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HATTA(10) **Pub. No.: US 2025/0260115 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 14, 2025**(54) **BATTERY MOUNT AND WORKING
MACHINE INCLUDING THE SAME**(71) Applicant: **KUBOTA CORPORATION**, Osaka
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(57)

ABSTRACT

A battery mount includes a placement base, a restriction member to restrict rearward movement of the battery, and a securing assembly to secure the battery that extends from a position above or an upper portion of the restriction member to the battery's forward surface. The securing assembly includes a first securer at the same side of the battery as the battery's upper surface, a second securer at the same side of the battery as the battery's forward surface, and a coupler to couple the first and second securers to each other. The coupler includes an inclined portion provided in one of the first and second securers and inclined such that a distance to the battery's rear surface decreases upward, and a retention member to retain a position at which the other of the first and second securers is coupled to the inclined portion such that the position is adjustable.

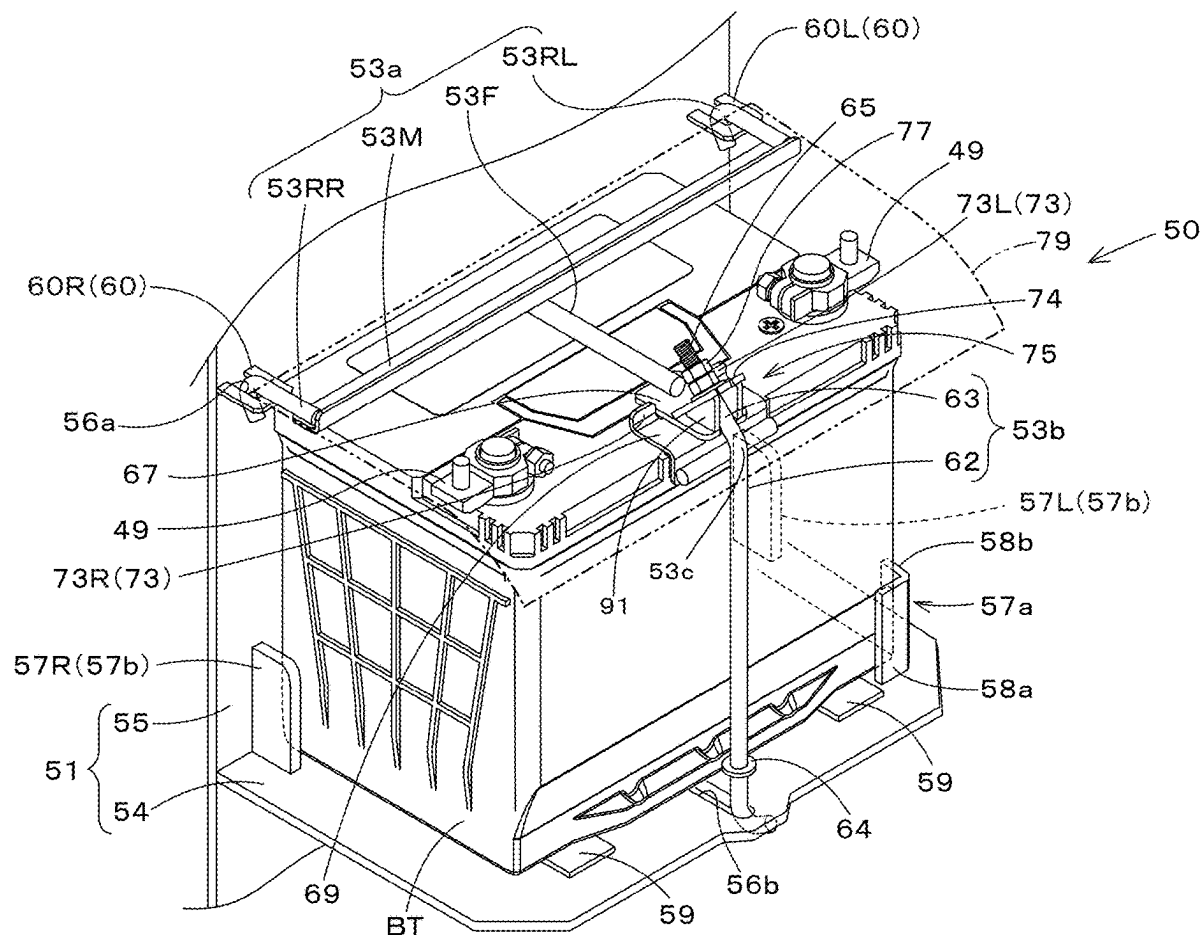
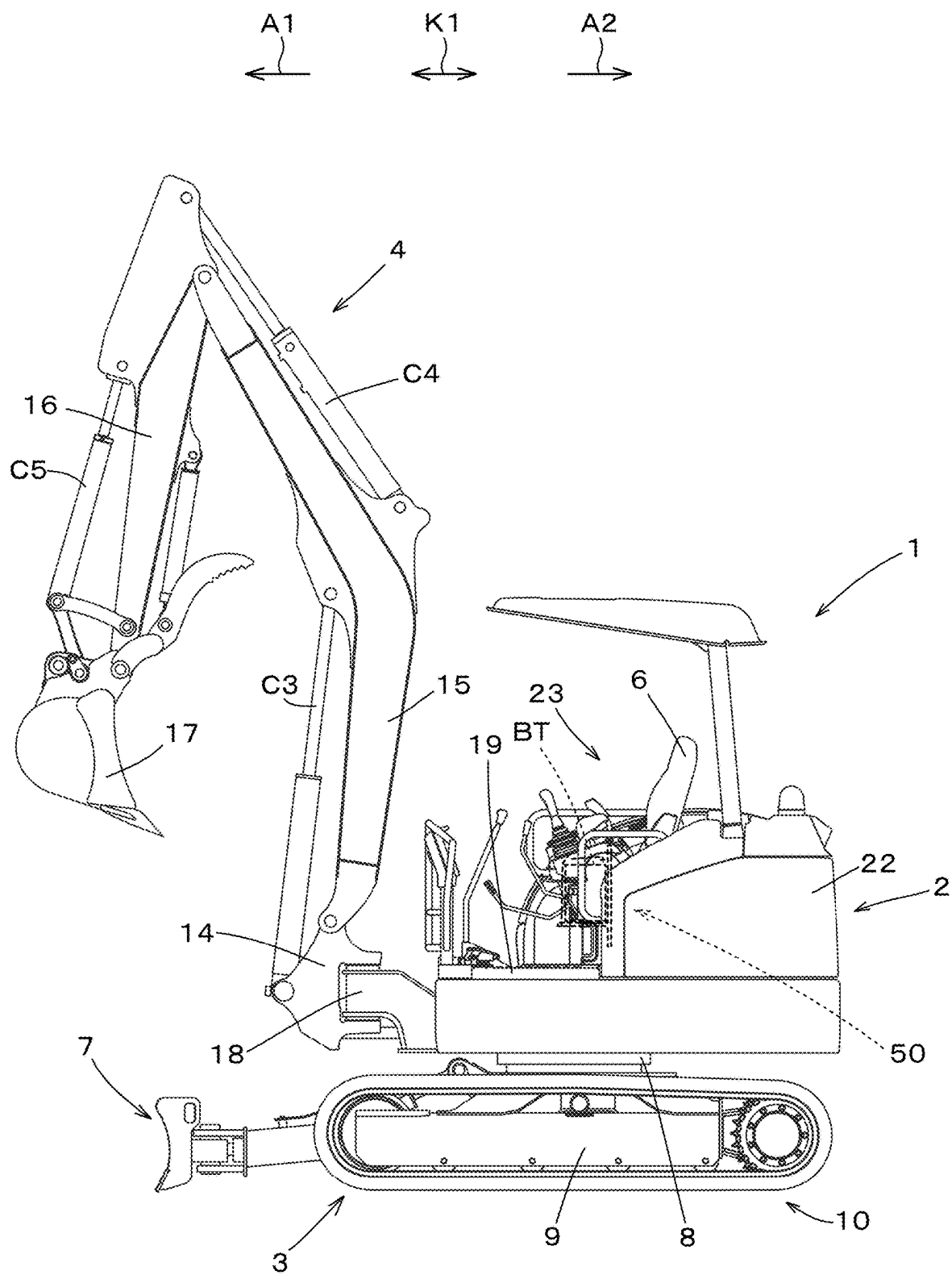


Fig.2



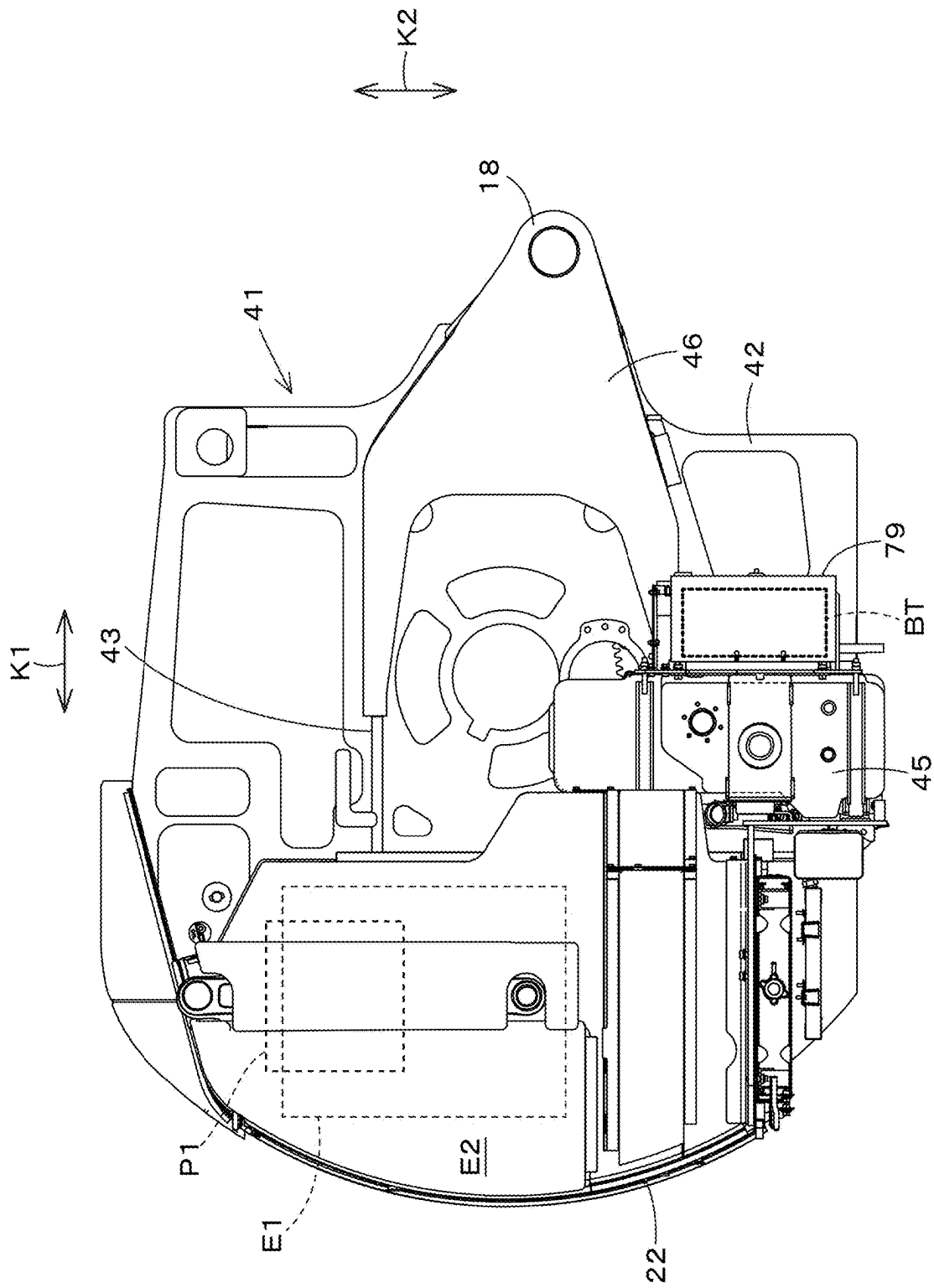
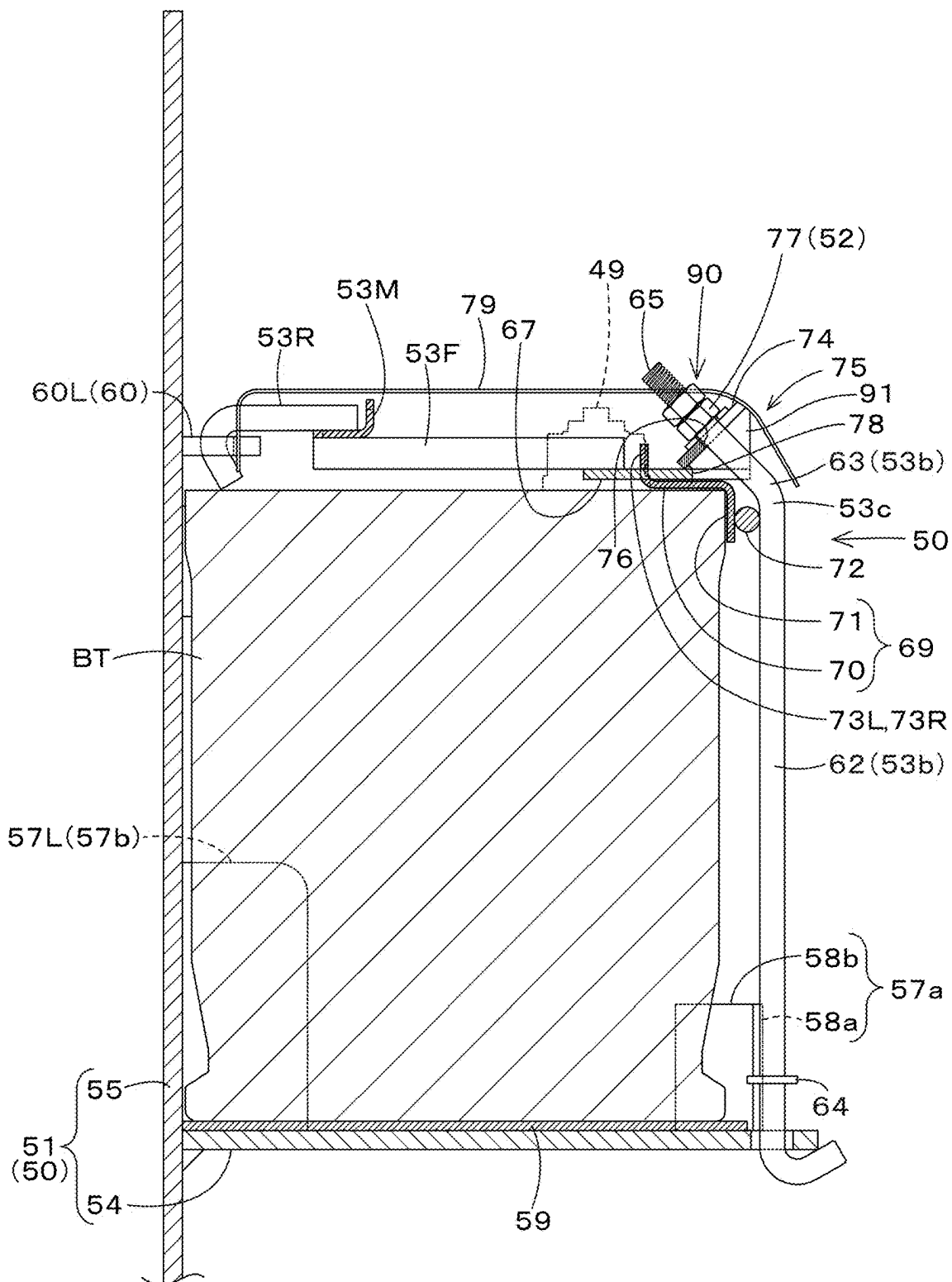


Fig.3

Fig.5



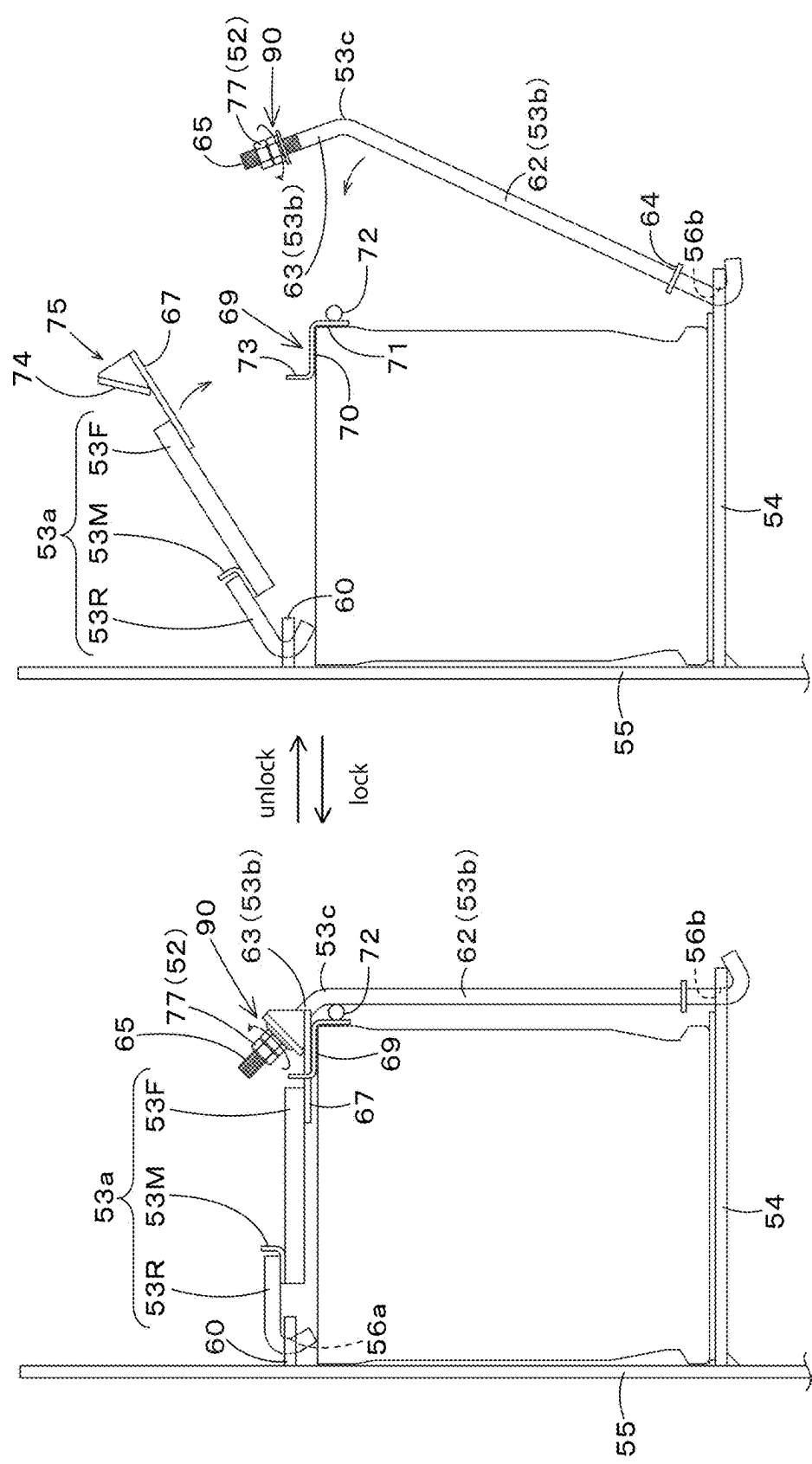


Fig. 6

Fig.7A

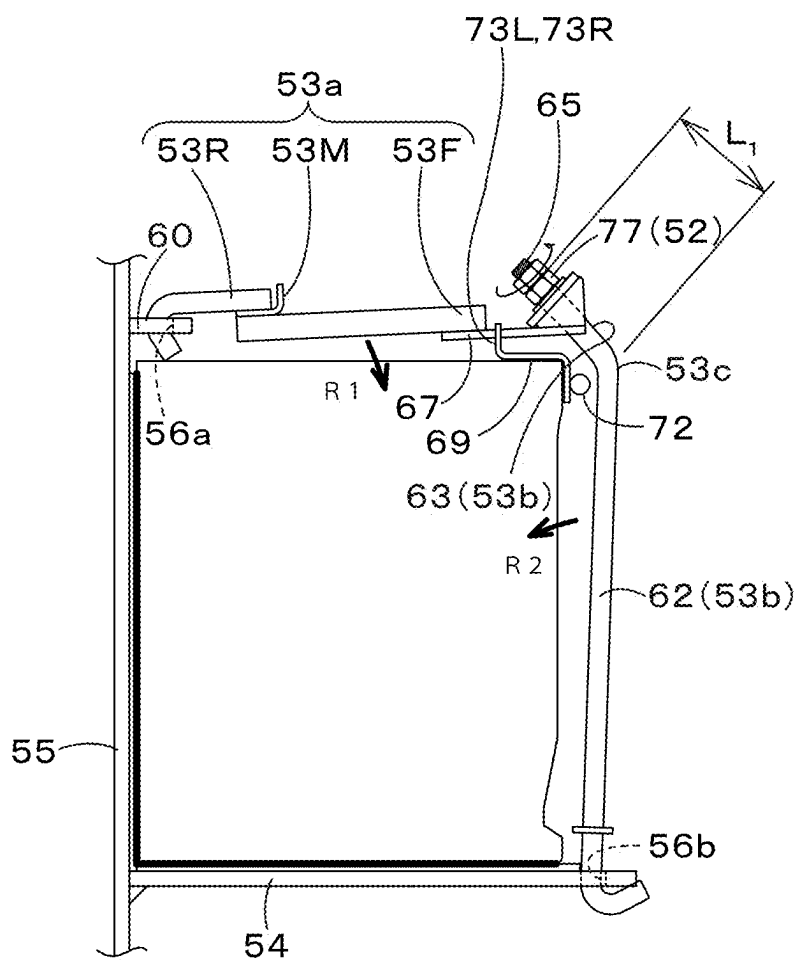


Fig.7B

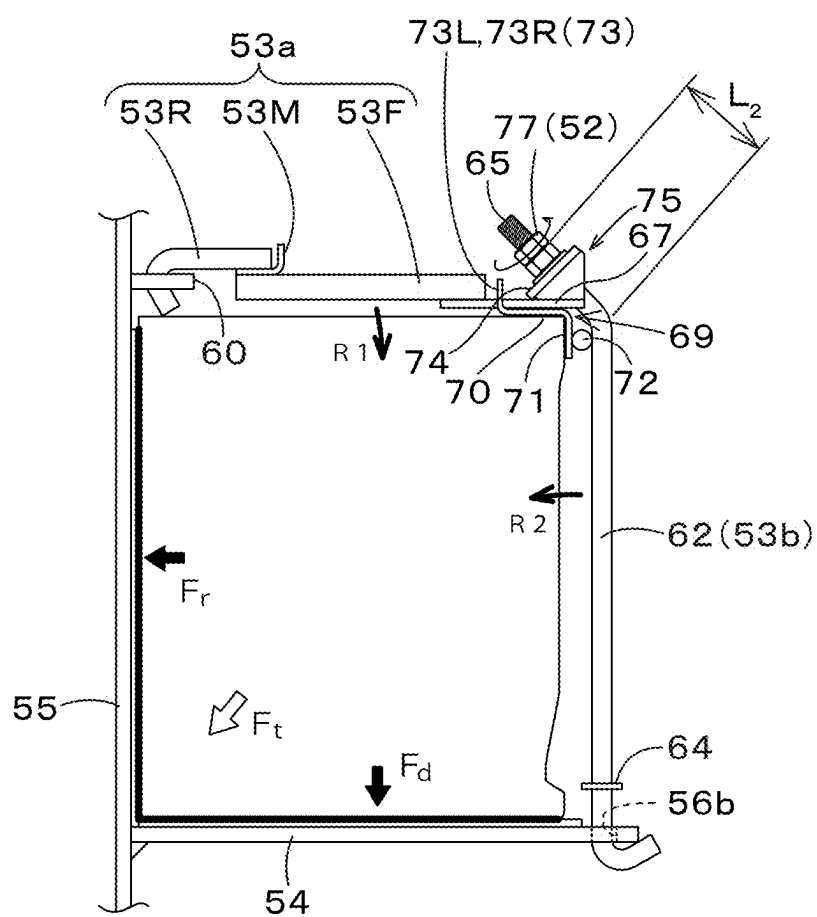


Fig.8

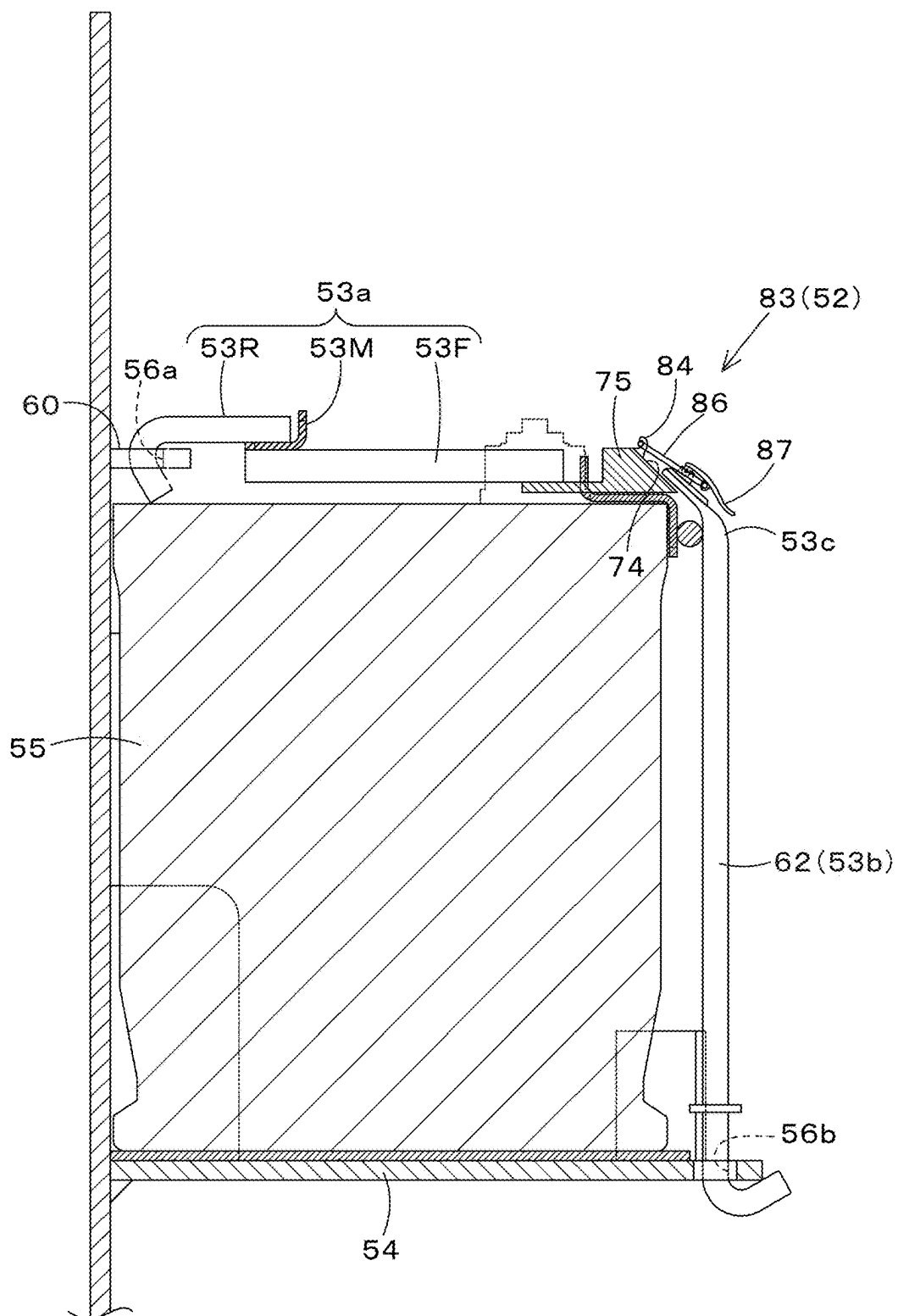


Fig.9A

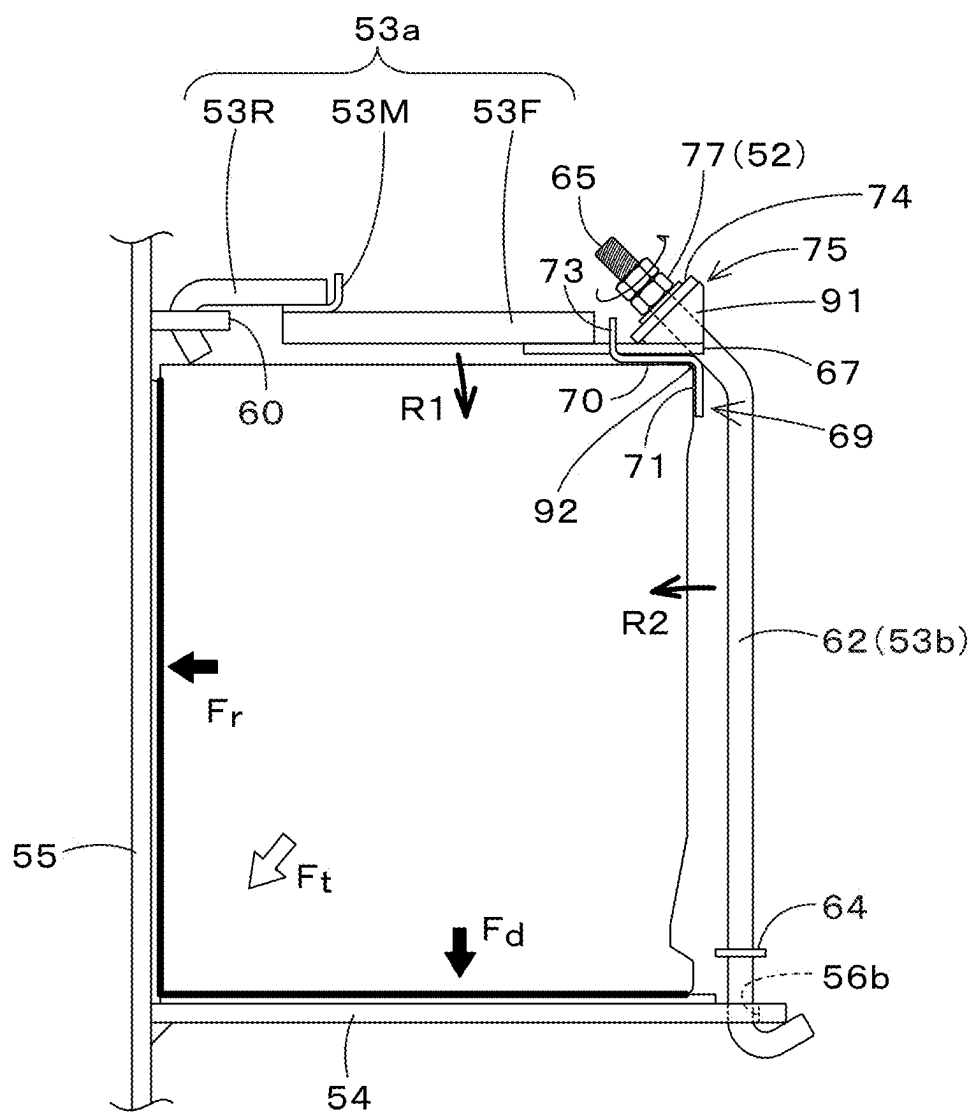
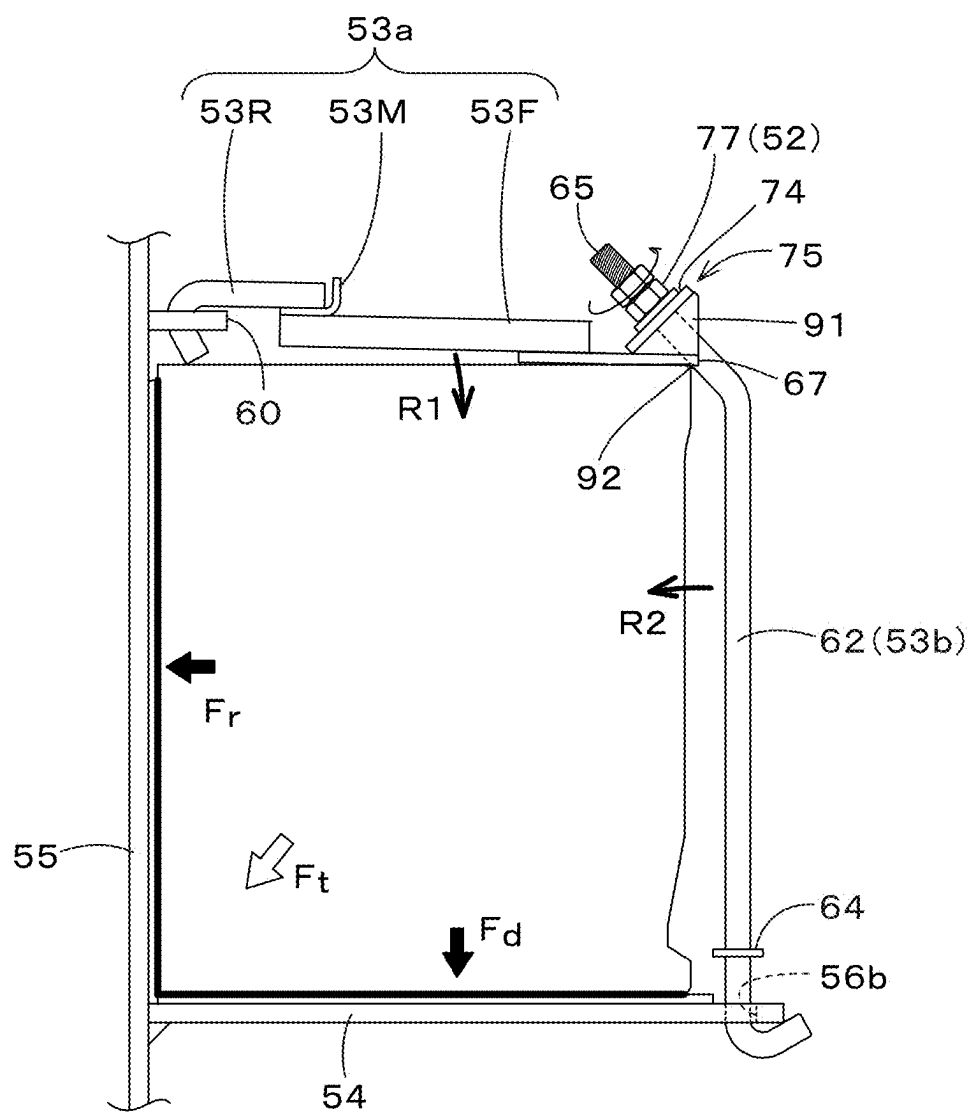


Fig.9B



BATTERY MOUNT AND WORKING MACHINE INCLUDING THE SAME**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

[0001] This application is a continuation application of International Application No. PCT/JP2024/017974, filed on May 15, 2024, which claims the benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2023-102747, filed on Jun. 22, 2023. The entire contents of each of these applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**1. Field of the Invention**

[0002] The present invention relates to battery mounts to secure a battery to a working machine, and working machines including such a battery mount.

2. Description of the Related Art

[0003] A battery mount disclosed in Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2020-004668 includes a placement wall, and a restriction member. The placement wall allows selective placement thereon of a first battery and a second battery that are of different mounting configurations. The restriction member is provided to the placement wall to restrict frontward movement of the first battery and the second battery. The restriction member includes a restrictor. The restrictor restricts upward movement of the second battery by engaging a first engagement protrusion provided on a lower forward portion of the second battery.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The battery mount in Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2020-004668 enables batteries of different mounting configurations to be mounted.

[0005] With the battery mount in Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2020-004668, however, the battery is secured to the battery mount by use of a pair of rod members (a first rod member and a second rod member) and a mounting stay. Accordingly, mounting or removal of the battery to or from the battery mount requires attachment or detachment of the pair of rod members.

[0006] Example embodiments of the present invention provide battery mounts each of which enables firm and easy securing of a battery, and working machines including the battery mount.

[0007] A battery mount according to an example embodiment of the present invention includes a placement base for placement of a battery, a restriction member to restrict rearward movement of the battery, the restriction member being provided at the same side of the battery as a rear surface of the battery, and a securing assembly to secure the battery, the securing assembly extending from a position above the restriction member or from an upper portion of the restriction member to a forward surface of the battery, wherein the securing assembly includes a first securer provided at the same side of the battery as an upper surface of the battery, a second securer provided at the same side of the battery as the forward surface of the battery, and a coupler to couple the first securer and the second securer to each other, and the coupler includes an inclined portion provided

in one of the first securer and the second securer, the inclined portion being inclined in an inclination direction such that a distance between the inclined portion and the rear surface of the battery decreases in an upward direction, and a retention member to retain a position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion such that the position relative to the inclined portion is adjustable.

[0008] The first securer may include one end portion coupled to the position above the restriction member or to the upper portion of the restriction member, and another end portion provided above a forward portion of the battery. The second securer may include one end portion at which the inclined portion of the coupler is provided, and another end portion coupled to the placement base.

[0009] The second securer may be bent at an intermediate portion, and a portion of the second securer that extends from the intermediate portion to the one end portion may define the inclined portion extending in the inclination direction.

[0010] The restriction member may extend from the placement base to a position higher than the battery. The one end portion of the first securer may be coupled to the upper portion of the restriction member such that the first securer is swingable in an up-down direction.

[0011] The other end portion of the second securer may be coupled to the placement base such that the second securer is swingable in a front-rear direction of the battery.

[0012] The retention member may be configured to move along the inclined portion to change the position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion relative to the inclined portion.

[0013] The other of the first securer and the second securer may include an inclined surface inclined in a direction crossing the inclination direction. The retention member may be configured to abut the inclined surface to retain the position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion relative to the inclined portion.

[0014] The inclined portion may include a thread groove. The retention member may include a fastener to be screwed into the thread groove.

[0015] The securing assembly may be located inside of the battery on the placement base in a width direction of the battery.

[0016] The securing assembly may be a single securing assembly located inside of the battery on the placement base in the width direction of the battery.

[0017] The battery mount may further include a clamp member extending between the upper surface of the battery and the first securer and between the forward surface of the battery and the second securer. The clamp member may be configured such that the first securer causes the clamp member to press the upper surface of the battery downward, and the second securer causes the clamp member to press the forward surface of the battery rearward.

[0018] The battery mount may further include a force transmission member provided between the securing assembly and the battery to transmit a pressing force exerted by the securing assembly to the battery.

[0019] The securing assembly may be configured to directly or indirectly abut an upper forward corner portion of the battery to apply a rearward and downward pressing force to the battery.

[0020] A working machine according to an example embodiment of the present invention includes the battery mount.

[0021] The above and other elements, features, steps, characteristics and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the example embodiments with reference to the attached drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0022] A more complete appreciation of example embodiments of the present invention and many of the attendant advantages thereof will be readily obtained as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings described below.

[0023] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a working machine including a battery mount according to the present invention.

[0024] FIG. 2 is a side elevation of the working machine including the battery mount according to the present invention.

[0025] FIG. 3 is a plan view illustrating the position of a battery relative to a machine body.

[0026] FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a battery mount according to a first example embodiment as seen diagonally from the upper right.

[0027] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the battery mount according to the first example embodiment taken at the center in a left-right direction.

[0028] FIG. 6 illustrates attachment and detachment of the battery to and from the battery mount according to the first example embodiment.

[0029] FIG. 7A illustrates a securing assembly with a fastener loosened.

[0030] FIG. 7B illustrates the relationship between a friction surface and a pressing force applied from the securing assembly with the fastener tightened.

[0031] FIG. 8 is a side elevation illustrating the relationship between a retention member, a pressing member, and a bracket according to a second example embodiment.

[0032] FIG. 9A is a side elevation illustrating an example embodiment in which the securing assembly is caused to indirectly abut a forward upper portion of the battery.

[0033] FIG. 9B is a side elevation illustrating an example embodiment in which the securing assembly is caused to directly abut the forward upper portion of the battery.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

[0034] Example embodiments will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference numerals designate corresponding or identical elements throughout the various drawings. The drawings are to be viewed in an orientation in which the reference numerals are viewed correctly.

First Example Embodiment

[0035] A battery mount 50 according to a first example embodiment of the present invention will now be described.

[0036] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a working machine 1 including the battery mount 50 according to the first example embodiment. FIG. 2 is a side elevation of the working machine 1.

[0037] According to the first example embodiment, the battery mount 50 functions to secure a battery BT to the working machine 1 including a working device 4, such as a construction machine, an agricultural machine, or the like. The battery mount 50 according to the present invention may function to secure the battery BT to a vehicle other than the working machine 1, for example, a traveling vehicle such as a tractor, a small farm vehicle, or the like. According to the first example embodiment, an example of the working machine 1 is a backhoe, which is a slewing working machine.

[0038] The working machine 1 according to the first example embodiment includes a machine body (slewing base) 2, a traveling device 3, and the working device 4. The machine body 2 is provided with an operator's seat 6. An operator (driver) can be seated on the operator's seat 6. The operator's seat 6 is provided at a left forward portion of the machine body 2.

[0039] With the battery mount 50 according to the first example embodiment, the battery BT is secured with its front surface (which is, among the four lateral surfaces on the periphery of the battery BT, one of the two lateral surfaces extending along the respective long edges of the upper surface of the battery BT; according to the first example embodiment, the "front surface" of the battery BT refers in particular to the lateral surface near a terminal 49) facing forward of the working machine 1. However, the direction in which the battery

[0040] BT is secured to the battery mount 50 according to the present invention is not limited to the direction according to the first example embodiment (a direction such that the front surface of the battery BT faces forward of the working machine 1). For example, with the battery mount 50 according to the present invention, the battery BT may be secured with its front surface facing in some other direction, such as rearward, leftward, forwardly leftward, or the like of the working machine 1.

[0041] In the following description, the battery mount 50 and the working machine 1 will be described with reference to the direction in which the front surface of the battery BT faces forward of the working machine 1.

[0042] That is, directions such as forward, rearward, leftward, rightward, and the like used in describing the battery mount 50 and the working machine 1 are defined as described below.

[0043] With the working device 4 in a state (orientation) facing in the direction of forward travel of the traveling device 3, a direction pointing forward of the operator seated on the operator's seat 6 of the working machine 1 (a direction indicated by an arrow A1 in FIG. 2) is defined as forward. A direction pointing rearward of the operator (a direction indicated by an arrow A2 in FIG. 2) is defined as rearward. A direction indicated by an arrow K1 in FIG. 2 is defined as a front-rear direction. A direction pointing leftward of the operator (toward the near side of FIG. 2) seated on the operator's seat 6 is defined as leftward. A direction pointing rightward of the operator (toward the far side of FIG. 2) is defined as rightward.

[0044] As illustrated in FIG. 3, a horizontal direction orthogonal to the front-rear direction K1 is defined as a

machine-body width direction K2. A direction pointing rightward or leftward from the center in the width direction of the machine body 2 is defined as a machine-body outboard direction. In other words, the machine-body outboard direction refers to a direction parallel to the machine-body width direction and pointing away from the center in the width direction of the machine body 2. A direction opposite to the machine-body outboard direction is defined as a machine-body inboard direction. In other words, the machine-body inboard direction refers to a direction parallel to the machine-body width direction and pointing toward the center in the width direction of the machine body 2.

[0045] As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the traveling device 3 includes a traveling frame 9, and a traveling mechanism 10 provided at left and right portions of the traveling frame 9. The traveling mechanism 10 according to the first example embodiment is a crawler-type traveling mechanism driven by a hydraulic motor. A dozer 7 is attached to a forward portion of the traveling device 3.

[0046] As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the working device 4 is provided at a forward portion of the machine body 2, and includes a boom 15, an arm 16, and a bucket (working tool) 17. The proximal portion of the boom 15 is pivotally attached to a swing bracket 14 to be pivotable (swingable in the up-down direction) about a lateral axis (an axis extending in the machine-body width direction K2). The swing bracket 14 is supported on a support bracket 18 provided at the forward portion of the machine body 2, to be pivotable about a vertical axis (an axis extending in the up-down direction). The arm 16 is pivotally attached at the distal end portion of the boom 15 to be pivotable (swingable in the front-rear or up-down direction) about the lateral axis. The bucket 17 is provided at the distal end of the arm 16 to perform shoveling and dumping.

[0047] Instead of the bucket 17 or in addition to the bucket 17, another working tool (hydraulic attachment) that can be driven by a hydraulic actuator can be attached to the working machine 1. Such another working tool may be a hydraulic breaker, a hydraulic crusher, an angle boom, an earth auger, a pallet fork, a sweeper, a mower, a snow blower, or the like.

[0048] The swing bracket 14 swings as a hydraulic cylinder extends and retracts. The boom 15 swings as a boom cylinder C3 extends and retracts. The arm 16 swings as an arm cylinder C4 extends and retracts. The bucket 17 performs shoveling and dumping as a bucket cylinder (working-tool cylinder) C5 extends and retracts. The boom cylinder C3, the arm cylinder C4, and the bucket cylinder C5 each include a hydraulic cylinder (hydraulic actuator).

[0049] As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the machine body 2 is supported on the traveling frame 9 (traveling device 3) via a slewing bearing 8 so that the machine body 2 can rotate (slew to the left and right) about a vertical axis.

[0050] As illustrated in FIG. 3, the machine body 2 includes a slewing frame 41 defining the framework of the machine body 2. The slewing frame 41 is constructed by securing, to a slewing base plate 42 defining the bottom portion of the machine body 2, components such as a reinforcing rib 43, the support bracket 18, and brackets or stays used for mounting various equipment (including tanks) to be installed on the machine body 2, other parts, and the like to the machine body 2.

[0051] As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, an operation portion 23 including the operator's seat 6 is installed on the machine body 2.

[0052] The operation portion 23 is provided toward one side (left) relative to the center of the machine body 2. As illustrated in FIG. 2, a forward portion of the machine body 2 is provided with a floor step 19, which defines the floor of the machine body 2 (the floor at an upper portion of the machine body). The floor step 19 covers a forward left portion of the slewing frame 41. The operation portion 23 is installed rearward of the floor step 19.

[0053] As illustrated in FIGS. 2 and 3, a hood 22 is provided rearward of the operation portion 23. The interior of the hood 22 defines a prime-mover compartment E2 to accommodate a prime mover E1. The prime mover E1 is, for example, a diesel engine. The prime mover E1 drives a hydraulic pump P1, which delivers a hydraulic fluid (pressurized oil) for driving hydraulic actuators such as a hydraulic motor, a hydraulic cylinder, and the like equipped to the working machine 1. According to the first example embodiment, the hydraulic pump P1 is installed inside the hood 22 and below the prime mover E1.

[0054] The prime mover E1 may be a gasoline engine or an electric motor, or may be of a hybrid type including an engine and an electric motor.

[0055] The hood 22 surrounds the prime mover E1. A support frame is provided inside the hood 22 to support the hood 22 onto the machine body 2 (slewing frame 41). The operator's seat 6 is provided forward of the hood 22.

[0056] As illustrated in FIG. 3, a fuel tank 45 is provided substantially at the center in the front-rear direction K1 of a right portion of the slewing base plate 42 (slewing frame 41). The battery BT is provided forward of the fuel tank 45.

[0057] As indicated at "A" in FIG. 1, the battery BT is a storage battery that is provided to the working machine 1, and that supplies electric power to electronics such as a controller that executes various controls related to the working machine 1, a meter, and the like. The battery BT according to the first example embodiment is a lead secondary battery with a positive electrode at a left forward portion of the battery and a negative electrode at a right forward portion of the battery. The battery BT according to the present invention may be a lithium ion battery, a solid-state battery, or the like. Wiring cable(s) is/are connected to the terminal(s) 49 of the battery BT. The battery BT supplies electric power to the electronics mentioned above via the wiring cable(s).

[0058] As illustrated in FIG. 4, the battery BT is mounted to the slewing frame 41 of the machine body 2 by use of the battery mount 50.

[0059] The battery mount 50 functions to secure the battery BT to the slewing frame 41 (machine body 2). Specifically, the battery mount 50 includes: a placement base 54 for placement of the battery BT; a restriction member 55 to restrict rearward movement of the battery BT, the restriction member 55 being provided at the same side of the battery BT as the rear surface of the battery BT; and a securing assembly 53 to secure the battery BT, the securing assembly 53 extending from a position above the restriction member 55 or from an upper portion of the restriction member 55 to the forward surface of the battery BT.

[0060] As illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 5, the placement base 54 is a plate member on which the battery BT can be placed, and the placement base 54 is wider than the battery BT in the left-right direction and the front-rear direction. According to the first example embodiment, the rear end of the placement base 54 is coupled to an intermediate portion in the up-down

direction of the restriction member 55. The placement base 54 is coupled integrally with the restriction member 55.

[0061] The central portion at the forward end of the placement base 54 projects forward relative to the left and right portions. A second engagement hole 56b is provided in the central portion at the forward end of the placement base 54. The lower end portion of a second securer 53b described later is engaged with the second engagement hole 56b.

[0062] A first stopper 57a and a second stopper 57b are provided on the upper surface of the placement base 54. The first stopper 57a is provided at the left end in a forward portion of the upper surface of the placement base 54, as a combination of intersecting plate members that stand in the vertical direction. Specifically, the first stopper 57a includes a lateral restriction piece 58a extending in the left-right direction, and a fore-aft restriction piece 58b extending in the front-rear direction. The lateral restriction piece 58a restricts forward movement of the battery BT relative to the placement base 54. The fore-aft restriction piece 58b restricts leftward movement of the battery BT relative to the placement base 54.

[0063] The second stopper 57b is provided as a vertically standing plate member on the upper surface of the placement base 54. The second stopper 57b includes a left restriction piece 57L provided at the left end of the placement base 54, and a right restriction piece 57R provided at the right end of the placement base 54. The left restriction piece 57L restricts leftward movement of the battery BT relative to the placement base 54. The right restriction piece 57R restricts rightward movement of the battery BT relative to the placement base 54.

[0064] An anti-slip mat 59 is provided on the upper surface of the placement base 54 to increase the frictional force between the upper surface of the placement base 54 and the bottom surface of the battery BT. The anti-slip mat 59 according to the first example embodiment is provided at each of a leftward position and a rightward position on the bottom surface of the battery BT. A mat similar to the anti-slip mat 59 may be provided at the back face (rear surface) of the battery BT.

[0065] As illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 5, the restriction member 55 is provided rearward of the placement base 54, and is in the form of a plate that stands in the up-down direction. The restriction member 55 restricts rearward movement of the battery BT. The upper end of the restriction member 55 according to the first example embodiment is located higher than the upper surface of the battery BT. One end portion of the securing assembly 53 (rear end portion) is coupled to a position on the restriction member 55 higher than the upper surface of the battery BT.

[0066] In another configuration(s) of the battery mount 50 according to the present invention, the upper end of the restriction member 55 may be located lower than the upper surface of the battery BT. One end portion (rear end portion) of the securing assembly 53 may simply be coupled to a position above the restriction member 55 or to an upper portion of the restriction member 55, and need not necessarily be directly coupled to the restriction member 55.

[0067] For example, the restriction member 55 that is shorter in height than the battery BT is provided at the upper surface of the placement base 54. Then, a support member different from the restriction member 55 may be provided at a position above the restriction member 55 and higher than

the height of the battery BT, and the one end portion (rear end portion) of the securing assembly 53 may be coupled to the support member.

[0068] A coupling member 60 to couple the one end portion (rear end portion) of the securing assembly 53 is provided at a position on the restriction member 55 according to the first example embodiment that is located higher than the upper surface of the battery BT. The coupling member 60 is in the form of a plate that projects forward of the forward surface of the restriction member 55. The coupling member 60 according to the first example embodiment includes a left coupling member 60L provided at a leftward portion of the restriction member 55 (battery BT), and a right coupling member 60R provided at a rightward portion of the restriction member 55 (battery BT).

[0069] A first engagement hole 56a for engagement with the one end portion (rear end portion) of the securing assembly 53 is provided at the center of the left coupling member 60L and at the center of the right coupling member 60R. The first engagement hole 56a penetrates the center of the left coupling member 60L and the center of the right coupling member 60R in the up-down direction.

[0070] As illustrated in FIG. 4, the securing assembly 53 is located inside of the battery BT on the placement base 54 in the width direction, and more specifically, a single securing assembly 53 is provided inside of the battery BT in the width direction. According to the first example embodiment, the securing assembly 53 is provided at the central portion in the width direction of the battery BT on the placement base 54.

[0071] As illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6, the securing assembly 53 includes: a first securer 53a provided at the same side of the battery BT as the upper surface of the battery BT; the second securer 53b provided at the same side of the battery BT as the forward surface of the battery BT; and a coupler 90 to couple the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b to each other. The securing assembly 53 is configured to secure the battery BT as the coupler 90 couples the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a, and one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b to each other. In the securing assembly 53, one or both of the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a, and the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b are inclined relative to both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction.

[0072] The first securer 53a and the second securer 53b according to the first example embodiment are each formed as a hard member that does not undergo elastic deformation, such as a metal or the like. The first securer 53a and the second securer 53b may each be an elastic member that undergoes elastic deformation, and this does not imply any limitation.

[0073] The first securer 53a according to the first example embodiment is coupled at one end portion (rear end portion) to an upper portion of the restriction member 55 or to a position above the restriction member 55 (a position higher than the upper surface of the battery BT). The one end portion (rear end portion) of the first securer 53a is coupled at two spaced locations in the left-right direction to the upper portion of the restriction member 55 or to the position above the restriction member 55. The other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a is provided above a forward portion of the battery BT. The other end portion

(forward end portion) of the first securer **53a** is coupled at a single location at the center in the left-right direction to the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer **53b** via the coupler **90**.

[0074] The one end portion (rear end) of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the upper portion of the restriction member **55** such that the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer **53a** is swingable in the up-down direction (toward and away from the battery BT). Specifically, the first securer **53a** according to the first example embodiment includes: a left rear portion **53RL** coupled to the left coupling member **60L**; a right rear portion **53RR** coupled to the right coupling member **60R**; a forward portion **53F** coupled to the second securer **53b**; and a middle portion **53M** coupling the above three portions, that is, the left rear portion **53RL**, the rear end of the forward portion **53F**, and the right rear portion **53RR**, in the left-right direction. The left rear portion **53RL** and the right rear portion **53RR** are each in the form of a bar extending in the front-rear direction. The rear end of the left rear portion **53RL**, and the rear end of the right rear portion **53RR** each have a hooked shape (substantially J-shape in side view) that bends downward, and are engaged with the first engagement hole **56a** of the left coupling member **60L**, and the first engagement hole **56a** of the right coupling member **60R**, respectively.

[0075] The first engagement hole **56a** of the left coupling member **60L**, and the first engagement hole **56a** of the right coupling member **60R** have an opening diameter greater than the outer diameter of the left rear portion **53RL** and the outer diameter of the right rear portion **53RR**, respectively, of the first securer **53a**. The left rear portion **53RL** is thus in the first engagement hole **56a** of the left coupling member **60L** such that the first securer **53a** is swingable in the up-down direction. The right rear portion **53RR** is in the first engagement hole **56a** of the right coupling member **60R** such that the first securer **53a** is swingable in the up-down direction.

[0076] The middle portion **53M** of the first securer **53a** couples the forward end of the left rear portion **53RL**, and the forward end of the right rear portion **53RR** to each other in the left-right direction. The middle portion **53M** is in the form of a bar with a substantially L-shaped cross-section when viewed from the side. The forward end of the left rear portion **53RL**, and the forward end of the right rear portion **53RR** are respectively joined to the left and right ends of the middle portion **53M** so as to cross the middle portion **53M** from above. The rear end of the forward portion **53F** of the first securer **53a** is joined to the middle in the left-right direction of the middle portion **53M** so as to cross the middle portion **53M** from below.

[0077] The forward end of the left rear portion **53RL**, and the forward end of the right rear portion **53RR** are joined to the middle portion **53M** from above, and the rear end of the forward portion **53F** is joined to the middle portion **53M** from below. That is, as viewed from the left rear portion **53RL** and the right rear portion **53RR**, the forward portion **53F** is located lower than these rear portions by an amount corresponding to the thickness of the middle portion **53M**. Using the first securer **53a** having a certain thickness in the up-down direction between its forward and rear ends as described above makes it easier to press, against the upper surface of the battery BT, the forward end of the first securer **53a**, and a member such as a pressing member **67** or the like provided at the forward end.

[0078] The rear end of the forward portion **53F** of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the center in the left-right direction of the middle portion **53M**. As with the rear portion **53R**, the forward portion **53F** is in the form of a bar extending in the front-rear direction. The pressing member **67** (the upper end portion of the second securer **53b** in its upright position) is provided at the forward end of the forward portion **53F**.

[0079] As illustrated in FIG. 5, a cover **79** for covering the battery BT is provided atop the first securer **53a**. The cover **79** is made of electrically non-conductive resin or the like. The cover **79** is wider than the upper surface of the battery BT in the left-right direction and in the front-rear direction. That is, the cover **79** has a larger area than the upper surface of the battery BT. This allows the cover **79** to cover the entire upper surface of the battery BT. Using the cover **79** to cover the entire upper surface of the battery BT makes it possible to improve insulation for the terminal **49**, and reduce the risk of electrical leakage or electric shock.

[0080] The second securer **53b** is provided at the same side of the battery BT as the forward surface of the battery BT. The one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer **53b** is coupled to the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer **53a**. The other end portion (lower end portion) of the second securer **53b** extends at or near the forward surface of the battery BT, and is coupled to the placement base **54**. The second securer **53b** is a bar-shaped member that extends upward at a position forward of the battery BT, and that is bent at an intermediate portion (a bend portion **53c**) in the up-down direction. That is, the second securer **53b** according to the first example embodiment is bent at a position substantially the same in the up-down direction as the upper surface of the battery BT, and the substantially same position in the up-down direction as the upper surface of the battery BT corresponds to the bend portion **53c** of the second securer **53b** according to the first example embodiment. A portion of the second securer **53b** according to the first example embodiment below the bend portion **53c** is a linear portion **62** extending linearly in the up-down direction. The portion of the second securer **53b** below the bend portion **53c** defines the other end portion (lower end portion) of the second securer **53b**. A portion (a portion above the bend portion **53c**) of the second securer **53b** according to the first example embodiment that extends from the intermediate portion (bend portion **53c**) to the one end portion defines an inclined portion **63** extending in an inclination direction in which the inclined portion **63** is inclined rearward relative to the linear portion **62**. A portion (inclined portion **63**) of the second securer **53b** above the bend portion **53c** defines the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer **53b**.

[0081] The other end portion (lower end) of the second securer **53b** is coupled to the placement base **54** such that the one end portion (upper end) of the second securer **53b** is swingable in the front-rear direction. Specifically, as with the rear end of the left rear portion **53RL** and the rear end of the right rear portion **53RR** described above, the lower end of the linear portion **62** has a hooked shape that is bent forward. The lower end of the linear portion **62** is engaged with the second engagement hole **56b** provided in the placement base **54**. The second engagement hole **56b** of the placement base **54** has an opening diameter greater than the outer diameter of the linear portion **62**. Therefore, the lower end of the linear portion **62** is coupled to the placement base **54** such that the one end portion (upper end portion) is

swingable in the front-rear direction of the battery BT (toward and away from the battery BT).

[0082] An anti-detachment member 64 with respect to the second engagement hole 56b is provided at a lower portion of the linear portion 62. The anti-detachment member 64 is larger in size than the opening diameter of the second engagement hole 56b. The presence of the anti-detachment member 64 eliminates or reduces the risk that the linear portion 62 (second securer 53b) located higher than the anti-detachment member 64 may pass through the second engagement hole 56b and drop below the placement base 54.

[0083] The inclined portion 63 is inclined in an inclination direction in which the inclined portion 63 is positioned closer to the rear surface of the battery BT as the inclined portion 63 extends upward. With the linear portion 62 oriented in the up-down direction, the inclined portion 63 is inclined rearward at an inclination angle of approximately 45 degrees with respect to the upward direction serving as a reference (0 degrees). According to the first example embodiment, the inclination angle of the inclined portion 63 is approximately 45 degrees. However, the inclination angle of the inclined portion 63 is not limited to approximately 45 degrees but may be approximately 30 degrees or approximately 60 degrees. According to the first example embodiment described above, the inclined portion 63 is inclined rearward due to the bending of the bend portion 53c. However, it may suffice that the inclined portion 63 be inclined. The intermediate portion (the bend portion 53c according to the first example embodiment) may be a portion where a bar-shaped member defining the second securer 53b is curved rearward.

[0084] For example, if the battery BT used is heavy, a large weight is exerted downward on the placement base 54, and thus the frictional force generated between the bottom surface of the battery BT and the placement base 54 also increases in magnitude. In such a case, the inclination angle of the inclined portion 63 can be made smaller than approximately 45 degrees so that an increased force is exerted on the restriction member 55 in the horizontal direction (the force acting in the vertical direction is mitigated). If the battery BT used is light, the inclination angle of the inclined portion 63 can be made larger than approximately 45 degrees, so that a decreased force is exerted in the horizontal direction on the restriction member 55 and an increased force is exerted downward on the placement base 54. That is, with the battery mount 50 according to the present invention, the inclination angle of the inclined portion 63 can be changed to any angle.

[0085] The upper end of the inclined portion 63 includes a thread groove 65. The thread groove 65 is in a spiral with respect to the axis of the inclined portion 63 (the axis of a bar-shaped member defining the inclined portion 63). A retention member 52 of the coupler 90 described later can be screwed into the thread groove 65.

[0086] In the battery mount 50 according to the present invention, the coupler 90 functions to change, along the inclination direction of the securing assembly 53, the position at which the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b are coupled to each other. This allows the securing assembly 53 to change at least one of the following lengths: the length of the first securer 53a from the first engagement hole 56a to the coupler 90; and the length of the second securer 53b from the second engagement hole 56b to the coupler 90. That is, the securing assembly 53 is configured to be capable

of changing the effective length of the securing assembly 53 (the length of its portion that contributes to the pressing/securing of the battery BT), which is the length extending from the first engagement hole 56a to the second engagement hole 56b along the upper and forward surfaces of the battery BT.

[0087] Specifically, the coupler 90 includes the inclined portion 63 provided in one of the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b, and the retention member 52 which retains the position at which the other of the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b is coupled to the inclined portion 63 relative to the inclined portion 63. According to the first example embodiment, the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b is provided with the inclined portion 63, and the coupler 90 functions to adjust, by use of the retention member 52, the position at which the inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b, and the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a are coupled to each other.

[0088] As described above, according to the first example embodiment, the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b is provided with the inclined portion 63. However, it is only necessary that the inclined portion 63 be provided in one of the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b, and inclined in an inclination direction such that the distance between the inclined portion 63 and the rear surface of the battery BT decreases in the upward direction. The inclined portion 63 may be provided in the first securer 53a. In such a case, the coupler 90 functions to adjust, by use of the retention member 52, the position at which the inclined portion 63 of the first securer 53a, and the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b are coupled to each other.

[0089] The retention member 52 will now be described in detail. The retention member 52 moves along the inclined portion 63 to change the position at which the other of the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b is coupled to the inclined portion 63 relative to the inclined portion 63. The retention member 52 according to the first example embodiment is provided on the inclined portion 63 at the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b to retain the position of the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a relative to the inclined portion 63. According to the first example embodiment, a fastener such as a nut or the like is used as the retention member 52. That is, in the battery mount 50 according to the first example embodiment, the retention member 52 is a fastener 77 such as a nut or the like to be screwed into the thread groove 65 provided on the inclined portion 63. With the fastener 77 described above used as the retention member 52, as the fastener 77 moves in the inclination direction along the inclined portion 63 at the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b, the position (relative position) of the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a is changed in the inclination direction relative to the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b. This makes it possible to change the coupling position between the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b.

[0090] The other one of the first securer 53a and the second securer 53b is provided with an inclined surface 74, which is inclined in a direction crossing the inclination direction of the inclined portion 63. According to the first example embodiment, the inclined surface 74 is provided at

the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a, and the inclined surface 74 is inclined in a direction crossing the inclined surface of the inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b. That is, the inclined surface 74 is provided at the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a. The inclined surface 74 is provided so as to face toward the one end portion (rearward and upward) of the first securer 53a. The retention member 52 (fastener 77) abuts the inclined surface 74 to retain the position of the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer 53b relative to the inclined surface 74.

[0091] If the second securer 53b is provided with the inclined surface 74, the retention member 52 (fastener 77) abuts the inclined surface 74 to retain the position of the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a relative to the inclined surface 74.

[0092] The retention member 52 (fastener 77) of the coupler 90 according to the first example embodiment, and the inclined surface 74 of the first securer 53a will now be described.

[0093] As illustrated in FIG. 6, the fastener 77 (retention member 52) according to the first example embodiment is of a double-nut type, and includes two nuts to be screwed into the thread groove 65. Using the fastener 77 of a double-nut type makes it possible to prevent or reduce loosening of the fastener 77 from the thread groove 65.

[0094] Although a double-nut fastener is used as the fastener 77 according to the first example embodiment, the fastener 77 according to the present invention is not limited to a double-nut fastener. For example, a nut with a locking function can be used, such as a locking nut whose contact with the thread groove 65 creates a frictional force, a nut pre-coated with cured resin at the location of contact with the thread groove 65, a flanged nut, a disc spring nut, or the like.

[0095] The inclined surface 74 is inclined forwardly upward at an inclination angle of approximately 45 degrees with respect to the upward direction serving as a reference (0 degrees). Specifically, in the battery mount 50 according to the first example embodiment, the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a is provided with a slope member 75 including the inclined surface 74. The pressing member 67 to press the battery BT downward is provided between the slope member 75, and the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a. If the inclined surface 74 of the slope member 75 is inclined forward at 45 degrees, the inclined surface 74 crosses the inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b, which is inclined rearward at 45 degrees, at approximately 90 degrees. As a result, the fastening force due to the fastener 77 described later can be exerted in a direction normal to the inclined surface 74. This allows the fastening force due to the fastener 77 to be reliably exerted on the upper surface of the battery BT via the inclined surface 74 (slope member 75), the pressing member 67, and a clamp member 69.

[0096] The pressing member 67 is provided between the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer 53a, and the slope member 75. The pressing member 67 is a plate-shaped member provided with its plate faces opposite to each other in the up-down direction. The pressing member 67 is capable of making surface contact with the upper surface of the battery BT. The slope member 75 is provided on the upper surface of a forward portion of the pressing member 67.

[0097] The slope member 75 is an angular member provided on the upper surface of the pressing member 67. An upper portion of the slope member 75 is provided with the inclined surface 74, which is inclined forward at 45 degrees. A lower portion of the slope member 75 is provided with a rib member 91.

[0098] The inclined surface 74 of the slope member 75 has an insertion hole 76 through which the inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b is to be inserted. The insertion hole 76 is provided in the inclined surface 74 as an elongated hole elongated in the front-rear direction. The insertion hole 76 is provided between the forward end of the inclined surface 74 and an intermediate portion in the front-rear direction of the inclined surface 74. The insertion hole 76 is oriented forward. The inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b can be inserted into the insertion hole 76 from forward of the insertion hole 76 while being allowed to swing. The insertion hole 76 has an opening width in the left-right direction greater than the outer diameter of the second securer 53b (inclined portion 63). Making the opening width of the insertion hole 76 greater than the outer diameter of the second securer 53b allows the second securer 53b to be insertable through the insertion hole 76.

[0099] A guide hole 78 is provided in a portion of the pressing member 67 below the slope member 75 to allow deep insertion of the inclined portion 63 of the second securer 53b into the insertion hole 76. As with the insertion hole 76, the guide hole 78 is provided at a forward portion of the pressing member 67 as an elongated hole elongated in the front-rear direction, and is oriented forward.

[0100] As illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 5, the slope member 75 includes the rib member 91 on the upper surface of the pressing member 67. The rib member 91 on the upper surface of the pressing member 67 is provided on each of the left and right of the guide hole 78. The rib member 91 on each of the left and right is in the form of a triangular plate when viewed from the left or the right. The rib member 91 on each of the left and right extends in the front-rear direction and up-down direction. The presence of the rib member 91 on the left and right allows the inclined surface 74 to be supported stably at a predetermined inclination angle (45 degrees toward the rear according to the first example embodiment) relative to the upper surface of the pressing member 67.

[0101] Due to the presence of the rib member 91 on both the left and right of the guide hole 78, the guide hole 78 is located between the rib member 91 on the left and the rib member 91 on the right. This allows the second securer 53b (inclined portion 63) to be smoothly guided to the guide hole 78.

[0102] Reference is now made to FIGS. 7A and 7B to describe a pressing force (force Ft) that is generated on the battery BT due to the fastener 77 screwed into the thread groove 65.

[0103] FIG. 7A illustrates the battery mount 50 before the fastener 77 is screwed into the thread groove 65, in other words, in a state with the fastener 77 loosened. FIG. 7B illustrates the battery mount 50 after the fastener 77 is screwed into the thread groove 65, in other words, in a state with the fastener 77 fastened and the pressing force (force Ft) generated.

[0104] As illustrated in FIG. 7A, before the fastener 77 is screwed into the thread groove 65, the fastener 77 is located at the distal end of the inclined portion 63 (the coupling

position of the coupler 90 is at the distal end of the inclined portion 63). Accordingly, a length L_1 from the bend portion 53c to the fastener 77 in the inclination direction of the second securer 53b is greater than a length L_2 illustrated in FIG. 7B when the fastener 77 is in a fastened state.

[0105] As the fastener 77 is tightened, the fastener 77 moves toward the proximal end (toward the bend portion 53c) of the inclined portion 63, and the length of the second securer 53b from the bend portion 53c to the fastener 77 decreases from L_1 to L_2 . As a result, the coupling position of the coupler 90 moves from the distal end of the inclined portion 63 toward the proximal end. This causes the first securer 53a to pivot downward (in a direction indicated at R1 in FIGS. 7A and 7B), and causes the second securer 53b to pivot rearward (in a direction indicated at R2 in FIGS. 7A and 7B).

[0106] As illustrated in FIG. 7B, as the fastener 77 is deeply screwed into the thread groove 65, the coupling position of the coupler 90 moves further toward the proximal end (toward the bend portion 53c) of the inclined portion 63, and the pressing member 67 presses downward the upper surface of the battery BT. This causes a downward pressing force F_d to be generated on the upper surface of the battery BT. Meanwhile, the second securer 53b comes into contact with the forward surface of the battery BT as the second securer 53b pivots rearward. This causes a rearward pressing force F_r to be generated on the forward surface of the battery BT.

[0107] As a result, a pressing force F_t (F_t indicated by an open arrow in FIG. 7B) that is directed rearward and downward is generated on the battery BT as the resultant of the downward pressing force F_d and the rearward pressing force F_r . Due to the pressing force F_d exerted on the bottom surface of the battery BT and the upper surface of the placement base 54, when the battery BT is about to move in the horizontal direction, a frictional force is generated on the bottom surface of the battery BT to restrict movement of the battery BT in the horizontal direction. In addition to the frictional force on the bottom surface of the battery BT, a frictional force is also generated on the rear surface of the battery BT when the pressing force F_r is exerted on the rear surface of the battery BT and the forward surface of the restriction member 55. As a result, a frictional force is generated on two faces, the bottom surface and the rear surface, of the battery BT. This makes it possible to more reliably prevent or reduce movement of the battery BT in the horizontal direction.

[0108] According to the first example embodiment, the clamp member 69 extends between the upper surface of the battery BT and the forward end portion of the first securer 53a, and between the forward surface of the battery BT and the second securer 53b. That is, the securing assembly 53 presses the battery BT in two directions, downward and rearward, via the clamp member 69.

[0109] The clamp member 69 is a member provided at the forward upper edge of the battery BT so as to extend across the upper and forward surfaces of the battery BT. The clamp member 69 is bent in an L-shape when viewed in cross-section in the left-right direction. A portion of the clamp member 69 located rearward of where the clamp member 69 is bent in the L-shape defines a first surface contact portion 70 that is in surface contact with a forward portion of the upper surface of the battery BT. A portion of the clamp member 69 located lower than where the clamp member 69

is bent in the L-shape defines a second surface contact portion 71 that is in surface contact with an upper portion of the forward surface of the battery BT.

[0110] The rear end of the first surface contact portion 70 is bent to protrude upward to define a protrusion 73. The protrusion 73 includes a left protrusion 73L provided at the rear left end of the first surface contact portion 70, and a right protrusion 73R provided at the rear right end of the first surface contact portion 70. The area between the left protrusion 73L and the right protrusion 73R is flush with the forward end of the first surface contact portion 70. The pressing member 67 of the retention member 52 is overlapped with the first surface contact portion 70 (the upper surface of the first surface contact portion 70) between the left protrusion 73L and the right protrusion 73R such that the pressing member 67 is movable in the front-rear direction.

[0111] A force transmission member 72 is provided between the securing assembly 53 and the battery BT. The force transmission member 72 transmits the pressing force exerted by the securing assembly 53 to the battery BT. More specifically, the force transmission member 72 is provided on the second surface contact portion 71 of the clamp member 69, and makes contact with an upper portion of the linear portion 62 of the second securer 53b to transmit the pressing force to the second surface contact portion 71. The force transmission member 72 is a bar-shaped member provided with its axis oriented in the left-right direction. The force transmission member 72 is capable of transmitting the pressing force evenly across the entire width from the left end to the right end of the second surface contact portion 71. The force transmission member 72 is overlapped in the front-rear direction with the surface (forward surface) of the second surface contact portion 71.

[0112] Although the first example embodiment uses the force transmission member 72 in the form of a cylindrical bar, the configuration of the force transmission member 72 is not limited to this. For example, the force transmission member 72 may have an elliptical shape or a polygonal shape in cross-section and, additionally or alternatively, may be a solid structure or may be a hollow structure. The force transmission member 72 may be formed by curving or bending the plate-shaped member defining each of the first surface contact portion 70 and the second surface contact portion 71.

[0113] As illustrated in FIG. 9A, the force transmission member 72 may be omitted, and the second securer 53b may be made to directly abut the second surface contact portion 71 of the clamp member 69. In other words, it can be also said that in the example illustrated in FIG. 9A, the securing assembly 53 (second securer 53b) indirectly abuts an upper forward corner portion 92 of the battery BT via the clamp member 69 to apply the rearward pressing force F_r and the downward pressing force F_d to the battery BT.

[0114] As illustrated in FIG. 9B, the force transmission member 72 and the clamp member 69 may be omitted, and the second securer 53b may be made to directly abut the upper forward corner portion 92 of the battery BT. This also makes it possible to apply the rearward pressing force F_r and the downward pressing force F_d to the battery BT.

[0115] The force transmission member 72 may be mounted to the second securer 53b or the first securer 53a rather than to the clamp member 69. The force transmission member 72 may be held between the clamp member 69 and

the second securer **53b** without being secured to any one of the clamp member **69**, the second securer **53b**, and the first securer **53a**.

[0116] A locking and unlocking procedure for the battery mount **50** according to the first example embodiment, in other words, a method for mounting and removing the battery BT to and from the battery mount **50** according to the present invention will now be described.

[0117] As illustrated in the left of FIG. 6, in removing the battery BT secured on the battery mount **50** according to the first example embodiment, the fastener **77** is turned in the loosening direction relative to the thread groove **65** to loosen the fastener **77** relative to the thread groove **65**. The loosening of the fastener **77** causes the coupling position of the coupler **90** to move in the inclination direction from the proximal end of the inclined portion **63** toward the distal end, and the inclined portion **63** of the second securer **53b**, which has been secured in the insertion hole **76**, becomes able to disengage from the insertion hole **76**. Moreover, the first securer **53a** becomes swingable in a direction (upward) away from the upper surface of the battery BT. This results in the disappearance of the downward pressing force F_d that has been exerted on the upper surface of the battery BT. Further, the second securer **53b** becomes swingable in a direction (forward) away from the forward surface of the battery BT. This results in the disappearance of the rearward pressing force F_r that has been exerted on the forward surface of the battery BT. As a result, as illustrated in the right of FIG. 6, the battery BT that has been secured on the battery mount **50** becomes removable.

[0118] In securing the battery BT to the battery mount **50**, the operation performed for removing the battery BT is performed in the reverse order. This allows the battery BT to be secured to the battery mount **50**.

[0119] A battery mount **50** as has been described includes a placement base **54** for placement of a battery BT, a restriction member **55** to restrict rearward movement of the battery BT, the restriction member **55** being provided at the same side of the battery BT as a rear surface of the battery BT, and a securing assembly **53** to secure the battery BT, the securing assembly **53** extending from a position above the restriction member **55** or from an upper portion of the restriction member **55** to a forward surface of the battery BT, wherein the securing assembly **53** includes a first securer **53a** provided at the same side of the battery BT as an upper surface of the battery BT, a second securer **53b** provided at the same side of the battery BT as the forward surface of the battery BT, and a coupler **90** to couple the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** to each other, and the coupler **90** includes an inclined portion **63** provided in one of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b**, the inclined portion **63** being inclined in an inclination direction such that a distance between the inclined portion **63** and the rear surface of the battery BT decreases in an upward direction, and a retention member **52** to retain a position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** such that the position relative to the inclined portion **63** is adjustable.

[0120] Since the position at which the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** are coupled to each other, along the inclination direction of the securing assembly **53**, is changed as described above, the effective length of the securing assembly **53** (the length of its portion that contributes to the pressing/securing of the battery BT) can be changed.

[0121] The first securer **53a** includes one end portion coupled to the position above the restriction member **55** or to the upper portion of the restriction member **55**, and another end portion provided above a forward portion of the battery BT. The second securer **53b** includes one end portion at which the inclined portion **63** of the coupler **90** is provided, and another end portion coupled to the placement base **54**.

[0122] Since the position at which the securers **53a** and **53b** are coupled to each other is adjusted along the inclination direction as described above, the effective length of the securing assembly **53** can be changed.

[0123] The second securer **53b** is bent at an intermediate portion **53c** (bent portion **53c**), and a portion of the second securer **53b** that extends from the intermediate portion **53c** to the one end portion defines the inclined portion **63** extending in the inclination direction.

[0124] Using the second securer **53b** as described above makes it possible to change the position at which the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the inclined portion **63**, extending from the intermediate portion **53c** to the one end portion of the second securer **53b**, relative to the inclined portion **63**. This makes it possible to easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0125] The restriction member **55** extends from the placement base **54** to a position higher than the battery BT. The one end portion (rear end portion) of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the upper portion of the restriction member **55** such that the first securer **53a** is swingable in an up-down direction. The other end portion of the second securer **53b** is coupled to the placement base **54** such that the second securer **53b** is swingable in a front-rear direction of the battery BT.

[0126] Since the first securer **53a** swingable in the up-down direction is provided at the upper portion of the restriction member **55** and the second securer **53b** swingable in the front-rear direction of the battery BT is provided as described above, it is possible to easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53** to thus apply a pressing force on the upper and forward surfaces of the battery BT. It follows that a frictional force can be generated on two faces, i.e., the bottom surface and the rear surface, of the battery BT.

[0127] The retention member **52** is configured to move along the inclined portion **63** to change the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0128] The presence of the retention member **52** as described above makes it possible to change the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**. This makes it possible to easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0129] The other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** includes an inclined surface **74** inclined in a direction crossing the inclination direction. The retention member **52** is configured to abut the inclined surface **74** to retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0130] The presence of the retention member **52** that abuts the inclined surface **74** as described above makes it possible

to retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0131] The inclined portion **63** includes a thread groove **65**. The retention member **52** includes a fastener **77** to be screwed into the thread groove **65**.

[0132] The inclined portion **63** includes the thread groove **65**, and the fastener **77** to be screwed into the thread groove **65** is provided as the retention member **52**. This makes it possible to not only retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**, but also easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0133] The securing assembly **53** is located inside of the battery BT on the placement base **54** in a width direction of the battery BT.

[0134] The securing assembly **53** is provided inside of the battery BT in the width direction. This configuration makes the battery mount **50** compact in the width direction, and enables its installation without the need for a large space.

[0135] The securing assembly **53** is a single securing assembly **53** located inside of the battery BT on the placement base **54** in the width direction of the battery BT.

[0136] Only a single securing assembly **53** is provided inside of the battery BT in the width direction. Thus, the operation required for fastening or the like need only be performed only once. This enables quick securing of the battery BT.

[0137] The battery mount **50** further includes a clamp member **69** extending between the upper surface of the battery BT and the first securer **53a** and between the forward surface of the battery BT and the second securer **53b**. The clamp member **69** is configured such that the first securer **53a** causes the clamp member **69** to press the upper surface of the battery BT downward, and the second securer **53b** causes the clamp member **69** to press the forward surface of the battery BT rearward.

[0138] The presence of the clamp member **69** allows a pressing force to be evenly transmitted, from the securing assembly **53** that swings, to the upper surface of the battery BT to thus appropriately press the battery BT.

[0139] The battery mount **50** further includes a force transmission member **72** provided between the securing assembly **53** and the battery BT to transmit a pressing force exerted by the securing assembly **53** to the battery BT.

[0140] With the force transmission member **72** as described above, a force transmitted to the force transmission member **72** can be appropriately applied to the battery BT as a pressing force.

[0141] The securing assembly **53** is configured to directly or indirectly abut an upper forward corner portion **92** of the battery BT to apply a rearward and downward pressing force to the battery BT.

[0142] A force is directly or indirectly transmitted from the securing assembly **53** to the upper forward corner portion **92** of the battery BT as described above. This allows a pressing force to be appropriately applied to the battery BT by means of a simple hardware configuration with no force transmission member **72** or clamp member **69** used.

[0143] A working machine **1** includes the battery mount **50** described above. This makes it possible to provide a working machine **1** that achieves the specific effect(s) mentioned above.

Second Example Embodiment

[0144] The battery mount **50** according to a second example embodiment will now be described.

[0145] FIG. **8** is a cross-section of the battery mount **50** according to the second example embodiment as viewed from the right side. As illustrated in FIG. **8**, the battery mount **50** according to the second example embodiment uses, as the retention member **52**, a clamping fixture **83** such as a toggle clamp or the like, rather than the fastener **77** such as a nut or the like.

[0146] Specifically, as with the first example embodiment, the slope member **75** is provided for the retention member **52** according to the second example embodiment, and the inclined surface **74** of the slope member **75** is provided with a hook member **84**. The hook member **84** is a fixture whose forward upper portion is formed into a recessed shape. The hook member **84** allows a latch **86** of the clamping fixture **83** to be latched thereon.

[0147] As with the first example embodiment, the second securer **53b** according to the second example embodiment also includes the inclined portion **63**. The inclined portion **63** according to the second example embodiment is in the form of a flat plate, with the clamping fixture **83** mounted to the upper surface of the inclined portion **63**.

[0148] The clamping fixture **83** is a toggle clamp, and includes a lever member **87** to pull the latch **86** forward. With the clamping fixture **83**, tilting the lever member **87** forward against the elastic force of an elastic member (not illustrated) allows the latch **86** to be locked in a forwardly pulled state (fastened state).

[0149] That is, with the battery mount **50** according to the second example embodiment, as the lever member **87** is tilted forward to bring the latch **86** into a forwardly pulled state, the distance between the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer **53a**, and the one end portion (upper end portion) of the second securer **53b** decreases. This allows the length of the securing assembly **53** to decrease as with the first example embodiment. As a result, the first securer **53a** comes into proximity with the upper surface of the battery BT, and the second securer **53b** comes into proximity with the forward surface of the battery BT. That is, the first securer **53a** comes into abutment with the upper surface of the battery BT, and the downward pressing force F_d is generated on the upper surface of the battery BT. Further, the rearward pressing force F_r is generated on the forward surface of the battery BT. Therefore, as with the first example embodiment, a frictional force can be generated on two faces, the bottom surface and the rear surface, of the battery BT.

[0150] Example embodiments of the present invention provide the battery mount **50** and the working machine **1** described in items below.

[0151] (Item 1) A battery mount **50** including a placement base **54** for placement of a battery BT, a restriction member **55** to restrict rearward movement of the battery BT, the restriction member **55** being provided at the same side of the battery BT as a rear surface of the battery BT, and a securing assembly **53** to secure the battery BT, the securing assembly **53** extending from a position above the restriction member **55** or from an upper portion of the restriction member **55** to a forward surface of the battery BT, wherein the securing assembly **53** includes a first securer **53a** provided at the same side of the battery BT as an upper surface of the battery BT, a second securer **53b** provided at the same side of the battery

BT as the forward surface of the battery BT, and a coupler **90** to couple the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** to each other, and the coupler **90** includes an inclined portion **63** provided in one of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b**, the inclined portion **63** being inclined in an inclination direction such that a distance between the inclined portion **63** and the rear surface of the battery BT decreases in an upward direction, and a retention member **52** to retain a position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** such that the position relative to the inclined portion **63** is adjustable.

[0152] With the battery mount **50** according to item 1 above, the effective length of the securing assembly **53** (the length of its portion that contributes to the pressing/securing of the battery BT) can be changed by changing the position at which the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** are coupled to each other along the inclination direction of the securing assembly **53**.

[0153] (Item 2) The battery mount **50** according to item 1, wherein the first securer **53a** includes one end portion coupled to the position above the restriction member **55** or to the upper portion of the restriction member **55**, and another end portion provided above a forward portion of the battery BT, and the second securer **53b** includes one end portion at which the inclined portion **63** of the coupler **90** is provided, and another end portion coupled to the placement base **54**.

[0154] With the battery mount **50** according to item 2 above, the effective length of the securing assembly **53** can be changed by adjusting the position at which the securers **53a** and **53b** are coupled to each other along the inclination direction.

[0155] (Item 3) The battery mount according to item 2, wherein the second securer **53b** is bent at an intermediate portion **53c**, and a portion of the second securer **53b** that extends from the intermediate portion **53c** to the one end portion defines the inclined portion **63** extending in the inclination direction.

[0156] With the battery mount **50** according to item 3 above, using the second securer **53b** makes it possible to change the position at which the other end portion (forward end portion) of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the inclined portion **63**, which extends from the intermediate portion **53c** to the one end portion of the second securer **53b**, relative to the inclined portion **63**. This makes it possible to easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0157] (Item 4) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 3, wherein the restriction member **55** extends from the placement base **54** to a position higher than the battery BT, the one end portion of the first securer **53a** is coupled to the upper portion of the restriction member **55** such that the first securer **53a** is swingable in an up-down direction, and the other end portion of the second securer **53b** is coupled to the placement base **54** such that the second securer **53b** is swingable in a front-rear direction of the battery BT.

[0158] With the battery mount **50** according to item 4 above, the first securer **53a** swingable in the up-down direction is provided at the upper portion of the restriction member **55**, and the second securer **53b** swingable in the front-rear direction of the battery BT is provided. This enables easy changing of the effective length of the securing assembly **53** to thus apply a pressing force on the upper and

forward surfaces of the battery BT. It follows that a frictional force can be generated on two faces, i.e., the bottom surface and the rear surface, of the battery BT.

[0159] (Item 5) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 4, wherein the retention member **52** is configured to move along the inclined portion **63** to change the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0160] With the battery mount **50** according to item 5 above, the presence of the retention member **52** makes it possible to change the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**. This makes it possible to easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0161] (Item 6) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 5, wherein the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** includes an inclined surface **74** inclined in a direction crossing the inclination direction, and the retention member **52** is configured to abut the inclined surface **74** to retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0162] With the battery mount **50** according to item 6 above, the presence of the retention member **52** that abuts the inclined surface **74** makes it possible to retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**.

[0163] (Item 7) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 6, wherein the inclined portion **63** includes a thread groove **65**, and the retention member **52** includes a fastener **77** to be screwed into the thread groove **65**.

[0164] With the battery mount **50** according to item 7 above, the inclined portion **63** includes the thread groove **65**, and the fastener **77** to be screwed into the thread groove **65** is provided as the retention member **52**. This makes it possible to not only retain the position at which the other of the first securer **53a** and the second securer **53b** is coupled to the inclined portion **63** relative to the inclined portion **63**, but also easily change the effective length of the securing assembly **53**.

[0165] (Item 8) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 7, wherein the securing assembly **53** is located inside of the battery BT on the placement base **54** in a width direction of the battery BT.

[0166] With the battery mount **50** according to item 8 above, the securing assembly **53** is provided inside of the battery BT in the width direction. This configuration makes the battery mount **50** compact in the width direction, and enables its installation without the need for a large space.

[0167] (Item 9) The battery mount **50** according to item 8, wherein the securing assembly **53** is a single securing assembly located inside of the battery BT on the placement base **54** in the width direction of the battery BT.

[0168] With the battery mount **50** according to item 9 above, only a single securing assembly **53** is provided inside of the battery BT in the width direction. Thus, the operation required for fastening or the like need only be performed only once. This enables quick securing of the battery BT.

[0169] (Item 10) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 9, further including a clamp member **69** extending between the upper surface of the battery BT and

the first securer **53a** and between the forward surface of the battery and the second securer **53b**, wherein the clamp member **69** is configured such that the first securer **53a** causes the clamp member **69** to press the upper surface of the battery BT downward, and the second securer **53b** causes the clamp member **69** to press the forward surface of the battery BT rearward.

[0170] With the battery mount **50** according to item 10 above, the presence of the clamp member **69** allows a pressing force to be evenly transmitted, from the securing assembly **53** that swings, to the upper surface of the battery BT to thus appropriately press the battery BT.

[0171] (Item 11) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 10, further including a force transmission member **72** provided between the securing assembly **53** and the battery BT to transmit a pressing force exerted by the securing assembly **53** to the battery BT.

[0172] With the battery mount **50** according to item 11 above, a force transmitted to the force transmission member **72** can be appropriately applied to the battery BT as a pressing force.

[0173] (Item 12) The battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 11, wherein the securing assembly **53** is configured to directly or indirectly abut an upper forward corner portion **92** of the battery BT to apply a rearward and downward pressing force to the battery BT.

[0174] With the battery mount **50** according to item 12 above, a force is directly or indirectly transmitted from the securing assembly **53** to the upper forward corner portion **92** of the battery BT. This allows a pressing force to be appropriately applied to the battery BT by means of a simple hardware configuration with no force transmission member **72** or clamp member **69** used.

[0175] (Item 13) A working machine **1** including the battery mount **50** according to any one of items 1 to 12.

[0176] With the working machine **1** according to item 13 above, it is possible to provide a working machine **1** that achieves the specific effect(s) mentioned above.

[0177] While example embodiments of the present invention have been described above, it is to be understood that variations and modifications will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the present invention. The scope of the present invention, therefore, is to be determined solely by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A battery mount comprising:

a placement base for placement of a battery;
a restriction member to restrict rearward movement of the battery, the restriction member being provided at the same side of the battery as a rear surface of the battery; and

a securing assembly to secure the battery, the securing assembly extending from a position above the restriction member or from an upper portion of the restriction member to a forward surface of the battery; wherein the securing assembly includes:

a first securer provided at the same side of the battery as an upper surface of the battery;
a second securer provided at the same side of the battery as the forward surface of the battery; and
a coupler to couple the first securer and the second securer to each other; and

the coupler includes:

an inclined portion provided in one of the first securer and the second securer, the inclined portion being inclined in an inclination direction such that a distance between the inclined portion and the rear surface of the battery decreases in an upward direction; and

a retention member to retain a position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion such that the position relative to the inclined portion is adjustable.

2. The battery mount according to claim 1, wherein the first securer includes one end portion coupled to the position above the restriction member or to the upper portion of the restriction member, and another end portion provided above a forward portion of the battery; and

the second securer includes one end portion at which the inclined portion of the coupler is provided, and another end portion coupled to the placement base.

3. The battery mount according to claim 2, wherein the second securer is bent at an intermediate portion, and a portion of the second securer that extends from the intermediate portion to the one end portion defines the inclined portion extending in the inclination direction.

4. The battery mount according to claim 3, wherein the restriction member extends from the placement base to a position higher than the battery,

the one end portion of the first securer is coupled to the upper portion of the restriction member such that the first securer is swingable in an up-down direction; and the other end portion of the second securer is coupled to the placement base such that the second securer is swingable in a front-rear direction of the battery.

5. The battery mount according to claim 1, wherein the retention member is configured to move along the inclined portion to change the position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion relative to the inclined portion.

6. The battery mount according to claim 5, wherein the other of the first securer and the second securer includes an inclined surface inclined in a direction crossing the inclination direction; and

the retention member is configured to abut the inclined surface to retain the position at which the other of the first securer and the second securer is coupled to the inclined portion relative to the inclined portion.

7. The battery mount according to claim 6, wherein the inclined portion includes a thread groove; and the retention member includes a fastener to be screwed into the thread groove.

8. The battery mount according to claim 1, wherein the securing assembly is located inside of the battery on the placement base in a width direction of the battery.

9. The battery mount according to claim 8, wherein the securing assembly is a single securing assembly located inside of the battery on the placement base in the width direction of the battery.

10. The battery mount according to claim 1, further comprising a clamp member extending between the upper surface of the battery and the first securer and between the forward surface of the battery and the second securer; wherein

the clamp member is configured such that the first securer causes the clamp member to press the upper surface of

the battery downward, and the second securer causes the clamp member to press the forward surface of the battery rearward.

11. The battery mount according to claim 1, further comprising a force transmission member provided between the securing assembly and the battery to transmit a pressing force exerted by the securing assembly to the battery.

12. The battery mount according to claim 1, wherein the securing assembly is configured to directly or indirectly abut an upper forward corner portion of the battery to apply a rearward and downward pressing force to the battery.

13. A working machine comprising the battery mount according to claim 1.

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