

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IDENTIFICATION TAG

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1 Claim. (Cl. 40—10)

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This invention relates to an identification tag and more particularly to such a tag which may be conveniently applied to luggage to permit of ready identification thereof.

Although identification tags which have been used heretofore have been marked with the owner's initials or with the name and address of the owner, such procedure has involved the imprinting of a desired combination of a special order which is attended with delay and added expense.

It is an object, therefore, of the present invention to provide an identification tag which may be readily set up to display any desired combination of marking indicia by simple and inexpensive procedure readily effected at the time of sale.

It is a further object of this invention to provide an identification tag wherein marking indicia selectively associated therewith is retained in such associated relationship by the attaching means.

It is another object of this invention to provide an identification tag of transparent material having a recess therein for the reception of selectively arranged decorative marking indicia which when so installed is visible through one side of the tag and for the reception of further identifying data visible through the other side of the tag.

It is also an object of this invention to provide an identification tag which is attractive in appearance, relatively inexpensive and which may be readily equipped with desired identifying indicia at any time.

Other and further important objects of this invention will be apparent from the specification and the accompanying drawings.

The invention (in a preferred form) is shown on the drawings and hereinafter more fully described.

On the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of an identification tag embodying the principles of this invention showing the appearance from the rear side of the tag wherein the name and address of the owner may be imprinted.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing the opposite side of the tag with decorative arrangement of owner's initials as viewed through the transparent cover.

Fig. 3 is a perspective exploded view showing a preferred form of a tag embodying the principles of this invention, the manner of inserting identifying indicia in the recess therein and

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showing the cover withdrawn from the body portion of the tag for that purpose.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section taken on the line IV—IV of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is an elevational view showing a modified form of invention wherein a rotating slide type of cover is provided, the cover in open position being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view on the line VI—VI of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional view on the line VII—VII of Fig. 5.

As shown on the drawings:

The improved identification tag of this invention is preferably made from a transparent plastic, the parts of which may be molded to the form shown. In the form shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, a body portion 10 made of such molded transparent plastic is recessed as at 11 for reception of the identifying indicia to be hereinafter described. Each edge of the recessed portion 11 is provided with a grooved track 12 which is adapted to slidably receive a beveled edge 13 of a transparent cover portion 14 so that such cover portion may be slid inwardly into the body portion 10 along such tracks 12 to close the top of the recess 11. Since the cover portion 14 is also of transparent plastic or similar material it is apparent that the interior of the recess 11 may be viewed therethrough.

In order to close the end of the recess the cover portion 14 is preferably provided at its outer end with a boss or projection 15 that terminates flush with the end of the body portion when the cover is closed.

In order to provide detailed identification data, a card 16 having imprinted thereon the name and address of the owner may be positioned in the bottom of the recess 11 in such a manner that data imprinted thereon may be viewed through the bottom of the tag as shown in Fig. 1.

Decorative identification indicia is provided by the markers 17 which are preferably of rectangular shape and formed of plastic material but each of which may be imprinted with a different letter. It is apparent that a dealer can keep a supply of these markers 17 imprinted with various letters of the alphabet and with different designs, and that at the time of the sale of a tag embodying the present invention, any desired combination of letters may be formed by insertion of appropriate markers in the recess. When the cover 14 is closed the initials or other identifying data on these markers are visible therethrough.

The body member 10 and the cover 14 are provided with apertures 18 and 19, respectively, which are so positioned that they are in register when the cover is closed. An attaching chain 20 may then be inserted through these apertures and that chain serves two purposes, first, it holds the cover and body member in permanent association and secondly, it is used for attaching the assembled tag to a piece of luggage or other article to be identified thereby.

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 show a slightly modified form of identification tag embodying the principles of this invention. In this form of structure the body member 21 of elongated configuration is provided with a central recess for reception of the card 16 and markers 17. This body member 21 is, as in the other form, made of a transparent material, such as molded plastic, so that indicia imprinted on the card 16 is visible therethrough. The markers 17 are retained in position and the recess is covered by a cover member 22 which is secured to the body member by a rivet 23 that also acts as a pivot about which the cover 22 may be swung, as for example to the dotted line position shown in Fig. 5, to afford access to the recess in the body member and to permit of insertion of a desired combination of markers 17 therein. The cover 22 is of transparent material, such for example as molded plastic or sheet plastic, to permit viewing the indicia on the markers 17 therethrough.

Registering apertures are provided in the cover 22 and in the body member 21 at the end thereof opposite the pivot 23 and a chain 20a engaged through these apertures, as in the previous form, serves to retain the cover and body member in assembled association and as a means for attaching the tag to a piece of luggage or other article to be identified thereby.

It will be apparent from the foregoing description that the identification tag of this invention is susceptible of economical manufacture in that it may be readily equipped with desired identification data at the time of sale by the simple expedient of removing the cover member, inserting a suitably imprinted card 16 and thereafter a suitable arrangement of markers 17, after which the cover member is returned to closed position, the chain 20 or 20a inserted through the registering apertures therein and in the body member to hold the body and cover in permanent association. Thereafter, the chain may be used

to affix the tag to a piece of luggage in the usual manner.

I am aware that various details of construction may be varied without departing from the principles of this invention and I, therefore, do not purpose limiting the patent granted hereon otherwise than necessitated by the scope of the appended claim.

I claim as my invention:

10 An identification tag comprising a body of molded transparent plastic or the like, said body having one flat face and an opposite face defining an open ended elongate recess therein, the edges of the recess being stepped to define a marker-seating portion and dovetailed guide tracks, a card adapted to have characteristic markings thereon insertable in the marker-seating portion of the recess, said card being visible through the flat face of the body, a plurality of markers adapted to have characters thereon insertable in the marker-seating portion of the recess in abutting relationship to the card, a cover made of molded transparent plastic or the like, said cover having bevelled edges for mating engagement with said dovetailed guide tracks and being positionable in the body to abut the markers so as to permit visibility of the markers therethrough, a boss defined on one end of the cover, said boss defining a configuration to matingly seat within the open end of the body recess, said boss terminating flush with the end of the body portion when the cover is slidably positioned in the body, said body and said cover defining registering apertures in and locale of the boss, and fastening means insertable through the apertures to maintain the assembly of the tag and to permit attachment of the tag to an article to be identified.

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