Title: INFINITELY ADJUSTABLE ENGAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

Abstract: A system for releasable engagement of two bodies where one of the bodies deforms the other body during the engagement process includes a first body (12) having an engagement surface that is made of a pseudo-elastic material. The pseudo-elastic material is maintained at an operating temperature that is above the martensite-austenite transition temperature for the material. The second body (14) has an indenter surface that contacts the pseudo-elastic material and exerts sufficient stress to convert the material from the relatively hard austenite state to the relatively soft martensite state wherein the material conforms to the indenter shape. Upon release of the indenter contact stress, the pseudo-elastic material changes back to its original shape.
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) : F16D 1/00
US CL : 403/282
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. : 403/282, 1, 28, 274, 278, 279, 280; 74/595, 567; 29/893.2, 507, 508, 515, 521, 522.1

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>
<thead>
<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>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,722,709 (LORTZ et al) 03 March 1998 (03.05.1998), Figures 1-5.</td>
<td>1-5,9,15,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,134,812 (HOFFMAN et al) 04 August 1992 (04.08.1992), Figures 8-10.</td>
<td>1-4,6,9-14,16,20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report
05 JAN 2005

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