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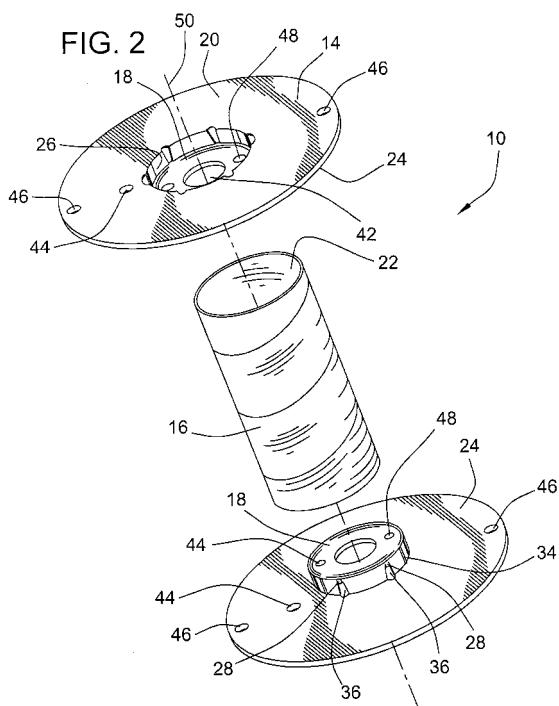
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### (54) Three piece spool

(57) A wire spool comprising three structural components including two end flanges (14) and a rigid fiberboard barrel (16). The end flanges (14) may be molded plastic or stamped sheet metal. The end flanges have central plug portions (18) that are mechanically locked into the barrel (16). The central plug portions include teeth (28) which dig into the barrel (16) to substantially permanently secure the end flanges (14) to the barrel such that the wire spool has sufficient strength to allow electricians to pick up a fully loaded wire spool by the end flange and such that the end flanges cannot typically be removed by hand except with the assistance of leverage tools. The plug portion (18) also may include elongate axially extending lugs (34) that engage the barrel (16) and enhance torque transfer between the barrel and the end flanges.





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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 01 20 3173

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	NL 8 500 479 A (B.V. ZUID-HOLLANDSE CARTONNAGEFABRIEK) 16 September 1986 (1986-09-16) * the whole document *	1-17	B65H75/14
X	NL 8 502 436 A (H.D. DE WILDE) 1 April 1987 (1987-04-01) * the whole document *	1-17	
X	FR 1 374 499 A (MANUFACTURE DE PRODUITS PLASTIQUES) 9 October 1964 (1964-10-09) * the whole document *	1,2,4, 10,12,14	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B65H
<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	21 June 2002	D'Hulster, E	
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.**

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