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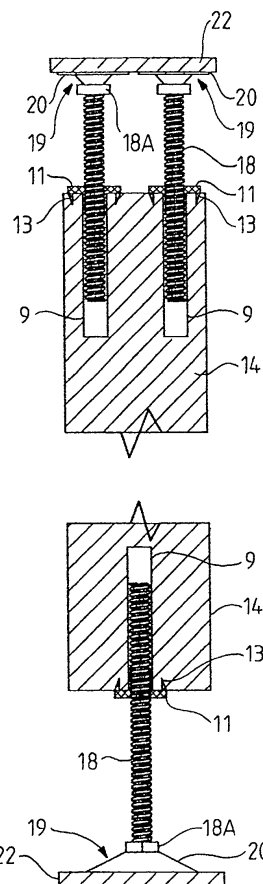
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(54) **Fixing means for panels and the like**

(57) A fixing means is provided for a panel (16) or the like to close off a substantially vertical gap between two substantially horizontal surfaces. The means comprises at least two elongate upright members (14) transversely spaced apart or a frame (10) for mounting substantially vertically inward of the side edges of a corresponding panel (16) to be fitted. Each upright member (14) has at least one flat face (15) to abut against the inside face of the panel (16) and each upright member (14) or the frame (10) has at its bottom end a height-adjustable element (18) with a foot (19) to be lower surface-engagable. The other upper end is securable under the upper surface. The foot (19) of each upright member (14) is for urging against the lower surface with a compressible pad (22) positioned therebetween. The flat face (15) of each upright member facing outwards and having at least two vertically-spaced contact zones (24) against which a corresponding number of co-operating contact zones (24) similarly positioned on an inside face of the panel (16) are matable.



**FIG. 1**



European Patent  
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
X	US 5 915 850 A (KRIST ET AL.) 29 June 1999 (1999-06-29)	1,4,5,8, 10,13
Y	* column 3, line 23 - column 4, line 39; figures *	2,3,6
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	* column 12, line 47 - column 13, line 6; figure 13B * -----	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	20 November 2003	Clasing, M
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82