(54) Title: ORTHODONTIC BRACKET BASE APPARATUS AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

(57) Abstract: The present invention comprises a continuous series of alpha-numeric characters (48) (such as letters or numerals) or symbols (such as company logos) that are formed in a manner such that the symbols or characters on the base (32) of the bracket (10) serve as texturing to facilitate bonding of the bracket with the tooth when the base of the bracket is attached to the tooth using an adhesive. In a separate aspect of the invention, a perimeter rail, and more preferably, a discontinuous perimeter rail may be used of the edge of the base. A method for forming a bracket is also provided.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61C 3/00
US CL : 433/9

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 433/9, 8

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,622,494 A (ANDREIKO ET AL) 22 April 1997 (22.04.1997), See entire document.</td>
<td>1-3, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>JP 11-27650 A (OGATO ET AL) 12 October 1999 (12.10.1999), See figures 1-4.</td>
<td>4,5,7-17,20,24-26,30-33,53,65,89,90</td>
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<td>20,24-26 33, 51,53-55,58,59,65-67,78,84-88,90</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>US 4,430,061 A (WEBB ET AL) 07 February 1984 (07.02.1984), See entire document.</td>
<td>16,17,26</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>US 6,394,798 B1 (HUFF ET AL) 28 May 2002 (28.05.2002), See column 6, lines 21-26.</td>
<td>4, 32,78</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,441,409 A (TUNEBERG) 15 August 1995 (15.08.1995), See entire document.</td>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer
Cary E. O'Connor
Telephone No. 703-305-0858

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