



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 0 871 193 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
06.05.1999 Bulletin 1999/18

(51) Int Cl.⁶: **H01H 71/02, H02B 1/048**

(43) Date of publication A2:
14.10.1998 Bulletin 1998/42

(21) Application number: **98302384.7**

(22) Date of filing: **27.03.1998**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(72) Inventor: **Leet, Edward**
Bardene Extension 2, Boksburg (ZA)

(74) Representative: **Rackham, Stephen Neil**
GILL JENNINGS & EVERY,
Broadgate House,
7 Eldon Street
London EC2M 7LH (GB)

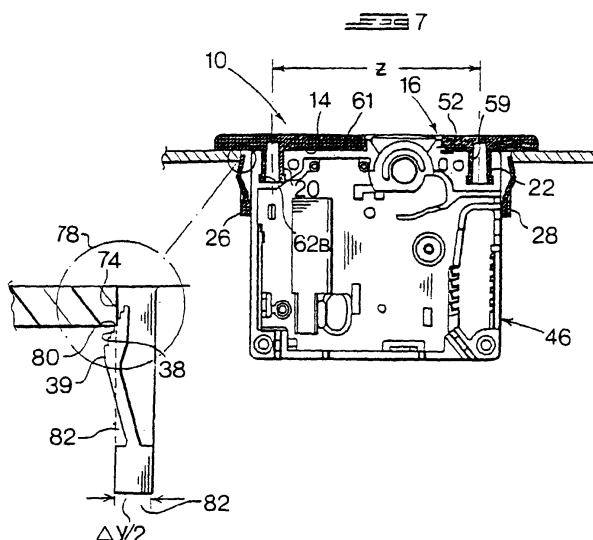
(30) Priority: **09.04.1997 ZA 9703010**

(71) Applicant: **CIRCUIT BREAKER INDUSTRIES
LIMITED**
Elandsfontein (ZA)

(54) **A snap-in adaptor plate for a circuit breaker**

(57) A snap-in adaptor plate is provided for a circuit breaker. The circuit breaker is of the type comprising a pair of shell halves which in combination define a front wall and a pair of opposed end walls. The front wall is formed with a pair of mounting recesses for accommodating a pair of corresponding internally threaded front mounting screw inserts for allowing the circuit breaker to be screw mounted against an interior face of a panel defining a relatively small conventional circular panel aperture. The adaptor plate comprises an elongate front plate having a central aperture through which a turret of the conventional circuit breaker is arranged to pass and

a pair of mounting lugs extending from an inner surface of the front plate and adapted to be held captive within the mounting recesses when the front plate is fitted over the front wall. A pair of spaced apart retaining clips extend rearwardly from opposite ends of the front plate adjacent the end walls of the circuit breaker for allowing the assembled snap-in adaptor plate and circuit breaker to engage the opposed edges of an oversize panel aperture in a snap fit. The invention extends to a modified circuit breaker assembly comprising a snap-in adaptor plate of the type described and a conventional circuit breaker.



EP 0 871 193 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 2384

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	US 3 453 408 A (MUNE CHARLES) 1 July 1969	1,2,4, 6-11	H01H71/02 H02B1/048
Y	* column 5, line 22 - line 71; figures 15-17 *	3,5	
A	US 3 329 793 A (WILLIAM W. CAMP) 4 July 1967 * column 2, line 17 - line 70; figures 1-5 * * column 5, line 71 - column 6, line 52; figures 14-16 *	1	
Y	US 4 687 164 A (BAKHAUS KENNETH C ET AL) 18 August 1987 * the whole document *	3	
Y	FR 2 298 878 A (ELLENBERGER & POENSGEN) 20 August 1976 * page 9, line 19 - line 39; figures 5,7 *	5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H02B H01H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 March 1999	Examiner Ramírez Fueyo, 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			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 98 30 2384

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

12-03-1999

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3453408 A	01-07-1969	BE 712666 A	31-07-1968
		DE 1765266 A	22-07-1971
		FR 1565734 A	02-05-1969
		GB 1193886 A	03-06-1970
		NL 135416 C	
		NL 6804935 A	04-02-1969
US 3329793 A	04-07-1967	DE 1588270 A	23-07-1970
		FR 1507590 A	20-03-1968
		GB 1147843 A	
US 4687164 A	18-08-1987	NONE	
FR 2298878 A	20-08-1976	DE 2502579 A	08-07-1976
		DE 2511223 A	15-07-1976
		AT 359587 B	25-11-1980
		CA 1049594 A	27-02-1979
		CH 607311 A	30-11-1978
		CH 607384 A	15-12-1976
		DE 2559398 A	09-09-1976
		GB 1502201 A	22-02-1978
		JP 965604 C	26-07-1979
		JP 51099271 A	01-09-1976
		JP 53045505 B	07-12-1978
		NL 7600622 A,B,	27-07-1976
		SE 407127 B	12-03-1979
		SE 7600188 A	26-07-1976
		US 4044325 A	23-08-1977