

Title (en)  
Thermal circuit breaker switch

Title (de)  
Thermischer Lastschalter

Title (fr)  
Disjoncteur thermique

Publication  
**EP 1059653 A2 20001213 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 00107771 A 20000411**

Priority  
• US 32810799 A 19990608  
• US 38877199 A 19990902

Abstract (en)  
The thermal circuit breaker and switch has fixed and movable contacts, and non-conductive contact and trip actuators. The movable contact is provided on the free end of a lever arm that normally biases the movable contact toward its open position. The contact actuator transfers movement from a rocker or operator to the movable contact arm when no overload condition exists. The trip actuator is L shaped and rotates in a socket when engaged by a thermally sensitive bi-metallic element so as to allow one end of the contact actuator to float freely, allowing the movable contact arm's bias to open the circuit. The bi-metallic element is so positioned as to engage and rotate the trip actuator only when the bi-metallic element is deformed due to an overheat condition that occurs with an overcurrent. A compression spring acts between the upstanding legs of the trip actuator and the underside of the rocker thus biasing the rocker to the 'off' position and biasing the trip actuator to the 'reset' position. The rocker employs hooks or posts to engage and position the contact actuator to the reset position after being tripped or manually switched off. <IMAGE>

IPC 1-7  
**H01H 73/26**; **H01H 71/52**

IPC 8 full level  
**H01H 73/02** (2006.01); **H01H 73/22** (2006.01); **H01H 73/26** (2006.01); **H01H 71/12** (2006.01); **H01H 71/52** (2006.01); **H01H 83/20** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)  
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Cited by  
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