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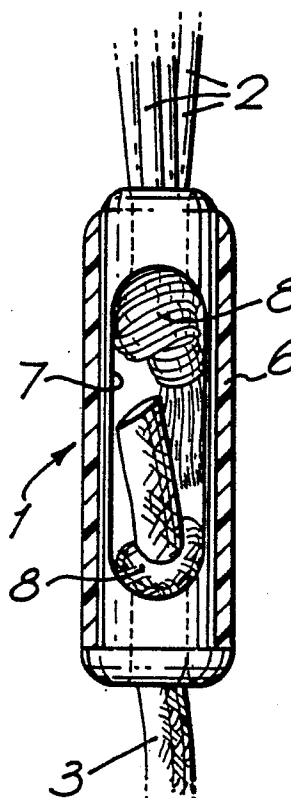
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CH DE FR GB IT LI NL(71) Applicant: **COPE AND TIMMINS LIMITED**
Angel Road Works Angel Road
Edmonton, London N18 3AY(GB)(72) Inventor: **Glatzel, Donald Lawrence**
Les Boules Farm Trinity
Jersey Channel Islands(GB)(74) Representative: **Parker, Jeffrey et al**
R.G.C. Jenkins & Co. 26 Caxton Street
London SW1H 0RJ(GB)(54) **Cord connector.**

(57) A device useful in connecting the multiple cords 2 of festoon curtains to a single pull cord 3 consists of a generally cylindrical bobbin having bores at either end through which said cords are passed and out through a lateral aperture 7 so that they can be knotted at 8 and returned to lie within the bobbin being concealed therein by an outer covering sleeve 6 which is axially slideable to a closed position.

FIG.2.



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CORD CONNECTOR

This invention relates to a device for connecting together cords, strings, ropes or the like filamentary lengths hereinafter collectively referred to as "cords". The device is intended for use anywhere where it is desired to connect together two lengths of cords and a simple knot would be aesthetically unacceptable. A particular although by no means exclusive application is in the field of 'festoon' curtains where a plurality of lighter cords need to be connected to a single pull cord whereby pulling of the pull cord causes all the lighter cords to be pulled by the same amount.

According to the invention there is provided a device for connecting cords comprising a generally prismatic or cylindrical bobbin having at each end a generally coaxial bore opening into a knot receiving cavity, and an outer sleeve adapted to be axially slid over and around the bobbin whereby to conceal most or substantially all thereof.

In use, the cords to be connected are passed through respective bores and knots are tied in their ends which are then received in their respective cavity and prevent the cord being pulled out of the bobbin. The sleeve which had previously been threaded onto one of the cords is then slid over and around the bobbin, and the connection is completed.

Preferred features of the invention are as follows:-

1. A single elongate knot receiving cavity extends between both bores.

2. One or more elongate slots are formed in the side of the bobbin and in communication with the or a respective cavity, to enable the end of a respective cord to be pulled through and knotted and the knot returned to the cavity.

3. Two registering such slots are provided whereby a clear transverse path through the bobbin is formed.

4. The bobbin is formed with a sleeve-abutting flange at one end serving to arrest longitudinal sliding of the sleeve therealong.

5. The outer surface of the sleeve is of polygonal or fluted cross section, for decorative purposes.

In order that the invention may be readily understood, a preferred embodiment thereof will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:-

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the connector;

Fig. 2 is a cutaway view showing the interior;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view; and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line A-A.

Fig. 1 shows a connector 1 according to the invention connecting together a plurality of light-

weight cords 2 from a festoon curtain to a single heavier weight pull cord 3 the pulling of which serves also to pull the cords 2 equally by the same amount.

The connector 1 is made up of a moulded plastics bobbin 4 having an axial bore 5 formed in each end, and an outer covering sleeve 6. The bobbin is generally cylindrical with a lateral aperture 7 formed therethrough defining an inner cavity which receives the knots 8 formed at the ends of the cords 2, 3. An annular sleeve locating flange 9 is formed in the bobbin 4. The opposite end of the bobbin 4 is revealed in the embodiment drawn, but in another embodiment the upper end of the sleeve 6 extends over and conceals the upper end of the bobbin.

In use, the sleeve 6 is first threaded onto the festoon cords 2, which are then passed through the upper bore 5 in the bobbin and laterally out through the aperture 7 and tied in a knot 8. Meanwhile the heavier cord 3 is passed up through the lower bore 5 and tied in a knot in the same way. The respective cords are then pulled, which draws the knots into the cavity, and the sleeve 6 is then slid along and over the bobbin until it abuts the flange 9 and thereby neatly covers and conceals the knots. The cords are thereby firmly connected together in a way which is visually unobtrusive.

Claims

1. A device for connecting together a plurality of cords comprising in combination:-

(a) an elongate bobbin having at each end a generally coaxial bore,

(b) each said bore opening into a knot receiving cavity, and,

(c) an outer sleeve adapted to be axially slid over and around the bobbin whereby to conceal the knots and at least most of the bobbin.

2. A device according to claim 1 in which there is a single elongate knot receiving cavity which extends between both bores.

3. A device according to claim 2 in which at least one elongate slot is formed in the side of the bobbin and in communication with the knot receiving cavity, to enable the end of a respective cord to be pulled through, knotted, and returned to the cavity.

4. A device according to claim 3 in which two registering said slots are provided whereby a clear transverse path through the bobbin is formed.

5. A device according to any of the preceding claims in which the bobbin is formed with a sleeve-abutting flange at one end serving to arrest longitudinal sliding of the sleeve therealong.

6. A device according to any claims 1 to 4 in which the outer surface of the sleeve is of polygonal cross section for decorative purposes.

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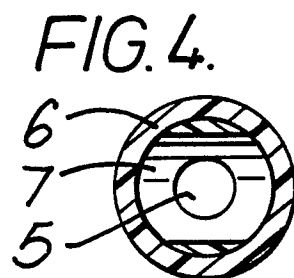
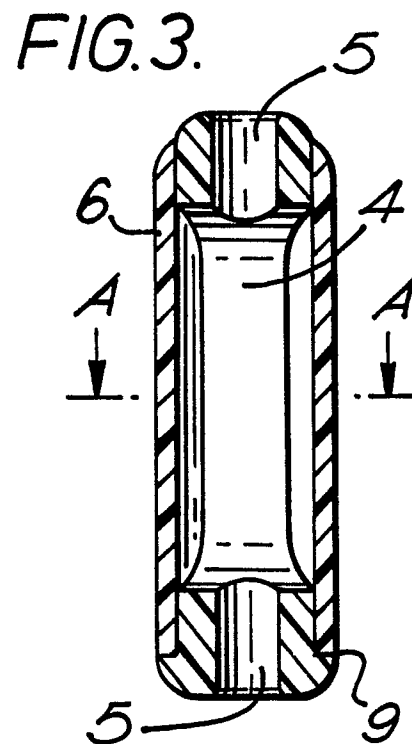
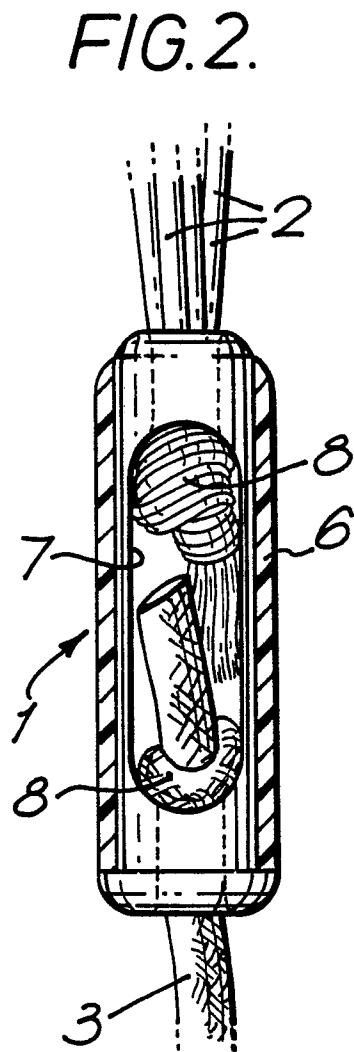
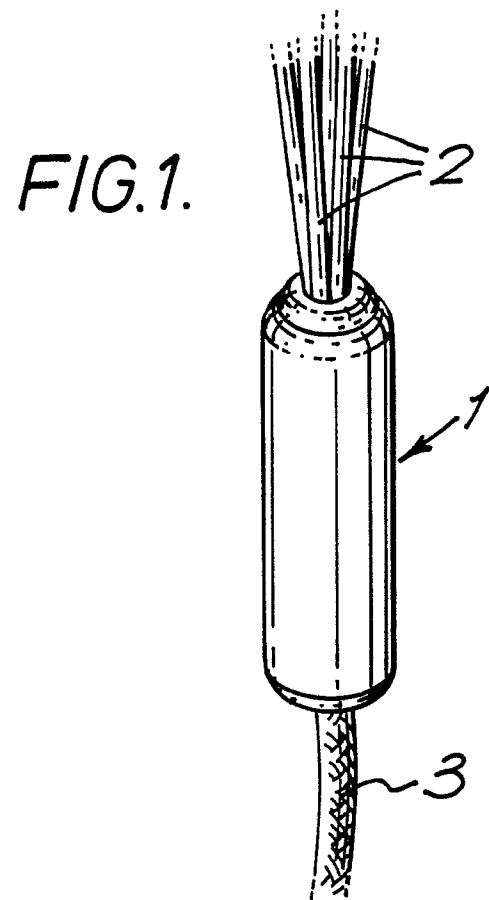
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
A	GB-A- 976 220 (HUNTER DOUGLAS) * Page 2, lines 53-103; drawings *	1	A 47 H 11/00
A	DE-C- 283 936 (KLOTZ) * Page 1, lines 12-28; drawings 5-6 *	1-3	
A	DE-C- 206 167 (MEISZNER)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			A 47 H E 06 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 31-05-1988	Examiner LAUE F.M.
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			