June 23, 1970 R. B. HOWELL 3,516,127

SLIDER FOR A CONCEALED SLIDE FASTENER

Filed Feb. 28, 1968

Fig. 1

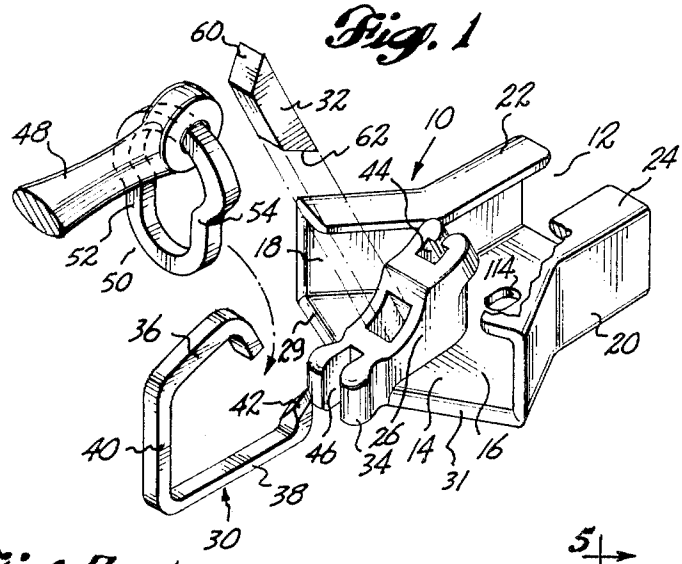


Fig. 2.

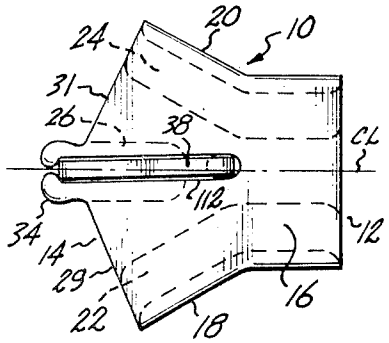


Fig. 7.

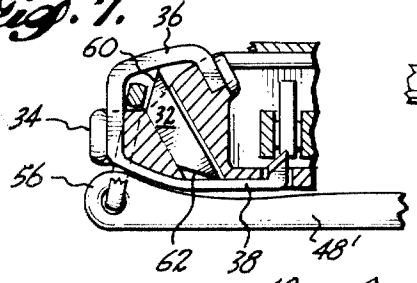


Fig. 3.

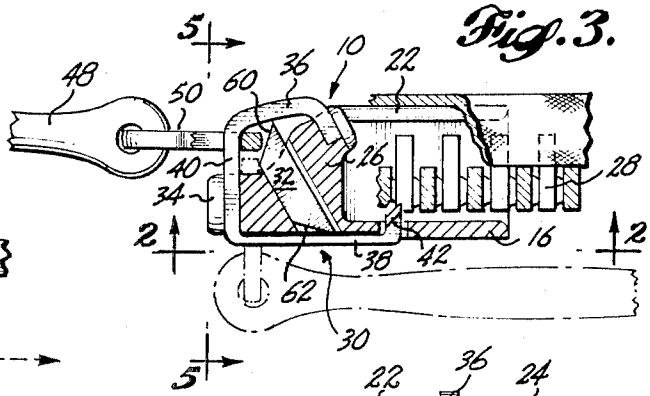


Fig. 4

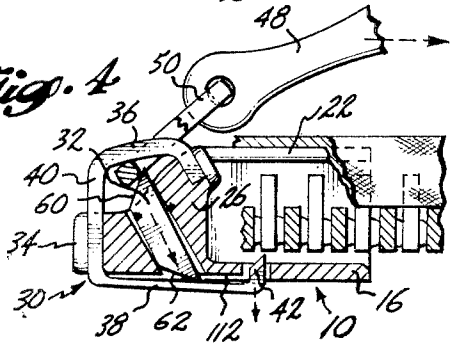


Fig. 5.

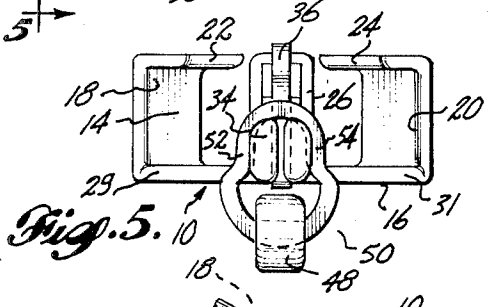


Fig. 8.

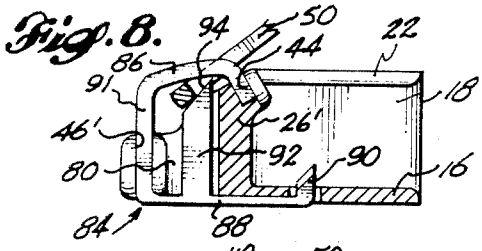


Fig. 6.

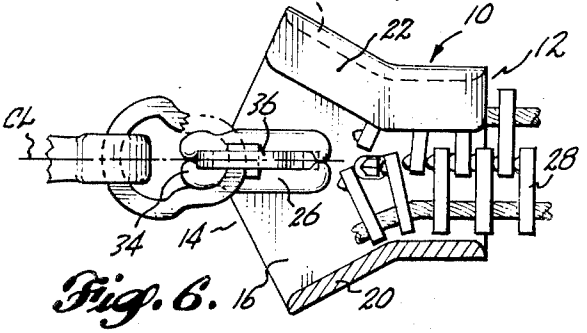
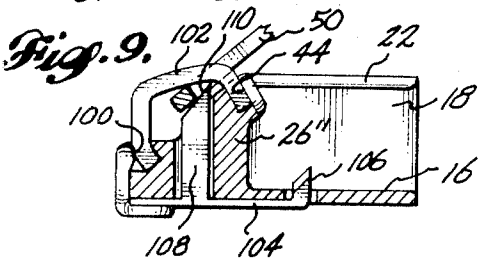


Fig. 9.



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SLIDER FOR A CONCEALED SLIDE FASTENER

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U.S. Cl. 24—205.14 16 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The slider includes a pull tab mounting ring movable over an endwise protruding portion of the slider's separator into a position in which it surroundingly engages such portion and the pull tab is hidden behind the slider. A spring beam extends lengthwise of the separator, rearwardly of the slider, and carries a locking pawl at its inner end. A ring mount is integrally attached to the opposite end of the beam. This ring mount-locking pawl member is received in a slot in the separator and is clamped tightly between the metal pieces between which the slot is formed.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the invention

The present invention relates to sliders for slide fasteners, and more specifically to a particular slider lock mechanism and to a particular construction of a slider for a concealed type slide fastener which permits total concealment of the pull tab and near total concealment of the slider itself.

Description of the prior art

Weber 2,799,070 discloses a slider for a conventional exposed zipper which includes two pull tabs, one at the front and one at the back of the slider. It also includes a locking pawl which is normally biased into a locking position by a leaf spring member. The pull tab on the same side of the slider as the spring is adapted to pull on the spring to flex it in a direction causing removal of the locking pawl from its locking position. The pull tab on the opposite side of the slider is adapted to, when pulled upon, move an actuator, which extends through the slider, endwise against such spring to in that manner cause it to flex and remove the locking pawl from the locking position. Since the slider of this patent is of the exposed or visible type, the patent is not concerned with the problem of concealing either the forwardly directed pull tab or the slider proper.

My prior Pat. No. 3,324,522, issued June 13, 1967, discloses the type of locking mechanism presently being used in the sliders of conventional concealed or seam type slide fasteners. One disadvantageous feature of this type of locking mechanism is that it involves components which project forwardly a substantial distance beyond the front of the fabric, and the pull tab is not movable into a concealed position rearwardly of the slider. Also, the locking mechanism comprises several intricate parts, including a coil type compression spring and a pivot shaft, each of which must be secured to or mounted on the main body of the slider.

My prior Pat. No. 3,284,864, issued on Nov. 15, 1966, relates to a slider for a concealed type slide fastener, which slider is constructed in a manner to permit movement of the pull tab and its mounting ring between an operative position in front of the slider and an inoperative, concealed position, rearwardly of the slider. However, this slider also involves a forwardly placed locking mechanism comprising several components which project forwardly a substantial distance beyond the front surface of the fabric. Even though in such slider the pull tab and its mounting ring are concealable, the forward portion of the slider is not. A substantial portion of it projects forwardly through the upper portion of the seam and is clearly visible.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Sliders of the present invention are characterized by a construction permitting movement of the pull tab and its mounting ring into a concealed position rearwardly of the slider, with the slider proper itself being substantially concealed or hidden from view when this is done. Such sliders are also characterized by a construction involving a small number of parts, no intricate coil springs or pivot shafts, and a very few assembly steps, rendering them relatively inexpensive to manufacture.

According to the preferred form of the invention, the separator is made shallow and slants rearwardly generally from its inner to its outer end. A fixed ring mount bridges lengthwise over the front surface of hte separator to form a transverse eye opening between said ring mount and said front surface. Owing to the shallow construction of the separator and the rearward sloping nature of its front surface, it is possible to form such eye without the necessity of the ring mount having to project forwardly more than, or at least not much more than, the forward surfaces of the slider body on which the fabric rides. The outer end portion of the separator is arranged to project endwise of the slider a small amount. It is sized so that the pull tab mounting ring is movable over it between an operative position in which it is located forwardly of the separator and surroundingly engages the ring mount and an inoperative position in which it is located rearwardly of the slider and surroundingly engages such end portion of the separator.

Whereas in the sliders disclosed in my U.S. Pats. Nos. 3,284,864 and 3,324,522 the locking mechanism is located on the front side of the slider and constitutes a forward protuberance, and contributes to or causes the slider to always be partially visible from the front of the garment of which it is a part, in the sliders of this invention the locking mechanism is positioned rearwardly of the slider. It comprises a spring beam which extends generally lengthwise of the separator at the rear of the slider. Such beam carries a locking pawl at its inner end which projects inwardly or forwardly through an opening in the back of the slider and is normally biased by the spring beam into a position of interference with a fastener element inside the slider. A force transmitting member extends through a front-to-rear opening in the separator. The forward end of such member is contacted by the pull tab mounting ring when the pull tab is pulled in a slide fastener opening direction. The ring exerts an endwise force on such member, moving it endwise rearwardly through such opening. Its rearward end rests on or is secured to an intermediate portion of the spring beam so that such movement deflects the spring beam rearwardly and removes the locking pawl from the position of interference with the slide fastener elements.

According to the invention, the ring mount and the spring beam may be set in slots formed in the slider and the metal on opposite sides of the slots crimped to secure them in place. Also, the ring mount and the spring beam may be joined together as one continuous member.

In preferred form the slider of the present invention, including its locking mechanism, comprises only five components. They are the slider body, the pull tab, the pull tab mounting ring, a combined ring mount and locking beam member which includes the locking pawl, and a force member. The assembly steps involved comprises attaching the mounting ring to the pull tab; inserting the force transmitting member in place within the

opening for it in the separator; slipping the ring mount portion of the ring mount-locking beam member through the mounting ring; inserting portions of said member into slots or openings for same formed in the opposite end portions of the separator; then crimping such end portions of the slider body to secure such member in place, and to confine the force transmitting member within the passageway formed for same.

These and other features, advantages and characteristics of my slider development will be apparent from the following detailed description of typical forms thereof, in which reference is made to the accompanying drawing.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the drawing like reference characters refer to like parts, and:

FIG. 1 is an exploded isometric view of a slider embodying the features of this invention, taken from above and looking towards the front and the separator end thereof;

FIG. 2 is a view looking towards the rear of the slider shown in FIG. 1, taken substantially along aspect line 2—2 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the slider shown by FIGS. 1 and 2, with the ring mount-locking beam member, the force transmitting member, and portions of the pull tab, the ring and the fabric shown in side elevation, and including a phantom line showing of the pull tab and ring in their concealed positions;

FIG. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view similar to FIG. 3, but showing the pull tab in the process of being pulled in a slide fastener opening direction and the force transmitting member and the tab mounting ring functioning to deflect the locking beam rearwardly and remove the locking pawl from its slide locking position;

FIG. 5 is an end elevational view of the slider taken generally from the aspect of line 5—5, and showing the pull tab and its ring, in full lines, in their concealed positions;

FIG. 6 is a view looking towards the front of the slider, with portions of the slider body, the pull tab and the ring broken away, and showing the slide fastener stringers rather diagrammatically;

FIG. 7 is a fragmented longitudinal sectional view, with some parts in side elevation, of a modified form of slider, involving a rear surface conforming generally to the shape of the front surface of the pull tab;

FIG. 8 is a longitudinal sectional view, with some parts in side elevation, of another modified form of slider according to the invention;

FIG. 9 is a longitudinal sectional view, with some parts in side elevation, of still another modified form of slider according to the invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

With reference to FIG. 1, the slider comprises a body **10** which may be metallic. It is shown as being closed at the back and centrally open at the front, and as having a stem end portion **12** and a branched end portion **14**. The stem end portion **12** is in the form of a lipped channel formed by a back panel **16**, side walls or flanges **18**, **20**, and forward lips **22**, **24**. The side flanges **18**, **20** and the side edges of the back panel **16** diverge apart as they extend away from the stem portion **12** of the slider and through the branched portion **14** thereof. An island-like separator **26** is integrally formed on the back panel **16**, projects forwardly therefrom, and divides the interior of the branched end portion **14** into two separate branch channels, each of which is wide enough to accommodate only one chain of fastener elements **28** (FIG. 6). Separator **26** is relatively shallow throughout and at its front slants rearwardly from its inner to its outer end. An outer end or protruding portion **34** of separator **26** projects endwise of the slider proper and performs an important function with respect to the disappearing pull tab feature, hereinafter to be described in some detail. In FIG. 1, for example, the protruding portion **34** is shown extending endwise outwardly from slider end surfaces **29**, **31**.

A unitary ring mount locking beam member, identified generally in FIG. 1 by the reference character **30**, is secured to the separator **26** in a manner to be later described. A pull tab means is secured to the ring mount portion of member **30**. A force transmitting member **32** operatively connects the pull tab means with the beam portion of member **30**, in a manner to be later described, to actuate the locking member. A more detailed description of the stem and branch end portions of the slider and their cooperation with the fastener elements **24** to open and close the slide fastener may be obtained from my aforementioned U.S. Pat. No. 3,324,522, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

The unitary ring mount-locking beam member **30** includes a curved ring mount portion **36**, a locking beam portion **38**, which is in the nature of a leaf spring so that it may function as a biasing member, and an interconnecting bight portion **40**. A locking point or pawl **42** is carried at the free or inner end of the locking beam **38**.

Preferably, the separator **26** is formed to include a front-to-rear extending opening in both its inner and outer portions. During assembly, the free end of the ring mount **36** is placed in opening **44** and the bight portion **40** in slot opening **46**. Then the end portions of separator **26** are crimped around such portions of the member **30**, for securing such member in place and to the separator. The crimped end portions of the separator firmly clamp onto or frictionally hold the two secured sections of member **30**. Since the ring mount portion is held at both of its ends, it is fixed in place, i.e. it is secured against being withdrawn or moved during use of the slider.

The locking beam **38** is joined to the ring mount portion at an angle of approximately 90° (see FIG. 3), but is also bent sideways slightly so that it deviates slightly from the longitudinal center of the slider body and the general plane of the ring mount **36**. This is best shown in FIG. 2 wherein the center line of the slider is labeled CL.

The locking pawl **42** has a beveled sloping edge facing the separator **26** and a generally straight opposite edge. As is best shown in FIG. 6, the beveled edge is offset to one side of the center line CL. This offsetting is necessary in order to place the straight edge of the pawl **42** in a position to engage one of the fastening elements after the two strings of such elements have been separated and directed along separate paths through the branched end portion **14** of the slider. Of course, the locking member could also be placed in other positions adjacent the stem end **12** or even outside of the slider adjacent the stem end **12**. A pulling of the slider in the slide fastener closing direction (to the left as pictured) will cause the slider to move freely. This is because the beveled edge of the pawl **42** is leading and will freely slide over the fastening elements **28** it contacts. However, slider creep in the slide fastener opening direction is prevented because upon the first tendency of the slider to move in this direction the straight edge of the pawl **42** will engage the first fastener element.

As thus far described, it may be readily seen that the unitary ring mount-locking beam member being a single piece may be fabricated inexpensively. The assembling of such member into the slider by inserting it into the openings **44**, **46** is also a simple operation, rendering the slider inexpensive to manufacture and assemble.

Another important feature of the invention is that the ring mount portion **32** extends forwardly only about, or at the most only slightly forwardly of the lips **22**, **24**, as is clearly shown in FIG. 3, for example. The importance of this feature is that upon viewing the front of the garment, only a portion, if any, of the ring mount **36** is seen when the fastener is closed.

To assure the concealment of the pull tab mean for operating the slider, the pull tab means is formed of two pieces, namely, a pull tab **48** of elongated form, and a connector ring **50**.

As is best shown in FIG. 1, in preferred form the connector ring is rectangular in cross section and is generally pear-shaped in its outside configuration. The narrower end of the pear-shaped connector ring is formed from two integrally joined spaced arms **52, 54**. When in use the connector ring is slid up toward the forward end of the ring mount portion **36** and is either pulled towards the branched end, as shown in phantom lines in FIG. 3, or towards the stem end as shown in solid lines in FIG. 4. After the fastener has been closed, however, the pull tab **48** is swung rearwardly of the slider and the connector ring **50** assumes the position shown in solid lines in FIG. 3.

The protruding portion **34** of the separator **26** is rounded and of "knob" form (FIG. 2). At its widest point the portion **34** is slightly wider than the spacing between the spaced arms **52, 54** of the connector ring **50**. However, the spaced arms **52, 54** are resilient enough to spring apart when the ring is forced over the protruding portion **34**. This friction fit serves to secure the connector ring **50** in its concealed position. The pull tab will normally be held tightly against the back panel **16**. It is thus obvious that the connector ring and pull tab are both hidden behind the slider and fabric when not in use.

In the modified form of slider shown by FIG. 7, the pull tab **48'** has a generally flat back and thins out at the front, from a necessarily thick eye portion **56** to a thinner shank portion. This gives the pull tab **48'** a longitudinally concave forward surface. The rear surface of the separator is relieved to form a longitudinally convex end surface **52** of substantially complementary shape. When the connector ring is snapped over the end portion **34** of the separator, the pull tab is relatively tightly against the curved rear surface of the separator. The advantage gained by this arrangement is that the pull tab **48'** is a shallower object behind the slider body **10** tending to bulge the slider region of the garment forwardly.

As is best shown in FIG. 3, the separator **26** is provided with a central, somewhat inclined, front-to-rear passageway **58** in which is slidably mounted the force transmitting element **32**. The force transmitting element **32** may be rectangular in cross section and includes two oppositely sloped ends **60, 62**, each facing the branched end **14** of the slider. The forward end **60** of the force transmitting member **32**, which terminates adjacent the ring mount portion **36**, serves as a cam surface against which the connector ring **46** may slide. The opposite or rearward end **62** of the force transmitting member **32** engages the leaf spring beam **38** and when moved axially rearwardly within the passageway **58** deflects the beam **38** rearwardly to remove the locking pawl **42** out of the path of the fastener elements **24**. This is best shown in FIG. 4 wherein the pull tab **44** is being drawn toward the stem end of the slider, i.e. in a slide fastener opening direction, and the connector ring **46** has slid up onto the sloped end **60** of the force transmitting member **32**. In this manner the force transmitting member is moved axially in the direction of the arrow **72** rearwardly against the flexible resilient beam **36**. The beam **38** is deflected rearwardly to draw the locking pawl **42** out of the path of the fastening elements **24**, so that the slider is free to move along the fastener. The primary advantage in the sloped ends of the force transmitting element is to provide the cam surface at the forward end, so that the operation of the slider is not impaired by its concealment features, and to at the rearward end apply the bending force as close as possible to the free end of the beam **38**, so as to obtain the best mechanical advantage. Another important advantage resulting from both ends being sloped is that the force transmitting element can be assembled into the passageway **58** with either sloped end engaging the beam with

the only concern being that the sloped ends are facing the branched end of the slider. Thus with this simple limitation the installation of the force transmitting element is quite fool-proof and may be installed without the use of special training or otherwise skilled labor.

A second modified form of slider is shown in FIG. 8 and includes a separator **26'** having an opening **44** identical to the opening **49** in the preferred embodiments and a central front-to-rear passageway **80** that is open to the end of the separator through a narrow slot **46'**. The sidewalls of the narrow slot **46'** and the opening **44** are crimpable as in the preferred embodiment. In the modified form a unitary ring mount-locking beam member **84** includes a ring mount portion **86** joined to a resilient flexible beam **88** that terminates in a locking pawl **90** by a bight portion **91**. In this form of the invention a force transmitting element **92** having a single sloped end **94** is integrally joined to the beam **88** and is mounted for endwise movement in the passageway **80**. The force transmitting element is installed with the unitary ring mount-locking beam member by sliding the force transmitting element through the narrow slot **46'** into the passageway **80**. The ring mount portion **91** then seats in the opening **44** and in the narrow slot **46'** and is secured in place by crimping the end portions of separator **26'**. The advantage in this form of construction, of course, is that the force transmitting element and the ring mount-locking beam member may be made from a single piece of material.

A third modified form of the invention is shown by FIG. 9. In this form the separator **26''** includes an opening **44** at its inner end which is identical to the opening **44** of the preferred embodiment and a second slot-like opening **100** at its outer end. A separate ring mount **102** is secured in these openings **44, 100** by crimping their sidewalls as in the preferred embodiment. A flexible resilient beam **104** terminating in a locking pawl **106** is also integrally connected to a force transmitting element **108** having a sloped end **110**. The beam is secured in an opening **112** in the rear surface of the separator and is held tightly by crimping the sidewalls of the opening **112**. The remaining portions of the slider are identical with the preferred embodiments and will not be described.

The operation of the slider should be apparent. The slider is drawn along the fastening elements by pulling on the pull tab when in the position shown in phantom lines in FIG. 3 and in pull lines in FIG. 6. While being drawn in this manner in a fastener element coupling direction the locking pawl **40** rides over the rear faces of the fastening elements **28**. The pull tab may also be placed in the position shown in FIG. 4 and pulled in a fastener element decoupling direction. This causes the connector ring **50** to slide relatively along the sloped end **60** of the force transmitting element **32** to urge the force transmitting element endwise rearward against the beam **38**. in this manner the locking pawl **42** is withdrawn from the path of the fastening elements and the slider is free to move along the fastener. When the fastener is closed or it is otherwise desirable to conceal the pull tab and connector ring, the connector ring is drawn into the solid line position shown in FIG. 3 such that only a slight portion (if any) of the ring mount **36** is still revealed. When in a concealed position, it can be seen that the connector ring does not engage the sloped end of the force transmitting element and thus the locking pawl **42** is in an interfering position with the fastening elements **28**. In this manner the slider is precluded from inadvertently sliding or "creeping" along the fastener.

Preferably, in all forms of the slider the beam **38, 88, 104** is slightly inset or recessed into a longitudinal groove **112** (see FIGS. 2 and 4) formed in the back panel **16**. Also, the locking pawl projects forwardly through an opening **114** provided in back panel **16**.

It should be noted that the invention is susceptible to still further modifications. For example, the locking member need not protrude through an opening in the rear

wall of the slider but may extend beyond the stem end thereof or, in the alternative, the locking member could be positioned in one of the branch channels. The connector ring need not be rectangular in section but may be circular or oval, etc. The connector ring may not even be needed and the pull tab may be configured to directly connect with the ring mount.

While particular embodiments of the invention have been shown and described, it is to be understood that further changes may be made in the construction and arrangements of the various parts without departing from the sphere and scope of the invention as expressed in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a concealed slide fastener including two chains of interlocking fastener elements and a slider which is closed at its sides and back, is centrally open at its front, has a stem end portion of lipped channel form, and has a branched end portion including an island separator and a pair of lipped branch channels extending away from said stem channel along divergent paths on opposite sides of the separator, the improvement comprising:

a front-to-rear passageway extending through said separator;

a flexible locking beam extending generally longitudinally of the separator along the back of the slider, said beam including an inwardly projecting locking pawl, and said beam normally biasing said locking pawl into a position of interference with a fastener element;

a force transmitting member extending through said passageway and having a forward end portion which projects outwardly from said passageway and forwardly of the separator, and a rearward end portion in contact with an intermediate portion of said beam; and

pull tab means connected to a forward portion of said separator and including cam means movable against the forward end portion of said force transmitting member to move such member generally axially rearwardly through said passageway, causing it to deflect the beam rearwardly and in that manner remove the locking pawl out from said position of interference with the fastener element.

2. The improvement of claim 1, wherein an opening extends through the back of said slider in the region of said stem end portion and said locking pawl normally extends forwardly from said beam, through said opening, and into the stem channel.

3. The improvement of claim 2, wherein a generally longitudinally extending groove is formed in the back of said slider and the flexible locking beam is located in said groove.

4. The improvement of claim 1, wherein the rearward end portion of the force transmitting element is connected to the intermediate portion of said beam.

5. The improvement of claim 1, wherein said pull tab means includes a ring mount extending generally longitudinally of the separator and bridging over the forward end of said passageway, with said ring mount and the forward end portion of said force transmitting element having cooperating surfaces which converge together as they extend towards the stem end of the slider, and wherein said cam means comprises a ring which surroundingly engages said ring mount and is normally loosely accommodated in the space between the ring mount and the force transmitting member, but when forceably pulled towards said stem end, in the direction of convergence of said cooperating surfaces, slides along the ring mount surface, moves said surfaces apart, and forceably moves said force transmitting member axially and rearwardly through said passageway.

6. The improvement of claim 1, wherein the rearward end portion of the force transmitting element is formed to make contact with the beam generally along a line which is substantially colinear with the longitudinal boundary of such element which faces towards the stem end of the slider, so that the force is applied on the beam as close to the pawl as possible.

7. In a concealed slide fastener including a slider which is closed at its sides and back, is centrally open at its front, and has a stem end portion of lipped channel form, a branched end portion including a island separator having inner and outer ends, a pair of lipped branch channels extending away from said stem channel along divergent paths on opposite sides of the separator, and end surfaces, the improvement comprising:

said separator having a protruding portion which projects endwise outwardly of the slider from said end surfaces and includes said outer end, and a forward surface which slopes rearwardly throughout at least a substantial portion of its extent from the inner to the outer end of the separator;

a fixed ring mount having a first end secured to said separator near the inner end thereof and an opposite end secured to the protruding portion of said separator, slightly outwardly endwise of where said end surfaces intersect said protruding portion; and

pull means for said slider including a ring which is movable between an operative position, in which it is forwardly of said separator and surroundingly engages said ring mount, and an inoperative, substantially hidden position in which it surroundingly engages the protruding portion of said separator and a portion of it is located rearwardly of said protruding portion.

8. The improvement of claim 7, wherein the forwardmost portion of said fixed ring mount is offset forwardly of the back of the slider substantially about the same distance as the front surfaces of the lipped channels.

9. The improvement of claim 7, wherein the protruding portion of the separator is of knob form and is slightly narower in the region whereat it is engaged by said ring when the ring is in said inoperative position than it is endwise outwardly therefrom, and the ring includes an inner end portion which includes side parts which are spaced apart a distance approximately equaling said narrower width region, and are resilient enough to permit passage of the ring over the wider region outwardly therefrom.

10. The improvement of claim 7, wherein said ring includes an outer portion which when the ring is in said inoperative position is spaced rearwardly of the outer end portion of said separator, and said pull means also includes a pull tab having an eye at its inner end which surroundingly engages the outer portion of said ring, with said spacing being sufficient enough to permit the eye to be accommodated behind the protruding portion, so that the pull tab can be set into a hidden position rearwardly of the slider.

11. The improvement of claim 10, wherein said pull tab has a generally concave forward surface portion which is substantially contiguous a rear portion of said slider when the ring is in its inoperative position and the pull tab is located behind the slider, and said rear portion is of a substantially complementary convex curvature, so that the pull tab may be placed substantially tight against said slider.

12. The improvement of claim 7, wherein a front-to-rear passageway extends through said separator, a flexible locking beam extends generally longitudinally of the separator along the back of the slider, said beam including an inwardly projecting locking pawl, and said beam normally biasing said locking pawl into a position of interference with a fastener element, and a force transmitting member extending through said passageway and having a forward end portion which projects outwardly from said passageway and forwardly of the forward surface of said separator and a rearward end portion in contact with an intermediate portion of said beam, with said ring being

movable against the forward end portion of said force transmitting member to move such member generally axially rearwardly through said passageway, causing it to deflect the beam rearwardly and in that manner remove the locking pawl out from said position of interference with a fastener element.

13. In a concealed slide fastener including a slider which is closed at its sides and back, is centrally open at its front, and has a stem end portion of lipped channel form, a branched end portion including an island separator having inner and outer ends, a pair of lipped branched channels extending away from said stem channel along divergent paths on opposite sides of the separator, and end surfaces, the improvement comprising:

said separator having a protruding portion which projects endwise outwardly of said slider from said end surfaces and includes said outer end, a forward surface, and a front-to-rear directed slot in said protruding portion;

a fixed ring mount having a first end positioned near the inner end of said separator and an opposite end portion within said slot in the protruding portion of the separator, with the parts of said separator on the opposite sides of the slot firmly clamping said opposite end portion of the ring mount between them; and

pull means for said slider including a ring which has an operative position in which it is forwardly of the separator and surroundingly engages said ring mount.

14. The improvement of claim 13, wherein said separator includes a second slot near the inner end thereof which is substantially coplanar with the first slot, and wherein the said first end of the fixed ring mount is located within said slot and the portions of the separator on the opposite sides of said second slot firmly clamp the first end of said fixed ring mount between them.

15. In a concealed slide fastener including two chains of interlocking fastener elements and a slider which is closed at its sides and back, is centrally open at its front, has a stem end portion of lipped channel form, and has a branched end portion including an island separator and a pair of lipped branched channels extending away from said stem channel along divergent paths on opposite sides of the separator, the improvement comprising:

a flexible locking beam extending generally longitudinally of the separator along the back of the slider, said beam including a mounting portion and an inwardly projecting locking pawl adjacent its end opposite said mounting portion, and said beam normally biasing said locking pawl into a position of interference with a fastener element;

a front-to-rear opening in the outer end portion of said separator, with the mounting portion of said beam being disposed within said opening, and with the parts of said separator on opposite sides of the opening firmly clamping between them the mounting portion of said locking beam; and

means including a pull tab on the forward side of the slider for flexing the locking beam rearwardly for the purpose of moving the locking pawl rearwardly and out from said position of interference with a fastener element.

16. In a slider having a stem end, a branched end including a separator, and front and rear faces, the improvement comprising:

said separator including inner and outer end portions and a generally front-to-rear passageway extending through it between said end portions, and said outer end portion including a front-to-rear extending slot;

a mount-lock member including a flexible beam portion, a mounting portion, a bright portion connecting a first end of said beam portion with a first end of said mounting portion, and an inwardly projecting locking pawl carried by said beam portion;

said beam portion extending generally longitudinally of the separator, rearwardly of the slider, and normally biasing said locking pawl inwardly into a position within the path of certain of the slide fastener elements on which the slider runs;

said mounting portion extending generally longitudinally of the separator, forwardly of the slider;

said bight portion of said mount-lock member being located within the slot in the outer end portion of said separator, with the parts of the separator on the opposite sides of the slot, such parts tightly clamping the bight portion between them;

a force transmitting member extending through said passageway and having a front end portion which projects from said passageway forwardly of the separator, and a rearward end portion in contact with said beam between the locking pawl and the bight; and

pull tab means mounted on said mounting portion and including cam means movable against the front end portion of said force transmitting member to move such member generally axially rearwardly through said passageway, causing it to deflect said beam portion rearwardly and in that manner remove the locking pawl out from said position within the path of certain of the fastener elements.

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