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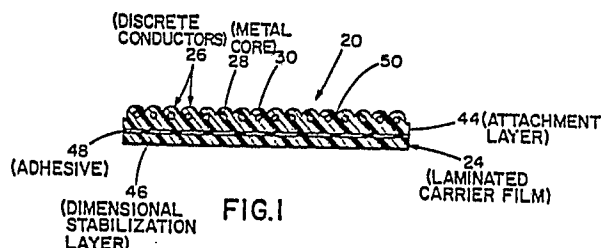
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(54) **Mass terminable flat cable and cable assembly incorporating the cable.**

(57) A flat cable for use with a mass termination connector having a plurality of regularly spaced terminal elements. The flat cable includes a laminated carrier film and a plurality of discrete conductors held in regularly spaced parallel relationship by the carrier film to match the terminal element spacing of the connector. Each conductor has an insulating jacket made of a thermoplastic material. The carrier film includes an attachment layer of thermoplastic insulation having a melting temperature similar to that of the jacket material, and a dimensional stabilization layer made of an insulative material having a melting temperature higher than those of the attachment layer and the jacket material and displaying dimensional stability at the melting temperatures of the attachment layer and jacket material. The jackets of the conductor are fused to the attachment layer, and the attachment layer is held by the stabilization layer. The carrier film can be longitudinally discontinuous to form first cable sections where the conductors are held parallel for ease of termination, and second cable sections where the conductors are not held to increase flexibility and reduce weight. The cable can also be formed into a round configuration to provide advantages during routing. A method of manufacturing this cable is also disclosed.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Application Number

EP 86 11 5415

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. 4)
Y	US-A-3 459 878 (GRESSITT) * Column 4, line 38 - column 6, line 25; figures 1-6 *	1	H 01 B 7/08
A	---	2,8	
Y	US-A-3 579 823 (GRESSITT) * Column 2, lines 5-9; column 2, line 39 - column 4, line 27; figures 1,4-10 *	1	
A	---	2,5,8	
Y	FR-A-2 240 602 (RIST'S WIRES & CABLES) * Page 1, line 28 - page 3, line 16; figure 1 *	1	
A	---	3,4,6-8	
A	US-A-3 511 728 (FREEMAN) * Column 5, lines 46-60; figure 4 *	1,5,7,8	
A	US-A-4 443 277 (ROKAS) * Column 3, lines 24-66; column 6, lines 53-62; figures 1,2,12 *	8-10,14	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			H 01 B 7/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 08-12-1988	Examiner DEMOLDER J.
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	