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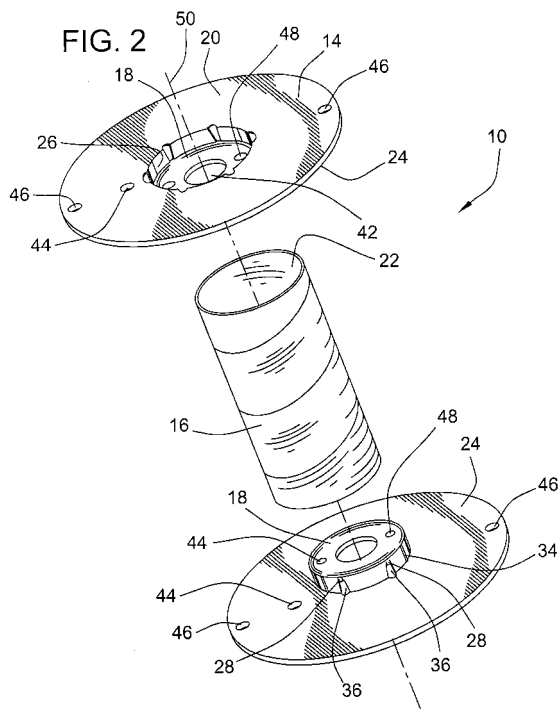
<div>(84) Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE TR Designated Extension States: AL LT LV MK RO SI </div> <div>(30) Priority: 31.08.2000 US 229618 P</div> <div>(71) Applicant: J.L. CLARK, INC. Rockford, Illinois 61125-7000 (US)</div>	<div>(72) Inventors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppman, Ewald A. Belvidere, Illinois 61008 (US) • Gray, Alfred L. Belvidere, Illinois 61008 (US) </div> <div>(74) Representative: Meyers, Ernest et al Office de Brevets Meyers & Van Malderen 261 route d'Arlon B.P. 111 8002 Strassen (LU)</div>
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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 (16) and the end flanges.





European Patent
Office

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	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) B65H
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 21 June 2002	Examiner 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			

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

EP 01 20 3173

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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21-06-2002

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