

[54] REMODELING CEILING CLIP

[75] Inventors: Jay P. Murray, Columbia; Kenneth L. Wasson, Lancaster, both of Pa.

[73] Assignee: Armstrong Cork Company, Lancaster, Pa.

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Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of Ser. No. 317,668, Dec. 22, 1972, abandoned.

[52] U.S. Cl. 52/498, 52/484, 52/489, 52/760

[51] Int. Cl. E04b 5/55

[58] Field of Search 52/474, 476, 479, 473, 52/482, 483, 484, 478, 506, 560, 537, 545, 551, 144, 145, 495, 496, 497, 488, 498, 618, 664, 22, 502, 499, 760

[56]

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

3,016,998	1/1962	Buchmeier.....	52/479
3,055,469	9/1962	Byssing et al.....	52/484 X
3,058,172	10/1962	Phillips	52/484 X
3,807,114	4/1974	Ollinger	52/489

Primary Examiner—J. Karl Bell

[57]

ABSTRACT

A clip structure is designed to snap over the flange of an existing suspended ceiling system suspension member. This clip will then accept or join with a new suspension member to help in the establishment of a second suspended ceiling system under the original suspended ceiling system of a room. To the second suspended ceiling system there is then mounted new ceiling boards to provide the ceiling with a new visible ceiling structure.

2 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures

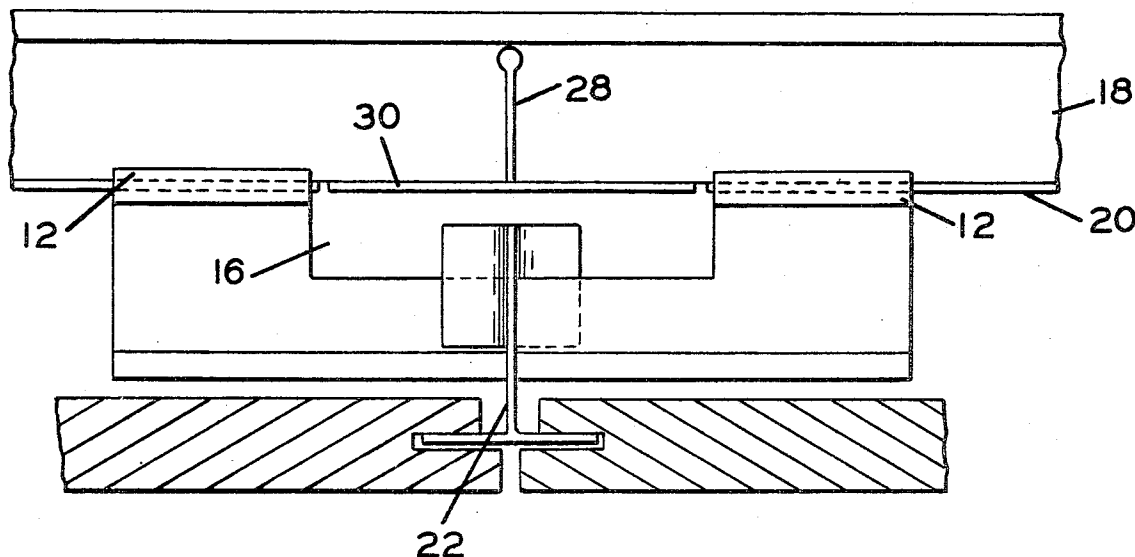


Fig. II

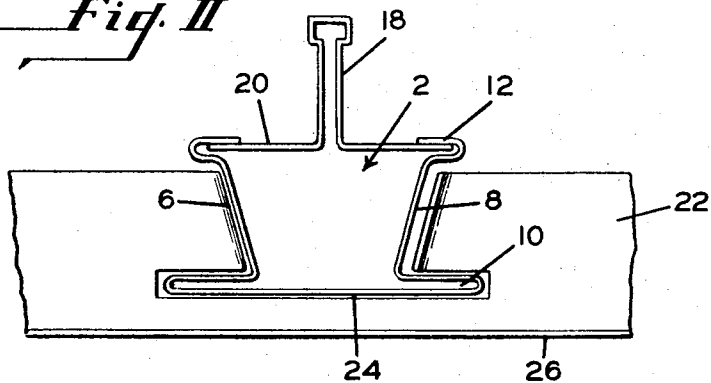


Fig. III

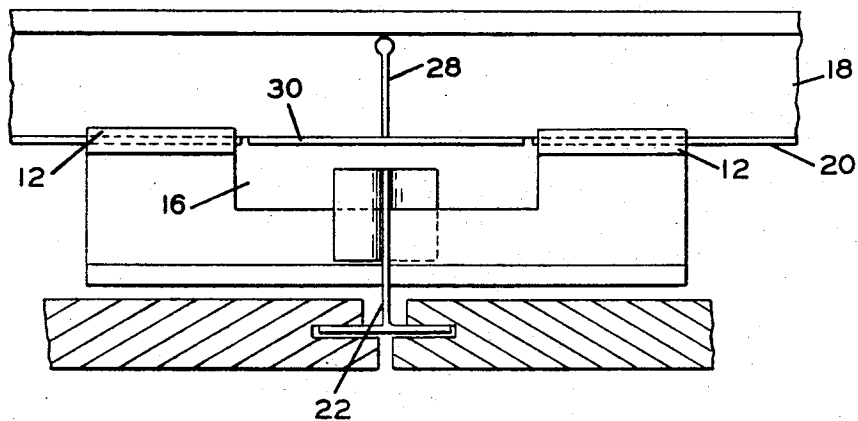
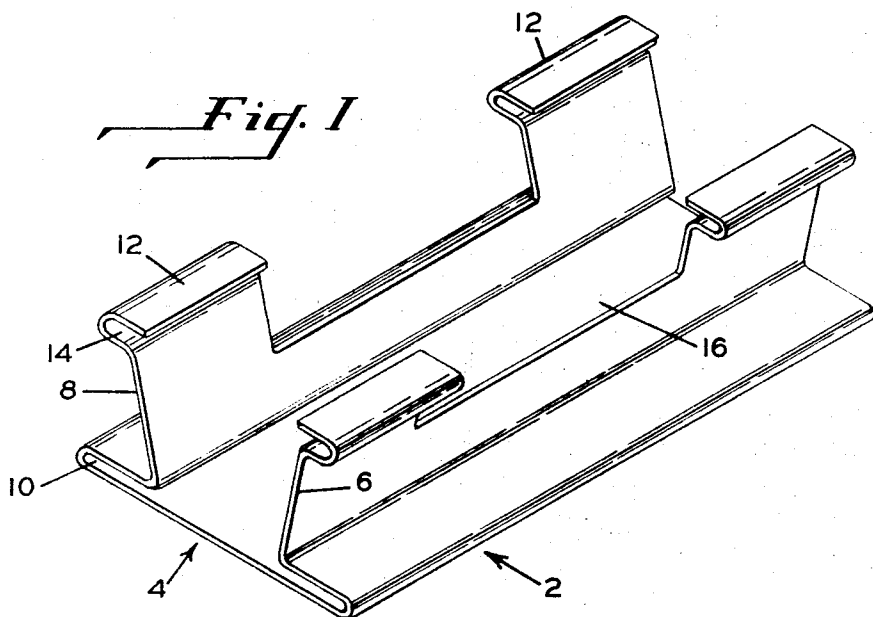


Fig. I



REMODELING CEILING CLIP

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a division, of application Ser. No. 317,668, filed Dec. 22, 1972, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The invention herein is directed to a suspended ceiling system and, more particularly, to a replacement type suspended ceiling system which is designed to overlies an existing suspended ceiling system.

2. Description of the Prior Art

During the remodeling of an area, a normal suspended ceiling system would have the ceiling boards removed and disposed of and new ceiling boards placed in position. This involves not only the expense of replacing the old boards with new boards, but also the disposing of the old ceiling boards. To date, the art has largely confined itself to this technique of remodeling.

Many different clip structures are utilized in the prior art to hold ceiling boards in position. U.S. Pat. No. 3,058,172 discloses one embodiment of a clip structure wherein the clip is fastened to one portion of a suspended ceiling system and holds a second portion of a suspended ceiling system in position.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,058,172 is also of interest because it shows a structure wherein there is one set of ceiling boards positioned beneath another set of ceiling boards. However, this ceiling structure is of interest only in that it provides a fire resistant ceiling system containing a fire resistant board in back of a non-fire resistant decorative ceiling board.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Due to the fact that a lay-in type of suspended ceiling after some years becomes discolored or otherwise soiled, it has become desirable to be able to put up a new ceiling underlying the original ceiling rather than to replace the soiled ceiling boards and scrub the grid of the existing ceiling system.

The feature that permits the placement of a second ceiling system under an existing ceiling system is the sheet metal clip invention herein. This metal clip is snapped over the flange of the existing ceiling suspension members and is designed to specifically accept a special cross tee suspension member which will then be utilized to support new ceiling boards in position in a second ceiling system. Use of the clip means that a new ceiling can be installed directly under a soiled, stained, lay-in ceiling with a drop of approximately 1 inch in room height. The new ceiling system will line up with existing lighting fixtures and thus provide considerable saving in the cutting of ceiling boards and adjustment of lighting fixtures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. I is a perspective view of the clip structure invention herein;

FIG. II is an end view of the clip structure in position; and

FIG. III is a side view of the clip structure invention in use.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The invention herein is specifically designed for use underlying an existing suspended ceiling system. When it becomes desirable to put up a new ceiling, rather than replace the ceiling boards and scrub the grid of the existing ceiling, the clip structure invention herein can be mounted upon the gridwork of the existing ceiling and new boards may be placed in position underlying the soiled panels.

Referring to FIG. I, there is shown the clip structure herein. The clip structure is basically an inverted T-shaped structure with snap-on clip fingers at its upper end which would be the base of the leg of the inverted T-shape. The clip structure 2 has a vertical web 4 which is composed of two leg members 6 and 8 which are spaced from each other and resiliently hinged to a horizontal flange member 10. On the horizontal flange member 10 will be mounted the grid structure of the new secondary ceiling. The legs 6 and 8 are resiliently mounted primarily due to the resilient nature of sheet metal used to form clip 2 and the overall construction of the clip 2.

On the ends of the legs 6 and 8 opposite from the flange 10, there are positioned clip fingers 12 which engage the flange structure of an overlying existing grid system of a suspended ceiling. The clip fingers 12 are generally U-shaped with the U resting on its side. The resilient nature of the legs 6 and 8 will permit the legs to spring apart such a distance that the flange structure of an overlying grid system may slide into the mouths 14 of the clip fingers 12. The resilient nature of the legs 6 and 8 then let the clip fingers 12 slide over the edge of the preexisting flange structure and this will hold the clip in position on the flange structure of the original ceiling. On a single clip structure 2, the upper end thereof is provided with four clip fingers 12 with spacing 16 between two adjacent clip fingers. This will permit the use of the clip structure 2 in a position where two preexisting grid members cross in the overlying ceiling system. The clip fingers 12 will engage the flange of one grid member while the grid member transverse thereto will be able to pass between the space 16, particularly as shown in FIG. III.

This clip structure 2 is specifically designed for use with the cross tee member shown in the commonly assigned copending U.S. application Ser. No. 150,401, filed June 7, 1971, in the name of J. W. Boylan and entitled "Connection Joint for a Concealed Ceiling Suspension System." As shown in FIG. II, the clip structure 2 has been mounted on an existing grid member 18 wherein the clip fingers 12 have engaged the horizontal flange 20 of the existing grid member 18. The clip structure 2 is now held in position and has its flanges 10 in position to receive a cross tee 22. This cross tee structure is the cross tee structure shown in the above-mentioned copending application, and the joint structure which joins the cross tee 22 to the clip structure 2 is the subject matter of the above-mentioned copending application. As can be seen in FIG. II, the legs 6 and 8 and flange 10 of the clip structure 2 slide into the inverted T-shaped cutout 24 of the cross tee 22. This will then hold the cross tee 22 in position relative to the existing grid member 18. This cross tee 22 has flanges 26 upon which are placed the new ceiling boards. These

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will then underlie the existing boards which are resting upon flange 20 of the existing grid member 18.

Referring now to FIG. III, there is shown the clip structure in position where there are two crossing grid members in the original ceiling system. There is the existing grid member 18 and a second grid member 28 which is perpendicular to grid member 18. If it is desired to mount the clip structure 2 in position at this point of crossing of two grid members, the clip fingers 12 are fastened to the flange 20 of grid member 18. The horizontal flange 30 of existing grid member 28 can then pass through the spacing 16 between two adjacent clip fingers 12 which are holding the clip structure 2 relative to the existing grid member 18. The cross tee 22 of the new ceiling suspension system is then held in position by the clip structure 2.

There is thus provided a ceiling remodeling technique which involves the placing of a new ceiling system underlying a soiled existing ceiling system. This eliminates any need to clean up the grid members of the existing ceiling system or to remove and dispose of the boards of the existing ceiling system. The new ceiling system will only add approximately 1 1/4 inch additional drop to the ceiling and this can be readily permitted in most rooms. The new ceiling system will line up with existing lighting fixtures, and thus a considerable saving in board cutting will be realized. Also, there will be no need to lower the existing lighting fixtures be-

cause a simple molding structure can be placed around the edge of the lighting fixture to conceal the raw edges of the board of the new ceiling system.

What is claimed is:

1. A clip structure adapted to be fastened to an existing ceiling suspension system comprising a vertical web structure and a lower horizontal flange structure, on the end of the web structure which is spaced from the flange structure there being positioned means for engaging a flange of an existing ceiling suspension system to hold the clip structure relative to the flange of the existing ceiling suspension system, a new ceiling suspension member being then fastened to the lower horizontal flange of the clip structure whereby a horizontal flange of the new ceiling suspension member may serve as a resting point for the boards of a new suspended ceiling system which is disposed directly underneath of the existing ceiling suspension system.

2. The clip structure of claim 1 wherein the vertical web of the clip structure is composed of two legs which are resiliently mounted relative to the lower horizontal flange, said means for engaging the flange of an existing overlying ceiling suspension system being generally inclined U-shaped clip fingers which slide over the edge of the flange of the existing overlying ceiling suspension system and hold the clip structure relative to the overlying ceiling suspension system.

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