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(54) **Socket contact element**

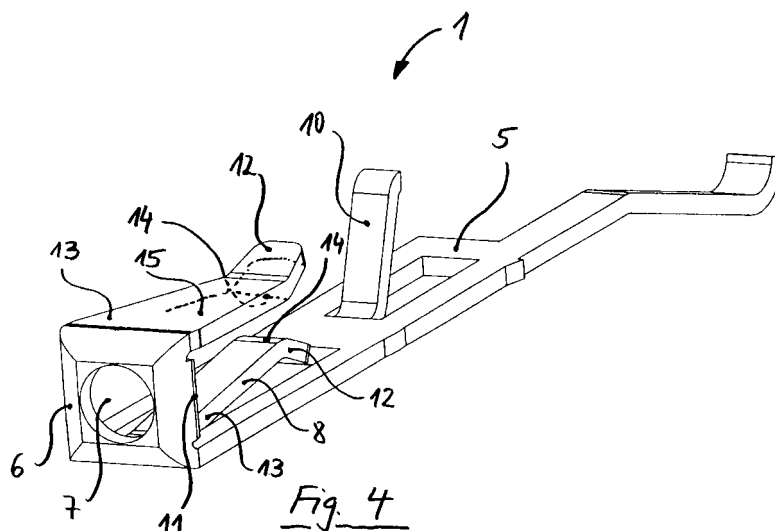
(57) The invention relates to a socket contact element (1) for receiving a pin contact element (4) having a small diameter, in particular a contact pin of a PCMCIA plug element, having an elongated, substantially flat lower basic element (5),

- from which there extends upwards, at the front narrow side, a first spacing element (6) which has an opening (7) for introducing the pin contact element (4) into the socket contact element (1),
- in which, behind the first spacing element (6) there

is formed a spring tongue (8) which presses the pin contact element (4) introduced from below against a contact area (9) which is formed on the first spacing element (6) above the opening (7), and

- from which a second spacing element (10) extends upwards behind the spring tongue (8).

In order to develop such a socket contact element (1) so that greater clamping forces can be exerted on a pin contact element (4) introduced, the invention proposes that the first spacing element (6) has reinforcing elements.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 11 7996

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.7)
A	WO 95 04388 A (LITTON SYSTEMS INC) 9 February 1995 (1995-02-09) * abstract; figures 1-3 * * page 3, line 27 - page 4, line 19 * * page 5, line 20 - page 6, line 18 * ---	1,5,6,8	H01R13/187
A	US 5 342 219 A (ONODERA SHINYA ET AL) 30 August 1994 (1994-08-30) * abstract; figure 1A * * column 3, line 7 - line 54 * ---	1,2,5	
A	US 5 586 920 A (BROWN DONALD C) 24 December 1996 (1996-12-24) * abstract; figure 1 * * column 5, line 5 - line 41 * ---	2	
A	US 4 400 051 A (STENZ PAUL P) 23 August 1983 (1983-08-23) * abstract; figure 5 * * column 2, line 44 - column 3, line 12 * ---	1	
A	DE 37 00 304 A (SIEMENS AG) 21 July 1988 (1988-07-21) * abstract; figures 1,2 * * column 2, line 35 - column 3, line 33 * ---	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A	US 3 711 819 A (MATTHEWS R) 16 January 1973 (1973-01-16) * abstract; figures 1,2 * * column 3, line 3 - line 20 * * column 4, line 14 - line 22 * -----	1	H01R
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 June 2000	Examiner Serrano Funcia, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 99 11 7996

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
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