

Advisory Opinion

Advisory opinion No. 2020-600003

Demandant	YKK CORPORATION
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Demandee	Tai Hing Zipper Factory Company
Attorney	HASEBE, Yohei
Attorney	SUMI, Kento
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The advisory opinion on the technical scope of a patent invention for Patent No. 5986197 between the parties above is stated and concluded as follows.

Conclusion

The "slide fastener" indicated in the Drawings and explanatory document of Article A falls within the technical scope of the invention according to Claim 1 of Japanese Patent No. 5986197.

Reason

No. 1 Object of the demand

The object of the demand for the advisory opinion regarding the subject case is to demand the advisory opinion that a slide fastener indicated in the explanatory document of Article A falls within the technical scope of the invention according to Claim 1 of Japanese Patent No. 5986197.

Further, in the column of the object of the demand in the written request for an advisory opinion, it is described "to demand the advisory opinion that a slide fastener indicated in the explanatory document of Article A falls within the technical scope of the invention of Japanese Patent No. 5986197". In "the invention of Japanese Patent No. 5986197," from the description of "Claim 1 of the patent (hereinafter, referred to as "Invention 1")" described in "(3) Explanation of the patent" and the description that "since

Article A falls within the technical scope of Invention 1, the advisory opinion according to the object of the demand is requested" described in "(4) Closing," it was judged that the object of the demand of the case is for "the invention according to Claim 1 of Japanese Patent No. 5986197".

No. 2 History of the procedures

1 The application for the invention of Japanese Patent No. 5986197 (hereinafter, referred to as "the Patent") was originally filed on May 28, 2012 as an International Patent Application, and the establishment of the patent right was registered on August 12, 2016.

Then, the advisory opinion of the case was requested on January 8, 2020. In response to this, the body sent a duplicate of the written request for the advisory opinion to the Demande on February 13, and a written reply for the advisory opinion (hereinafter, referred to as "the written reply") was submitted by the Demande on May 18, 2020.

The body conducted a hearing with the Demandant about Article A on July 14, 2020, and a response letter (hereinafter, simply referred to as "the response letter") was submitted by the Demandant on August 19, 2020.

2 The Demande alleges, in the written reply, as follows.

"The Demandant has not submitted any evidence that the Demande is exhibiting a slide fastener similar to Article A at an exhibition in Japan and offering to sell it. Further, as for Article A itself, no allegation such as sales offers has even been made. If the Demandant alleges the sales offer by the Demande for Article A itself, the Demande disputes this. Also, in the first place, the Demandant ignored the Manual for Appeal and Trial Proceedings, did not sufficiently identify Article A itself, and did not even disclose its source (see Manual for Appeal and Trial Proceedings (18th edition) 58-01/3 (5) B)." ("7-2")

However, according to the written reply (Page 3, lines 8 to 9) and Evidence A No. 3 (Pages 1 to 3) submitted by the Demandant, the Demandant said that he/she received the provision of Article A from the Demande in "Fashion World Tokyo 2017 [Spring]," and based on the provision of Article A, the Demandant submitted "Explanatory Document A".

Therefore, since it cannot be said that Article A is sufficiently specified so that it can be examined and that the Demandant intends to display a person who is not the implementer of Article A to the other party, as the object of the demand, hereinafter, we will examine whether or not the slide fastener indicated in Explanatory Document A belongs to the technical scope of the invention according to Claim 1 of the Patent.

No. 3 The Patent Invention

As viewed from the description of the scope of claims, the specification, and drawings, the invention according to Claim 1 of the Patent (hereinafter, referred to as "the Patent Invention") is as specified by the matters described in Claim 1 of the scope of claims, and if the Patent Invention is separately described in relation to each constituent component and symbols of uppercase letters are added, it is as follows. Hereinafter, constituent components are respectively referred to as "Constituent component A" and the like.

"[Claim 1]

A slide fastener comprising:

A a pair of fastener tapes (20);

B a pair of fastener element rows (30) respectively sewn to opposing tape side edge portions (20a) of the pair of fastener tapes by sewing threads (33), each of the fastener element rows having a plurality of fastener elements (31); and

C a slider (40) configured to engage and disengage the pair of fastener element rows,

D wherein each of the fastener element rows is a coil-shaped fastener element row made of synthetic resin having translucency;

E wherein the tape side edge portions of the pair of fastener tapes respectively have tape end edges (20b) opposed to each other between the pair of faster tapes, and a gap (S) is uniformly formed in a longitudinal direction of the pair of fastener tapes between the tape end edges;

F wherein each of the fastener elements comprises an engaging head section (31a), and a first leg section (31b) and a second leg section (31c) protruding from the engaging head section and extending in parallel,

G wherein the first leg section comes in contact with the corresponding fastener tape and the second leg section does not come in contact with the corresponding fastener tape;

H wherein the first leg section is colored in a color different from those of the fastener tapes and the second leg section;

I wherein the second leg section is uncolored; and

J wherein the color of the first leg section is visible through the gap between the pair of fastener tapes".

No. 4 Article A

1 The explanatory document of Article A attached to the written request for the advisory opinion

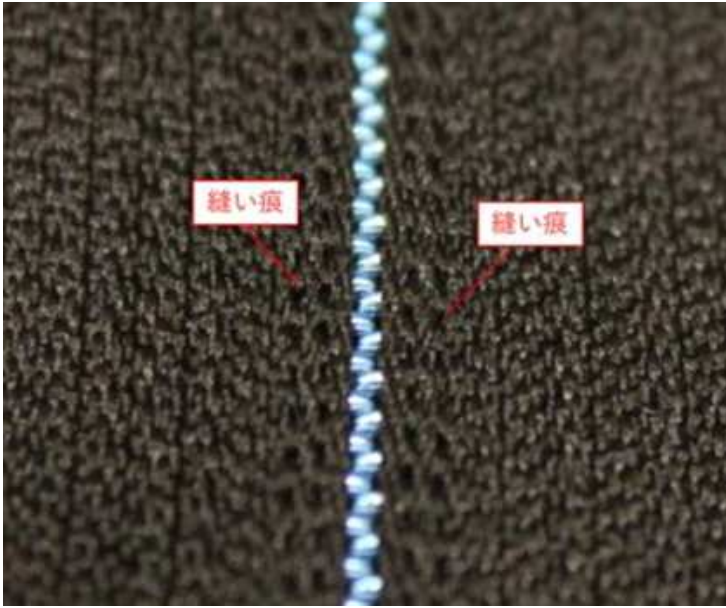
"As shown in Photograph 1 below, Article A is equipped with a slider with a 'TH' logo. A gap is formed between tape end edges opposing to each other between a pair of fastener tapes, and the gap is formed in a longitudinal direction. Consequently, the color (blue) of a leg section on a front side is visible through the gap between the pair of fastener tapes.

[Photograph 1]



The front surface of Article A is as shown in Photograph 2 below, and sewing marks can be confirmed.

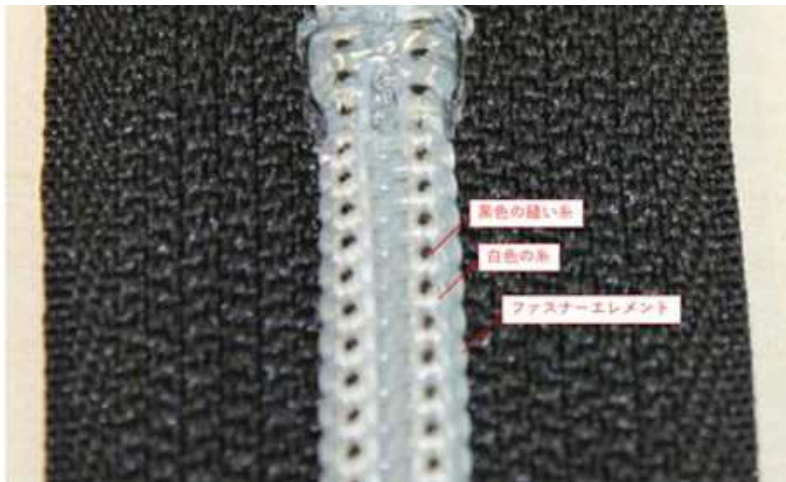
[Photograph 2]



縫い痕 Sewing marks

A back surface of Article A is as shown in Photograph 3 below, and sewing threads can be confirmed.

[Photograph 3]



黒色の縫い糸 Black-colored sewing thread

白色の糸 White-colored thread

ファスナーエレメント Fastener element

Sewing threads can be confirmed also from Photograph 4 below in which the back surface side is obliquely photographed and Photograph 5 in which Photograph 4 is enlarged. The black-colored sewing thread penetrates the white-colored thread extending in the longitudinal direction to sew the fastener element to the fastener tape.

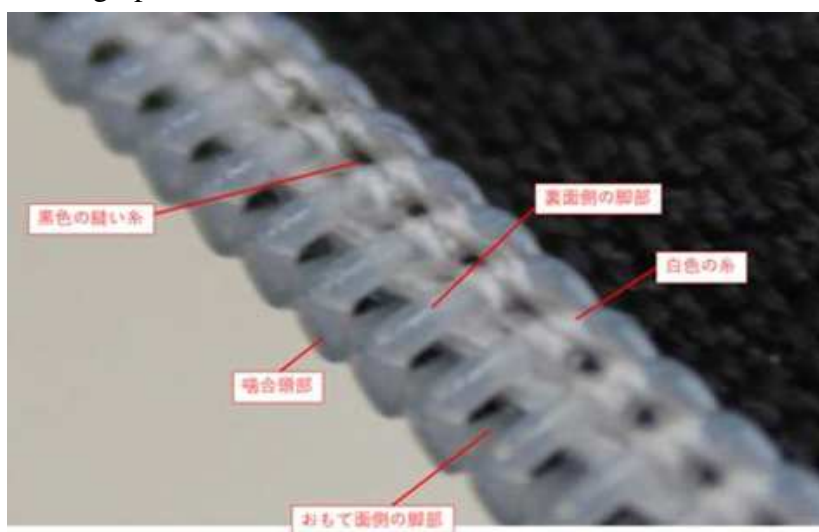
Also, there is common general technical knowledge that unless the fastener element is fixed to the fastener tape, the action of opening/closing the fastener tape cannot be carried out. Further, as shown in Photograph 6, from the fact that the fastener element has not fallen even if only the fastener tape is gripped, it is confirmed that the fastener element is fixed to the fastener tape. It is common general technical knowledge that sewing thread is used when fixing the fastener element to the fastener tape, and actually, sewing thread is used in Article A.

[Photograph 4]



裏面側の脚部	Leg section on the back surface side
噛合頭部	Engaging head section
黒色の縫い糸	Black-colored sewing thread
白色の糸	White-colored thread

[Photograph 5]



黒色の縫い糸	Black-colored sewing thread
啗合頭部	Engaging head section
裏面側の脚部	Leg section on the back surface side
白色の糸	White-colored thread
おもて面側の脚部	Leg section on the front surface side

[Photograph 6]



From Photograph 4 and Photograph 5, it can be confirmed that the leg section on the back surface side linearly extends from the engaging head section. Further, it can also be confirmed that the leg section on the back surface side is uncolored and a semitransparent resin material is exposed.

A photograph in which the front surface side is obliquely photographed is Photograph 7 below, and a photograph in which Photograph 7 is enlarged is Photograph 8. From these Photographs, it can also be confirmed that the semitransparent resin material is colored blue.

Further, from Photograph 5 above and Photograph 8 below, it can be confirmed that the leg section on the front surface side linearly extends from the engaging head section.

[Photograph 7]



おもて面側の脚部 Leg section on the front surface side
啮合頭部 Engaging head section

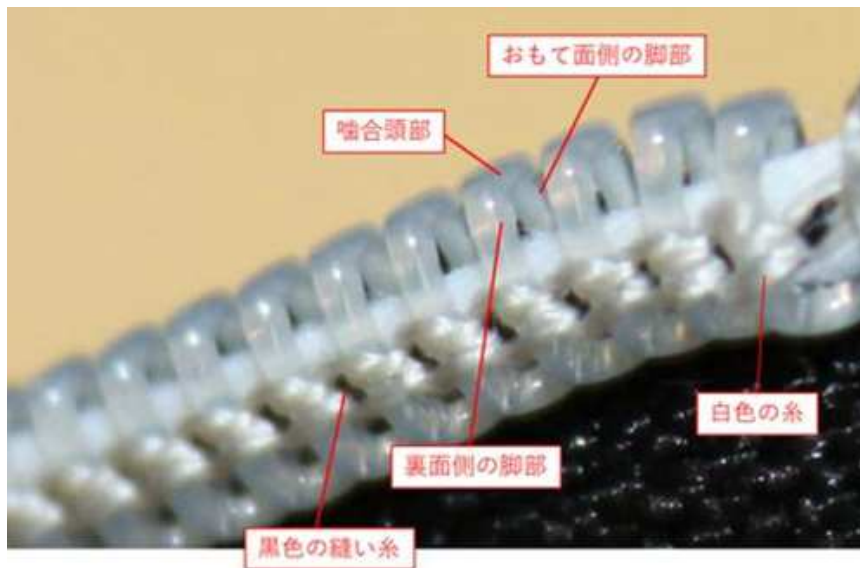
[Photograph 8]



おもて面側の脚部 Leg section on the front surface side
啮合頭部 Engaging head section

Photograph 9 is presented to show the shape of the fastener element. In addition to Photograph 4, Photograph 5, Photograph 7, and Photograph 8, from Photograph 9, it can be confirmed that the leg section on the front surface side and the leg section on the back surface side extend in parallel from the engaging head section.

[Photograph 9]



おもて面側の脚部	Leg section on the front surface side
噛合頭部	Engaging head section
黒色の縫い糸	Black-colored sewing thread
裏面側の脚部	Leg section on the back surface side
白色の糸	White-colored thread

In order to confirm that the leg section on the back surface side has translucency, Photograph 10 to Photograph 15 were prepared. In each of Photograph 10 to Photograph 15, a light is placed below the fastener element of Article A, and the fastener element of Article A is held between members that do not transmit light so that the light of the light does not leak to the outside.

Further, Article A of Photograph 10 to Photograph 15 is the same as Article A of Photograph 1 to Photograph 9, and is Article A of Photograph 1 to Photograph 9 held by a black cloth and a green case, which are members that do not transmit light.

Photograph 10 is a photograph taken using a flash as well, and Photograph 11 is a photograph taken in the same state as Photograph 10 without using a flash (shutter speed is slowed down). Photograph 12 is an enlargement of Photograph 11.

An enlargement of Photograph 10 is Photograph 13.

[Photograph 10]



むき出しの樹脂からなる裏面側の脚部
made of a bare resin

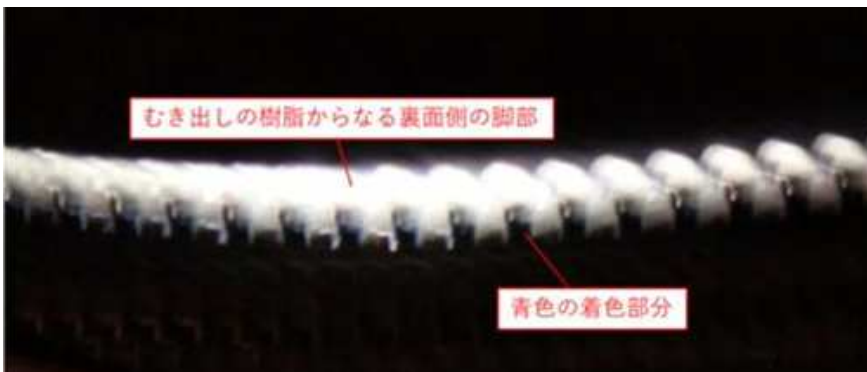
Leg section on the back surface side

青色の着色部分 Blue-colored part

[Photograph 11]



[Photograph 12]



むき出しの樹脂からなる裏面側の脚部
made of bare resin

Leg section on the back surface side

青色の着色部分 Blue-colored part

[Photograph 13]



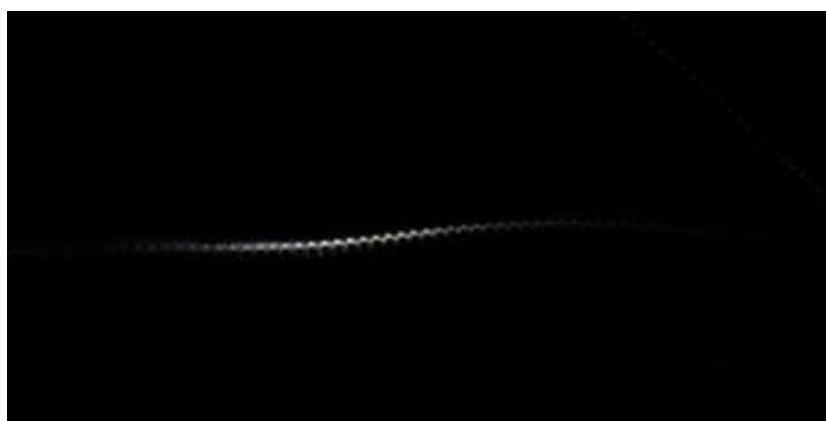
むき出しの樹脂からなる裏面側の脚部 Leg section on the back surface side made of bare resin

青色の着色部分 Blue-colored part

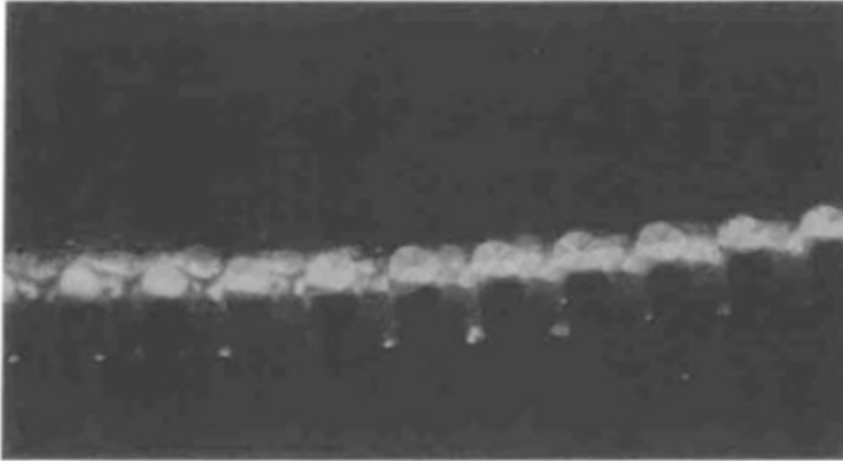
Translucency literally means a property of transmitting light, and as shown in Photograph 11 and Photograph 12, at least the leg section on the back surface side made of bare resin that is not colored blue transmits light, and has translucency. (This can be confirmed from the fact that light does not pass through the member holding the fastener element.)

Photograph 14 was taken in substantially the same state as Photograph 10 and Photograph 11, without using a flash and without particularly slowing the shutter speed. An enlargement of Photograph 14 is Photograph 15. From these Photographs, it can be confirmed that light is transmitted through the leg section on the back surface side made of bare resin.

[Photograph 14]



[Photograph 15]



"

2. From 1 above, Article A can be understood as follows.

(1) From [Photograph 1] and [Photograph 6], a pair of black-colored and strip-shaped clothes extending in the vertical direction of Photographs can be seen holding a blue-colored and straight part extending in the vertical direction of Photographs. Also, from [Photograph 1] and [Photograph 7], the members marked with the letters TH and the members to which those are attached are seen. By moving the member marked with the letters TH with respect to the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped cloths, it can be seen that the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped cloths are connected in [Photograph 1], but are separated in [Photograph 7].

Further, [Photograph 3] to [Photograph 5] are taken by turning over Article A in [Photograph 1] and [Photograph 2]. In [Photograph 5] and [Photograph 10], which are taken by turning over the blue-colored and linear part, it can be seen that the members smaller than the fingers were lined up in a straight line, and in [Photograph 3], it can be seen that those are engaged.

From those matters, Article A is a slide fastener; the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped cloths are fastener tapes; the member equipped with the member marked with the letters TH is a slider equipped with a pull; the members that are smaller than the fingers are a fastener elements; and a series of the plurality of fastener elements arranged in a straight line is a fastener element row.

(2) From [Photograph 2] to [Photograph 5], it can be seen that the fastener element row is provided at the side edge portion in the width direction of one fastener tape, and the fastener element rows are respectively sewn to the pair of fastener tapes by the black-colored sewing threads.

Further, since the side to which the pull of the slider of Article A is attached corresponds to the front side of the slide fastener operated by a person holding the pull, it can be said that [Photograph 1] is a photograph taken from the front side. Then, from [Photograph 1], since a part of the fastener element row is seen between the pair of fastener tapes on the front side, the side on which the fastener element row having the pair of a plurality of fastener elements is sewn corresponds to the back side of the slide fastener.

(3) From [Photograph 5], it can be seen that the fastener element row has a coiled shape, and the plurality of fastener elements in the fastener elements have a part composed of leg sections (described as "a leg section on the front surface side, and a leg section on the back surface side" in the explanatory document of Article A) extending side by side in the same direction respectively along the front side surface and the back side surface of the slide fastener, and connecting portions (described as "engaging head sections" in Explanatory Document A) connecting the leg sections.

(4) From [Photograph 9], it can be seen that the black-colored fastener tape located on the opposite side of the fastener element row can be seen through.

From [Photograph 10] to [Photograph 15], since it can be seen that light is transmitted through the parts composed of the leg sections and the connecting portions, it can be said that the coiled fastener element row made of the same material as one body including the parts including the leg sections and the connecting portions has translucency.

Further, as seen from [Photograph 6] and [Photograph 10], in the coiled fastener element row, as compared with the size of human fingers, each of the parts composed of the leg sections and the connecting portions is small, and the parts composed of the small leg sections and the small connecting portions can be integrally formed. It is presumed that a material whose back side can be seen through and which has translucency is a synthetic resin.

(5) It can be seen that the leg section on the back side of Article A does not come in contact with the fastener tape, from [Photograph 5], and that the leg section on the front side of Article A comes in contact with the fastener tape, from [Photograph 8].

(6) Comparing the photograph taken from the front side of Article A [Photograph 8] and the photographs taken from the back side of Article A [Photograph 4], [Photograph 5], and [Photograph 9], it can be seen that although in [Photograph 4], [Photograph 5], and [Photograph 9], the opposite side of the leg section on the back side of Article A can be seen through similarly to the parts of other fastener element rows, and in the leg section on the front side of Article A of [Photograph 8], an upper surface of the material whose opposite side can be seen through is blue.

From [Photograph 1], since from the gap between the pair of fastener tapes, the blue color of the upper surface of the leg section on the front side of Article A can be seen without a break in the longitudinal direction and with almost the same width, it can be said that there is a uniform gap in the longitudinal direction between the side edges in the longitudinal direction of the pair of fastener tapes.

3. Summarizing 2 above, Article A is as follows, if adding symbols of lowercase letters to respective configurations so as to correspond to the separate descriptions of the constituent components of the patent invention.

"A slide fastener comprising:

- a a pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes,
- b wherein fastener element rows are provided in a longitudinal direction of the fastener tapes at side edge portions opposing to each other of the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes, each of the fastener element rows being sewn to the fastener tape by black-colored sewing threads and having a plurality of fastener elements,
- c wherein the fastener element rows respectively provided on the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes are engaged and separated between the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes by sliding a slider,
- d wherein each of the fastener element row has a coiled shape, has an opposite side that can be seen through, and is made of a synthetic resin having translucency,
- e wherein a uniform gap is provided in a longitudinal direction between the side edges in the longitudinal direction of the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes,
- f wherein each of the fastener elements is composed of leg sections extending in a direction along the front side and back side surfaces of the slide fastener, and a connecting portion connecting the leg sections,
- g wherein the leg section on the front side of the slide fastener comes in contact with the black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tape, and the leg section on the back side of the slide fastener does not come in contact with the black-colored and strip-shaped

fastener tape,

h wherein an upper surface of the leg section on the front side of the slide fastener is blue,

i wherein the opposite side of the leg section on the back side of the slide fastener can be seen through similarly to the parts of other fastener element rows, and

j wherein the blue color of the upper surface of the leg section on the front side is visible from the gap between the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fasteners without a break in the longitudinal direction".

No. 5 Judgment

1 Regarding Constituent Components A to C

Constituent Components A to C of the Patent Invention are that a slide fastener comprises

"A a pair of fastener tapes (20);

B a pair of fastener element rows (30) respectively sewn to opposing tape side edge portions (20a) of the pair of fastener tapes by sewing threads (33), each of the fastener element rows having a plurality of fastener elements (31); and

C a slider (40) configured to engage and disengage the pair of fastener element rows".

On the other hand, a slide fastener of Article A comprises a pair of "fastener tapes," and "fastener element rows" are provided at side edge portions opposing to each other of "the fastener tapes," and are sewn to "the fastener tapes" by "black-colored sewing threads". Further, each of the "fastener tapes" has a plurality of "fastener elements," and the "fastener element rows" are engaged and separated between the pair of "fastener tapes" by sliding "a slider," so that it can be said that the configurations a to c of Article A respectively satisfy Constituent Components A to C of the Patent Invention.

2 Regarding Constituent Component D

(1) Constituent Component D of the Patent Invention is that

"D each of the fastener element rows is a coil-shaped fastener element row made of synthetic resin having translucency".

On the other hand, the "fastener element row" of Article A has a coiled shape, has an opposite side that can be seen through, and is made of a synthetic resin having translucency, so that the configuration d of Article A satisfies Constituent Component D of the Patent Invention.

(2) A The Demandee, in the written reply ("7-3-2 (3)"), alleges that "having

translucency' (Constituent Component 1D) of Invention 1 means 'transparent'," that "the leg sections on the back side of the fastener element row of Article A are milky white (the written request for the advisory opinion [Photograph 3], [Photograph 4], and [Photograph 5] etc.), and are not transparent," and that "according to the above, Article A does not satisfy the constituent component (Constituent Component 1D) of the fastener element row 'having translucency' of Invention 1" (Page 5, line 2 from the bottom to Page 6, line 11).

B Concerning "having translucency" of the Patent Invention, the specification of the Patent ([0015]) describes that

"As shown in FIG. 2, each fastener element row 30 is a coil-shaped fastener element row which is formed by winding a monofilament made of transparent synthetic resin in a preset direction, and includes a plurality of fastener elements 31. Also, the fastener element row 30 has a core string 32 inserted therethrough and also is sewn to a back surface (lower surface) of the tape side edge portion 20a of the fastener tape 20 by sewing threads 33 double-chain-stitched thereon. The synthetic resin material for the monofilament may include polyester, nylon, or the like. Although the fastener element row 30 is made of transparent synthetic resin and thus has translucency, the fastener element row 30 is not limited thereto and may not have translucency".

Regarding the technical significance of "having translucency," in the written opinion ("2. (5)") dated April 1, 2016 at the examination stage of the Patent, it is explained that

"According to the configuration of the invention according to amended Claim 1 of the present application, when the slide fastener is closed, only the color of the first leg section can be seen through the gap in the fastener tape. On the other hand, when the slide fastener is opened, as shown in FIG. 1 of the present application, the engagement of the fastener element row is released above the slider. At that time, the fastener element rows are more visible in multiple directions than when it is closed (see Paragraph 0024 of the original specification of the present application).

Here, in this case, although the second leg section of the fastener element row will be visible, if the colors of the second leg and the fastener tape are different, three colors of the first leg section, the fastener tape, and the second leg section can be seen. However, combinations of these three colors that combine to enhance the design are limited, and furthermore, since there are three colors, there is also the problem that contrast is less likely to be exhibited as compared with the case of two colors.

Then, in order to solve these problems, according to the invention of amended Claim 1 of the present application, the configurations of D, E, and I are included, and by

the combinations of these configurations, an advantageous effect is obtained, in which although the second leg section is hard to see since light passes through the transparent second leg section, the first leg section becomes easy to see since the colored first leg section reflects the light, and a slide fastener with a high design property can be provided" (the underlines are given by the body).

Therefore, it is understood that "having translucency" of Constituent Component D means that in order to make the colored part (first leg section) easier to see and improve the design property, as compared with the colored part (first leg section), by making the other part (second leg section) transparent and pass light therethrough, it makes it difficult to see.

C On the other hand, since the "fastener element row" of Article A has the opposite side that can be seen through, and makes light pass through, it can be said that it corresponds to "having translucency" of the Patent Invention.

Accordingly, the Demande's allegation that "Article A does not satisfy the constituent component (Constituent Component 1D) of the fastener element row 'having translucency' of Invention 1" cannot be accepted.

3 Regarding Constituent Component E

Constituent Component E of the Patent Invention is that "E the tape side edge portions of the pair of fastener tapes respectively have tape end edges (20b) opposed to each other between the pair of faster tapes, and a gap (S) is uniformly formed in a longitudinal direction of the pair of fastener tapes between the tape end edges".

On the other hand, the configuration e of Article A is that "a uniform gap is provided in a longitudinal direction between the side edges in the longitudinal direction of the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tapes," and the configuration e of Article A satisfies Constituent Component E of the Patent Invention.

4 Regarding Constituent Component F

(1) Constituent Component F of the Patent Invention is that "F each of the fastener elements comprises an engaging head section (31a), and a first leg section (31b) and a second leg section (31c) protruding from the engaging head section and extending in parallel".

Here, the specification of the Patent ([0016]) describes that "Each fastener element 31 includes an engaging head section 31a adapted to engage with and disengage from a counterpart fastener element 31, a first leg section 31b, which extends from one end portion of the engaging head section 31a outward in the width

direction and comes in contact with the corresponding fastener tape 20, a second leg section 31c, which extends from the other end portion of the engaging head section 31a outward in the width direction but does not come in contact with the corresponding fastener tape 20, and a connecting section 31d, which connects an outer end portion, in the width direction, of the first leg section 31b to an outer end portion in the width direction, of the second leg section 31c of the adjacent fastener element 31. Thus, the first leg section 31b and the second leg section 31c are formed to protrude from the engaging head section 31a and extend in parallel," and it is understood that the matter that the first leg section 31b and the second leg section 31c "extend in parallel " means that the first leg section 31b and the second leg section 31c "extend outward in the width direction" from the engaging head section 31a, together. "Outward in the width direction" is the edge side opposite to the side edge of the fastener tape attached with the fastener element row.

On the other hand, since "fastener elements" of Article A extend together from the connecting portion in the directions respectively along the front side surface and the back side surface of the slide fastener, the configuration f of Article A satisfies Constituent Component F of the Patent Invention.

(2) Since it is understood that the Demande, in the written reply ("7-3-2 (4)"), alleges that "in Article A, the fastener element row is wound in an oval shape, and the leg section on the front side and the leg section on the back side of the fastener element do not extend in parallel (the written request for the advisory opinion [Photograph 5])

From the above, Article A does not satisfy the constituent component (Constituent Component 1F) of the first leg section (31b) and the second leg section (31c) that protrude from the engaging section of Invention 1 and 'extend in parallel'".

However, since it is understood that "extending in parallel" of Constituent Component F, as described in (1) above, means that the first leg section 31b and the second leg section 31c extend "outward in the width direction" together from the engaging head section 31a, the Demande's allegation above cannot be accepted.

5 Regarding Constituent Component G

Constituent Component G of the Patent Invention is that "G the first leg section comes in contact with the corresponding fastener tape and the second leg section does not come in contact with the corresponding fastener tape".

On the other hand, the configuration g of Article A is that "the leg section on the front side of the slide fastener comes in contact with the black-colored and strip-shaped

fastener tape, and the leg section on the back side of the slide fastener does not come in contact with the black-colored and strip-shaped fastener tape," and thus the configuration of Article A satisfies Constituent Component G of the Patent Invention.

6 Regarding Constituent Components H and I

(1) Constituent Components H and I of the Patent Invention are that

"H the first leg section is colored in a color different from those of the fastener tapes and the second leg section, and

I the second leg section is uncolored".

On the other hand, it obvious that the opposite side of the leg section on the back side of Article A can be seen through similarly to the parts of other fastener element rows, and in the leg section on the front side, an upper surface is blue and the synthetic resin material on the opposite side can be seen through is "colored" in blue.

Then, "blue" of the leg section on the front side of the slide fastener is a different color from "black" of the fastener tape, and is a different color from those in which "the opposite side that can be seen through" of the leg section on the back side of the slide fastener.

Accordingly, the configurations h and i of Article A respectively satisfy Constituent Components H and I of the patent invention.

(2) The Demande, in the written reply ("7-3-2 (5)"), alleges that "the leg sections on the back side of the fastener element row of Article A are milky white (the written request for the advisory opinion [Photograph 3], [Photograph 4], and [Photograph 5] etc.) ..., when the fastener element rows are disengaged, the three colors of the front side leg section (blue), the fastener tape (black), and the leg section on the back surface side (white) are clearly visible (the written request for the advisory opinion [Photograph 8] etc.).

From the above, Article A does not satisfy Constituent Component 1I that the second leg section of Invention 1 is "uncolored".

However, the leg section on the back side of the slide fastener of Article A has the opposite side that can be seen through, as described above, and it is not colored in milky white, and it cannot be said that it is specifically colored, so that the Demande's allegation cannot be accepted.

7 Regarding Constituent Component J

Constituent Component J of the Patent Invention is that

"J the color of the first leg section is visible through the gap between the pair of fastener tapes".

On the other hand, the configuration j of Article A is that "the blue color of the upper surface of the leg section on the front side is visible from the gap between the pair of black-colored and strip-shaped fasteners without a break in the longitudinal direction," so that the configuration j satisfies Constituent Component J of the Patent Invention.

No. 6 Closing

As described in No. 5 1 to 7. Article A satisfies all of Constituent Components of the Patent Invention, so that Article A falls within the technical scope of the Patent Invention.

Therefore, the advisory opinion shall be made as described in the conclusion.

November 27, 2020

Chief administrative judge: INOUE, Shigeo

Administrative judge: MORIFUJI, Atsushi

Administrative judge: ISHII, Takaaki