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(54) Title of Invention

# A folder with covers lockable by a writing instrument

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(72) Inventor(s)
**Martin Zoland**
**Mark Rossato**

(73) Proprietor(s)
**Martin Zoland**
**7 Mandeville Crescent**
**Toorak**
**Victoria 3142**
**Australia**

(74) Agent and/or
Address for Service
**Potts, Kerr & Co**
**15 Hamilton Square**
**Birkenhead**
**Merseyside**
**L41 6BR**
**United Kingdom**

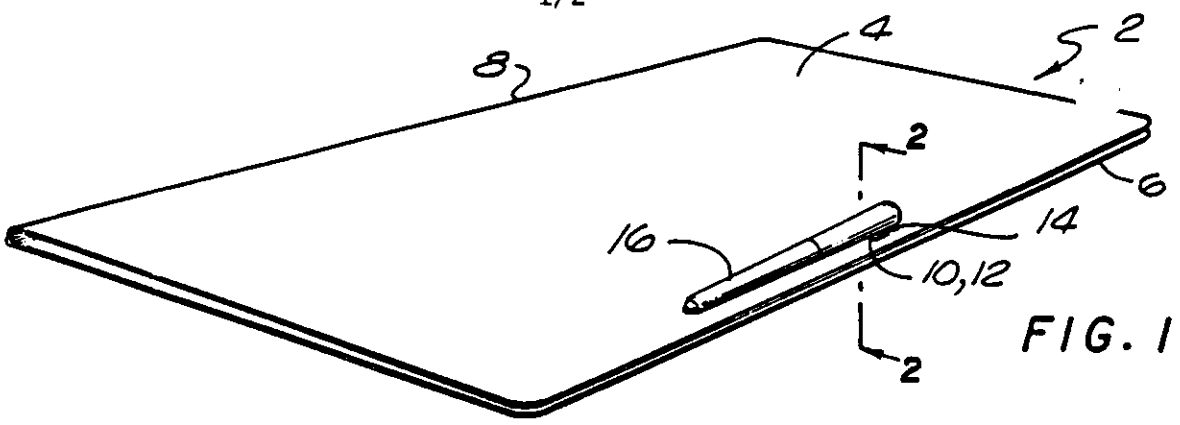



FIG. 1

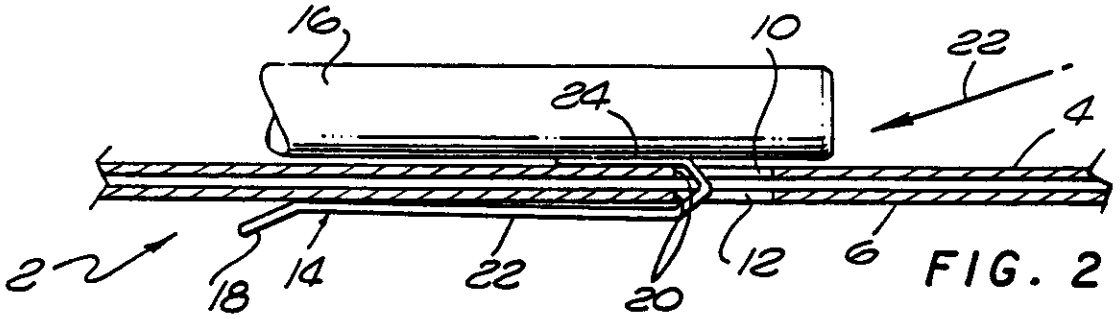



FIG. 2

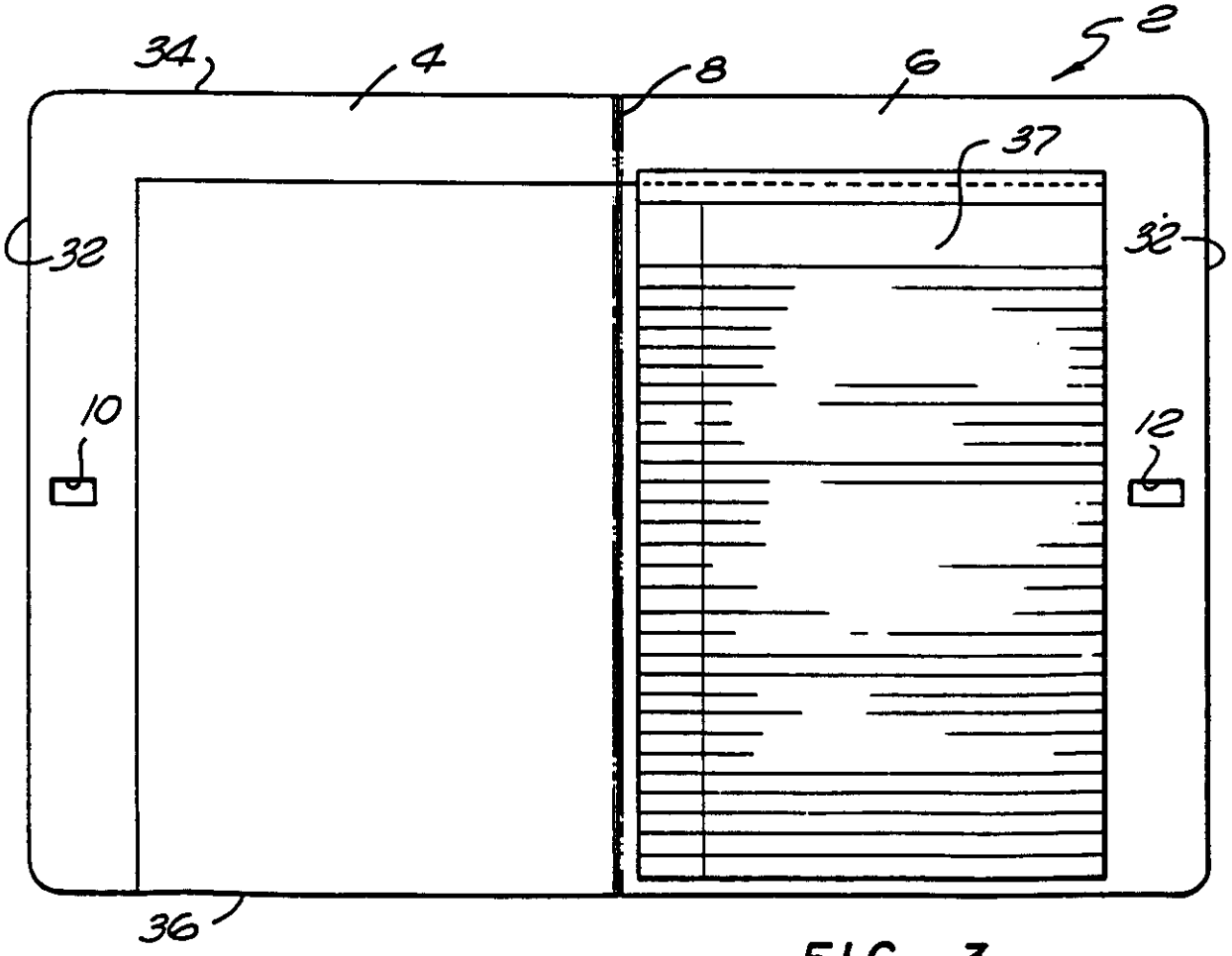



FIG. 3

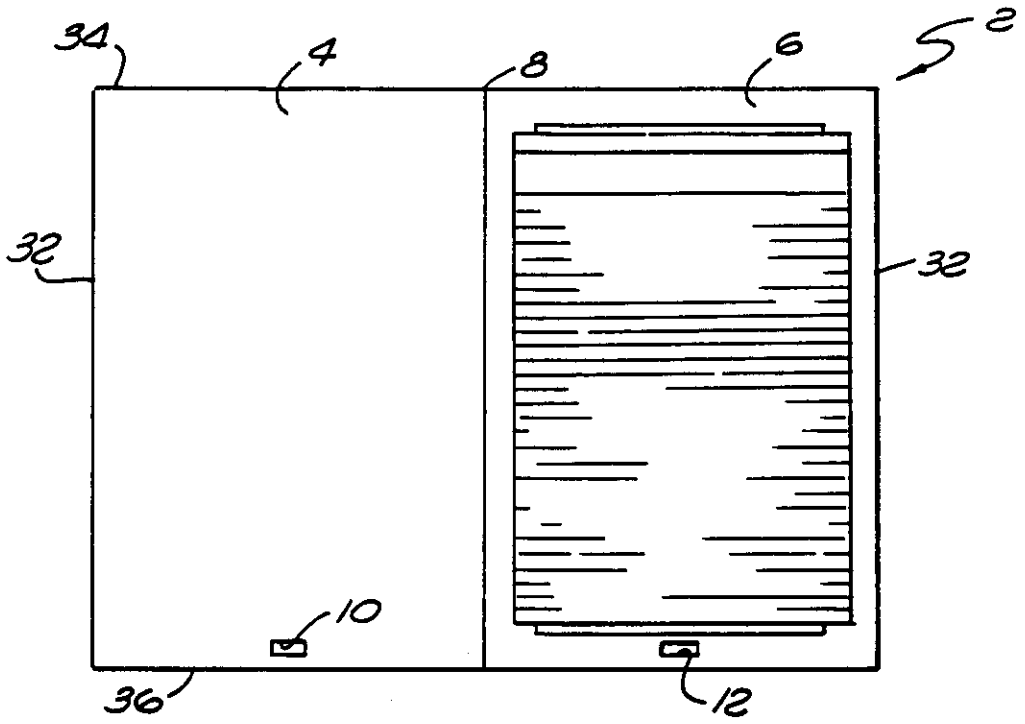



FIG. 4

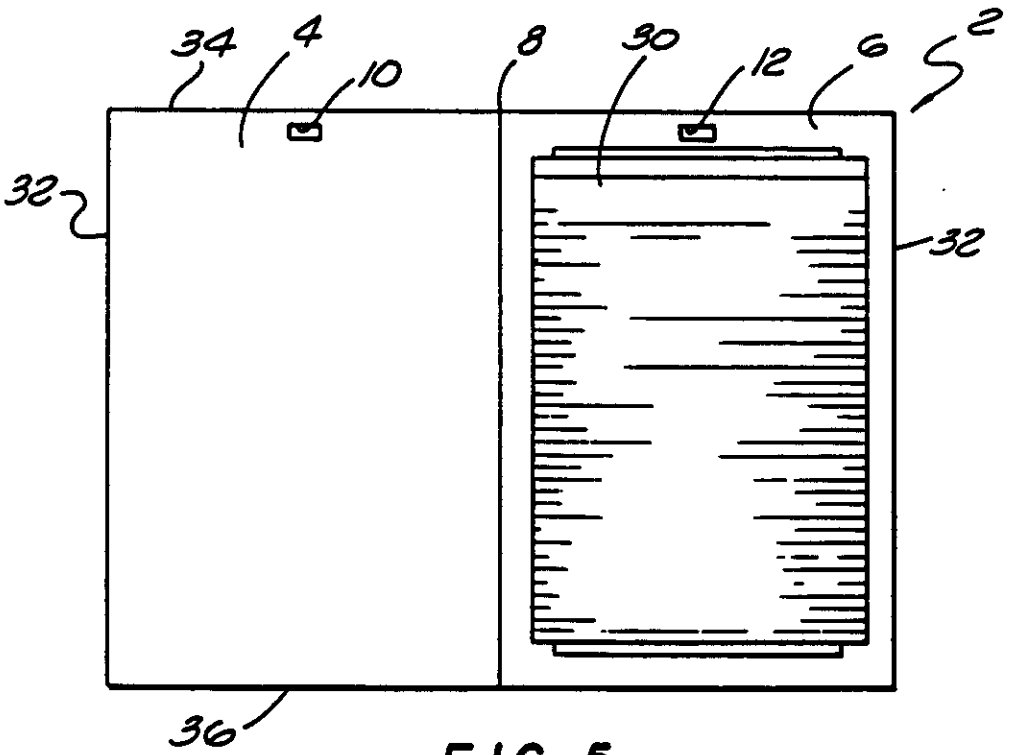



FIG. 5

# A FOLDER WITH COVERS LOCKABLE BY A WRITING INSTRUMENT

The present invention relates to a folder and the combination of a folder and a drawing implement.

According to the present invention there is provided a folder and writing instrument combination, said writing instrument including a clip and an elongated portion, said clip having first and second ends with said first end affixed to said elongated portion, said folder including a front cover with an inside portion and an outside portion, and a back cover with an inside portion and an outside portion, said front cover and said back cover being joined at one side thereof so as to form a spine, said front and back covers having first and second edges extending from said spine and a third edge opposite said spine, said combination comprising:

a) a first hole disposed adjacent said first, second or third edge of said front cover;

b) a second hole correspondingly disposed adjacent said first, second or third edge of said back cover, wherein said first hole and said second hole are in alignment when said folder is in a closed position, and wherein said second end of said clip is adapted to be inserted into said aligned holes such that said clip is adjacent the outside portion of one of said front and back covers and said elongated portion is adjacent the outside portion of the other of said front and back covers,

whereby said front and back covers are secured in a closed position when said clip engages said first and second holes, and said front and back portions may be opened when said clip is disengaged from said first and second holes.

The present invention provides a folder having

front and back covers with respective aligned holes and a drawing implement attached thereto by means of a clip of the implement which on insertion into the holes latches the covers so as to close the folder, said holes being adjacent the ~~side~~ edges of the covers. Preferably, said holes are disposed substantially midway between the top and bottom edges of the covers.

The present invention is particularly advantageous as it provides a folder which can be securely closed by means of a drawing implement and at the same time provides means for attaching the drawing implement to the folder so as to keep the implement and folder together for later use. The present invention is also very simple to implement and use and does not detract from the inherent attractiveness and simplicity of a standard folder.

A preferred embodiment of the present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a manila folder according to the present invention with a drawing implement attached thereto;

Figure 2 is a partial side cross-sectional view of the folder of Figure 1 illustrating attachment of the drawing implement thereto; and

Figure 3 is a plan view of the folder when opened.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the folder when opened in a first alternate embodiment and

Figure 5 is a plan view of the folder when opened in a second alternate embodiment.

A manila folder 2, as shown in the Figures, includes front and back cover sheets 4 and 6, respectively which are joined at one side thereof so as to form a spine 8 of the folder 2. Both of the covers 4 and 6 include respective holes 10 and 12 which are relatively small and are positioned so that when the folder 2 is closed, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, the holes 10 and 12 are

aligned.

As the covers 4 and 6 are relatively thin, when the folder 2 is closed and the holes 10 and 12 are aligned, the holes 10 and 12 effectively form a single hole into which the clip 14 of a drawing implement can be inserted so as to latch or clip the covers 4 and 6 together, as shown in Figure 2. The clip 14 may be the standard clip which is included on most pens and mechanical pencils or the caps thereof. To facilitate insertion of the clip 14 into the holes 10 and 12, the clip 14 may be configured so as to include a curved protruding portion 18 at the end thereof which curves and extends away from the implement 16. The portion 18 would extend into the holes 10 and 12 and engage the bottom edges 20 of the holes 10 and 12 as the implement 16 move~ towards the front cover 4 in the direction indicated by the arrow 22.

After the edges 20 have been engaged by the clip 14 and the implement 16 is moved further down towards the bottom of the folder 2, the free arm 22 of the clip 14 becomes disposed at the back of the folder 2 and engages the back cover 6 whereas the other arm or part 24 of the clip 14 attached to the implement 16 remains at the front of the folder 2. The part 24 or another part of the implement 16 abuts the front cover 4, whereas part of the free arm 22 of the clip 14 engages the back cover 6 so as to latch or lock the covers 4 and 6 together. The folder 2 can then only be opened thereafter by removing or disengaging the implement 16 therefrom.

The holes 10 and 12 of the folder 2 are placed, as shown in Figure 3, so that when the folder 2 is closed they are not obstructed by paper or materials 30 which are held or likely to be held in the folder 2. Furthermore, the holes 10 and 12 should be placed so that when the clip 14 is inserted therein to latch the covers 4 and 6, it is difficult to remove or dislodge the materials 30 held in the folder 2. Hence, the holes 10 and 12 should be positioned so they are adjacent the side edges 32 and substantially midway between the top and bottom edges 34 and 36 of the covers 4 and 6. The folder 2 should also be made large enough so as to allow room for positioning of the holes 10 and 12 adjacent the edges 32 without the holes 10 and 12 being obstructed by materials 30 which the folder 2 is designed to hold.

## CLAIMS

1. A folder and writing instrument combination, said writing instrument including a clip and an elongated portion, said clip having first and second ends with said first end affixed to said elongated portion, said folder including a front cover with an inside portion and an outside portion, and a back cover with an inside portion and an outside portion, said front cover and said back cover being joined at one side thereof so as to form a spine, said front and back covers having first and second edges extending from said spine and a third edge opposite said spine, said combination comprising:

a) a first hole disposed adjacent said first, second or third edge of said front cover;

b) a second hole correspondingly disposed adjacent said first, second or third edge of said back cover, wherein said first hole and said second hole are in alignment when said folder is in a closed position, and wherein said second end of said clip is adapted to be inserted into said aligned holes such that said clip is adjacent the outside portion of one of said front and back covers and said elongated portion is adjacent the outside portion of the other of said front and back covers,

whereby said front and back covers are secured in a closed position when said clip engages said first and second holes, and said front and back portions may be opened when said clip is disengaged from said first and second holes.

2. The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein said holes are disposed substantially midway along said third edges of said first and second covers.

3. The combination as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said clip includes a curved protruding portion at said second end thereof which curves and extends away from said elongated ~~[implement]~~ portion, whereby insertion of said clip into said holes is facilitated.

4. A folder and writing instrument combination, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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Title A FOLDER

Applicant/Proprietor
MARTIN ZOLAND, 7 Mandeville Crescent, Toorak, Victoria 3142, Australia
[ADP No. 05859855001]

Inventors
MARTIN ZOLAND, 7 Mandeville Crescent, Toorak, Victoria 3142, Australia
[ADP No. 05859855001]

MARK ROSSATO, 15 Leslie Street, Richmond North, Victoria, Australia
[ADP No. 05859863001]

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Address for Service
POTTS, KERR & CO, 15 Hamilton Square, BIRKENHEAD, Merseyside, L41 6BR,
United Kingdom [ADP No. 00001313002]

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PROPRIETOR(S)

Martin Zoland, 7 Mandeville Crescent, Toorak, Victoria 3142, Australia

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| STATUS | PATENT IN FORCE |