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Placeholder Sheet for Supplemental Content

Application Number: 18897527 Document Date: 09/26/2024

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UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450
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ELECTRONIC PAYMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**09/26/2024 02:17:27 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	67336437	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang
CUSTOMER #	36275	FILING DATE	-
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta Jr.

Payment Information

PAYMENT METHOD	PAYMENT TRANSACTION ID	PAYMENT AUTHORIZED BY
CARD / 1008	**E20249PE18409104**	**Marty Jones**

PRE-AUTHORIZED ACCOUNT	PRE-AUTHORIZED CATEGORY
101205	**37 CFR 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees); 37 CFR 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees); 37 CFR 1.19 (Document supply fees); 37 CFR 1.20 (Post Issuance fees); 37 CFR 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)**

FEE CODE	DESCRIPTION	ITEM PRICE($)	QUANTITY	ITEM TOTAL($)
2830	PROCESSING FEE, EXCEPT IN PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS	56.00	1	56.00
2817	REQUEST FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION	1680.00	1	1680.00
2111	UTILITY PATENT APPL. SEARCH FEE	280.00	1	280.00
4011	BASIC FILING FEE- UTILITY	64.00	1	64.00
2311	EXAMINATION OF ORIGINAL	320.00	1	320.00

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	PATENT APPLICATION			
2054	Non-DOCX Filing Surcharge	160.00	1	160.00
			TOTAL AMOUNT:	**$2,560.00**

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 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.

PTO/AIA/14 (01-22)
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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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
	Mark	S.	Berta	Jr.

Residence Information (Select One) ◉ US Residency ○ Non US Residency ○ Active US Military Service

City	Key Largo	State/Province	FL	Country of Residence	US

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	521 Plante Street		
Address 2			
City	Key Largo	State/Province	FL
Postal Code	33037	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	36275		
Email Address		Add Email	Remove Email

Application Information:

Title of the Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE		
Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101	Small Entity Status Claimed	☒
Application Type	Nonprovisional		
Subject Matter	Utility		
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	10	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any)	1

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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	36275		

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	63540483	2023-09-26

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

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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).

Remove

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. Add

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	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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.

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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. ☒

Organization Name	Sea Swivel Inc.		
Mailing Address Information For Applicant:			
Address 1	521 Plante Street		
Address 2			
City	Key Largo	**State/Province**	FL
Country	US	Postal Code	33037
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.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101
	Application Number	
Title of Invention	SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE	

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		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:

Remove

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	/Mollie E. Lettang/			Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2024-09-26
First Name	Mollie E.	Last Name	Lettang	Registration Number	48405

Additional Signature may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add

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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 CooperationTreaty.

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.

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Doc Code: TRACK1.REQ
Document Description: TrackOne Request

PTO/AIA/424 (11-23)

CERTIFICATION AND REQUEST FOR PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(e) (Page 1 of 1)

First Named Inventor:	Mark S. Berta, Jr.	Nonprovisional Application Number (if known):	
Title of Invention:	Swivel Mounts For Attaching And Maneuvering Accessories Over The Gunnel Of A Boat Or Any Other Mounting Surface		

APPLICANT HEREBY CERTIFIES THE FOLLOWING AND REQUESTS PRIORITIZED EXAMINATION FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION.

1. The processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1) and the prioritized examination fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) have been filed with the request. The publication fee requirement is met because that fee, set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(d), is currently $0. The basic filing fee, search fee, and examination fee are filed with the request or have been already been paid. I understand that any required excess claims fees or application size fee must be paid for the application.

2. I understand that the application may not contain, or be amended to contain, more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims, or any multiple dependent claims, and that any request for an extension of time will cause an outstanding Track I request to be dismissed.

3. The applicable box is checked below:

I. ☑ Original Application (Track One) - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(1)

i. (a) The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the utility application via USPTO patent electronic filing system.

---OR---

(b) The application is an original nonprovisional plant application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). This certification and request is being filed with the plant application in paper.

ii. An executed inventor's oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 or 37 CFR 1.64 for each inventor, **or** the application data sheet meeting the conditions specified in 37 CFR 1.53(f)(3)(i) is filed with the application.

II. ☐ Request for Continued Examination - Prioritized Examination under § 1.102(e)(2)

i. A request for continued examination has been filed with, or prior to, this form.
ii. If the application is a utility application, this certification and request is being filed via USPTO patent electronic filing system.
iii. The application is an original nonprovisional utility application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a), or is a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. 371.
iv. This certification and request is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office action responsive to the request for continued examination.
v. No prior request for continued examination has been granted prioritized examination status under 37 CFR 1.102(e)(2).

Signature /Mollie E. Lettang/	Date September 26, 2024
Name (Print/Typed) Mollie E. Lettang	Practitioner Registration Number 48405

Note: *This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required.**

☐ *Total of _____ forms are submitted.

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. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) collects the information in this record under authority of 35 U.S.C. 2. The USPTO's system of records is used to manage all applicant and owner information including name, citizenship, residence, post office address, and other information with respect to inventors and their legal representatives pertaining to the applicant's/owner's activities in connection with the invention for which a patent is sought or has been granted. The applicable Privacy Act System of Records Notice for the information collected in this form is COMMERCE/PAT-TM-7 Patent Application Files, available in the Federal Register at 78 FR 19243 (March 29, 2013). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2013-03-29/pdf/2013-07341.pdf

Routine uses of the information in this record may include disclosure to:

1) law enforcement, in the event that the system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law;

2) a federal, state, local, or international agency, in response to its request;

3) a contractor of the USPTO having need for the information in order to perform a contract;

4) the Department of Justice for determination of whether the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires disclosure of the record;

5) a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested the Member's assistance with respect to the subject matter of the record;

6) a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, in the course of presenting evidence, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations;

7) the Administrator, General Services Administration (GSA), or their designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906, in accordance with the GSA regulations and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive, where such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals;

8) 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));

9) the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes; and

10) the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for legislative coordination and clearance.

If you do not furnish the information requested on this form, the USPTO may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings, abandonment of the application, and/or expiration of the patent.

Shuttleslide 1002

Patent Application for

Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface

Inventor: Mark S. Berta, Jr.

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 63/540,483, filed September 26, 2023.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention generally relates to swivel mounts and, more specifically, to swivel mounts for attaching and maneuvering accessories, such as but not limited to trolling motors, on and over the gunnel of a boat or any other mounting surfaces.

2. Description of the Related Art

The following descriptions and examples are not admitted to be prior art by virtue of their inclusion within this section.

Trolling motors are used to move a boat at a relatively low speed, offering a means to more easily maneuver a boat in a small area, keep the boat moving at a slow speed for troll fishing, or keep a boat from drifting from a desired location in cases in which the trolling motor includes a global positioning system. Despite their usefulness, the configuration of a boat to which a trolling motor is mounted as well as the size of the body of water in which a boat is used can present challenges regarding the manner to mount and store trolling motors in a boat. For instance, trolling motors are generally attached near the edge of the transom or bow of a boat and, in either case, as close to the centerline of the boat as possible. In some cases, the position at which a trolling motor is attached to the transom and/or bow of a boat may not be readily

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accessible from the deck of a boat. For instance, the transom and/or bow may have storage areas and/or may be designed with ledges which require a boater to climb up on to access a trolling motor. Such action may be precarious for some boaters, placing at them risk to fall either overboard or back into the deck.

Furthermore, propellers of trolling motors must be adequately submerged in the water when in use and, as such, the shaft lengths of trolling motors are generally proportional to the size of the boat with which it will be used and particularly to the freeboard height of the boat when the trolling motor is to be mounted near the bow of the boat. As a consequence, managing the placement of long trolling motors in large boats (i.e., particularly when the trolling motors are brought out of the water into the boats) can be a challenge. In some cases, the position at which a trolling motor is mounted near the bow is governed such that the shaft of the trolling motor may be aligned with and secured above the gunnel of the boat during storage, particularly so that the trolling motor does not obstruct space in the boat when it is stored. Such positioning, however, may be difficult to accomplish in some boat configurations. Moreover, boating on large bodies of water presents challenges to the use of trolling motors. In particular, the commotion caused by large waves can exert a significant amount of force (both laterally and vertically) against trolling motors suspended from a side of a boat (i.e., particularly if the waves are large enough to cause the propeller of the trolling motor to toggle from being in and out of the water). As a consequence, the manner in which the trolling motor is mounted to a boat needs to be sufficient to withstand such forces.

Therefore, it would be advantageous to develop new mounts to secure trolling motors or other boating accessories to a surface on a boat, particularly to address one or more of the aforementioned challenges.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following description of various embodiments of mixtures and methods is not to be construed in any way as limiting the subject matter of the appended claims.

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An embodiment of a swivel mount includes an elongated mounting plate and a support plate each having first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls, but where the support plate has a length less than or equal to half a length of the elongated mounting plate. The swivel mount also includes a swivel element. The swivel mount is configured for the elongated mounting plate, the support plate, and swivel element to be coupled together such that the first faces of the support plate and the elongated mounting plate are parallel and the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate at least partially overlap each other. In addition, the arrangement of the swivel element in its coupling with the elongated mounting plate and the support plate is such that the elongated mounting plate is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passing through the first face of the elongated mounting plate at a point spaced from a widthwise center line of the elongated mounting plate.

An embodiment of a boat includes a gunnel and a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel. The boat further includes a trolling motor mounting bracket coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

An embodiment of a mounting bracket includes a plate having first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls and a plurality of through holes extending through the plate from the first opposing face to the second opposing face. The plurality of through holes include a first set of four holes of the same size in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate and a second set of four holes of the same size as the first set of four holes and in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate. Each of the second set of four holes is respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of four holes as taken along the width of the plate and each of the second set of four holes has a center point spaced 2.88 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of four holes. The first and second sets of four holes each include a first hole disposed closest to an end of the plate and a second hole having a center point disposed 4.5 inches from a center point of the first hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate.

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Moreover, the first and second sets of four holes each include a third hole having a center point disposed 3.5 inches from the center point of the second hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate and a fourth hole having a center point disposed 1.0 inch from the center point of the third hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent upon reading the following detailed description and upon reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 illustrates a schematic view of an example of a swivel mount;

Fig. 2 illustrates an exploded view of the swivel mount depicted in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 illustrates a side cross-sectional view of a boat having the swivel mount depicted in Fig. 1 coupled to the boat's gunnel;

Fig. 4 illustrates a perspective view of an end portion of the swivel mount depicted in Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 illustrates a perspective view of the end portion of the swivel mount depicted in Fig. 4 with the top plate of the swivel mount rotates relative to its middle plate;

Fig. 6 illustrates a trolling motor suspended exterior to a boat's hull via the swivel mount depicted in Fig. 1 mounted to the boat's gunnel;

Fig. 7 illustrates the trolling motor depicted in Fig. 6 pulled over the top deck of the boat;

Fig. 8 illustrates trolling motor depicted in Fig. 7 being moved away from the top deck of the boat across the deck of the boat;

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Fig. 9 illustrates trolling motor depicted in Fig. 8 moved to be in alignment with the boat's gunnel;

Fig. 10 illustrates a closeup view of the propeller end of the trolling motor depicted in Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 illustrates an exploded view of another example of a swivel mount;

Fig. 12 illustrates a perspective view of yet another example of a swivel mount;

Fig. 13 illustrates a top view of an example mounting bracket for the swivel mounts disclosed herein;

Fig. 14 illustrates a top view of another example of a mounting bracket for the swivel mounts disclosed herein; and

Fig. 15 illustrates a top view of yet another example of a mounting bracket for the swivel mounts disclosed herein.

While the invention is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiments thereof are shown by way of example in the drawings and will herein be described in detail. It should be understood, however, that the drawings and detailed description thereto are not intended to limit the invention to the particular form disclosed, but on the contrary, the intention is to cover all modifications, equivalents and alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Swivel mounts for attaching and maneuvering accessories, such as but not limited to trolling motors, on to and over the gunnel of a boat or any other mounting surfaces are disclosed.

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With regard to the swivel mounts being used with trolling motors, the ability to swivel the trolling motor permits it to be stowed in various positions in a boat, preferably to align with the boat's gunnel. In addition, the ability to swivel a trolling motor further makes the orientation of the trolling motor mounting bracket on the gunnel less important since the trolling motor can be moved to align with the boat's gunnel. Although the description of the swivel mounts provided herein are emphasized for mounting and maneuvering trolling motors onto and over boat gunnels, the application of the swivel mounts is not necessarily so limited. In particular, the swivel mounts described herein may be used for mounting any boating accessory, such as but not limited to a rod holder or a downrigger, or any other object, such as but not limited to a personal electronic device or a marine global positioning system, to a boat gunnel or to any other surface of a boat. In addition, the swivel mounts described herein may be used for mounting objects in environments other than a boat. As set forth in more detail below, swivel mounts described herein may be pre-assembled or may be provided as an assembly kit with instructions on how to assemble the components of the mounts. As further set forth below, the swivel mounts may be included in assemblies having a mounted accessory. Moreover, boats having such swivel mounts and/or mounting assemblies are described.

In general, the swivel mounts disclosed herein include a support member, a mounting member, and a swivel coupling for enabling the mounting member to swivel relative to the support member, particularly about an axis which is perpendicular and passing through a face of the mounting member that is parallel with a receiving face of the support member and is offset from a center point of the mounting member. As set forth in detail below, the swivel coupling may, in some embodiments, include a bushing between the support member and the mounting member, a single bolt for holding the components together and a bearing providing rotation to the bolt and the mounting member. In other cases, the swivel coupling may include one or more annular bearings disposed within the member plate and/or between the support member and the mounting member providing swivel movement to the mounting member. In either case, the swivel mount may include a locking pin assembly for securing the mounting member in a set position relative to the support member. In some cases, a trolling motor mount bracket (such as but not limited to a quick-release trolling motor mounting puck and/or a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism) may be coupled to the swivel mount. In addition or alternatively, a

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trolling motor may be coupled to the swivel mount. In yet further embodiments, the swivel mount (with or without the trolling motor mount and/or trolling motor) may be coupled to a mounting surface of a boat, such as but not limited to the gunnel of a boat. In any case, the aforementioned designs of the swivel mount have shown to withstand the high tension, stress, and forces incurred by waves during offshore boating.

As set forth in more detail below, the mounting member and support member may, in some embodiments, be plates each having flat opposing primary faces spaced apart by relatively short peripheral sidewalls. The flat opposing primary faces are surfaces used to couple the members to other objects as well as serve as an interface to which the mounting member swivels relative to the support member. The term "primary faces" as used herein refer to the surfaces of an object having the chief surface area. Although the mounting members and support members described herein are emphasized as plates, the members may have other structural configurations. For instance, a mounting member or a support member may include an additional section not having a flat slender configuration. In addition or alternatively, a mounting member or a support member may have a mounting face which is not flat and uniform, but rather has a contour configured to mate with a surface of a particular object to which it will be joined (such as being concave, convex, stepped, or grooved). As such, although the description of the swivel mounts provided herein emphasizes mounting on to flat surfaces and having a flat surface onto which an object may be mounted, the application of the swivel mounts is not necessarily so limited. Furthermore, regardless of the configuration of the mounting member and support member (i.e., whether they are plates or not), the contour of their areal periphery is not limited to being rectangular or square as depicted in the drawings provided herein.

In some cases, a mounting member of the swivel mounts described herein may be elongated, meaning that it has a longer length dimension than its width dimension. In some of such cases, the elongated member may have a first portion for receiving and/or aligning with one or more components of the swivel element and the support member of the swivel mount and a second portion extending from the first portion which is configured to receive and secure an object to the swivel mount. In this manner, an object mounted to the second portion of elongated

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mounting member may be laterally spaced a set distance from a pivot point of the swivel mount. A swivel mount having such an offset pivot point enables an object to be supported, and in some cases suspended, apart from the pivot point of the swivel mount. For instance, in cases in which a trolling motor mount bracket is coupled to such a swivel mount, the trolling motor mount bracket as a whole may be laterally spaced a set distance from a pivot point of the swivel mount. A trolling motor mount assembly having such an offset pivot point enables the trolling motor to be deployed over a gunnel and far enough away from the side of the boat. To enable such a configuration, the swivel mounts described herein are designed to have enough strength to counter the weight of an attached trolling motor as well as the forces it may incur in operation. In some cases, a support member of the swivel mounts described herein may have a length less than the mounting member of the swivel mount and, in some cases, a length less than or equal to half the length of the mounting member. As a result, the second portion of an elongated mounting member may be cantilevered from its first portion.

As set forth in more detail below, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be used for mounting an object to a underlying surface, particularly having the support member of the swivel mount fastened onto a mounting surface and the mounting member arranged above and at least partially overlapping the support member such that an object may be secured to the mounting member at an elevation above the mounting surface to which the support member is fastened. Although the swivel mounts disclosed herein are emphasized for such a mounting configuration, it is noted that the swivel mounts may be alternatively used to mount objects to overlying surfaces or sidewall surfaces. In particular, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may in some cases be flipped (i.e., having the mounting member arranged below the support member) such that an object may be suspended at an elevation below a mounting surface to which the support member is fastened. In other cases, a support member of a swivel mount may be fastened onto a substantially upright mounting surface such that an object may be secured to the mounting member in a direction substantially sideways from the mounting surface to which the support member is fastened.

As noted above, the description of the swivel mounts provided herein are emphasized for mounting and maneuvering boating accessories onto and over boat gunnels. In particular, the

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swivel mounts described herein may be disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel. In some cases, a swivel mount may include a top assembly coupled to an upward facing surface of a boat gunnel and a bottom assembly coupled to an underside surface of the gunnel. Although it is not necessarily so limited, such a mounting configuration may be particularly advantageous when the bottom assembly includes a bearing. In particular, having a bearing disposed along the underside of the gunnel may advantageously lessen its exposure to water splashing into the boat, in effect reducing its rate of corrosion and increasing its lifespan. Such an advantage may be even more beneficial for boats used in salt water. In any case, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be particularly applicable for mounting to gunnels with an upward facing surface having a width greater than 4 inches, particularly to accommodate a swivel portion of the mount designed to have enough strength to counter the weight of an attached boating accessory as well as the forces exerted against the accessory during operation of the accessory or the boat. The term "gunnel" as used herein refers to an upper edge of a boat's hull and may be used interchangeably with the term "gunwale". The term is inclusive to the top deck portion at the bow of a boat.

In general, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be applied to any type of boat, but may be particularly suitable for center console boats since they generally have a bow substantially higher than the deck of the boat and/or offshore boats since they are designed to maneuver in large bodies of water and, consequently, withstand large waves. The term "offshore boat" as used herein refers to a boat designed withstand open water, particularly areas which are more than 30 meters deep. In some cases, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be particularly suitable for saltwater boats since those type of boats are generally used on large bodies of water. The term "saltwater boat" as used herein refers to a boat having a closed cooling system for its motor and/or a mercathode system for its engine. In alternative cases, the swivel mounts described herein may be used in freshwater boats and/or inshore boats. In addition, the swivel mounts described herein may be used in relatively shallow boats, such as but not limited to flat skiffs and bay boats since those type of boats often have a large top deck.

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In general, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be used for mounting trolling motors of any size, which may be generally governed by the size and type of the boat it is to be mounted. As noted above, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be particularly applicable for offshore boating and, thus, may be particularly suitable to mounting trolling motors having a shaft length greater than 60 inches and, in some cases, trolling motors having a shaft length greater than 100 inches. More specifically, the swivel mounts considered herein may be designed to withstand the high tension, stress, and forces exerted on trolling motors during offshore boating. In other cases, however, the swivel mounts considered herein need not be used in such rough environments and, thus, swivel mounts may be designed to be less robust in some cases. For example, the swivel element of a swivel mount may have a smaller bolt than as described for the embodiment disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2 below and/or a swivel mount may not include a reinforcement member for placement on the underside of a boat gunnel. In addition or alternatively, the support member of a swivel mount may be smaller than described for the embodiment disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2 below. Moreover, either or both of the support member and mounting member may be thinner or may be constructed of a less robust material than described for the embodiment disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2 below.

Turning to the drawings, examples of swivel mounts and components thereof are depicted in Figs. 1-5 and 11-15. In addition, Figs. 6-10 illustrate examples of their use in mounting trolling motors to boats. The shape and relative size of the components of a swivel mount considered herein may vary depending on the design specifications of the swivel mount, the surface to which it will be mounted, and the size of the object which will be mounted to the swivel mount. Thus, the configurations of the swivel mounts considered herein are not necessarily restricted to the depictions in Figs. 1-15.

Figs. 1 and 2 respectively illustrate assembled and exploded views of swivel mount 20. As shown, swivel mount 20 includes bolt 15 as well as lower plate 6, bearing 7, middle plate 13, bushing 12, and top plate 4 each having a hole of substantially the same size for receiving bolt 15. In addition, swivel mount 20 includes nut 8 for securing bearing 7 to a bottom of lower plate 6 when bolt 15 is received through the holes of lower plate 6, bearing 7, middle plate 13, bushing 12, and top plate 4. When mounted to a gunnel of a boat, for example, middle plate 13 may be

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affixed to an upper surface the gunnel and lower plate 6 may be affixed to an underside surface of the gunnel such as shown in the example configuration in Fig. 3. In particular, Fig. 3 illustrates a cross-sectional view of boat 30 taken along gunnel 31 either on the boat's starboard side or port side with a top assembly of middle plate 13, bushing 12 and top plate 4 coupled to an upward facing surface of the gunnel and a bottom assembly of lower plate 6, bearing 7 and nut 8 coupled to an underside surface of the gunnel. Fig. 3 also illustrates trolling motor deploy/stow bracket coupled to the upper surface of top plate 4 with attached trolling motor 34 suspended outside the boat's hull. In other embodiments, middle plate 13 and/or lower plate 6 may be omitted from swivel mount 20 and, thus, in some cases, bushing 12 may be placed on the upper surface of a gunnel of a boat and/or nut 8 may be used for securing bearing 7 against an underside surface of the gunnel.

Regardless of whether swivel mount 20 middle plate 13 and/or lower plate 6, swivel mount 20 may, in some cases, be arranged relatively close to the bow of a boat such as shown in Fig. 3. In other cases, however, swivel mount 20 may displaced a few feet from the bow of the boat along its gunnel. Such a configuration may be particularly beneficial for boats in which it is difficult to access the bow of the boat from the deck. In particular, mounting a swivel mount farther from the bow of the boat may allow it to be accessed from the deck of the boat and, thus, may be less precarious for moving a trolling motor attached to the swivel mount in and out of the water. In such cases, in order for the boat to be maneuvered without preference to one side of the boat, a boat may have two trolling motors attached on each side of the boat (port and starboard sides).

In any case, middle plate 13 and lower plate 6 may, in some embodiments, be mounted to a surface, such as a gunnel of a boat, via bolts through corner holes 22 and 24, respectively, and in cases in which both plates are included in a swivel mount, a single bolt may be used for each corresponding pair of corner holes 22 and 24. It is noted that each of the corners of middle plate 13 and lower plate 6 respectively include holes 22 and 24, despite the holes in the one of the corners of each plate not being in view in Fig. 2. In addition or alternatively, middle plate 13 and/or lower plate 6 may be adhered to a surface and, thus, in some cases, middle plate 13 and/or lower plate 6 may not respectively include corner holes 22 and 24. In general, lower plate 6 and

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middle plate 13 may be advantageous for counteracting forces exerted on swivel mount 20 and any object mounted thereon. Thus, the inclusion of lower plate 6 and/or middle plate 13 in swivel mount 20 may aid in providing a more secure and robust mount for an object, particularly an object suspended from the mount, such as but not limited to a trolling motor over a gunnel of a boat. However, if the environment in which the swivel mount is to be used is not expected to induce strong lateral forces, lower plate 6 and/or middle plate 13 may be omitted. For instance, if the body of water in which a boat is to be used is not expected to have large waves and/or the shaft of a trolling motor attached to the swivel mount is relatively short, the forces exerted against the swivel mount and trolling motor may be minimal and, thus, a swivel mount not having lower plate 6 and/or middle plate 13 may be sufficient for use without concern of causing damage to the boat or the trolling motor. In light thereof, either or both of lower plate 6 and middle plate 13 may serve as a support member of the swivel mounts described herein.

The size and material of bolt 15 may further aid in counteracting forces exerted on swivel mount 20 and any object mounted thereon. For the development of the swivel mount disclosed herein, a ¾ inch stainless steel bolt was shown to provide sufficient strength for supporting a trolling motor having a 108 inch shaft length in an offshore boating environment. However, smaller or larger bolts and/or bolts of different materials may be considered depending on the size of the trolling motor and the environment in which is it to be used. Another component of swivel mount 20 which may aid in counteracting forces exerted on swivel mount 20 and any object mounted thereon is in the inclusion of locking pin assembly 9. In particular, locking pin assembly 9 is used to secure top plate 4 in a set position relative to middle plate 13 (or to a surface on which swivel mount 20 is mounted) and by doing so aids in counteracting forces exerted on swivel mount 20. The vertical orientation of the locking pin assembly may be particularly beneficial for counteracting forces exerted on swivel mount 20, but a horizontally oriented locking pin assembly such as shown in Fig. 12 may be suitable in some cases depending the size of the object to be suspended by swivel mount 20 and the environment in which it is to be used.

In any case, the locking pin assembly may have any type of configuration, including but not limited to including either a detent pin and/or a pull pin. In addition, the locking pin

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assembly may, in some cases, be a spring-loaded pin, a magnetic release pin, or an index plunger such that it automatically falls into its receiver when in the deployed position. In some cases, the locking pin assembly may be configured for manual actuation by a user, but in other embodiments it may be configured for automated movement. In latter of such cases, the automated movement of the locking pin assembly may, in some cases, be dependent on whether a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism attached to the swivel mount was recently activated to bring a trolling motor out of the water and into a stowed position relative to the boat gunnel and/or whether the trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism has been recently activated to deploy a stowed trolling motor over the gunnel and into the water. To enable such dependency of movement, the swivel mount may, in some cases, include a switch for detecting activation of the trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism and subsequently activating the locking pin assembly. Alternatively, the swivel mount and the trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism may be configured for electrical communication with each other (i.e., either wired or wireless communication) to affect such dependency of movement. The latter embodiment may be particularly applicable but is not limited to embodiments in which the swivel mount is integrated into a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism as described below.

As shown in Fig. 2, top plate 4, bushing 12, and middle plate 13 each include a second hole for receiving a shaft of locking pin assembly 9 (i.e., a hole second to the hole for receiving bolt 15). In some cases, middle plate 13 may include a retainer in its second hole for receiving the shaft of locking pin assembly 9, but in other embodiments the retainer may be omitted from middle plate 13. In any case, locking pin assembly 9 is configured such that a portion of it is affixed within the referenced second hole of top plate 6, but the shaft is vertically moveable through the affixed portion and, thus, is vertically moveable through the second holes of each of top plate 4, bushing 12, and middle plate 13. In particular, locking pin assembly 9 is configured to move the shaft upward to remove it from the respective holes of bushing 12 and middle plate 13, but keep a portion of the shaft within the respective hole of top plate 4. As a result, a portion of the shaft and the accompanying knob of locking pin assembly 9 is displaced upward when activated.

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In some embodiments, bushing 12 and middle plate 13 may only include one hole for receiving the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 as shown in Fig. 2. In such cases, swivel mount 20 may be mounted on a surface in a specific orientation such that the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 secures middle plate 13 in a position that suspends an object mounted thereto in a particular location relative to the mounting surface of swivel mount 20. For instance, in embodiments in which a trolling motor is attached to swivel mount 20, swivel mount 20 may be mounted on a gunnel of a boat in a specific orientation such that the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 secures middle plate 13 in a position that suspends the trolling motor outside of the boat. An example orientation of swivel mount 20 arranged in such a manner is shown in Fig. 8 and is described in more detail below. In such cases, it may not be necessary for bushing 12 and middle plate 13 to have an additional hole to secure the trolling motor in a position over the gunnel surface (i.e., to secure top plate 4 in a different position relative to middle plate 13), particularly when the trolling motor is pulled out of the water and stored above the gunnel since the gunnel may include a trolling motor shaft clamp to secure the trolling motor in place.

Figs. 4 and 5 depict the end portion of swivel mount 20 (referenced as first portion 26 in Fig. 1 and in more detail below) for embodiments in which bushing 12 and middle plate 13 only include one hole for receiving the shaft of locking pin assembly 9. More specifically, Figs. 4 and 5 depict portion 26 of swivel mount 20 with locking pin assembly 9 in respectively different positions (i.e., recessed and retracted) based on the position of top plate 4 relative to middle plate 13. In particular, when top plate 4 and middle plate 13 are in alignment, the shaft of pull pin assembly 9 fits into the referenced second holes of top plate 4, bushing 12, and middle plate 13 and, thus, pull pin assembly 9 will be in a recessed position as shown in Fig. 4. In contrast, when the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 is shifted upward to swivel top plate 4 relative to middle plate 13, the shaft will be withdrawn from the referenced second holes of bushing 12 and middle plate 13 and will remain in a retracted position as shown in Fig. 5 since bushing 12 and middle plate 13 do not have additional holes to accommodate the shaft of locking pin assembly 9.

It is noted that the positions of the referenced second holes of bushing 12 and middle plate 13 do not necessarily need to align with the referenced second hole of top plate 4 when top plate 4 is aligned with middle plate 13. In particular, swivel mount 20 may be alternatively

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configured to secure the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 into the referenced second holes of bushing 12 and middle plate 13 when top plate 4 is not aligned with middle plate. As such, the different positions of locking pin assembly 9 depicted in Figs. 4 and 5 (i.e., recessed and retracted) may, in some cases, may be reversed. In particular, when top plate 4 and middle plate 13 are in alignment, pull pin assembly 9 may be in a retracted position and when top plate 4 and middle plate 13 are not in alignment, pull pin assembly 9 may be in a seated position (i.e., if the top plate is positioned such that all three of the referenced second holes are in alignment). .

In other embodiments, bushing 12 and, in some cases, middle plate 13 may include multiple holes in proximity to their perimeters for securing the shaft of locking pin assembly 9, enabling top plate 4 to be secured at different positions relative to middle plate 13. It is noted that although middle plate 13 may include multiple holes for securing the shaft of locking pin assembly 9, additional holes may weaken the integrity of middle plate 13 affecting the strength of swivel mount 20 to counteract applied forces against it. Bushing 12 includes a material that permits the rotational movement of top plate 4 relative to middle plate 13, such as but not limited to polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), but does not substantially counteract forces applied against swivel mount 20. Consequently, the inclusion of additional holes in bushing 12 will not affect the strength of swivel mount 20. As such, in some cases, bushing 12 may include multiple holes in proximity to its perimeter for securing the shaft of locking pin assembly 9 while middle plate 13 may only include a single hole for securing the shaft of locking pin assembly 9.

In general, bearing 7 of swivel mount 20 allows the entirety of bolt 15 to swivel with top plate 4. Bearing 7 may be any type of bearing to allow such movement, such as but not limited to a thrust ball bearing. A benefit of the design of swivel mount 20 is that bolt 15 may be the only bolt in the swivel element of the mount. In particular, the use of a single bolt limits the number of holes to be made in the surface to which swivel mount 20 is to be attached, such as to the gunnel of a boat, reducing the amount of alteration and potential damage to the mounting surface. In general, the combination of bolt 15, bearing 7 and nut 8 serves as a swivel element of the swivel mount. More specifically, the combination of bolt 15, bearing 7 and nut 8 serves to provide swivel (i.e. rotational) movement of top plate 4 about the shaft of bolt 15. Given the orientation of bolt 15 relative to top plate 4, the combination of bolt 15, bearing 7 and nut 8

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serves to also provide swivel (i.e. rotational) movement of top plate 4 about an axis perpendicular to and passing through primary faces of top plate 4. Furthermore, the combination of bolt 15 and nut 8 serves to couple top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 together such that their primary faces are parallel, and they at least partially overlap. With such a configuration, swivel mount 20 is configured to provide swivel movement of top plate 4 in a plane parallel with the primary faces of middle plate 13 and further the surface to which it is mounted, such as a gunnel of a boat.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, top plate 4 includes first portion 26 (illustrated as the right-hand portion in the figures) in which bolt 15 and pull pin assembly 9 is mounted and to which bushing 12, middle plate 13, bottom plate 13, bushing 7 and nut 8 are aligned. In addition, top plate 4 includes second portion 28 (illustrated as the left-hand portion in the figures) extending from first portion 26. In general, second portion 28 of top plate 4 is configured to receive and secure an object to swivel mount 20 and, thus, top plate 4 may serve as a mounting member of swivel mount 20. In some cases, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, second portion 28 of top plate 4 may include a plurality of through holes 29 for receiving a plurality of bolts or screws to secure an object to top plate 4. As set forth in detail below, an object may be attached to a topside surface of top plate 4 (i.e., the surface of top plate 4 from which locking pin 9 extends) via plurality of through hole 29. Although it may not be conducive for an application of mounting a trolling motor over a boat gunnel, it is possible in other applications for an object to be mounted to the underside surface of top plate 4 (i.e., the surface of top plate 4 cantilevered and adjacent to bushing 12 and middle plate 13) via plurality of through holes 29 if the object does not interfere with the mounting surface to which swivel mount 20 is affixed when it is swiveled.

As further described below in reference to Figs. 13-15, the number and arrangement of through holes 29 in top plate 4 may vary depending on the object which will be mounted to the swivel mount and, in some cases, may be configured to accommodate a plurality of different types of objects or different models of the same type of object. For example, the number and arrangement of through holes 29 may be configured to accommodate different models of trolling motors or different models of trolling motor mount brackets. Figs. 1 and 2 illustrate an example layout of through holes 29 which may serve such a purpose, but other arrangements may be

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considered to achieve such an objective as described in reference to Figs. 14 and 15. In other embodiments, second portion 28 of top plate 4 may include an arrangement of through holes which are specific to mounting a particular make and model of a trolling motor or a particular make and model of a trolling motor mounting bracket. In yet other cases, through holes 22 may be omitted from top plate 4 and, instead, second portion 28 of top plate 4 may include a sliding track for slidingly receiving an object on top plate 4, such as a sliding track for receiving a trolling motor or a trolling motor mount bracket to the swivel mount. In some cases, the sliding track may be configured to secure an object thereto, such as via a locking latch for example. In other cases, swivel mount 20 may include a separate component for securing an object on to the sliding track. In any case, the configuration of top plate 4 to have the aforementioned distinct first and second portions enables an object as a whole to be laterally arranged a set distance from a pivot point of swivel mount 20 and, thus, swivel mount 20 has an offset pivot point.

In general, the size of top plate 4, middle plate 13 and lower plate 6 may vary depending on the application in which swivel mount is to be used. For example, for applications of securing a boating accessory above a gunnel, lower plate 6 may be sized to fit to an underside surface of the gunnel. Although middle plate 13 may not be restricted to the size of an upper surface of a gunnel, it is generally not favorable to have any item, much less a mounting plate jutting out into a deck area of a boat. Furthermore, it is generally not appealing to have an item, much less a mounting plate jutting out from the exterior of a boat. As such, for such reasons, it may be advantageous to limit the size, particularly the width, of middle plate 13 to fit on an upper surface of a gunnel without extending past its edges. An exemplary width range for middle plate 13 may be between approximately 4 inches and approximately 12 inches and, more specifically, between approximately 6 inches and approximately 10 inches, but larger and smaller widths may be considered depending on the size of the gunnel to which swivel mount may be affixed. Although a greater range of lengths that may be considered for middle plate 13, it is generally advantageous to limit the number of holes drilled into a surface of a boat, including its gunnel. As such, it may be advantageous to limit the length of middle plate 13 to be 75% to 125% the width of the plate. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, middle plate 13 and lower plate 6 may, in some embodiments, be square, but other shapes may be considered, such as but not limited to being circular, rectangular, or elliptical.

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In contrast to middle plate 13 and lower plate 6, top plate 4 is sized to jut out from the surface to which swivel mount 20 is affixed. As such, at least the length of top plate 4 is not restricted to the surface area to which swivel mount is affixed. However, for an application in which swivel mount 20 is used to maneuver a trolling mount assembly over a boat's gunnel to the exterior of the boat's hull, it may be favorable to limit the width of top plate 4 to fit on the upper surface of the gunnel without extending past its edges. As a result, in some cases, top plate 4 may be elongated (meaning it has a longer length dimension than a width dimension). Furthermore, in light of the noted size restrictions of middle plate 13, particularly for applications in which swivel mount 20 is to be affixed to a boat gunnel, top plate 4 may have a longer length than middle plate 13 and, in some cases, may be twice as long or more. Alternatively stated, in some cases, middle plate 13 may have a length less than or equal to half the length of top plate 4 as is depicted in Figs. 1 and 2. As a result, portion 28 of top plate 4 may be cantilevered from the coupling of portion 26.

In general, the length of top plate 4 may vary depending on the distance or area to which an object mounted thereon is to be moved via swivel mount 20. In general, it is advisable to extend a trolling mount assembly at least 14 inches past a boat's gunnel in order to make sure the trolling motor does not come into contact with the exterior of the boat's hull. Given that trolling motor brackets are generally designed to suspend trolling motors from its end by a couple of inches, it would be advantageous for portion 28 of top plate 4 to be greater than 10 inches and, preferably 12 inches or more. It is also advisable to limit the distance a trolling motor is extended past a boat's gunnel since the farther a trolling motor is extended from a boat the more susceptible it will be to damage caused by forces incurred during boating, particularly in an offshore environment. For instance, it may be advantageous for the length of portion 28 of top plate 4 to be less than 20 inches and, preferably less than 18 inches. Coupling such length ranges with the size range noted for middle plate 13 (which may or may not be the same size as portion 26 of top plate 4), an exemplary length range for top plate 4 may between approximately 12 inches and approximately 30 inches, and more specifically, between approximately 14 inches and approximately 20 inches.

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The thickness of top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may vary depending on the application in which swivel mount is to be used and, in regard to top plate 4 and middle plate 13, may depend on the height to mount an object above a mounting surface to which middle plate 13 is affixed. In addition, the thickness of top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may depend on the material used for the plates. An example thickness range for top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may be between approximately 0.15 inches and approximately 1.0 inch, but larger and smaller thicknesses may be considered. The material used for top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may be the same or may be different, but in either case the material used for top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may generally depend on the application in which swivel mount is to be used. For example, for applications of mounting accessories to a boat, top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may include a material that is resistant to marine corrosion. Furthermore, for applications in which a trolling motor is mounted over a gunnel a boat, top plate 4, middle plate 13, and lower plate 6 may include a material strong and thick enough to tolerate the forces exerted against the accessory during operation of the accessory or the boat, particularly for applications of offshore boating. Example materials for such applications include but are not limited to 7075-T6 precipitation-hardened aluminum alloy due to its high strength to weight ratio.

An example of using swivel mount 20 to support and maneuver a trolling motor over a boat gunnel is shown in Figs. 6-10. In particular, Fig. 6 illustrates trolling motor 34 suspended outside of boat 30 by trolling motor deploy/stow bracket 32, which is coupled to the upper surface of swivel mount 20 on an upward facing surface of gunnel 31 near the bow of the boat. Fig. 7 illustrates trolling motor 34 in a position across the top deck portion of boat 30 after being pulled from its position over gunnel 31. Fig. 8 illustrates trolling motor 34 in a position across the deck of boat 30 after locking pin assembly 9 of swivel mount 20 has been activated and while the trolling motor 34 is being moved via the swivel movement of top plate 4 of swivel mount 20. Fig. 9 illustrates trolling motor 34 in alignment with gunnel 31 in a direction extended from the bow of the boat after its movement to such a stowed position via the swivel movement of top plate 4 of swivel mount 20. In such an embodiment, trolling motor 34 is secured in such the stowed position by trolling motor shaft clamp 36 coupled to gunnel 31. It is noted that such a stowed position is advantageous in that trolling motor 34 does obstruct areas of the boat deck nor

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does it obstruct access anchor locker 38 as shown in Fig. 10. In particular, Fig. 10 is a close-up view of trolling motor 34 in its stowed position of Fig. 9, particularly showing mount 20, trolling motor deploy/stow bracket 32 as well as the shaft and propeller end of trolling motor 34 displaced from access anchor locker 38. Moreover, Fig. 10 illustrates top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 out of alignment with middle plate 13 and with locking pin assembly 9 in a retracted position such as described in reference to Fig. 5.

Figs. 11 and 12 illustrate other examples of swivel mounts which may be used to mount accessories, such as but not limited to trolling motors, on to and over a gunnel of a boat or any other mounting surfaces. The swivel mount 40 depicted in Fig. 11 differs from swivel mount 20 depicted in Figs. 1-10 in that it does not include a middle plate and the locking pin assembly 56 is in a different position relative to bolt 54. In addition, swivel mount 40 includes bearing 47 disposed between washers 46 and 48 and more generally between top plate 50 and bushing 44. Although not shown, swivel mount 40 includes a nut for securing base plate 42 against a mounting surface with top plate 50, bearing 47 and bushing 44 compiled above it. Similar to middle plate 13 of swivel mount 20 discussed in reference to Figs. 1-10, base plate 42 may include corner holes for further affixing it to a mounting surface. In addition to what is shown, swivel mount 40 may, in some embodiments, include a reinforcement plate for coupling to base plate 42 along an underside of a mounting surface, such as a gunnel of a boat. In any case, bolt 54 and bearing 47 serve as a swivel element for swivel mount 40, particularly providing swivel (i.e. rotational) movement of top plate 50 about the shaft of bolt 54. With such a configuration, swivel mount 40 is configured to provide swivel movement of top plate 50 in a plane parallel with the primary faces of base plate 42 and further the surface to which it is mounted, such as a gunnel of a boat.

As shown in Fig. 11, top plate 50 may include a plurality of through holes in its cantilevered portion for mounting an object. Similar to top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 described in reference to Figs. 1 and 2, the number and arrangement of through holes in top plate 50 may vary depending on the object which will be mounted to the swivel mount and, in some cases, may be configured to accommodate a plurality of different types of objects or different models of the same type of object. Top plate 50 may include the same number and arrangement of through

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holes as top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 or may be different as shown in Fig. 11. Plates having other quantities and arrangement of through holes that may be considered for top plate 50 are shown and described in reference to Figs. 13-15.

The swivel mount 60 depicted in Fig. 12 differs from swivel mounts depicted in Figs. 1-11 in that it does not include a central bolt for its swivel element. Rather, swivel mount 60 includes swivel element 64 disposed on or within base plate 62. In general, swivel element 64 includes an annular bearing to provide swivel (rotational) movement of swivel element 64 relative to base plate 62. Via its coupling to top plate 66 (such as via the four screws shown in Fig. 12), swivel element 64 provides swivel (rotational) movement of top plate 66 relative to base plate 62 and, in particular about an axis that is perpendicular and passing through the primary faces of top plate 50 at a point spaced from a widthwise center lines of the plate. In other words, swivel element 64 provides swivel (rotational) movement of top plate 66 in a plane parallel to the upper surface of base plate 62. As shown in Fig. 12, top plate 66 is elongated, offering an extended platform on which to secure an object, such as but not limited to a trolling motor mounting bracket. Another difference of swivel mount 60 from swivel mounts 20 and 40 is that swivel mount 60 includes a horizontal locking pin assembly. In other embodiments, however, swivel mount 60 may be modified to include a vertical pull pin assembly such as described in reference to Figs. 1-11. Similar to middle plate 13 of swivel mount 20 discussed in reference to Figs. 1-10, base plate 62 may include corner holes for further affixing it to a mounting surface, such as but not limited to a boat gunnel. In addition to what is shown, swivel mount 60 may, in some embodiments, include a reinforcement plate for coupling to base plate 62 along an underside of a mounting surface, such as a boat gunnel.

Similar to top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 and top plate 50 of swivel 40, top plate 66 of swivel mount 60 may include a plurality of through holes in its cantilevered portion for mounting an object. In general, the number and arrangement of through holes in top plate 66 may vary depending on the object which will be mounted to the swivel mount and, in some cases, may be configured to accommodate a plurality of different types of objects or different models of the same type of object. In some cases, top plate 66 may include the same number and arrangement of through holes as top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 or top plate 50 of swivel mount 40.

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Alternatively, top plate 66 may be different number and arrangement of through holes as shown in Fig. 12. Plates having other quantities and arrangement of through holes that may be considered for top plate 66 are shown and described in reference to Figs. 13 and 14.

As noted above in reference to swivel mount 20 described in reference to Figs. 1 and 2, the number and arrangement of through holes 29 in top plate 4 may be configured to accommodate different models of trolling motor mount brackets. Top plate 4 of swivel mount 20 and top plate 50 of swivel mount 40 illustrate examples of through-hole arrangements which may be used for such a purpose. Figs. 13-15 illustrate mounting brackets having other through-hole arrangements which may be considered as well for the mount members of the swivel mounts disclosed herein.

Turning to Fig. 13, a top view of plate 70 is shown having one its primary faces facing upward and having a plurality of through holes extending through to the plates opposing primary face. The length of the plate is 18 inches and the width of plate 70 is 8 inches, but larger or smaller outer peripheral dimensions may be considered as they do not generally affect the mounting of a trolling motor mounting bracket. Plate 70 is configured to be a top plate for a swivel mount comprising a bolt, bushing, and bearing as its swivel element, such as discussed for swivel mounts 20 and 40 in reference to Figs. 1 and 11, respectively. As such, plate 70 includes through hole 72 for accommodating a bolt of a swivel element. In addition, plate is configured to have a vertical locking pin assembly, such as discussed for swivel mounts 20 and 40 in reference to Figs. 1 and 11, respectively. As such, plate 70 includes through hole 74 for accommodating a locking pin assembly. It is noted, however, that plate 70 may alternatively include a horizontal locking pin assembly extending from a sidewall of plate 70 and/or plate 70 may be configured for mounting to a swivel disc such as swivel element 64 shown and described in reference to Fig. 12. As such, either or both of through holes 72 and 74 may be omitted from plate 70. In some cases, plate 70 may include other through holes for coupling the right hand side of plate 70 to a swivel disc.

Regardless of the number and arrangement of through holes in portion 76 of plate 70, portion 78 may include the specific number and arrangement of through holes shown in Fig. 13

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to accommodate different models and manufacturers of trolling motor mount brackets. In particular, the specific number and arrangement of through holes in portion 78 of plate 70 are configured to accommodate quick release pucks or inner plates for the Force® Kracken trolling motor available from Garmin®, the Move PV trolling motor available from Power Pole, the RTA quick release inner plates available from Minn Kota®, and 4 bolt pucks and 6 bolt pucks available from Rhodan. The benefit of being able to accommodate so many different models and manufacturers of trolling motor mount brackets is that the swivel mount to which plate 70 may be universally used and, in turn, the complexity of matching a swivel mount for a particular trolling motor may be minimized. In addition, the variation of a product line of swivel mounts may be minimized, allowing production costs to be lower and processing orders to be simpler. The through holes in portion 78 of plate 70 are described below with respective to different sets of holes and the spacing of the holes in each set as well as the placement of one set relative to another. The different sets of holes are outlined by dotted lines in Fig. 13, but the dotted lines are not part of plate 70. Rather, the dotted lines are merely used to describe the arrangement of through holes in portion 78 of plate 70.

As shown in Fig. 13, the through holes in portion 78 of plate 70 include a first set of four holes 80 of the same size in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate. In particular, first set of four holes 80 includes through holes 82, 84, 86 and 88 each having a diameter of 0.26 inches and each having a center point spaced from the same peripheral edge of plate 70 by 2.564 inches. Further to such holes, portion 78 of plate 70 include a second set of four holes 90 of the same size as holes 82, 84, 86 and 88 and in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate. In particular, second set of four holes 90 includes through holes 92, 94, 96 and 98 each having a diameter of 0.26 inches and each having a center point spaced from the same peripheral edge of plate 70 by 5.438 inches. The arrangement of the individual holes of the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90 along the length of plate 70 is such that the each of the second set of four holes 90 is in respective alignment with a different hole of the first set of four holes 80 as taken along the width of the plate. In particular, holes 92, 94, 96 and 98 are in respective alignment with each of holes 82, 84, 86 and 88 as taken along the width of plate 70. Since both first and second sets of holes 80 and 90 are in linear alignment with each other along the length of plate 70, holes 92, 94, 96 and 98 are respectively spaced from holes 82, 84, 86 and

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88 by the same distance, namely having 2.88 inches between the center points of the each of the corresponding holes of the two sets as shown in Fig. 13.

As further shown in Fig. 13, holes 82 and 92 are disposed closest to an end of plate 70 among the holes of their respective sets, particularly each having their center points 0.62 inches from the edge of the plate. Furthermore, each of holes 84 and 94 are shown having a center point respectively disposed 4.5 inches from a center point of holes 82 and 92 in a direction away from the noted end of the plate. Moreover, each of holes 86 and 96 have a center point respectively disposed 3.5 inches from the center point of holes 84 and 94 in a direction away from the noted end of the plate. Lastly, each of holes 88 and 98 have a center point respectively disposed 1.0 inch from the center point of holes 86 and 96 in a direction away from the end of the plate. The specific arrangement and size of the first and second holes accommodate the quick release pucks or inner plates of the Move PV trolling motor available from Power Pole, the RTA quick release inner plates available from Minn Kota®, and 4 bolt pucks and 6 bolt pucks available from Rhodan. More specifically, holes 82, 88, 92 and 98 accommodate the quick release pucks or inner plates of Move PV trolling motor available from Power Pole and the RTA quick release inner plates available from Minn Kota®, while holes 82, 84, 86, 92, 94 and 96 accommodate 4 bolt pucks and 6 bolt pucks available from Rhodan.

To accommodate inner plates for the Force® Kracken trolling motor available from Garmin®, plate 70 includes a third set of four holes 100 of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90. In particular, plate 70 includes holes 102, 104, 106 and 108 each having a diameter of 0.316 inches. Moreover, holes 102, 104, 106 and 108 are disposed within an area of plate 70 bounded by the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90. In particular, set of four holes 100 is arranged between set of four holes 80 and set of four holes 90. As shown in Fig. 13, holes 102 and 104 have their center points 5.75 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes 80. In addition, holes 106 and 108 are arranged in respective alignment with holes 102 and 104 as taken along the width of plate 70, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.68 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes. Since holes 102 and 104 as well as holes 106 and 108 are in linear alignment with each other along the length of plate 70, holes

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102 and 104 are respectively spaced from holes 106 and 108 the same distance, namely having 2.68 inches between the center points of the each of the corresponding holes as shown in Fig. 13.

In order to accommodate quick release pucks or inner plates of the Quest series of trolling motor available from Minn Kota® in addition to the trolling motor brackets noted for plate 70, plate 110 shown in Fig. 14 was developed. As shown, portion 118 of plate 110 includes sets of four holes 80, 90 and 100 as described in reference to plate 70 in Fig. 13. The description of size and placement of the holes in such sets are referenced from Fig. 13 but are not reiterated for the sake of brevity. In addition to such sets of holes, portion 118 of plate 110 includes a set of three holes 120 and a set of three holes 130, making up a set of six holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90. In particular, plate 110 includes holes 122, 124, 126, 132, 134 and 136 each having a diameter of 0.375 inches. As shown in Fig. 14, holes 122, 124, 126, 132, 134 and 136 are disposed outside an area of the plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90. As further shown in Fig. 14, holes 122, 124 and 126 have their center points 5.38 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes 80. Moreover, holes 132, 134 and 136 are in respective alignment with holes 122, 124 and 126 as taken along the width of the plate. In addition, holes 132, 134 and 136 respectively have a center point spaced 5.25 inches from a center point of holes 122, 124 and 126 as taken along the width of the plate.

It is noted that portion 116 of plate 110 may have the same options of holes as described for portion 76 of plate 70 in Fig 13. The description of such options is referenced from Fig. 13 but are not reiterated for the sake of brevity. It is noted that when portion 116 includes hole 112 for accommodating a bolt used to provide rotation in a swivel element along with an accompanying bearing, portion 116 may optionally include indentation 114 around hole 112 for accompanying a head of a flat head bolt. The indentation may be beneficial for having the bolt head flush with the upper surface of plate 110, which may be beneficial for accommodating some trolling motor brackets that may extend into portion 116 of plate 110. Such a feature may be included in any of the mounting members of the swivel mounts disclosed herein and, thus, is not exclusive to plate 110 in Fig. 14. In particular, such an indentation feature may be included in top plate 4, top plate 50 or top plate 60 respectively described in reference to Figs, 1, 11 and

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12. In addition, an indentation feature may be included in plate 140 described in reference to Fig. 15 below.

In order to accommodate quick release pucks or inner plates of Move Offshore trolling motor available from Power Pole in addition to the trolling motor brackets noted for plates 70 and 110, plate 140 shown in Fig. 15 was developed. As shown, portion 148 of plate 140 includes sets of four holes 80, 90 and 100 as described in reference to plate 70 in Fig. 13 as well as sets of three holes 120 and 130 as described in reference to plate 110 in Fig. 14. The descriptions of size and placement of the holes in such sets are referenced from Figs. 13 and 14 but are not reiterated for the sake of brevity. In addition to such sets of holes, portion 148 of plate 140 includes holes 152, 154, 156 and 158 of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes 80 and 90. In particular, holes 152, 154, 156 and 158 each have a diameter of 0.375 inches. As shown in Fig. 15, holes 152 and 154 have their center points 9.00 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes 80. Moreover, holes 152 and 154 are in respective alignment with holes 156 and 158 as taken along the width of the plate. In addition, holes 152 and 154 respectively have a center point spaced 2.876 inches from a center point of holes 158 and 158 as taken along the width of the plate.

It is noted that portion 146 of plate 140 may have the same options of holes as described for portion 116 of plate 110 in Fig 14. The description of such options is referenced from Fig. 14 but are not reiterated for the sake of brevity. Furthermore, it is noted that the mounting members of the swivel mounts disclosed herein are not restricted to the combination of holes disclosed for each of the plates described in reference to Figs. 13-15 or shown in Figs. 1, 11 and 12. Rather any combination of sets of holes may be considered for a plate, depending on the trolling motor that is desired to be accommodated. Furthermore, any of plates 70, 110, and 140 may have additional holes for accommodating quick release mounting pucks or inner plates of any other trolling motor. As such, the swivel mounts considered herein are not restricted to the depiction of the drawings.

It will be appreciated to those skilled in the art having the benefit of this disclosure that this invention is believed to provide swivel mounts for attaching and maneuvering accessories,

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such as but not limited to trolling motors, on to and over the gunnel of a boat or any other mounting surfaces. Further modifications and alternative embodiments of various aspects of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art in view of this description. For example, although the disclosure emphasizes swivel mounts for trolling motors, the scope of their use is not necessarily so limited. In particular, the swivel mounts disclosed herein may be considered for accessories other than trolling motors and applications other than boating. Accordingly, this description is to be construed as illustrative only and is for the purpose of teaching those skilled in the art the general manner of carrying out the invention. It is to be understood that the forms of the invention shown and described herein are to be taken as the presently preferred embodiments. Elements and materials may be substituted for those illustrated and described herein, parts and processes may be reversed, and certain features of the invention may be utilized independently, all as would be apparent to one skilled in the art after having the benefit of this description of the invention. Changes may be made in the elements described herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as described in the following claims. The term "approximately" as used herein refers to variations of up to +/- 5% of the stated number. The term "coupled" as used herein refers to items being indirectly or directly connected to each other. Indirectly connected means the items are not touching each other, while directly connected means the items are touching each other.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A swivel mount, comprising:

an elongated mounting plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls;

a support plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls, wherein the support plate has a length less than or equal to half a length of the elongated mounting plate; and

a swivel element, wherein the swivel mount is configured for the elongated mounting plate, the support plate, and swivel element to be coupled together such that:

the first faces of the support plate and the elongated mounting plate are parallel;

the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate at least partially overlap each other; and

the swivel element is arranged such that the elongated mounting plate is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passing through the first face of the elongated mounting plate at a point spaced from a widthwise center line of the elongated mounting plate.

2. The swivel mount of claim 1, further comprising a locking pin for securing the elongated mounting plate in a set position relative to the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

3. The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from the second face of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

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4. The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from a peripheral sidewall of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

5. The swivel mount of claim 1, wherein the elongated mounting plate comprises:

a first portion for overlapping with the swivel element and the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together; and

a second portion cantilevered from the first portion when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

6. The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a plurality of holes for receiving a plurality of bolts to secure an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

7. The swivel mount of claim 6, wherein a number and arrangement of the plurality of holes are such that different types of trolling motor mounting brackets may be secured to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate via a plurality of bolts.

8. The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a sliding track for slidingly receiving an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

9. A boat, comprising:

a gunnel;

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a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel; and

a trolling motor mounting bracket coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

10. The boat of claim 9, wherein the swivel mount comprises a support member fastened to the upward facing surface of the gunnel via one or more bolts or screws through the upward facing surface of the gunnel.

11. The boat of claim 10, wherein the swivel mount further comprises a reinforcement member fastened to an underside surface of the gunnel and coupled to the support member.

12. The boat of claim 9, wherein the swivel mount comprises a base member adhered to the upward facing surface of the gunnel under the mounting member.

13. The boat of claim 9, wherein upward facing surface of the gunnel has a width greater than 4 inches.

14. The boat of claim 9, wherein the boat is a saltwater fishing boat.

15. The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket comprises a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism.

16. The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket is trolling motor quick-release mounting bracket.

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17. A mounting bracket, comprising:

a plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls; and

a plurality of through holes extending through the plate from the first opposing face to the second opposing face, wherein the plurality of through holes comprises:

a first set of four holes of the same size in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate; and

a second set of four holes of the same size as the first set of four holes and in linear alignment with each other along a length of the plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes is respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of four holes as taken along the width of the plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes has a center point spaced 2.88 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of four holes, and wherein the first and second sets of four holes each comprise:

a first hole disposed closest to an end of the plate;

a second hole having a center point disposed 4.5 inches from a center point of the first hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate;

a third hole having a center point disposed 3.5 inches from the center point of the second hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate; and

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a fourth hole having a center point disposed 1.0 inch from the center point of the third hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the plate.

18. The mounting bracket of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the third set of four holes are disposed within an area of the plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 5.75 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.68 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

19. The mounting bracket of claim 17, further comprising a set of six holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the set of six holes are disposed outside an area of the plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the set of six holes comprise:

a first set of three holes having their center points 5.38 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of three holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of three holes as taken along the width of the plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 5.25 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

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20. The mounting bracket of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 9.00 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.876 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Swivel mounts, mounting assemblies for boating accessories, and boats having such are disclosed. The swivel mounts include a support member, a mounting member, and a swivel element for enabling the mounting member to swivel relative to the support member. In some cases, a trolling motor mount bracket and/or a trolling motor may be coupled to the swivel mount. In further embodiments, the swivel mount may be coupled to a surface of a boat, such as but not limited to a boat gunnel. In particular, a swivel mount may be configured and disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel. Mounting members having a hole pattern to accommodate different types of trolling motors is also provided.

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Doc Code: PA.
Document Description: Power of Attorney

PTO/AIA/82B (07-13)
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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

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36275

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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):

Sea Swivel Inc.

☐ 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		Date (Optional)	9/25/23
Name	Mark S. Berta Jr.		
Title	President		

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 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.

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

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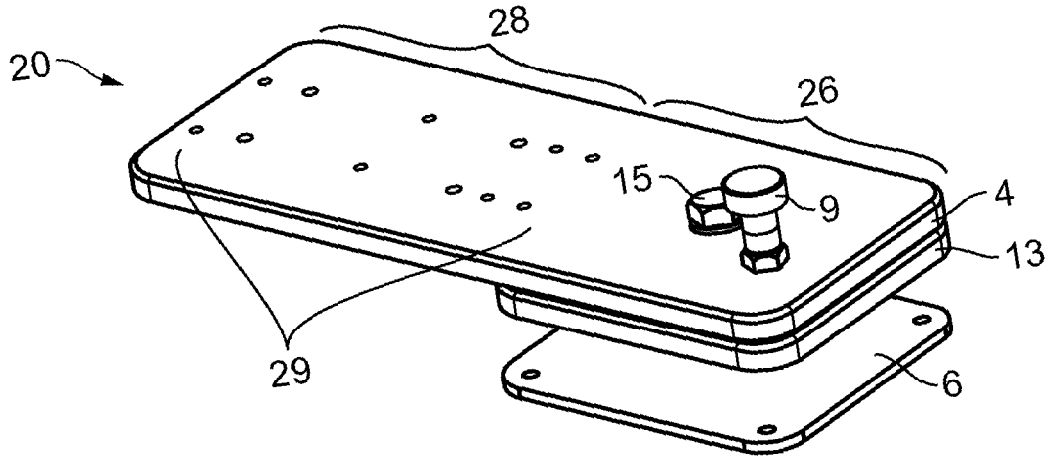

FIG. 1

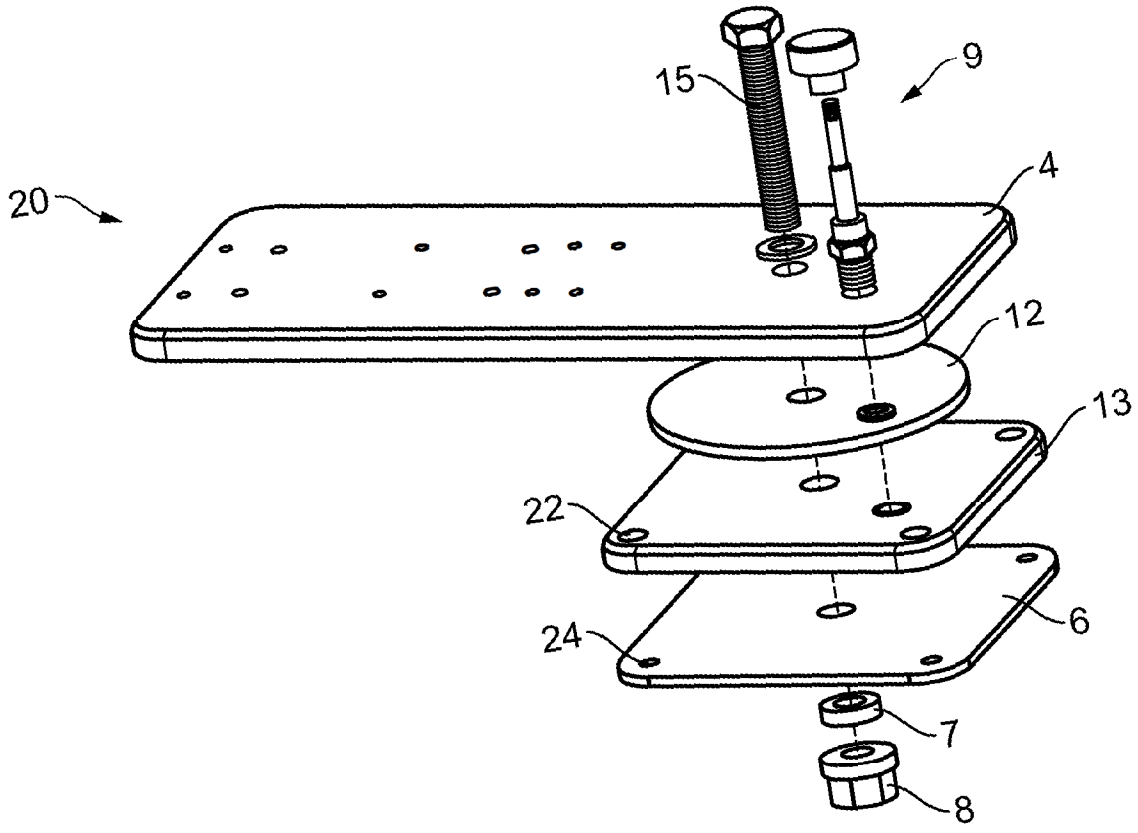

FIG. 2

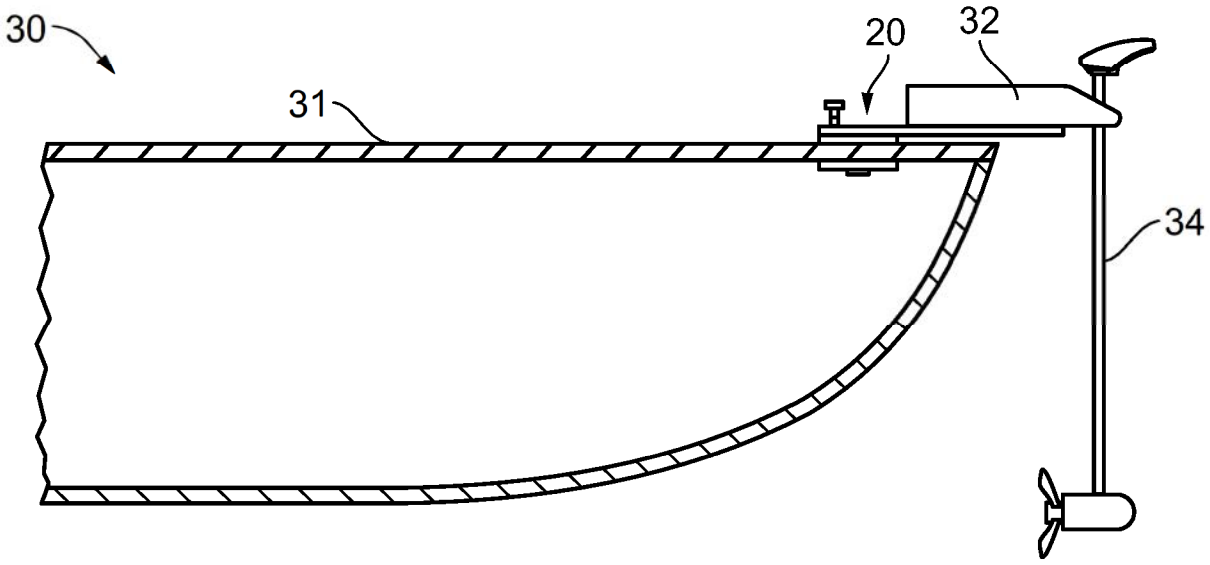

FIG. 3

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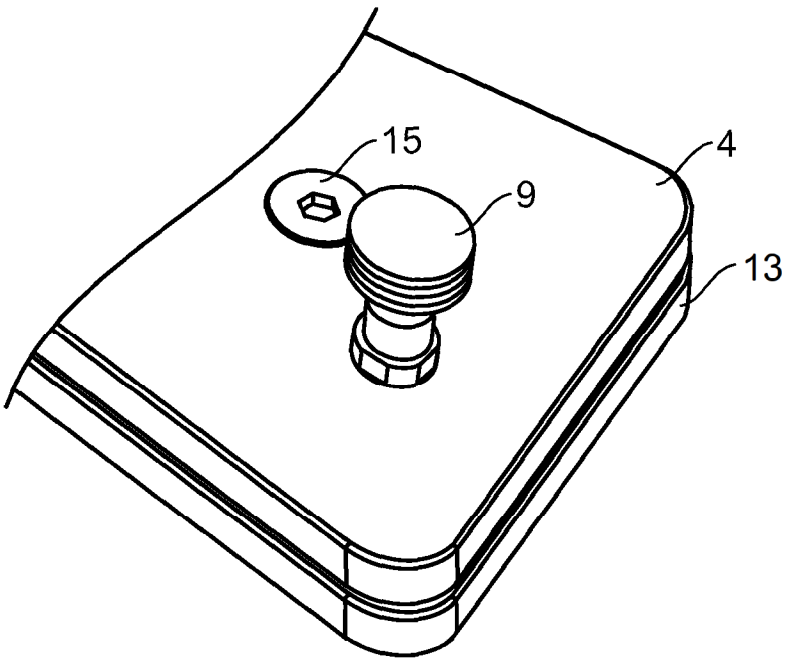

FIG. 4

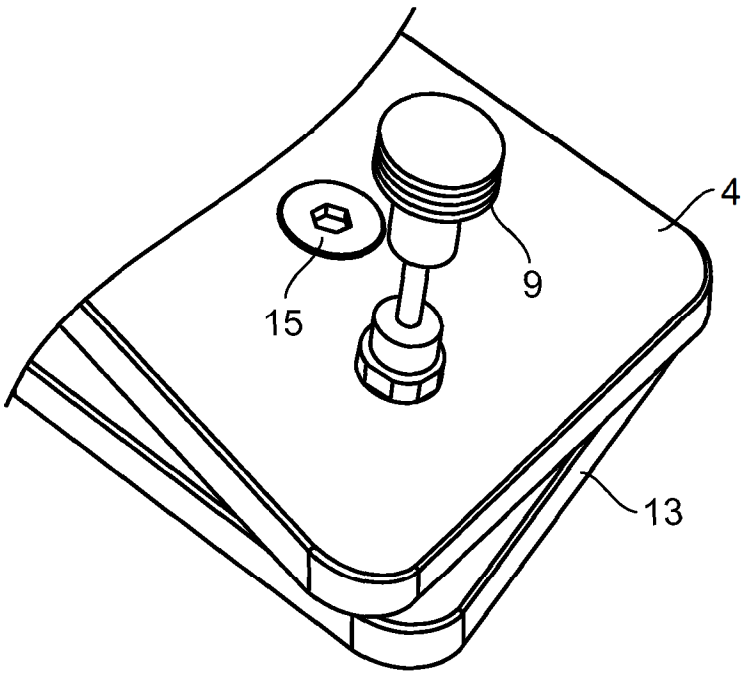

FIG. 5

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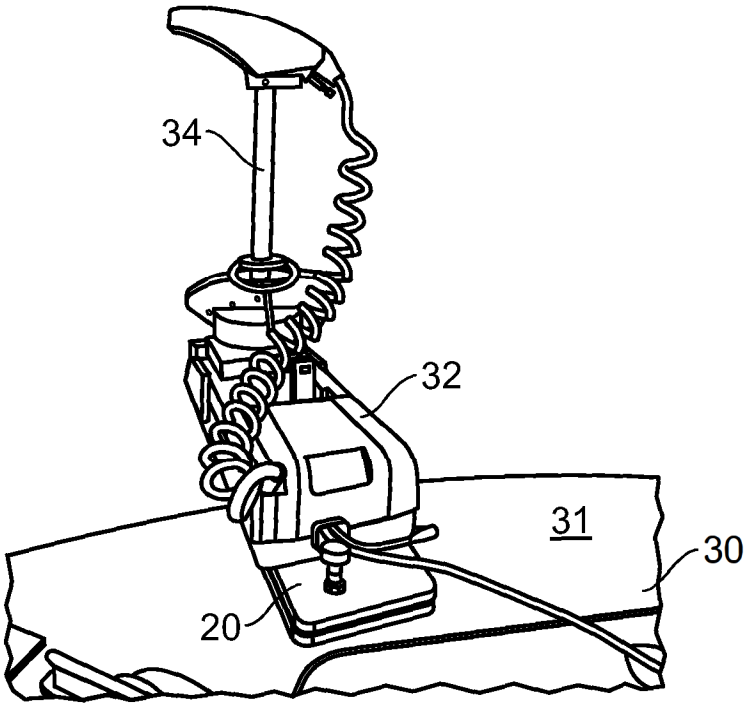


FIG. 6

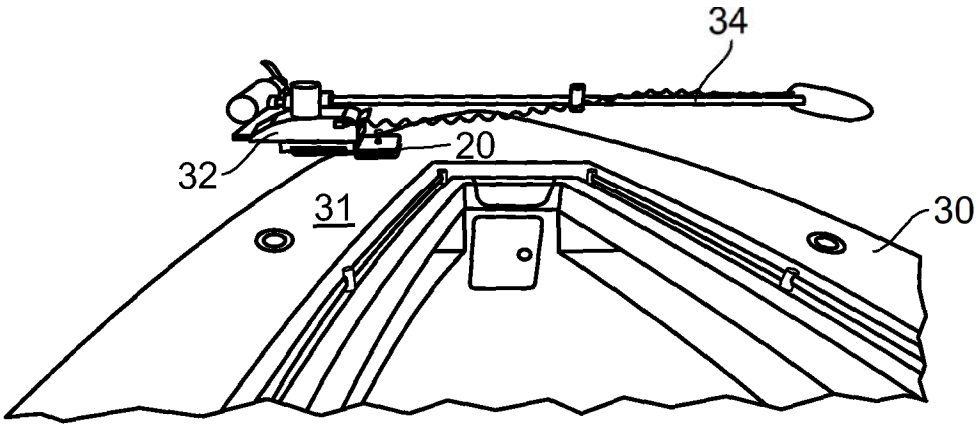


FIG. 7

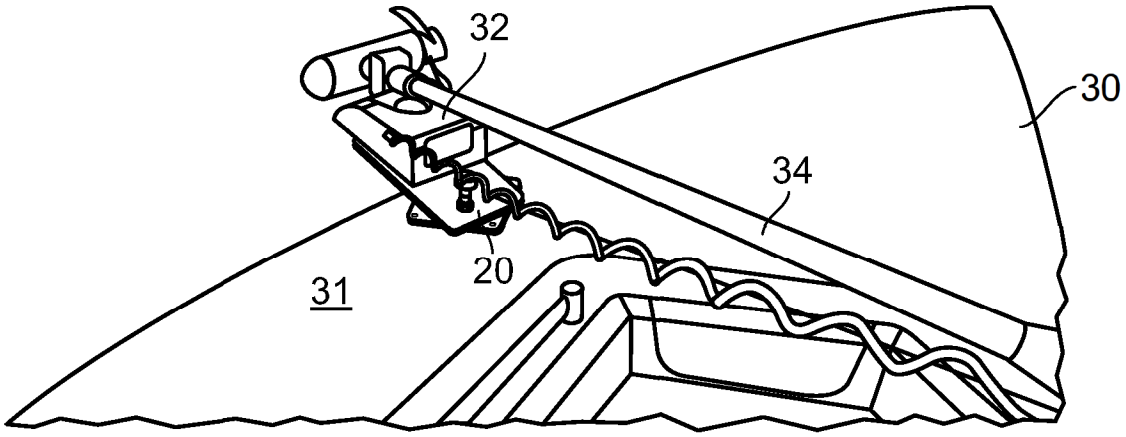


FIG. 8

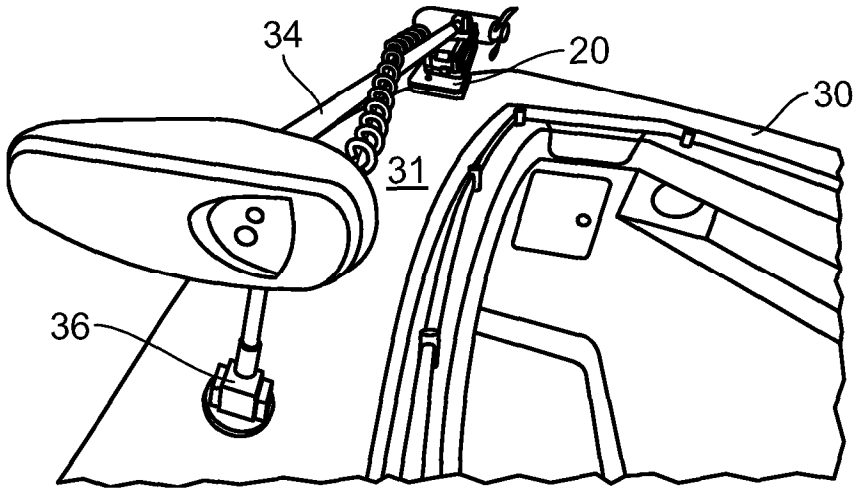


FIG. 9

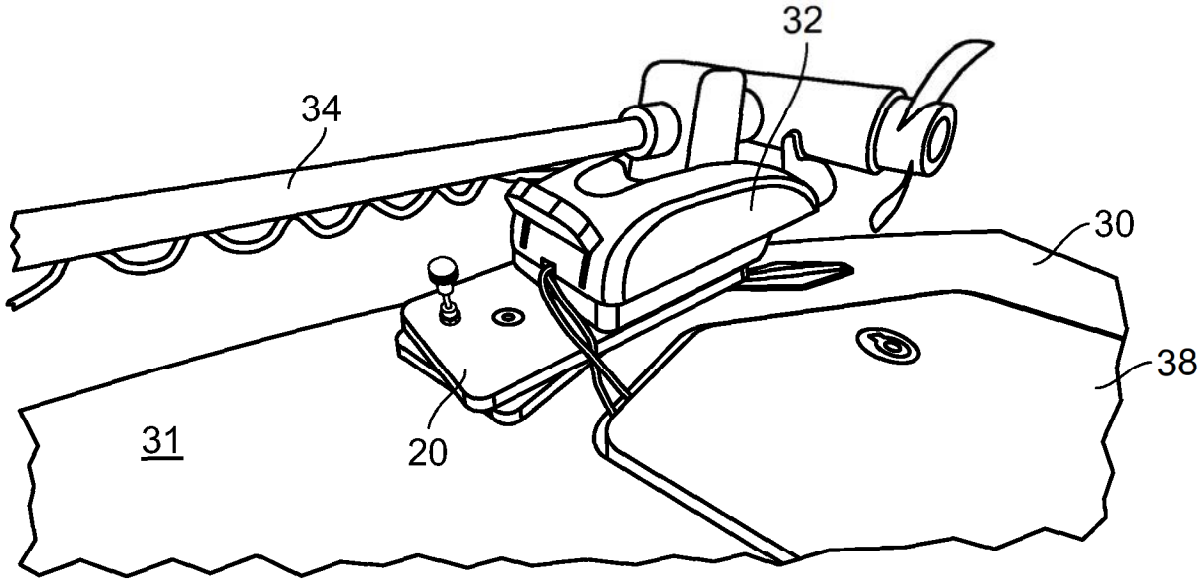


FIG. 10

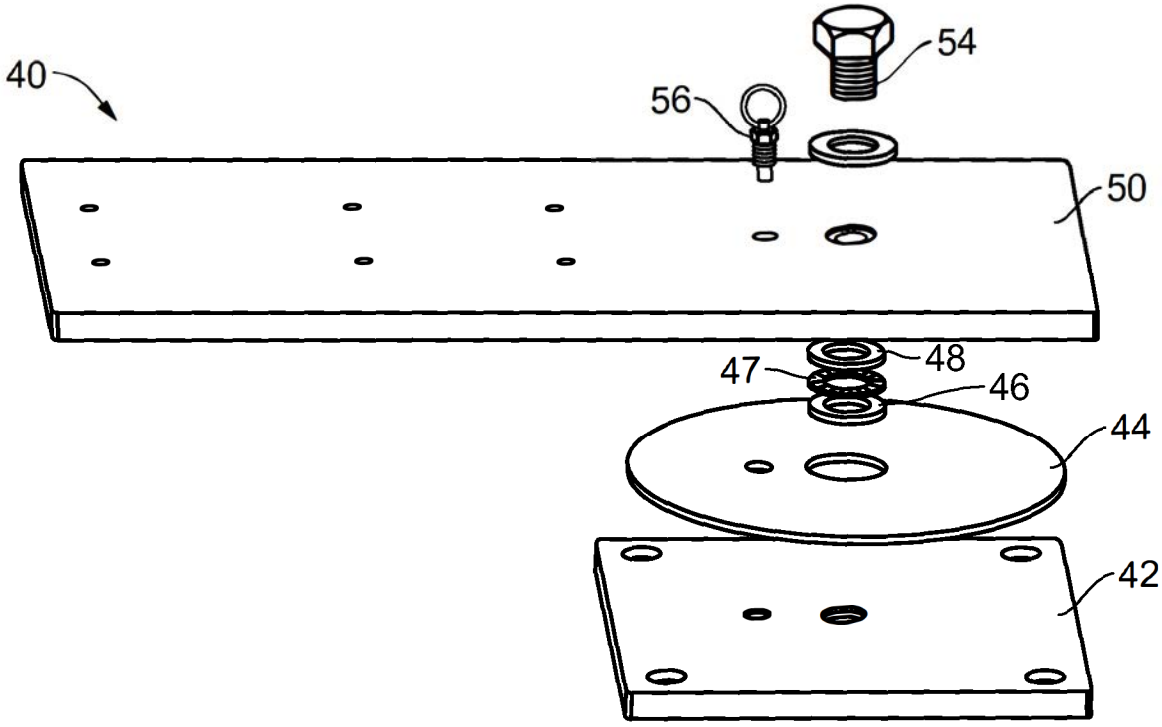


FIG. 11

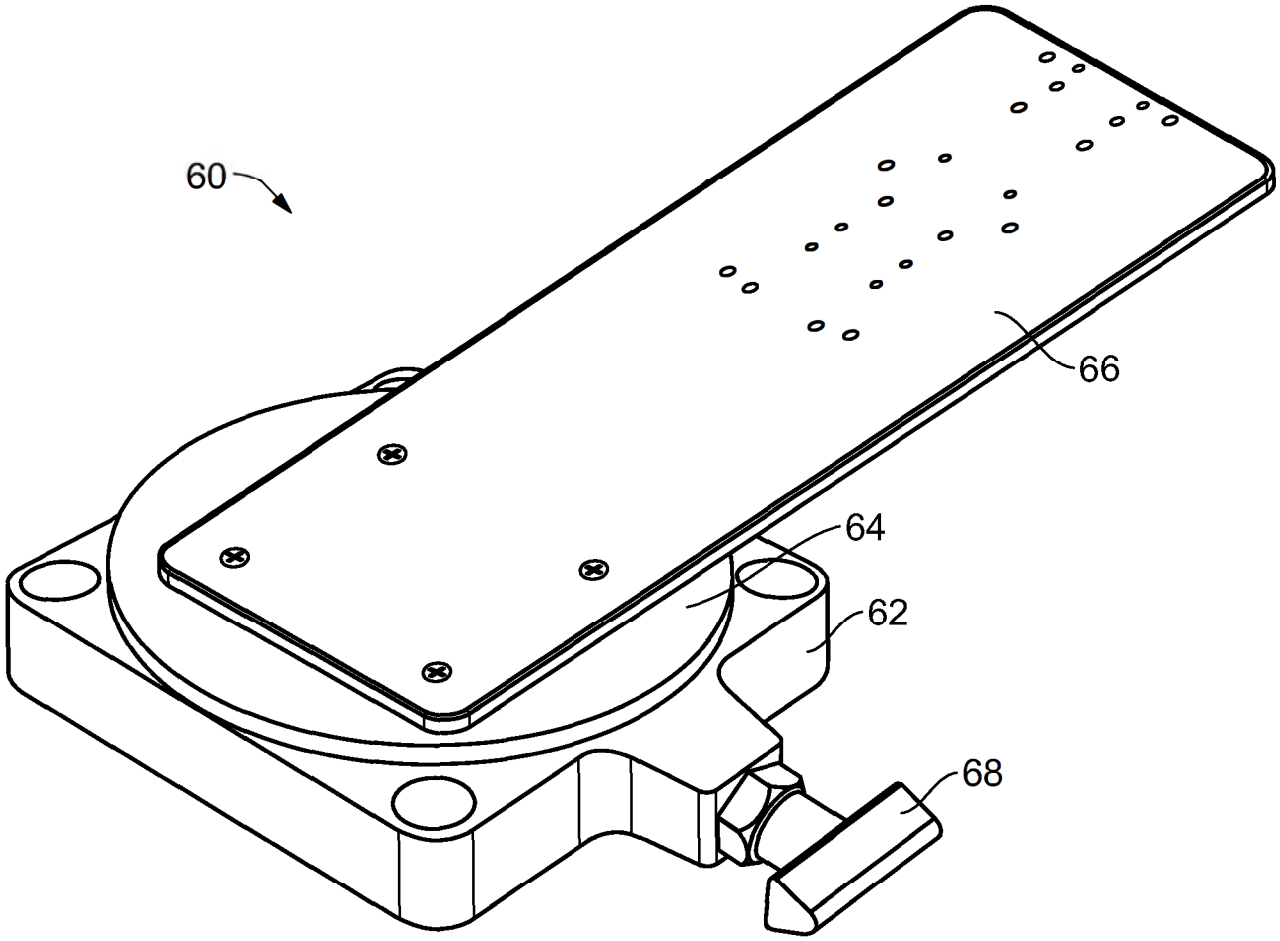
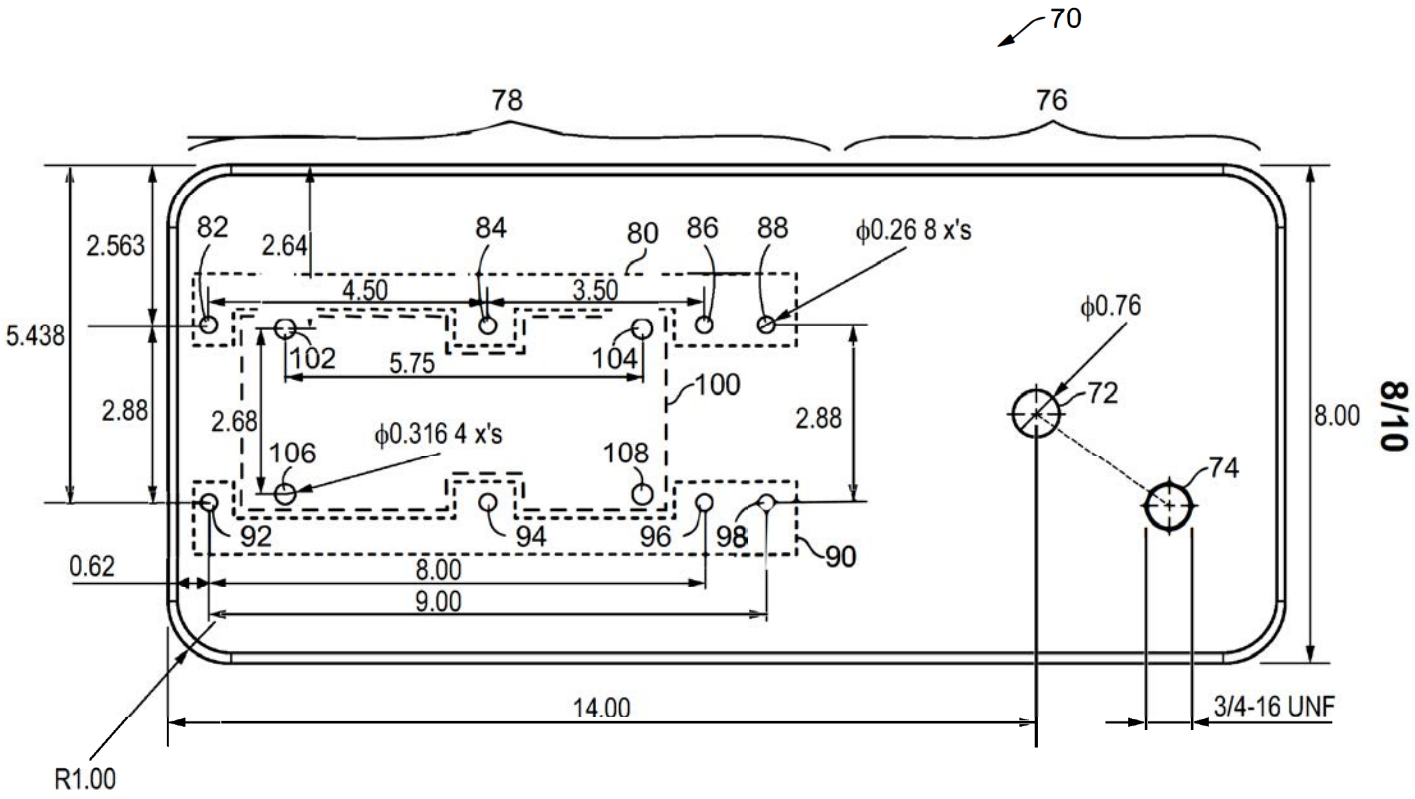


FIG. 12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78
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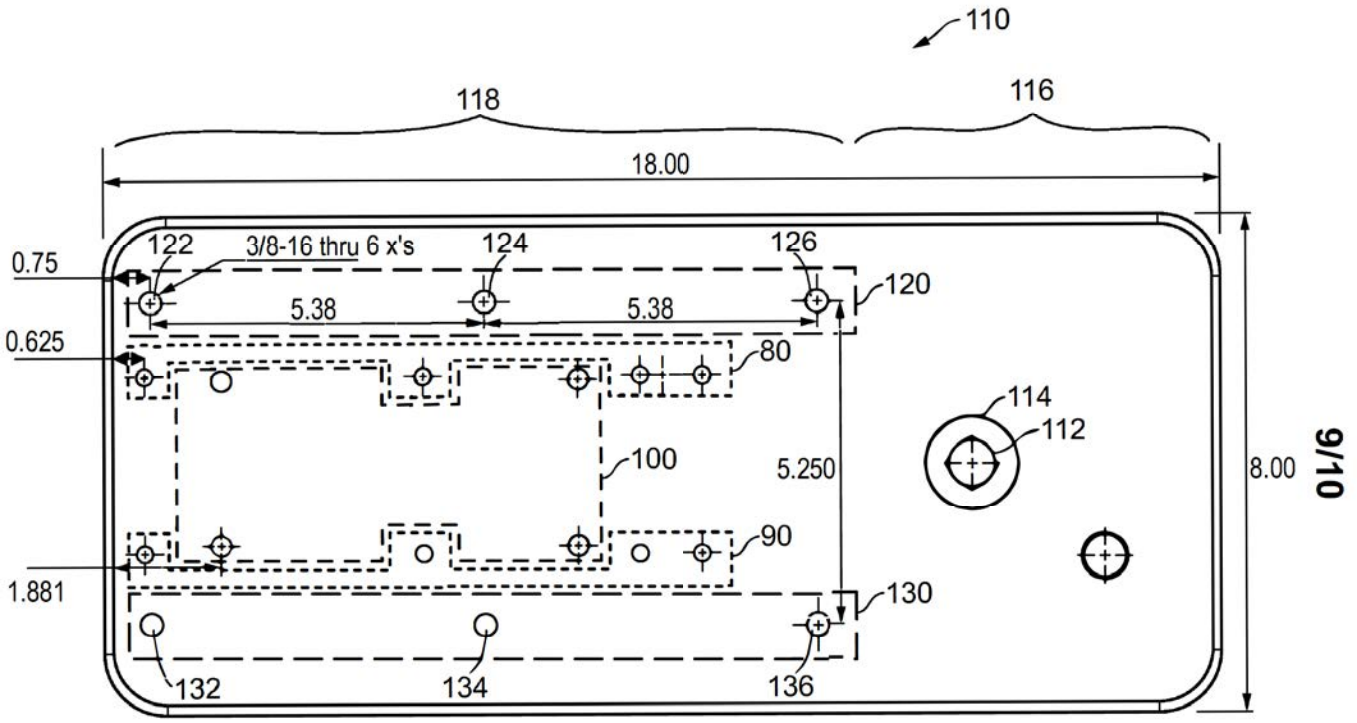
R1.00

FIG. 13


110
118
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18.00
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3/8-16 thru 6 x's
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126
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114
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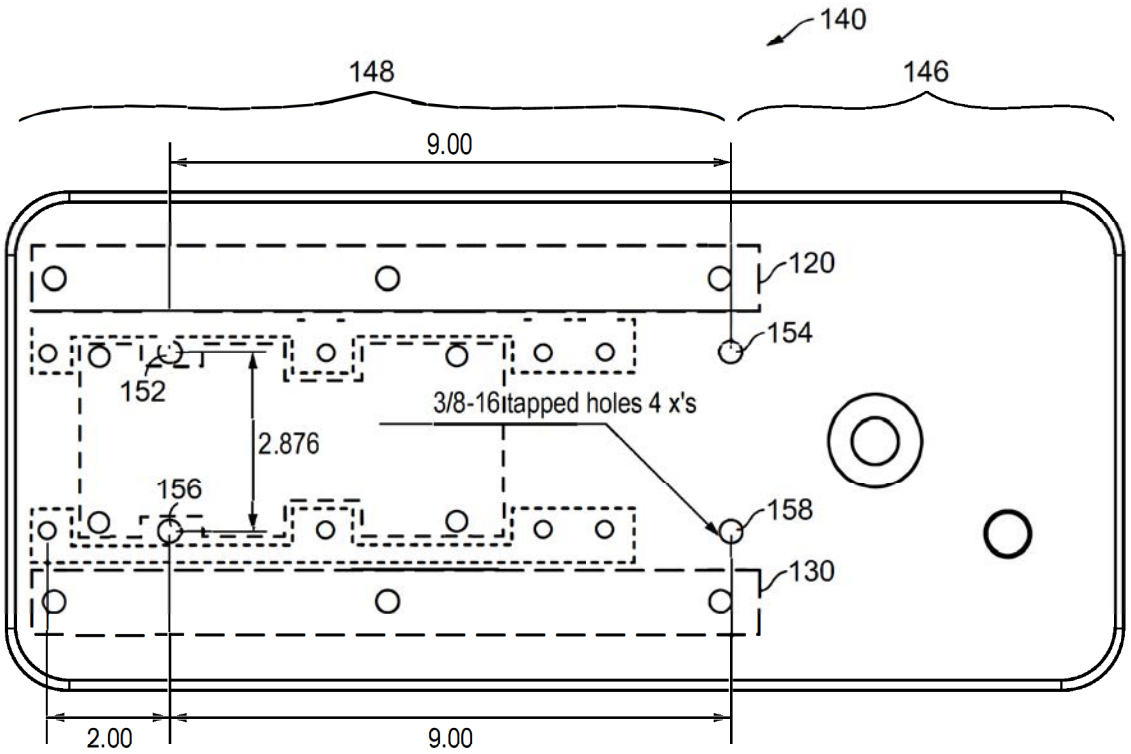
8.00
90
1.881
130
132
134
136

FIG. 14


140
148
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120
154
152
3/8-16 tapped holes 4 x's
2.876
156
158
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2.00
9.00

FIG. 15

DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) FOR UTILITY APPLICATION USING APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)

Title of Invention:

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

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 further declare that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims.
- I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "the Office") all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject-matter which is claimed as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

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.

LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR

Inventor: Mark S. Berta, Jr. Date: 9/26/24

Signatur

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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

ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**09/26/2024 02:17:27 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	67336437	FILING DATE	-
CUSTOMER #	36275	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta Jr.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang

Documents

TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 8

DOCUMENT		PAGES	DESCRIPTION	SIZE (KB)
ADS.pdf		8	Application Data Sheet	2174 KB
aia0424.pdf		2	Track One Request	180 KB
Dec.pdf		1	Oath or Declaration filed	981 KB
POA.pdf		1	Power of Attorney	2282 KB
PatApp.pdf		34	-	158 KB
PatApp-SPEC.pdf	(1-27)	27	Specification	135 KB
PatApp-CLM.pdf	(28-33)	6	Claims	32 KB
PatApp-ABST.pdf	(34-34)	1	Abstract	17 KB
Drawings.pdf		10	Drawings-only black and white line drawings	712 KB

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Digest

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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 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.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Substitute for Form PTO-875

Application or Docket Number: 18/897,527

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) NUMBER EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY FEE($)
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	N/A	N/A	N/A	64		N/A	
SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (l), or (m))	N/A	N/A	N/A	280		N/A	
EXAMINATION FEE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	N/A	N/A	N/A	320		N/A	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(i))	20 minus 20 =	* 0	x =	0	OR		
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	3 minus 3 =	*	x =	0			
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			
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(j))				0			
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.			TOTAL	664		TOTAL	

APPLICATION AS AMENDED - PART II

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY RATE($)	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT A	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))									
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(j))							OR		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)	OR	RATE($)	ADDITIONAL FEE($)
AMENDMENT B	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))									
	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".
*** 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 found in the appropriate box in column 1.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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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
18/897,527	09/26/2024		824	SEAS:00101	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 3197

FILING RECEIPT

36275
Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

Date Mailed: 10/04/2024

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional utility 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 FIRST INVENTOR, 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 corrected Filing Receipt, including a properly marked-up ADS showing the changes with strike-through for deletions and underlining for additions. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" or other Notice requiring a response for this application, please submit any request for correction 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 provided that the request is grantable.

Inventor(s)

Mark S. Berta, JR., Key Largo, FL;

Applicant(s)

Sea Swivel Inc., Key Largo, FL;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 36275

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This appln claims benefit of 63/540,483 09/26/2023

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

Permission to Access Search Results: Yes

Applicant may provide or rescind an authorization for access using Form PTO/SB/39 or Form PTO/SB/69 as appropriate.

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 10/03/2024

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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 18/897,527**

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No
**** SMALL ENTITY ****
Title

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Preliminary Class

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

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4258).

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

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Kathi Vidal

Kathi Vidal
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Derrick Brent
Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
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PTO/SB/08a (01-10)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	18897527
Filing Date	2024-09-26
First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

U.S.PATENTS Remove

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4322208		1982-03-30	Kelpin	
	2	4715259		1987-12-29	Wittman	
	3	5607136		1997-03-04	Bernloehr	
	4	6053471		2000-04-25	Brown	
	5	7302901		2007-12-04	Meyer	
	6	7448812		2008-11-11	Heibel	

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code[1]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
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	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

	1	20030194921		2003-10-16	Leiss et al.	
	2	20100242828		2010-09-30	Gratsch	
	3	20230356807		2023-11-09	Ratzlaff	

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number[3]	Country Code[2]	Kind Code[4]	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[5]
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[5]
	1		☐

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	18897527
	Filing Date	2024-09-26
	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	18897527
	Filing Date	2024-09-26
	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Mollie E. Lettang/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2024-10-31
Name/Print	Mollie E. Lettang	Registration Number	48405

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 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 1 hour 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.**

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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.

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ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**10/31/2024 10:46:26 AM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Ellen Tucker
PATENT CENTER #	67791255	FILING DATE	09/26/2024
CUSTOMER #	36275	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta JR.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang

Documents

TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 1

DOCUMENT	PAGES	DESCRIPTION	SIZE (KB)
IDS_1.pdf	5	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form (SB08)	598 KB

Digest

DOCUMENT	MESSAGE DIGEST(SHA-512)
IDS_1.pdf	0673CD2F3A95613D86FF8661C9B827B7FE5B58EB917161ED2365293EAA7A695F8ACA704E081940C3B996ED85646FCFA6FA07971246CC3DE86CD90F1F6EAEDDF3

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.

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for 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

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 11/08/2024

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
CENTRAL, DOCKET	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
OPAP	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/08/2024	ELECTRONIC

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

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Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

epehadmin@ipaustin.com
mjones@ipaustin.com
uspto@dockettrak.com

Decision Granting Request for Prioritized Examination (Track I)	**Application No.** 18/897,527	**Applicant(s)** Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner JONYA SMALLS	**Art Unit** OPET	**AIA (FITF) Status** Yes

1. THE REQUEST FILED 26 September 2024 IS **GRANTED** .

The above-identified application has met the requirements for prioritized examination

A. ☑ for an original nonprovisional application (Track I).
B. ☐ for an application undergoing continued examination (RCE).

2. **The above-identified application will undergo prioritized examination**. The application will be accorded special status throughout its entire course of prosecution until one of the following occurs:

A. filing a **petition for extension of time** to extend the time period for filing a reply;

B. filing an **amendment to amend the application to contain more than four independent claims, more than thirty total claims** , or a multiple dependent claim;

C. filing a **request for continued examination** ;

D. filing a notice of appeal;

E. filing a request for suspension of action;

F. mailing of a notice of allowance;

G. mailing of a final Office action;

H. completion of examination as defined in 37 CFR 41.102; or

I. abandonment of the application.

Telephone inquiries with regard to this decision should be directed to JONYA SMALLS at (571)272-1619. In his/her absence, calls may be directed to Petition Help Desk at (571) 272-3282.

/JONYA SMALLS/ Lead Paralegal Specialist, OPET	

Index of Claims	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

✓	Rejected	-	Cancelled	N	Non-Elected	A	Appeal
=	Allowed	÷	Restricted	I	Interference	O	Objected

CLAIMS

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

CLAIM		DATE								
Final	Original	12/02/2024								
	1	÷								
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 12/06/2024

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
MARSH, STEVEN M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3632	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/06/2024	ELECTRONIC

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.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

epehadmin@ipaustin.com
mjones@ipaustin.com
uspto@dockettrak.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 18/897,527	Applicant(s) Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner STEVEN M MARSH	Art Unit 3632	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 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 26 September 2024.

☐ 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: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

This is the first office action for US Application 18/897,527 for Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories Over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface.

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: Species I shown in figures 1-10; Species II shown in figure 11; Species III shown in figure 12; Species IV shown in figure 13; Species V shown in figure 14; and Species VI shown in figure 15; . The species are independent or distinct because each species shows an independent and distinct swivel mount for a boat. In addition, these species are not obvious variants of each other based on the current record.

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 claim is generic.

There is a serious search and/or examination burden for the patentably distinct species as set forth above because at least the following reason(s) apply:

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--the species or groupings of patentably indistinct species require a different field of search (e.g., searching different classes/subclasses or electronic resources, or employing different search strategies or search queries).

A search of each species would require employing different search strategies and queries. For example, different text search terms.

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.

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 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.

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

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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.

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.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN M MARSH whose telephone number is (571)272-6819. The examiner can normally be reached Mon-Thurs 9 am-7:30 pm.

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.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrell McKinnon can be reached on 571-272-4797. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of published or unpublished applications may be obtained from Patent Center. Unpublished application information in Patent Center is available to registered users. To file and manage patent submissions in Patent Center, visit: https://patentcenter.uspto.gov. Visit https://www.uspto.gov/patents/apply/patent-center for more information about Patent Center and

https://www.uspto.gov/patents/docx for information about filing in DOCX format. For additional questions, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

STEVEN M. MARSH
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

/STEVEN M MARSH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

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PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
Approved for use through 1/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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 18/897,527	Filing Date 09/26/2024	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☑ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) 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), (l), 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 $40 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $192 =	
☐ 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	12/12/2024	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 $40 =	0
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 2	Minus	*** 3	= 0		x $192 =	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".	/TRACEY M YOUNG/
*** 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.**

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ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**12/12/2024 04:48:18 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	68350919	FILING DATE	09/26/2024
CUSTOMER #	36275	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta JR.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang

Documents

TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 1

DOCUMENT	PAGES	DESCRIPTION	SIZE (KB)
RR.pdf	9	Response to Election / Restriction Filed	40 KB

Digest

DOCUMENT	MESSAGE DIGEST(SHA-512)
RR.pdf	D717A0008053E2A7A869E9104F1D9ADC611AE808572FC4C92 4AB985AA0E7C699214B10E5423836CA0FFAF7407F3D17CA98 414CF25F49D374D23B7778DACF36B0

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.

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for 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.

PATENT
SEAS:00101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 18/897,527
Confirmation No. 3197

Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Marsh, Steven M.

Title: Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office via electronic submission or facsimile on the date indicated below:

12/12/2024 — Date
/Marty Jones/ — Marty Jones

AMENDMENT; RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 6, 2024

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of December, 6, 2024.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A swivel mount, comprising:

an elongated mounting plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls;

a support plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls, wherein the support plate has a length less than or equal to half a length of the elongated mounting plate; and

a swivel element, wherein the swivel mount is configured for the elongated mounting plate, the support plate, and swivel element to be coupled together such that:

the first faces of the support plate and the elongated mounting plate are parallel;

the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate at least partially overlap each other; and

the swivel element is arranged such that the elongated mounting plate is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passing through the first face of the elongated mounting plate at a point spaced from a widthwise center line of the elongated mounting plate.

2. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 1, further comprising a locking pin for securing the elongated mounting plate in a set position relative to the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

3. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from the second face of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

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4. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from a peripheral sidewall of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

5. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 1, wherein the elongated mounting plate comprises:

a first portion for overlapping with the swivel element and the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together; and

a second portion cantilevered from the first portion when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

6. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a plurality of holes for receiving a plurality of bolts to secure an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

7. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 6, wherein a number and arrangement of the plurality of holes are such that different types of trolling motor mounting brackets may be secured to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate via a plurality of bolts.

8. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a sliding track for slidingly receiving an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

9. (Original) A boat, comprising:

a gunnel;

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a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel; and

a trolling motor mounting bracket coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

10. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the swivel mount comprises a support member fastened to the upward facing surface of the gunnel via one or more bolts or screws through the upward facing surface of the gunnel.

11. (Original) The boat of claim 10, wherein the swivel mount further comprises a reinforcement member fastened to an underside surface of the gunnel and coupled to the support member.

12. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the swivel mount comprises a base member adhered to the upward facing surface of the gunnel under the mounting member.

13. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein upward facing surface of the gunnel has a width greater than 4 inches.

14. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the boat is a saltwater fishing boat.

15. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket comprises a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism.

16. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket is trolling motor quick-release mounting bracket.

17. (Currently Amended – Withdrawn) ~~A mounting bracket~~The swivel mount of claim 6, ~~comprising:~~

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~~a plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls; and~~

~~a plurality of through holes extending through the plate from the first opposing face to the second opposing face,~~ wherein the plurality of ~~through~~ holes comprises:

a first set of four holes of the same size in linear alignment with each other along ~~a~~ the length of the elongated mounting plate; and

a second set of four holes of the same size as the first set of four holes and in linear alignment with each other along ~~a~~ the length of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes is respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of four holes as taken along ~~the~~ a width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes has a center point spaced 2.88 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of four holes, and wherein the first and second sets of four holes each comprise:

a first hole disposed closest to an end of the elongated mounting plate;

a second hole having a center point disposed 4.5 inches from a center point of the first hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate;

a third hole having a center point disposed 3.5 inches from the center point of the second hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate; and

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a fourth hole having a center point disposed 1.0 inch from the center point of the third hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate.

18. (Currently Amended – Withdrawn) The ~~mounting bracket~~swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the third set of four holes are disposed within an area of the elongated mounting plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 5.75 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.68 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

19. (Currently Amended – Withdrawn) The ~~mounting bracket~~swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a set of six holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the set of six holes are disposed outside an area of the elongated mounting plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the set of six holes comprise:

a first set of three holes having their center points 5.38 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of three holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of three holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 5.25 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

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20. (Currently Amended – Withdrawn) The ~~mounting bracket~~swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 9.00 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.876 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

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REMARKS

In this response, claims 17-20 have been amended. As such, claims 1-20 are pending in the captioned case. However, claims 4 and 17-20 been withdrawn from consideration.

Section 121 Restriction

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, the Applicant provisionally elects without traverse Species I shown in figures 1-10. In view of the provisional election, Species IV-VI claims 17-20 have been amended to be dependent from claim 6. In addition, Species III-VI claims 4 and 17-20 have been withdrawn from consideration. The Applicant respectfully requests that, upon allowance of a generic claim (e.g., claim 1), claims 4 and 17-20 be allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a). The Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application at a later date capturing the subject matter recited in original claims 4 and 17-20.

As noted above, claims 17-20 have been amended. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, on page 21, lines 1-3; page 22, lines 9-11; and pages 22-26 of the specification.

CONCLUSION

The present response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action mailed December 6, 2024. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned earnestly requests a telephone conference.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for filing this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Egan, Enders & Huston Deposit Account No. 10-1205.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mollie E. Lettang/
Mollie E. Lettang
Reg. No. 48,405
Agent for Applicant(s)

Customer No. 36275
Date: December 12, 2024

Shuttleslide 1002

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 18/897,527	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner STEVEN M MARSH	Art Unit 3632	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date YYYY-MM-DD	Name	CPC Classification	US Classification
*	A	US-2779642-A	1957-01-29	MATTHEWS JOHN T	A47B11/00	384/615
*	B	US-3199826-A	1965-08-10	MILLER AUSTIN V	A47C3/18	297/252
*	C	US-20090101786-A1	2009-04-23	Faull; Ted W.	A47C3/18	297/344.21
*	D	US-5779309-A	1998-07-14	Lu; Cheng-Ho	A47C3/18	297/344.26
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*	M	US-7975969-B2	2011-07-12	Jan; Te-Sheng	F16M11/08	108/103

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date YYYY-MM-DD	Country	Name	CPC Classification
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Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
see PE2E search	01/10/2025	SMM

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
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* 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
Conducted text search	01/10/2025	SMM
Inventor name search	01/10/2025	SMM
forward/backward search	01/10/2025	SMM

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

/STEVEN M MARSH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632	

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Index of Claims	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

✓	Rejected	-	Cancelled	N	Non-Elected	A	Appeal
=	Allowed	÷	Restricted	I	Interference	O	Objected

CLAIMS

☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant ☐ CPA ☐ T.D. ☐ R.1.47

CLAIM		DATE								
Final	Original	12/02/2024	01/11/2025							
	1	÷	-							
	2	÷	-							
	3	÷	-							
	4	÷	N							
	5	÷	=							
	6	÷	=							
	7	÷	=							
	8	÷	=							
	9	÷	✓							
	10	÷	O							
	11	÷	O							
	12	÷	✓							
	13	÷	✓							
	14	÷	✓							
	15	÷	✓							
	16	÷	✓							
	17	÷	N							
	18	÷	N							
	19	÷	N							
	20	÷	N							

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
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Application Number	18897527
Filing Date	2024-09-26
First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

U.S.PATENTS Remove

Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code[1]	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4322208		1982-03-30	Kelpin	
	2	4715259		1987-12-29	Wittman	
	3	5607136		1997-03-04	Bernloehr	
	4	6053471		2000-04-25	Brown	
	5	7302901		2007-12-04	Meyer	
	6	7448812		2008-11-11	Heibel	

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /S.M.B/

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	18897527
	Filing Date	2024-09-26
	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

	1	20030194921		2003-10-16	Leiss et al.	
	2	20100242828		2010-09-30	Gratsch	
	3	20230356807		2023-11-09	Ratzlaff	

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Examiner Signature	/STEVEN M MARSH/	Date Considered	01/11/2025

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	18897527
	Filing Date	2024-09-26
	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

[1] See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. [2] Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [3] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [4] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [5] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)		
	Application Number	18897527
	Filing Date	2024-09-26
	First Named Inventor	Mark S. Berta Jr.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	SEAS:00101

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ A certification statement is not submitted herewith.

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Mollie E. Lettang/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2024-10-31
Name/Print	Mollie E. Lettang	Registration Number	48405

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 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 1 hour 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.**

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 record s.

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.

PE2E SEARCH - Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	British Equivalents	Time Stamp
L1	3599	(B63H20/06 OR B63H20/007).cpc.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2024/12/28 09:21 PM
L2	9	("20030194921" OR "20100242828" OR "20230356807" OR "4322208" OR "4715259" OR "5607136" OR "6053471" OR "7302901" OR "7448812").pn.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 04:48 AM
L3	8101	swivel ADJ mount	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 05:00 AM
L4	2710	L3 AND plate	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 05:00 AM
L5	1966	248/125.7 OR 248/131	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/09 01:03 AM
L6	1964	L5 NOT L1	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/09 01:03 AM
L7	49	("6095468" | "6364268" | "6431515" | "6443412" | "6471363" | "6531656" | "6639623" | "6659415" | "6698704" | "6817585" | "6899442" | "7097145" | "7191992" | "7628367" | "7921489" | "7971409" | "8322674" | "8905204" | "8960624" | "9605800" | "9827636" | "9857024" | "9999480" | "10398528" | "10656341" | "10695250" | "10835346" | "10966796" | "10993778" | "D922177" | "D945606" | "11275293" | "11660161" | "11732841" | "20020015296" | "20030021107" | "20030160142" | "20050242261" |	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:23 PM

		"20060102811" | "20110147563" | "20120268565" | "20140131526" | "20170079743" | "20180259122" | "20180372270" | "20200268476" | "20200306006" | "20230120143" | "20240044447").pn. OR ("12064379").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L8	20	("5923528" | "6189842" | "6302617" | "6443408" | "6510049" | "6966532" | "10875467" | "11204130" | "11744027" | "20020181722" | "20050041379" | "20070064379" | "20080006748" | "20150211675" | "20170327054" | "20180032104" | "20190327841" | "20190357368" | "20200300407" | "20210016720").pn. OR ("11892876").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:28 PM
L9	4	("2019/0063666").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L10	14	("4589713" | "5236216" | "5588625" | "6010111" | "6032918" | "6234494" | "6783146" | "6945837" | "7806380" | "20090101786" | "20090223102").pn. OR ("7975969").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L11	4	("2009/0101786").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L12	7	("2007/0007401").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:33 PM
L13	39	("3152281" | "3936026" | "4304385" | "4547027" | "4549710" | "4589713"	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:34 PM

		| "4635894" | "4645153" | "4648574" | "5243434" | "5632463" | "5749304" | "5873557" | "5895022").pn. OR ("6231020").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L14	13	("4554590" | "4781347" | "5024415" | "5209446" | "5465936" | "5588625" | "5632463").pn. OR ("5755420").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:35 PM
L15	19	("4117627" | "4401287" | "4566664" | "4659050" | "4919383").pn. OR ("5685514").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:39 PM
L16	26	("3407997" | "4893747" | "5400958" | "5458286").pn. OR ("5622343").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:40 PM
L17	29	("0877066" | "0885460" | "1240190" | "3407997" | "4606619" | "4893747").pn. OR ("5400958").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:41 PM
L18	65	("4562988" | "4564166" | "4659053" | "4738422" | "4880191" | "5024415").pn. OR ("5209446").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:43 PM
L19	35	("2687267" | "2779642" | "3652972" | "4040364" | "4485997" | "4635894" | "4659050" | "4697778" | "4738422" | "4825527" | "4939827" | "4946127" | "5000513").pn. OR ("5080322").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:46 PM
L20	39	("1918190" | "2084818" | "3142471" | "3199826" | "3204915" | "3224724" | "3491978" | "3537675"	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:10 AM

		| "4566664" | "4738422").pn. OR ("4919383").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L21	24	("1507586" | "1623845" | "1893814" | "3637185" | "3834660" | "4076346" | "4401287" | "4406172" | "4487551").pn. OR ("4640486").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:12 AM
L22	17	("3199826").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:13 AM
L23	32	("2779642").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:14 AM
L24	647	248/640	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 03:45 AM
L25	2	gunnel WITH motor WITH swivel	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 05:22 AM
L26	6	gunwale WITH motor WITH swivel	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 05:27 AM

PE2E SEARCH - Search History (Interference)

There are no Interference searches to show.

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www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 01/15/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER
MARSH, STEVEN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3632	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/15/2025	ELECTRONIC

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.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

epehadmin@ipaustin.com
mjones@ipaustin.com
uspto@dockettrak.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 18/897,527	Applicant(s) Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner STEVEN M MARSH	Art Unit 3632	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 12 December 2024.

☐ 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 and 17-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

6) ☑ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-8 is/are allowed.

7) ☑ Claim(s) 9 and 12-16 is/are rejected.

8) ☑ Claim(s) 10-11 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: _____.

Shuttleslide 1002

DETAILED ACTION

This is the second office action for US Application 18/897,527 for Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories Over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface.

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Species I in the reply filed on 12 December 2024 is acknowledged. Claims 4 and 17-20 withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 12 December 2024.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

In the event the determination of the status of the application as subject to AIA 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 (or as subject to pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103) is incorrect, any correction of the statutory basis (i.e., changing from AIA to pre-AIA) for the rejection will not be considered a new ground of rejection if the prior art relied upon, and the rationale supporting the rejection, would be the same under either status.

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 –
>
> (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.

Claim(s) 9 and 14-16 is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(1) as being anticipated by US 6,053,471 to Brown. Regarding claim 9, Brown discloses a boat (col. 5, lines 5 and 6) comprising a gunnel (23). There is a swivel mount (16, 60) disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member (64) of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel. There is also a trolling motor mounting bracket (36) coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

Regarding claim 14, the boat is a saltwater fishing boat. Regarding claim 15, the trolling motor mounting bracket comprises a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism (see fig. 1). Regarding claim 16, the trolling motor mounting bracket is a trolling motor quick-release mounting bracket (via a thumbscrew).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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.

Shuttleslide 1002

The factual inquiries for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103 are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.

2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.

3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.

4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claim(s) 12 and 13 is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Brown. Brown does not disclose the swivel mount as comprising a base member adhered to the upward facing surface of the gunnel under the mounting member. However, the swivel mount comprises a base member that is clamped to the upward facing surface of the gunnel under the mounting member. Substituting one attachment mechanism for another is a design preference that would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art before the effective filing date of the present invention.

Brown does not disclose the upward facing surface of the gunnel as having a width greater than 4 inches. However, the specific dimensions of the gunnel are a design preference that would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art before the effective filing date of the present invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are allowed. Claims 10 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in

independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 2779642 to Matthews

US 3199826 to Miller

US 2009/0101786 to Faull

US 5779309 to Lu

US 4076346 to McMahan

US 4919383 to Benjamin

US 5685514 to Carnahan

US 6231020 to Wilson

US 6338464 to Jen-Hsiang

US 5080322 to Harley

US 9829148 to Choquette

US 4640486 to Neville

US 7975969 to Jan.

The prior art cited above discloses various swivel mounts.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN M MARSH whose telephone number is (571)272-6819. The examiner can normally be reached Mon-Thurs 9 am-7:30 pm.

Shuttleslide 1002

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.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrell McKinnon can be reached on 571-272-4797. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of published or unpublished applications may be obtained from Patent Center. Unpublished application information in Patent Center is available to registered users. To file and manage patent submissions in Patent Center, visit: https://patentcenter.uspto.gov. Visit https://www.uspto.gov/patents/apply/patent-center for more information about Patent Center and https://www.uspto.gov/patents/docx for information about filing in DOCX format. For additional questions, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

STEVEN M. MARSH
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

/STEVEN M MARSH/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

Shuttleslide 1002

PTO/SB/06 (09-11)
Approved for use through 1/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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 18/897,527	Filing Date 09/26/2024	☐ To be Mailed

ENTITY: ☐ LARGE ☑ SMALL ☐ MICRO

APPLICATION AS FILED - PART I

FOR	(Column 1) NUMBER FILED	(Column 2) 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 $40 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(h))	minus 3 =	*		x $192 =	
☐ 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

AMENDMENT	01/17/2025	(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	* 17	Minus	** 20	= 0		x $40 =	0
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 2	Minus	*** 3	= 0		x $192 =	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

AMENDMENT		(Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA		RATE ($)	ADDITIONAL FEE ($)
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		x $0 =	
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		x $0 =	
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ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**01/17/2025 01:43:47 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	68801690	FILING DATE	09/26/2024
CUSTOMER #	36275	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta JR.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang

Documents

TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 1

DOCUMENT	PAGES	DESCRIPTION	SIZE (KB)
ROA.pdf	11	Amendment/Request for Reconsideration-After Non-Final Rejection	52 KB

Digest

DOCUMENT	MESSAGE DIGEST(SHA-512)
ROA.pdf	0B950BDF38699EFB9CB7888F01338514500B65AEE93882EC0F7B6E662A9F0E72DA76D2BC0EA64C71E0553B36424FF4B0DB017FDD5CCD062F493242D86878AB58

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If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for 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

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PATENT
SEAS:00101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 18/897,527
Confirmation No. 3197

Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Marsh, Steven M.

Title: Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office via electronic submission or facsimile on the date indicated below:

1/17/2025
Date

/Marty Jones/
Marty Jones

AMENDMENT; RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 15, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of January 15, 2025.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A swivel mount, comprising:

an elongated mounting plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls;

a support plate comprising first and second opposing faces spaced apart by one or more peripheral sidewalls, wherein the support plate has a length less than or equal to half a length of the elongated mounting plate; and

a swivel element, wherein the swivel mount is configured for the elongated mounting plate, the support plate, and swivel element to be coupled together such that:

the first faces of the support plate and the elongated mounting plate are parallel;

the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate at least partially overlap each other; and

the swivel element is arranged such that the elongated mounting plate is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passing through the first face of the elongated mounting plate at a point spaced from a widthwise center line of the elongated mounting plate.

2. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 1, further comprising a locking pin for securing the elongated mounting plate in a set position relative to the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

3. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from the second face of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

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4. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 2, wherein the locking pin extends from a peripheral sidewall of the elongated mounting plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

5. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 1, wherein the elongated mounting plate comprises:

a first portion for overlapping with the swivel element and the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together; and

a second portion cantilevered from the first portion when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together.

6. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a plurality of holes for receiving a plurality of bolts to secure an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

7. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 6, wherein a number and arrangement of the plurality of holes are such that different types of trolling motor mounting brackets may be secured to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate via a plurality of bolts.

8. (Original) The swivel mount of claim 5, wherein the second portion comprises a sliding track for slidingly receiving an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate.

9. (Currently Amended) A boat, comprising:

a gunnel;

a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is

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perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface of the gunnel, wherein the swivel mount comprises a support member fastened to the upward facing surface of the gunnel via one or more bolts or screws through the upward facing surface of the gunnel; and

a trolling motor mounting bracket coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The boat of claim ~~10~~9, wherein the swivel mount further comprises a reinforcement member fastened to an underside surface of the gunnel and coupled to the support member.

12. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the swivel mount comprises a base member adhered to the upward facing surface of the gunnel under the mounting member.

13. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein upward facing surface of the gunnel has a width greater than 4 inches.

14. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the boat is a saltwater fishing boat.

15. (Original) The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket comprises a trolling motor deploy/stow mechanism.

16. (Currently Amended) The boat of claim 9, wherein the trolling motor mounting bracket is a trolling motor quick-release mounting bracket.

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17. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 6, wherein the plurality of holes comprises:

a first set of four holes of the same size in linear alignment with each other along the length of the elongated mounting plate; and

a second set of four holes of the same size as the first set of four holes and in linear alignment with each other along the length of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes is respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of four holes as taken along a width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of four holes has a center point spaced 2.88 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of four holes, and wherein the first and second sets of four holes each comprise:

a first hole disposed closest to an end of the elongated mounting plate;

a second hole having a center point disposed 4.5 inches from a center point of the first hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate;

a third hole having a center point disposed 3.5 inches from the center point of the second hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate; and

a fourth hole having a center point disposed 1.0 inch from the center point of the third hole of its respective set of four holes in a direction away from the end of the elongated mounting plate.

18. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein

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the third set of four holes are disposed within an area of the elongated mounting plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 5.75 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.68 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

19. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a set of six holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the set of six holes are disposed outside an area of the elongated mounting plate bounded by the first and second sets of four holes, and wherein the set of six holes comprise:

a first set of three holes having their center points 5.38 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

a second set of three holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of three holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 5.25 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

20. (Withdrawn) The swivel mount of claim 17, further comprising a third set of four holes of the same size as each other but larger size than the first and second sets of four holes, wherein the third set of four holes comprise:

a first set of two holes having their center points 9.00 inches apart and linearly aligned parallel with the first set of four holes; and

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a second set of two holes each respectively in alignment with a different hole of the first set of two holes as taken along the width of the elongated mounting plate, wherein each of the second set of two holes has a center point spaced 2.876 inches from a center point of its respective different hole of the first set of two holes.

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REMARKS

In this response, claims 9, 11 and 16 have been amended and claim 10 has been canceled. As such, claims 1-9 and 11-20 are pending in the captioned case. However, claims 4 and 17-20 been withdrawn from consideration. Further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application is respectfully requested.

Allowed Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are allowed. The Applicant sincerely appreciates the Examiner's recognition of the patentable subject matter recited in these claims.

Claims 10 and 11 were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Applicant sincerely appreciates the Examiner's recognition of the patentable subject matter recited in these claims. As set forth above, base claim 9 has been amended with the allowed limitations of dependent claim 10. Accordingly, amended independent claim 9 as well as claims dependent therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Request for Consideration of Withdrawn Claims 4 and 17-20:

In view of the allowance of base claim 1 and linking claims 2 and 6, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawn claims 4 and 17-20 be rejoined and examined pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a). The Applicant notes the Examiner's statement on page 2 of the Office Action, "Claims 4 and 17-20 [are] withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim." The Applicant respectfully disagrees that there is no generic or linking claim in the pending claim set for withdrawn claims 4 and 17-20. In particular, base claim 1 is generic to each of Species I-VI set forth in the Office Action issued on December 6, 2024 for the captioned case. In addition, dependent claims 2 and 6 are linking claims to which the subject matter of withdrawn claims 4 and 17-20 depend.

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More specifically, base claim 1 is generic to each of the swivel mounts of Species I-III respectively depicted in Figs. 1-10, 11 and 12, as each of the swivel mounts depicted in Figs. 1-10, 11 and 12 include an elongated mounting plate, a support plate and a swivel element arranged in the configuration recited in base claim 1. Moreover, base claim 1 is generic to the configuration of the elongated mounting plate of Species I-VI respectively depicted in Figs. 1, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, particularly since base claim 1 does not define the hole pattern of its elongated mounting plate.

Furthermore, dependent claim 2 recites the swivel mount of claim 1 includes a locking pin for securing the elongated mounting plate in a set position relative to the support plate when the swivel element, the support plate, and the elongated mounting plate are coupled together, which is generic to each of the swivel mounts of Species I-III respectively depicted in Figs. 1-10, 11 and 12 and links the limitations of withdrawn claim 4 to base claim 1. Moreover, dependent claim 6 recites the elongated mounting member of base claim 1 includes a plurality of holes for receiving a plurality of bolts to secure an object to the second portion of the elongated mounting plate linking the limitations of withdrawn claims 17-20 to base claim 1.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 9 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)(1) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,053,471 to Brown (hereinafter referred to as "Brown"). As noted above, independent claim 9 has been amended with limitations deemed allowable by the Examiner. Claims 14-16 are dependent from claim 9 and, thus, are allowable over the cited art for at least the same reasons as that claim. Accordingly, removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)(1) rejection of claims 9 and 14-16 is respectfully requested.

It is noted that independent claim 9 has been amended to expedite prosecution of the case. The Applicant is not conceding by such a course of action that the limitations of previous claims 9 and 14-16 are anticipated by Brown as surmised by the Examiner in the current Office Action. On the contrary, the Applicant traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)(1) rejections of previous claims 9 and 14-16 on the bases that Brown fails to teach the mounting bracket assembly disclosed therein

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disposed over bow gunwale 23 such that swivel plate 60 (or cross bar 64, which the Examiner equates to the mounting member of previous claim 1) is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through an upward facing surface of the gunwale as is necessitated by previous independent claim 9. On the contrary, the mounting bracket assembly disclosed in Brown is mounted to bow gunwale 23 such that swivel plate 60 (or cross bar 64) swivels about swivel mechanism 62, which is arranged outside of the gunwale and, thus, does not have a swivel axis that is perpendicular to and passing through an upward facing surface of the gunwale (*see*, e.g., Figs. 1, 6 and 9 as well as col. 5, lines 57-60 of Brown). Furthermore, Brown does not teach the boat disclosed therein is a saltwater fishing boat as recited in dependent claim 14. In particular, the pending application defines the term "saltwater boat" as a boat having a closed cooling system for its motor and/or a mercathode system for its engine (*see*, page 9, lines 26-27). Brown fails to teach or suggest either of such systems for the boat disclosed therein and, thus, fails to anticipate the limitations of previous claim 14.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown. As noted above, independent claim 9 has been amended with limitations deemed allowable by the Examiner. Claims 12 and 13 are dependent from claim 9 and, thus, are allowable over the cited art for at least the same reasons as that claim. Accordingly, removal of the §103 rejections of claims 12 and 13 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action mailed January 15, 2025. The prior art made of record in the Office Action but not relied upon is not considered pertinent to the pending claims of the case. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned earnestly requests a telephone conference.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for filing this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Egan, Enders & Huston Deposit Account No. 10-1205.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mollie E. Lettang/
Mollie E. Lettang
Reg. No. 48,405
Agent for Applicant(s)

Customer No. 36275
Date: January 17, 2025

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Search Notes	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

CPC - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner
see PE2E search	01/10/2025	SMM

CPC Combination Sets - Searched*		
Symbol	Date	Examiner

US Classification - Searched*			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
see	PE2E search	01/10/2025	SMM

* 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
Conducted text search	01/10/2025	SMM
Inventor name search	01/10/2025	SMM
forward/backward search	01/10/2025	SMM
updated search	01/25/2025	SMM
Interference - see PE2E search	01/25/2025	SMM

Interference Search			
US Class/CPC Symbol	US Subclass/CPC Group	Date	Examiner
see	search notes	01/25/2025	SMM

/STEVEN M MARSH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632	

Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

CPC							
Symbol						**Type**	**Version**
B63H	/	20	/	06		F	2013-01-01
B63H	/	20	/	007		I	2013-01-01

CPC Combination Sets								
Symbol					**Type**	**Set**	**Ranking**	**Version**
	/		/					

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18	
/STEVEN M MARSH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632	25 January 2025	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1	10

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office — Part of Paper No.: 20250125

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Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION					
CLAIMED					
B63H	/	20	/	06	
NON-CLAIMED					
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US ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION	
CLASS	**SUBCLASS**

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

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:	
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	18	
/STEVEN M MARSH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632	25 January 2025	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	1	10

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office — Part of Paper No.: 20250125

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Issue Classification	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
	18/897,527	Berta, Mark S.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	STEVEN M MARSH	3632

☐ 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		10	17	19										
2	2	9	11	18	20										
3	3	10	12												
	4	11	13												
4	5	12	14												
5	6	13	15												
6	7	14	16												
7	8	15	17												
8	9	16	18												

NONE (Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	**Total Claims Allowed:** 18	
/STEVEN M MARSH/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632 (Primary Examiner)	25 January 2025 (Date)	O.G. Print Claim(s) 1	O.G. Print Figure 10

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Part of Paper No.: 20250125

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Bibliographic Data

Application No: 18/897,527

Foreign Priority claimed: ○ Yes ◉ No

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

Verified and Acknowledged: /STEVEN M MARSH/ Examiner's Signature | Initials

Title: SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

FILING or 371(c) DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/26/2024	248	3632	SEAS:00101
RULE			

APPLICANTS

Sea Swivel Inc., Key Largo, FL, UNITED STATES

INVENTORS

Mark S. Berta JR., Key Largo, FL, UNITED STATES

CONTINUING DATA

This application has PRO of 63540483 09/26/2023

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS

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PE2E SEARCH - Search History (Prior Art)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	British Equivalents	Time Stamp
L1	3599	(B63H20/06 OR B63H20/007).cpc.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2024/12/28 09:21 PM
L2	9	("20030194921" OR "20100242828" OR "20230356807" OR "4322208" OR "4715259" OR "5607136" OR "6053471" OR "7302901" OR "7448812").pn.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 04:48 AM
L3	8101	swivel ADJ mount	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 05:00 AM
L4	2710	L3 AND plate	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/07 05:00 AM
L5	1966	248/125.7 OR 248/131	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/09 01:03 AM
L6	1964	L5 NOT L1	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; FPRS; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/09 01:03 AM
L7	49	("6095468" | "6364268" | "6431515" | "6443412" | "6471363" | "6531656" | "6639623" | "6659415" | "6698704" | "6817585" | "6899442" | "7097145" | "7191992" | "7628367" | "7921489" | "7971409" | "8322674" | "8905204" | "8960624" | "9605800" | "9827636" | "9857024" | "9999480" | "10398528" | "10656341" | "10695250" | "10835346" | "10966796" | "10993778" | "D922177" | "D945606" | "11275293" | "11660161" | "11732841" | "20020015296" | "20030021107" | "20030160142" | "20050242261" |	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:23 PM

		"20060102811" | "20110147563" | "20120268565" | "20140131526" | "20170079743" | "20180259122" | "20180372270" | "20200268476" | "20200306006" | "20230120143" | "20240044447").pn. OR ("12064379").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L8	20	("5923528" | "6189842" | "6302617" | "6443408" | "6510049" | "6966532" | "10875467" | "11204130" | "11744027" | "20020181722" | "20050041379" | "20070064379" | "20080006748" | "20150211675" | "20170327054" | "20180032104" | "20190327841" | "20190357368" | "20200300407" | "20210016720").pn. OR ("11892876").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:28 PM
L9	4	("2019/0063666").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L10	14	("4589713" | "5236216" | "5588625" | "6010111" | "6032918" | "6234494" | "6783146" | "6945837" | "7806380" | "20090101786" | "20090223102").pn. OR ("7975969").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L11	4	("2009/0101786").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:31 PM
L12	7	("2007/0007401").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:33 PM
L13	39	("3152281" | "3936026" | "4304385" | "4547027" | "4549710" | "4589713"	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:34 PM

		| "4635894" | "4645153" | "4648574" | "5243434" | "5632463" | "5749304" | "5873557" | "5895022").pn. OR ("6231020").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L14	13	("4554590" | "4781347" | "5024415" | "5209446" | "5465936" | "5588625" | "5632463").pn. OR ("5755420").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:35 PM
L15	19	("4117627" | "4401287" | "4566664" | "4659050" | "4919383").pn. OR ("5685514").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:39 PM
L16	26	("3407997" | "4893747" | "5400958" | "5458286").pn. OR ("5622343").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:40 PM
L17	29	("0877066" | "0885460" | "1240190" | "3407997" | "4606619" | "4893747").pn. OR ("5400958").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:41 PM
L18	65	("4562988" | "4564166" | "4659053" | "4738422" | "4880191" | "5024415").pn. OR ("5209446").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:43 PM
L19	35	("2687267" | "2779642" | "3652972" | "4040364" | "4485997" | "4635894" | "4659050" | "4697778" | "4738422" | "4825527" | "4939827" | "4946127" | "5000513").pn. OR ("5080322").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/10 11:46 PM
L20	39	("1918190" | "2084818" | "3142471" | "3199826" | "3204915" | "3224724" | "3491978" | "3537675"	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:10 AM

		| "4566664" | "4738422").pn. OR ("4919383").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.					
L21	24	("1507586" | "1623845" | "1893814" | "3637185" | "3834660" | "4076346" | "4401287" | "4406172" | "4487551").pn. OR ("4640486").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:12 AM
L22	17	("3199826").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:13 AM
L23	32	("2779642").urpn. AND (PGPB | USPT | USOC).dbnm.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 12:14 AM
L24	647	248/640	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 03:45 AM
L25	2	gunnel WITH motor WITH swivel	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 05:22 AM
L26	6	gunwale WITH motor WITH swivel	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/11 05:27 AM

PE2E SEARCH - Search History (Interference)

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	British Equivalents	Time Stamp
N1	1717	248/125.7 OR 248/131	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/25 02:41 PM
N2	1556	(B63H20/06 OR B63H20/007).cpc.	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/25 02:41 PM
N3	647	248/640	(US-PGPUB; USPAT)	OR	ON	ON	2025/01/25 02:41 PM

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

36275 7590 02/04/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
MARSH, STEVEN M	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3632	

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2025

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

TITLE OF INVENTION: SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	SMALL	$516	$0.00	$0.00	$516	05/05/2025

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 40% the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 20% the amount of undiscounted 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. 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 the USPTO patent electronic filing system.

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 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. **Because electronic patent issuance may occur shortly after issue fee payment, any desired continuing application should preferably be filed prior to payment of this issue fee in order not to jeopardize copendency.**

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

36275 7590 02/04/2025
Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

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.

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 the USPTO patent electronic filing system 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.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

TITLE OF INVENTION: SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	SMALL	$516	$0.00	$0.00	$516	05/05/2025

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
MARSH, STEVEN M	3632	248-642000

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/AIA/122 or PTO/SB/122) attached.

❑ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/AIA/47 or PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 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,
(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.

1 _____
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)

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

❑ Electronic Payment via the USPTO patent electronic filing system ❑ 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

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.

❑ 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.

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. _____

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

362/5 7590 02/04/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
MARSH, STEVEN M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3632	

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2025

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. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) collects the information in this record under authority of 35 U.S.C. 2. The USPTO's system of records is used to manage all applicant and owner information including name, citizenship, residence, post office address, and other information with respect to inventors and their legal representatives pertaining to the applicant's/owner's activities in connection with the invention for which a patent is sought or has been granted. The applicable Privacy Act System of Records Notice for the information collected in this form is COMMERCE/PAT-TM-7 Patent Application Files, available in the Federal Register at 78 FR 19243 (March 29, 2013).
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2013-03-29/pdf/2013-07341.pdf

Routine uses of the information in this record may include disclosure to:

1) law enforcement, in the event that the system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law;
2) a federal, state, local, or international agency, in response to its request;
3) a contractor of the USPTO having need for the information in order to perform a contract;
4) the Department of Justice for determination of whether the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires disclosure of the record;
5) a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested the Member's assistance with respect to the subject matter of the record;
6) a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, in the course of presenting evidence, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations;
7) the Administrator, General Services Administration (GSA), or their designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906, in accordance with the GSA regulations and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive, where such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals;
8) 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));
9) the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes; and
10) the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for legislative coordination and clearance.

If you do not furnish the information requested on this form, the USPTO may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings, abandonment of the application, and/or expiration of the patent.

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Notice of Allowability	Application No. 18/897,527	Applicant(s) Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner STEVEN M MARSH	Art Unit 3632	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 Applicant's communication received on 17 January 2025.
   ☐ 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 1-3,5-9 and 11-20 . 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)
2. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
3. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.
4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.
5. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
6. ☑ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
7. ☐ Other _____.

/STEVEN M MARSH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

DETAILED ACTION

This is the third office action for US Application 18/897,527 for Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories Over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface.

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

The present application, filed on or after March 16, 2013, is being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1 and 9 are allowable. The restriction requirement between species, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 6 December 2024, 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, the restriction requirement of Species I is withdrawn. Claims 4 and 17-20, directed to a non-elected species are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a 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.

Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See In re Ziegler, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3, 5-9, and 11-20 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose or suggest a boat with a gunnel, a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface, wherein the swivel mount comprises a support member fastened to the upward facing surface of the gunnel via one or more bolts or screws through the upward facing surface, and a trolling motor mounting bracket couped to an upward facing surface of the mounting member.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN M MARSH whose telephone number is (571)272-6819. The examiner can normally be reached Mon-Thurs 9 am-7:30 pm.

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.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrell McKinnon can be reached on 571-272-4797. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of published or unpublished applications may be obtained from Patent Center. Unpublished application information in Patent Center is available to registered users. To file and manage patent submissions in Patent Center, visit: https://patentcenter.uspto.gov. Visit https://www.uspto.gov/patents/apply/patent-center for more information about Patent Center and https://www.uspto.gov/patents/docx for information about filing in DOCX format. For additional questions, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

STEVEN M. MARSH
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

/STEVEN M MARSH/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 02/19/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER
MARSH, STEVEN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3632	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
02/19/2025	ELECTRONIC

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.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

epehadmin@ipaustin.com
mjones@ipaustin.com
uspto@dockettrak.com

Corrected ***Notice of Allowability***	**Application No.** 18/897,527	**Applicant(s)** Berta, Mark S.	
	Examiner STEVEN M MARSH	**Art Unit** 3632	**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 Applicant's communication received on 17 January 2025.
   ☐ 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 1-9 and 11-20 . 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)
2. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
3. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material _____.
4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date. _____.
5. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
6. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
7. ☐ Other _____.

/STEVEN M MARSH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), by mail or fax, or via the USPTO patent electronic filing system.

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 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. **Because electronic patent issuance may occur shortly after issue fee payment, any desired continuing application should preferably be filed prior to payment of this issue fee in order not to jeopardize copendency.**

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

36275 7590 02/04/2025
Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

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.

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 the USPTO patent electronic filing system or by facsimile to (571) 273-2885, on the date below.

Marty Jones	(Typed or printed name)
/Marty Jones/	(Signature)
February 19, 2025	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

TITLE OF INVENTION: SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	SMALL	$516	$0.00	$0.00	$516	05/05/2025

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
MARSH, STEVEN M	3632	248-642000

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/AIA/122 or PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/AIA/47 or PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 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,
(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.

1 Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
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: Sea Swivel Inc.

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY): Key Largo, Florida

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)

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

☒ Electronic Payment via the USPTO patent electronic filing system ☐ 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. 101205

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

☐ Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29

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.

☐ 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.

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 /Mollie E. Lettang/ Date February 19, 2025

Typed or printed name Mollie E. Lettang Registration No. 48405

PTOL-85 Part B (11/23) Approved for use through 03/31/2026 OMB 0651-0033 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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PATENT
SEAS:00101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 18/897,527
Confirmation No. 3197

Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Steven M. Marsh

Title: Swivel Mounts for Attaching and Maneuvering Accessories Over the Gunnel of a Boat or Any Other Mounting Surface

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office via electronic submission or facsimile on the date indicated below:

02/19/2025 /Marty Jones/
Date Marty Jones

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted regarding the Examiner's statements of reasons for allowance in the Notices of Allowance mailed February 4, 2025 for the captioned application. Applicant requests the comments be made of record.

Comments on Statement for Reasons for Allowance

The following statement was made in the Notices of Allowance mailed February 4, 2025 regarding Reasons for Allowance of the captioned application:

> … the prior art does not disclose or suggest a boat with a gunnel, a swivel mount disposed above an upward facing surface of the gunnel such that a mounting member of the swivel mount is able to swivel about an axis that is perpendicular to and passes through the upward facing surface, wherein the swivel mount comprises a support member fastened to the upward facing surface, and a trolling motor mounting bracket coupled to an upward facing surface of the mounting member. *(Notices of Allowance dated 2/4/25 — pg. 3)*

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Although independent claim 9 of the captioned application is directed to a boat having the noted features, independent claim 1 specifies a swivel mount which is not necessarily fastened to an upward facing surface of a boat gunnel. While the Applicant appreciates the recognition of the patentability of independent claim 9, the Applicant contends independent claim 1 of the captioned application is patentably distinct from the prior art on its own merits as set forth by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed January 15, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mollie E. Lettang/
Mollie E. Lettang
Reg. No. 48,405
Agent for Applicant(s)

Customer No. 36275
Date: February 19, 2025

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UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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

ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**02/19/2025 12:14:56 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	69242597	FILING DATE	09/26/2024
CUSTOMER #	36275	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta JR.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang

Documents

TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 2

DOCUMENT	PAGES	DESCRIPTION	SIZE (KB)
CommentsonNOA.pdf	2	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	52 KB
Issuefeepaid.pdf	1	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	194 KB

Digest

DOCUMENT	MESSAGE DIGEST(SHA-512)
CommentsonNOA.pdf	F160F6068A06727BF072F988FBD1FC557718BB1726A77C393F CAD08031E07E92AF4041551A5132A9D651062394445C1DD30 906169D12B2D67D3025BA80830797
Issuefeepaid.pdf	E5109C5B46AC5C8D195F78DD05BA6ADC9695D3CB2632E6B0 F15F3F77C8C35E14D63D37043BA6A5EAAAA184D54F0E13141

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263627BF7B086075DFBA33108063043

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 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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ELECTRONIC PAYMENT RECEIPT

APPLICATION #	RECEIPT DATE / TIME	ATTORNEY DOCKET #
18/897,527	**02/19/2025 12:14:56 PM Z ET**	**SEAS:00101**

Title of Invention

SWIVEL MOUNTS FOR ATTACHING AND MANEUVERING ACCESSORIES OVER THE GUNNEL OF A BOAT OR ANY OTHER MOUNTING SURFACE

Application Information

APPLICATION TYPE	Utility - Nonprovisional Application under 35 USC 111(a)	PATENT #	-
CONFIRMATION #	3197	FILED BY	Marty Jones
PATENT CENTER #	69242597	AUTHORIZED BY	Mollie Lettang
CUSTOMER #	36275	FILING DATE	09/26/2024
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	-	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	Mark S. Berta JR.

Payment Information

PAYMENT METHOD	PAYMENT TRANSACTION ID	PAYMENT AUTHORIZED BY
CARD / 1008	**E20252IC17259414**	**Marty Jones**

PRE-AUTHORIZED ACCOUNT	PRE-AUTHORIZED CATEGORY
101205	**37 CFR 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees); 37 CFR 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees); 37 CFR 1.19 (Document supply fees); 37 CFR 1.20 (Post Issuance fees); 37 CFR 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)**

FEE CODE	DESCRIPTION	ITEM PRICE($)	QUANTITY	ITEM TOTAL($)
2501	UTILITY ISSUE FEE	516.00	1	516.00
			TOTAL AMOUNT:	**$516.00**

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.

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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	03/25/2025	12258111	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 03/05/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above. The patent will issue electronically. The electronically issued patent is the official patent grant pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 153. The patent may be accessed on or after the issue date through Patent Center at https://patentcenter.uspto.gov/. The patent will be available in both the public and the private sides of Patent Center. Further assistance in electronically accessing the patent, or about Patent Center, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-888-217-9197.

The USPTO is implementing electronic patent issuance with a transition period, during which period the USPTO will mail a ceremonial paper copy of the electronic patent grant to the correspondence address of record. Additional copies of the patent (i.e., certified and presentation copies) may be ordered for a fee from the USPTO's Certified Copy Center at https://certifiedcopycenter.uspto.gov/index.html. The Certified Copy Center may be reached at (800)972-6382.

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 Center (https://patentcenter.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 Patents Stakeholder Experience (OPSE), Stakeholder Support Division (SSD) at (571)-272-4200.

INVENTOR(s) (Please see PATENT CENTER site https://patentcenter.uspto.gov for additional inventors):

Mark S. Berta JR., Key Largo, FL;

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PATENT CENTER site https://patentcenter.uspto.gov for additional applicants):

Sea Swivel Inc., Key Largo, FL;

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.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/897,527	09/26/2024	Mark S. Berta JR.	SEAS:00101	3197

36275 7590 03/25/2025

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Bldg C, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78746

EXAMINER	
MARSH, STEVEN M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3632	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
03/25/2025	ELECTRONIC

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Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

epehadmin@ipaustin.com
mjones@ipaustin.com
uspto@dockettrak.com

APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.
18/897,527	25-Mar-2025	12258111

Egan, Enders & Huston LLP.
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Austin, TX 78746

EGRANT NOTIFICATION

Your electronic patent grant (eGrant) is now available, which can be accessed via Patent Center at https://patentcenter.uspto.gov

The electronic patent grant is the official patent grant under 35 U.S.C. 153. For more information, please visit https://www.uspto.gov/electronicgrants