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(54) **Branching part for an electrical network**

(57) The invention relates to a branching part (3) for an electrical network comprising: a multi-pole input (5) for receiving a multi-pole plug-in connector (4), a multi-pole output (6) for receiving a second multi-pole plug-in connector (4), means for connecting the respective input (5) and output (6) poles to one another, and a second output (7) including at least a first conductive element (8). In order to simplify and expedite the electrical installation work the branching part further comprises: at least two optional contact parts (11 to 13) connected to the respective input poles (5), and a connecting part (15) through which the conductive element (8) of the second output (7) can be connected to one of said optional contact parts (11 to 13) for establishing contact between the conductive element (8) and the input pole (5) corresponding to the selected contact part.

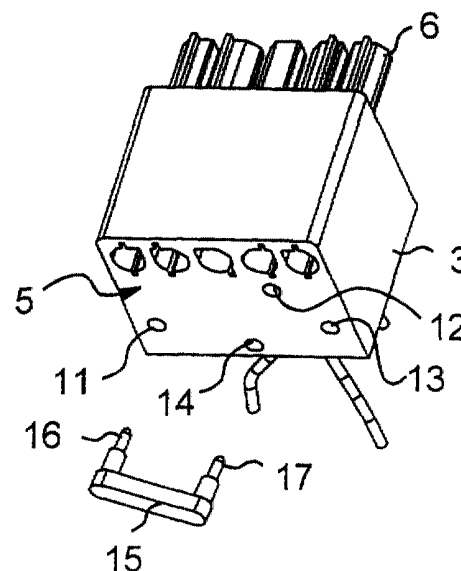


FIG. 2a



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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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.7)
X	WO 92 07396 A (RICHARDSON ALEXANDER STEWART ;PEACH PHILIP LOUIS (AU)) 30 April 1992 (1992-04-30) * page 7, line 35 - page 8, line 29; figures 17-19 *	1-3,5-10	H01R25/00 H01R31/08 H01R31/02
A	US 4 462 656 A (BEYER DIETER) 31 July 1984 (1984-07-31) * figures 1,2,10 * * column 1, line 14-55 * * column 6, line 22 - column 7, line 24 *	1-4	
A	EP 0 520 284 A (YAZAKI CORP) 30 December 1992 (1992-12-30) * the whole document *	1	
A	DE 43 19 832 A (MEYER A & H LEUCHTEN BUEROELEK) 5 January 1994 (1994-01-05) * the whole document *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H01R
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN		11 June 2002	Marcolini, P
<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)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-4

A branching part for an electrical part.

2. Claims: 5-10

An electrical network component including a branching part.

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

EP 01 66 0047

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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11-06-2002

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