

form whereby information can be easily gleaned therefrom, the cover member 22b and bar 60 acting as retaining means to prevent the label from returning the its original folded state.

To place the device 50 back into its closed position (see FIG. 10), the label 20b is folded along the lines 52 and 54 and stored into the cover member 22b. The cover member 22b is then connected to the cap member 24b either by means of friction, a snap-fit or a locking device.

In the device shown in FIGS. 1 to 7, it should be noted that the cap members 24 and 24a and cover members 22 and 22a may be connected together either by means of friction, engaging screw threads or by a snap-fit. In an embodiment, the retaining member may be in the form of the cord or chain used to attach the device to the user, the cord or chain engaging the clip/hooks 28 by being "curved" therearound.

In the devices shown in FIGS. 1 to 9 and instead of the hook/clip 28, the retaining means could be a strip of fastening material preferably in the form of a velcro strip or adhesive coating provided adjacent the side of the label 20 opposite the side secured to the support portion 18 whereby when the label 20 is "opened-out", the velcro or adhesive is simply placed onto the users clothing.

A device in accordance with the invention has been found to be air-sealed and thus heat resistant upto high temperatures, and waterproof upto at least 50 m of depth.

The label 20 in any of the examples shown in FIGS. 1 to 11 is easily replaceable, exchanged or substitutable by another label 20 in order to update any information. Alternatively, the label 20 in use is simply revised. The label 20 may also be in the form of two identical labels back to back and joined at the edges (e.g. by lamination), thereby duplicating the information given on the label.

It should be noted in practise, that the support portion 18 and label 20 of the device are preferably initially supplied separately whereby information can be easily typed or written onto the label. Thereafter, the label 20 is secured to the support portion 18 (e.g. with a strip of adhesive coating provided on the side of the label 20), such that the label 20 can then be extended to read the information when needed, and stored relative the support portion 18 when not needed.

What I claim is:

1. An information device comprising:
 - a relatively rigid support portion suitable for attachment to an object,
 - a relatively flexible information label capable of being secured to said relatively rigid support portion, said label when secured being extendable in use into an open state and also storable into a closed state relative said support portion,
 - a separate cover member attachable to said support portion to contain said label after said label is

stored in said closed state, and detachable from said support portion to allow said label to be extended into said open state, and
 sealing means for providing a water and air tight seal of an area containing said label when in said closed state.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said support portion has a cap member with which said cover member engages to fully contain said label.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said sealing means comprises at least one seal between said cover member and said support portion.

4. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said label is stored around said support portion.

5. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said label is stored adjacent to said support portion.

6. An information device comprising:

a relatively rigid support portion suitable for attachment to an object,

a relatively flexible information label capable of being secured to said relatively rigid support portion, said label when secured being extendable in use into an open state and also storable into a closed state relative said support portion,

a separate cover member attachable to said support portion to contain said label after said label is stored in said closed state and detachable from said support portion to allow said label to be extended into said open state, and

means for retaining said label extended when in said open state, said retaining means having a length along which a retaining member is generally received and held thereby.

7. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining means comprises a clip member, provided on a side of label opposite a side secured to said support portion, in which clip member is positioned said retaining member.

8. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining means comprises a pocket, provided in said label, for receiving said retaining member.

9. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining means comprises hoops attached to said label, in which hoops said retaining member is insertable.

10. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining means comprises at least one attachment member on said label, to which attachment member is connected said retaining member.

11. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining member comprises said cover member.

12. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said retaining means comprises a strip of adhesive material adjacent a side of said label opposite a side secured to said support portion.

13. A device as claimed in claim 6 wherein said cover member is secured to one end of said label, while said support portion is secured to the other end of said label.

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