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AN INTERLOCKING MECHANISM FOR STACKING MULTIPLE DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS

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**“AN INTERLOCKING MECHANISM FOR STACKING
MULTIPLE DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS”**

VISA

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TECHNICAL FIELD

The present subject matter is, in general, related to the field of banking and financial services, and particularly, but not exclusively to plastic money such as a debit or credit cards and a technique for organizing or arranging plurality of cards together by stacking them.

BACKGROUND

[0001] In general, with the advancement in banking and financial services, a user now days commonly owns multiple debit and/or credit cards according to his/her needs. As a part of the user's daily hassle and busy life it is always overwhelming to arrange or organize the multiple debit and/or credit cards together to avoid misplacing or losing of cards. Though there are many solutions available in the art to arrange or organize said multiple cards, they are not efficient enough in holding or organizing the cards in a convenient way. Furthermore, with the available solutions, many a times, it may be quite difficult for the user to identify a particular card (such as a VISA card) and its front, back and positioning among plurality of the cards. To overcome the above-mentioned shortcomings, the present invention introduces an interlocking mechanism for stacking multiple debit/credit cards together.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0001] The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this disclosure, illustrate exemplary embodiments and, together with the description, explain the disclosed principles. In the figures, the left-most digit(s) of a reference number identifies the figure in which the reference number first appears. The same numbers are used throughout the figures to reference features and components. Some embodiments of arrangement structure and/or methods in accordance with embodiments of the present subject matter are now described, by way of example only, and with reference to the accompanying figures, in which:

[0002] **FIG. 1** shows a perspective view of a plurality of cards that can be stacked together with an interlocking mechanism, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

[0003] **FIG. 2A and 2B** illustrates two different perspective views of same card 102 including a recess/protrusion of the interlocking mechanism 101 of Fig. 1, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

[0004] **FIG. 3** illustrates a perspective view of a plurality of cards spread in an orientation while bound together with the interlocking mechanism 101 of Fig. 1, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

[0005] The figures depict embodiments of the disclosure for purposes of illustration only. One skilled in the art will readily recognize from the following description that alternative embodiments of the structures and methods illustrated herein may be employed without departing from the principles of the disclosure described herein.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0006] It is to be understood that the present disclosure may assume various alternative variations and step sequences, except where expressly specified to the contrary. It is also to be understood that the specific devices and processes illustrated in the attached drawings and described in the following specification are simply exemplary and non-limiting embodiments or aspects. Hence, specific dimensions and other physical characteristics related to the embodiments or aspects disclosed herein are not to be considered as limiting.

[0007] In the present document, the word "exemplary" is used herein to mean "serving as an example, instance, or illustration." Any embodiment or implementation of the present subject matter described herein as "exemplary" is not necessarily to be construed as preferred or advantageous over other embodiments.

[0008] While the disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiment thereof has been shown by way of example in the drawings and will be described in detail below. It should be understood, however that it is not intended to limit the disclosure to the particular forms disclosed, but on the contrary, the disclosure is to cover all modifications, equivalents, and alternative falling within the spirit and the scope of the disclosure.

[0009] The terms "comprises", "comprising", or any other variations thereof, are intended to cover a non-exclusive inclusion, such that a setup, device or method that comprises a list of components or steps does not include only those components or steps but may include other components or steps not expressly listed or inherent to such setup or device or method. In other words, one or more elements in a device or system or apparatus preceded by "comprises... a"

does not, without more constraints, preclude the existence of other elements or additional elements in the device or system or apparatus.

[0010] The terms "an embodiment", "embodiment", "embodiments", "the embodiment", "the embodiments", "one or more embodiments", "some embodiments", and "one embodiment" mean "one or more (but not all) embodiments of the invention(s)" unless expressly specified otherwise.

[0011] The terms "including", "comprising", "having" and variations thereof mean "including but not limited to" unless expressly specified otherwise.

[0012] As used herein, the term "interlocking mechanism" may refer to a circular recess or groove on one side of the card, that forms a protrusion on the opposite side of the same card.

[0013] As used herein "recess/ groove" may refer to a hollow circular structure of interlocking mechanism of the card.

[0014] As used herein "protrusion" may refer to the protruded part of interlocking arrangement of the card.

[0015] As used herein, the term "card" may refer to one or more debit or credit cards that comprises an interlocking mechanism. Further, the interlocking mechanism may be used for stacking plurality of cards together. In a non-limiting embodiment, the stack of cards may be spread across an axis of the interlocking mechanism to identify a specific card of interest to a user.

[0016] **FIG. 1** shows a perspective view 100 of a plurality of cards 102A, 102B...102N (herein after "102") stacked together with an interlocking mechanism 101 in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

[0017] As indicated earlier, a user may own multiple cards (such as VISA cards) according to their banking and financial needs. Thus, the user may want to organize and carry the multiple cards in a hassle-free way. At the same time, the user may require identifying a particular card(s) of his/her interest, among the organized cards. Further, the user may require conveniently identifying a front side or back side of the particular card. In one scenario, the user may also want to locate the position of the card among the multiple cards.

[0018] As shown in the figure, the present disclosure provides an interlocking mechanism 101 integrated on each card 102. In the interlocking mechanism 101, a recess or groove is provided on one side the card 102. On the other side of the same card, the recess may appear as a protrusion. In one embodiment, to organize the cards 102, one or more cards 102 may be brought together on top of each other such that the protrusion of one card may be aligned with the recess of the other card. Once aligned, the cards 102 may be stacked together by inserting the protrusion of one card into the recess of the other card. The stack of cards formed in this manner will bind the cards together such that there is no chance to lose or drop any cards unless the user intends to do so. Notably, the user may conveniently carry the plurality of cards 102 together as a block.

[0019] In an aspect, with the help of the recess/protrusion on the card, the front side or back side of the card may be easily identified by the user with a touch on the recess/protrusion of the card. In another aspect, the position of a particular card may also be identified in the stack of cards by spreading the cards in a particular orientation while the cards are still bonded by the interlocking mechanism 101.

[0020] **FIG. 2A and 2B** illustrates two different perspective views of same card 102 including a recess/protrusion as a part of the interlocking mechanism 101 of Fig. 1.

[0021] In one aspect, as shown in FIG. 2A, a recess or groove 202 is provided on a front side of the card 102. In the alternative, the recess or groove 202 may be provided on a back side of the card 102. In another aspect, FIG. 2B indicates an opposite side of the card 102, wherein a recess or groove 202 may appear as a protrusion 206. Notably, the groove or recess 202 on one card may receive the protrusion 206 of the other card to form the interlocking mechanism. In other words, the protrusion 206 of one card is placed over the groove or recess 202 of the other card and pressed together to bind them as a stack. Thus, the plurality of cards 102 may be stacked together as described in FIG.1.

[0022] In an aspect, the front side or back side of the card may be easily identified by touching the recess/protrusion of the card. In an example, but not limited thereto, the recess may indicate the front side of the card and thus the protrusion may indicate the back side. Alternatively, the protrusion may indicate the front side of the card and the recess may indicate the back side of the card.

[0023] **FIG. 3** illustrates a perspective view 300 of plurality of cards 302A-302D stacked together and spread in a particular orientation, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

[0024] In one embodiment, the interlocking mechanism of the present disclosure also allows rotation of the plurality of cards 302A-302D around an axis of recess or groove to generate a spread view 300. This is quite advantageous in identifying or locating a particular card of interest among the plurality of cards. The user may then pull out the card of interest among plurality of cards in the stack.

[0025] In an exemplary scenario, let us assume that the user owns four VISA debit cards and one VISA credit card and stacked them together as a block using the interlocking mechanism. For some specific reasons, the user may want to pull out the VISA credit card out of stack. However, the user may not know the exact position of the VISA credit card on the stack. In this case, the user may spread the cards long the axis of the interlocking mechanism/recess to identify its position. In the spread view 300, the user will easily identify that the VISA credit card is placed at third position on the stack. Once identified, the user may unstack the cards till the position of the VISA credit card and is able to conveniently pull out the VISA credit card from the stack. Rest of the cards may be conveniently arranged together again as a stack.

[0026] In another embodiment, the user may want to stack all his debit cards together and credit cards together for their enhanced convenience as shown in the spread view 300.

[0027] In another embodiment, the user may want to stack their cards in a particular sequence in which it suits their usage pattern of cards, most used card on top and least used card at the last accordingly, thereby enhancing the user experience.

[0028] The illustrated embodiments/examples are set out to explain the present disclosure, and it should be anticipated that ongoing technological development will change the manner in which particular functions are performed. These examples are presented herein for purposes of illustration, and not limitation. Further, the boundaries of the functional building blocks have been arbitrarily defined herein for the convenience of the description. Alternative boundaries can be defined so long as the specified functions and relationships thereof are appropriately performed. Alternatives (including equivalents, extensions, variations,

deviations, etc., of those described herein) will be apparent to persons skilled in the relevant art(s) based on the teachings contained herein. Such alternatives fall within the scope and spirit of the disclosed embodiments. Also, the words "comprising," "having," "containing," and "including," and other similar forms are intended to be equivalent in meaning and be open ended in that an item or items following any one of these words is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of such item or items or meant to be limited to only the listed item or items. It must also be noted that as used herein, the singular forms "a," "an," and "the" include plural references unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0029] Finally, the language used in the specification has been principally selected for readability and instructional purposes, and it may not have been selected to delineate or circumscribe the inventive subject matter. Accordingly, the disclosure of the embodiments of the disclosure is intended to be illustrative, but not limiting, of the scope of the disclosure.

[0030] With respect to the use of substantially any plural and/or singular terms herein, those having skill in the art can translate from the plural to the singular and/or from the singular to the plural as is appropriate to the context and/or application. The various singular/plural permutations may be expressly set forth herein for the sake of clarity.

“AN INTERLOCKING MECHANISM FOR STACKING MULTIPLE DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS”

ABSTRACT

The present disclosure provides an interlocking mechanism for organizing or arranging plurality of cards together. In the interlocking mechanism, a recess or groove is provided on one side of the card. On the other side of the same card, the recess may appear as a protrusion. To organize the cards, one or more cards may be brought together on top of each other such that the protrusion of one card may be aligned with the recess of the other card. Once aligned, the cards may be stacked together by inserting the protrusion of one card into the recess of the other card. The stack of cards formed in this manner will bind the cards together such that there is no chance to lose or drop any cards unless the user intends to do so. Notably, the user may conveniently carry the plurality of cards as a block.

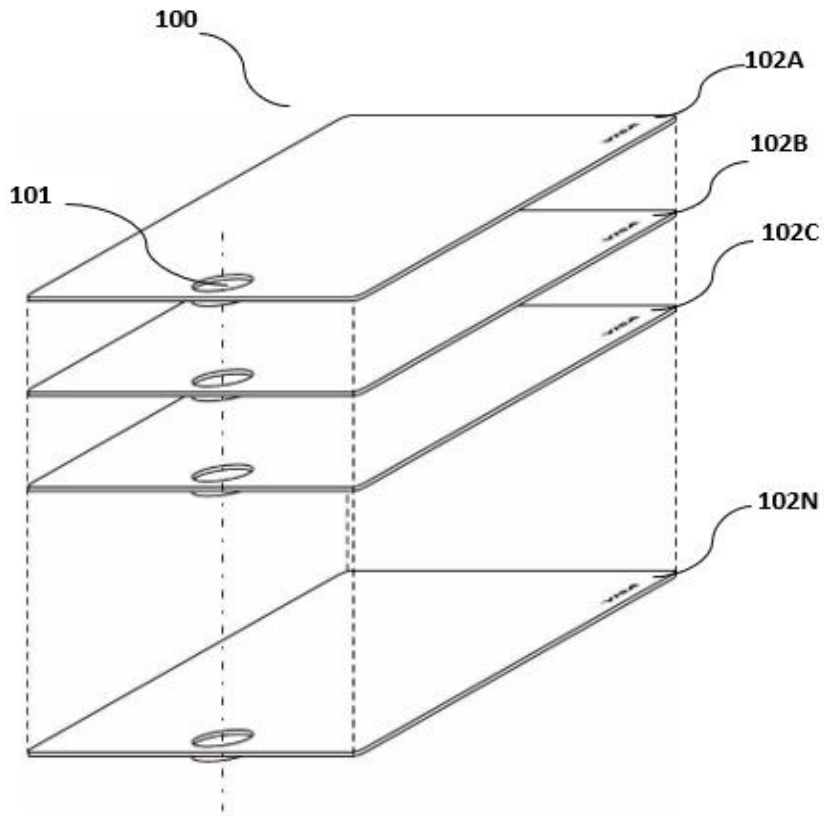
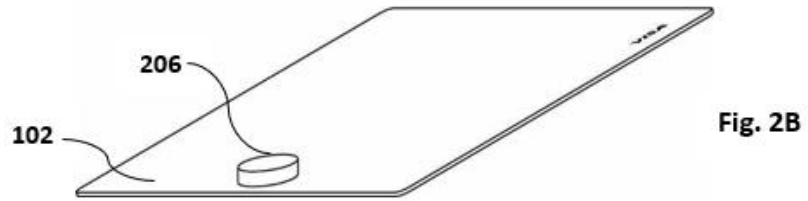
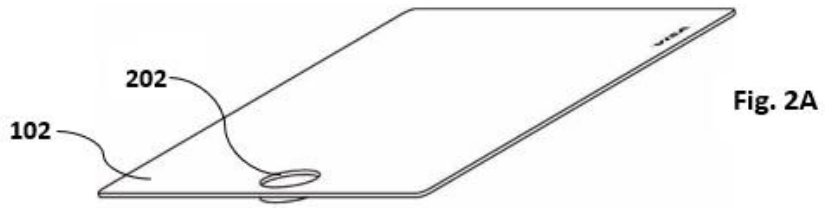


Fig. 1



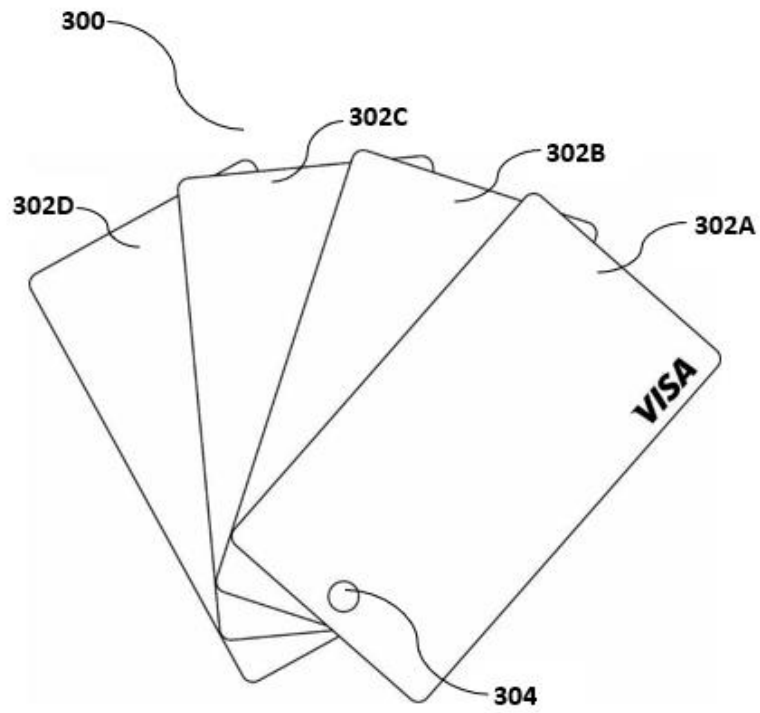


Fig. 3