Jan. 28, 1969 C. E. CASSLING 3,423,764

GARMENT ANCHOR

Filed Sept. 14, 1965

FIG. 1

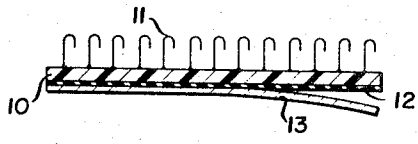


FIG. 2

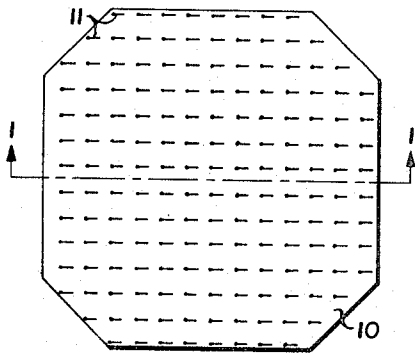


FIG. 5

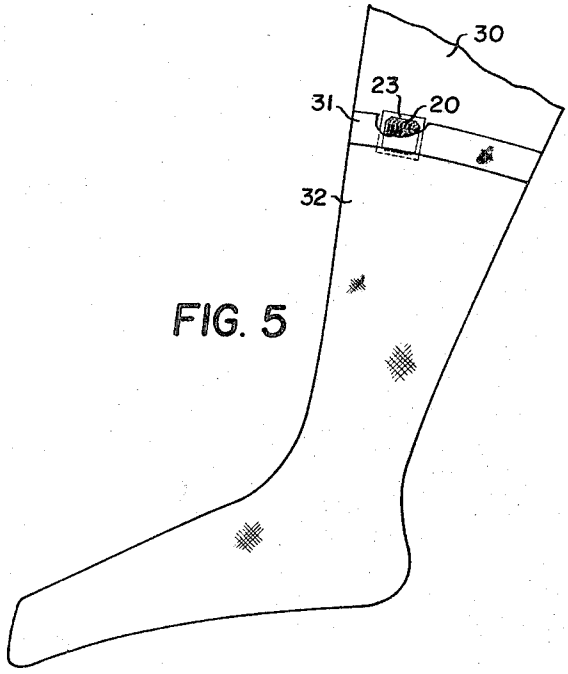


FIG. 4

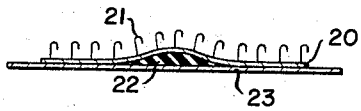
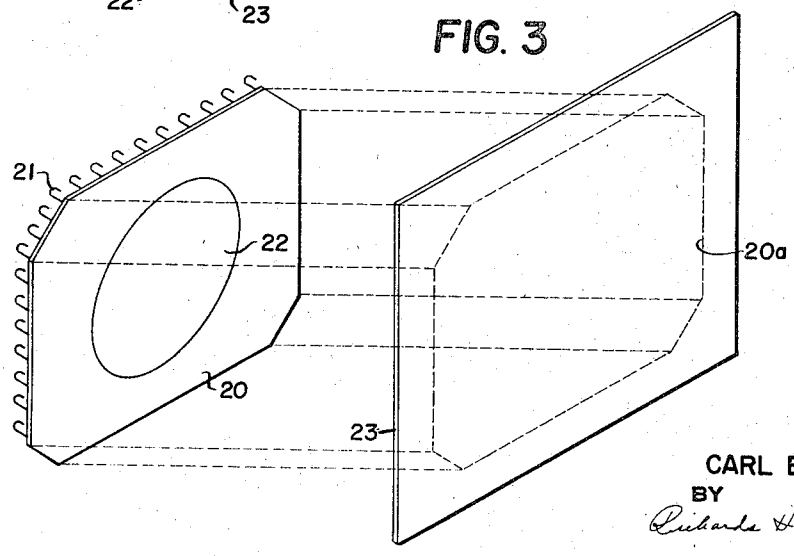


FIG. 3



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3,423,764

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Int. Cl. A41f 11/16

This invention relates to a support for clothes and more particularly to an adhesive tab adapted to be affixed to the body and characterized by a fabric engaging and supporting surface.

It is the common experience that many articles of clothing suffer disarray upon movement of the body. Men's stockings, for example, although made of elastic yarns and the like have a tendency to creep downward. Other articles of clothing similarly shift, though it is desired to maintain them substantially fixed in position.

The present invention is directed to an adhesive tab which may be affixed to the skin at the position to be occupied by a given section of an article of clothing. The outer surface of the tab is provided with protrusions or fibers which impale the garment and preferably become attached to the garment so that it will be maintained in position. Preferably, the surface is resilient to permit detachment when the garment is to be removed.

More particularly, in accordance with the present invention, there is provided a flexible adhesive tab having an outer surface characterized by a fabric engaging structure, and more particularly having a multiplicity of outwardly projecting resilient hooks which will impale and attach themselves to the threads of a given fabric.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the adhesive body is of larger areal extent than the area occupied by the attaching members. Preferably the center zones of the attaching members are raised from the plane of the adhesive body to form a zone of increased support capability.

For a more complete understanding of the present invention and for further objects and advantages thereof, reference may now be had to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIGURE 1 is a sectional view of an embodiment of the invention as taken along lines **1**—**1** of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 2 is a front view of the tab of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 illustrates a preferred embodiment of the invention in exploded form;

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view of the embodiment of FIGURE 3; and

FIGURE 5 illustrates one application of the present invention.

Referring now to FIGURE 1, there is illustrated a body **10** of a material such as manufactured and sold under the trademark Velcro by Velcro Corporation, 681 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. Such material is characterized by an upper surface from which there protrudes a plurality of resilient hook-like fibers **11**. The fibers **11** have downwardly directed ends of such character that they will impale and attach themselves to fabrics pressed thereover. An adhesive layer **12** is affixed to the back of the member **10** with a removable cover strip **13**, such as is well known in the art, normally covering the same and which is normally removed preparatory to the use of the tab. The exposed surface of the tab **10** with the outwardly directed hooks is shown in FIGURE 2 where the hooks are positioned in a uniform array. However, it will be understood that different arrays or patterns of hook members may be employed.

In the embodiment of FIGURE 3, the adhesive sheet **23** is substantially larger than the hook-carrying sheet **20**. The sheet **20** is relieved at the corners to form a central supporting area. A pad **22** is positioned on the rear surface of sheet **20**, i.e., the surface opposite the hooks **21**. The sheet **20** and the pad **22** will then be affixed to the confronting surface of the sheet **23** as to occupy the zone represented by the outline **20***a*. The two sheets **20** and **23** may be secured together by any suitable means. The back surface of the sheet **20** will be provided with an adhesive layer, not shown, so that the tab may be affixed to the body of the wearer. The construction may be of the type generally employed in making adhesive bandages.

FIGURE 5 illustrates one use of the tab of FIGURES 3 and 4. A stocking **32** having an upper band **31** is fitted onto a foot **30**. The sheet **23** is adhesively secured to the skin above foot **30**, with the hook portions **21** on the surface of the sheet **20** facing outwardly. The upper band or rib portion of the stocking **32** is then placed on the surface of the sheet **20** so that the hooks **21** will engage the rib portion **31** and will hook onto the fibers or threads forming the rib **31**. By this means the stocking can be supported without the necessity of encircling the leg with an additional band such as has been traditional.

The invention, of course, may be formed in various sizes and may be attached at various points on the body as the need may require.

Having described the invention in connection with certain specific embodiments thereof, it is to be understood that further modifications may now suggest themselves to those skilled in the art and it is intended to cover such modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. Garment supporting means comprising unitary structure including a flexible strip having an adhesive layer on one side for adhering to a body surface, and an anchor layer occupying at least a portion of the surface of said strip opposite said adhesive layer and means anchoring said anchor layer at points spaced over the contact area between said strip and said anchor layer to unify said strip and said anchor layer, and to distort said anchor layer into a non-planar configuration when said flexible strip is in a planar configuration, said anchor layer being characterized by a plurality of outwardly directed resilient rods having hook-shaped ends.

2. The combination set forth in claim **1** in which said anchor layer is of an area equal to the area of said flexible strip.

3. The combination set forth in claim **1** in which said anchor layer is of an area less than the area of said flexible strip, with said flexible strip forming an exposed margin around said anchor layer.

4. Garment supporting means comprising a flexible strip having an adhesive layer on one side for adhering to a body surface, and having at least a portion of the surface opposite said adhesive layer occupied by an anchor layer characterized by a plurality of outwardly directed resilient rods having hook-shaped ends, and wherein said flexible strip is nominally planar with a mound-like pad interposed between the face of said flexible strip opposite said adhesive layer and the back of said anchor layer to distort said anchor layer into a non-planar configuration when said flexible strip is in a planar configuration.

5. A garment supporting means comprising a flexible strip having an adhesive layer on one side for adhering to a body surface and having a mound-like surface oppo-

site said adhesive surface at least a portion of which is occupied by an anchor layer characterized by a plurality of outwardly directed resilient rods having hook-shaped ends.

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