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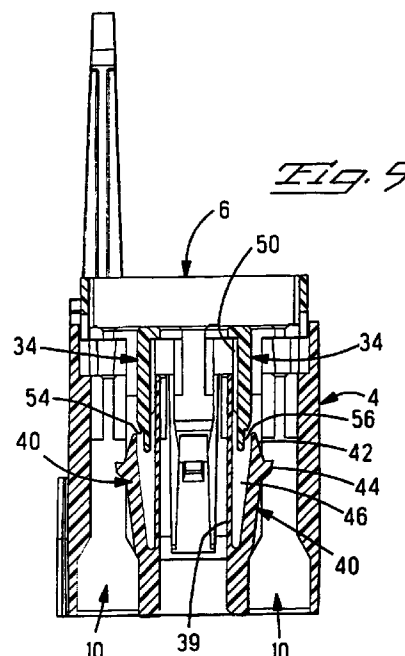
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(54) Electrical connector having front loadable secondary locking member

(57) An electrical connector (2) comprising a connector housing (4) and a locking member (6) where the connector housing (4) includes a contact cavity (10) for receiving an electrical contact and has a retention arm (40) that is deflectable to allow the contact to be inserted into the cavity (10) and after the contact passes thereby resiles therebehind, the locking member (6) having a wedge (34) extending therefrom where the locking member (6) has a first position relative to the connector housing (4) such that the retention arm (40) is deflectable to allow the contact to pass and a second position where the wedge (34) is located behind the retention arm (40) and prevents deflection thereof, the connector (2) being characterized in that the wedge (34) includes an abutment shoulder (54) along the backup surface (48) that is oriented transversely to the direction of insertion of the locking member (6) such that the abutment shoulder (54) stubs the retention arm (40) if the retention arm (40) is in a deflected position, thereby preventing the locking member (6) from achieving the second position and where the locking member (6) further includes a resilient tab (26) that interferes with the connector housing (4), thereby preventing insertion thereof to the second position unless deflected.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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.6)
X A	FR 2 702 889 A (CONNECTEURS CINCH) * page 15, line 23 - line 35; figures 14-17 *	1-3 6	H01R13/436
Y A	EP 0 251 518 A (LUCAS INDUSTRIES LTD.) * column 5, line 31 - column 6, line 27; figures 4,5 *	1-3 6	
Y	US 4 557 542 A (COLLER ET AL.) * column 3, line 1 - line 24; figures 4A,4B *	1-3	
A	US 5 059 142 A (OHTA ET AL.) * column 4, line 56 - line 68; figure 5 *	4-6	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H01R
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 14 November 1997	Examiner Kohler, 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			

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