

limit the extent to which the handles can separate from each other when the device is in its "open" (second) configuration.

Another structural feature of the present invention involves a pair of extension springs that interact to bias the interface device toward its "open" (second) configuration. Each extension spring is mounted on a respective handle and they are oriented for contact with each other when the interface device is closed into its first configuration. Specifically, this contact generates a spring force that acts in opposition to the latch means, when the device is in the first configuration. Consequently, this spring force provides for a movement of the device into the open, second configuration when the tab on the cantilever is pulled to release the interface device from its first configuration.

Yet another structural feature of the present invention is provided to prevent, or minimize, any torsional forces that might otherwise be generated by the interface device against the laser unit. This feature involves two flange units, each of which are mounted on a respective handle and oriented to establish an overlapping engagement with each other. Structurally, each flange unit has a long flange and a short flange. Within their unit, the flanges are mounted adjacent and substantially parallel to each other. Further, the flanges are arranged so that when the units are in their overlapping engagement the long flange of each flange unit overlaps the short flange of the other flange unit. With the mutually overlapping engagement of the flange units, torsional movements between the handles are prevented when the interface device is in the "closed" first