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H. D. RANDALL

1,934,816

RUNWAY STRUCTURE

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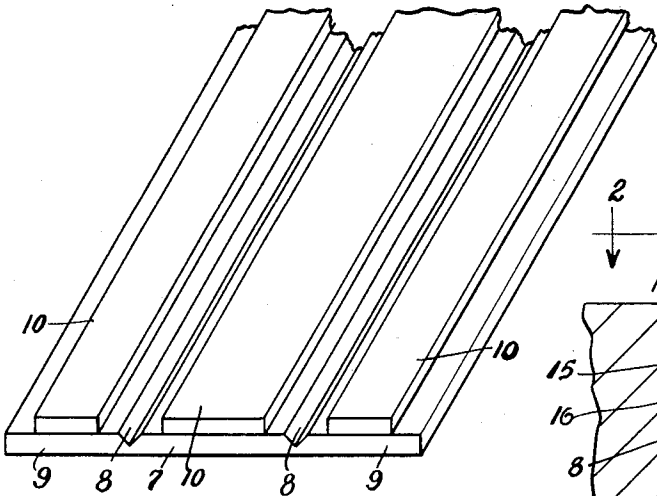


Fig. 3.

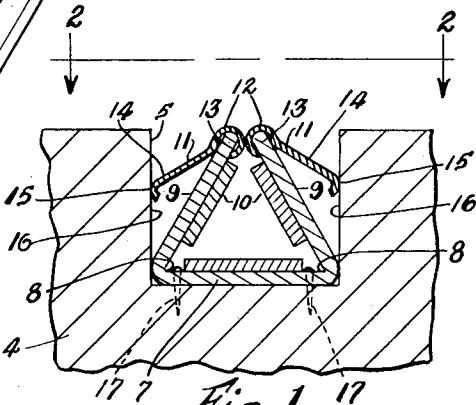
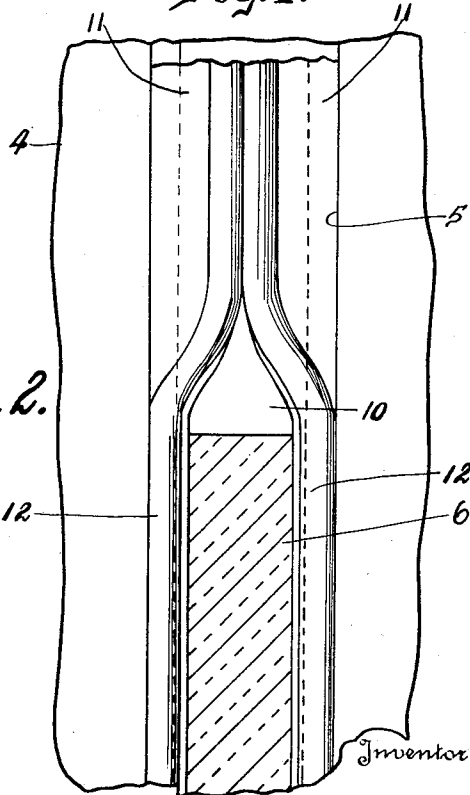


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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RUNWAY STRUCTURE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 296—44.5)

This invention relates to improvements in a runway for a sliding window pane or panel.

An object of the invention is to provide a runway for a pane, as of glass or other material, which is constructed so as to close itself against the entry of foreign substances during such times as it is unoccupied by the pane.

Another object is to provide a runway of the above character which is constructed so as to preclude vibration of a pane supported therein.

Another object is to provide a runway of the above character which is simple and inexpensive of manufacture.

These and other objects are attained by the means described herein and disclosed in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of the runway structure of the invention mounted in a channel or groove of a suitable support, for example a vehicle door.

Fig. 2 is a plan view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing in cross section a pane slidably supported in the runway.

Fig. 3 is an isometric view of the runway body structure in flat condition.

This invention relates to a runway for panels or sliding panes of glass, such as may be used in vehicle door or window structure. In the drawing, 4 indicates a vehicle door frame or other suitable support having a panel 5 in which is disposed the runway structure of the invention. The runway structure is adapted to receive a panel or a pane of glass 6 therein, which is arranged for sliding movement in the runway structure longitudinally thereof. It will be plainly evident by referring to Fig. 2, that as the pane is moved in the runway, that portion of the runway unoccupied by the pane will close itself to the entry of water, dirt or other foreign substances.

The runway structure comprises a base portion 7 of rubber, fibre or other suitable material, having longitudinal parallel grooves or depressions 8 therein for forming the sides 9 which may be flexed centerward toward one another for disposition at an angle to the base portion 7 as indicated in Fig. 1. Although the sides 9 are shown integral with the base portion, the sides may be hingedly mounted upon the base portion by any other suitable means. Felt strips or contact members 10 may be glued or otherwise secured to the base portion and to the sides, to provide abutments for the panel or pane to slide upon.

Means are provided for constantly urging the

sides into contacting relation as indicated in Fig. 1. Said means consists of the resilient members 11, each of which comprises a clinch portion or bead 12 which may be clinched over the free edges 13 of the sides 9. Extending outwardly from each bead portion is a skirt or extension 14 having a sliding contact portion 15 for abutment upon the side walls 16 of the panel. The sliding contact portion may be formed by simply bending the free edge of the skirt upon itself so as to preclude excessive friction between the skirt and the side wall 16. The members 11 preferably are of resilient metal of a non-rust nature.

The skirts 14 diverge from the sides 9 from the bead portion toward the groove or hinge portion 8, and the purpose thereof is to constantly urge the sides and the beaded portions 12 toward one another for closing the runway. If desired, the resilient members 11 may be secured to the sides 9 in a manner such as to cause actual contact between the free edges of the sides rather than between the metallic beads as indicated in Fig. 1. The base portion 7 of the runway may be secured to the bottom wall of the panel 5 by any suitable means such as cement, or nails 17.

From the foregoing it should be readily apparent that a simple and inexpensive means has been provided for closing that portion of the runway unoccupied by the pane 6. Said means also serves to preclude vibration of the pane within the runway regardless of the relative position of the glass within the runway. The device remains neat in appearance because of the absence of edges to be cut or frayed by the panel or glass pane.

It is to be understood that various modifications and changes in structural details of the device may be made, within the scope of the claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination with a support means having a channel with side walls and a bottom wall, a runway structure disposed within the channel and comprising a body having a base portion and opposite sides movable relatively to the base portion, yielding means comprising a bead-like portion disposed over an edge of each side, and a yieldable extension extending from the bead-like portion to a position between each side and its adjacent channel side wall, for yieldingly urging into contacting relationship the bead-like portions on the opposite runway sides.

2. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and side walls hinged-

ly connected to the base portion, the side walls being movable to angular positions with respect to the base portion, independent resilient members mounted upon the side walls, a skirt on each
 5 resilient member extending outwardly from the side walls, and a sliding contact portion on the skirt for slidably contacting a runway supporting channel.

3. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and integral sides
 10 movable to angular positions with respect to the base portion, a member having a bead-like clamp portion clamped onto each side along the free edge thereof, and a skirt extending from each
 15 bead-like clamp portion at an angle to the plane of its corresponding side.

4. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and sides hingedly
 20 connected to the base portion, the sides being movable to angular positions with respect to the base portion, a resilient member mounted adjacent a free edge of each side, and a skirt on each
 25 resilient member diverging from the said free edge and adapted for slidably contacting a wall of a runway support.

5. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and integral sides each arranged for hinged movement toward one another upon the base portion, contact members
 80 on the base portion and sides, and a resilient member secured to each side, said resilient members each having a skirt with a free edge adapted to slidably engage a wall of a runway support.

6. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and a side movable to
 85 angular positions with respect to the base portion, a member having a bead-like clamp portion clamped onto said side along the free edge thereof, and a skirt extending from said bead-like
 90 clamp portion at an angle to the plane of its corresponding side.

7. A runway structure of the class described comprising a base portion and a side of stiff material movable to angular positions with respect
 95 to the base portion, a member having a bead-like clamp portion clamped onto said side along the free edge thereof, and a skirt extending from the bead-like clamp portion at an angle to the
 100 plane of its corresponding side.

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