Feb. 3, 1948. C. E. JONES 2,435,221

INDEX GUIDE

Filed Feb. 5, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

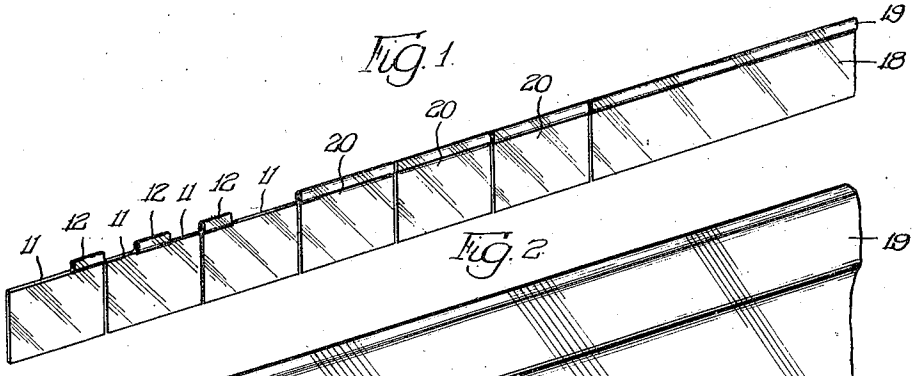
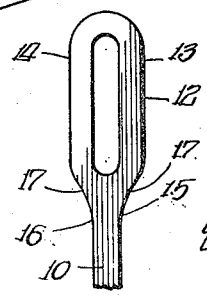


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3



INVENTOR.
Charles E. Jones,
BY
Cromwell, Greist & Warden.
Attys.

Feb. 3, 1948. C. E. JONES 2,435,221

INDEX GUIDE

Filed Feb. 5, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4

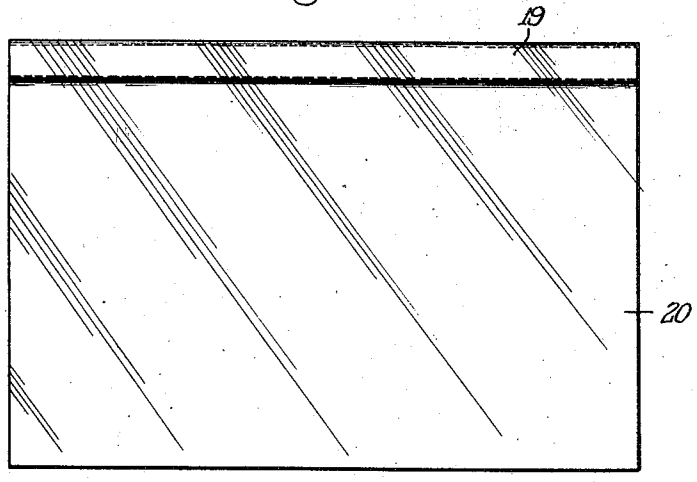
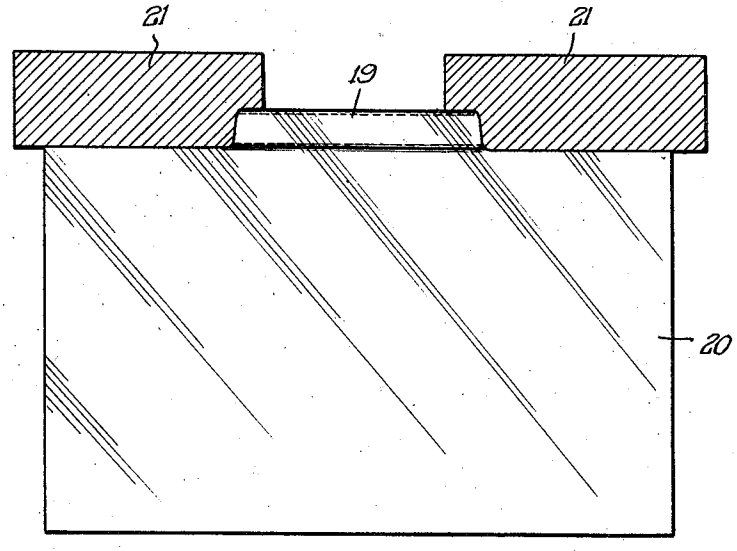


Fig. 5



INVENTOR.
Charles E. Jones,
BY
Cromwell, Greist & Warden
Attys.

Feb. 3, 1948. C. E. JONES 2,435,221

INDEX GUIDE

Filed Feb. 5, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 6

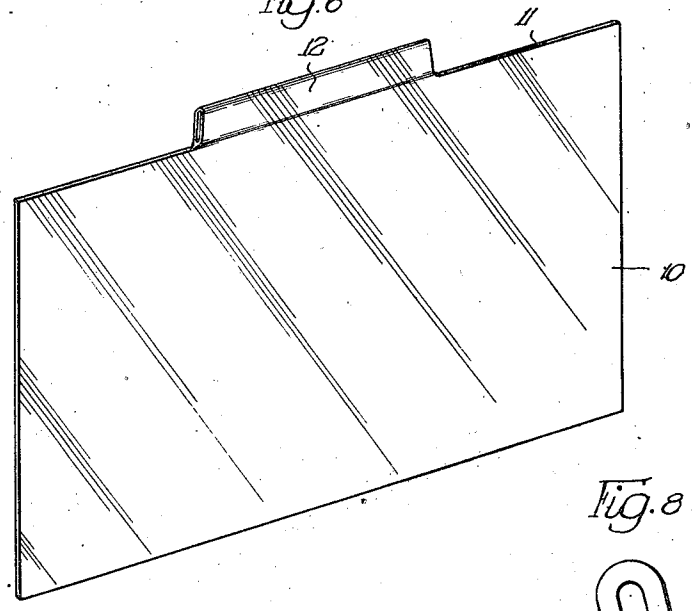


Fig. 8

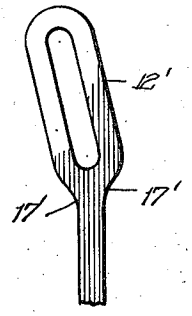


Fig. 7

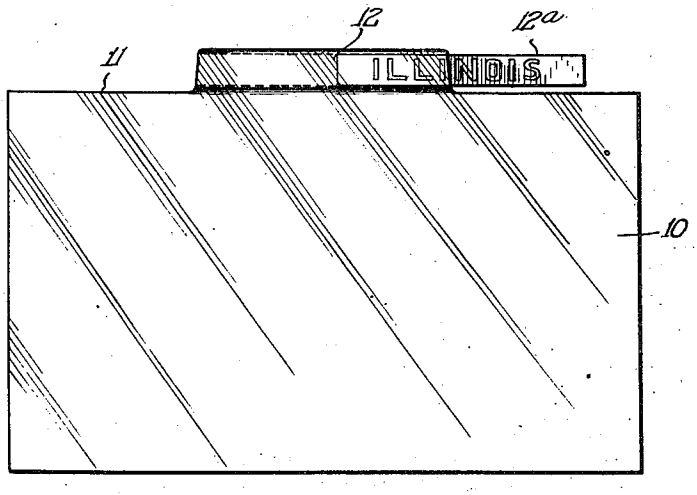
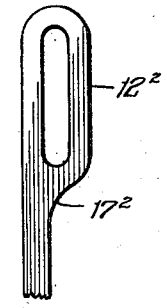


Fig. 9



INVENTOR.
Charles E. Jones,
BY
Cromwell, Greist & Warden.
attys.

Patented Feb. 3, 1948 2,435,221

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,435,221

INDEX GUIDE

Charles E. Jones, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Rockwell-Barnes Company, Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application February 5, 1945, Serial No. 576,347

3 Claims. (Cl. 129—16.8)

1

This invention has to do with index guides of the type commonly used in filing arrangements of various sorts for separating cards, sheets, pages and the like, into orderly groups.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an index guide of new and improved construction in which the projecting tab for the reception of the indicia bearing label is constructed as a hollow integral extension of the guide and is shaped and finished off in such manner as to facilitate the insertion or removal of cards or sheets immediately in front of or behind the guide without interference from the tab.

Another object of the invention is to provide an index guide of the character described in which the tab for the reception of the label can be localized at any desired point lengthwise of the exposed edge of the guide after the tab has been formed as an integral part of the guide.

Another object of the invention is to provide a guide of the character described which can be made inexpensively by extrusion from transparent plastic material.

While the foregoing statements are indicative in a general way of the nature of the invention, other more specific objects and advantages will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a full undestanding of the new index guide and method of making the same.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is presented herein by way of exemplification, but it will of course be appreciated that the invention is susceptible of incorporation in other modified forms coming equally within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an extruded plastic strip, showing the manner in which the index guide is made therefrom;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a short section of the extruded strip;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary end view of the strip, showing in detail the shape of the flat tubular label receiving portion;

Fig. 4 is a face view of a length of the extruded strip, after the same has been cut transversely to the desired size;

Fig. 5 is a similar view of the same length of the extruded strip, showing the way in which either one or both of the ends of the flat tubular portion maybe cut away to provide a tab of the desired length at the desired position;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the index guide after the formation of the tab;

2

Fig. 7 is a face view of the finished index guide, showing a label being inserted in the tab;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary end view of the tubular portion of the guide, showing a somewhat modified design; and

Fig. 9 is a similar view of another modified design.

The index guide is shown in its finished form in Figs. 6 and 7. It consists of a generally rectangular sheet 10 of transparent plastic material which is provided at one point along its exposed edge 11 with a projecting tab 12.

The tab 12 is constructed as a relatively thick integral portion of the sheet 10 and is of flat open-ended tubular formation. It is adapted to receive a suitable indicia bearing label 12^a, the label being inserted endwise into the hollow interior of the tubular formation from either end. The front and rear surfaces 13 and 14 of the tab are smooth and merge gradually without interruption into the corresponding surfaces 15 and 16 of the sheet, in curved fillet-like formations, as shown at 17 in Fig. 3 and at 17′ and 17^2 in Figs. 8 and 9.

The index guide can be made of any well known plastic material. It is preferably made by extruding such material in a long continuous strip 18, as shown in Fig. 1, and in more detail in Figs. 2 and 3. The hollow tubular portion 19 from which the tabs are subsequently cut is formed by extrusion in the same operation, along one of the longitudinal edges of the strip. After the strip has been extruded in this manner it is cut transversely into lengths 20 of the desired guide size. One of such lengths is shown in Fig. 4.

The flat tubular portion 19 formed along one of the longitudinal edges of each of the lengths 20 is cut back at one or both ends, depending on the desired location of the tab, to provide a relatively short tab in exactly the position needed. In cutting back either or both ends of the tubular portion 19 the length 20 may be placed under a tab cutting die, as shown at 21 in Fig. 5, the die being formed in two adjustably spaced parts and being shiftable bodily one way or the other to cut away the ends of the tubular formation to the extent desired. The internal recess in the tubular portion 19 is preferably of relatively wide thin cross section and is adapted to receive a paper-like index tab.

By employing this method index guides of the finest quality can be manufactured at but very little expense, with label holders at any desired location, or at progressively different locations, without the necessity of having to separately attach such holders to the guides. The complete

enclosure of the labels within the holders, and the integral formation of the holders, with their front and rear surfaces merging gradually without interruption into the corresponding surfaces of the guides, enables ready insertion or removal of cards immediately in front of or behind the index guides without any possibility of the same becoming snagged with either the labels or the holders. The integral formation also permits flexure without likelihood of cracking at the base of the tab.

The ends of the tabs 12 are preferably cut along lines which are curved to merge gradually into the exposed edge 11 of the guide, whereby to eliminate as far as possible any sharp corners.

In Fig. 8 a modification is shown in which the tab 12′ is disposed at a slight angle to the plane of the guide, while in Fig. 9 another modification is shown in which the tab 12^2 is offset forwardly (or rearwardly, if desired) with respect to the plane of the guide, bringing the tab flush with respect to one of the surfaces of the guide.

I claim:

1. An index guide consisting of a length of material of a single thickness having along one edge an integrally formed tubular label holder, said length of material and label holder being formed from a single flat extruded plastic strip, said label holder being slightly thicker than the body of the guide and having flat outer surfaces which gradually merge into the adjoining surfaces of the body to provide smooth continuous surfaces devoid of any lateral obstructions, said label holder being cut away at an end thereof to provide a label holder of predetermined length.

2. An index guide consisting of a length of material of a single thickness having along one edge an integrally formed tubular label holder, said length of material and label holder being formed from a single flat extruded plastic strip, said label holder being slightly thicker than the body of the guide and having flat outer surfaces which gradually merge into the adjoining surfaces of the body to provide smooth continuous surfaces devoid of any lateral obstructions, said thick portion being disposed at an angle with respect to the plane of the body and having a part thereof cut away to provide at a predetermined location a holder for receiving a label.

3. An index guide comprising a generally rectangular sheet of material of a single thickness, said sheet of material being formed from a single flat extruded plastic strip, said sheet having an integral portion along one edge thereof which is relatively thicker than the body of the sheet, said thick portion having opposed exterior surfaces integrally joined with the adjacent surfaces of the body of the sheet and being characterized by an internal recess of relatively wide thin cross section which is adapted to receive endwise therein an index label of generally conforming cross section; said thick portion having a part thereof cut away to provide at a predetermined location along the edge of the guide a holder for receiving a label.

CHARLES E. JONES.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,022,895	Morrell	Dec. 3, 1935
2,346,187	Reichel	Apr. 11, 1944
1,294,948	Rand	Feb. 18, 1919
1,793,485	Huffman	Feb. 24, 1931
1,876,208	Davis	Sept. 6, 1932
1,961,079	Pettis	May 29, 1934
2,052,623	Harby	Sept. 1, 1936
2,248,355	Jones	July 8, 1941
2,288,013	Moynahan et al.	June 30, 1942

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
8,905	Great Britain	1904