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(54) Title: A WINDOW FRAME ASSEMBLY

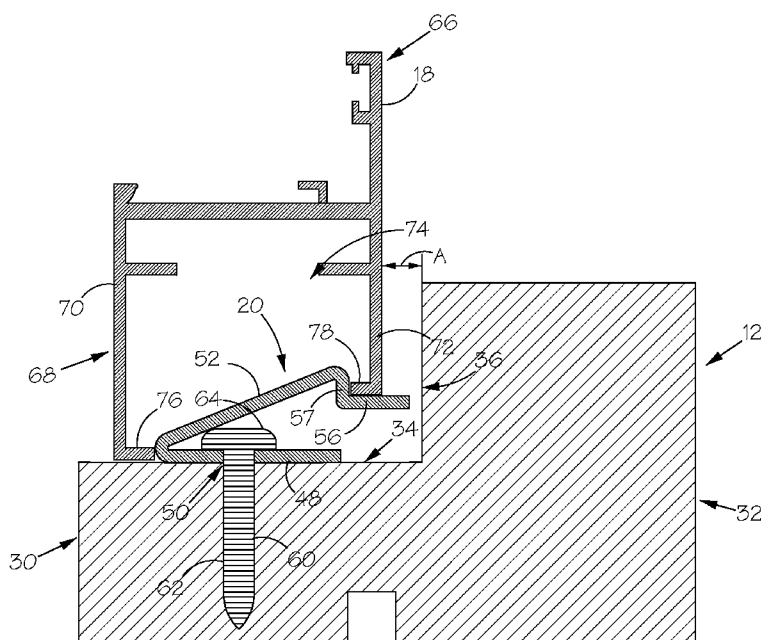


FIG 4

(57) Abstract: A window frame assembly 10 comprising a fibre cement sub-frame 12 which can be secured within a window opening in a wall, an aluminium window frame 18 which can be mounted to the sub-frame; and a number of retaining clips for releasably mounting the window frame to the sub-frame. Being of fibre-cement, the sub-frame is suitable for bonding to a layer of plaster. Exposed inner and outer sides of the sub-frame can be plastered when the external sides of the wall are plastered. Thereafter, at an appropriate time, the window frame, with glazing installed, can be mounted to the sub-frame.

AMENDED CLAIMS

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1. A window frame assembly which comprises:

a sub-frame which can be secured within a window opening in a wall which is to be plastered, the sub-frame being of fibre-reinforced cement which is suitable for bonding to a layer of plaster;

a metal window frame which can be inserted into the sub-frame when it is secured within the window opening; and

window frame latching means for mounting the window frame to the sub-frame upon insertion of the window frame into the sub-frame.

2. The window frame assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the window frame latching means comprises a number of retaining clips which can be secured to the sub-frame and a number of complementary clip engagement formations defined by the window frame for engaging the retaining clips for mounting the window frame to the sub-frame upon insertion of the window frame into the sub-frame.
3. The window frame assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the retaining clips and the clip engagement formations are configured to permit the window frame to be releasably mounted to the sub-frame.
4. The window assembly of claim 3, wherein each retaining clip includes a release formation which can be manipulated from an internal side of the window frame when mounted to the sub-frame, to release the retaining clip from the window frame, thereby permitting the removal of the window frame from the sub-frame when all of the retaining clips have been released.

5. The window frame assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the window frame is of aluminium.
6. The window frame of the window frame assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.
7. The retaining clip of the window frame assembly as claimed in any one of the claims 2 to 6.
8. A window construction which includes the window frame assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, secured within a window opening in a wall, wherein the sub-frame is bonded to plaster applied to the wall.
9. A method of constructing a window which includes:

providing a sub-frame of a cementitious material which is suitable for bonding to a layer of plaster;

providing a metal window frame;

providing window frame latching means;

securing the sub-frame within a window opening in a wall which is to be plastered;

plastering the wall and at least an external side of the sub-frame; and

after the plaster has set, inserting the metal window frame into the sub-frame and mounting the window frame to the sub-frame by means of the window frame latching means.

10. The window frame assembly as claimed in claim 1, substantially as described in the specification with reference to and as illustrated in any of the drawings.
11. The window frame as claimed in claim 6, substantially as described in the specification with reference to and as illustrated in any of the drawings.
12. The retaining clip as claimed in claim 7, substantially as described in the specification with reference to and as illustrated in any of the drawings.
13. The window construction as claimed in claim 8, substantially as described in the specification with reference to and as illustrated in any of the drawings.
14. The method as claimed in claim 9, substantially as described in the specification, with reference to and as illustrated in any of the drawings.