

Trial decision

Invalidation No. 2014-400007

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The following trial decision is rendered in the trial case for invalidation of the utility model registration between the above parties with respect to the Utility Model Registration No. 3183509 titled "Lock Device of Travel Case."

Conclusion

The demand for trial of the case was groundless.

The costs in connection with the trial shall be borne by the demandant.

Reason

No. 1. History of the Procedures

March 4, 2013: Filing of the application (Utility Model Application No. 2013-1139)

April 24, 2013: Registration of establishment of the utility model right (Utility Model Registration No. 3183509)

June 19, 2014: Filing of the request for the trial against the above registration

August 11, 2014: Submission of the written reply for the trial case by the demandee

October 27, 2014: Submission of the written refutation for the trial case by the demandant

January 28, 2015: Notice of Matters for Proceedings (Drafting Date)

March 4, 2015: Submission of the oral proceedings statement brief by the demandant

March 4, 2015: Submission of the oral proceedings statement brief by the demandee

March 18, 2015: Oral proceedings

Conclusion of the proceedings (first record of oral argument)

For the record, a written correction regarding the correction pursuant to Article 14bis (1) of the Utility Model Act was submitted by the demandee on August 11, 2014.

No. 2 Regarding the Registered Utility Model of This Case

It is noted that the devices according to claims 1 to 4 of the Utility Model Registration of the case are acknowledged as follows, as specified by the matters described in claims 1 to 4 of the scope of claim, to which corrections have been made pursuant to the provision of Article 14bis (1)(ii) of the Utility Model Act by the correction dated August 11, 2014. (These devices are hereinafter referred to as "the claimed device 1" to "the claimed device 4," respectively).

For the record, the correction dated August 11, 2014 has been made for the purpose of restriction of the scope of claims along with clarification of ambiguous statement so as to ensure consistency between the recitations of the scope of claims to be corrected and the descriptions of the Detailed Explanation of the Device of the

Description, and thus this correction has been made for the purpose of the matters listed in Article 14bis (2)(i) and (iii) of the Utility Model Act. Also, the correction in question has been made within the scope of matters disclosed in the Description, the Scope of Claims or drawings attached to the application, and does not substantially enlarge or alter the scope of claims, and thus it is in compliance with the provisions of the third and fourth paragraphs of the same article of the Act.

Further, the demandant has not presented his argumentation regarding this correction.

"[Claim 1]

A lock device of a travel case comprising a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other, characterized in that the lock device comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide zipper moved close to each other and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other, the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member, and that

the lock device further comprises: one lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of one locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; and the other lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented.

[Claim 2]

The lock device of the travel case as set forth in claim 1, wherein the release

buttons are formed and arranged such that they each project outward from the respective one of the both sides of the lock device so as to be operable from the respective lateral sides of the lock device.

[Claim 3]

The lock device of the travel case as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a dial lock mechanism adapted to enable and disable the operation of the release buttons by rotation operation of a plurality of dials, wherein the lock mechanism is configured to cause swing operation of the locking piece such that the sliding of the slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented in a state where the release button is allowed to be operated by virtue of rotation operation of the dials of the lock mechanism.

[Claim 4]

A lock device of a travel case comprising a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other, characterized in that the lock device comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted, the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and two release buttons arranged to protrude outward from the both ends of the lock device so as to release locking with the locking hole by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member; one lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of one locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; the other lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; and a dial lock mechanism adapted to enable and disable the operation of the release buttons by

rotation operation of a plurality of dials, wherein the lock mechanism is configured to cause swing operation of the locking piece such that the sliding of the slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented in a state where the release button is allowed to be operated by virtue of rotation operation of the dials of the lock mechanism."

No. 3 Allegations by the Parties

1. Summary of Allegations and Evidence Submitted by the Demandant

The demandant, seeking the trial decision invalidating the utility model registration for the devices according to the claims 1 to 4 in the Scope of Claims of the Utility Model Registration No. 3183509 and imposing the costs of the trial upon the demandee, alleged the following grounds for invalidation by filing the written demand for trial, submitting the written refutation in the trial case dated October 27, 2014 and the oral proceedings statement brief dated March 4, 2015, and presenting Evidences A No. 1 to A No. 4 in the oral proceeding.

[Reasons for Invalidation]

(1) The corrected devices 1 and 2 should be invalidated as falling under item (ii) of Article 37(1) of the Utility Model Act because they are described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 and are thus not entitled to obtain a utility model registration as falling under item (iii) of Article 3(1) of the Act.

(2) The corrected devices 1 and 2 should be invalidated as falling under item (ii) of Article 37(1) because they would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art prior to filing of this application on the basis of the devices described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2, or they would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art prior to filing of this application on the basis of the combination of either one of the devices described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 and well-known art and are thus not entitled to obtain a utility model registration under the provision of Article 3(2) of the Utility Model Act.

(3) The corrected devices 3 and 4 should be invalidated as falling under item (ii) of Article 37(1) because they would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art prior to filing of this application on the basis of the devices described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 and are thus not entitled to obtain a utility model registration under the provision of Article 3(2) of the Utility Model Act.

(4) the corrected devices 3 and 4 should be invalidated as falling under item (ii) of Article 37(1) because they would have been exceedingly easily made by a person

skilled in the art prior to filing of this application on the basis of the combination of the devices described in Evidence A No. 2 and well-known art (the well-known art as substantiated by Evidence A No. 3 and Evidence A No. 4) and are thus not entitled to obtain a utility model registration under the provision of Article 3(2) of the Utility Model Act.

(Specific Reasons)

(1) Written Demand for Trial Page 22, Line 26 to Page 23, Line 14

Specifically, Evidence A No. 1 describes:

A1. A double-faced zipper lock of a suitcase in which two zippers for opening and closing of the suitcase are provided at upper and lower portions, respectively, the two zippers are configured such that the zippers are closed by causing two pull tabs on each of the two zippers to be moved closed to each other, the zippers are opened by causing the two pull tabs to be moved away from each other,

B1. catch grooves into which the two pull tabs moved close to each other on the corresponding one of the two zippers at the upper and lower portions are provided in one lock housing, the double-faced zipper lock comprising:

C1. a slide rod that is adapted to be slidable inside of each of the catch grooves so as to be engageable with and detachable from each of the pull tab holes, wherein the slide rod is urged by a return spring; and

D1. a button adapted to release the locking of the slide rod with the pull tab hole by the slide rod being pressed to be moved against urging force of the return spring,

E1. the buttons being provided and arranged at both ends of the double-faced zipper lock so that they can be operated via the lateral sides of the double-faced zipper lock,

F1. the double-faced zipper lock including a lock mechanism configured such that a push rod can be placed in swing operation in response to insertion of a key into a lock core so as to prevent movement in the release direction of the slide rod.

(2) Written Demand for Trial Page 26, Line 13 to Page 28, Line 4

A lock mechanism that is a cylinder lock is disclosed in Figs. 1 to 5 of Evidence A No. 2. Specifically, as illustrated in the following figures (Figs. 3 and 4 of Evidence A No. 2), a member adapted for transmission of the movement of a lock core (hereinafter referred to as the "second transmission member") is coupled to the cylinder lock, and the second transmission member includes a pressing part

(hereinafter referred to as the "second pressing part") pressing a lever (hereinafter referred to as the "fourth lever") provided on the rotation branch unit 3. Thus, when the lock core of the cylinder lock is rotated, the second transmission member slides, the second pressing part presses the fourth lever, and thereby the fourth lever moves the rotation branch unit 3, in response to which the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 rotate, moving away from the position where they press the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24, so that these lock bars are allowed to be moved.

As a result, it can be said that Evidence A No. 2 discloses a lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the second transmission member in response to insertion of a key into a key hole such that sliding of the first to fourth lock bars in the locking release direction is prevented.

Specifically, Evidence A No. 2 describes:

A2. A double-faced zipper lock of a suitcase comprising two zippers for opening and closing of the suitcase, the two zippers being adapted to be closed by moving the two pull tabs to each other and to be opened by moving the two pull tabs away from each other, characterized in that

B2. it comprises one base including two first lock grooves each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of the two pull tabs of the one zipper moved close to each other and two second lock grooves each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of the two pull tabs of the other zipper moved close to each other,

C2. the double-faced zipper lock further comprising: first to fourth lock bars adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each locking groove so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a hole formed as an opening in each pull tab and urged by first to fourth compression springs in the locking direction, respectively, and

D2. first and second buttons adapted to release locking of the first to fourth lock bars with the hole by sliding the first to fourth lock bars in the locking release direction against the urging force of the first to fourth compression springs, and thus causing the first to fourth lock parts to be detached from the first to fourth locking grooves, respectively,

E2. wherein the first and second buttons are arranged such that they each project outward from the respective one of the both sides of the double-faced zipper lock so as to be operable via the respective lateral sides of the double-faced zipper lock, and

F2. the double-faced zipper lock comprises a lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the second transmission member in response to insertion of a key

into the a key hole such that sliding of the first to fourth lock bars in the locking release direction is prevented; and

G2. a dial mechanism adapted to enable and disable the operation of the first and second buttons by rotation operation of a plurality of dials.

(3) Written Demand for Trial Page 36, Line 22 to the Last Line

However, Evidence A No. 2 which discloses a double-faced zipper lock similar to that of Evidence A No. 1 describes:

G2. a dial mechanism (which corresponds to the "dial lock mechanism " of this utility model registration) that is configured to enable and disable the operation of the first and second buttons (which correspond to the "release buttons" of this utility model registration) by rotation operation of a plurality of dials, and it is within the scope of design variation ordinarily exercised by a person skilled in the art and thus would be exceedingly easily made to additionally provide a "dial lock mechanism" on the basis of Evidence A No. 2 so as to improve security in the double-faced zipper lock described in Evidence A No. 1.

(4) Written Demand for Trial Page 37, Line 26 to Page 38, Line 6

However, it is a general technique as described, for example, in Evidence A No. 3 and Evidence A No. 4 to allow locking by operation of a key in a released state by the rotation operation of the dials of the dial lock mechanism.

As a result, in order to solve the general problem of improving the security in the technical field of lock devices, it is a matter of design variation made by a person skilled in the art as appropriate and thus has no noticeable technical significance, also in Evidence A No. 2, to configure the lock mechanism such that it realizes the swing operation of the locking piece such that the sliding of the slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented in a state where the release button is allowed to be operated by virtue of the rotation operation of the dials of the dial lock mechanism.

(5) Written Refutation for the Trial Case Page 3, Lines 2 to 23

The corrected devices 1 to 4 are as follows:

[Corrected Device 1]

A. A lock device of a travel case comprising a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing

of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other, characterized in that

B'. it comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted,

C'. the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and

D'. two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member, and that

F'. the lock device further comprises: one lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of one locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; and the other lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented.

(6) Written Refutation for the Trial Case Page 6, Line 3 to Page 7, Line 6

Among the corrections in the written statement of correction, "two first insertion section" of the feature B', the "two slide hook" of the feature C', the "two release button" of the feature D' are disclosed in each of Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2, so that the corrected device 1 corresponds in its features A, B', C', and D' to the device described in Evidence A No. 1 and the device described in Evidence A No. 2 as stated in the written demand for invalidation trial.

On the other hand, although the delimitation of feature F' of providing lock mechanisms for each of the two slide hooks is not explicitly stated in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2, it is merely a matter that is substantially described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2.

Specifically, the paragraph [0002] of Evidence A No. 1 states as the

background art that " Usually, a zipper is provided in a suitcase comprising a zipper, or other similar suitcases, and two pull tabs of the zipper can be locked. However, currently, many suitcases have two attached cases, and it is necessary to realize locking using two zippers. Since the manufacturing cost of the above mentioned system is high, the inventor, in response to the above defect, developed the double-zipper lock and this double-zipper lock, which is capable of collectively locking the two zippers, is simple in its structure and cost-effective, allowing for expansion of the product variations," from which one can understand that the device described in Evidence A No. 1 has been made to solve the problem found in the prior art that two lock devices have been provided for two zippers.

Also, it is described in the paragraphs [0002] and [0003] of Evidence A No. 2 as follows: "However, as the suitcase has upper and lower or two zippers, it requires not only a space therefor but also increased costs to provide two conventional zipper keys. In order to overcome the drawbacks found in the prior art, the present device has been made to provide a zipper lock that is capable of collectively locking two zippers," from which one can understand that the device described in Evidence A No. 2 has been likewise made to solve the problem found in the prior art that two lock devices have been provided for two zippers.

As a result, the delimitation of feature F' of providing lock mechanisms for each of the two slide hook is a matter that can be derived by a person skilled in the art from the matters described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2, and thus the corrected device 1 is (despite the absence of the explicit statement) the device that is described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2.

(7) Written Refutation for the Trial Case Page 7, line 7 to page 8, line 14

Also, it can be said that the corrected device 1 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2.

Specifically, it is within the scope of ordinary creativity that can be normally exercised and is merely a matter that can be designed as appropriate for a person skilled in the art who refers to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 to maintain two lock mechanisms to be in line with individual zippers in a lock device, in the process of providing one lock device with regard to two zippers, on the basis of the state of the art technique according to which two lock devices are provided for two zippers.

The effects of the corrected device 1 are ... any of which, however, is not distinguished over the effects obtained by the conventional one in which two lock

devices are provided for two zippers, and not advantageous more than those that can be expected by a person skilled in the art from the content described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2

Further, as described in paragraphs 0002 to 0005 found in the utility model gazette for this utility model bulletin with reference to patent literatures 1 to 3, it pertains to well-known art to provide one lock device for one zipper comprising two sliders.

As a result, a person skilled in the art would refer to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 where one lock device is provided for two zippers and would exceedingly easily provide only two lock mechanisms in response to the zippers in one lock device so as to individually manage the individual zippers on the basis of the well-known art.

Hence, the corrected device 1 is a device described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 or would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 (or the combination of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 and the well-known art).

[Means of proof]

Evidence A No. 1: The description of Chinese Utility Model Registration 202596354

Evidence A No. 2: The description of Chinese Utility Model Registration 202249309

Evidence A No. 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. S64-62571

Evidence A No. 4: Publication of Registered Utility Model No. 3170520

2. Summary of Argumentation and Evidence Submitted by the Demandee

The demandee, seeking a trial decision dismissing the request for trial of this trial case and imposing the costs of the trial upon the demandant, submitted the written reply for the trial case dated August 11, 2014, the oral proceedings statement brief dated March 4, 2015, and Evidence B1 in the oral proceeding, and made the following argumentation.

[Argumentation against the Reasons for Invalidation]

(1) Written Reply for the Trial Case Page 10, Lines 19 and 20

The claimed device does not fall under the provision of Article 3(1), item (iii) or Article 3(2) of the Utility Model Act on the basis of Evidences A 1 to 4 (item (ii)

of Article 37(1) of the Utility Model Act).

(2) Oral Proceedings Statement Brief Page 5, Line 21 to Page 6, Line 7

As has been discussed in the foregoing, Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 fail to describe two lock mechanisms provided in one lock device including one single housing. As already mentioned, rather, since it is explicitly recited in the scope of claims or described in the specific embodiments as well as the drawings of Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 that locking and releasing of two zippers is realized using one single lock mechanism, and in particular that "the inventor developed the double-zipper lock and this double-zipper lock, which is capable of collectively locking the two zippers, simple in its structure and cost-effective, allowing for expansion of the product variations (paragraph [0002] of Evidence A No. 1)," and that "the present device is capable of collectively locking two zippers by one single zipper lock, saving the space and reducing the costs (paragraph [0013] of Evidence A No. 2)," Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 describe collective locking of two zippers by one single lock mechanism. When this is taken into account, they willfully exclude such a configuration as that of the corrected device 1, in which two lock mechanisms are provided in the lock device including one housing.

Accordingly, even if it pertains to well-known art to provide one lock device for one zipper that includes two sliders, a person skilled in the art having Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2 at hand would not arrive at only providing two lock mechanisms in response to the zippers in one lock device so as to individually manage the individual zippers.

[Means of proof]

Evidence B1: A copy of written correction regarding the correction under Article 14bis (1) of the Utility Model Act

No. 4 Judgment on the body

1. Matters Described in Evidence A No. 1 to Evidence A No. 4

(1) Evidence A No. 1

Evidence A No. 1, which is a publication distributed prior to filing of this application, describes the following matters along with the attached drawings. For the record, the translation submitted by the demandant is relied upon.

(a)

技术领域

[0001] 本实用新型涉及一种锁具,特别是一种双面拉链锁。

背景技术

[0002] 一般具有拉链的皮箱或其它类似的箱具通常会装设一拉链锁,将拉链的二拉链片加以锁掣,但是现在很多箱包上有两个附包,因而有两条拉链需要两个拉链锁来锁定,上述方式成本太高,因而针对上述缺陷,本发明人开发出一种双面拉链锁,可以同时两条拉链进行锁定,不仅结构简单而且成本低廉,也丰富了产品的种类。

发明内容

[0003] 为了克服现有技术的不足,本实用新型提供一种结构简单,成本低的双面拉链锁。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"Technical Field

[0001] The present device relates to a lock, and in particular relates to a double-faced zipper lock.

Background Art

[0002] Usually, a zipper is provided in a suitcase comprising a zipper, or other similar suitcases, and two pull tabs of the zipper can be locked. However, currently, many suitcases have two attached cases, and it is necessary to realize locking using two zippers. Since the manufacturing cost of the above mentioned system is high, the inventor, in response to the above defect, developed the double-zipper lock, and this double-zipper lock, which is capable of collectively locking the two zippers, is simple in its structure and cost-effective, allowing for expansion of the product variations.

Summary of Device

[0003] In order to overcome the drawbacks found in the prior art, the present device has been made to provide a double-faced zipper lock that is simple in its structure and cost-effective."

(b)

[0012] 本实用新型的有益效果是:本实用新型采用钥匙转动锁仁而带动顶杆转动,从而使顶杆不再顶压滑动杆,通过按钮推动滑动杆带动锁舌移动而解除对拉链片的锁定而开锁,本实用新型结构简单、使用方便,而且生产成本低。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"[0012] The advantageous effects of the present device are as follows. Since the present device causes the lock core to rotate using a key and thus the push rod is made

to rotate. By virtue of this, the push rod is not pressed on the slide rod any more, and pressing a button causes the slide rod to be pressed thereby and thus the lock plate is made to move, so that the locking of the pull tab of the zipper is released. The present device is simple in its structure and convenient in its usage, and allows for reduction in the manufacturing cost."

(c)

具体实施方式

[0021] 参照图 1 至图 7, 本实用新型公开了一种双面拉链锁, 包括锁壳 1, 分别设置于锁壳 1 两侧的按钮 2 及分别设置于锁壳 1 另两侧锁掣槽 3, 锁壳 1 内设有锁仁座 4 及相对设有滑动杆 5, 滑动杆 5 上设置有能够伸入锁掣槽 3 内而锁紧拉链片的锁舌 6, 锁仁座 4 内设有可转动的锁仁 7, 锁仁 7 上相对设有分别能够顶压对应滑动杆 5 的顶杆 8, 所述按钮 2 能够推动滑动杆 5 移动, 滑动杆 5 与锁壳 1 间设有能够使滑动杆 5 复位的复位机构, 锁仁 7 为本领域的常用结构, 因而在此不详述。

[0022] 如图所示, 于本具体实施例中, 锁壳 1 上两侧分别设有两个锁掣槽 3, 箱包上的一条拉链上具有两个拉链片, 因而上下两条拉链能够分别与两侧的两个锁掣槽 3 对应, 锁壳 1 上另外两侧相对按钮 2, 为了安装及加工方便, 锁壳 1 上设有容纳孔 9 及底板 11, 容纳孔 9 上设有挡边 10, 所述锁仁座 4 设置于容纳孔 9 内, 且通过挡边 10 及底板 11 限制其轴向移动; 所述锁仁座 4 外壁设有条状的凸条 12, 容纳孔 9 内壁上设有与条状凸条 12 配合的凹槽 13, 所述锁仁座 4 通过凸条 12 与凹槽 13 的配合限制其轴向转动。锁仁 7 上设有凸块 14 及连接件 15, 连接件 15 上设有连接孔, 凸块 14 穿设于连接孔中, 所述锁仁 7 通过凸块 14 挤压连接孔壁而带动连接件 15 转动, 顶杆 8 分别设置于连接件 15 上, 于本实例中, 顶杆 8 与连接件 15 为一体成型。

[0023] 如图所示, 复位机构包括复位弹簧(图中未示出), 该复位弹簧的两面分别与滑动杆 5 及锁壳 1 内壁相顶压。为了安装及加工方便, 滑动杆 5 包括第一滑杆 16 及第二滑杆 17, 所述锁舌 6 分别设置于第一滑杆 16 及第二滑杆 17 上, 第一滑杆 16 及第二滑杆 17 上设有凸柱 18, 所述复位弹簧的一端套设于凸柱 18 上。

[0024] 如图所示, 按钮 2 内相对设有容纳槽 19、第一限位部 20 及第二限位部 21, 所述滑动杆 5 的端部设置于容纳槽 19 内; 所述锁壳 1 上设有与第一限位部 20 相卡挡的第一卡挡部 22 及与第二限位部 21 相卡挡的第二卡挡部 23。

[0025] 本产品的工作原理, 开锁时, 钥匙插入锁仁 7 内, 转动锁仁 7, 带动顶杆 8 转动, 从而使顶杆 8 不再顶压滑动杆 5, 按动两侧的按钮 2 推动滑动杆 5 移动, 从而带动锁舌 6 移动而解除对拉链片的锁定, 将拉链片从锁掣槽 3 内拉出从而可以打开箱包; 当需要锁上箱包时, 拉上拉链, 按动按钮 2 使滑动杆 5 带动锁舌 6 缩回, 将拉链片分别放入对应的锁掣槽 3 内, 松开按钮 2, 复位弹簧推动滑动杆 5 复位, 从而使锁舌 6 穿入拉链片孔中, 通过钥匙转动锁仁 7, 带动顶杆 8 转动复位, 从而使顶杆 8 能够顶压滑动杆 5, 使滑动杆 5 不能移动, 从而使锁舌 6 锁定拉链片。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"Specific Embodiments

[0021] With reference to Figs. 1 to 7, the claimed device directed to a double-faced zipper lock is disclosed, which comprises lock housing 1; buttons 2 each provided on corresponding each of a pair of both sides of the lock housing 1; two catch grooves 3 each provided on corresponding each of the other pair of both sides of the lock housing 1, wherein the lock housing 1 including therein a lock core seat 4 and slide rods 5 opposed to each other, the slide rod 5 includes a lock plate 6 adapted to enter the catch groove 3 and lock the pull tab of the zipper, the lock core seat 4 includes a rotatable lock core 7 therein, the lock core 7 including push rods 8 opposed to each other and each adapted to press the corresponding one of the slide rods 5, the buttons 2 each being operable to push and move the corresponding one of the slide rods 5, wherein a return mechanism for restoration of the position of the slide rods 5 is provided between the slide rods 5 and the lock housing 1, where the lock core 7 is not described in detail because it is a structure commonly used in the field to which the present device pertains.

[0022] As illustrated, in this specific embodiment, since the two catch grooves 3 are each provided at corresponding each of the one pair of the both sides of the lock housing 1 and since one zipper of the suit case includes the two pull tabs, the upper and lower or two zippers are each allowed to correspond to the corresponding one of the two catch grooves 3 on the both sides. The buttons 2 that are opposed to each other are provided on the other pair of the both sides of the lock housing 1, an accommodation hole 9 and a bottom plate 11 are provided in the lock housing 1 in order to facilitate mounting and processing, and a guard board 10 is provided in the accommodation hole 9. The lock core seat 4 is provided within the accommodation hole 9 and restricted by the guard board 10 and the bottom plate 11 so that it is moved in the axial direction. A tape-like projection 12 is provided on the outer wall of the lock core seat 4, a recessed groove 13 that corresponds to the tape-like projection 12 is provided on the inner wall of the accommodation hole 9, and by virtue of correspondence between the projection 12 and the recessed groove 13, the rotation of the lock core seat 4 in the axial direction is restricted. A projecting block 14 and a connecting member 15 are provided on the lock core 7, a connection hole is provided in the connecting member 15, the projecting block 14 is inserted and arranged in the connection hole, the lock core 7 causes the connecting member 15 to rotate by the projecting block 14 being pressed on the connection hole, and each of the push rods 8 are provided in the connecting member 15, wherein, in this embodiment, the push rod 8 and the connecting member 15 are integrally formed.

[0023] As illustrated, the return mechanism includes a return spring (not shown), both

end faces of the return spring are each pressed on the inner walls of the slide rod 5 and the lock housing 1, in order to facilitate mounting and processing, the slide rod 5 includes a first slide rod 16 and a second slide rod 17, the lock plates 6 are each provided in corresponding each of the first slide rod 16 and the second slide rod 17, a protruded post 18 is provided in the first slide rod 16 and the second slide rod 17, and one end of the return spring is fitted in the protruded post 18.

[0024] As illustrated, an accommodation groove 19, a first positioning part 20, and a second positioning part 21 are provided in the button 2, and the end of the slide rod 5 is arranged in the accommodation groove 19. A first stop part 22 adapted to be brought into engagement with the first positioning part 20 and a second stop part 23 adapted to be brought into engagement with the second positioning part 21 are provided in the lock housing 1.

[0025] The principles of operation of this product are as follows: The push rod 8 is made to rotate by virtue of the key being inserting into the lock core 7 in response to unlocking and thereby causing the lock core 7 to rotate, as a result of which the push rod 8 is not pressed on the slide rod 5 anymore. When the buttons 2 on the both sides are pressed, the slide rods 5 are pressed so that they are moved, thereby the movement of the lock plates 6 take place in a coordinated manner, locking with the pull tab is released, so that the suitcase can be opened by removing the pull tab out of the catch groove 3. In response to locking of the suitcase, the slide rod 5 pulls back the lock plate by virtue of zipping up the zipper and pressing the button 2. Each of the pull tabs are made to enter the corresponding each of the catch grooves 3, the button 2 is detached, the return spring presses the slide rod 5 for restoration of the position, thereby the lock plate 6 is inserted into the pull tab hole, and the key causes the lock core 7 to rotate, so that the push rod 8 is made to rotate and thus the restoration of the position is realized. As a result, the push rod 8 is pressed on the slide rod 5 and thereby the slide rod 5 is prevented from moving, so that the lock plate 6 causes the pull tab to be locked."

(d) In view of the above (a) to (c), it is noted that Evidence A No. 1 describes the following device (hereinafter referred to as "the device of Evidence A No. 1"):

"A double-faced zipper lock for a suitcase comprising: a lock housing 1; buttons 2 opposed to each other and each provided on corresponding each of a pair of both sides of the lock housing 1; and two catch grooves 3 each provided on corresponding each of the other pair of both sides of the lock housing 1, the lock housing 1 including therein a lock core seat 4 and slide rods 5 opposed to each other;

one of the zippers including two pull tabs so that the upper and lower or two zippers for locking two attachment cases are each allowed to correspond to corresponding one of the two catch grooves 3;

the slide rod 5 includes a lock plate 6 adapted to enter the catch groove 3 and lock the pull tab of the zipper;

the lock core seat 4 including a rotatable lock core 7 therein, the lock core 7 including push rods 8 opposed to each other and each adapted to press the corresponding one of the slide rods 5;

the button 2 being operable to push and move the slide rod 5, wherein a return mechanism for restoration of the position of the slide rod 5 is provided between the slide rod 5 and the lock housing 1;

the return mechanism including a return spring, both end faces of the return spring are each pressed on the inner walls of the slide rod 5 and the lock housing 1;

wherein a key is inserted into the lock core 7 in response to unlocking, the lock core 7 is thereby made to rotate, the push rod 8 is in turn made to rotate, the push rod 8 is taken out of the state of being pressed on the slide rod 5, the slide rod 5 is pressed and moved in response to pressing of the buttons 2 on the both sides, and thereby movement of the lock plates 6 take place in a cooperative manner, and thus locking for the pull tab is released, the pull tab can be taken out of the catch groove 3, and the suitcase is allowed to be opened;

wherein, in response to locking, the zipper is zipped up, the button 2 is pressed, thus the slide rod 5 pull back the lock plate 6, each of the pull tabs are made to enter the corresponding each of the catch grooves 3, the button 2 is detached, the return spring presses the slide rod 5 and restore the position thereof, the lock plate 6 is thus inserted into the pull tab hole, the key makes the lock core 7 rotate, the push rod 8 is made to rotate, and restoration of the position is achieved, and thereby the push rod 8 is pressed on the slide rod 5 and thus the slide rod 5 is prevented from moving, so that the lock plate 6 makes the pull tab locked, by means of which

two zippers can be collectively locked, wherein the zipper lock is simple in its structure and cost-effective."

(2) Evidence A No. 2

Evidence A No. 2, which is a publication distributed prior to filing of this application, describes the following matters along with the attached drawings. For the record, the translation submitted by the demandant is relied upon.

(a)

技术领域

[0001] 本实用新型涉及一种锁具，特别是一种双面拉链锁。

背景技术

[0002] 一般具有拉链的皮箱或其它类似的箱具通常会装设一拉链锁，将拉链的二拉链片加以锁掣，且该拉链锁具有复数号码轮，使用者必须输入特定的数字才能打开拉链锁，以防止他人拉开拉链而造成皮箱被开启。但有的皮箱具有上下两条拉链，如果装两个普通的拉链锁不仅占用空间，而且成本高。

发明内容

[0003] 为了克服现有技术的不足，本实用新型提供一种可以同时锁两个拉链的拉链锁。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"Technical Field

[0001] The present device relates to a lock, and in particular relates to a double-faced zipper lock.

Background Art

[0002] A zipper key is, usually, provided in a suitcase comprising a zipper or other similar suitcases. By virtue of two pull tabs of the zipper being locked and by virtue of the zipper key having a plurality of dial wheels, the user releases the locking of the zipper key, so that it is necessary to dial particular numbers. By virtue of this, it is made possible to prevent the suitcase from being opened by any other person opening the zipper. However, as the suitcase has upper and lower or two zippers, it requires not only a space therefor but also increased costs to provide two conventional zipper keys.

The Content of the Device

[0003] In order to overcome the drawbacks found in the prior art, the present device has been made to provide a zipper lock that is capable of collectively locking two zippers.

(b)

[0013] 本实用新型的有益效果是：本实用新型在输入密码后通过第一传动件使第一拨杆产生转动，从而使第二拨杆及第三拨杆旋转而不在顶压第一锁定组件及第二锁定组件，通过第一按钮及一第二按钮使第一锁定部及第二锁定部离开第一锁掣槽及第二锁掣槽，以达到开启拉链锁的目的，本实用新型通过一个拉链锁可以同时锁住两条拉链，不仅节省空间，而且成本高低，也丰富了拉链锁的结构和品种。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"[0013] The advantageous effects of the present device are as follows. Specifically, in the present device, after entry of the password, the first transmission member causes the first lever to rotate, thereby causing the second lever and the third lever to rotate, so that it is no more pressed on the first lock assembly and the second lock assembly. By virtue of the first button and the second button, the first lock section and the second lock section are moved away from the first lock groove and the second lock groove, so that the object of releasing the locking of the zipper key is achieved. The present device is capable of collectively locking the two zippers by one single zipper lock, allows for space-saving and cost reduction, and contributes to diversification of the structures and types of the zipper keys.

(c)

具体实施方式

[0020] 参照图 1 至图 5, 本实用新型公开了一种双面拉链锁, 其特征在于: 包括一基座 1, 基座 1 内设有号码机构; 一第一传动件 2, 该第一传动件 2 能够通过号码机构的顶压而移动, 一旋转拨叉 3, 该旋转拨叉 3 上设有第一拨杆 4、第二拨杆 5 及第三拨杆 6, 该第一拨杆 4 能够通过第一传动件 2 的顶压而转动, 一第一锁定组件, 该第一锁定组件能够锁定拉链片, 且能够与第二拨杆 5 相顶压, 一第二锁定组件, 该第二锁定组件能够锁定拉链片, 且能够与第三拨杆 6 相顶压, 一第一按钮 7 及一第二按钮 8, 该第一按钮 7 及第二按钮 8 能够分别推动第一锁定组件及第二锁定组件移动, 一第一弹性件 9, 该第一弹性件 9 设于基座 1 内, 且能够使旋转拨叉 3 复位。

[0021] 如图所示, 于本具体实施例中, 号码机构设置于基座 1 内, 该号码机构具有三个数字轮 10, 三个数字轮 10 对应穿置于锁壳的穿孔并部分显露于锁壳外, 以供使用者拨动, 每一数字轮 10 上均安装有内套 11, 内套 11 设置有嵌槽 12。第一传动件 2 上设有第一推顶部 13 及嵌块 14, 该嵌块 14 能够嵌入对应内套 11 的嵌槽 12 内, 第一拨杆 4 能够受第一推顶部 13 的顶压而转动, 进一步, 第一传动件 2 上及基座 1 间设有能够使第一传动件 2 复位的复位弹簧 15。

[0022] 如图所示, 第一锁定组件包括第一锁定杆 16、第二锁定杆 17 及设于基座 1 上的两第一锁掣槽 18, 该第一锁定杆 16 上设有第一锁定部 19, 该第一锁定部 19 可穿置于或离开基座 1 的其中一第一锁掣槽 18; 该第二锁定杆 17 上设有第二锁定部 20, 该第二锁定部 20 可穿置于或离开基座 1 的另一第一锁掣槽 18, 所述第一按钮 7 能够推顶第一锁定杆 16 及第二锁定杆 17 移动, 所述第二拨杆 5 能够顶压第一锁定杆 16 及第二锁定杆 17。进一步, 第一锁定杆 16 与基座 1 间设有第一压缩弹簧 21; 所述第二锁定杆 17 与基座 1 间设有第二压缩弹簧 22, 上述第一压缩弹簧 21 及第二压缩弹簧 22 能够使第一锁定杆 16 及第二锁定杆 17 移动后复位。第二锁定组件包括第三锁定杆 23、第四锁定杆 24 及设于基座 1 上的两第

二锁掣槽 25, 该第三锁定杆 23 上设有第三锁定部 26, 该第三锁定部 26 可穿置于或离开基座 1 的其中一第二锁掣槽 25; 该第四锁定杆 24 上设有第四锁定部 27, 该第四锁定部 27 可穿置于或离开基座 1 的另一第二锁掣槽 25, 所述第二按钮 8 能够推顶第三锁定杆 23 及第四锁定杆 24 移动, 所述第三拨杆 6 能够顶压第三锁定杆 23 及第四锁定杆 24。进一步, 第三锁定杆 23 与基座 1 间设有第三压缩弹簧 28; 所述第四锁定杆 24 与基座 1 间设有第四压缩弹簧 29, 上述第三压缩弹簧 28 及第四压缩弹簧 29 能够使第三锁定杆 23 及第四锁定杆 24 移动后复位。

[0023] 当使用者需要开启该拉链锁时, 将数字轮 10 转到正确的数字, 使拉链锁处于可开启状态, 此时, 第一传动件 2 在复位弹簧 15 的作用下横向移动, 第一传动件 2 的嵌块 14 嵌入对应内套 11 的嵌槽 12 内, 同时第一传动件 2 上的第一推顶部 13 顶压第一拨杆 4, 第一拨杆 4 带动旋转拨叉 3 旋转, 第二拨杆 5 及第三拨杆 6 相应转动, 不在处于能够顶压第一锁定杆 16、第二锁定杆 17 及第三锁定杆 23、第四锁定杆 24 的位置, 此时使用者顶压第一按钮 7 及第二按钮 8, 通过第一按钮 7 及第二按钮 8 带动第一锁定杆 16、第二锁定杆 17 及第三锁定杆 23、第四锁定杆 24, 使第一锁定部 19、第二锁定部 20、第三锁定部 26 及第四锁定部 27 从第一锁掣槽 18 及第二锁掣槽 25 离开, 达到开启拉链锁的目的。

[0024] 当使用者需要锁定该拉链锁时, 在开锁状态下将拉链的两拉链片插入对应的第一锁掣槽 18 及第二锁掣槽 25 内, 此时第一锁定部 19、第二锁定部 20、第三锁定部 26 及第四锁定部 27 插入对应的拉链片的孔内, 拨乱数字轮 10, 第一传动件 2 横向移动, 第一传动件 2 上的嵌块 14 离开对应内套 11 的嵌槽 12, 同时旋转拨叉 3 在第一弹性件 9 的带动下复位, 第二拨杆 5 及第三拨杆 6 处于能够顶压第一锁定杆 16、第二锁定杆 17 及第三锁定杆 23、第四锁定杆 24 的位置, 使第一锁定杆 16、第二锁定杆 17 及第三锁定杆 23、第四锁定杆 24 不能移动, 达到锁定拉链锁的目的。

(The following is the translation of the above paragraphs.)

"Specific Embodiments

[0020] With reference to Figs. 1 to 5, there is disclosed the present device directed to a double-faced zipper lock, and the double-faced zipper lock comprises, as its features, a base 1 inside of which a dial mechanism is provided; a first transmission member 2 adapted to be moved by being pressed by the dial mechanism; a rotation branch unit 3 having a first lever 4, a second lever 5, and a third lever 6, wherein the first lever 4 of the rotation branch unit 3 is rotatable by being pressed by the first transmission member; a first lock assembly operable to lock a pull tab of the zipper and press the second lever 5; and a second lock assembly operable to lock a pull tab of the zipper and press the third lever 6; a first button 7 adapted to press and move the first lock assembly; a second button 8 adapted to press and move the second lock assembly; and a first elastic member 9 provided inside of the base 1 and adapted for restoration of the position of the rotation branch unit 3.

[0021] As illustrated, in this specific embodiment, the dial mechanism is provided

within the base 1, the dial mechanism has three digit wheels 10, and the three digit wheels 10 are inserted and arranged in the hole of the lock case and are formed so as to be exposed to the outside of the lock case so that the user can dial them. The inner ring 11 is attached to each of the digit wheels 10, and a fitting groove 12 is provided in the inner ring 11. A first pressing part 13 and a fitting block 14 are provided in the first transmission member 2, and the fitting block 14 can be fitted into the fitting groove 12 of the corresponding inner ring 11. The first lever 4 is made to rotate by being pressed by the first pressing part 13, and further, a return spring 15 is provided between the first transmission member 2 and the base 1, where the return spring 15 is adapted to restore the position of the first transmission member 2.

[0022] As illustrated, first lock assembly includes a first lock bar 16, a second lock bar 17, and two first lock grooves 18 provided in the base 1. A first lock section 19 is provided in the first lock bar 16, and the first lock section 19 is configured to be inserted into and moved away from one of the first lock grooves 18. A second lock section 20 is provided in the second lock bar 17, and the second lock section 20 is configured to be inserted into and moved away from the other of the first lock grooves 18. The first button 7 is capable of pressing and moving the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17, and the second lever 5 is capable of pressing the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17. Further, a first compression spring 21 is provided between the first lock bar 16 and the base 1. A second compression spring 22 is provided between the second lock bar 17 and the base 1. The first compression spring 21 and the second compression spring 22 are capable of realizing restoration of the position after moving the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17. The second lock assembly includes a third lock bar 23, a fourth lock bar 24, and two locking grooves 25 provided in the base 1. A third lock part 26 is provided in the third lock bar 23, and the third lock part 26 is configured to be inserted into and moved away from one of the second lock grooves 25 in the base 1. A fourth lock part 27 is provided in the fourth lock bar 24, and the fourth lock part 27 is configured to be inserted into and moved away from the other of the second lock grooves 25 of the base 1. The second button 8 is capable of pressing and moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24, and the third lever 6 is capable of pressing the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24. Further, a third compression spring 28 is provided between the third lock bar 23 and the base 1, and a fourth compression spring 29 is provided between the fourth lock bar 24 and the base 1, and the third compression spring 28 and the fourth compression spring 29 are capable of realizing restoration of the position after moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24.

[0023] When the user unlocks the zipper lock, he/she dials the digit wheels 10 to indicate the accurate numbers so as to enter a state where the zipper lock can be unlocked. In this case, the first transmission member 2 is moved in the lateral direction under the effect of the return spring 15, the fitting block 14 of the first transmission member 2 is fitted into the fitting groove 12 of the corresponding the inner ring 11, the first pressing part 13 in the first transmission member 2 presses the first lever 4, the first lever 4 causes the rotation branch unit 3 to move and rotate, in response to which the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 are made to rotate, and it is taken out of the state where it presses the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24. In this case, the user presses the first button 7 and the second button 8, and the first button 7 and the second button 8 causes the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24 to move in a coordinated manner, and thereby the first lock section 19, the second lock section 20, the third lock part 26, and the fourth lock part 27 are moved away from the first lock groove 18 and the second lock groove 25, so that the object of unlocking the zipper lock is achieved.

[0024] When the user locks the zipper key, in the unlocked state, two pull tabs of the zipper are inserted into the corresponding first lock groove 18 and second lock groove 25, and at this point, the first lock section 19, the second lock section 20, the third lock part 26, and the fourth lock part 27 are inserted into the holes of the corresponding zipper, causing random dialing of the dial digit wheels 10, and thereby the first transmission member 2 is moved in the lateral direction, the fitting block 14 in the first transmission member 2 is moved away from the fitting groove 12 of the corresponding inner ring 11, along with which the rotation branch unit 3 is made to rotate by the first elastic member 9, causing restoration of the position, and the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 are positioned such that they can press the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24, by virtue of which the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24 are prohibited from moving, and thus the object of locking the zipper lock is achieved."

(d) With reference to Figs. 1 to 4, it can be understood that a cylinder lock is provided in the base 1, the fourth lever is provided at a position opposed to the first lever in the rotation branch unit 3, one end of the second transmission member is coupled to the cylinder lock, the other end of the second transmission member can be pressed on the fourth lever by virtue of the rotation of the cylinder lock.

(For the record, "the fourth lever" is named for the sake of explanation so that it is in line with the "first lever 4" to the "third lever 6" provided in the "rotation branch unit 3," and the "second transmission member" is named so that it is in line with the "first transmission member.")

(e) In view of the above (a) to (d), it is noted that Evidence A No. 2 describes the following device (hereinafter referred to as "the device of Evidence A No. 2").

"A double-faced zipper lock of a suitcase comprising a base 1 inside of which a dial mechanism and a cylinder lock; a first transmission member 2 adapted to be moved by being pressed by the dial mechanism; a rotation branch unit 3 having a first lever 4, a second lever 5, and a third lever 6; a first lock assembly adapted to lock a pull tab of the zipper and pressed on the second lever 5; a second lock assembly adapted to lock a pull tab of the zipper and pressed on the third lever 6; a first button 7 causing the first lock assembly to be pressed and moved; a second button 8 causing the second lock assembly to be pressed and moved; and a first elastic member 9 provided within the base 1 and adapted for restoration of the position of the rotation branch unit 3;

the suitcase including the upper and lower or two zippers, the two pull tabs of the zippers are locked so that the suitcase is prevented from being opened by any other person opening the zipper;

the first lock assembly including a first lock bar 16, a second lock bar 17, and two first lock grooves 18 provided in the base 1, the first lock bar 16 including a first lock section 19, the first lock section 19 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from one of the first lock grooves 18, the second lock bar 17 including a second lock section 20, the second lock section 20 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from the other of the first lock grooves 18, the first button 7 being capable of pressing and moving the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17, the second lever 5 being capable of being pressed on the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17, further, a first compression spring 21 being provided between the first lock bar 16 and the base 1, a second compression spring 22 being provided between the second lock bar 17 and the base 1, the first compression spring 21 and the second compression spring 22 being capable of restoring the position of the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17 after being moved;

the second lock assembly including a third lock bar 23, a fourth lock bar 24, and two locking grooves 25 provided in the base 1, the third lock bar 23 including a third lock part 26, the third lock part 26 being configured to be inserted in and moved

away from one of the second lock groove 25 in the base 1, the fourth lock bar 24 including a fourth lock part 27, the fourth lock part 27 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from the other of the second lock groove 25 in the base 1, the second button 8 being capable of pressing and moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24, the third lever 6 being capable of pressing and moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24, further, a third compression spring 28 is provided between the third lock bar 23 and the base 1, a fourth compression spring 29 being provided between the fourth lock bar 24 and the base 1, the third compression spring 28 and the fourth compression spring 29 being capable of restoring the position of the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24 after being moved;

wherein a fourth lever is provided in the rotation branch unit 3 at a position opposed to the first lever, one end of the second transmission member being coupled to the cylinder lock, the other end of the second transmission member being adapted to press the fourth lever by virtue of rotation of the cylinder lock,

wherein, in response to unlocking of the zipper lock, the digit wheels 10 are dialed to indicate the accurate numbers and to place the zipper lock in a state where it can be unlocked, and thereby the first transmission member 2 is moved in the lateral direction under the effect of the return spring 15, the fitting block 14 of the first transmission member 2 is brought into fitment in the fitting groove 12 of the corresponding inner ring 11 along which the first pressing part 13 in the first transmission member 2 presses the first lever 4, the first lever 4 moves the rotation branch unit 3 and make the rotation branch unit 3 to rotate, in response to which the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 rotate, and are moved away from the position where they press the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24, and, in this case, the user presses the first button 7 and the second button 8, the first button 7 and the second button 8 causes the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24 to move in a coordinated manner, thereby causing the first lock section 19, the second lock section 20, the third lock part 26, and the fourth lock part 27 are detached from the first lock groove 18 and the second lock groove 25, so that the object of unlocking the zipper lock is achieved,

wherein, in response to locking of the zipper lock, the two pull tabs of the zipper are inserted into the corresponding first lock groove 18 and second lock groove 25 in a state it is unlocked, at this point, the first lock section 19, the second lock section 20, the third lock part 26, and the fourth lock part 27 are inserted into the holes of the corresponding zipper, causing the digit wheels 10 to be randomly dialed,

and thereby the first transmission member 2 moves in the lateral direction, the fitting block 14 in the first transmission member 2 is moved away from the fitting groove 12 of the corresponding inner ring 11, along with which the rotation branch unit 3 is moved by the first elastic member 9, the position is restored, the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 are positioned such that they can press the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24, and thereby the first lock bar 16, the second lock bar 17, the third lock bar 23, and the fourth lock bar 24 are prevented from moving, so that the object of locking the zipper lock is achieved, by virtue of which

two zippers can be collectively locked by one single zipper lock, allowing for space saving and cost reduction."

2 Comparison/judgment

(1) Regarding the Claimed Device 1

(a) Comparison of the Claimed Device with the device of Evidence A No. 1

The claimed device 1 is to be compared with the device of Evidence A No. 1

(i) The "suitcase" of the device of Evidence A No. 1 corresponds, in view of its feature and function, to the "travel case" of the claimed device 1, and likewise, the "two zippers" corresponds to the "first slide zipper" and the "second slide zipper;"

the "double-faced zipper lock" corresponds to the "lock device;"

the "two pull tabs" of the "upper and lower or two zippers" correspond to the "first pull tab" and the "second pull tab;"

the "two catch grooves 3 each provided on corresponding each of the other pair of both sides of the lock housing 1" correspond to the "first insertion section" and the "second insertion section;"

the "lock housing 1" corresponds to the "housing;"

the "pull tab hole" corresponds to the "locking hole formed in each pull tab;"

the "return spring" corresponds to the "elastic member;"

the "slide rod 5" corresponds to the "slide hook;" the "button 2" corresponds to the "release button;"

the "push rods 8 opposed to each other" correspond to the "one locking piece" and "the other locking piece;" and

the "lock core 7" corresponds to the "lock mechanism," respectively.

(ii) In the device of Evidence A No. 1, since the upper and lower or two zippers are adapted to lock the two attached cases, it is obvious that they are adapted

for opening and closing of the suitcase, and it is also obvious that one zipper has two sliders, the zipper is closed by moving the two sliders close to each other, the zipper is opened by moving the two sliders away from each other, and that the pull tab is provided on the slide.

As such, "the double-faced zipper lock of the suitcase" of the device of Evidence A No. 1 comprising "one zipper including two pull tabs" and "upper and lower or two zippers for locking two attached cases" corresponds to "a lock device of a travel case comprising a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other" of the claimed device 1.

(iii) The features of "since the one zipper including two pull tabs, the upper and lower or two zippers can each correspond to the two catch grooves 3 each provided on the other pair of the both sides of the lock housing 1" and "taking the pull tab out of the catch groove 3," and "inserting each of the pull tabs in corresponding each of the catch grooves 3" of the device of Evidence A No. 1 correspond to "one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide zipper moved close to each other and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other" of the claimed device 1.

(iv) In the device of Evidence A No. 1, since "the lock plate 6" is adapted "to be inserted in the pull tab hole," it is obvious that the lock plate 6 can be brought into and taken out of engagement with the pull tab hole.

As such, the features "when the buttons 2 on the both sides are pressed, the slide rod 5 is pressed so that it is moved, thereby the movement of the lock plates 6 take place in a coordinated manner, locking of with respect to the pull tab is released, and the pull tab is removed out of the catch groove 3." and "by pressing the button 2, the slide rod 5 pull back the lock plate 6, each of the pull tabs are made to enter the corresponding each of the catch grooves 3, the button 2 is detached, the return spring presses the slide rod 5 for restoration of the position, and thereby the lock plate 6 is inserted into the pull tab hole" of the device of Evidence A No. 1 correspond to

providing "two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction and two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member" of the claimed device 1.

(v) In the device of Evidence A No. 1, it is an obvious matter that the push rod 8 rotates in response to insertion of a key (Kagi) into the lock core 7 and rotating the key (Kagi).

As such, the feature of "The push rod 8 is made to rotate by virtue of the key causing the lock core 7 to rotate to realize restoration of the position, as a result of which the push rod 8 is pressed on the slide rod 5, prohibiting the slide rod 5 from moving" of the device of Evidence A No. 1 and the feature of "the lock device further comprises: one lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of one locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; and the other lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented" of the claimed device 1 are in common with each other in that "a lock mechanism is provided that is configured to allow swing operation of the one locking piece and the other locking piece by insertion of a key into a key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook and the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented."

(vi) In view of the foregoing, the claimed device 1 and the device of Evidence A No. 1 correspond to each other in that

"a lock device of a travel case comprises a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other, characterized in that the lock device comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide

zipper moved close to each other are inserted and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted, the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member, and

the lock device further comprises: a lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the one locking piece and the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook and the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented;" while they differ from each other in the following point.

(The different feature 1): The claimed device 1 has two lock mechanisms that allows swing operation of the one locking piece and the other locking piece such that sliding of the one slide hook and the other slide hook is prevented, which operation is performed by insertion of a key into the one key hole and insertion of a key into the other key hole. In contrast, the device of Evidence A No. 1 includes one single lock mechanism and performs the operation in response to insertion of a key into one key hole.

(b) Comparison of the Claimed device with the device of Evidence A No. 2

The claimed device 1 is to be compared with the device of Evidence A No. 2.

(i) The "suitcase" of the device of Evidence A No. 2 corresponds, in view of its feature and function, to the "travel case" of the claimed device 1, and likewise, the "upper and lower or two zippers" corresponds to the "first slide zipper" and "second slide zipper;"

the "double-faced zipper lock" corresponds to the "lock device;"

the "two pull tabs" of the "upper and lower or two zippers" correspond to the "first pull tab" and the "second pull tabs;"

the one first lock groove 18" and the "other first lock groove 18" correspond to the "two first insertion sections;"

the "one second lock groove 25" and the "other second lock groove 25"

correspond to the "two second insertion sections;"

the "base 1" corresponds to the "housing;"

the "hole of the zipper" corresponds to the "locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab;"

the "first compression spring 21," the "second compression spring 22," "the third compression spring 28," and "the fourth compression spring 29" correspond to the "elastic members;"

the "first lock bar 16," the "second lock bar 17," "the third lock bar 18," and "the fourth lock bar 19" correspond to the "two slide hooks;"

the "first button 7" and the "second button 8" correspond to the "two release buttons;"

the "second lever 5" and the "third lever 6" correspond to the "one locking piece" and the "other locking piece;" and

the "cylinder lock" corresponds to the "lock mechanism," respectively.

(ii) In the context of zippers, since it is generally an obvious matter that a zipper has two sliders, and in terms of its function, the zipper is closed by moving the two sliders close to each other, and the zipper is opened by moving the two sliders away from each other, the feature of the claimed device 1 that "a double-faced zipper lock of a suitcase" of the device of Evidence A No. 2, "in which "the suitcase includes the upper and lower or two zippers, the two pull tabs of the zippers are locked so that the suitcase is prevented from being opened by any other person opening the zipper" corresponds to the feature of "a lock device of a travel case comprising a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other."

(iii) In the context of the zippers, since the point explained in the above (ii) and the fact that the slider includes the pull tab are obvious, the feature of the device of Evidence A No. 2 that "the base 1 includes" two "first lock grooves 18" and the two "second lock grooves 25" into which "two pull tabs of "the upper and lower or two zippers" are inserted corresponds to the feature of the claimed device 1 that "it comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first

slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted".

(iv) The features of Evidence A No. 2 Invention of "the first lock bar 16 including a first lock section 19, the first lock section 19 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from one of the first lock grooves 18, the second lock bar 17 including a second lock section 20, the second lock section 20 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from the other of the first lock grooves 18, the first button 7 being capable of pressing and moving the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17;" "further, a first compression spring 21 being provided between the first lock bar 16 and the base 1, a second compression spring 22 being provided between the second lock bar 17 and the base 1, the first compression spring 21 and the second compression spring 22 being capable of restoring the position of the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17 after being moved;" "the third lock bar 23 including a third lock part 26, the third lock part 26 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from one of the second lock groove 25 in the base 1, the fourth lock bar 24 including a fourth lock part 27, the fourth lock part 27 being configured to be inserted in and moved away from the other of the second lock groove 25 in the base 1, the second button 8 being capable of pressing and moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24, " "further, a third compression spring 28 is provided between the third lock bar 23 and the base 1, a fourth compression spring 29 being provided between the fourth lock bar 24 and the base 1, the third compression spring 28 and the fourth compression spring 29 being capable of restoring the position of the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24 after being moved;" and "the first lock section 19, the second lock section 20, the third lock part 26, and the fourth lock part 27 are inserted into the holes of the corresponding zipper" correspond to the feature of the claimed device 1 that "the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member."

(v) In general, a cylinder lock allows a transmission member to make swing

operation by inserting a key (Kagi) into a key hole of the cylinder lock and then rotating it. Also, in Evidence A No. 2 Invention, "the other end of the second transmission member is capable of pressing the fourth lever by virtue of the rotation of the cylinder lock." However, since the fourth lever is part of the rotation branch unit 3, it can be understood that the second lever 5 and the third lever 6 of the rotation branch unit 3 also rotate in response to the rotation of the fourth lever.

As such, the features of the device of Evidence A No. 2 of: "cylinder lock " in which " the second lever 5 being capable of being pressed on the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17, further, a first compression spring 21 being provided between the first lock bar 16 and the base 1, a second compression spring 22 being provided between the second lock bar 17 and the base 1, the first compression spring 21 and the second compression spring 22 being capable of restoring the position of the first lock bar 16 and the second lock bar 17 after being moved;" "the third lever 6 being capable of pressing and moving the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24, and further, a third compression spring 28 is provided between the third lock bar 23 and the base 1, a fourth compression spring 29 being provided between the fourth lock bar 24 and the base 1, the third compression spring 28 and the fourth compression spring 29 being capable of restoring the position of the third lock bar 23 and the fourth lock bar 24 after being moved;" and "one end of the second transmission member being coupled to the cylinder lock, the other end of the second transmission member being adapted to press the fourth lever by virtue of rotation of the cylinder lock" and the feature of the claimed device 1 that "the lock device further comprises: one lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of one locking piece in response to insertion of a key into one key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented; and the other lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented" are in common with each other in that "a lock mechanism is provided that is configured to allow swing operation of the one locking piece and the other locking piece by insertion of a key into a key hole such that sliding of the one slide hook and the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented."

(vi) In view of the foregoing, the claimed device 1 and the device of Evidence A No. 2 corresponds to each other in that "a lock device of a travel case comprises a first slide zipper and a second slide zipper arranged in parallel with each other for opening and closing of the travel case, the first slide zipper and the second slide

zipper each being adapted to achieve closing of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving two sliders close to each other and adapted to achieve opening of corresponding each of the slide zippers by moving the two sliders away from each other, wherein it comprises one housing including two first insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of first pull tabs of the two sliders of the first slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted and two second insertion sections each configured for insertion therein of corresponding each of second pull tabs of the two sliders of the second slide zipper moved close to each other are inserted, the lock device further comprising: two slide hooks adapted to be slidable in the inner side of each insertion section so as to be operable to be engaged with and detached from a locking hole formed as an opening in each pull tab, wherein the slide hooks are each urged by an elastic member in the locking direction; and two release buttons each adapted to release locking of the corresponding one of the slide hooks with corresponding one of the locking holes by sliding the slide hook in the locking release direction against the urging force of the elastic member, and that the lock device further comprises a lock mechanism configured to allow swing operation of the other locking piece in response to insertion of a key into the other key hole such that sliding of the other slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented" while they differ from each other in the following point.

(The different feature 2): The claimed device 1 has two lock mechanisms that allows swing operation of the one locking piece and the other locking piece such that sliding of the one slide hook and the other slide hook is prevented, which operation is performed by insertion of a key into the one key hole and insertion of a key into the other key hole. In contrast, Device of Evidence A No. 2 includes one single lock mechanism and performs the operation in response to insertion of a key into one key hole.

(c) Examination of Differences 1 and 2

As the different feature 1 and the different feature 2 are of the same nature and correspond to the differences identified by the comparison by the demandant, both of the different features are simultaneously examined focusing on the allegations by the demandant.

(i) First, with regard to the above different feature 1 and the different feature 2, the demandant alleges as follows:

"Although the delimitation of feature F' of providing lock mechanisms for each of the two slide hooks is not explicitly stated in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No.

2, it is merely a matter that is substantially described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2.

One can understand that the device described in Evidence A No. 1 has been made to solve the problem found in the prior art that two lock devices have been provided for two zippers

One can also understand that the device described in Evidence A No. 2 has been likewise made to solve the problem found in the prior art that two lock devices have been provided for two zippers.

As a result, the delimitation of feature F' of providing lock mechanisms for each of the two slide hooks is a matter that can be derived by a person skilled in the art from the matters described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2, and thus the corrected device 1 is (despite the absence of the explicit statement) the device that is described in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2. " (the above III, section 1, (specific reasons), (4))

(ii) However, neither of the features corresponding to the above different feature 1 and the different feature 2 of the claimed device 1 are clearly described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2, in addition to which, even when the fact that two lock devices are provided for two zippers is described as the prior art in Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2, it does not suggest modifying the lock mechanism of the device of Evidence A No. 1 and the device of Evidence A No. 2 so that it comprises the two lock mechanisms

Hence, the above different feature 1 and the different feature 2 constitute substantial differences.

(iii) Also, the demandant alleges as follows:

"It can be said that the corrected device 1 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2.

Specifically, it is within the scope of ordinary creativity that can be normally exercised and is merely a matter that can be designed as appropriate for a person skilled in the art who refers to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 to maintain two lock mechanisms to be in line with individual zippers in a lock device, in the process of providing one lock device with regard to two zippers, on the basis of the state of the art according to which two lock devices are provided for two zippers.

Further, as described in paragraphs 0002 to 0005 found in the utility model

gazette for this utility model bulletin with reference to patent literatures 1 to 3, it pertains to well-known art to provide one lock device for one zipper comprising two sliders.

As a result, a person skilled in the art who refers to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 where one lock device is provided for two zippers would exceedingly easily provide only two lock mechanisms in response to the zippers in one lock device so as to individually manage the individual zippers on the basis of the well-known art." (the above III. 1 (Specific Reasons), section (4))

(iv) As the demandant alleges in the above (i) and (iii), providing two lock devices for two zippers is a well-known technique as described in the prior art of Evidence A No. 1 and Evidence A No. 2, and providing one lock device for one zipper has also been a well-known technique as described in the patent literatures 1 to 3 cited in the gazette for this utility model registration.

However, since the device of Evidence A No. 1 is a device characterized by the fact that "it is capable of collectively lock the two zipper, has a simple structure, and is cost-effective," it would not be exceedingly easily conceived of by a person skilled in the art to increase the number of the lock cores to two in contrast to this characterizing feature while the device of Evidence A No. 1 includes only one lock core 7, and thus replace it by these two lock cores 7 configured to independently press the corresponding one of the slide rods 5, thus making the structure complex.

Likewise, since the device of Evidence A No. 2 is a device characterized by the fact that "it is capable of collectively locking the two zippers by one single zipper lock, allows for space-saving and cost reduction", it would not be exceedingly easily conceived of by a person skilled in the art to increase the number of the cylinder locks to two in contrast to this characterizing feature of the device of Evidence A No. 2 while only one cylinder lock is provided in the device of Evidence A No. 2 and thus replace it by these two cylinder locks configured to independently press the first to fourth lock bars 16, 17, 23, and 24, thus making the structure complex.

Accordingly, it cannot be said as alleged by the demandant that it would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art referring to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2, in the process of providing one lock device for two zippers starting from the prior art according to which two lock devices have been provided for two zippers, to maintain the two lock mechanisms in the lock device to be in line with the corresponding each of the zippers and to by referring to Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 where one lock device is provided for two zippers, on

the basis of the well-known art, in order to independently manage the individual zippers, to only provide two lock mechanisms in one single lock device to be in line with the zippers.

(v) Also, the claimed device 1 is as alleged by the demandee in the written reply for the trial case (page 6, line 13 to the last line), "it is made possible to only release the locking of the one lock mechanism so as to open the first slide zipper while the other second slide zipper is closed so as to maintain the locked state of the other lock mechanism. For example, items that are frequently taken out of and put into the space may be accommodated in the first slide zipper's side of the travel case to enter the unlocked state, and important items may be accommodated in the second slide zipper's side of the travel case with this side placed in the locked state, so that it is made possible to prevent the important items from being stolen by any other person from the second slide zipper's side while items are being taken out from the first slide zipper's side.

...

In this manner, the following effects can be obtained: "Two lock mechanisms for two slide zippers are collectively provided within one single housing and one of the lock mechanisms is unlocked while the other of the lock mechanisms is locked, so that the different states of locking and unlocking can be realized."

(d) Summary of the Claimed Device 1

In view of the above facts, it is not recognized that the claimed device 1 is the one that is disclosed in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 or would have been exceedingly readily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2. Further, it is not recognized that the claimed device 1 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the combination of Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 1 and well-known art.

(2) Regarding the Claimed Device 2

The claimed device 2, which includes all the features of the claimed device 1, incorporates the additional feature of "the release buttons each project outward from the respective one of the both sides of the lock device so as to be operable via the respective lateral sides of the lock device."

As such, since the claimed device 1 is as has been discussed in the above (1)(iii) and (iv), it likewise cannot be recognized that the claimed device 2 which

includes all the features of the claimed device 1 and incorporates the further delimitation, is the one described in Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 or would have been exceedingly easily arrived at by a person skilled in the art on the basis of Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2. Further, it cannot be recognized that the claimed device 2 would have been exceedingly readily arrived at by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the combination of Evidence A No. 1 or Evidence A No. 2 and well-known art.

(3) Regarding the claimed device 3

The claimed device 3 includes all the features of the claimed device 1 and further incorporates the additional feature of "a dial lock mechanism adapted to enable and disable the operation of the release buttons by rotation operation of a plurality of dials, wherein the lock mechanism is configured to cause swing operation of the locking piece such that the sliding of the slide hook in the locking release direction is prevented in a state where the release button is allowed to be operated by virtue of rotation operation of the dials of the lock mechanism."

As such, even when Evidence A No. 2 describes "a dial lock mechanism that enables or disables the release button by rotation operation of a plurality of dials," it cannot be said, as has been discussed in the above (1)(iii), that it would have been exceedingly easily arrived at by the person skilled in the art to make the feature corresponding to the different feature 1 and the different feature 2 of the claimed device 1, so that it cannot be recognized that the claimed device 3 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 and the device described in Evidence A No. 2.

Further, Evidence A No. 3 and Evidence A No. 4 have been cited as the grounds of the fact that "it is a general technique to realize locking by operation of the key of the lock mechanism in a state where the locking is released by the rotation operation of the dial lock mechanism." However, even when the technique in question is a general technique, it cannot be said, as has been discussed in the above (1)(iii), that it would have been exceedingly easily arrived at by a person skilled in the art to make the feature corresponding to the different feature 2 of the claimed device 1, so that it cannot be recognized that the claimed device 3 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the combination of the device described in Evidence A No. 2 and well-known art (the well-known art as substantiated by Evidence A No. 3 and Evidence A No. 4).

(4) Regarding the Claimed device 4

Although the claimed device 4 is recited in the independent form, it is substantially the same device as the claimed device 3 that refers back to the claimed device 1.

As such, as the claimed device 3 has been discussed in the above section (3), it likewise cannot be recognized that the claimed device 4 would have been exceedingly easily made by a person skilled in the art on the basis of the device described in Evidence A No. 1 and the device described in Evidence A No. 2, and on the basis of the combination of the device described in Evidence A No. 2 and the well-known art (the well-known art as substantiated by Evidence A No. 3 and Evidence A No. 4).

No. 5 Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the utility model registration of the claimed devices 1 to 4 of the case cannot be invalidated based on the reasons as alleged by the demandant and the means of proof submitted by the demandant.

Further, with regard to the costs regarding the trial, it should be borne by the demandant pursuant to Article 61 of the Code of Civil Procedure as applied mutatis mutandis under Article 169(2) of the Patent Act which is further applied mutatis mutandis under Article 41 of the Utility Model Act.

Therefore, the trial decision shall be made as described in the conclusion.

May 21, 2015

Chief administrative judge: ONO, Chuetsu
Administrative judge: SUMIDA, Hidehiro
Administrative judge: KADO, Ryosei