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(54) Sealed electrical contact assembly and electrical switch made therefrom.

(57) A sealed electrical contact assembly (10, 110) comprises a dielectric frame (14, 114) in which a plurality of aligned stationary electrical contact members (16, 18, 116, 118) are secured as opposing sets of contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A) and movable electrical contact members (34, 134) interconnect each set of stationary contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A). One (18A, 118A) of the opposing sets of stationary contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A) and the movable contact members (34, 134) have matable pivot areas (32, 132, 36, 136) at which the movable contact members (34, 134) are mounted so that the movable contact members (34, 134) can be moved to a position electrically connecting the opposing sets of stationary contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A). A membrane (42, 142) is sealingly secured onto the frame (14, 114) covering each set of stationary (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A) and movable contact members (34, 134) associated therewith. A housing (48, 148) is latchably secured onto the contact assembly (10, 110) and has movable members (50, 150) positioned in housing (48, 148) with spring-biased members (54, 154) engaging movable contact members (34, 134) through membrane (42, 142) to move movable contact members (34, 134) from one position electrically connecting the opposing sets of station-

ary contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A) to another position disconnecting the opposing sets of stationary contact members (16A, 18A, 116A, 118A).

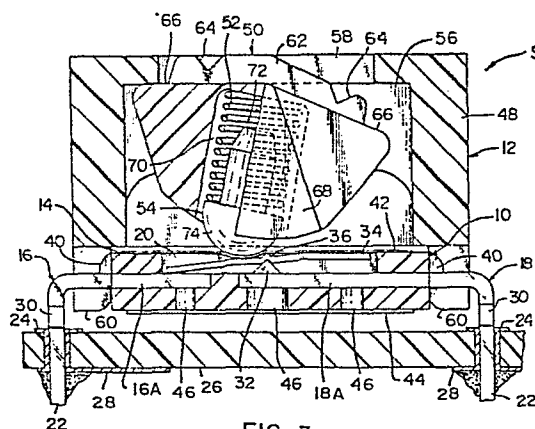


FIG. 3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0081929

Application number

EP 82 30 6233

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 8)
X	US-A-4 311 884 (R. HENLEY et al.) * Column 3, line 64 - column 4, line 27; figures 1,4,5,7,10 *	1,3	H 01 H 23/06 H 01 H 23/16
A	---	8	
A	GB-A-2 052 870 (OMRON TATEISI ELEC. CO.) * Page 1, lines 75-125; figure 1 *	1,3	
A	---	1,3	
A	US-A-4 344 224 (A.F. DITZIG) * Column 2, lines 23-46; column 4, line 15 - column 5, line 24; figures 1,2,6,7 *	1,3	
A	---	5,6	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 8)
A	US-A-3 694 598 (FUJISOKU ELEC. CO.) * Column 1, lines 30-47; column 2, line 56 - column 3, line 16; figures 3,6,7 *	5,6	H 01 H 9/00 H 01 H 15/00 H 01 H 23/00
A	---	6	
A	US-A-2 432 647 (H.W. BATCHELLER) * Figures 3,4 *	6	
A	---		
A	DE-A-2 657 072 (AMP INC.) * Figures 1,2 *		
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18-05-1984	Examiner TOUSSAINT F.M.A.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
A	US-A-3 219 784 (N. TORUK) * Figures 3,4,5 * -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18-05-1984	Examiner TOUSSAINT F.M.A.
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X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			