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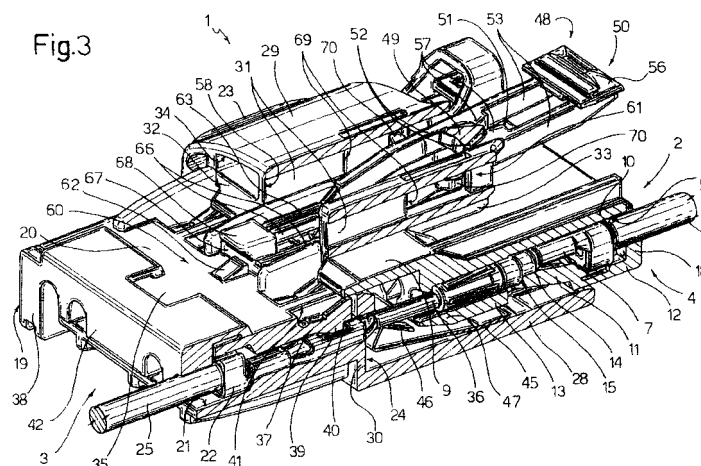
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(54) **Electric connecting unit**

(57) An electric connecting unit (1) having a first and a second electric connector (3, 2) mutually connectable, along a longitudinal axis (A), in a fully assembled position assumed at the end of a mutually engaging movement, and which respectively have a first and a second insulating casing (19, 4), each defining at least two longitudinal cavities (21, 5) for respective electric terminals (22, 7); short-circuit means (45) carried by the first casing (19), and which can be set to a first operating configuration mutually connecting the terminals (22) of the first connector (3), and a second operating configuration

assumed when the connectors (3, 2) are in the fully assembled position, and wherein the short-circuit means are isolated electrically from the terminals (22) of the first connector (3); and selectively releasable retaining means (60, 61) interposed between the first and the second casing (19, 4) and activatable in the course of the mutually engaging movement of the connectors (3, 2) to define an intermediate check position wherein the terminals (22) of the first connector (3) are connected mutually by means of the short-circuit means (45), and are connected to the relative terminals (7) of the second connector (2).





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 1052

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H01R
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 12 September 2001	Examiner Alexatos, G
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 00 12 1052

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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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82