

Title (en)
FUSION SPLICE ELEMENT

Title (de)
LICHTBOGENSPLEISS-VORRICHTUNG

Title (fr)
ELEMENT D'EPISSURAGE PAR FUSION

Publication
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Application
EP 95927603 A 19950811

Priority
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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO9605527A1] An optical fiber splice element is provided that includes a base member (12) having a fusion element (20) for aligning optical fibers (37) for fusion within. A covering member (14) is provided for covering and forming an enclosure with the base member in a closed position. The covering member can be a separate member or alternatively can be in the form of a hinged lid. At least one of the covering member and the base member including a locking mechanism (32) for maintaining closure in a closed position. The optical fiber splice element in an open position has an opening at either end for accommodating one or more optical fibers. Two conductive copper tracks (24) are each electrically connected by a copper plated barrel of a through hole (26) to a conducting pad (not shown) on the underside of the ceramic block (20). The copper tracks (24) can be bonded to the ceramic block (20) by being printed, glued, or plated thereon. The end (25) of each copper track (24) forms an electrode. A V-groove is provided in the splicing element for guiding the optical fiber in an alignment groove (28) in the ceramic block (20). When the lid (14) is closed on the base portion (12), holding means shown as protrusions (16) in the lid abut and hold optical fibers securely within the groove (22). The protrusions (16) are somewhat compliant and preferably resilient so that they form around the fibers and tightly squeeze the fibers without damaging them, yet at the same time, provide clamping upon the fibers serving as a strain relief.

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