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**(54) Connector housing with latch arm**

(57) An electrical connector housing (8) was a pair of coplanar latch arms (116) which are connected by a U-shaped resilient strap (118) at their rear ends. The strap (118) has a bight (122) which is connected to the housing (8) to provide a pivot point (P) about which the latch arms (116) are pivotable between a normal position and a latching position. Each latch arm (116) terminates forwardly, in a latching head (134) which lies beneath a side wall (132) of a hood (60) enclosing the forward end of the housing (8). The remainder of each latch arm (116)

is substantially coplanar with the hood side wall (132) whereby the latch arms (116) are in-line with the housing (8). The latch arms (116) are connected to the housing by way of the bight (122) of the strap (118). The in-line location of the latch arms (116) avoids the tangling with leads extending from terminals when the housing has been loaded with terminals. Moulding of the housing is also facilitated and the latch arms are protected against damage when the housing (8) is being handled.

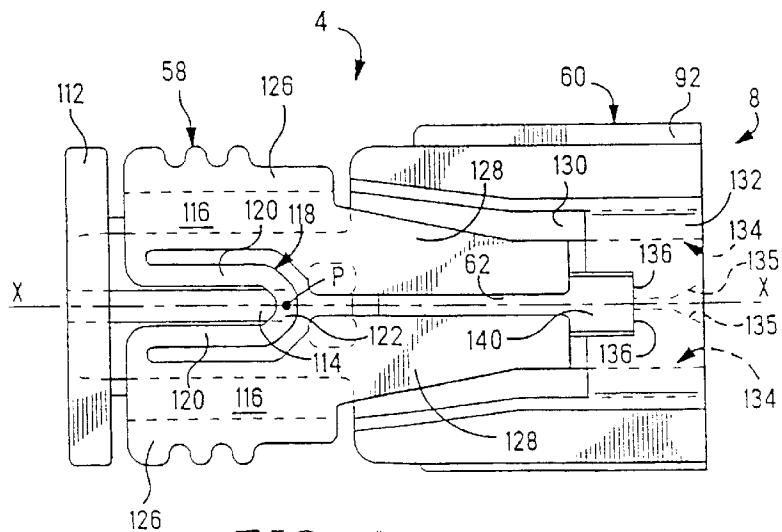


FIG. 4



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 94 11 0035

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                   |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6) |
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| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                     | Relevant to claim |                                              |
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| <p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                   |                   |                                              |
| Place of search                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Date of completion of the search                                                                  |                   | Examiner                                     |
| THE HAGUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 25 March 1996                                                                                     |                   | Salojärvi, K                                 |
| <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons<br/>.....<br/>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |                                                                                                   |                   |                                              |