and a second end (end near 20);
- b. A second strap (right portion of 10) having a first end (100) and a second end (end near 20), the second strap (right portion of 10) joined to the first strap (left portion of 10);
- c. A first ferromagnetic member (12) disposed at the first end (100) of the first strap (left portion of 10);
- d. A second ferromagnetic member (12) disposed at the first end (100) of the second strap (right portion of 10);
- e. A hook (30) coupled to the first strap (left portion of 10, via 20); and
- f. Wherein the first strap (left portion of 10) and the second strap (right portion of 10) are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends (100) by a magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member (12) and the second ferromagnetic member (12, see Fig. 2).

g. *The bracketed text is intended use language. It has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations.

Therefore, since the holder of Hsu is capable of holding a hat as claimed, all limitations are met.

13. Regarding claim 2, Hsu discloses that [the force of magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member is capable of substantially retaining a portion of a hat therebetween]*.

14. Regarding claim 3, Hsu discloses that the hook (30) is disposed at the second end (end near 20) of the first strap (left portion of 10).

15. Regarding claim 5, Hsu discloses that the second end (end near 20) of the first strap (left portion of 10) is joined to the second end (end near 20) of the second strap (right portion of 10).

16. Regarding claim 6, Hsu discloses a first gripping member (11) at the first end (100) of the first strap (left portion of 10).

17. Regarding claim 7, Hsu discloses a second gripping member (11) at the first end (100) of the second strap (right portion of 10).

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18. Regarding claim 10, Hsu discloses that the hook (30) is a rigid loop having a gate (see Fig. 1).

19. Regarding claim 14, Hsu discloses that the first strap (left portion of 10) and the second strap (right portion of 10) are formed from a single folded strap (10).

20. Regarding claims 15-16, Hsu discloses that the first ferromagnetic member (12) is a first permanent magnet (12) having a first magnetic pole, and the second ferromagnetic member (12) is a second permanent magnet (12) having a second magnetic pole, wherein the first permanent magnet (12) is positioned on the first strap (left portion of 10) to face the second permanent magnet (120 on the second strap (right portion of 10); and wherein the first magnetic pole is an opposite pole of the second magnetic pole.

21. Regarding claim 17, Hsu discloses a [hat]* holder (Figs. 1-5) comprising:

- a. a first strap (left portion of 10) having a first end (100) and a second end (end near 20);
- b. a second strap (right portion of 10) having a first end (100) and a second end (end near 20), the second strap (right portion of 100 joined to the first strap (left portion of 10) at their respective second ends (ends near 20);

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- c. a magnet (12) coupled to the first end (100) of the first strap (left portion of 10);
 - d. a ferromagnetic member (12) coupled to the first end (100) of the second strap (right portion of 10); and
 - e. wherein the first strap (left portion of 10) and the second strap (right portion of 10) are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends (100) by a magnetic attraction between the magnet (12) and the ferromagnetic member (12, see Fig. 2).
22. Regarding claim 19, Hsu discloses a first gripping member (11) at the first end (100) of the first strap (left portion of 10); a second gripping member (11) at the first end (100) of the second strap (right portion of 10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

23. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this

Office action:

A patent for a claimed invention may not be obtained, notwithstanding that the claimed invention is not identically disclosed as set forth in section 102, if the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention as a whole would have been obvious before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the claimed invention pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

24. Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Hsu (U.S. Pub. 2009/0106944) in view of Hornik (U.S. Pat. 2,615,227).

25. Regarding claims 8-9,

a. Hsu does not expressly disclose a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap in the form of an abrasive material or a spike.

b. Hornik teaches a similar holder having a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap in the form of an abrasive material or a spike (see Fig. 12).

c. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to modify the first and second ferromagnetic members of Hsu to have gripping members in the form of abrasive materials or spikes, as is taught by Hornik, in order to prevent the ferromagnetic members from sliding with respect to each other and therefore provide a more secure attachment.

26. Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Hsu (U.S. Pub. 2009/0106944) in view of Smith-Reynolds (U.S. Pat. 9,408,992).

27. Regarding claims 12-13,

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- a. Hsu does not expressly disclose that the first ferromagnetic member is sewn into the first end of the strap.
- b. Smith-Reynolds teaches a similar holder (10) wherein the first ferromagnetic member (18) is sewn into the first end of the strap (22, see Fig. 3A, col. 10, lines 58-67).
- c. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to sew the ferromagnetic members of Hsu into the respective straps, as is taught by Smith-Reynolds, in order to provide a more discrete attachment mechanism.

Conclusion

28. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABIGAIL E TROY whose telephone number is (571)270-7270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm.

29. Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VICTOR BATSON can be

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reached on (571)272-6987. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

31. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ABIGAIL E TROY/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677

<i>Notice of References Cited</i>	Application/Control No. 15/939,549		Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay	
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY		Art Unit 3677	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-2615227-A	10-1952	FREDERICK HORNIK	A44C5/2071	24/303
*	B	US-20090106944-A1	04-2009	Hsu; Tzu-Shun	A44C5/2076	24/3.4
*	C	US-9408992-B2	08-2016	Smith-Reynolds; Moniqua	A61M16/0683	1/1
	D					
	E					
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	G					
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	I					
	J					
	K					
	L					
	M					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	CPC Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
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	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

<i>Search Notes</i> 	Application/Control No. 15/939,549	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ALBANESE, Lindsay
	Examiner ABIGAIL E TROY	Art Unit 3677

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
A47G 25/10	03/31/2019	aet

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
24	3.13, 303	03/30/2019	aet

* See search history printout included with this form or the SEARCH NOTES box below to determine the scope of the search.

Search Notes		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
Inventor name searched	03/30/2019	aet
Searched EAST (see search history)	03/30/2019	aet

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	US Subclass/CPC Group	Date	Examiner

/ABIGAIL E TROY/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677	
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EAST Search History

EAST Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
S1	1	((("ALBANESE") near3 ("Lindsay"))).INV.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 22:41
S2	346	24/3.13.ccls.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 22:43
S4	52	24/.clas. and strap with magnet with (hook clasp clip)	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 22:46
S6	23	24/3.13.ccls. and magnet	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 22:52
S5	1019	24/303.ccls.	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 22:52
S7	123	("3529328" "3741376" "3744542" "3755857" "4255837" "4258493" "4336806" "4447238" "4588209" "5186373" "5196818" "5369899" "5425160" "5450658").PN. OR ("5682653").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:02
S8	31	("20080104742" "20100083699" "20100312127" "20120118923" "2592395" "4336806" "4447238" "5400776" "5682653" "6367126" "6568805" "6622349" "6623349" "6848783" "6848787" "7114806" "7185982" "7207091" "7296889" "7494217" "7496991" "7721392" "7793518" "7892110" "7992264" "8235262" "8469511" "8615853" "8696112").PN. OR ("9408992").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:03
S9	39	("1491578" "20030005558" "20040020240" "20040200236" "20060174649" "20060272076" "20080104742" "20090235435" "20100083699" "20100101274" "20100154104" "20120047630" "2461201" "2623256" "2637887" "2714269" "3129477" "3220018" "4231137" "5682653" "5806346" "6640398" "6681405" "6836899" "6962063" "7793518" "D296997").PN. OR ("8640266").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:08
S10	37	("2448611" "3529328" "3584572" "3898951" "4041892" "4236331" "4249267" "4255837" "4258493" "4505219" "4573821" "4688510" "4932351" "4934304" "5022342" "5103756" "5103758" "5249546" "5325811" "5325959" "5375884" "5377820" "5456497" "5458081" "5682653" "5876145").PN. OR ("6401649").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:12

S11	20	("20020096103" "20060172103" "20110315069" "2448611" "3111736" "3697100" "3898951" "5050276" "5103756" "5682653" "5876145" "6401649" "6412116" "7320156" "7325349" "7673410" "7721392" "8448595").PN. OR ("8819900").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:14
S12	43	("2202238" "2453021" "2784757" "3051130" "3097406").PN. OR ("3741376").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:18
S13	4387	bag with magnet\$4	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 23:25
S16	38	("2071021" "2455968" "2527482" "3007568" "3212546" "3213335" "3294136" "3326258" "3415300" "3563293" "3682216" "3727658" "3741376" "3763996" "3978902" "4004325" "4373629").PN. OR ("4940250").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/30 23:27
S15	32	purse with magnet\$4 with interior	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 23:27
S14	595	purse with magnet\$4	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2019/03/30 23:27
L1	82	("2557398" "2557399" "2641793" "2965978" "2967038" "3107361" "3350045" "3365684" "3529328" "4000543" "4039082" "4104622" "4525115" "4609173" "4866426" "5019801" "5067618" "5682653").PN. OR ("5895018").URPN.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/31 11:36
L2	170	24/303.ccls. and (protrusions projections protuberances spikes)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/31 11:38
L3	28	(US-20180368602-\$ or US-20120125046-\$ or US-20100083699-\$ or US-20090106944-\$ or US-20090044566-\$ or US-20090013720-\$ or US-20080104742-\$ or US-20160007706-\$ or US-20080066267-\$ or US-20060005361-\$).did. or (US-5682653-\$ or US-9408992-\$ or US-9687625-\$ or US-8696112-\$ or US-7793518-\$ or US-8938813-\$ or US-6836899-\$ or US-8640266-\$ or US-6401649-\$ or US-8819900-\$ or US-5103756-\$ or US-5895018-\$ or US-3741376-\$ or US-9743745-\$ or US-4940250-\$ or US-7120972-\$).did. or (US-3529328-\$ or US-2615227-\$).did.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/31 11:43
L4	6	l3 and (stitch\$4 sew\$4)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR	OR	OFF	2019/03/31 11:44
L6	705	a47g25/10.cpc.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	OFF	2019/03/31 12:13

EAST Search History (Interference)

< This search history is empty >

3/ 31/ 2019 12:15:50 PM

C:\ Users\ amorrell\ Documents\ EAST\ Workspaces\ 15939549.wsp

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Lindsay ALBANESE

Atty Dkt. No. BM-U-024

Application No.: 15/939,549

Confirmation No.: 4790

Filed: 03/29/2018

Art Unit: 3677

For: Hat Holder

Examiner: TROY, ABIGAIL E

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO NON-RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT

In response to the Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment dated Feb 13, 2019, the period for response extends through April 13, 2019 without payment of fees for extension of time, Applicant hereby elects claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19 (*corresponding to Species #1 identified by examiner*), with traverse, for prosecution in the above-identified application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it states that “if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.” It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative

examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

Dated: February 25, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Benjamin E. Maskell/
Benjamin E. Maskell
Registration No.: 64,785

MASKELL LAW PLLC
888 N. Quincy St. Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 568-4523 – Telephone

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	35251693
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	26-FEB-2019
Filing Date:	29-MAR-2018
Time Stamp:	12:43:20
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Response to Election / Restriction Filed	BM-U-024_Restriction_Response.pdf	86609	no	2
			80cd0feecfa64ac14826a5a94840b77c2dea5fa8		

Warnings:

Information:	
Total Files Size (in bytes):	86609
This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503. <u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application. <u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u> If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course. <u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u> If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.	



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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15/939,549

03/29/2018

Lindsay ALBANESE

BM-U-024

4790

16461 7590 02/13/2019

Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.

888 N. Quincy Street

Suite 701

Arlington, VA 22203

EXAMINER

TROY, ABIGAIL E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3677

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/13/2019

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR/ PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	ALBANESE, Lindsay	BM-U-024

Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq. 888 N. Quincy Street Suite 701 Arlington, VA 22203		EXAMINER	
		ABIGAIL E TROY	
		ART UNIT	PAPER
		3677	20190212

DATE MAILED: _____

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

See attached.

/ABIGAIL E TROY/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677

Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment

1. The reply filed on 1/11/2019 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): While applicant has identified claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19 as encompassing the elected species, applicant has not specified which species has been elected. As such, applicant has not complied with 37 CFR 1.143. As set forth in the prior office action, the reply must include (i) an election of a species to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed, and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected species, including any claims subsequently added.

2. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABIGAIL E TROY whose telephone number is (571)270-7270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm.

4. Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based

Art Unit: 3677

collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VICTOR BATSON can be reached on (571)272-6987. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ABIGAIL E TROY/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Lindsay ALBANESE

Atty Dkt. No. BM-U-024

Application No.: 15/939,549

Confirmation No.: 4790

Filed: 03/29/2018

Art Unit: 3677

For: Hat Holder

Examiner: TROY, ABIGAIL E

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement dated January 10, 2019, the period for response extends through March 10, 2019 without payment of fees for extension of time, Applicant hereby elects claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19, with traverse, for prosecution in the above-identified application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it states that “if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.” It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative

examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

Dated: January 11, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Benjamin E. Maskell/
Benjamin E. Maskell
Registration No.: 64,785

MASKELL LAW PLLC
888 N. Quincy St. Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 568-4523 – Telephone

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	34830867
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	11-JAN-2019
Filing Date:	29-MAR-2018
Time Stamp:	13:34:24
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Response to Election / Restriction Filed	BM-U-024_Restriction_Response.pdf	69580	no	2
			ecc53f33b13de7cfa8275195d96bde3fc495d24d		

Warnings:

Information:	
Total Files Size (in bytes):	69580
This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503. <u>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application. <u>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371</u> If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course. <u>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office</u> If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.	



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024	4790
16461	7590	01/10/2019		
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq. 888 N. Quincy Street Suite 701 Arlington, VA 22203			EXAMINER TROY, ABIGAIL E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/10/2019	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

15/939,549

Applicant(s)

ALBANESE, Lindsay

Examiner

ABIGAIL E TROY

Art Unit

3677

AIA Status

Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/29/2018.
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims*

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
5a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.

Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

Certified copies:

- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some** c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

** See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

- a. Species 1: Embodiment shown in Figs. 1A-C and claimed in claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19.
- b. Species 2: Embodiment shown in Figs. 2A-C and claimed in claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19.
- c. Species 3: Embodiment shown in Figs. 3A-C and claimed in claims 1-5 and 11-18.
- d. Species 4: Embodiment shown in Figs. 4A-B and claimed in claims 1-3, 5, 10, and 12-19.
- e. Species 5: Embodiment shown in Figs. 5A-B and claimed in claims 1-5 and 11-18.
- f. Species 6: Embodiment shown in Figs. 6A-B and claimed in claims 1-3, 5, 10, and 12-19.
- g. Species 7: Embodiment shown in Fig. 7 and claimed in claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-19.
- h. Species 8: Embodiment shown in Fig. 8 and claimed in claim 20.

2. The species are independent or distinct because they have unique structural requirements, including different types and arrangements of hooks, different strap arrangements, and

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different types of fasteners. In addition, these species are not obvious variants of each other based on the current record.

3. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, or a single grouping of patentably indistinct species, for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic.

4. There is a search and/or examination burden for the patentably distinct species as set forth above because at least the following reason(s) apply: The species have separate classifications and fields of search. See MPEP 808.02.

5. **Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species to be examined** even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) **and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected species or grouping of patentably indistinct species,** including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

6. The election may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the election of species requirement, the election shall be treated as an election

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without traverse. Traversal must be presented at the time of election in order to be considered timely. Failure to timely traverse the requirement will result in the loss of right to petition under 37 CFR 1.144. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected species or grouping of patentably indistinct species.

7. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species, or groupings of patentably indistinct species from which election is required, are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing them to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the species unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other species.

8. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

9. A telephone call was made to Benjamin Maskell on 1/3/2019 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Art Unit: 3677

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABIGAIL E TROY whose telephone number is (571)270-7270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm.

11. Examiner interviews are available via telephone, in-person, and video conferencing using a USPTO supplied web-based collaboration tool. To schedule an interview, applicant is encouraged to use the USPTO Automated Interview Request (AIR) at <http://www.uspto.gov/interviewpractice>.

12. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VICTOR BATSON can be reached on (571)272-6987. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

13. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or

Art Unit: 3677

access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199

(IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ABIGAIL E TROY/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3677



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
15/939,549	03/29/2018	Lindsay ALBANESE	BM-U-024

CONFIRMATION NO. 4790

PUBLICATION NOTICE



OC000000104713356

16461
Benjamin E. Maskell, Esq.
888 N. Quincy Street
Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22203

Title:Hat Holder

Publication No.US-2018-0368602-A1

Publication Date:12/27/2018

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publically available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently <http://www.uspto.gov/patft/>.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Public Records Division. The Public Records Division can be reached by telephone at (571) 272-3150 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (571) 273-3250, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Public Records Division, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at www.uspto.gov using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently <https://portal.uspto.gov/pair/PublicPair>. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.

Office of Data Management, Application Assistance Unit (571) 272-4000, or (571) 272-4200, or 1-888-786-0101

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number
15/939,549

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

(Column 1)		(Column 2)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	FEE(\$)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A	75		N/A	
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (l), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A	330		N/A	
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A	380		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(j))	20	minus 20 = *	x 50 =	0.00	OR		
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3	minus 3 = *	x 230 =	0.00			
APPLICATION SIZE FEE (37 CFR 1.16(s))	If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$310 (\$155 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).			0.00			
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))				0.00			
			TOTAL	785		TOTAL	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
AMENDMENT A		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x	=	OR	x	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x	=	OR	x	=
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							OR		
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
AMENDMENT B		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)		RATE(\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE(\$)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=	x	=	OR	x	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=	x	=	OR	x	=
	Application Size Fee (37 CFR 1.16(s))							OR		
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
15/939,549	03/29/2018	3765	785	BM-U-024	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 4790

FILING RECEIPT



16461
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Date Mailed: 04/24/2018

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections**

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Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This appln claims benefit of 62/525,431 06/27/2017

Foreign Applications for which priority is claimed (You may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at the USPTO. Please see <http://www.uspto.gov> for more information.) - None.

Foreign application information must be provided in an Application Data Sheet in order to constitute a claim to foreign priority. See 37 CFR 1.55 and 1.76.

Permission to Access Application via Priority Document Exchange: Yes

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The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 15/939,549**

Projected Publication Date: 12/27/2018

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

Hat Holder

Preliminary Class

002

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications: No

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a hat holding including a first strap having a first end and a second end, a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap, a first ferromagnetic member disposed at the first end of the first strap, a second ferromagnetic member disposed the first end of the second strap, and a hook coupled to the first strap. The first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A hat holder comprising:
 - a first strap having a first end and a second end;
 - a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap;
 - a first ferromagnetic member disposed at the first end of the first strap;
 - a second ferromagnetic member disposed the first end of the second strap;
 - a hook coupled to the first strap; andwherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member.
2. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the force of magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member substantially retains a portion of a hat therebetween.
3. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is disposed at the second end of the first strap.
4. The hat holder of claim 1 further comprising:
 - an extension member disposed between the second end of the first strap and the hook.
5. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the second end of the first strap is joined to the second end of the second strap;
6. The hat holder of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap.
7. The hat holder of claim 6 further comprising:

- a second gripping member at the first end of the second strap.
8. The hat holder of claim 6 wherein the first gripping member is an abrasive material.
 9. The hat holder of claim 6 wherein the first gripping member is a spike.
 10. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is a rigid loop having a gate.
 11. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the hook is flexible strap having a closure.
 12. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic material is disposed in the first end of the first strap.
 13. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic material is sewn into the first end of the first strap.
 14. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first strap and the second strap are formed from a single folded strap.
 15. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic member is a permanent magnet.
 16. The hat holder of claim 1 wherein the first ferromagnetic member is a first permanent magnet having a first magnetic pole and the second ferromagnetic member is a second permanent magnet having a second magnetic pole; wherein the first permanent magnet is positioned on the first strap to face the second permanent magnet on the second strap; and wherein the first magnetic pole is an opposite pole of the second magnetic pole.
 17. A hat holder comprising:
 - a first strap having a first end and a second end;
 - a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap at their respective second ends;
 - a magnet coupled to the first end of the first strap;

a ferromagnetic member coupled to the first end of the second strap; and

wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the magnet member and the ferromagnetic member.

18. The hat holder of claim 17 wherein the first and second straps are coupled to an interior of a bag.

19. The hat holder of claim 17 further comprising:

a first gripping member at the first end of the first strap;

a second gripping member at the first end of the second strap.

20. A hat holder comprising:

a first strap having a first end and a second end;

a hook coupled to the first end of the first strap; and

a clip coupled to second end of the strap, the clip configured to retain a portion of a hat therein.

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

OF

Lindsay Albanese

FOR

Hat Holder

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] This application is a non-provisional of U.S. Provisional Application 62/525,431 filed June 27, 2017, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Field of the Invention

[0002] The embodiments of the invention relate to a hat holder, and more particularly, to a fashionable hat holder of simple construction. Although embodiments of the invention are suitable for a wide scope of applications, it is particularly suitable for keeping a hat close at hand without cumbersome hat boxes.

Discussion of the Related Art

[0003] Hats are fashion accessories that have transcended the ages. One problem with a hat, however, is how to carry or store a hat when it is not being worn. When a wearer is at a home or an office, a hat can easily be stored on a shelf, hook, or in a hat box. However, if a wearer is outside or traveling it can be cumbersome to accommodate or store a hat without damaging it.

[0004] One solution of the related art is a hat box. A hat box is generally a rigid-walled box sized in relative proportions to store a hat when not in use. While hat boxes can effectively store and protect a hat, hat boxes can be large and unwieldy – an inconvenient proposition for portability.

[0005] Alternatively, a hat can simply be carried with a free hand. Carrying a hat, however, has the undesirable effect of encumbering the wearer and leaving the hat exposed to accidental damage. Some hats of the related art have a string and the hat can be worn around the neck such as are common on “bucket” style hats and some sun hats. Strings, however, can be encumbering or simply not compatible with the style of the day on fashion hats. In still another alternative, a hat can be store in a briefcase or bag although at risk of compression damage to the hat.

[0006] Thus, the currently known solutions for holding a hat are inconvenient, cumbersome, not stylish, or risk damage to the hat and there is a need for a device to store a hat when it is not being worn to address the aforementioned problems.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] Accordingly, embodiments of the invention are directed to a hat holder that substantially obviates one or more of the problems due to limitations and disadvantages of the related art.

[0008] An object of embodiments of the invention is to provide a hat holder that is small and compact in size.

[0009] Another object of embodiments of the invention is to provide a hat holder that is fashionable.

[0010] Yet another object of embodiments of the invention is to provide a hat holder that can accommodate a variety of hats.

[0011] Still another object of embodiments of the invention is to provide a hat holder that is portable.

[0012] Another object of embodiments of the invention is to provide a hat holder that securely retains a hat and can be easily stored when not in use.

[0013] Additional features and advantages of embodiments of the invention will be set forth in the description which follows, and in part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of embodiments of the invention. The objectives and other advantages of the embodiments of the invention will be realized and attained by the structure particularly pointed out in the written description and claims hereof as well as the appended drawings.

[0014] To achieve these and other advantages and in accordance with the purpose of embodiments of the invention, as embodied and broadly described, a hat holder includes a first strap having a first end and a second end, a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap, a first ferromagnetic member disposed at the first end of the first strap, a second ferromagnetic member disposed the first end of the second strap, a hook coupled to the first strap, wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the first ferromagnetic member and the second ferromagnetic member.

[0015] In another aspect, a hat holder includes a first strap having a first end and a second end, a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap at their respective second ends, a magnet coupled to the first end of the first strap, a ferromagnetic member coupled to the first end of the second strap, a hook coupled to the second end of the first strap; wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the magnet member and the ferromagnetic member.

[0016] In yet another aspect, a hat holder includes a first strap having a first end and a second end, a second strap having a first end and a second end, the second strap joined to the first strap at their respective second ends, a magnet coupled to the first end of the first strap, a ferromagnetic member coupled to the first end of the second strap, wherein the first strap and the second strap are configured to be separably joined at their respective first ends by a magnetic attraction between the magnet member and the ferromagnetic member.

[0017] In still another aspect, a hat holder includes a first strap having a first end and a second end, a hook coupled to the first end of the first strap, and a clip coupled to second end of the strap, the clip configured to retain a portion of a hat therein.

[0018] It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory and are intended to provide further explanation of embodiments of the invention as claimed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0019] The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of embodiments of the invention and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of embodiments of the invention.

[0020] FIG. 1A-1C are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0021] FIG. 2A-2C are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0022] FIG. 3A-3C are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0023] FIG. 4A-4B are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0024] FIG. 5A-5B are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0025] FIG. 6A-6B are illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0026] FIG. 7 is an illustration of a hat holder and a hat according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention; and

[0027] FIG. 8 is an illustration of a hat holder and a hat according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0028] Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. The invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as being limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the concept of the invention to those skilled in the art. In the drawings, the thicknesses of layers and regions are exaggerated for clarity. Like reference numerals in the drawings denote like elements.

[0029] FIG. 1A and FIG. 1B are front-view illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention and FIG. 1C is a side-view illustration of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 1A-1C, a hat holder includes a rear strap 110, a front strap 120, a connection 130, and hook 140. The rear strap 110 can have a ferromagnetic member 115, bottom end 111, a top end 112, and perimeter stitching 113. The front strap 120 can have a ferromagnetic member 125, a bottom end 121, a top end 122, and perimeter stitching 123. The hook 140 can have a gate 145. The ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 can have gripping members such as spikes 116 and 126, respectively.

[0030] The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 130. The connection 130 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 110 and a second half can be the front strap 120. Thus, although the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are referred throughout the specification as

separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0031] The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. When the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are formed from a single piece of material, the single piece of material can be folded over the hook 140. The connection 130 can securely bind the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 to the hook.

[0032] The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 113 on the rear strap 110 and perimeter stitching 123 on the front strap 120 can bind the double layer together.

[0033] The rear strap 110 can have a ferromagnetic member 115 near its lower end 111 and the front strap 120 can have a ferromagnetic member 125 in its lower end 121. The ferromagnetic member 115 and 125 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 115 and 125 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 115 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 125 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic

members 115 and 125 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 111 and 121 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 111 and 121 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125.

[0034] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125. A hat retained in the hat holder of the present invention can allow a user to carry a hat “hands-free” thereby freeing the user’s hands to engage in other activities and relieving the user of the burden of carrying or stowing a hat.

[0035] Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members such as spikes 116 and 126 near the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125. The gripping members 116 and 126 can concentrate the force between the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 over a smaller area more effectively pinching or gripping a hat inserted therebetween. The size and number of gripping members 116 and 126 has been exaggerated in the attached drawings for clarity and ease of illustration. Those of skill in the art will appreciate that that the materials, number, arrangement, and size of the gripping members can be chosen to suit hats of varying compositions. Although the embodiment of FIG. 1C is shown as having gripping members 116 and 126 on both the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120, it is contemplated that gripping members 116 and 126 may only be present on only one of the rear strap 110 or the front strap 120. When the gripping members 116 and 126 are spikes as illustrated in FIG. 1C, the spikes are preferably made from metal pins or injection molded plastic formed in ridges or rows. In other embodiments, the gripping members 116 and 126 are formed from an abrasive material such as sandpaper or sticky material such as silicon. The force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members

115 and 125 can press the gripping members 116 and 126 into the hat to more securely retain the hat therein.

[0036] The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 are preferably disposed between the double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 115 and 125 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 110 and the front strap 120.

[0037] The rear strap 110 and the front strap 120 can be connected to a hook 140. The hook 140 can be used to attach the assembly to another object such as a beltloop or an eyelet on a suitcase or purse. The hook 140 can have a spring-loaded gate 145 that can prevent the hook from becoming inadvertently dislodged.

[0038] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 140 and instead the top ends 112 and 122 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the top ends 112 and 122 can be sewn into the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the lower ends 111 and 121 can be pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0039] FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B are front-view illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention and FIG. 2C is a side-view illustration of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 2A-2C, a hat holder includes a rear strap 210, a front strap 220, a connection 230, and hook 240. The rear strap 210 can have a ferromagnetic member 215, bottom end 211, a top end 212, and perimeter stitching 213. The front strap 220 can have a ferromagnetic member 225, a bottom end 221, a top end

222, and perimeter stitching 223. The hook 240 can have a gate 245. The ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 can have gripping members such as spikes 216 and 226, respectively.

[0040] The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 230. The connection 230 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 210 and a second half can be the front strap 220. Thus, although the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are referred throughout the specification as separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0041] The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. When the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are formed from a single piece of material, the single piece of material can be folded over the hook 240. The connection 230 can securely bind the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 to the hook.

[0042] The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 213 on the rear strap 210 and perimeter stitching 223 on the front strap 220 can bind the double layer together.

[0043] The rear strap 210 can have a ferromagnetic member 215 near its lower end 211 and the front strap 220 can have a ferromagnetic member 225 in its lower end 221. The ferromagnetic member 215 and 225 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 215 and 225 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 215 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 225 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 211 and 221 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 211 and 221 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225.

[0044] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225.

[0045] Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members such as spikes 216 and 226 near the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225. The gripping members 216 and 226 can concentrate the force between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 over a smaller area more effectively pinching or gripping a hat inserted therebetween. The size and number of gripping members 216 and 226 has been exaggerated in the attached drawings for clarity and ease of illustration. Those of skill in the art will appreciate that that the materials, number, arrangement, and size of the gripping members can be chosen to suit hats of varying compositions. Although the embodiment of FIG. 2C is shown as having gripping members 216 and 226 on both the rear

strap 210 and the front strap 220, it is contemplated that gripping members 216 and 226 may only be present on only one of the rear strap 210 or the front strap 220. When the gripping members 216 and 226 are spikes as illustrated in FIG. 2C, the spikes are preferably made from metal pins or injection molded plastic formed in ridges or rows. In other embodiments, the gripping members 216 and 226 are formed from an abrasive material such as sandpaper or sticky material such as silicon. The force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 can press the gripping members 216 and 226 into the hat to more securely retain the hat therein.

[0046] The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 are preferably disposed between the double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 215 and 225 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 210 and the front strap 220.

[0047] The rear strap 210 and the front strap 220 can be connected to a hook 240. The hook 240 can be used to attach the assembly to another object such as a beltloop or an eyelet on a suitcase or purse. The hook 240 can have a spring-loaded gate 245 that can prevent the hook from becoming inadvertently dislodged.

[0048] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 240 and instead the top ends 212 and 222 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the top ends 212 and 222 can be sewn into the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the lower ends 211 and 221 can be pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0049] FIG. 3A is an illustration of a strap-style hook for a hat holder, FIG. 3B is an illustration of medallion-style straps for a hat holder, and FIG. 3C is an illustration of a strap-style hook connected to a medallion-style straps via an extension member, all according to exemplary embodiments of the invention. As shown in FIG. 3A-3C, a hat holder includes a rear strap 310, a front strap 320, a connection 330, a hook 340, and extension members 350. The rear strap 310 can have a ferromagnetic member 315, bottom end 311, a top end 312, and perimeter stitching 313. The front strap 320 can have a ferromagnetic member 325, a bottom end 321, a top end 322, and perimeter stitching 323. The hook 340 can have a closure 345.

[0050] The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 330. The connection 330 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 310 and a second half can be the front strap 320. Thus, although the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are referred throughout the specification as separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0051] The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. When the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are formed from a single piece of material, the single piece of material

can be folded over one of the extensions members 350 to secure it thereto. The connection 330 can securely bind the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 to the extension member 350.

[0052] The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 313 on the rear strap 310 and perimeter stitching 323 on the front strap 320 can bind the double layer together.

[0053] The rear strap 310 can have a ferromagnetic member 315 near its lower end 311 and the front strap 320 can have a ferromagnetic member 325 in its lower end 321. The ferromagnetic member 315 and 325 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 315 and 325 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 315 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 325 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 311 and 321 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 311 and 321 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325.

[0054] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325. Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members (not shown) such as spikes or abrasive material near the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325.

[0055] The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 are preferably disposed between the double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 315 and 325 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 310 and the front strap 320.

[0056] The rear strap 310 and the front strap 320 can be connected to extension members 350. The extension members 350 can connect to the hook 340 which can in turn be used to attach the hat holder to another object such as a belt. The extension members 350 can provide length to the hat holder so that a hat retained therein is further from the point where the hook 340 is attached to another object. In the example of where the hook 340 is attached to a user's belt, a hat retained in the hat holder would be very close to the user's waist without the extension member. If the hat were close to the user's waist, the hat would be susceptible to inadvertent damage from pinching or crushing by become trapped between user's torso and thigh. Thus, the extension members 350 are advantageous to lengthen the hat holder and prevent a hat from being exposed to hazards present near the connection point of the hook 340 to another object (such as a user's belt).

[0057] Although the extension member 350 has been illustrated as four interlocking rings, other types of extension members 350 are contemplated including, for example, straps, chains, and ropes.

[0058] The hook 340 can have a closure 345 such as a snap, button or Velcro, that can securely close the hook. In the embodiment of FIG. 3A-3C the hook 340 is formed from a strap of flexible material. The flexible material can be, for example, nylon, leather, or leatherette. The hook 340 can be formed from the same material as the front or rear straps 310 and 320,

respectively. The hook 340 can be used to attach the hat holder to another object such as a user's belt or a strap or eyelet of a luggage or purse.

[0059] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 340 and instead the extension member 350 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the extension member 350 can be sewn or attached to the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the extension member can be pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0060] FIG. 4A and FIG. 4B are front-view illustrations of a hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 4A-4B, a hat holder includes a rear strap 410, a front strap 420, a connection 430, and hook 440. The rear strap 410 can have a ferromagnetic member 415, bottom end 411, a top end 412, and perimeter stitching 413. The front strap 420 can have a ferromagnetic member 425, a bottom end 421, a top end 422, and perimeter stitching 423. The hook 440 can have a gate 445 and a swivel 446.

[0061] The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 430. The connection 430 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 410 and a second half can be the front strap 420. Thus, although the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are referred throughout the specification as separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0062] The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. When the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are formed from a single piece of material, the single piece of material can be folded over part of the hook 440. The connection 430 can securely bind the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 to the hook.

[0063] The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 413 on the rear strap 410 and perimeter stitching 423 on the front strap 420 can bind the double layer together.

[0064] The rear strap 410 can have a ferromagnetic member 415 near its lower end 411 and the front strap 420 can have a ferromagnetic member 425 in its lower end 421. The ferromagnetic member 415 and 425 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 415 and 425 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 415 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 425 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 411

and 421 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 411 and 421 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425.

[0065] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425. Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members (not shown) such as spikes or abrasive material near the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425.

[0066] The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 are preferably disposed between the double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 415 and 425 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 410 and the front strap 420.

[0067] The rear strap 410 and the front strap 420 can be connected to a hook 440. The hook 440 can be used to attach the assembly to another object such as a beltloop or an eyelet on a suitcase or purse. The hook 440 can have a spring-loaded gate 445 that can prevent the hook from becoming inadvertently dislodged. The hook 440 can have a swivel 446 so that the hook 440 can rotate with respect to the straps 410 and 420 thereby allowing the hook to be rotated to a desirable position to attach to another object.

[0068] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 440 and instead the top ends 412 and 422 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the top ends 412 and 422 can be sewn into the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the lower ends 411 and 421 can be

pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0069] FIG. 5A-5B are illustrations of a luggage tag style hat holder according to exemplary embodiments of the invention. As shown in FIG. 5A-5B, a hat holder includes a rear strap 510, a front strap 520, a connection 530, a hook 540, and extension member 550. The rear strap 510 can have a ferromagnetic member 515, bottom end 511, a top end 512, and perimeter stitching 513. The front strap 520 can have a ferromagnetic member 525, a bottom end 521, a top end 522, and perimeter stitching 523. The hook 540 can have a closure 545.

[0070] The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 530. The connection 530 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 510 and a second half can be the front strap 520. Thus, although the rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 are referred throughout the specification as separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0071] The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. The connection 530 can securely bind the rear strap 510 to the front strap 520. The extension member 550 can be formed from the same piece of material as either the rear strap 510 to the front strap 520.

[0072] The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 513 on the rear strap 510 and perimeter stitching 523 on the front strap 520 can bind the double layer together.

[0073] The rear strap 510 can have a ferromagnetic member 515 near its lower end 511 and the front strap 520 can have a ferromagnetic member 525 in its lower end 521. The ferromagnetic member 515 and 525 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 515 and 525 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 515 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 525 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 511 and 521 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 511 and 521 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525.

[0074] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525. Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members (not shown) such as spikes or abrasive material near the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525.

[0075] The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 are preferably disposed between the

double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 515 and 525 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 510 and the front strap 520.

[0076] The rear strap 510 and the front strap 520 can be connected to extension member 550. The extension member 550 can connect to the hook 540 which can in turn be used to attach the hat holder to another object such as a belt. The extension member 550 can increase the distance between hook and the straps 510 and 520. The extension member 550 can provide length to the hat holder so that a hat retained therein is further from the point where the hook 540 is attached to another object. In the example of where the hook 540 is attached to a user's belt, a hat retained in the hat holder would be very close to the user's waist without the extension member. If the hat were close to the user's waist, the hat would be susceptible to inadvertent damage from pinching or crushing by become trapped between user's torso and thigh. Thus, the extension member 550 is advantageous to lengthen the hat holder and prevent a hat from being exposed to hazards present near the connection point of the hook 540 to another object (such as a user's belt).

[0077] Although the extension member 550 has been illustrated as a single piece of material formed from the same piece of material as the front strap 520, other types of extension members are contemplated including, for example, straps, chains, and ropes.

[0078] The hook 540 can have a closure 545 such as a snap, button, or Velcro, that can securely close the hook. In the embodiment of FIG. 5A-5B the hook 540 is formed from a strap of flexible material. The flexible material can be, for example, nylon, leather, or leatherette. The hook 540 can be formed from the same material as the front or rear straps 510 and 520,

respectively. The hook 540 can be used to attach the hat holder to another object such as a user's belt or a strap or eyelet of a luggage or purse.

[0079] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 540 and instead the extension member 550 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the extension member 550 can be sewn or attached to the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the extension member can be pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0080] FIG. 6A and FIG. 6B are front-view illustrations of a carabiner-style hat holder according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 6A-6B, a hat holder includes a rear strap 610, a front strap 620, a connection 630, and hook 640. The rear strap 610 can have a ferromagnetic member 615, bottom end 611, a top end 612, and perimeter stitching 613. The front strap 620 can have a ferromagnetic member 625, a bottom end 621, a top end 622, and perimeter stitching 623. The hook 640 can have a gate 645.

[0081] The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can be coupled together at their top end via connection 630. The connection 630 can be stitching, cleats, rivets, buttons, snaps, or other methods of mechanical coupling known in the art of textiles. The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can be formed from a single piece of material that is folded approximately in half where a first half can be the rear strap 610 and a second half can be the front strap 620. Thus, although the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 are referred throughout the specification as separate straps, those of skill in the art will appreciate that the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can be formed from a single piece of material.

[0082] The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can be formed from leather, nylon, plastic, cotton, or other natural or man-made materials. The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 are desirably flexible, although rigid materials are contemplated. The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 are desirably formed from the same type of material and, in preferred embodiments of the invention, are formed from nylon webbing, leather, or leatherette. When the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 are formed from a single piece of material, the single piece of material can be folded over part of the hook 640. The connection 630 can securely bind the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 to the hook.

[0083] The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can each, respectively, be formed from a double layer of material. When the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 are formed from a double layer of material, perimeter stitching 613 on the rear strap 610 and perimeter stitching 623 on the front strap 620 can bind the double layer together.

[0084] The rear strap 610 can have a ferromagnetic member 615 near its lower end 611 and the front strap 620 can have a ferromagnetic member 625 in its lower end 621. The ferromagnetic member 615 and 625 can be, for example, formed from a ferrous material such as iron disks or washers. The ferromagnetic member 615 and 625 can be permanent magnets such as neodymium disk-shaped magnets. In embodiments of the invention the ferromagnetic member 615 is an iron disk and the ferromagnetic member 625 is a neodymium disk-shaped magnet. In preferred embodiments of the invention, the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 are both neodymium disk-shaped magnets each having a positive pole on one flat side of the disk and having an opposite, negative pole, on the other side of the disk. When the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 are both magnets, they can be disposed at the respective lower ends 611

and 621 such that the opposite poles face one another. The lower ends 611 and 621 can be held together by the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625.

[0085] In use, the brim of a hat can be placed between the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 and the force of magnetic attraction between the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 can substantially hold the hat between the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625. Embodiments of the invention can include gripping members (not shown) such as spikes or abrasive material near the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625.

[0086] The lower ends 611 and 621 of the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 (respectively) are preferably formed from a double layer of material and the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 are preferably disposed between the double layers of material. Stitching, glue, rivets, or other fasteners can hold the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 in place. In other embodiments, the ferromagnetic members 615 and 625 can be surface mounted on the rear strap 610 and the front strap 620.

[0087] The rear strap 610 and the front strap 620 can be connected to a hook 640. The hook 640 can be used to attach the assembly to another object such as a beltloop or an eyelet on a suitcase or purse. The hook 640 can have a spring-loaded gate 645 that can prevent the hook from becoming inadvertently dislodged. The hook 640 can be a carabiner.

[0088] Embodiments of the invention can omit the hook 640 and instead the top ends 612 and 622 can be permanently attached to another object. For example, the top ends 612 and 622 can be sewn into the inside of a purse or travel bag. When not in use, the whole assembly can be disposed out of sight inside the purse or travel bag. In use, the lower ends 611 and 621 can be pulled to the outside of the purse or travel bag and be used to engage and retain the brim of a hat. In this way, a hat so retained can “ride” on the outside of the purse or travel bag.

[0089] FIG. 7 is an illustration of a carabiner-style hat holder and a hat according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 7, a hat holder includes a rear strap 710, a front strap 720, a carabiner hook 740. The rear strap 710 includes a ferromagnetic member 715 such as a neodymium magnet and one or more gripping members 726. The front strap 720 includes a ferromagnetic member 725 such as a neodymium magnet and the carabiner 740 can include a gate 745.

[0090] In use, the brim of a hat (not labeled) can be positioned between the two ferromagnetic members 715 and 725. The force of magnetic attraction can pull the two ferromagnetic members 715 and 725 together thus retaining the hat therein. To remove the hat, a user can pull the ferromagnetic members 715 and 725 apart.

[0091] The gripping members 726 can be positioned near the ferromagnetic member 725 to focus the force of magnetic attraction over a smaller area thereby providing a more secure grip on the hat. While the ferromagnetic members 715 and 725 have been shown and described as gripping the brim of a hat, it is contemplated that other portions of the hat may be similarly retained by the ferromagnetic members 715 and 725 and thus the invention is not limited to gripping only the brim. It is further contemplated that other items may be retained between the ferromagnetic members 715 and 725 of the invention such as sunglasses, scarves, gloves, other fashion accessories, and non-apparel such as papers, pencils, grocery bags, and other light-weight items. Although the gripping member 726 has been illustrated as a spike, other configurations are contemplated including ridges or abrasive material such as sand paper.

[0092] The carabiner 740 can be attached to another object such as a beltloop, an eyelet of a purse, or a strap or handle of luggage or a bag. The gate 745 can hinge open to allow the carabiner 740 to be securely attached to another object.

[0093] FIG. 8 is an illustration of a hat holder and a hat according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 8, a hat holder can include a strap 810, a clip 815 and a carabiner 840. The strap 810 can have a top 811 and a bottom 812.

[0094] The clip 815 can be attached to the bottom 812 of the strap 810. The clip 815 can be attached by conventional means such as sewing, riveting, gluing, etc. The carabiner 840 can be attached to the top 812 of the strap 810. The carabiner 840 can be attached to another object (not shown) such as a belt loop or a handle of a purse or luggage. The clip 815 can retain a hat (not shown). In use, a portion of a hat (not shown) such as the brim or edge can be inserted into the jaws of the clip 815 and retained therein.

[0095] It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made in the hat holder without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Thus, it is intended that embodiments of the invention cover the modifications and variations of this invention provided they come within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

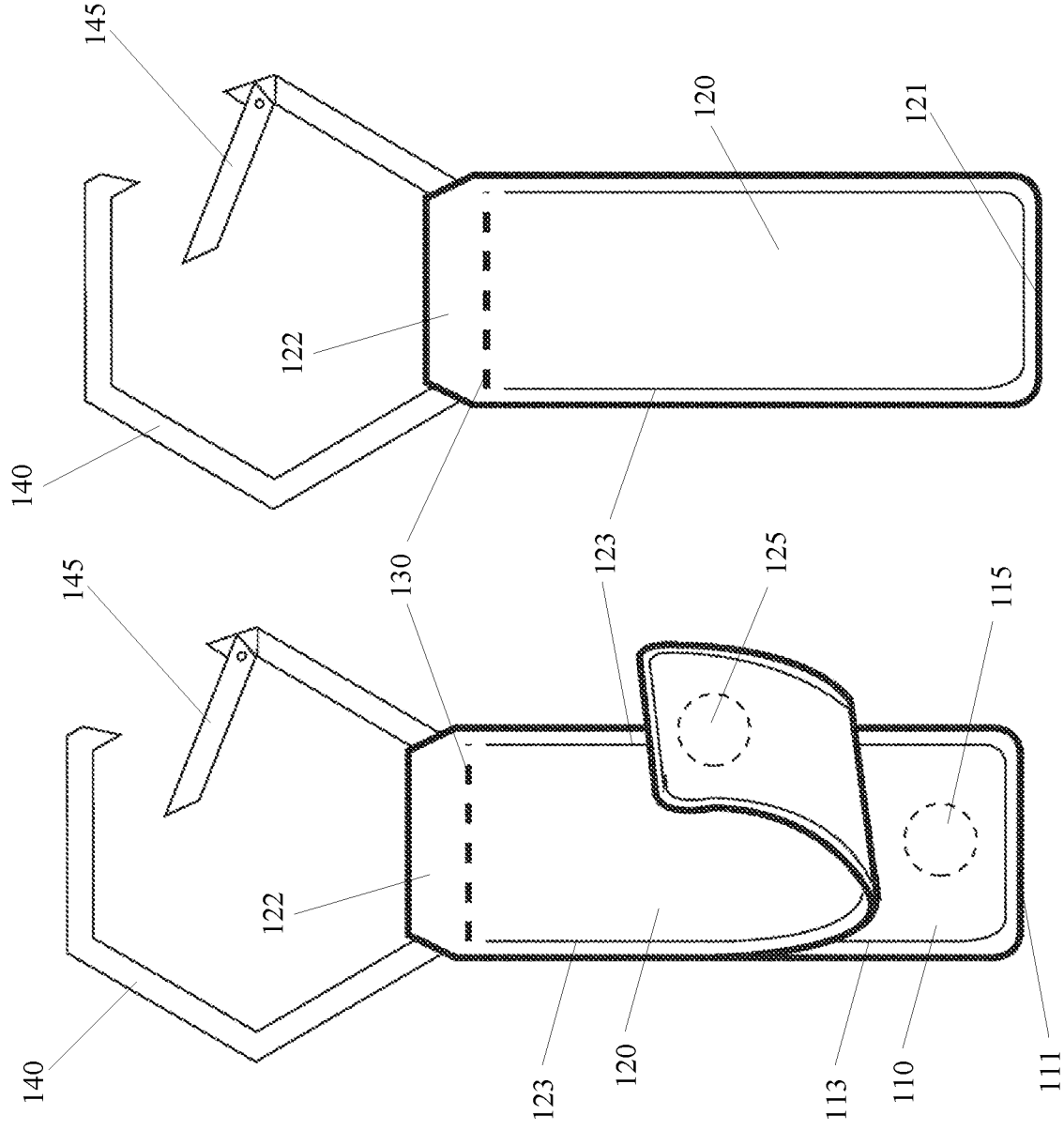


FIG. 1A

FIG. 1B

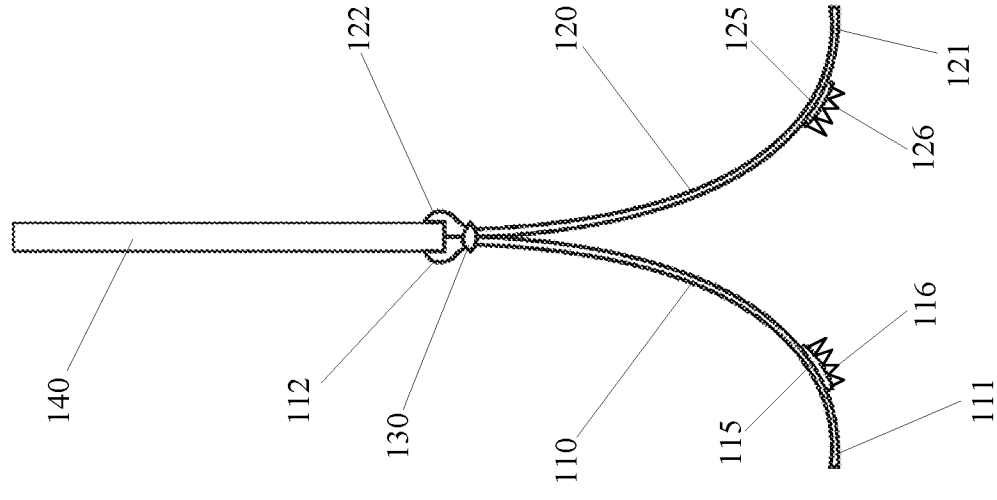


FIG. 1C

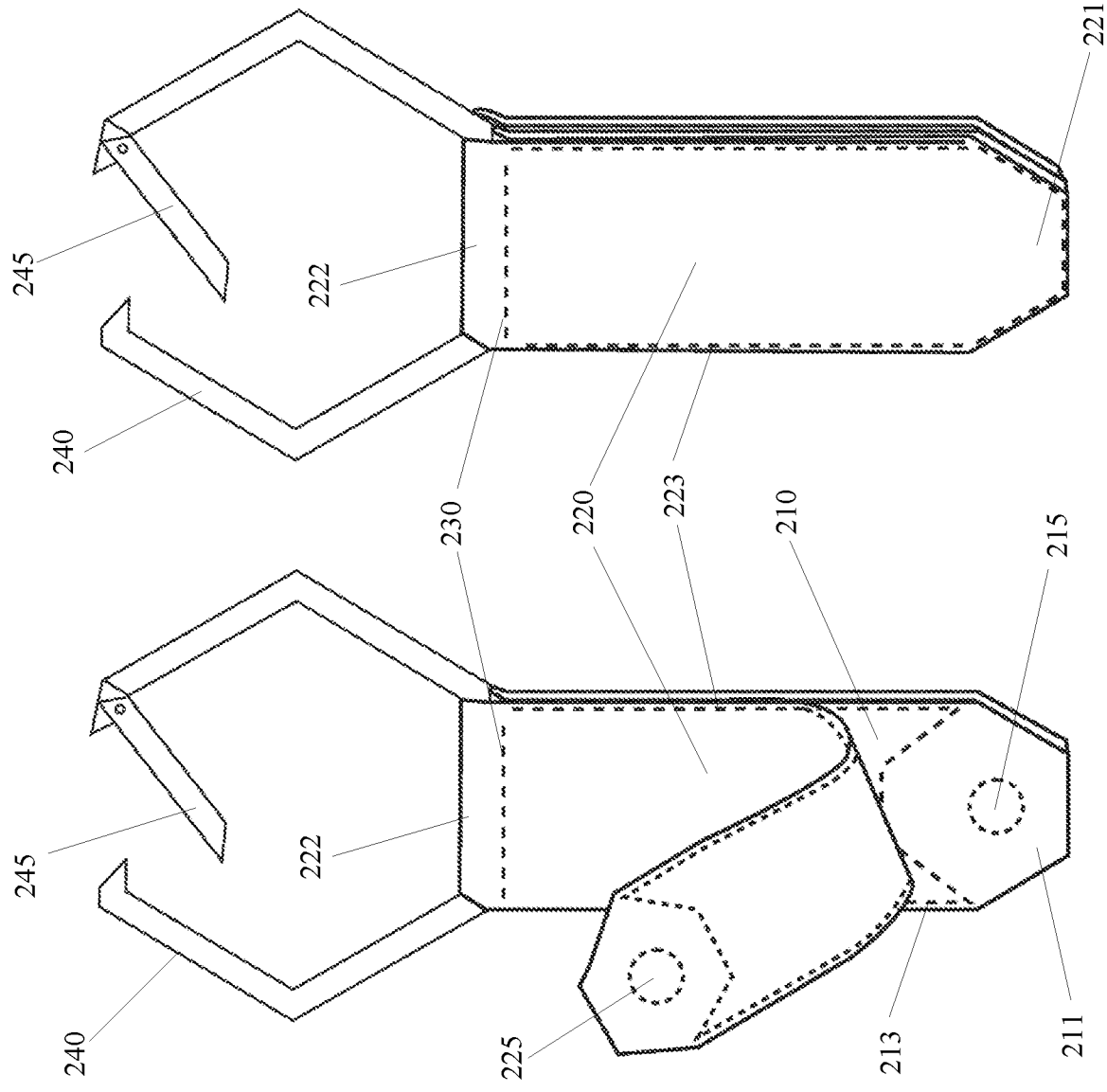


FIG. 2A

FIG. 2B

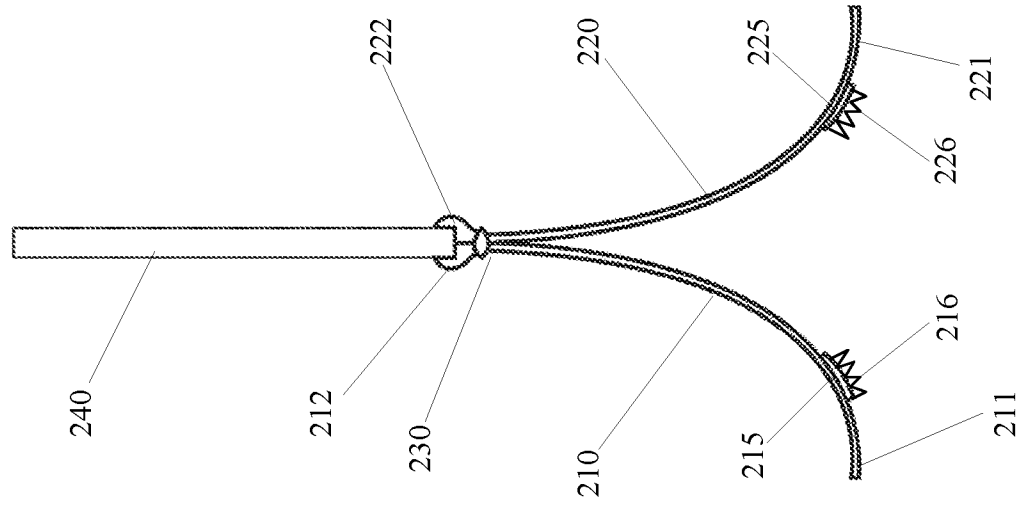
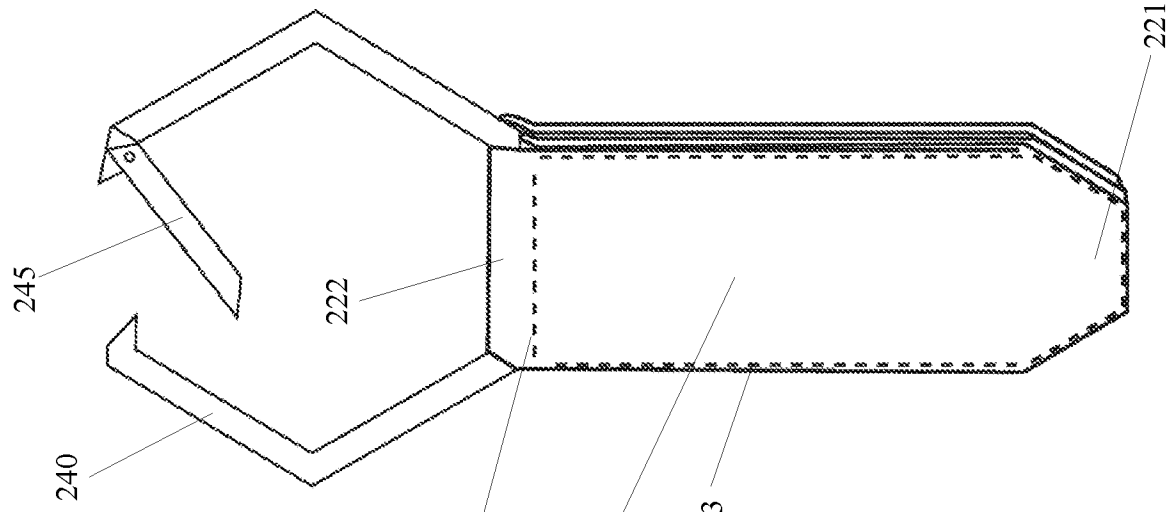


FIG. 2C

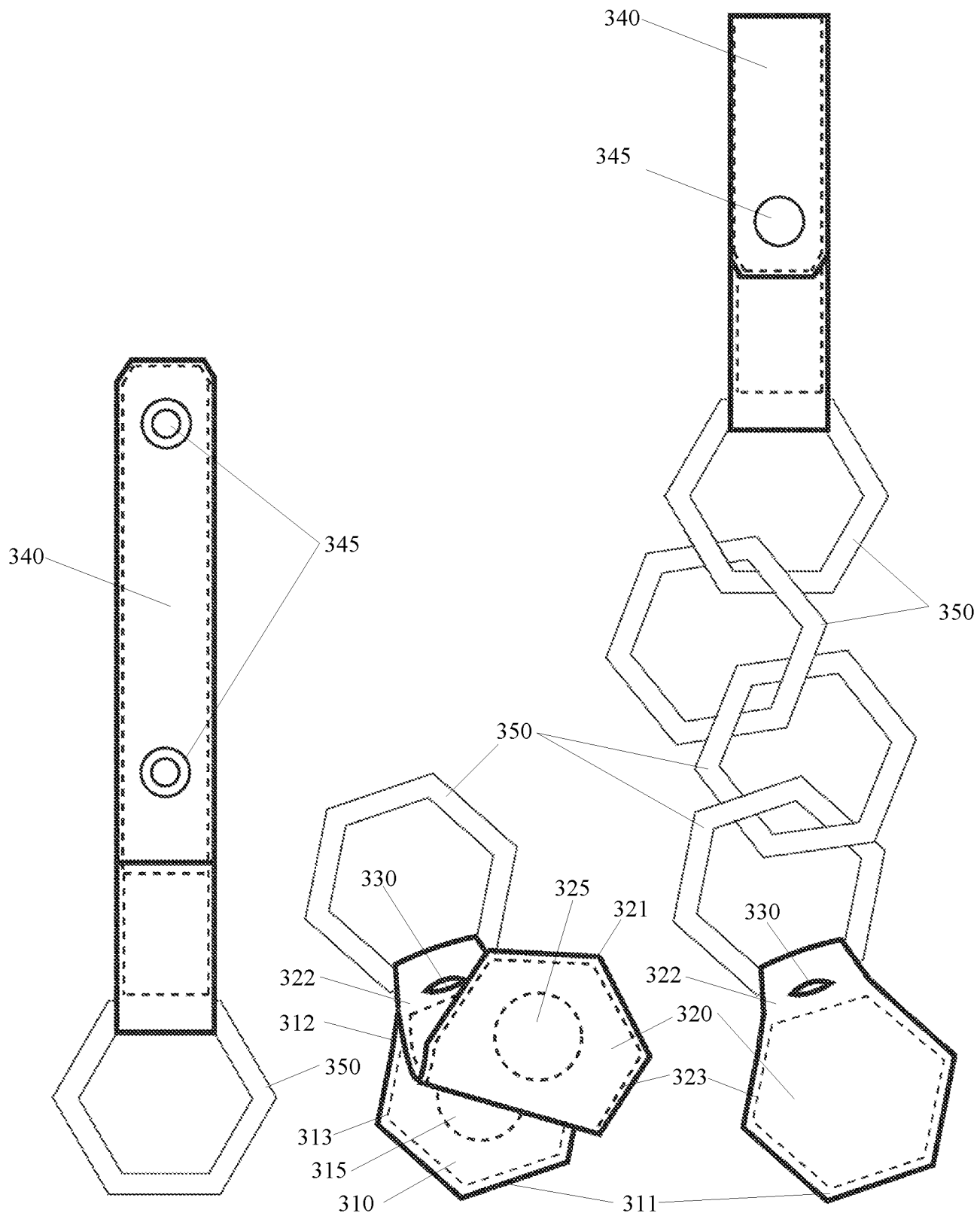


FIG. 3A

FIG. 3B

FIG. 3C

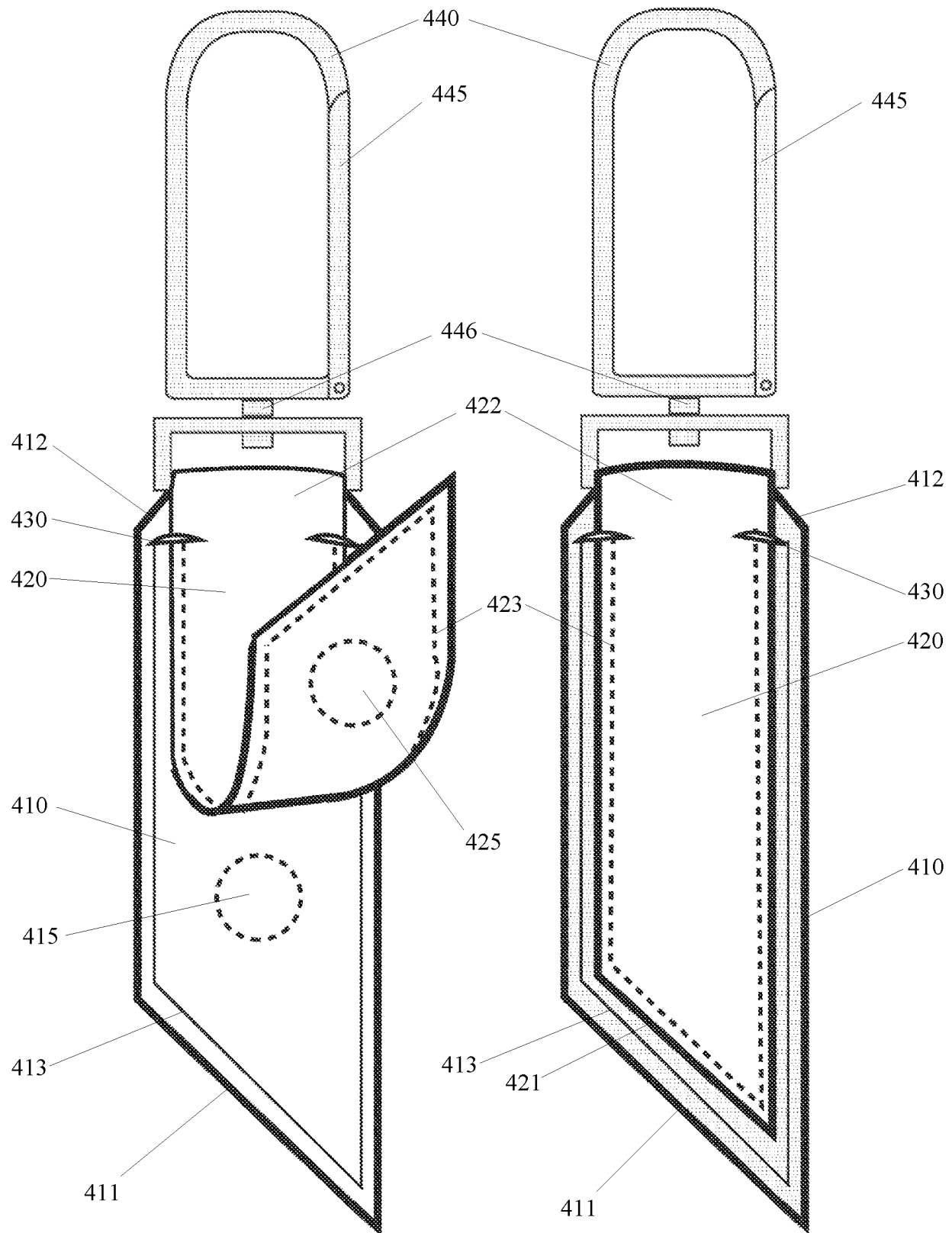


FIG. 4A

FIG. 4B

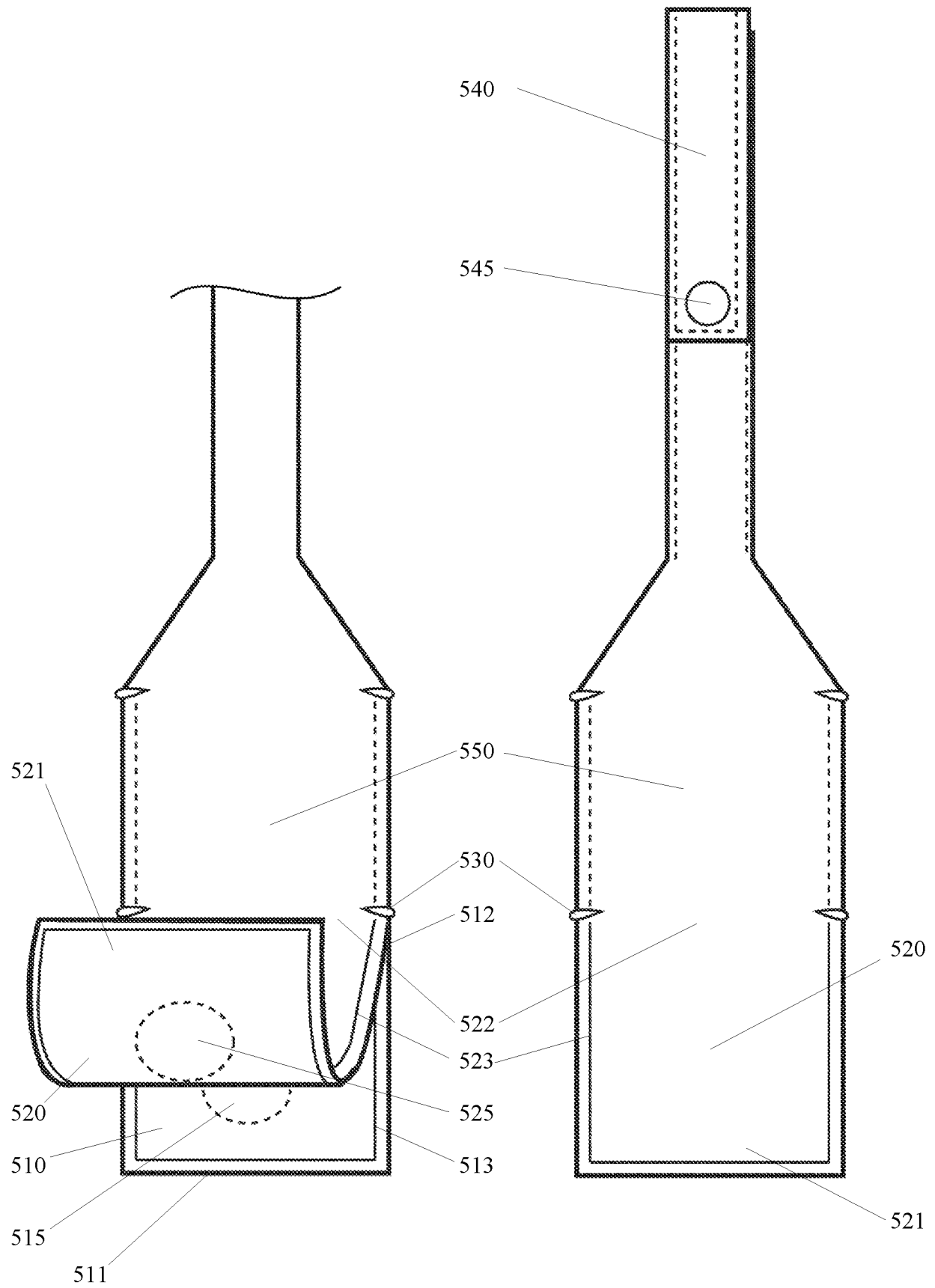


FIG. 5A

FIG. 5B

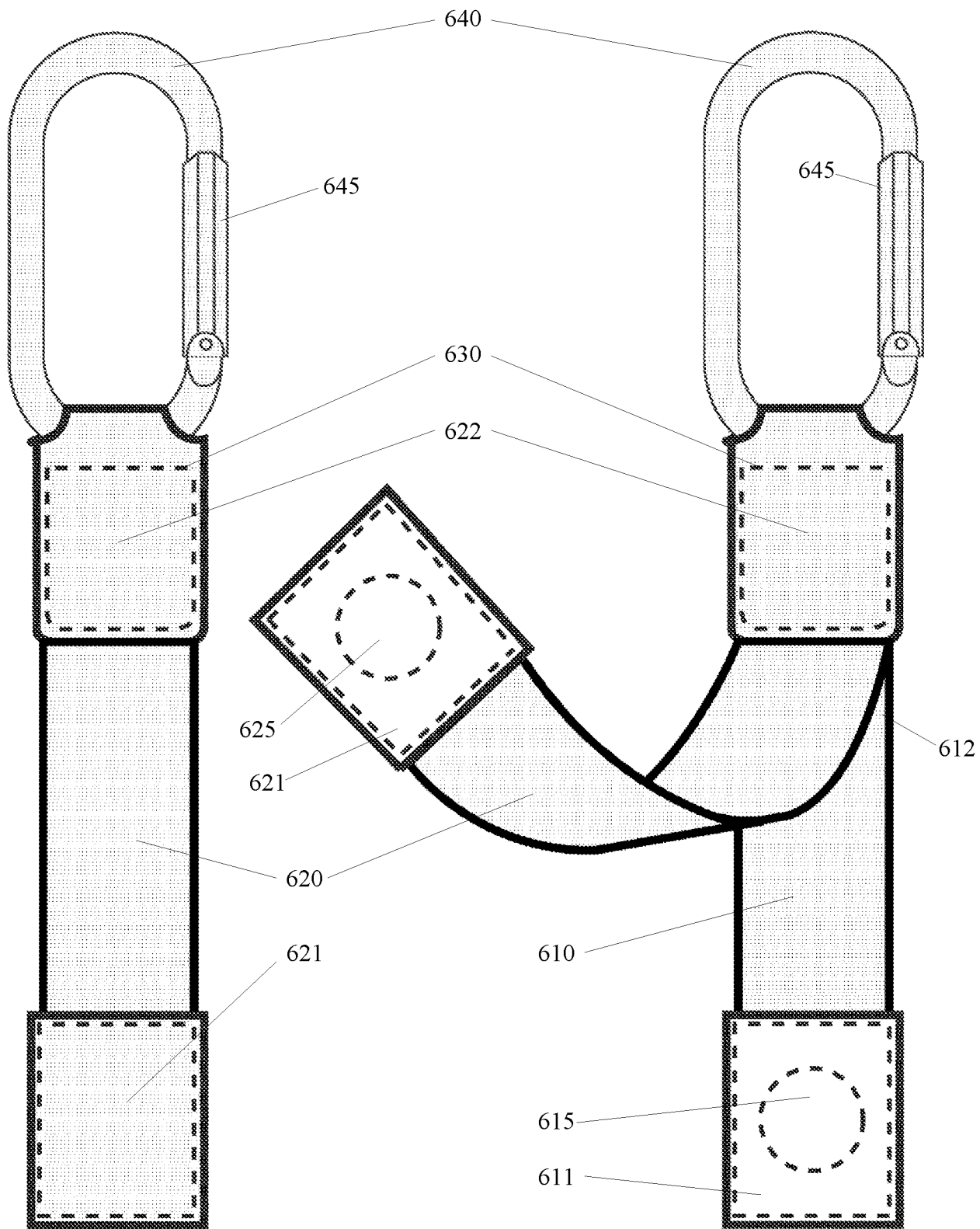


FIG. 6A

FIG. 6B

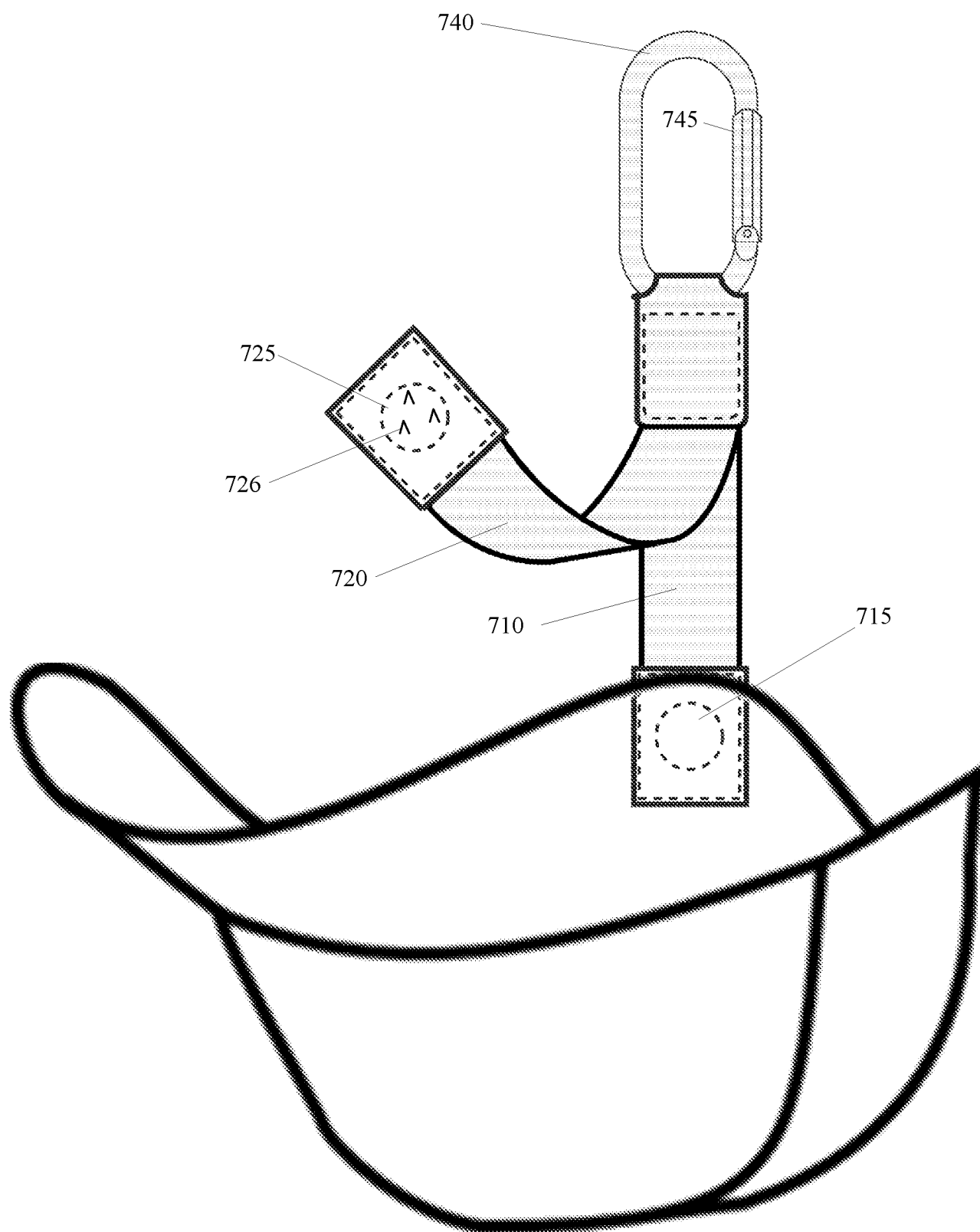


FIG. 7

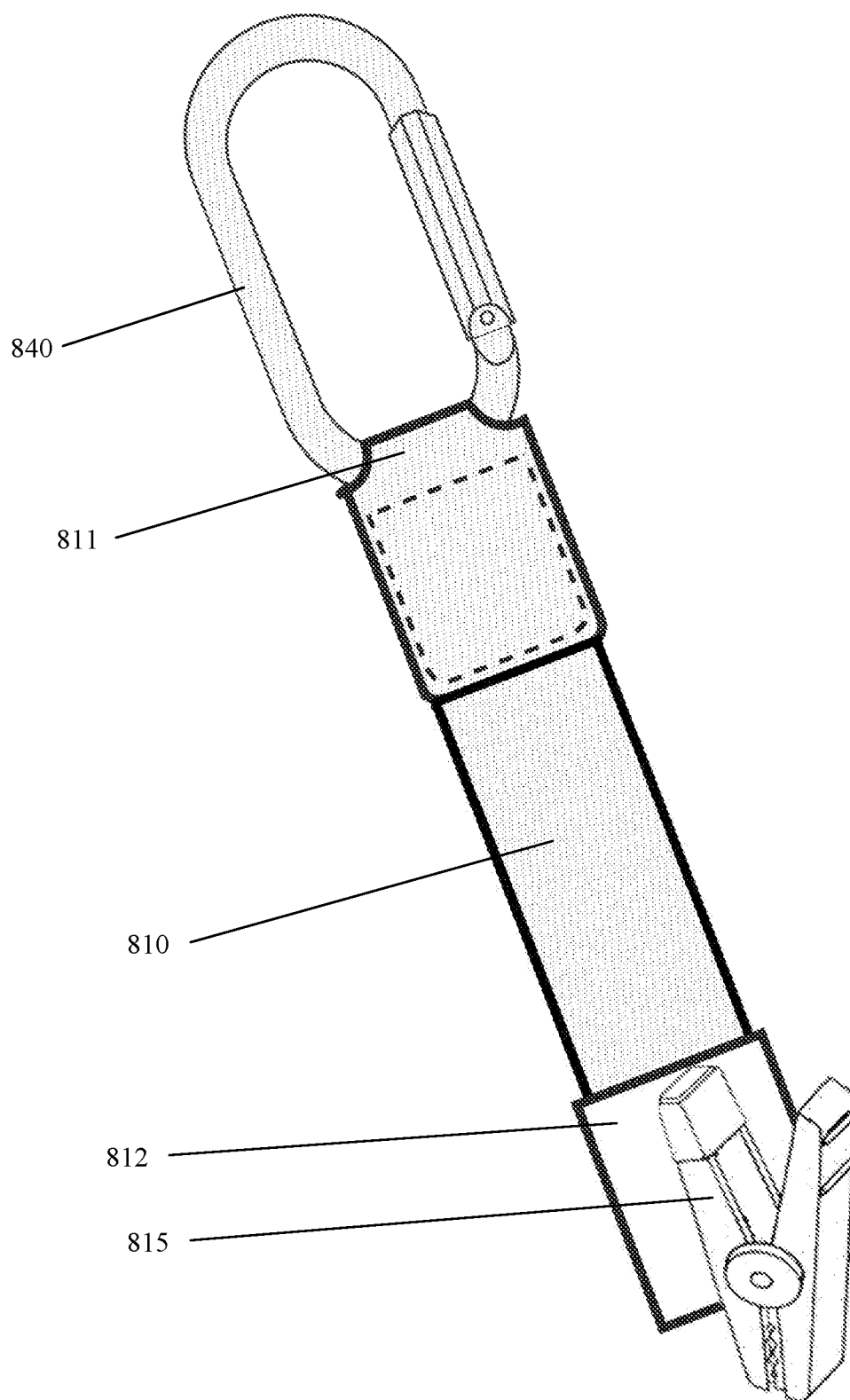


FIG. 8

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**Title of
Invention**

Hat Holder

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is directed to: ☒ The attached application, or

☐ United States application or PCT international application number _____
filed on _____.

The above-identified application was made or authorized to be made by me.

I believe that I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application.

I hereby acknowledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or imprisonment of not more than five (5) years, or both.

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LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR

Inventor: Lindsay Albanese

Date (Optional) : 3/28/2018

Signature: *Lindsay Albanese*

P484834A52F6465

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The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		
The application data sheet is part of the provisional or nonprovisional application for which it is being submitted. The following form contains the bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as outlined in 37 CFR 1.76. This document may be completed electronically and submitted to the Office in electronic format using the Electronic Filing System (EFS) or the document may be printed and included in a paper filed application.			

Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2:

☐	Portions or all of the application associated with this Application Data Sheet may fall under a Secrecy Order pursuant to 37 CFR 5.2 (Paper filers only. Applications that fall under Secrecy Order may not be filed electronically.)
--------------------------	---

Inventor Information:

Inventor	1				Remove	
Legal Name						
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix		
Ms. v	Lindsay		ALBANESE		v	
Residence Information (Select One) ☒ US Residency ☐ Non US Residency ☐ Active US Military Service						
City	Venice	State/Province	CA	Country of Residence	US	
Mailing Address of Inventor:						
Address 1	713 Sunset Ave					
Address 2						
City	Venice	State/Province	CA			
Postal Code	90291	Country	US			
All Inventors Must Be Listed - Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.						
Add						

Correspondence Information:

Enter either Customer Number or complete the Correspondence Information section below. For further information see 37 CFR 1.33(a).	
☐ An Address is being provided for the correspondence information of this application.	
Customer Number	16461
Email Address	Add Email Remove Email

Application Information:

Title of the Invention	Hat Holder		
Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024	Small Entity Status Claimed	☒
Application Type	Nonprovisional v		
Subject Matter	Utility v		
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	7	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)	7

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

Filing By Reference:

Only complete this section when filing an application by reference under 35 U.S.C. 111(c) and 37 CFR 1.57(a). Do not complete this section if application papers including a specification and any drawings are being filed. Any domestic benefit or foreign priority information must be provided in the appropriate section(s) below (i.e., "Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information" and "Foreign Priority Information").

For the purposes of a filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b), the description and any drawings of the present application are replaced by this reference to the previously filed application, subject to conditions and requirements of 37 CFR 1.57(a).

Application number of the previously filed application	Filing date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Intellectual Property Authority or Country

Publication Information:

☐ Request Early Publication (Fee required at time of Request 37 CFR 1.219)

☐ **Request Not to Publish.** I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) and certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Representative Information:

Representative information should be provided for all practitioners having a power of attorney in the application. Providing this information in the Application Data Sheet does not constitute a power of attorney in the application (see 37 CFR 1.32). Either enter Customer Number or complete the Representative Name section below. If both sections are completed the customer Number will be used for the Representative Information during processing.

Please Select One:	☒ Customer Number	US Patent Practitioner	☐ Limited Recognition (37 CFR 11.9)
Customer Number	16461		

Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information:

This section allows for the applicant to either claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c) or indicate National Stage entry from a PCT application. Providing benefit claim information in the Application Data Sheet constitutes the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120, and 37 CFR 1.78.

When referring to the current application, please leave the "Application Number" field blank.

Prior Application Status	Pending	Remove	
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
	Claims benefit of provisional	62525431	2017-06-27

Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

[Add](#)

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

Foreign Priority Information:

This section allows for the applicant to claim priority to a foreign application. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the claim for priority as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) and 37 CFR 1.55. When priority is claimed to a foreign application that is eligible for retrieval under the priority document exchange program (PDX)ⁱ the information will be used by the Office to automatically attempt retrieval pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55(i)(1) and (2). Under the PDX program, applicant bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that a copy of the foreign application is received by the Office from the participating foreign intellectual property office, or a certified copy of the foreign priority application is filed, within the time period specified in 37 CFR 1.55(g)(1).

Application Number	Country ⁱ	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Access Code ⁱ (if applicable)

Additional Foreign Priority Data may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications

☐ This application (1) claims priority to or the benefit of an application filed before March 16, 2013 and (2) also contains, or contained at any time, a claim to a claimed invention that has an effective filing date on or after March 16, 2013. NOTE: By providing this statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78, this application, with a filing date on or after March 16, 2013, will be examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access:

When this Application Data Sheet is properly signed and filed with the application, applicant has provided written authority to permit a participating foreign intellectual property (IP) office access to the instant application-as-filed (see paragraph A in subsection 1 below) and the European Patent Office (EPO) access to any search results from the instant application (see paragraph B in subsection 1 below).

Should applicant choose not to provide an authorization identified in subsection 1 below, applicant **must opt-out** of the authorization by checking the corresponding box A or B or both in subsection 2 below.

NOTE: This section of the Application Data Sheet is **ONLY** reviewed and processed with the **INITIAL** filing of an application. After the initial filing of an application, an Application Data Sheet cannot be used to provide or rescind authorization for access by a foreign IP office(s). Instead, Form PTO/SB/39 or PTO/SB/69 must be used as appropriate.

1. Authorization to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

A. Priority Document Exchange (PDX) - Unless box A in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and any other foreign intellectual property office participating with the USPTO in a bilateral or multilateral priority document exchange agreement in which a foreign application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed, access to: (1) the instant patent application-as-filed and its related bibliographic data, (2) any foreign or domestic application to which priority or benefit is claimed by the instant application and its related bibliographic data, and (3) the date of filing of this Authorization. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(1).

B. Search Results from U.S. Application to EPO - Unless box B in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the EPO access to the bibliographic data and search results from the instant patent application when a European patent application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(2).

The applicant is reminded that the EPO's Rule 141(1) EPC (European Patent Convention) requires applicants to submit a copy of search results from the instant application without delay in a European patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

2. Opt-Out of Authorizations to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

☐ A. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to permit a participating foreign IP office access to the instant application-as-filed. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing a participating foreign IP office with any documents and information identified in subsection 1A above.

☐ B. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to transmit to the EPO any search results from the instant patent application. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing the EPO with search results from the instant application.

NOTE: Once the application has published or is otherwise publicly available, the USPTO may provide access to the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

Applicant Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Applicant	1	Remove		
If the applicant is the inventor (or the remaining joint inventor or inventors under 37 CFR 1.45), this section should not be completed. The information to be provided in this section is the name and address of the legal representative who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.43; or the name and address of the assignee, person to whom the inventor is under an obligation to assign the invention, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest in the matter who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46. If the applicant is an applicant under 37 CFR 1.46 (assignee, person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest) together with one or more joint inventors, then the joint inventor or inventors who are also the applicant should be identified in this section. Clear				
Assignee	Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117	Joint Inventor		
Person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign.		Person who shows sufficient proprietary interest		
If applicant is the legal representative, indicate the authority to file the patent application, the inventor is:				
Name of the Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor:				
If the Applicant is an Organization check here. ☐				
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
Mailing Address Information For Applicant:				
Address 1				
Address 2				
City		State/Province		
Country		Postal Code		
Phone Number		Fax Number		
Email Address				
Additional Applicant Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add				

Assignee Information including Non-Applicant Assignee Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

Assignee	1			
Complete this section if assignee information, including non-applicant assignee information, is desired to be included on the patent application publication. An assignee-applicant identified in the "Applicant Information" section will appear on the patent application publication as an applicant. For an assignee-applicant, complete this section only if identification as an assignee is also desired on the patent application publication.				
				Remove
If the Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee is an Organization check here.				☐
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
Mailing Address Information For Assignee including Non-Applicant Assignee:				
Address 1				
Address 2				
City		State/Province		
Country ⁱ		Postal Code		
Phone Number		Fax Number		
Email Address				
Additional Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.				Add

Signature:

NOTE: This Application Data Sheet must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). However, if this Application Data Sheet is submitted with the **INITIAL** filing of the application and either box A or B is not checked in subsection 2 of the "Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access" section, then this form must also be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c).

This Application Data Sheet **must** be signed by a patent practitioner if one or more of the applicants is a **juristic entity** (e.g., corporation or association). If the applicant is two or more joint inventors, this form must be signed by a patent practitioner, **all** joint inventors who are the applicant, or one or more joint inventor-applicants who have been given power of attorney (e.g., see USPTO Form PTO/AIA/81) on behalf of **all** joint inventor-applicants.

See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the manner of making signatures and certifications.

Signature	/Benjamin E. Maskell/		Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2018-03-29
First Name	Benjamin E.	Last Name	Maskell	Registration Number
				64785
Additional Signature may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.				Add

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Hat Holder		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.76. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 23 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application data sheet form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- 1 The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
- 2 A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
- 3 A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4 A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- 5 A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6 A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7 A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8 A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
- 9 A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

Application Number:

Filing Date:

Title of Invention:

Hat Holder

First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:

Lindsay Albanese

Filer:

Benjamin Edwards Maskell

Attorney Docket Number:

BM-U-024

Filed as Small Entity

Filing Fees for Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:				
UTILITY FILING FEE (ELECTRONIC FILING)	4011	1	75	75
UTILITY SEARCH FEE	2111	1	330	330
UTILITY EXAMINATION FEE	2311	1	380	380

Pages:

Claims:

Miscellaneous-Filing:

Petition:

Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)				785

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	32192892
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay Albanese
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	29-MAR-2018
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	11:46:51
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$785
RAM confirmation Number	032918INTEFSW11475300
Deposit Account	
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

File Listing:					
Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		specification-rev01-07.pdf	148273	yes	31
			b0011b560b2c7363c17e1199b0063da40bf17596		
	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description				
	Document Description		Start	End	
	Abstract		31	31	
	Claims		28	30	
	Specification		1	27	
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	drawings-rev01-02.pdf	1706909	no	8
			ead2f05d1ae13e99073c71221f919d9061e37db8		
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Oath or Declaration filed	BM-U-024-LindsayDec.pdf	303847	no	2
			935124a24a94d23030e10e8cd284c00f8faa7420		
Warnings:					
The PDF file has been signed with a digital signature and the legal effect of the document will be based on the contents of the file not the digital signature.					
Information:					
4	Application Data Sheet	BM-U-024-ADS.pdf	1822712	no	8
			864c2190b796d02f4ede2a821c40fe0dc7b0e364		
Warnings:					
Information:					

5	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	34759	no	2
			7df6f1f6ea41ee59e485aedeb70503aa41b48016		

Warnings:

Information:

Total Files Size (in bytes):	4016500
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This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

TRANSMITTAL FOR POWER OF ATTORNEY TO ONE OR MORE REGISTERED PRACTITIONERS

NOTE: This form is to be submitted with the Power of Attorney by Applicant form (PTO/AIA/82B) to identify the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.5, unless the application number and filing date are identified in the Power of Attorney by Applicant form. If neither form PTO/AIA/82A nor form PTO/AIA/82B identifies the application to which the Power of Attorney is directed, the Power of Attorney will not be recognized in the application.

Application Number	15939549
Filing Date	2018-03-29
First Named Inventor	Lindsay Albanese
Title	Hat Holder
Art Unit	unassigned
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	BM-U-024

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Patent Practitioner

Signature	/Benjamin E. Maskell/	Date (Optional)	2018-03-29
Name	Benjamin E. Maskell	Registration Number	64785
Title (if Applicant is a juristic entity)			
Applicant Name (if Applicant is a juristic entity)			

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.



*Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.131, 1.32, and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

POWER OF ATTORNEY BY APPLICANT

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in either the attached transmittal letter or the boxes below.

Application Number	Filing Date

(Note: The boxes above may be left blank if information is provided on form PTO/AIA/82A.)

☒ I hereby appoint the Patent Practitioner(s) associated with the following Customer Number as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above:

16461

OR

☐ I hereby appoint Practitioner(s) named in the attached list (form PTO/AIA/82C) as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s), and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith for the patent application referenced in the attached transmittal letter (form PTO/AIA/82A) or identified above. (Note: Complete form PTO/AIA/82C.)

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached transmittal letter or the boxes above to:

☐ The address associated with the above-mentioned Customer Number

OR

☒ The address associated with Customer Number: 16461

OR

Firm or Individual Name				
Address				
City	State	Zip		
Country				
Telephone	Email			

I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

--

- ☒ Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)
- ☐ Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)
- ☐ Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)
- ☐ Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature	<i>Lindsay Albanese</i>	Date (Optional)	3-29-2018
Name	Lindsay Albanese		
Title	Inventor		

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

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EFS ID:	32194170
Application Number:	15939549
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4790
Title of Invention:	Hat Holder
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lindsay ALBANESE
Customer Number:	16461
Filer:	Benjamin Edwards Maskell
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	BM-U-024
Receipt Date:	29-MAR-2018
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Power of Attorney	BM-U-024-POA-signed-fonts.pdf	180122	no	2
			987c5c2f019435c5e4e86c931aa3dbb344c17a78		

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