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(54) Shoe

(57) Shoe (10) comprising at least an upper (12) and a heel element (18), able to be disposed in removable manner inside the upper (12). Containing elements (20) are provided in the upper (12), able to contain the heel element (18).

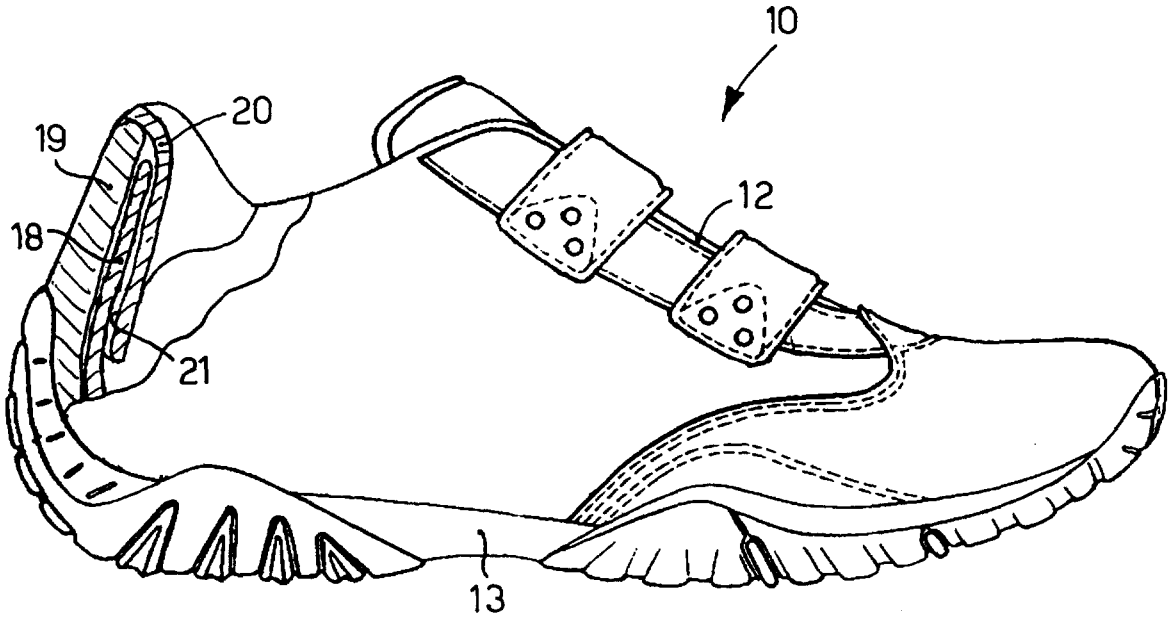


fig.1

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Description

FIELD OF THE APPLICATION

[0001] The present invention concerns a shoe, advantageously but not exclusively closed, both of a civilian type and also a sports shoe. To be more exact, the present invention concerns a shoe having at least a heel element such as to render the shoe more suitable to follow the natural phases of growth of the user's foot, especially if the user is a baby, a child or an adolescent.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The application for a patent of industrial invention UD2004A000069 in the name of the Applicant and filed on 07.04.2004, discloses an arch support for a shoe which consists of an insole and a heel element connected to the insole, disposed in the rear part of the upper and clamped externally to the upper by means of a hook.

[0003] The arch support is used to improve the wearability of the shoe and to allow it to adapt the length and height of the foot to the internal length and height of the shoe.

[0004] This known solution has the disadvantage, however, that the heel element is not clamped stably to the upper, it does not form a single piece with it, and therefore does not allow a correct stabilization of the foot in the shoe. Moreover, the external hook, apart from being anti-aesthetic, does not guarantee a safe clamping of the heel element, which can therefore easily become loose and come off.

[0005] One purpose of the present invention is to achieve a shoe comprising a heel element which can be clamped comfortably and safely without running the risk of accidental detachments and without using anti-aesthetic external hooks.

[0006] The Applicant has devised, tested and embodied the present invention to overcome the shortcomings of the state of the art and to obtain these and other purposes and advantages.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The present invention is set forth and characterized in the main claim, while the dependent claims describe other characteristics of the invention or variants to the main inventive idea.

[0008] In accordance with this purpose, a shoe according to the present invention comprises an upper, a sole and a heel element able to be disposed removably inside the upper.

[0009] According to a characteristic of the present invention, containing means is provided in the upper, able to contain the heel element.

[0010] Advantageously, the containing means is disposed in the rear part of the upper, and comprises a containing element, which defines, for example in cooperation with the surface of the rear part of the upper, at least a pocket, having the aperture facing downwards, that is, towards the sole.

[0011] The heel element is inserted at least partly inside the pocket, so as to define a single piece with the upper and substantially annul the risk of accidental detachments.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] These and other characteristics of the present invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferential form of embodiment, given as a non-restrictive example with reference to the attached drawings wherein:

- fig. 1 is a lateral view, partly in section, of a shoe according to the present invention;
- fig. 2 is a perspective view of an arch support usable with the shoe in fig. 1;
- fig. 3 is a perspective view of a detail of the shoe in fig. 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERENTIAL FORM OF EMBODIMENT

[0013] With reference to fig. 1, a shoe 10 according to the present invention comprises an upper 12, a sole 13 and, inside the upper 12, an arch support 15 (fig. 2), consisting of at least an insole 16 and a heel element 18 connected to the insole 16.

[0014] The heel element 18 is positioned in correspondence with the rear part 19 of the upper 12 (fig. 1), where the shoe 10 comprises a lining 20.

[0015] The edge of the lining 20 is attached to the upper edge of the rear part 19, for example by gluing, and surrounds it partly contributing to the overall aesthetic effect of the shoe 10.

[0016] The lining 20 is made of canvas or synthetic material, advantageously elastic, for example the same material of which the rear part 19 of the upper 12 is made.

[0017] The lining 20 defines, with an inner surface of the rear part 19, a pocket 21, inside which the heel element 18 is inserted, in removable manner, which is thus clamped to the rear part 19 of the upper 12 (figs. 1 and 3). In this way, the heel element 18 is completely contained inside the shoe 10, performing its function of adapting the length of the foot to that of the she 10.

[0018] When the function performed by the heel element 18 is no longer necessary, it is removed from the pocket 21, while it is indifferent whether the lining 20 is left in position or detached.

[0019] It is clear that modifications and/or additions of parts may be made to the shoe 10 as described heretofore, without departing from the field and scope of the present invention.

[0020] It is also clear that, although the present invention has been described with reference to some specific

examples, a person of skill in the art shall certainly be able to achieve many other equivalent forms of shoe, having the characteristics as set forth in the claims and hence all coming within the field of protection defined thereby.

Claims

1. Shoe comprising at least an upper (12) and a heel element (18), able to be disposed removably inside said upper (12), **characterized in that** containing means (20) is contained in said upper (12), able to contain said heel element (18).

2. Shoe as in claim 1, **characterized in that** said containing means (20) is disposed in the inner rear part (19) of said upper (12).

3. Shoe as in claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** said containing means comprises a containing element (20) solid with the upper edge of the rear part (19) of said upper (12) and defining a pocket (21) having the aperture facing downwards.

4. Shoe as in claim 3, **characterized in that** said containing element comprises at least a lining (20).

5. Shoe as in claim 4, **characterized in that** said lining (20) is made of elastic material.

6. Shoe as in claim 3, 4 or 5, **characterized in that** said containing element (20) defines said pocket (21) in cooperation with an inner surface of said rear part (19).

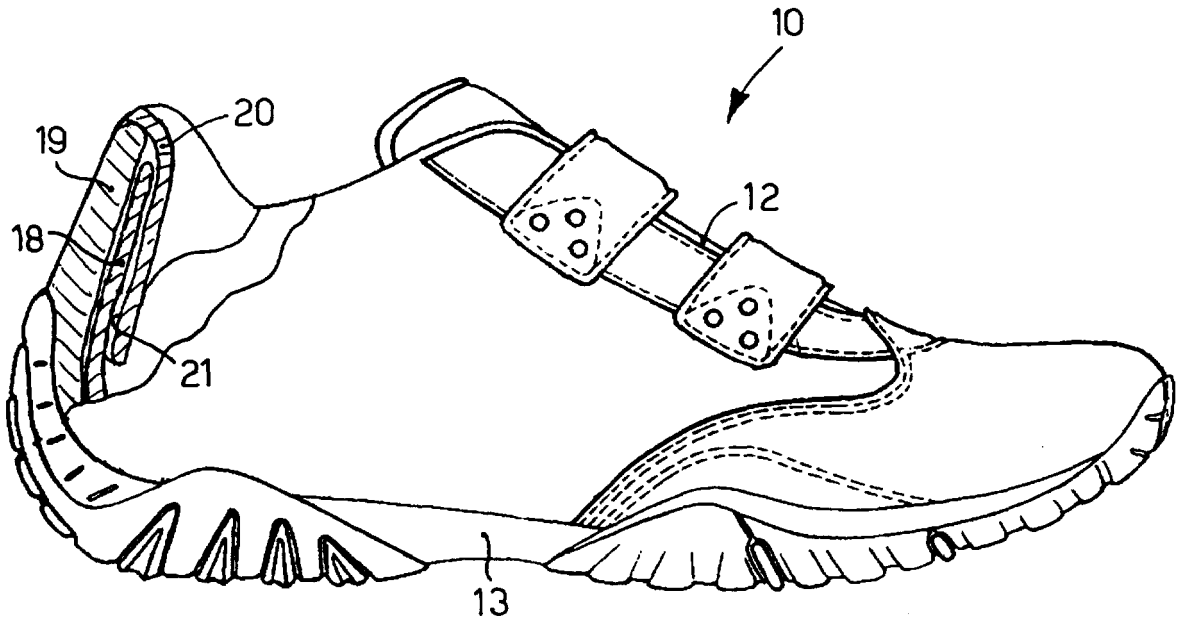


fig. 1

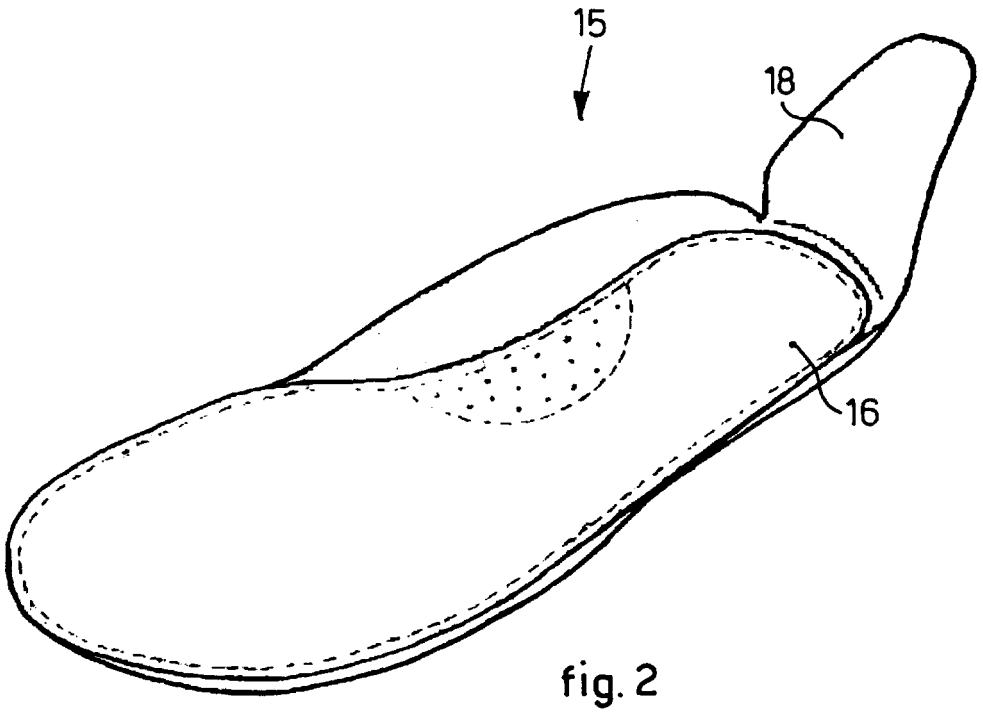


fig. 2

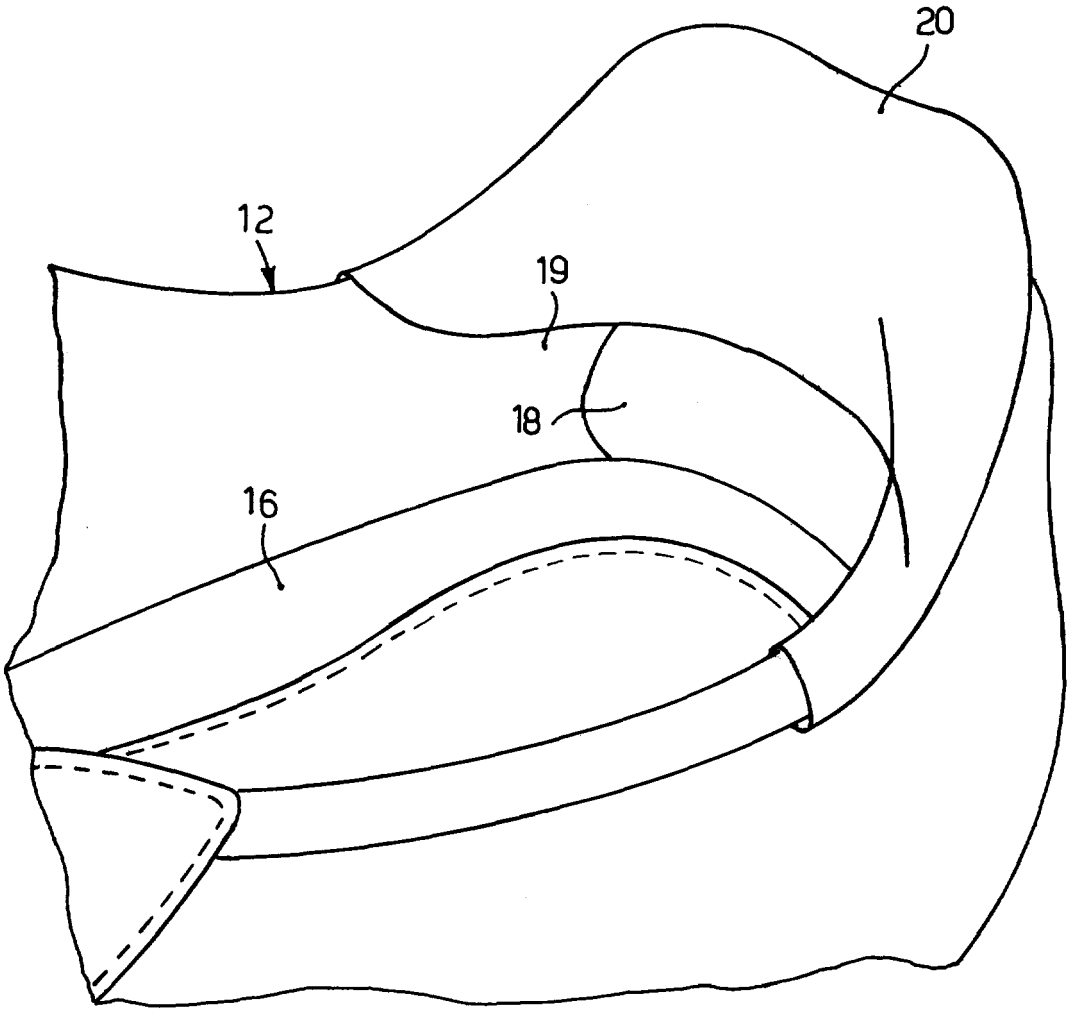


fig. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 05 11 1482

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2004/049951 A1 (CHEN EDDIE) 18 March 2004 (2004-03-18) * paragraphs [0021], [0022]; figures *	1,2,4-6	INV. A43B19/00 A43B11/02 A43B17/18
X	US 2003/115777 A1 (HALL WILLIAM B ET AL) 26 June 2003 (2003-06-26) * paragraphs [0028], [0029]; figure 2 *	1-6	
A	DE 673 937 C (JOSEF REISCHMANN) 17 April 1939 (1939-04-17) * claims; figures *	1-6	
P,A	US 2005/183293 A1 (MICK RUSSELL C) 25 August 2005 (2005-08-25) * claims; figures *	1-6	

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)

A43B

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	12 July 2006	Claudel, B

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
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E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 05 11 1482

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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12-07-2006

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US 2003115777 A1	26-06-2003	NONE	
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82