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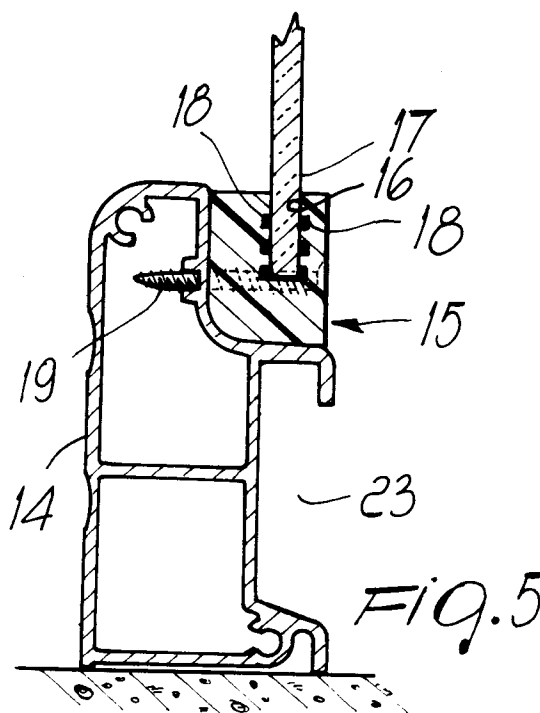
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I-20123 Milan (IT)**(54) **Device for fixing the walls of shower booths.**

(57) The invention relates to a device for fixing the walls of shower booths comprising a block (15) with a seat (16) for the insertion of a portion (17) of the edge of a wall (11) which is fixed so as to rest, with a screw (19) coupling, on the inner part of a corresponding supporting profile (14). The seat (16) has grooves (18) for accommodating fixing silicone. The wall (11) is fixed by means of the blocks (15) on one side and by means of a vertical upright on the other side. The edge of the wall (11) is inserted in the upright and silicone-sealed.

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The present invention relates to a device for fixing the walls of shower booths.

Shower booths, particularly those having a cylindrical shape, are constituted by a series of fixed glazed walls and by a series of sliding glazed walls which are guided between two profiles, an upper one and a lower one, rigidly coupled to the fixed walls.

The coupling between the fixed walls and the respective upper and lower profiles is performed by silicone sealing, an extremely complicated and difficult operation to be performed after installation, which is accordingly performed during production.

However, this causes other problems, particularly for transport, since it is necessary to package and ship the products when they are substantially complete and thus have a considerable bulk.

An aim of the present invention is to provide a device for fixing the walls of shower booths which allows to assemble said walls during installation.

A consequent primary object is to provide shower booths which can be transported while they are disassembled and thus have an acceptable bulk.

Still another object is to provide a device whose presence in any case does not compromise the primary function of the shower booth, i.e. to keep inside it any drops and sprays of water during use.

Not least object is to provide a device which is simple to manufacture and has a low cost.

This aim, these objects and others which will become apparent hereinafter are achieved by a device for fixing the walls of shower booths, characterized in that it comprises a block with a seat for the insertion of a portion of the edge of said wall, said block being fixed so as to rest, with a screw coupling, on the inner part of a corresponding supporting profile.

Advantageously, the wall is fixed to corresponding upper and lower profiles by means of said blocks on one side and by means of a vertical upright on the other side, the edge of said wall being inserted in said upright and silicone-sealed.

Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the detailed description of an embodiment thereof, illustrated only by way of non-limitative example in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

- figure 1 is a sectional perspective view of a shower booth, taken along a vertical plane;
- figure 2 is a view of a detail of a fixed wall with the profiles to which it is rigidly coupled;
- figure 3 is an enlarged perspective view of a detail of the wall of figure 2 in the region where it is coupled to a profile;
- figure 4 is a view of a fixing block and of the related wall edge;

figure 5 is a sectional view of the detail of figure 3.

With reference to the above figures, a shower booth is generally designated by the reference numeral 10 and is composed of fixed glazed walls 11 and of movable glazed walls 12; the movable glazed walls are slideable on extruded supporting and guiding profiles, respectively an upper profile 13 and a lower profile 14.

The profiles 13 and 14 have a symmetrical cross-section.

According to the invention, the fixed walls 11 are fixed to the profiles 13 and 14 on one side by means of terminal blocks 15 which are shaped substantially like a parallelepiped and have corresponding seats 16 for the insertion of the respective angular portions 17 of the edge.

The seats 16 have such a width that coupling occurs with minimal play and have grooves 18 for accommodating fixing silicone.

Each block 15 is fixed so as to rest with one of its corners, by means of a screw coupling 19, on the inner part of the corresponding profile, whose cross-section is appropriately complementarily shaped.

The screw 19 passes through a solid portion of the corresponding block 15 in a solid corner region, where the seat 16 and the corresponding wall 11 are chamfered.

On the side opposite to the blocks 15, the fixed walls 11 are inserted with their edge and are silicone-sealed in corresponding grooves of vertical uprights 20 to which the ends of the profiles 13 and 14 are also fixed by means of screws, not shown in the figures.

It should be noted that the lower edge of the fixed walls 11 is at a lower level than the corresponding lower profile 14 and that the space for the passage of any sprays or drops is minimal.

However, such an arrangement has the advantage of creating a lower air passage.

The movable walls 12 are instead provided with wheels, not illustrated in the figures, which are slidably inserted in guiding grooves 22 and 23 defined by the profiles 13 and 14.

In practice it has been observed that the intended aim and objects of the present invention have been achieved.

The shower booth can in fact be shipped disassembled and can be assembled when in place by fixing the blocks 15.

Silicone sealing of the fixed walls 11 with respect to the uprights 12 can also be performed during production, since in any case this assembly does not cause a particular increase in bulk.

In practice, the materials employed, so long as they are compatible with the contingent use, as well as the dimensions, may be any according to

the requirements.

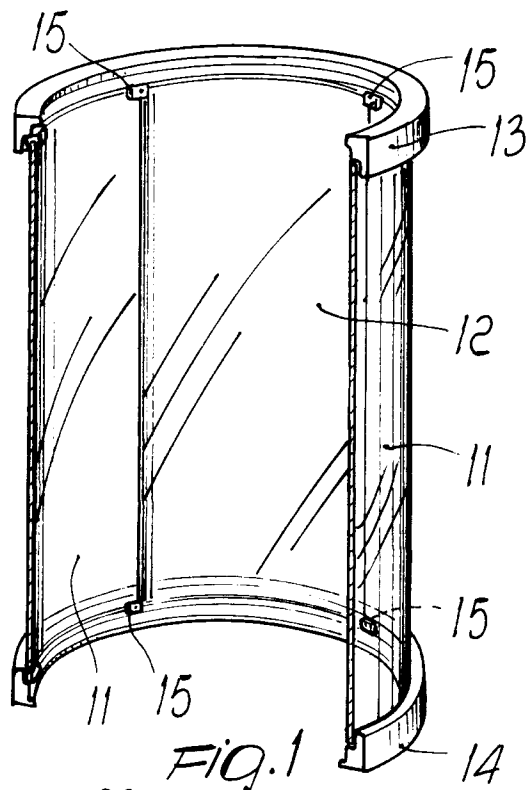
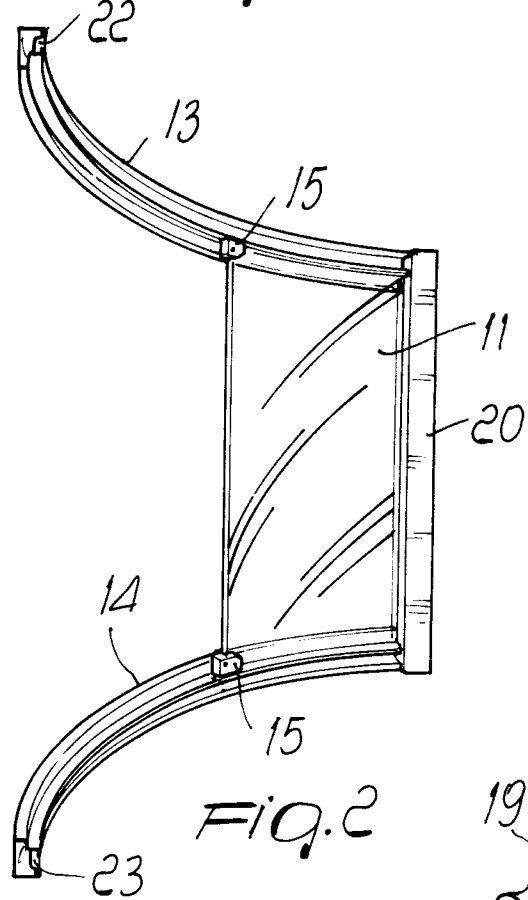
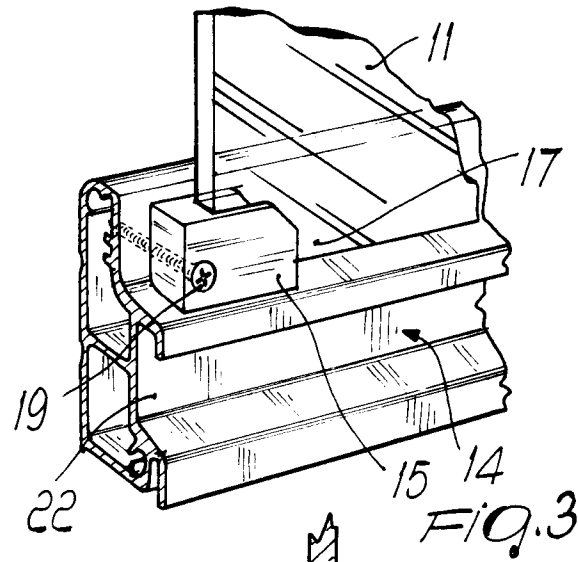
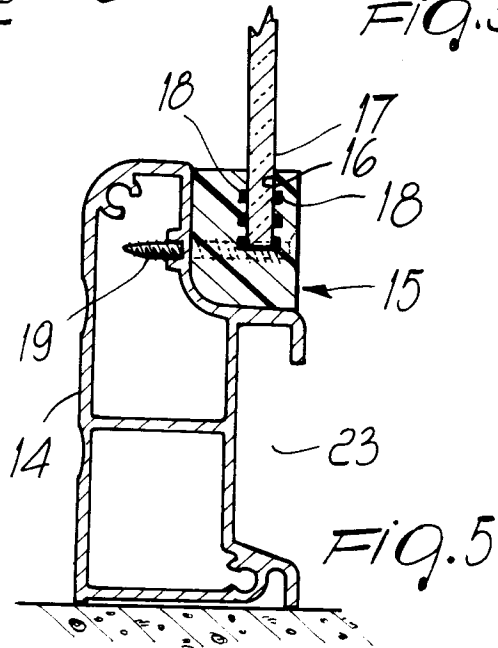
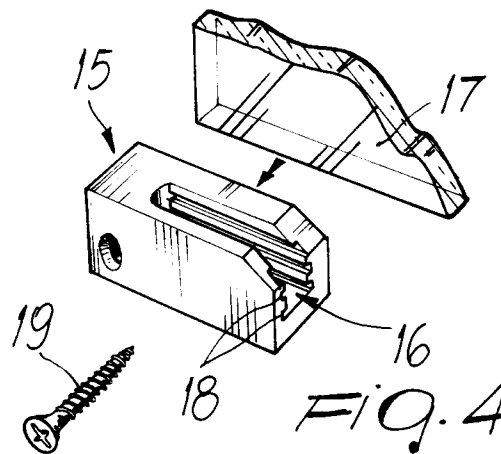
Where technical features mentioned in any claim are followed by reference signs, those reference signs have been included for the sole purpose of increasing the intelligibility of the claims and accordingly such reference signs do not have any limiting effect on the scope of each element identified by way of example by such reference signs.

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Claims

1. Device for fixing the walls of shower booths, characterized in that it comprises a block with a seat for the insertion of a portion of the edge of a wall, said block being fixed so as to rest, with a screw coupling, on the inner part of a corresponding supporting profile. 15
2. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that said wall is fixed to corresponding upper and lower supporting profiles by means of said blocks on one side and by means of a vertical upright on the other side, the edge of said wall being inserted in said upright and silicone-sealed. 20 25
3. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that said seat is suitable to accommodate a corner portion of said edge. 30
4. Device according to claims 1 and 3, characterized in that said seat has grooves for accommodating silicone for mutually fixing said wall and said block. 35
5. Device according to claims 1, 3 and 4, characterized in that said screw coupling is defined in a solid portion of said block. 40
6. Device according to claim 1 and according to claims 3 to 5, characterized in that the resting of said block is on a corner with one of its lateral and lower or upper regions, said profile having a cross-section which is shaped complementarily to said resting regions. 45
7. Device according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said walls and said profiles are slightly spaced laterally and upwardly or downwardly. 50
8. Device for fixing the walls of shower booths according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said upper and lower profiles are fixed to said vertical uprights by means of screws. 55





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 93 10 9527

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	FR-A-2 341 730 (FOUET)	1,3,5,7,8	A47K3/22 E06B3/02
A	* figures * ---	2,6	
X	GB-A-1 133 417 (ERIKSSON)	1,3,7,8	
A	* figure 1 * -----	2,6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			A47K E06B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 02 SEPTEMBER 1993	Examiner HUBEAU M.G.
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