



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 0 899 820 A3

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:  
04.10.2000 Bulletin 2000/40

(51) Int Cl. 7: H01R 9/26, H01H 85/20

(43) Date of publication A2:  
03.03.1999 Bulletin 1999/09

(21) Application number: 98302950.5

(22) Date of filing: 16.04.1998

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

(30) Priority: 08.07.1997 GB 9714457

(71) Applicant: Weidmuller Limited  
Sheerness, Kent ME12 3AB (GB)

(72) Inventors:  

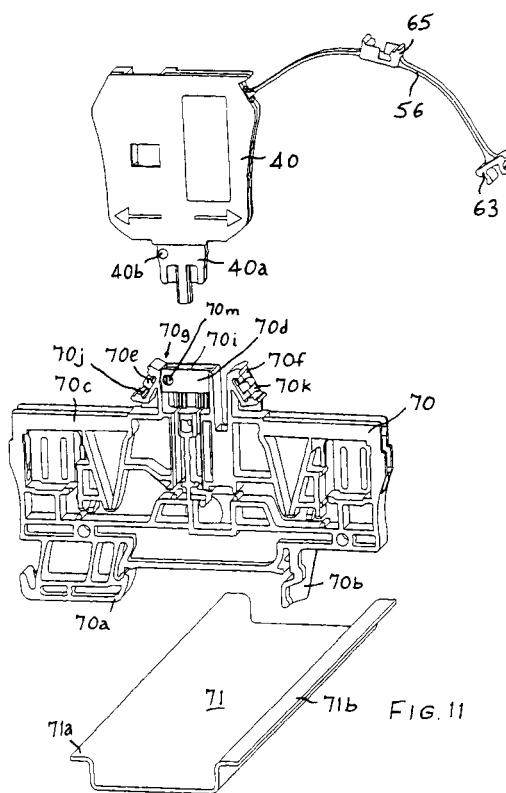
- Beaney, James Weidmuller Limited  
Sheerness, Kent ME12 3AB (GB)
- Gustafsson, Olle Weidmuller AB  
12450 Bandhagen (SE)

(74) Representative: White, Martin David  
MARKS & CLERK,  
57-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3LS (GB)

(54) **Fuseholders**

(57) An electrical fuseholder (16, 40) is adapted for use with a rail-mounted electrical terminal block (14, 70). The fuseholder (16, 40) comprises an insulating plastics housing (26, 41), a portion (26a, 44) of the housing (26, 41) being formed with a cavity (28, 45) for a cartridge fuse (30, 46). Two conductor elements (32, 34, 47, 48) are mounted to the housing (26, 41). One portion (32a, 34a, 47a, 48a) of each conductor element (32, 34, 47, 48) forms a respective one of two contacts for the fuse (30, 46). Another portion (32b, 34b, 47b, 48b) of each conductor element (32, 34, 47, 48) forms a respective one of two external contacts of the fuseholder (16, 40), for plugging into the terminal block (14, 70) and making electrical contact with two corresponding internal electrical contacts of the terminal block (14, 70). The terminal block (14, 70) and the fuseholder (16, 40) are adapted so that the fuseholder (16, 40) can be plugged into the terminal block (14, 70) selectively one way round or an opposite way round, relative to an axis (25) of the fuseholder (16, 40). The portion (26a, 44) of the housing (26, 41) formed with the cavity (28, 45) for the cartridge fuse (30, 46) is located wholly to one side of said axis (25), whereby, in use, two mutually adjacent such fuseholders (16, 40), plugged opposite ways round into mutually adjacent, stacked, terminal blocks (14, 70) mounted on a mounting rail (12, 71), become stacked together so that said portion (26a, 44) of the housing (26, 41) formed with the cavity (28, 45) for the cartridge fuse (30, 46) of each fuseholder (16, 40) is located to one side of said portion (26a, 44) of the housing (26, 41) formed with the cavity (28, 45) for the cartridge fuse (30, 46) of the

other fuseholder 16, 40), enabling the pitch (x mm) to be 5 mm of a stack of fuseholders (16, 40) containing 5 mm diameter cartridge fuses (30, 46). A lid (42) may be hinged to the housing (41).





European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 30 2950

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
A	FR 2 535 911 A (WIELAND ELEKTRISCHE INDUSTRIE) 11 May 1984 (1984-05-11) * the whole document *	1-14	H01R9/26 H01H85/20
A	US 4 559 504 A (KREC ZDENEK) 17 December 1985 (1985-12-17)	---	
A	GB 2 277 201 A (TELEMATIC SYSTEMS LTD) 19 October 1994 (1994-10-19)	-----	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H01H H01R
<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	14 August 2000		Overdijk, 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			

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

EP 98 30 2950

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.

14-08-2000

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2535911	A	11-05-1984	DE CH	3241177 A 662673 A	10-05-1984 15-10-1987
US 4559504	A	17-12-1985	DE AT DE EP JP JP JP NO	3303471 A 23005 T 3461011 D 0118678 A 1054825 B 1568467 C 59230273 A 834876 A, B,	02-08-1984 15-11-1986 20-11-1986 19-09-1984 21-11-1989 10-07-1990 24-12-1984 03-08-1984
GB 2277201	A	19-10-1994	AU WO	6508094 A 9424739 A	08-11-1994 27-10-1994