Dec. 20, 1955 R. S. DANFORTH 2,727,487

SAIL SLIDE

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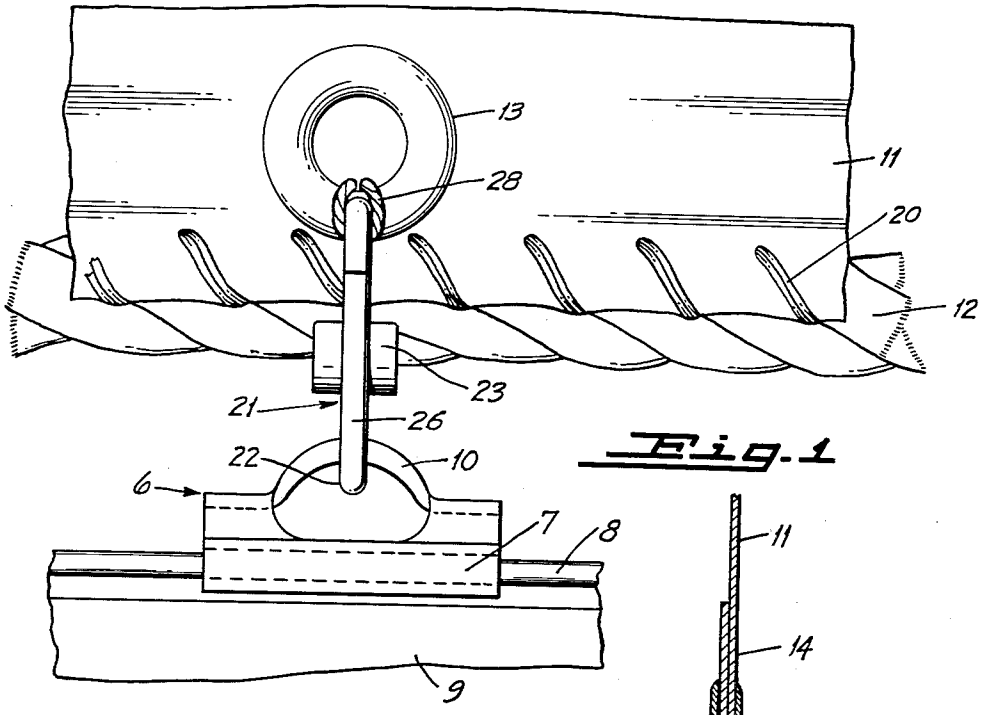


Fig. 1

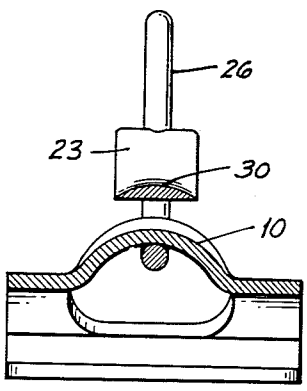


Fig. 3

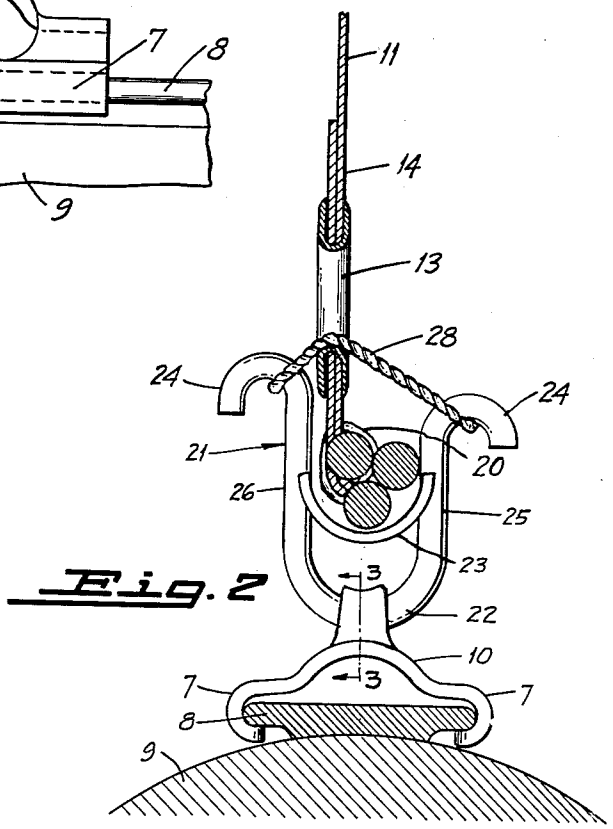


Fig. 2

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SAIL SLIDE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 114—108)

This invention relates to the attachment of a sail to a sail slide adapted to run along a track secured to a mast or a boom.

To secure the edge of a sail to the mast and to the boom to the end that the sail will adopt the proper air foil section when in use, it is usual to affix a continuous track along the mast and along the boom and to attach slides at closely spaced intervals to the sail, the slides being adapted to run along the track. It is also usual to reinforce the edge of the sail which is attached to the boom or to the mast by running a rope along the edge of the sail and suitably binding the sail about the rope, usually called the bolt rope. Various means of attachment have been utilized to secure the slide to the sail, a commonly used form being that provided by a length of twine passed through a grommet mounted on the raised portion on the slide and through a grommet placed in the sail proper beyond the bolt rope. While other attaching means have been employed heretofore for securing the slides to the sail, these have generally been unsatisfactory because they permitted or included chafing of the sail on the slide or on some portion of the attaching twine, leading to undue wear on the twine and to the necessity of reinforcing the sail against such localized chafing.

In accordance with the present invention, I provide a relatively simple and inexpensive device which can be attached readily to the sail slide and which fits snugly against the edge of the sail and particularly about the bolt rope. It is to be pointed out that the attaching means provided by this invention provide a fit between the sail and the slide such that chafing of the sail and of the securing twine is obviated for the bolt rope and sail are held securely and cannot rub and chafe against the slide.

It is in general the broad object of the present invention to provide a novel means for attaching a sail slide to a sail.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved, simple and inexpensive device for attaching a sail to a slide.

The invention includes other objects and features of advantage, some of which, together with the foregoing, will appear hereinafter wherein the present preferred form of device of this invention is disclosed.

Referring to the drawing accompanying and forming a part hereof,

Figure 1 is an enlarged plan view showing the device in place upon a sail.

Figure 2 is a side elevation view partly in cross-section of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a plan view partly in section of the device, the view being taken along the line 3—3 in Figure 2.

Referring to the drawing, the sail slide is indicated generally at **6**; it is of a usual construction and includes a flange **7** on each margin adapted to fit slidably upon a track **8** affixed to a mast or boom **9**; centrally, the slide includes a raised portion **10** to which the sail **11** is normally secured as by passing cord through a grommet positioned in the raised portion **10** and through a grommet **13** provided in the sail. The sail usually includes a rope **12** extending along the edge, the sail being folded upon itself as at **14** and secured to provide a double thickness of the sail in which grommet **13** is secured; the edge of the overlapping portion **14** of the sail is sewn to the rope **12** as at **20**.

In accordance with this invention, I provide a wire-like member, generally indicated at **21**, bent centrally into a U-shape and having a loop **22** and two arms **25** and **26**. The loop **22** is adapted to fit about the raised portion **10** on the sail slide **6**. Each arm of the member extends outwardly from the central loop **22**, an arcuate saddle **23** being mounted and secured between the arms to form a U-shaped receptacle which is of a size to fit snugly the bolt rope and edge of the sail, as appears in Figure 2. The outer extremity of each arm of the member has a loop portion **24** formed therein, the length of the respective arms being such that one loop portion is on a level with the lower edge of the grommet aperture while the other loop portion is slightly below the lower edge of the grommet **13** provided in the sail. This enables a good purchase to be had on the sail to secure it snugly in the receptacle. A cord **28** is passed between the looped ends **24** and through the grommet **13** to secure the sail snugly in place so that the sail cannot work or chafe in the U-shaped receptacle. In small sails, the grommet is frequently omitted.

From the foregoing, I believe it will be apparent that I have provided a relatively novel, simple and improved form of device for attaching a sail to a slide, one in which the sail is held in a spaced relation to the slide by the saddle **23** so that neither the sail, the twine, or the bolt rope can rub, cut or chafe on the slide. In this connection, it is to be noted that each end of the saddle **23** is arcuately formed and has a smooth curved side or rim **30** whereby chafing or cutting of the bolt rope is obviated.

I claim:

1. A device for attaching a sail having bolt-rope secured along an edge of sail with a grommet in the sail adjacent the bolt-rope, the device comprising a member having a central loop portion and a first and a second arm extending therefrom to provide a U-shaped member, a U-shaped saddle extended between said arms and outwardly therefrom and in spaced relation to the central loop portion to provide with the arms a receptacle in which the bolt-rope and attached sail fits snugly, the arms extending upwardly on each side of the bolt-rope to approximately the edge of the grommet, the end of each arm being formed to retain a cord lashing passed through the grommet from one arm-end to the other arm-end to secure the bolt-rope and sail to the device.

2. A device for attaching a sail having a bolt-rope secured along an edge of sail with a grommet in the sail adjacent the bolt-rope, the device comprising a member having a central loop portion and a first and a second arm extending therefrom to provide a U-shaped member, a U-shaped saddle extended between said arms and in spaced relation to the central loop portion to provide with the arms a receptacle in which the bolt-rope and attached sail fits snugly, the arms extending upwardly on each side of the bolt-rope to approximately the edge of the grommet, the first arm extending beyond the saddle a greater distance than the second arm, the first arm normally resting against the sail and the bolt-rope with the second arm normally resting against only the bolt-rope, the end of each arm being formed to retain a cord lashing passed through the grommet from the first arm-end and over the bolt-rope to the second arm-end to secure the bolt-rope and sail to the device.

3. A device of the character described comprising a heavy wire bent upon itself to form a U-shaped member, both terminal ends of said U-shaped member being bent outwardly to retain a lashing between said terminal ends, and a U-shaped saddle formed of sheet stock extending between and laterally on each side of the arms of the U-shaped member, the bottom of the U-shaped member and the U-shaped saddle being in spaced relationship to form an attachment loop therebetween.

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