Jan. 20, 1953 R. T. HICKOK 2,625,690

APPAREL BELT

Filed Aug. 4, 1950

Fig. 1.

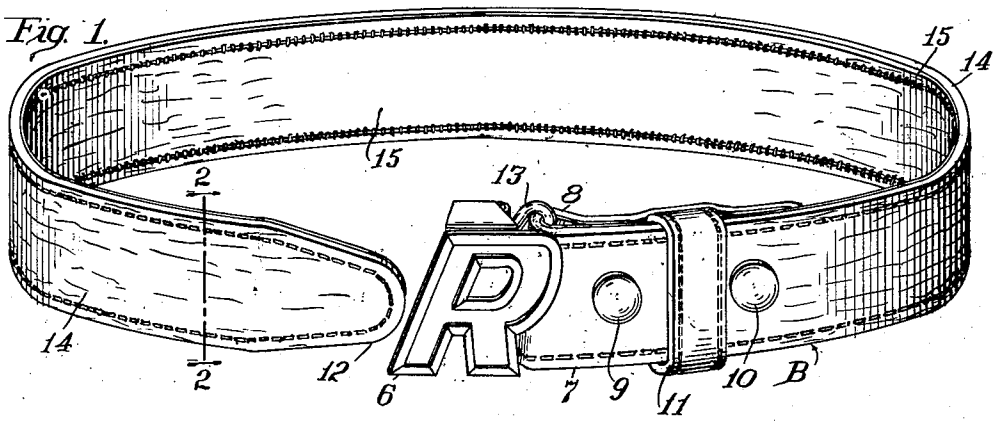


Fig. 2.

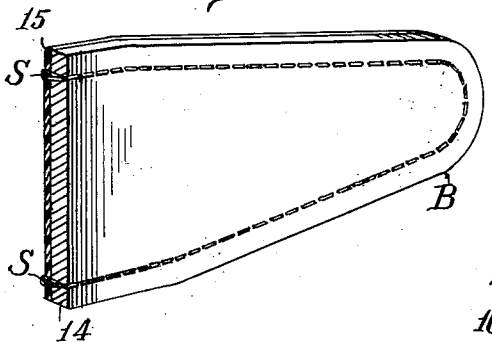


Fig. 3.

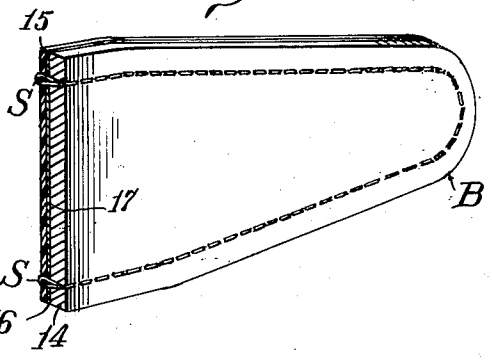


Fig 4.

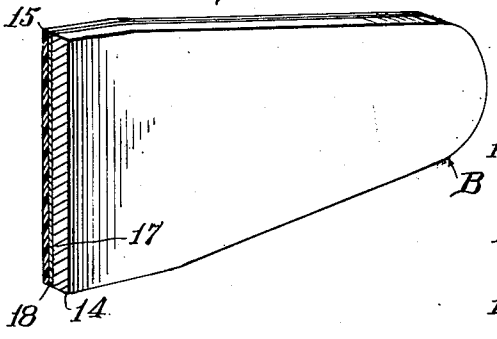
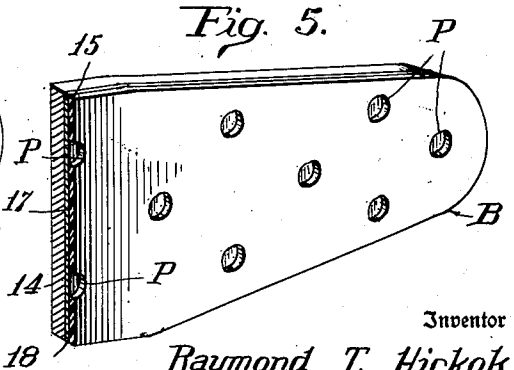


Fig. 5.



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APPAREL BELT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—338)

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This invention relates to apparel belts. The invention is more particularly directed to laminated apparel belts wherein the facing of the belt and the lining or liner of the belt, which is the rear face thereof, are of different materials and possess totally different inherent and functional characteristics.

More specifically, the apparel belts consist of a facing, preferably of leather, and a lining of synthetic material, preferably a plastic material and which said materials are held together by various means and wherein the lining or liner of the belt is preferably of much thinner stock than the facing or front of the belt.

In the manufacture of apparel belts, such as are now on the market, these belts may be in the form of a single strip of leather or a strip of leather lined with leather, and usually the lining is of considerably less thickness than the belt proper. Where a liner is not secured to the belt, the inside of the belt is therefore rather rough and absorbent. Where the leather liner is secured to the body or facing of the belt, there are, of course, two materials laminated or secured together which both possess the same inherent characteristics.

While, of course, leather laminated belts, whether containing a lining or not, have proven satisfactory, there are some objections to these belts that are now on the market. Leather, of course, is subject to variations in temperature and, consequently, the flexible characteristics of a leather apparel belt, whether lined or not, are affected; namely, under extreme low degrees of temperature, the leather would be rather inflexible whereas to the contrary in higher degrees of temperature.

Then, too, leather and fabric belts or other absorbent material belts are affected by acid perspiration of the wearer. It is a known fact that leather has bleeding characteristics, which is occasioned by the perspiration of the wearer which activates the chemical tanning element or elements in the leather. Then again, it is rather hard to maintain the balance of elasticity or resilience in connection with leather belts.

As distinguished from the prior art belts now on the market, the present belt which has the plastic relatively thin lining applied to the leather facing, and secured thereto in any suitable manner, is indeed highly flexible and the characteristics of the lining are such that it is not affected by variations in temperature and the belt as a whole retains its initial flexibility; it is not affected by acid perspiration and thereby prevents bleeding

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of the leather facing or body portion of the belt as the perspiration will be prevented from passing through the lining to the belt facing or body portion. In fact, the lining acts as a barrier against the passing of perspiration therefrom to the leather facing or body portion of the belt.

Additionally, by utilizing the synthetic, plastic lining for the apparel belt, there is a balance of elasticity and resilience in the overall belt structure as the front of the belt, which is of leather, and the lining possess the same resilient properties and, furthermore, this eliminates piping or buckling under conditions of bending and reverse bending.

With the present belt, the lining may be in the form of leather grain and thus the belt may be reversed and the lining disposed forward with the leather in the rear thereof, but this is not preferred as the leather will absorb the perspiration of the wearer and react chemically unfavorably and result in bleeding of the leather, at least some, if not most, of the known leathers.

Another feature of the present invention is that the synthetic lining may be perforated and thus will allow for a ventilating and evaporation function of any perspiration that may exist and impart non-slip or non-skid characteristics to the lining.

In view of the foregoing, therefore, it is an object of the present invention to provide a laminated belt wherein at least two laminations of materials possessing entirely different inherent characteristics are utilized and the two said materials are permanently bound or secured together.

Another object of the invention is to provide an apparel belt wherein the facing or body portion of the belt is preferably in the form of leather and the lining, which is substantially coextensive with the inner side of the belt and permanently secured thereto, is a plastic.

Another object of the invention is to provide an apparel belt wherein the facing or front part or body of the belt is of leather and the lining, which is preferably of considerably less thickness than the body portion of the belt, is a plastic and is substantially coextensive with the inner face of the body of the belt and is secured thereto either by cement alone or stitching alone or by a combination of cement and stitching.

Another object of the invention is to provide a leather belt having a perforated plastic liner permanently secured thereto and substantially coextensive therewith.

Another object of the invention is to provide

an apparel belt wherein the body or face portion of the belt is preferably of leather and there is a plastic liner permanently secured thereto and substantially coextensive therewith, and which liner possesses substantially the same resilient and flexible characteristics of the leather and is immune to the unfavorable chemical reaction of perspiration of the wearer and acts as a barrier to prevent such perspiration from reaching the leather portion of the belt.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claim hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportions, and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claim, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of the belt constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing a modification of the invention;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Figs. 2 and 3 and showing a still further modification of the invention; and

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Figs. 2 through 4 but showing the perforated lining of the belt.

The invention will be more readily understood by referring to the drawings in detail wherein like reference numerals in the several figures of the drawing all denote the same parts.

In the drawing, the entire belt is denoted at B. As to the manner of attaching the buckle 6 to the end 7 of the belt, this is conventional and may consist of reversely bending the belt as at 8, and this reversely bent portion is, in this instance, detachably held in such position by snap fasteners or other such similar fasteners 9 and 10. The usual loop 11 is provided slightly inwardly of one end of the belt and serves to receive the other end of the belt 12 therein after it has been engaged by or in the buckle 6. The particular buckle, as shown at 6, is embodied in co-pending application, Serial No. 136,979, filed January 5, 1950. This buckle is of the usual ratchet or clamp type and includes a loop 13 through which the bight portion of one end of the belt is positioned and thus the belt and buckle are held in proper asscciation with each other.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the facing or body of the belt, which is of leather, is denoted at 14 and the plastic lining is denoted at 15. This plastic liner is substantially coextensive with the interior surface of the leather belt and is considerably less in thickness than the thickness of the body portion 14 of the belt. As a matter of fact, the plastic lining 15 is about the thickness of an ordinary sheet of writing paper.

This plastic lining 15, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is permanently secured to the leather body portion 14 of the belt by means of a line of stitching S which is positioned inwardly of the extreme edges and ends of the liner and the body portion 14. Thus, this stitching serves to securely laminate or bind together the lining 15 with the leather body portion 14 or vice versa.

In the modification as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing, the liner or lining 15, in addition to the stitching S, is secured to the leather facing or body portion of the belt by means of a coating or application of an adhesive such as cement or the like 16, and this adhesive may be in the form of a coating or otherwise and is substantially coextensive with the inner face 17 of the body portion 14 of the belt and likewise, coextensive, of course, with the inner face of the plastic lining 15.

In the modification of the invention as shown in Fig. 4, the lining or liner 15 is secured to the inner face 17 of the leather belt body 14 solely by means of an adhesive 18 and no stitching is utilized.

In the modification of the invention as shown in Fig. 5, which is a rear elevational view of a portion of the belt, the liner 15 is provided with a series or plurality of perforations P substantially throughout the length of the liner, and these perforations may be in any form but, as here shown, are circular and it is understood that the perforations do not extend through or into the body portion 14 but only in the lining 15. However, if it is desired, these perforations, of course, could extend through both the liner 15 and body portion 14. Additionally, of course, if a buckle having a tongue is used, the free end of the belt, therefore, will have a series of in-line spaced perforations in order that the tongue of the buckle may be engaged in any selected perforation and thus engage or secure the free end of the belt to the buckle.

The cements or adhesives 16 and 18, hereinbefore referred to, are preferably of the thermoplastic type but a thermosetting adhesive may, of course, be utilized and, in this latter connection, heat would have to be applied to effect the uniting of the latter with the leather body portion of the belt. It has been found that adhesives or cements, such as solvent type cements or solvent type rubber cements are quite effective in bonding the plastic liner to the leather belt and, in this connection, cements known as Angier's Cement SB533–B; Le Page's Cement #2338 and New York Rubber Company's Cement #61, have been used effectively.

As regards the synthetic liner or lining 15, vinyl-cholride-vinylidene-chloride copolymer resins may be used and, additionally, vinylidene-chloride resins are also suitable.

The plastic liner or lining 15 may be suitably ornamented to represent leather grain which will match the leather grain of the leather body portion 14 of the belt or, of course, the liner could be plain or ornamented in any suitable manner. The liner may be of the same color as the body portion of the belt or, if desired, this liner may be of a different or contrasting color to the body of the belt. For instance, if the liner of the belt is colored blue and suitably provided with surface ornamentation or plain, and the body portion 14 of the belt is natural leather, the belt could thereby be reversed and the liner be on the outside when in use on the wearer and, in effect, the wearer would have the benefit of two colors in one belt and could select either one that he wished to appear on the outside.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the liner or lining 15 can be attached to the leather body portion 14 of the belt either by stitching alone, Fig. 2; stitching plus an adhesive such as cement, Fig. 3; and cement alone such as in Fig. 4. In all forms and modifications of the invention, the liner may be provided with perfora-

tions P, if desired. The perforations, of course, provide for ventilation and prevent bleeding due to perspiration of the wearer. The relative thickness of the liner with respect to the body portion of the belt is such that the belt possesses all of the necessary flexible and resilient characteristics and will not be affected by temperature variations, perspiration, etc. such as is common to known leather belts.

It might be mentioned that, when the liner is applied to the inner surface of the belt, all edges, including side and end edges, of the belt with the liner permanently secured thereto, are such that the liner is hardly discernible to the naked eye and, in effect, the belt appears to be of one piece of material whereas it actually is a laminated material of leather and plastic.

What is claimed is:

An apparel belt comprising a body consisting of an elongated leather strap having inner and outer surfaces and being of a length adapting it to pass about a person's waist, and a lining consisting of an elongated strip of thin flexible moisture-proof plastic of the vinylidine-chloride resin type, said lining being of the same length and

width as the leather strap, said lining strip being adhesively secured throughout its entire area against the inner surface of said leather strap in flat contacting engagement therewith for its full length and width and having marginal edges flush with marginal edges of the strap, and fastening means for releasably securing ends of the belt together.

RAYMOND T. HICKOK.

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