Dec. 5, 1967 E. E. KLEIN ETAL 3,355,826

CONVENTION BADGE HOLDER

Filed Feb. 25, 1966

Fig. 1

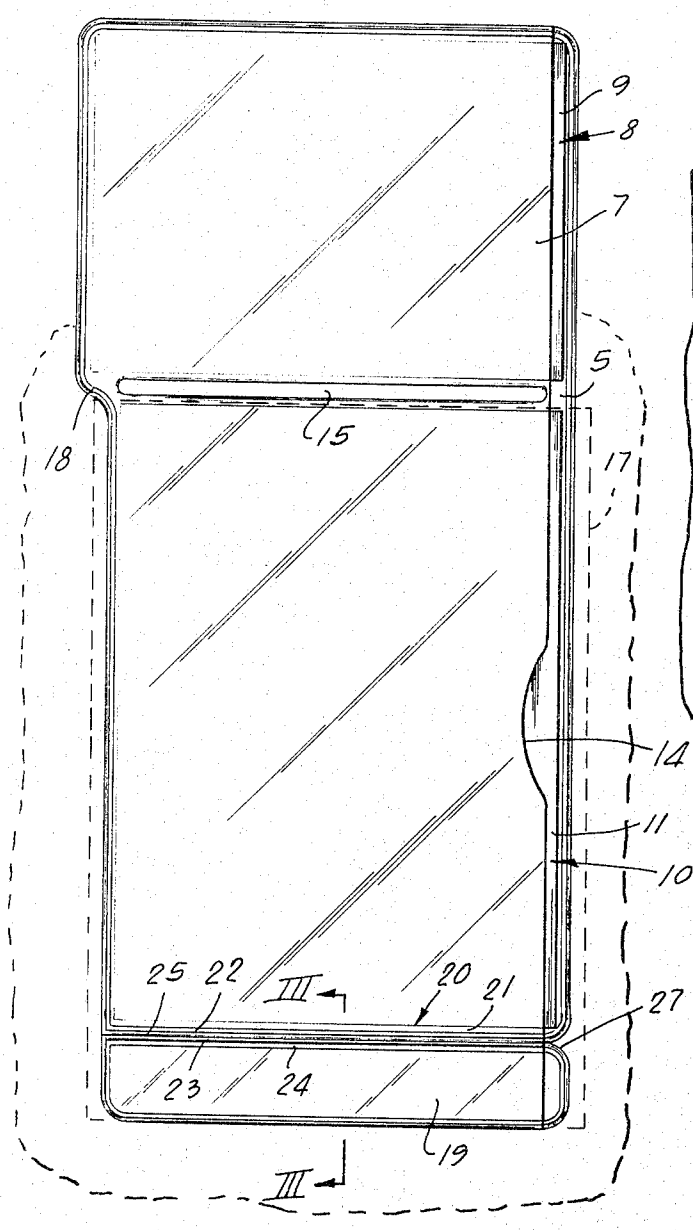
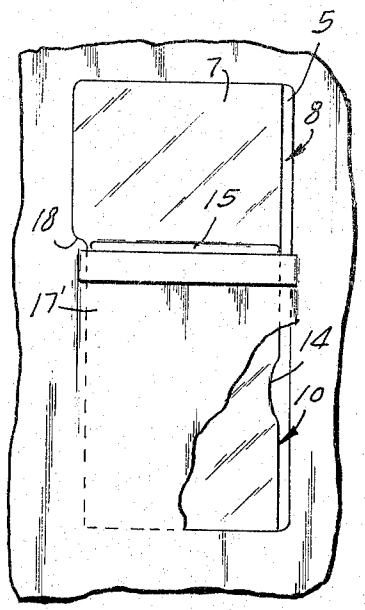


Fig. 2



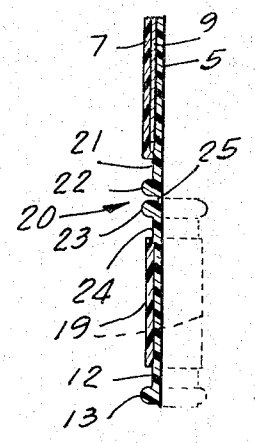


Fig. 3

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United States Patent Office 3,355,826 Patented Dec. 5, 1967

3,355,826

CONVENTION BADGE HOLDER

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Filed Feb. 25, 1966, Ser. No. 530,205
2 Claims. (Cl. 40—1.5)

This invention relates to convention badge holders and more particularly concerns a holder which has upper and lower divided compartments, adapted to be worn in the breast pocket of a coat or jacket or shirt with the lower compartment in the pocket and the upper compartment projecting thereabove to display an identity card, or the like.

One of the problems in the use of a badge holder of the type indicated is that apparel pockets, and more particularly jacket pockets, vary in depth. Therefore, if the device is made long enough to fit into the deepest of such pockets, the upper or identification carrying compartment projects upwardly to an undesirable extent from a shallower pocket. If the device is made short enough to fit agreeably in a shallow pocket, the lower portion of the upper compartment will be concealed within a deeper pocket. Furthermore, identification badge cards are often made wider than the generally standard width of jacket breast pockets.

An important object of the present invention is to overcome the foregoing and other problems in convention badge holders of the character indicated.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be readily apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of a convention badge holder embodying features of the invention and indicating the same within a deep jacket breast pocket;

FIGURE 2 is a front elevational view of the same holder mounted in a shallower pocket; and

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional detail view taken substantially along the lines III—III of FIGURE 1.

A convention badge holder embodying the present invention is desirably made from resiliently flexible thermoplastic sheet material including a vertically elongated rear panel **5** and a superimposed front panel **7** coextensive in length with the rear panel. At least the front panel **7** is desirably made from a transparent or translucent sheet, although as a practical matter both of the panels are generally made from the same material.

In order to provide between the panels **5** and **7** an upper compartment **8** for receiving and holding in display position a convention identification or like card **9** and a lower compartment **10** for housing and supporting a convention program or like card **11**, the panels are secured together in a manner to afford attachment along three edges of each of the respective quadrangular compartments **8** and **10**, with a respective opening throughout the length of the remaining edge of each compartment for reception and removal of the respective card. In one desirable arrangement, the panels **5** and **7** are heat sealed or electronically welded together along their upper and lower coterminus marginal edges and along one entire vertical side, herein the left side, although if preferred, the right side may be secured. This results in a narrow fusion area **12** (FIG. 3) spaced a limited distance from the edge of the article, and a narrow reinforcing rib or bead **13** running continuously about the secured edges. To avoid sealing the openings into the compartments **8** and **10** while utilizing the welding technique on the entire perimeter of the holder to enable tear thinning the material entirely

about the perimeter for easy separation from the stock material, the compartment opening edge of the front panel **7** is inset a limited distance from the adjacent edge of the rear panel **5**, as shown. This also facilitates leading the respective cards into the compartments. To facilitate manipulation of at least the larger lower card **11**, the free edge of the panel **7** along the compartment **10** is desirably provided with a shallow arcuate clearance notch or cut-out **14**.

To separate the compartments **8** and **10**, the panels **5** and **7** are connected together by an intermediate horizontal fusion line **15**. Such connection is located at such a distance from the bottom edge of the holder as to coincide substantially with the top edge of a breast pocket **17** of a man's jacket, with the lower end of the holder resting in the bottom of the pocket. Thereby the lower portion of the holder comprising the compartment **10** is housed within the pocket, while the upper portion of the holder comprising the compartment **8** is maintained in view above the upper edge of the pocket to afford an effective display of the badge card **9**.

Although the holder may be of the same pocket-fitting width from top to bottom, where the badge card **9** is of greater width than the standard pocket width, the upper compartment **8** portion of the holder may be constructed of a conforming greater width. This is desirably accomplished by offsetting the upper portion of the holder, that is the portion above the connection **15**, to that side which is opposite to the opening into the upper compartment **8**. Considered conversely, the lower longer compartmented portion of the holder may be narrower than the upper portion by insetting its closed vertical edge length relative to the upper compartment portion of the holder. In any event, this configuration provides an offsetting overhang **18** on the closed vertical edge generally aligned with the horizontal connection **15** and to overlie the upper side edge of the pocket. Through this arrangement, the lower portion of the holder may be standardized as to width in relation to the narrowest breast pocket width likely to be encountered.

As to length, a problem exists because there is no tailoring trade or industry standard as to exact jacket breast pocket depth. Such depth may vary as much as an inch in different garments. While it may be noted that the shallower pockets are about 4¾ inches in depth, some may be as much as 5½ to 6 inches deep.

It has therefore been proposed to provide on the front panel of the holder, adjacent to the connection **15**, a downwardly extending tab or flap to hook on over the top edge of the pocket to maintain the upper compartment area of the holder fully exposed above the top edge of the pocket. However, such a flap has certain disadvantages. First, it adds a cost factor since it requires a die cutting operation. Further, since the flap projects along the front of the pocket, it is liable to be caught on an object, such as another person's garment in a crowd such as an elevator, or by the user's sleeve, and the like, and the holder thus dislodged and liable to be lost.

According to the present invention, variations in pocket depth are accommodated by providing the holder with a separable lower end extension **19**. For adequate stiffness, the extension **19** comprises a double thickness of the material as provided by the lappingly related panels **5** and **7** which are extended coextensively to provide the extension **19**. Closing the lower edge of the compartment **10** and integrally separably connecting the extension **19** is a fused sealing and tear seam **20** extending entirely across the panel assembly, defining the lower edge of the compartment **10** and the top edge of the extension **19**. For this purpose the seam **20** includes a narrow fusion band area **21** providing a closure seal along the lower edge of the compartment **10**. Along the lower edge of the

fusion area **21** is a reinforcing bead rib **22** narrowly spaced from a similar reinforcing bead rib **23** along the upper edge of the extension **19** and which borders the upper edge of a fusion band area **24** on the extension. Between the reinforcing beads **22** and **23** is a narrow tear thinning connection **25**. In a desirable structure, the fusion areas **21** and **24** are about the thickness of one panel layer, while the tear thinning connection **25** is about half that thickness, or in any event, of such thinness that although it has adequate strength to resist reasonable pressures and tensions, it lends itself readily to intentional tearing separation. In practice, the tear thinning connection **25** is slightly thicker than the tear thinning separation effected about the perimeter of the holder including the outside perimeter portions of the extension **19**. Thereby although all of the perimeter connections and seals and tear thinning as well as the intermediate connection **15** and the tear seal seam **20** are simultaneously effected by an electronic die, for example, the tear thinning connection **25** will resist separation when the holder is separated from surrounding scrap and contiguously formed holders. In order to facilitate tearing separation of the extension **19** from the body of the holder, a starting indentation **27** is desirably provided at least at one end of the seam **20** aligned with the tear thinning connection **25**.

By normally providing the holder with the separable lower terminal extension **19**, the holder is adapted to support the upper compartment **8** effectively above the upper edge of the pocket **17** which is of the deeper variety. It has been found that by having the extension of about ⅝-inch height, the range of depths generally found in deeper pockets is accommodated satisfactorily insofar as adequate exposure of the badge card **9** is concerned. For a shallower pocket **17'** (FIG. 2) the extension **19** is removed by tearing it free along the connection line **25**, as indicated in dash outline in FIG. 3. After such separation, insertion of the lower portion of the holder into the pocket enables the separated lower edge contiguous to the lower compartment **10** to engage the bottom of the pocket and avoids excessive upward extension of the holder. When the user first tries the badge holder in the pocket, it will be readily apparent to him by observing the intermediate line of connection **15** as a gage along the top of the pocket whether or not it would be desirable to separate the extension **19** from the holder in order to attain a satisfactory relative positioning of the upper compartment **8** above the upper edge of the pocket.

It will thus be apparent that we have provided a new and advantageous convention badge holder construction of the type in which a vertically elongated body has an upper card-receiving compartment with a card receiving opening thereinto, and a lower supporting portion adapted to engage within garment breast pockets of variable depths to maintain the compartment exposed above the top edge of the pocket within which supported. A lower end extension is provided on the supporting portion to engage the bottoms of maximum depth pockets while maintaining the compartment exposed above the top edge of the pocket within which supported. The extension is separably connected to the lower end portion of the holder body by means enabling removal of the extension to shorten the lower portion to engage the bottoms of relatively shallow pockets to avoid excessive projection of the upper compartment above the top edges of such pockets. Although the lower portion of the holder may be standardized to be accommodated in pockets of narrow width, the upper compartment portion of the holder may be of increased width to receive badge cards of greater width than such narrow pockets, and such relative width differential is conveniently effected at one side of the holder.

It will be understood that modification and variations may be effected without departing from the scope of the novel concepts of the present invention.

We claim as our invention:

1. A convention badge holder comprising:

a vertically elongated body of a pair of separate at least translucent panels in generally laminar relation secured together along the top and bottom and one side edge by a fusion seam, with the remaining side edge open;

a fused connection line extending across the holder body intermediate its top and bottom edges and closer to the top edge than the bottom edge and defining between the panels the lower edge of an upper compartment and the upper edge of a lower compartment between the panels and said compartments having card-receiving respective openings thereinto along said open edge, said lower compartment being adapted to engage within a garment breast pocket to maintain the upper compartment exposed above the top edge of the pocket and the holder having a lower edge which engages the bottom of the pocket for this purpose;

the lower end portion of said body comprising a vertically narrow separable extension which will normally afford a vertical length for the lower compartment to be accommodated within a garment pocket of relatively greater depth than other pockets generally provided on similar garments so as to maintain the upper compartment properly exposed above the top edge of the pocket;

and a fused sealing and tear seam connecting said extension integrally with the remainder of the body and including a narrow tear thinning connection between the extension and the body of such thinness that although it has adequate strength to resist reasonable pressures and tensions it lends itself readily to intentional tearing separation and comprising an integral fusion thinning of less thickness than the individual thickness of said panels, and reinforcing bead means along said connection.

2. A holder as defined in claim **1**, in which said body has a starting indentation at one end of and aligned with said tear thinning connection to facilitate tearing separation of said extension.

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